



History of Israel

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HISTORY CLUB
PRESENTATION

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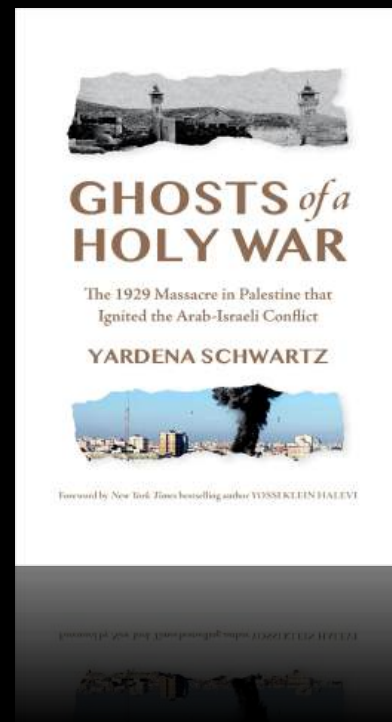
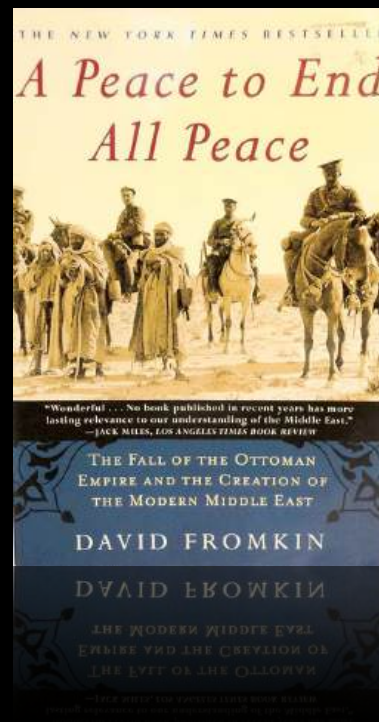
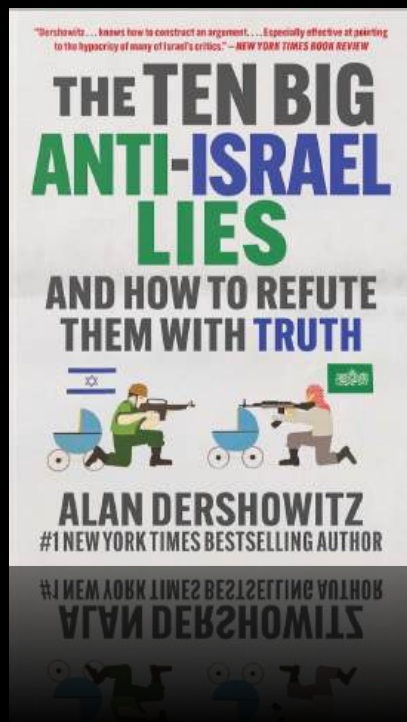
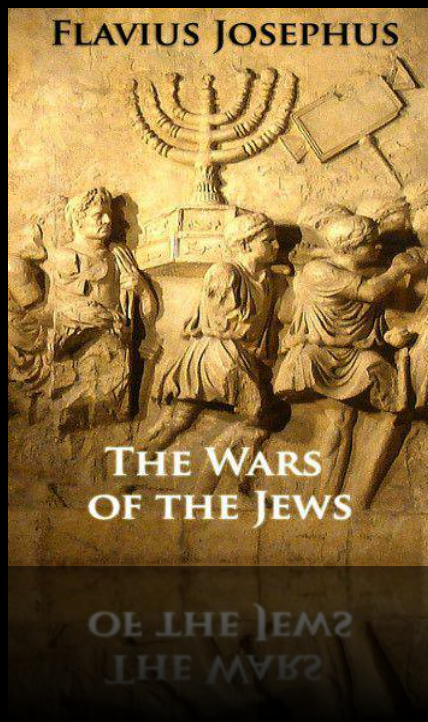
Overview

- Origins of the ancient state of Israel
- Main events which shaped the history of the state and Jewish people
- Birth of the contemporary state of Israel
- Key events of the last 100 years

Major Sources of Information

- **Old Testament** Basis of Judaism, Christianity & Islam.
- **Archaeological Discoveries**
- **Dead Sea Scrolls** 3rd century BCE Jewish manuscripts.
- **“The Wars of the Jews”** by Josephus Flavius, 75 CE
- **Works of Greek and Roman authors** of classical antiquity from nearly 20 diverse sources dating from the third century BCE to the third century CE.
- Balfour Declaration, 1917
- British Mandate, 1922
- UN Partition Plan, 1947

Major Sources of Information



Italians are from **Italy**
Germans are from **Germany**
Arabs are from **Arabia**

Where **Jews** are from?

Jews are from **Judah**

**THE KINGDOMS OF
ISRAEL AND JUDAH**
1 KINGS 12



Origins of The Ancient State of Israel

History of Israel and **Judah**
(after 6th century BCE became known as Judea)
is long and complex.

Jewish civilization is as ancient as others like
Syrian, Egyptian, Chinese, Indian and Persian.

