



## Creation of Israel

### The only Jewish state

With multiple choice Q&A

- First Jews in the land 4,000 years ago
- Emergence of Christianity
- Diaspora & Antisemitism
- Islamic conquest of Asia-Africa
- Zionism
- 1948 - re-establishment of the state of Israel
- Expulsion of the Jews from the Muslim world
- Israel's constant battle of defense

# Timeline

**1800 BCE**

Jews settle in Israel

**0 CE**

Jesus Christ is born to a Jewish family in Judea, Israel. Christianity later on spreads in the region

**70 CE**

The Romans exile most Jews and name the region “Syria Palestina”

**620 CE**

Islam is formed by the Arabs in now-a-day Saudi Arabia  
Islamic conquest and colonization of Asia and Africa, inc. Israel

**1880 CE**

Zionist movement is formed, ramping up Jewish return to Israel,  
countered by Muslim immigration from all over the Muslim world

**1917 CE**

The British receive mandate over Israel and call it mandatory “Palestine” after its Roman name

**1945 CE**

World War II ends with 6 million Jews (almost half of all Jews) massacred in the Holocaust

**1947 CE**

The UN resolution to divide the land to a Jewish state and an Arab state  
Jews accept ; Arabs disagree to give any part to the Jews

**1948 CE**

Israel declares independence as a democracy and survives invasion by 6 Muslim Arab countries.  
In a few years, virtually all Jews from the Muslim world expelled and now constitute majority of Israeli Jews

# Israel vs. Palestine

- As documented in the Bible, **Jews first settled in Israel ~4,000 years ago**, and had continuous presence there to this very day, despite persecutions and displacements.
- Israel has served as safe haven to Jews, who were severely persecuted worldwide (Antisemitism).
- A democracy and only the size of New Jersey; Home to 7 million Jews, mostly those expelled from the Muslim countries, as well as 2 million Arabs, mostly Muslims, as

citizens enjoying full rights

- The Muslim world, consists of ~2 billion Muslims across over 50 countries, most of which consider Israel a Muslim land, which they call **Palestine**.



Biblical Israel stretched across major parts of present-day Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, and small parts of Egypt



# Ancient Israel, emergence of Christianity and Islam

- Around 1000 BCE the Jews established the Kingdom of Israel, first ruled by King David, with its capital **Jerusalem**, where they built their temple.
- The Roman Empire exiled them around 70 CE, resulting in the **Diaspora** - majority of Jews expelled from Israel.
- To disassociate the Jews from Israel, the Romans renamed it “Syria-Palestina”.
- **Christianity**, which was derived from Judaism, was initiated around that time by Jesus Christ, a Jew from Judea, Israel, and spread in the region and later to Europe.
- **Islam** emerged as a religion by the Arabs in ~620 CE in present-day Saudi Arabia.
- The Arabs occupied very rapidly major parts of Asia and Africa, including Israel, while colonizing the region and spreading the Islamic religion.
- They built the Al-Aqsa Mosque on top of the ruins of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem
- Muslims limited rights of Jews and Christians, leading to the Christian Crusaders invasion and rule in ~1100-1200 CE, later replaced following other Muslim invasions.

The Ancient Jewish Temple in Jerusalem (*Illustration*)





# The Diaspora, Zionism and British mandate

- Although Jews expelled from Israel were productive and loyal to their new countries, they faced **Antisemitism** - hatred and discrimination against Jews, including mass massacres, resulting in the fact that although Jews existed since ~4,000 years ago, there are only 15 million of them globally.
- Jews return to Israel ramped up in the 1800s led by the **Zionist** movement.
- The region was ruled by the Ottomans, was neglected and sparsely populated.
- The Zionist movement developed the land and made it more habitable.
- This attracted Muslims, mainly Arabs, from all over the Muslim world, looking for new employment opportunities, and also due to political reasons - to counter the Jewish immigration.
- In 1917 after WWI, Britain received the land, while naming it “Palestine-land-of-Israel”, or in short - mandatory “Palestine”, after the Roman name “Syria-Palestina”

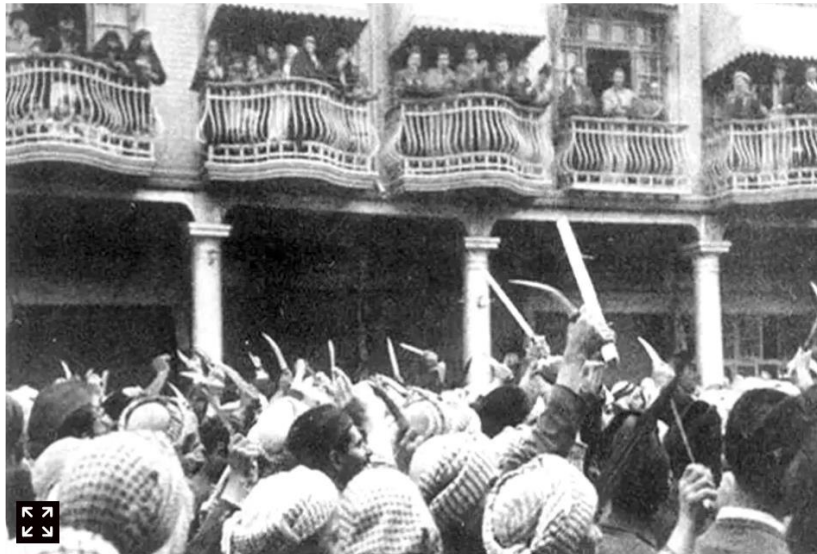
Zionists, called the Pioneers, drying Malaria-infested swamps in Israel



