

Who ruled Western Sahara?

Western Sahara, territory occupying an extensive desert Atlantic-coastal area of northwest Africa. It became a protectorate of Spain in the 19th century and was later claimed by Morocco, Mauritania, and local inhabitants. The territory remained disputed between Morocco and local forces well into the 21st century.

Is Western Sahara a disputed territory?

Western Sahara [a] is a disputed territory in North-western Africa. It has a surface area of 272,000 square kilometres (105,000 sq mi). Approximately 30% of the territory (82,500 km² (31,900 sq mi)) is controlled by the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR); the remaining 70% is occupied and administered by neighboring Morocco.

Which country controls Western Sahara?

Morocco controls territory to the west of the berm (border wall) while the Sahrawi Republic controls territory to the east (see map on right). Western Sahara was partitioned between Morocco and Mauritania in April 1976, with Morocco acquiring the northern two-thirds of the territory.

Is Western Sahara a self governing territory?

Previously occupied by Spain as the Spanish Sahara until 1975, Western Sahara has been on the United Nations list of non-self-governing territories since 1963 after a Moroccan demand. [clarification needed] In 1965, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution on Western Sahara, asking Spain to decolonize the territory.

Why is Western Sahara so contested?

A mineral-rich swathe of Atlantic coastline and desert that's larger than the UK, Western Sahara has been bitterly contested since its annexation by Morocco in 1975, when former colonial ruler Spain withdrew. An ensuing war that pitted Moroccan forces against Polisario claimed about 9,000 lives until a United Nations-brokered truce in 1991.

What is the economy of Western Sahara?

Western Sahara's economy is based almost entirely on fishing, which employs two-thirds of its workforce, with mining, agriculture and tourism providing modest additional income. Most food for the urban population comes from Morocco.

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Western Sahara's rare visitors - if they're not here to be swept off their feet by the perfect coastal kitesurfing

climate, come to be seduced by the emptiness of its desert. But there's an amazing abundance of rare wildlife if you know where to look, plus the hospitality of the remaining nomadic Sahrawi people who live here, too.

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Western Sahara, formerly the colony of Spanish Sahara, is a disputed territory claimed by both the Kingdom of Morocco and the Popular Front for the Liberation of the Saguia el Hamra and Rio de Oro (Polisario Front), which is an independence movement based in Tifariti and Bir Lehlou. The Annexation of Western Sahara by Morocco took place in two stages, in 1976 and 1979, and is ...

Overview Geography History Politics Administrative divisions Dispute Economy Demographics Western Sahara is a disputed territory in North-western Africa. It has a surface area of 272,000 square kilometres (105,000 sq mi). Approximately 30% of the territory (82,500 km (31,900 sq mi)) is controlled by the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR); the remaining 70% is occupied and administered by neighboring Morocco. It is the most sparsely populated territory in Africa an...

Thus the Court did not find any legal ties of such a nature as might affect the application of the General Assembly's 1960 resolution 1514 (XV) -- containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples -- in the decolonization of Western Sahara and, in particular, of the principle of self-determination ...

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