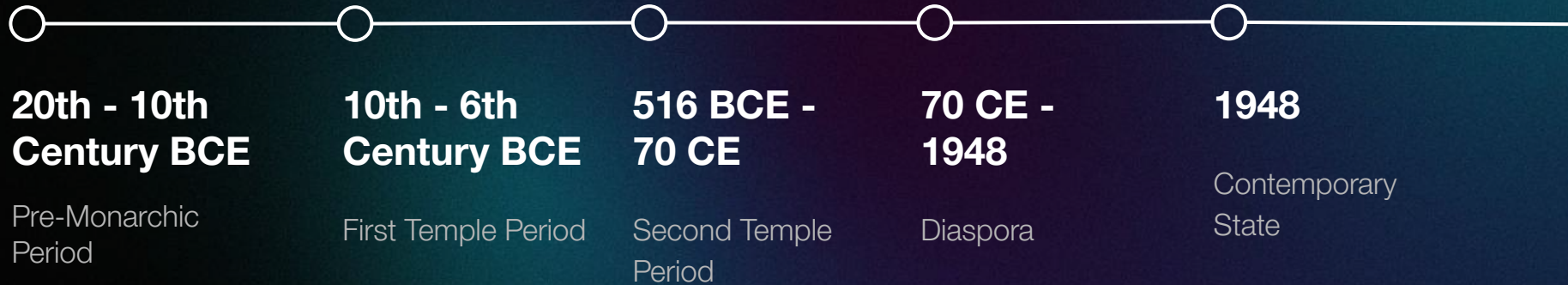
Many ancient civilizations experienced periods of rises and declines and some just disappeared.

Jewish history has its ups and downs but continued, spanning millenniums.

While the Jewish people have faced periods of exile and persecution, they always have maintained their physical presence, cultural, and religious identity in

The Land of Israel

5 Major Phases Of Israel History



20th - 10th Century BCE

Pre-Monarchic Period

- **c.2000-1700 BCE** Patriarchal Period

Abraham, his son Isaac, and grandson Jacob (later called Israel) are considered the patriarchs of the Jewish people. They were nomadic and eventually settled in Canaan, historical region encompassing present day Israel, Palestine, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon.

- **c.1700-1200 BCE** Egyptian Sojourn and Exodus

According to biblical accounts, Jacob's descendants migrated to Egypt due to famine. Over time, they were enslaved and later led out of Egypt by Moses. That is when 10 commandments were given to Israelites.

- **1200-1000 BCE** Settlement in Canaan

Archaeological evidence suggests that around 1200 BCE, a distinct Israelite culture emerged in the highlands of Canaan.

10th - 6th Century BCE

First Temple Period

By 1,000 BCE Israelites emerged as a sovereign state with Jerusalem as its capital under king David and his son king Solomon. King Solomon builds 1st Temple around 957 BCE.



10th - 6th Century BCE

First Temple Period

After Solomon's death, around 931 BCE, the kingdom of Israel divided into two separate kingdoms - Israel with capital Samaria and Judah with Jerusalem as its capital.



10th - 6th Century BCE

First Temple Period

The division weakened both kingdoms and eventually resulted in the northern kingdom of Israel being conquered by the Assyrians in **722 BCE**, and the southern kingdom of Judah being conquered by the Babylonians in **586 BCE**.

10th - 6th Century BCE

First Temple Period

In **586 BCE** after a prolonged siege Nebuchadnezzar II burned Jerusalem and destroyed Solomon's Temple. The destruction of the Temple created a spiritual crisis. The Babylonians deported significant portion of Judah's population, primarily the elite, skilled craftsmen and artisans.

Judah became a Babylonian province called Judea.

516 BCE - 70 CE

Second Temple Period

The Jewish elite in Babylon preserved their cultural and religious identity while adapting to exile conditions. By **539 BCE**, Cyrus the Great conquered Babylon and issued his decree allowing Jews to return to Jerusalem.

Upon return from Babylon, Jews restored Jewish communities and religious practices and in **516 BCE** rebuilt the Temple (the Second Temple).

516 BCE - 70 CE

Second Temple Period

Since Babylonian conquest, Judea was a province kingdom of different empires (Babylonian, Persian, Macedonian) with brief period of independence (**167-63 BCE**).

Upon the death of queen of Judea Alexandra Salome in **63 BCE**, the fight between her sons for the throne resulted in a civil war, and later in conquest of Judea by the Roman Empire.

516 BCE - 70 CE

Second Temple Period

Judean monotheistic beliefs clashed with Roman polytheism and emperor worship. Multiple Jewish rebellions against Roman rule occurred during this period.

A 6-year revolt (**66-73 CE**) resulted in the Romans deployment of overwhelming military forces to suppress the rebellion. The Romans, led by generals Vespasian and Titus reconquered Judean territories, breached walls of the city of Jerusalem and destroyed the Second Temple (**70 CE**), along with much of the city. Masada fell to the Romans in 73 CE

70 CE - 1948

Diaspora

Even after the destruction of the Temple & Jerusalem, Jewish revolts continued and continued to drain Rome financially. Rome imposed an additional tax on all Jews.

In 135 CE, after suppressing the 132-135 CE revolt, the Romans took significant actions in Judea, aimed at suppressing any further Jewish resistance.

Rome renamed the province of Judea to "**Syria Palaestina**" and attempted to remove all Jews from Judea.

Diaspora

Despite all Romans actions, Jewish presence in the Judea/Palestine was never extinguished.



70 CE - 1948

Diaspora

That is how the Jewish people were dispersed throughout the world and why

Judea became Palestine.

From that point until the establishment of the independent State of Israel in 1948, **Judea was occupied by a succession of fourteen different powers.**

This forceful displacement of many Jews started new era in Jewish history - DIASPORA which lasted almost 2,000 years.

What is Diaspora?

di·as·po·ra

/dī'asp(ə)rə/

the spread of a people from their original homeland

Jewish Diaspora

Small Jewish communities formed and became minorities in many European countries. **They maintained a strong sense of their Jewish identity** and were rejected by the surrounding majorities.



