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“He remembers his covenant for ever, the promise he made, for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree, to Israel as an everlasting covenant: To you I will give the land of Canaan as the portion you will inherit.” Ps.105:8-11

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“As surely as the Lord lives, who brought the Israelites up out of the land of the north and out of all the countries where he had banished them. For I will restore them to the land I gave to their ancestors.”  
Jeremia 16:15

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Information about Israel:  
[israeltoday.com](http://israeltoday.com)  
[palwatch.org](http://palwatch.org)



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# ISRAEL

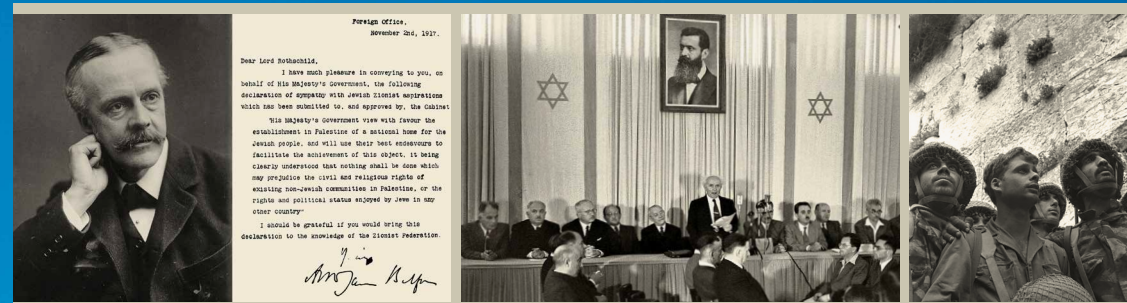
From Theodor Herzl, until today

A quotation from Theodor Herzl's diary, September 3, 1897:

“At Basel I founded the Jewish state. If I said this out loud today, I would be answered by universal laughter. In five years perhaps, and certainly in fifty, everyone would understand it.”



1897: Theodor Herzl (Zionist Congress Basel)



1917: Arthur Balfour, Balfour Declaration

1948: Proclamation of the State of Israel  
(David Ben Gurion)

1967: Six-Day War  
(Western Wall)

# A - G : THE ROAD TO THE JEWISH STATE / FIRST DEFENSIVE WARS

## A > Zionism

In the 19th century, the Zionist movement emerged in Europe, striving for a return of the Jews to the Land of the Fathers, then called Palestine. In 1897, Theodor Herzl presided over the first Zionist Congress in Basel.

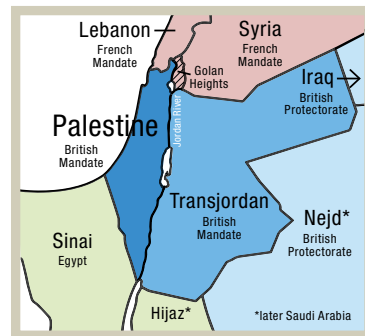
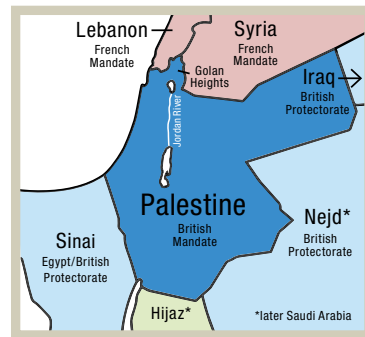
## B > Aliyah/Immigration

The return migration of Jews to the Holy Land (called Aliyah) began in 1882. There were about 350'000 people living in Palestine at that time (260'000 Muslims, 55'000 Christians and 34'000 Jews). There were no Palestinian people nor a nation of that name. The Jews were soon followed by non-Jewish, mainly Arab immigrants from various countries because of improved job opportunities.

## C > The legal foundations of Israel

The reason for the founding of the State of Israel was neither the Holocaust nor the failed UN partition plan of 1947. It began in 1917 with the British Balfour Declaration, in which Great Britain supported the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine - then an Ottoman province. The Balfour Declaration became binding under international law in 1920. The League of Nations transferred the mandate to establish this national home on the territory from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea to Great Britain in 1922. This after Churchill had arbitrarily separated 77 % of the territory promised to the Jews, creating Transjordan (Jordan), in fact a Palestinian state.

Thus leaving for the national Jewish home the territory from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean, incl. all of Jerusalem.



