Bosnia-Herzegovina: Ethnic Tensions and Conflict

• The Beginning
  o Bosnia-Herzegovina was a part of a country called Yugoslavia. It was in the Balkans, and had 6 different regions. There were different ethnic groups in Bosnia.
    ▪ These ones include Bosnian Croats, Muslims, Serbs, and more.
  o After World War II, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia and Macedonia became part of the Federal People’s Republic of Yugoslavia. This started having trouble when Slobodan Milosevic, a Serbian leader, started causing tensions between Serbians in Bosnia and Croatia and their neighbors: Croatia, Bosnia and Albania.
  o Slovenia, Croatia and Macedonia declared their independence in 1991. And in February 29th, 1992, Bosnia and Herzegovina declared independence.
    ▪ That marked the start of the Bosnia-Herzegovina conflict, also known as Bosnian war or Bosnian genocide.
  o The conflict was basically started because of a multiethnic strife in Bosnia.

• Genocides
  o Years after the declaration of independence of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bosnian Serb forces attacked the Bosnian Muslims and Croatian civilians for horrible crimes, the result was of more than 100,000 deaths.
    ▪ Serb General Ratko Mladic was responsible of the largest massacre of boys and men since World War II.

• 1992-1995
  o In 1993, Bosnian Muslims and Croats begin fighting over the parts of Bosnia not already taken by Serbs.
    ▪ The same year, the UN declared that there were only 6 safe zones for Muslims, these were: Sarajevo, Tuzla, Bihac, Srebrenica, Zepa and Gorazde.
  o In February 1994, Nato shoots down several Serbian aircrafts flying over Bosnia.
    ▪ This was the first Nato intervention and military power usage since World War II.
  o In March 1994, Croats and Bosnian Muslims signed a peace accord that the US brought.
  o At the beginning of 1995, US President Jimmy Carter from US broke the peace agreement between Bosnian Serbs and Muslims.
    ▪ Serbs attacked Muslims safe zone.
  o In July 11, 1995 a huge massacre occurred. About