The Global Religious Landscape



About **150 countries** with Christian majority and total Christian population **2.6 billion**



50 countries with Muslim majority and total Muslim population 1.7 billion



only 1 country with Jewish majority and Jewish population 8 million



There it is

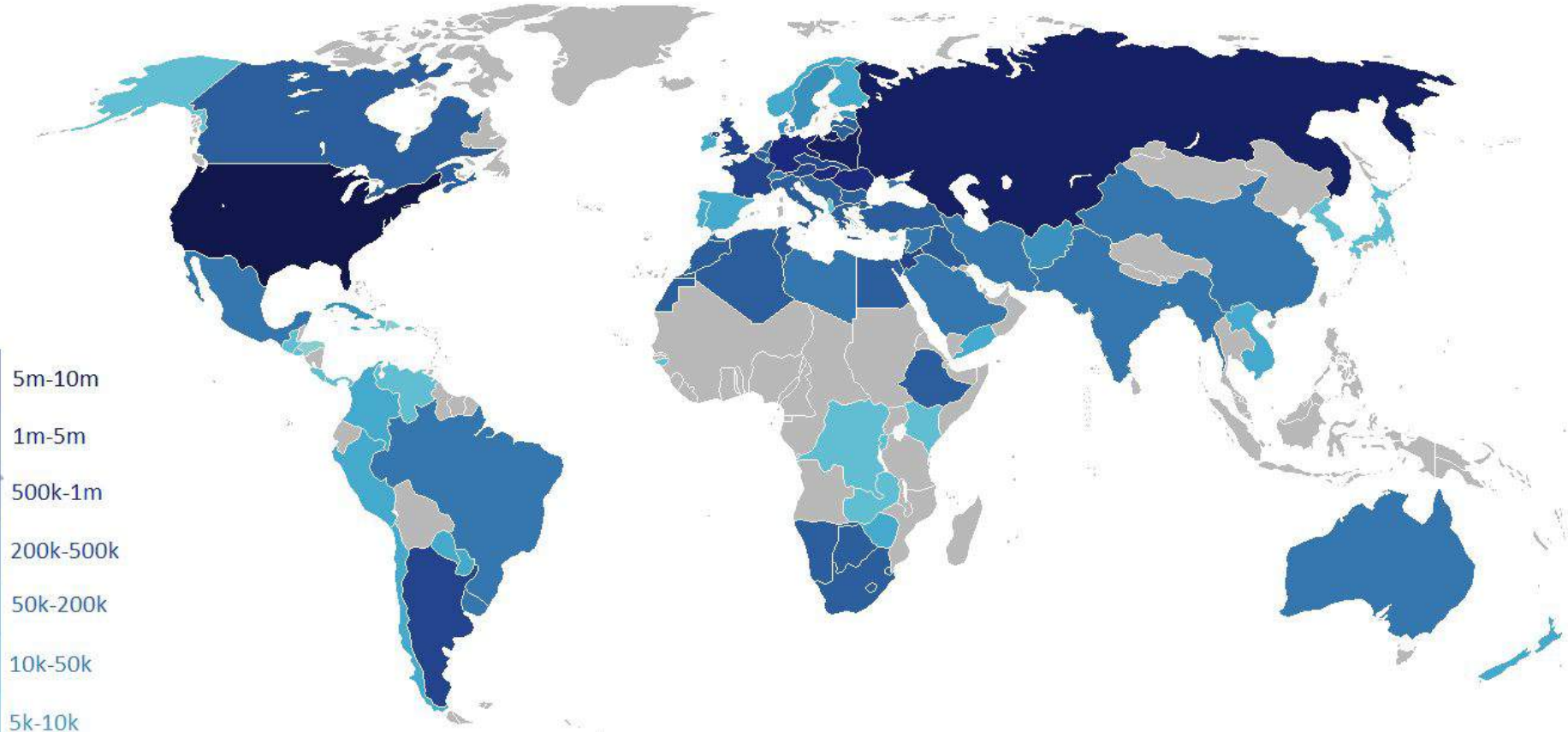
only 1 country with Jewish majority and Jewish population 8 million

Due to Diaspora, today Jewish communities are present
on every continent and exist in

100+ countries

However, the Jewish population in Muslim countries is minuscule, does not exceed

0.01%



Global Jewish Population, 1930's



Total: 16,180,000

Being a minority in foreign land for almost 2,000 years Jews experienced severe restrictions and prohibitions which were aimed to **limit Jewish economic, social, and religious freedoms.**

In Christian Europe Jews Were NOT Allowed

- To own land
- To hold government position
- To Serve in the military
- To practice many trades & professions
- To carrying weapons (self-defence)
- To hold citizenship and its associated rights
- To employ Christian servants or nurses
- To live outside designated areas or ghettos in some places
- To have unrestricted social interactions with Christians
- ...and many others

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/antisemitism/Antisemitism-in-medieval-Europe><https://www.britannica.com/topic/antisemitism/Antisemitism-in-medieval-Europe><https://www.britannica.com/topic/antisemitism/Antisemitism-in-medieval-Europe>

In Muslim Countries Also Jews Had Severe Restrictions

- Had to pay a protection tax called jizya as a symbol of their subordination.
- Forbidden from building houses taller than those of Muslims.
- Riding horses or camels
- Jewish testimony in court was disregarded if contradicted by a Muslim's testimony.
- Forbidden touching Muslim women
- Often required to live in separate ghettos (hara or mahalla)
- Forced to walk barefoot or wear shoes made of straw
- Considered to be impure

Jizya tax was imposed on all non-Muslim subjects, including Christians.

Sources: Islamic legal codes, official decrees & edicts and modern studies..

At the time of Europe's economic expansion, the need for credit grew, creating a niche that Jews could fill been **better educated** than local majority and because of Catholic prohibition of usury.

The success some Jews achieved in this field contributed to **even more hateful attitude and persecution.**

Many times this rejection and hate resulted in pogroms and sometimes **complete destruction of Jewish communities**. Jews were pressed into **forced conversions, expulsions from various countries, sometimes multiple times**.

