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## Stories That Shape Us

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# STORIES THAT SHAPE US

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# story

*noun.*

- A recounting of a sequence of events
- A narrative, either true or fictitious designed to interest, amuse, or instruct the hearer or reader

# identity

*noun.*

- the sense of self, providing sameness and continuity in personality over time and sometimes disturbed in mental illnesses



# ritual

*noun.*

- Standardized behavior with a beginning and an end
- Mark the passage of time or passage from one state to another
- Define and reinforce beliefs of the participants or define and reinforce community.

*Rituals have political implications, as rituals help us define who we are.*

National Stories  
&  
Civic Myths













WE MARCH  
NOW!

LUE  
THE

AGONY  
METHODIST  
CHURCH

WE MARCH  
NOW!

THE BAPTIST  
MINISTERS  
CONFERENCE  
IS JOINING WITH  
THE OTHER DENOMINATIONS  
IN THE MARCH

WE MARCH  
NOW!

THE BAPTIST  
MINISTERS  
CONFERENCE  
IS JOINING WITH  
THE OTHER DENOMINATIONS  
IN THE MARCH

JOBS  
NOW

NO  
U.S. DOLLAR  
TO HELP  
JIM CROW  
GROW

NO  
U.S. DOUGH  
TO HELP  
JIM CROW  
GROW

WE WILL  
RESIST  
THE WHITE  
ARMY  
MARCH

WE WILL  
RESIST  
THE WHITE  
ARMY  
MARCH



# National Rituals





Happy

*Thanksgiving!*













# Understanding Others' Stories

# A Case Study: Iran













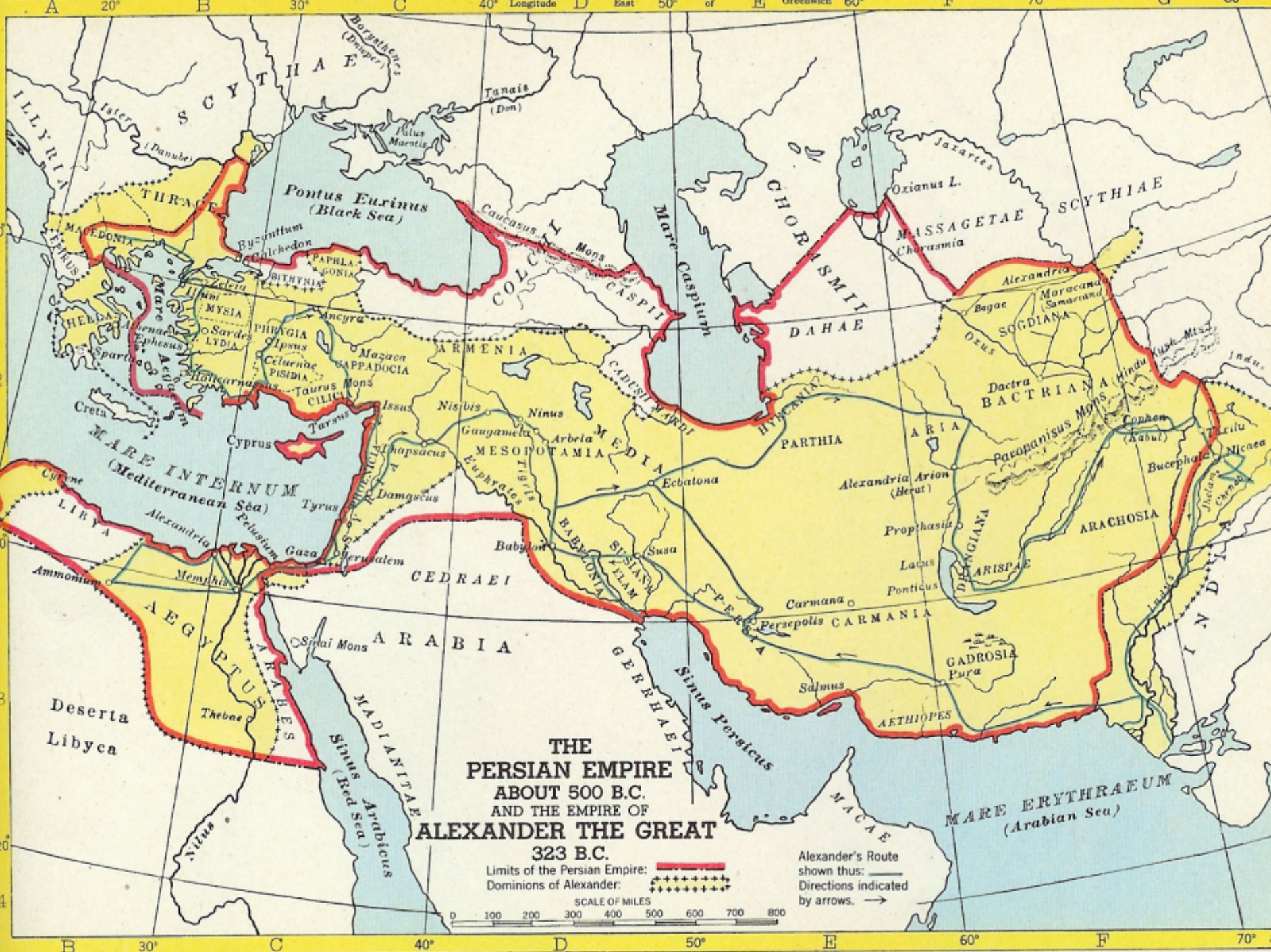


**THE PERSIAN EMPIRE ABOUT 500 B.C. AND THE EMPIRE OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT 323 B.C.**

Limits of the Persian Empire: █  
 Dominions of Alexander:

SCALE OF MILES  
 0 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800

Alexander's Route shown thus: —  
 Directions indicated by arrows: →







*Persepolis*



































A New Story?