

## Yemen and Houthis

## **Source: TH**

The US has intensified airstrikes on Houthi-controlled areas in Yemen to counter their missile and drone attacks in the **Red Sea**, citing threats to global shipping routes.

- Yemen: Located in the Middle East at the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula, borders Saudi Arabia (north) and Oman (east). It has a coastline along the Red Sea (west), <u>Gulf of Aden</u>, Arabian Sea, and Guardafui Channel (south).
  - The Bab el-Mandeb Strait, between Djibouti and Yemen, is a key maritime chokepoint connecting the Indian Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea via the Red Sea and Suez Canal, crucial for global trade.
- Houthis: A Zaidi Shia militant group from northwestern Yemen, the Houthis emerged in the 1990s as a rebellion against the Yemeni government. Backed by Iran, they are part of the Axis of Resistance (informal coalition of Iranian-supported militias) and target Israeli-linked ships in the Bab el-Mandeb Strait in response to the Gaza conflict.



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