Being a minority, Jews were often falsely accused.
A famous Jewish Russian author said

**“Tell me what you are accusing
Jews for and I will tell you what
you are guilty of.”**

Notorious Accusations Against Jews Throughout History

- **The Black Death** Jews were falsely accused of poisoning wells and spreading the plague in 14th-century Europe.
- **The Blood Libel** False accusation that Jews used the blood of Christian children for the preparation of matzah - Beilis affair.
- **The Protocols of the Elders of Zion** This fabricated document, claimed a Jewish conspiracy for world domination - pogroms in Russia, European Holocaust and Arab pogroms of 1920s.
- **The "Stab in the Back" Myth** Dreyfus affair, Captain Alfred Dreyfus, a Jewish French officer falsely accused of treason. That resulted in widespread antisemitism in French society.

The Recents Accusations

- Guilty of being communists
- Guilty of being capitalists
- Guilty of controlling the media
- Guilty of secretly commanding governments
- Guilty of steering global events, including wars
- Guilty of being occupiers of “stolen” land and genocide of innocent people.

anti-Sem·i·tism

/ˌanˌtɪˈseməˌtɪzəm/

Prejudice, hatred, hostility and discrimination
specifically directed at Jewish people.

Over millennia has taken many different forms:
religious, economic, political, and racial.

Many times violent antisemitism expresses itself in form of **Pogroms, Inquisitions and Expulsions.**

Expulsion of Jews from European countries was a widespread and recurring phenomenon from the 11th to the 17th centuries. These expulsions were often driven by religious intolerance, economic factors, and political motivations.

Often Jews were given ultimatums to either convert or leave.

Major Expulsions

- 1290 England
- 1306 and 1394 France
- 1421 Austria. Duke Albert V ordered the imprisonment and forcible conversion of Jews, leading to expulsions
- **1492 Spain and Portugal. The most infamous expulsion of several hundred thousand Jews from the Iberian Peninsula**
- 1495 Lithuania
- 1551 Bavaria
- 1569 Expulsion from Papal States
- 1948 Middle Eastern States

Major Pogroms

Pogrom (Russian for “destruction”) is a local mob violence aimed at killing Jews and destroying or stealing their properties, usually tolerated or incited by authorities.

These stand out for their brutality, scale, and lasting impact on Jewish history and collective memory

- 1648 - Chmielnicki Pogroms, massacre of **300,000 Jews**
- 1903 - Kishinev Pogrom
- 1929 - Palestinian pogrom
- 1938 - Kristallnacht
- **1939-1945 - Holocaust, at least 6,000,000 men, women & children slaughtered.**
- 2023 - Palestinian pogrom

- Thousands of armed Muslim men marched from one Jewish home to the next raping, stabbing, torching and burning men, women and children alive.
- Infants slaughtered in their mothers' arms.
- Children watched as their parents were butchered.
- In some cases victims knew their assailants by name and thought of them as neighbors and friends.

Sound familiar?

Gaza Oct. 7, 2023?

No, Palestine August 1929

Machiavellian reasons for the Palestinian pogroms of 1929

- **Jews attacked** and killed thousands of innocent Muslims.
- **Jews plan to demolish** Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa to built the Temple.
- **Jews have no right** to pray by Western Wall, it is purely Muslim religious site.

The Rise of Zionism in 19th & 20th Centuries

Result of centuries of oppression and deprivation of many rights almost in every country Jews lived.

Zionism emerged as a response to widespread antisemitism and persecution in Europe, aiming to provide Jews with self-determination, safety, and sovereignty in their ancestral homeland.

Zi·on·ism

/ˈziːnɪzəm/

noun

The Jewish nationalist movement which draws its name from Zion, a biblical term that refers to Jerusalem or the Land of Israel (Eretz Israel). It is rooted in centuries of Jewish religious and cultural attachment to the land.

The **original** goal was re-establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine (Judea), the ancient homeland of the Jews. The present goal is the development & protection of Israel.

Why in Palestine (former Judea) and not somewhere else?

Zionist leaders committed to establishing a Jewish state in their ancestral homeland of Judea because it holds immense religious and historical importance for Jews and because of the continuous existence of Jewish communities and infrastructure in the land.

Jewish Connection To The Land Of Israel

The connection is deeply rooted in religion, history, and culture.

Religion

- Old Testament - It's described as the Promised Land, given to the Jewish people by God.
- The Bible is replete with stories, laws, and prophecies centered on the Land of Israel.
- Jewish prayers include references to Jerusalem and the Land of Israel.
- Jews are always pray in the direction of Jerusalem
- Quran also mentions that Allah has assigned the Holy Land to Jews. Quran, Surah Al-Ma'idah 5:20-21.

Jewish Connection To The Land Of Israel

The connection is deeply rooted in religion, history, and culture.

History

- **Archaeological** - evidence supports the existence of the Jewish communities in the region. starting back to the 10th century BCE.
- **Continuous Habitation** - though there was no continuous, sovereign Jewish state, Jewish communities have maintained their presence in the land of Israel throughout history, despite periods of exile and persecution.
- **Population of Jerusalem** - at the beginning of the 20th century approximately 70,000 people lived in the city (45,000 Jews and 25,000 Muslims & Christians)

Jewish Connection To The Land Of Israel

The connection is deeply rooted in religion, history, and culture.

Culture

- The longing for Zion, and the return to Zion has been a central theme in Jewish life for thousands of years.
- The Land of Israel is a fundamental component of Jewish cultural identity, shaping Jewish values, traditions, and sense of belonging.
- The landscape, history, and traditions of the Land of Israel are reflected in Jewish art, music, and literature.
- Jewish literature, from ancient texts to modern works is filled with imagery and themes related to the Land of Israel.