## D > Founding of the State

From 1920 to 1948, the issue was to establish the national Jewish home. After the end of the Mandate, David Ben Gurion consequently proclaimed the State of Israel on May 14, 1948. "Who has ever heard of such things? Who has ever seen things like this? Can a country be born in a day?" (Isaiah 66:8)

## E > War of Independence 1948/49

One day after the founding of the state, Israel was attacked by five Arab armies. This occurred after the Arabs had rejected the UN partition plan at the end of 1947. Israel was able to hold its own, but Jordan illegally occupied Judea/Samaria (so-called West Bank) and the eastern part of Jerusalem (until the Six-Day War in 1967). The 1949 Israel/Jordan armistice agreement states, among other things, that no future borders may be derived from the armistice line - the green line. Therefore, there are no "1967 borders"! The Gaza Strip was under Egyptian occupation from 1948 - 1967.

## F > Refugees

In the Arab war of aggression of 1948/49, about 650'000 Palestinians left their villages, the majority because Arab authorities told them to do so. But the Arab countries did not take them in. They were to serve (as they do today) as a "psychological weapon" against Israel. In 1949, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) was established. It decided - unlike anywhere else in the world - that the refugee status of Palestinians should automatically pass to their descendants. This is how the number of refugees allegedly became 5 million. At UNRWA schools, Palestinian children are systematically indoctrinated against Israel. They are made to believe in the legally non-existent right of return. In contrast, the more than 800'000 Jews who fled or were expelled from Arab countries at that time are not treated as an issue. Most of these Jews were taken in by Israel.

## G > Six-Day War 1967

It is recognised as a defensive war. In a pre-emptive strike, Israel defeated Egypt, Syria and Jordan, who were ready to attack Israel. This ended the illegal occupation of East Jerusalem and the Westbank (Judea/Samaria) by Jordan and of the Gaza Strip by Egypt. All these territories are part of the national Jewish home based on the Mandate of the League of Nations. The Sinai and the Golan were also occupied. Occupation is legal under international law. Legally, there is no "Palestinian territory". Israel does not have to withdraw from all these territories, over 90% have been returned.

# DID YOU KNOW?



## Israel - Scapegoat of the World?

For decades, the media, the UN, NGOs, etc. have treated Israel as the scapegoat. Of course, one may criticize Israel, but measuring Israel with a different yardstick than used for the rest of the world, means being suspected of anti-Semitism. Moreover, the Nations reject Israel's valid legal claim to the whole territory despite it is based under international law in accordance with:

- the **League of Nations Mandate of 1922**
- the **Balfour Declaration of 1917**

Israel's rights are protected by **Art. 80 of the UN Charter**.

## Where does the name Palestine come from?

After suppression of Jewish uprisings in 135 AD, Judea was renamed Palestine by the Roman Emperor Hadrian to erase the Jewish connection to the land. Despite the expulsion/dispersion of Jews to many countries, there was always a Jewish presence in the Holy Land.

## Who are the Palestinians? What about Palestine?

Due to the large number of illegal Arab immigrants before 1948, about 75 % of the so-called Palestinians are actually immigrants or their descendants. There has never been a Palestinian state or nation of that name. The name Palestine comes from the Roman Emperor Hadrian and was used as the geographical name for the Holy Land until 1948.

## Islam - obstacle to peace

According to Islamic teaching, (former) Islamic-ruled territory (Dar al-Islam) must never be dominated by non-Muslims. Therefore, the central goal of Fatah and Hamas and most Muslim states, is to destroy Israel. From an Islamic point of view, the peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan mean only a cease-fire, nothing more. This also applies to the so-called Abraham Accords with Arab states, which came into being in view of the imminent danger from Iran.

## Charter of the PLO (Fatah)

The charter of the PLO/Fatah aims at the destruction of Israel. Art. 9: "The armed struggle is the only way to liberate Palestine" (this includes the territory of Israel). Hamas pursues the same goal. In 2000 and 2008, Israel made generous peace offers to the Palestinians. Arafat and Abbas rejected them.

## Two-state solution - the opposite of a solution!

There is no legal basis for it. A Palestinian state would not change the goal of Fatah and Hamas to destroy Israel. Bordering Israel to the east, a new "Gaza Strip" would be created with terrorist attacks possible against the nearby Israeli population centres.

## Jerusalem

Around 1000 BC, King David made Jerusalem the capital of his kingdom. The First Temple was built under King Solomon. In 20 BC King Herod renewed the second Temple, which the Romans destroyed in 70 AD as a consequence of the Jewish rebellion. Under international law, all of Jerusalem belongs to Israel (League of Nations mandate). Jerusalem is mentioned over 800 times in the Bible, nowhere in the Koran.

