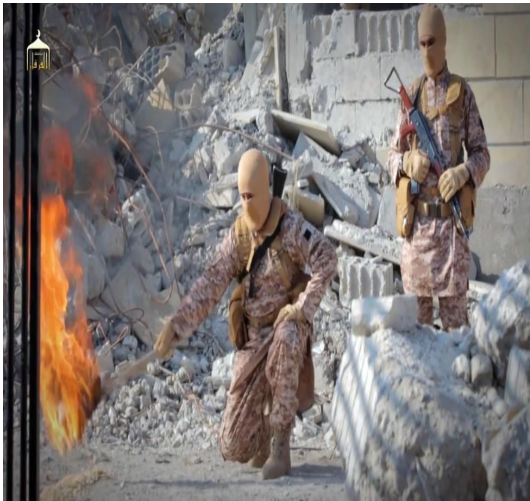


# Current Affairs 2014



## The United States of America



# Vocabulary

- **Controversial:** producing public disagreement.
- **Democrats:** the left wing party in the USA
- **Republicans:** the right wing party in the USA
- **High unemployment rates:** when a significant percentage of the population is without a job.
- **Policy:** a set of solutions and actions produced by a government to deal with a problem.

# Republicans V/S Democrats

## Core Beliefs :

- Republicans believe that each person is responsible for his or her own place in society.
- Government should enable each person the ability to secure the benefits of society for themselves, their families and for those who are unable to care for themselves.
  
- The Republican philosophy is based on limiting the intervention of government as a catalyst of individual prosperity.
- Government should only intervene in specific cases where society cannot effectively act at the individual level.
  
- With the core belief that individual destiny should be in the individual's hands, governmental power and resources should be kept close to the people, through their state and community leaders, and not centralized in distant federal government agencies.

## DEMOCRATS :

- Democrats believe it is the responsibility of government to care for all individuals, even if it means giving up some individual rights and/or subordinating enterprise and initiative.
- Democrat Party administrations have pushed for the centralization of power in Washington D.C., with only secondary consideration for the rights of both individuals and communities. Democrats have favored federal-level interventions that replace community-based solutions to community problems.
- These tactics have created several federal regulations and controls that are often in the hands of unelected bureaucrats, causing a severe erosion of local authority.

## CURRENT AFFAIRS 2014 :

→ Former Florida governor Republican Jeb Bush has become the first person to declare that he will seek his party's candidature in the US Presidential election in November 2016.

- His rivals for the nomination will include:

Chris Christie – current governor of New Jersey

Rand Paul – a senator from Kentucky

Ted Cruz – a senator from Texas

Mitt Romney – former presidential candidate

- Over in the Democratic Party, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton is widely expected to seek and obtain her party's nomination. However, other possible runners include:

Elizabeth Warren – a senator from Massachusetts

Bernie Sanders – a senator from Vermont

If the presidential contest came down to a Bush versus a Clinton, this would represent a long-term occupancy of the White House by just two families.

## ISIS :

- IS remains in control of dozens of cities and towns in Iraq and Syria, where it has declared a caliphate.
- The US has carried out more than 170 air strikes against the jihadist group in Iraq since mid-August 2014.
- France is the first of Washington's allies to strike at IS targets. On 15 September 2014, France hosted an international conference on the crisis in Paris.
- The mission saw 26 countries pledge their commitment to support the new Iraqi government in its fight against IS by any means necessary, including appropriate military assistance.
- Further, on 18 September 2014, the US Senate approved President Barack Obama's plan to arm and train moderate Syrian rebels to fight IS.
- United Kingdom has also agreed to carry out airstrikes against the jihadist group.

## EBOLA :

- The United States in last week of September 2014 diagnosed its first case of the deadly Ebola virus.
- The person was diagnosed for the disease after being hospitalised with the symptoms that were confirmed to be caused by Ebola.
- As per the US health officials, the person became infected with the deadly Ebola virus in Liberia and traveled to Texas, US.
- The patient left Liberia on 19 September 2014. The symptoms of the virus on the patient became apparent on 24 September 2014.
- He was admitted to hospital in Texas on 28 September 2014 and since then has been put in isolation.

## THE TRAGIC SHOOTINGS :

- The **shooting of Michael Brown** occurred on August 9, 2014, in Ferguson, Missouri as suburb of St.Louis. Brown, an 18-year-old black man, was fatally shot by Darren Wilson, 28, a white Ferguson police officer.
- The disputed circumstances of the shooting and the resultant protests and civil unrest received considerable attention in the U.S. and abroad, and sparked a vigorous debate about law enforcement's relationship with African-Americans, and police use of force doctrine in Missouri and nationwide

### Jury decided :

- A grand jury on November 24 decided not to press charges against Ferguson, Missouri, police officer Darren Wilson for the shooting of Michael Brown.
- Ferguson residents and supporters of Brown have protested regularly since the shooting, which they view as another example of police brutality against black youth. An indictment for Wilson has been one of their primary demands.



## SECOND SHOOTING IN MISSOURI :

- Protesters took to the streets of Berkeley, Mo., for a second night Wednesday after a white police officer killed a black teenager who police said pointed a gun at him.
- Dozens of protesters marched on interstate 170, shutting it down for a brief time before heading to the Mobil gas station where Antonio Martin, 18, was shot and killed Tuesday night.
- The shooting happened about 5 miles from Ferguson, where a white police officer fatally shot unarmed Michael Brown in August, sparking months of civil unrest.
- Berkeley Mayor Theodore Hoskins said Wednesday that surveillance footage appeared to show Martin pulling a gun on the unidentified 34-year-old officer, who was questioning him and another man about a theft at a convenience store.
- Hoskins urged calm, saying, "You couldn't even compare this with Ferguson or the Garner case in New York," referring to the chokehold death of Eric Garner, another unarmed black man killed by a white police officer.





Reviewed By	Reviewed On	Comments / Changes Made
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Ruchika

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