Palestine In The 19th Century

- Prior to the British mandate, Palestine was part of Ottoman Empire for about 400 years.
- The farming was seriously complicated by scarcity of water. Significant portion of the land was desert, rocky mountains and swamps.
- At the end of 16th century Ottoman Empire was a home of the world largest Jewish population.
- At least 250,000 Jews lived in the area at end of 19th century and they represented majority in Jerusalem.

Palestine In The 20th Century

- Palestine struggled with poverty, diseases, limited infrastructure, and political instability.
- The Balfour Declaration (1917) expressed support for the establishment of a "national home for the Jewish people" in Palestine. That kindled a hope among Jews for a return to their ancestral homeland and brought more Jews to Palestine.
- The League of Nations in 1922 granted Britain administrative control (“**British Mandate for Palestine**”) over the territory without any sovereign state. That territory includes present day Israel, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and Jordan.

Palestine In The 20th Century

- Jews were BUYING land from Arabs (not confiscating or stealing it).
- Jews did not have enough funds to buy ALL THE LAND for sale from the Arabs.
- Arabs were selling the land to Jews (while complaining about Jews buying the land).

Birth of the Contemporary Israel

- The State of Israel was established based on the 1947 Resolution of the United Nations General Assembly
- Resolution recommended the partition of Palestine into Jewish and Arab states - the two-state solution
- On May 14, 1948, David Ben-Gurion, proclaimed the establishment of the State of Israel

Contemporary Israel

- **0.01% of the World's Land Area**

Israel is a small country in the Middle East located on the eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea and bordered by Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

- **About 0.1% of the World's Population**

Population of near 10 million people, 75% of them Jewish, 21% Muslims and 3% Christians.

- Israel has become a highly developed industrial economy with a GDP of \$550 billion and ranked in 2025 as 10th the most powerful country in the world



Other Countries Established in 20th Century

Most of Israel's neighbors were also established after WWI as the result of collapse of the Ottoman Empire

- 1922 : Egypt
- 1932 : Iraq
- 1932 : Saudi Arabia
- 1943 : Lebanon
- 1946 : Syria
- 1946 : Jordan

Many European countries created, reshaped and resized in the 20th century as well.

Events Following The Declaration of The State of Israel

Declaration of The State of Israel

1947 United Nations' Partition Plan

- The Partition Plan envisioned the creation of one Jewish State and one Arab State.
- The Arabs rejected it and did not recognize Israel legitimacy
- Arabs goal was clearly announced as complete destruction of the State of Israel.
- Grand mufti of Jerusalem declared, "murder them all".
- Armies of 5+ neighboring Arab states (Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq) attacked newly established state (1948).

Declaration of The State of Israel

1948 Arab-Israel War

The newly born country of

806,000 Israelis without an army

miraculously victored over

**5 armies representing
population of 29,000,000.**

Declaration of The State of Israel

1948 War Displaced Hundreds of Thousands

- 700,000 - 800,000 Palestinians fled or were forced to leave during the conflict and became Palestinian refugees.
- Arabs call it Nakba. Arabs in the West Bank and East Jerusalem came under Jordanian rule.
- Those in the Gaza Strip ended up under Egyptian rule.
- **Both groups remain REFUGEES since then.**

Declaration of The State of Israel

1948 War Displaced Hundreds of Thousands

- At the same time between 700,000 and 900,000 Jews fled and were forced to leave Arab countries following the 1948 Arab-Israeli War.
- All of them became citizens of Israel or other countries where they relocated.
- Currently less than 27,000 Jews live in all Arab and Muslim countries. Many of these countries effectively ended the presence of an indigenous Jewish population that had lived there for over 2,000 years.
- **All Palestinians who remained within Israel borders became CITIZENS of Israel with all rights.**

Two UN Definitions of Refugees

UNHCR (High Commissioner for Refugees, a global organization dedicated to protecting, assisting, and seeking durable solutions for **refugees worldwide**.)

Refugees are Individuals fleeing persecution due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or social group membership. The status is lost **if individuals acquire citizenship**.

UNRWA (Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees) Palestinian refugees are citizens of **Mandatory Palestine, and their descendants (descendants of male refugees)**, who fled or were expelled from their country, village or house where they lived between June 1, 1946 to May 15, 1948 (**less than 2 years**). The status persists **even if individuals acquire citizenship**.

Jewish Refugees

1950s - **850,000**

Today - **0**

Palestinian Refugees

1950s - **750,000**

Today - **6,000,000**

Declaration of The State of Israel

Ethnic Cleansing of 1948

- As per 1947 UN resolution, Jerusalem was to be an international city.
- All residents would automatically become "citizens of the City of Jerusalem".
- The plan aimed to ensure the protection of and free access to the Holy Places for all.
- At the end of the 1948 War Judea, Samaria, and East Jerusalem (West Bank) ended up under Jordanian control. Gaza Strip became part of Egypt. **Thousands of Jews who lived in all those areas were forcibly displaced and many killed. None could stay.**

Declaration of The State of Israel

Ethnic Cleansing of 1948

- Access to the Holy Places was forbidden for Jews and Christians.
- All synagogues in Jordan and Egypt controlled areas were destroyed.
- The Jewish communities in these territories were effectively eliminated.
- This ethnic cleansing ended centuries old Jewish presence in these areas, including the Old City of Jerusalem.
- **All Arabs who remained within Israel borders, became citizens of Israel with all equal rights.**

Major Arab-Israeli Wars Since 1948

- **1948** War of Independence or First Arab-Israeli War
- **1967** Six-Day War
- **1973** Yom Kippur War*
- **1982** First Lebanon War
- **2006** Second Lebanon War
- **2023** Israel-Hamas/Hezbollah War

All wars were initiated by the neighboring states with the announced **goal of destruction of Israel** (the Arab League secretary general "candidly" stated: "this will be a war of extermination and momentous massacre")

***All wars against all odds were won by Israel.**

**Is the Western Wall
a *Jewish* or a *Muslim*
religious site?**

Al-Aqsa and Dome of the Rock

At the present time a Muslim shrine Dome of the Rock and mosque Al-Aqsa (meaning the "farthest mosque") are located on the Temple mount.