## What is the West Bank?

Its real name is Judea/Samaria and was/is part of the Jewish Mandate territory according to the League of Nations mandate, or of the present-day state of Israel. In the 1948/49 war it was illegally occupied by Jordan together with East Jerusalem (until the Six-Day War of 1967). The Oslo conferences led to the division of Judea/Samaria into the three zones A, B and C:

- A - Palestinian self-government
- B - Palestinian Civil Administration/Security together with Israel
- C - Under Israeli administration alone

## Settlements

Jewish settlements in the so-called West Bank (Judea/Samaria) are legal under international law but may not encroach on private land of Palestinians. "Palestinian territory" does not exist under international law (according to the League of Nations it is Israeli territory, illegally occupied by Jordan 1948 - 67. This is another reason why the 4th Geneva Convention is not applicable.

## Security fence/wall/checkpoints

The armistice line (green line) of 1949 forms a dividing line (it is not a border) to the so-called West Bank. In order to keep terrorists out, the "green line" was provided with a security fence. (More than 95 % is wire fence, the rest protective wall.) Security risks/terror also require checkpoints and controls.

## Occupation

The occupation of the territories conquered in the 1967 Six-Day War is legal under international law. Moreover: East Jerusalem, Judea/Samaria (West Bank) and the Gaza Strip are part of the territory that the mandate of the League of Nations designated as the national home for the Jewish people in 1922.

## Right of self-determination of peoples

A right to self-determination that is binding under international law has only existed since 1945. It did not exist when the League of Nations legally established the national home for the Jewish people 100 years ago. Therefore, the Palestinians cannot invoke the right of self-determination. Retroactive application is not possible. UN resolutions cannot change this.

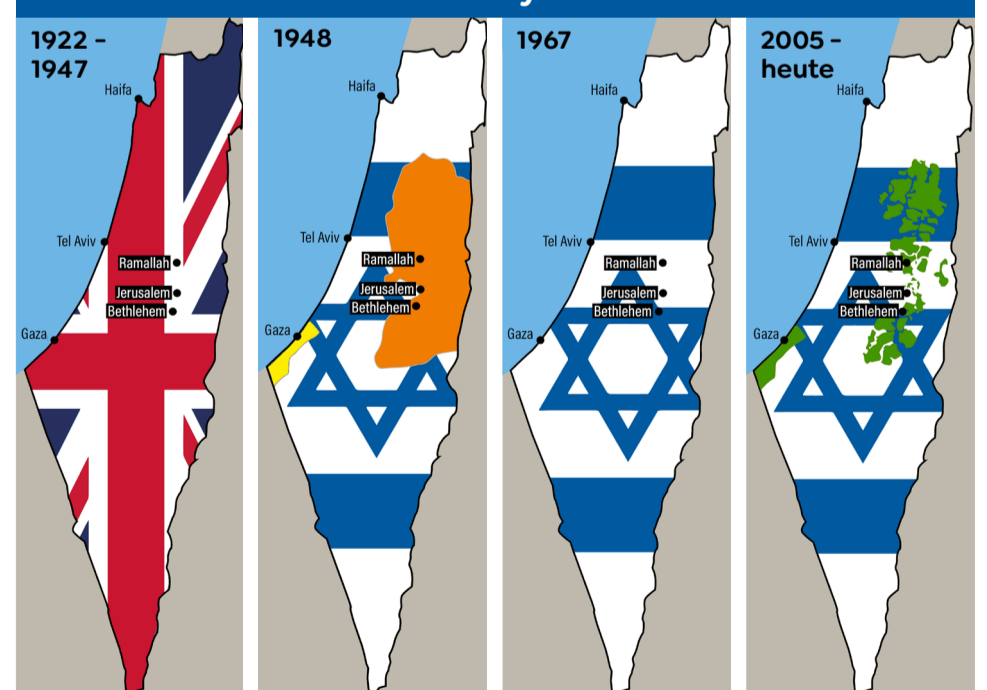
## The Oslo Accords (1993/1995)

They placed certain areas under Palestinian self-government, but did not create a Palestinian state or "Palestinian territory". Despite Oslo, Arafat's agitation and terror against Israel continued.

## Distribution of land ownership in 1948

Figures of the British Mandate administration: 8.6 % of the land belonged to Jews, 3.3 % to Arabs who remained in the Mandate territory, while 16.9 % were abandoned by Arab owners who obeyed the call of Arab countries to vacate the area. The remainder (over 70 %) was state land that passed from the British Mandate administration to Israel's possession (its legal heir) in 1948.

## Israel from 1922 until today.



Israel (called Palestine until 1948), entirely under British Mandate administration.

Occupied by Jordan (1948 to 1967).  
Occupied by Egypt (1948 to 1967).

In the Six-Day War of 1967, Israel liberated its territory established by the League of Nations in 1922, from the illegal occupiers Jordan and Egypt.

From 1994, thanks to Israel, there are territories that are autonomously administered by Palestinians for the first time. From 2005, the entire Gaza Strip was handed over by Israel to the Palestinian population for self-government, soon after dominated by the terrorist organization Hamas.