- 638 CE - Muslim Arab armies capture Jerusalem
- 695 CE - The shrine Dome of the Rock was built
- 705 CE - Al-Aqsa mosque was built
- 621 CE - Quran, Sura 17:1 Muhammad's Night Journey and his rise to heaven at Al-Aqsa (farthest mosque). **But it does not say it was in Jerusalem.**

Neither shrine nor mosque existed during Muhammad's lifetime (died in 632)

The Night Journey could NOT happen in Jerusalem.

Hadith, written 200 years later when Jerusalem Al-Aqsa already existed, describes the Night Journey as transportation from mosque in Mecca (al-Masjid al-Haram) to mosque in Jerusalem (al-Masjid al-Aqsa).

Jews historical connection to Jerusalem and the Western Wall

- The Temple Mount and the Wailing Wall are the holiest sites for Jews
- The Wailing Wall is a part of the ancient Temple complex and for that reason the hill where it's located is called the "Temple Mount"
- It's where both The First and The Second Temples stood
- Both Temples were built there because God commanded Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac at the site.
- The New Testament recounts several important episodes in Jesus's life that occurred at The Temple

Essence Of Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

What The Two Peoples Want

What The Two Peoples Want

Arab World



Total land area of **22 Middle Eastern Arab countries** is about 6,500,000 sq.mi. (slightly less than **99.9% of the Middle East**). Total population near **500 million**.

Total land area of **Israel** is 8,500 sq. mi. (slightly more than **0.1% of the Middle East**). with total Jewish population of under **8 million**.

What The Two Peoples Want

Palestinians

- PLO was founded on June 2, 1964, at a summit meeting in Cairo, Egypt.
- The stated goal of the "Liberation of Palestine" from Israeli control.
- Israel didn't control the West Bank and Gaza in 1964.
- PLO's focus was on the areas that had become part of Israel in 1948.
- The destruction of Israel and establishment of a Palestinian state in ALL of the territory that was part of Mandatory Palestine before the 1948 Arab-Israeli War - from the river to the sea.

What The Two Peoples Want

Palestinians

- **Sovereignty** over all historic Palestine (from the river to the sea) including land, water, and other natural resources
- **Contiguity** of the state of Palestine.
- **Right of Return** Palestinians insist on the right of return for Palestinian refugees who were displaced from their homes.
- **Compensation and Justice** Reparations for decades of displacement, loss of property, and suffering caused by conflict.
- **Equal Rights** For all inhabitants of the land, regardless of ethnicity or religion.
- **Independent Governance** Rebuilding their own political institutions and leadership without Western-imposed solutions.
- **East Jerusalem** as the Capital of Palestine.

Sources: Palestinian National Charter, 1964 and UN documents

What The Two Peoples Want

Israeli

- **Security & Safety** The right to live free from terrorism and violence.
- **Peace & Stability** A lasting peace agreement.
- **Recognition & Acceptance** International right to exist as a Jewish state.

Sources: Oslo Accords, 1993 and Israeli Policy Documents.

Two State Solution

Two State Solution

Offered Numerous Times, Always Rejected

- **1947 UN Resolution**
- **1993 & 1995 Oslo Accords**, a temporary measure towards a permanent peace agreement.
- **2000 Camp David Summit** Resulted in withdrawal from Gaza (2005) and removal of all Jewish settlements in Gaza
- **2008 Prime Minister Ehud Olmert** Offered significant territorial concessions 99.6% including land swaps.
- **2020 "Deal of the Century"** US-proposed plan offered economic incentives and limited Palestinian statehood with reduced territory and limited sovereignty.

In 2008, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert presented a comprehensive peace proposal to Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, offering significant territorial concessions. The key elements of Olmert's proposal included:

1. A Palestinian state on more than 94% of the West Bank.
2. Israel would annex 4.9% of the West Bank, primarily major settlement blocs.
3. In exchange for annexed areas, Israel would transfer an equivalent amount of land (5.8%) from pre-1967 Israeli territory to the Palestinians.
4. A land connection between the West Bank and Gaza Strip, either through a tunnel or highway.
5. Jerusalem would be divided, with East Jerusalem serving as the Palestinian capital.
6. The Old City, including the Temple Mount and Western Wall, would be administered by an international committee comprising representatives from Israel, Palestine, the US, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan.
7. Major settlement blocs would be incorporated into Israel, while 78 smaller settlements would be evacuated.

This proposal represented **the most far-reaching Israeli offer to date**, aimed at establishing a viable two-state solution. However, Abbas did not respond to the offer, and no agreement was reached

What Happened in Gaza in 2005?

- Thousands of Israeli settlers were forcefully removed from Gaza by Israeli police
Their houses were destroyed by IDF.
- Massive amounts of greenhouses built by the Israeli settlers produced food, flowers and employed thousands Palestinians also were planned to be demolished.
- Jewish American donors paid \$14 million to Israelis not to demolish the greenhouses and leave them for the Palestinians.
- As soon as the Palestinians gained control they looted the greenhouses.
- \$20 million was invested by the Palestine Economic Development Company (PED) to revive the greenhouses but restored only 600 of the original 1000 acres.
- By early 2006 the project was shut down when funds to pay workers ran out.

Israel Today

- Home of the most diverse population in the ME.
- The 10th the most powerful country in the world in 2025.
- The third most innovative country in the world.
- A global leader in high-tech industries. Inventor of USB memory stick, drone technology, SoftWheel, Waze navigation, airborne system for protecting civilian aircrafts against man-portable rockets
- Developer of medical technologies such as read/see for the blind, growing new bone tissue from a patient's own fat cells, a robotic device allowing paralysed to stand and walk, a tiny camera that photographs people insides after being swallowed, early cancer detection by breath analyzes.

Israel Today

- Home of the highest number of museums per capita.
- Inventor of numerous technologies such as drip irrigation, recycled waste water system (80%), extraction of drinking water from the air, technology of killing mosquitoes without harming the environment
- Country of 12 Nobel Prize laureates in variety of fields.
- A major global actor in diamond cutting & polishing.
- Home of World-Class Research institutions.
- Participant of space exploration.

Summary

- Jews are indigenous people to the area who were forced out by many different foreign occupiers over the centuries.
- Presence of the Jewish community in the area was never interrupted during 4 millenia.
- Connection of Jews to the region cannot be disputed and has been confirmed by countless written and archaeological facts.

Summary

- Contemporary Israel was established by a decision of UN, similarly to numerous other ME states.
- Today Israel is multicultural, multi-religious modern democratic state.

OBSTACLES TO PEACE

Israel right to exist

The Arab League summit resolution

HAMAS does not recognise Israel right to exist

Islamic Jihad does not recognise Israel right to exist

PLO refuses to recognize Israel as a Jewish state

No peace with Israel.

No recognition of Israel.

No negotiations with Israel.

PLO demands

- The right of return for Palestinian refugees.
- Control over East Jerusalem.
- An end to Israeli settlements in the WB.
- Not a single Jew to live in Palestine

Other Arab states

Arab states using Palestinians as pawns

2020, "Deal of the Century," officially titled "Peace to Prosperity: A Vision to Improve the Lives of the Palestinian and Israeli People," was unveiled by President Donald Trump on January 28, 2020. This plan, developed by a team led by Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner, proposed a new approach to resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Key aspects of the plan included:

1. Limited Palestinian statehood: The plan offered Palestinians a state with restricted sovereignty, subject to Israeli security concerns¹. This proposed state would be non-contiguous, with enclaves connected by tunnels and bridges under Israeli security oversight¹.
2. Economic incentives: The plan included a \$50 billion investment fund, with \$28 billion allocated for the Palestinian Authority and Gaza Strip areas⁸. This economic framework aimed to lay foundations for an independent Palestinian entity and incentivize public acceptance⁸.
3. Israeli concessions: Israel would agree to a four-year settlement freeze and potentially give up some territory⁴. However, Israel would retain sovereignty over most West Bank settlements and the Jordan Valley⁴.
4. Jerusalem status: The plan recognized Jerusalem as Israel's undivided capital while proposing a Palestinian capital in East Jerusalem outskirts^{4 7}.
5. Conditional Palestinian state: The creation of a Palestinian state was made contingent on several conditions, including demilitarization, combating "terror," and recognizing Israel as a Jewish state^{1 4}.
6. Refugee issue: The plan effectively denied Palestinian refugees the Right of Return⁶.

The plan was immediately rejected by Palestinian leadership, who were not involved in its development⁶. It was criticized for favoring Israeli interests and imposing harsh requirements on Palestinians⁴. While embraced by Israeli leaders, the plan was seen by many experts as unviable and biased against Palestinian aspirations

Arabs and Palestine

The presence of Arab populations in the region of Palestine started with the Arab conquests at the end of the 7th century CE. The conquest brought significant changes to the region. Arab rule established Islam as the dominant religion and Arabic as the administrative language. During 400 years of the Ottoman period (1517-1918), many Muslim Arabs moved into the region.

Majority of 11 million Jordanians are Palestinians.

The history of the Jews in Jordan can be traced back to Biblical times. Presently, there are no legal restrictions on Jews in Jordan, and they are permitted to own property and conduct business in the country, but in 2006 there were reported to be no Jewish citizens of Jordan, nor any synagogues or other Jewish institutions.

Syria has a synagogue built 720 years before Christ and today, only nine Jews live in Syria

DEFINITIONS

Jews are "chosen people" - what does it mean?

The concept of Jews as the "chosen people" is a core tenet of Judaism. The idea stems from the biblical covenant between God and the Jewish people, as described in the Torah. This covenant signifies **a special relationship and responsibility**. Being "chosen" **is not about superiority**, but about a unique mission. Jews are believed to be chosen to serve as an example, to live a life of ethical and moral conduct, demonstrating God's laws to the world, to spread God's word, to share their faith and values with others, to uphold justice and righteousness, to work towards a more just and equitable world.

The difference between "**terrorist**" and "**freedom fighter**"

Terrorists deliberately target innocent civilians to spread fear and destabilize society when freedom fighters primarily target military or government personnel, infrastructure, and symbols of the oppressor

What is the British Mandate?

The British Mandate for Palestine was a geopolitical entity established by the League of Nations in 1922, granting Britain administrative control over the territories that now comprise Israel, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and Jordan¹³. This mandate was part of a broader system instituted by the League of Nations to administer non-self-governing territories after World War I. Israel keeps its agreements - Egypt, Jordan

According to 1947 UN resolution Jerusalem was supposed to be an international city, free to all. When Jordan took control of the East Jerusalem, no Christians and no Jews were allowed to approach the holy places such as wailing wall

Are Jews colonizers or indigenous to the land of Israel?

Definition of “indigenous”

Key Characteristics of
Indigenous peoples:

Historical Continuity: They have a historical continuity with pre-invasion and pre-colonial societies that developed on their territories.

○ Self-Identification: They

Definition of “colonizer”

a country that sends settlers to a place and establishes political control over it:

"Portugal was a major colonizer in both Brazil and parts of Africa"

• a person who settles among and establishes political control over the Indigenous people of an area

GENOCIDE

Definition

Intentional destruction a national, ethnical, racial or religious group by Killing members of the group

Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part, Imposing measures to prevent births within the group. Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

Palestinian population (WB + G)

1948 - 1.3 million

1967 - 1.15 million

2023 - 5.8 million

There is not a single Jew in Jordan today

ADDITIONAL FACTS

The people whose nation was destroyed by the Romans were the Jews. There were no Arab Palestinians then — not until seven hundred years later would an Arab rule prevail, and then briefly [22 years; AD 639-661] i.e. Arabs not Palestinians. Among those alleged to be 'indigenous Palestinians' were Balkans, Greeks, Syrians, Latins, Egyptians, Turks, Armenians, Italians, Persians, Kurds, Germans, Afghans, Circasians, Bosnians, Sudanese, Samaritans, Algerians, Motawila and Tartars. [Joan Peters, in From Time Immemorial]

It can be noted that from the time of the expulsion of the Jews by the Romans in the year 70 to 132 AD and the defeat of the Ottoman Empire in 1918, Israel ['Palestine'] was occupied by fourteen conquerors over thirteen centuries until 1948, when the Jews were able to declare their independence once more.

Pro-Palestinian claims

Yasser Arafat alleged that “Solomon’s Temple was not in Jerusalem, but Nablus.”

Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen), Arafat’s successor, also impugns Israel’s “claim that 2000 years ago they had a temple.

Dr. Hassan Khader, founder of the Al Quds Encyclopedia on PA TV, who claimed, “The first connection of the Jews to this site [the Western Wall] began in the 16th Century...The Jewish connection to this site is a recent connection, not ancient...like the roots of the Islamic connection...The Jewish connection to this site is a fabricated connection, a coincidental connection.”

Sheik Raed Salah, who directs the northern faction of the Islamic Movement in Israel, also denied the Temple ever existed, insisting that, “the claims of the Jews are big lies, and they have no right to any speck of dust here.”

Members of the Arab academic community have gone so far as to deny Israel’s legitimacy by portraying the Jewish state as a product of colonialis

Nadia Abu El-Haj, a professor of anthropology at Barnard College in her book contends that “There never was an actual metropole [mother city] for Jewish settlers in Palestine

Who are Indigenous peoples of Palestine: Historical Continuity: They have a historical continuity with pre-invasion and pre-colonial societies that developed on their territories.

Self-Identification: They consider themselves distinct from other sectors of the societies now prevailing in those territories, or parts of them. Strong Connection to Land: They often have a strong connection to the lands or territories and the natural resources that they traditionally occupy or otherwise use, and to the cultural values, traditions and institutions that are linked to those lands and territories.

According to UNRWA figures approximately 70% of Jordan's 5.7 million population are Palestinians

There are no ethnic or religious distinctions between Jordanians and Palestinians. The difference between them is primarily rooted in their historical experiences. Palestinians bore the brunt of the conflict with Zionism, experiencing the loss of their homeland and dispersal in 1948. (Really? In 1948 Palestinians were under Jordanian rule.)

The distinction between Jordanians and Palestinians is thus more **political and social** than ethnic or religious, reflecting the complex history of state formation and conflict in the region.

Byzantine Rule: Following the decline of the Roman Empire, the region came under Byzantine rule. Arab Rule: In the 7th century CE, the region was **conquered** by Arab forces and became part of the Islamic world. Ottoman Rule: The Ottoman Empire ruled the region for centuries until the early 20th century. By the late 19th century, anywhere between 300,000 and 450,000 Jews resided in the Ottoman Empire. British Mandate: ~~Following World War I, Britain was granted a mandate to administer~~ Palestine. This period witnessed increasing Jewish immigration and the rise of Zionist movements. The State of Israel: In 1948, the State of Israel was established

Yasser Arafat alleged that “Solomon’s Temple was not in Jerusalem, but in Nablus.” - Camp David Summit in July 2000

How the world reacted to Oct. 7 massacre:

Glory to Hamas

Gas Jews

We want Jewish genocide

If there are “innocent Palestinians”, are there “innocent Israelis” and “innocent Jews” in our universities?

Has the world heard of **child hostages** before?

Who started WWII - NAZIs or Germany?

Who committed Oct. & - Hamas or Palestinians?

UN General Assembly accused Israel of initiating the war against Egypt, Syria, and Jordan on June 5, 1967. UN disregarded:

Numerous Arab incursions into Israel prior to the war

Egyptian massive military buildup on Israel's border

Palestinian guerrilla attacks against Israel

Egypt demand for the withdrawal of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) from the Sinai.

Egypt's closure of the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping

The signing of a defense pact between Egypt and Jordan

Deployment of Iraqi troops into Jordan

PALESTINIAN PERSPECTIVE OF ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT.

In the 2020 book "The Hundred Years' War on Palestine", Rashid Khalidi—historian and Professor of Modern Arab Studies at Columbia University—argues that the struggle in Palestine should be understood, not as one between two equal national movements fighting over the same land, but rather as "a colonial war waged against the indigenous population, by a variety of parties, to force them to relinquish their homeland to another people against their will.

**“We got it by the sword, we’ll keep it by the sword”
and “Palestine is our land and Jews are our dogs.”**

THE JERUSALEM TEMPLE THROUGHOUT HISTORY



1000 BCE



20 CE



70 CE



Today