# British Mandate and the Holocaust

- 1930's / 1940's - World War II took place - the Jews were persecuted and mass massacred by Hitler's Nazi party in the Holocaust, which took place mainly in Europe.
- Some Arab countries, inspired by Nazi ideology, initiated massacres against their Jewish populations, as well.
- Looking to save their lives, Jews tried to immigrate to mandatory Palestine, which they saw as their ancestral rightful home.
- Increasing immigration, added with Nazi ideology resulted in Muslim violence against Jews in mandatory Palestine and eradication of entire Jewish communities since Biblical times

"the Farhud" - Muslim Arab mob in Iraq in an organized massacre against the Jews in 1941 during the British rule



The ancient synagogue in Hebron, Judea (later called West Bank) after the massacre committed by the Muslim Arabs against the Jewish population in 1929. Following the massacre, the Jewish community in Hebron, which existed since thousands of years, was eradicated



1941 - Haj Amin Al-Husseini, a renowned Muslim Arab leader from Palestine, discussing with Adolf Hitler how to collaborate on the annihilation of Jews in mandatory Palestine



# The Holocaust, UN Partition plan

- To appease the Muslim Arabs, the British reacted by banning Jewish immigration to their ancestral homeland, while enabling Muslim immigration.
- Jews were then not able to use their historic homeland as safe haven, and **6 million Jews, almost half of the world's Jewish population, were murdered in the Holocaust.**
- 1947 – the United Nations (U.N.) recognized the need for the Jews to have their own state, and decided on partitioning mandatory Palestine into two states, one Jewish and one Arab.
- The Jews accepted this plan, yet the Muslim Arabs didn't and were strongly against giving any part to the Jews.

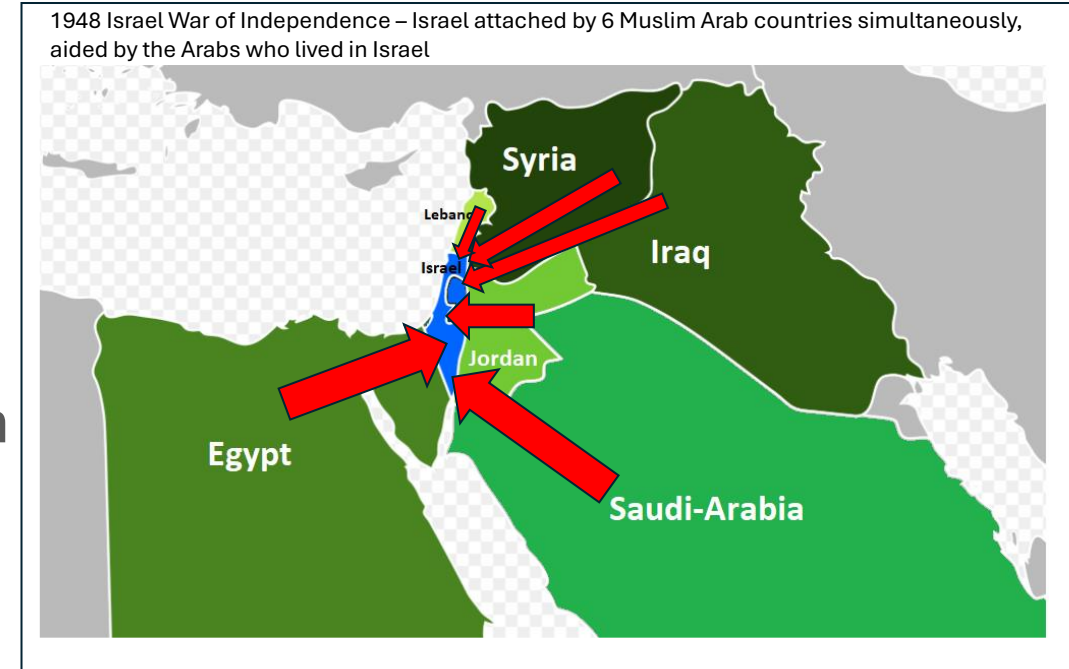
A group of Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto during the Holocaust





# Israel's War of Independence

- 1948 - Israel declared its independence and defined in its Declaration of Independence full equality of rights, regardless of race, religion or gender.
- Nonetheless, the Muslim Arabs in Israel, together with 6 Muslim Arab countries with trained armies invaded it and the tiny new country had to fight for its life.
- Israel survived the war and prevented yet another Holocaust. The war resulted though in key regions taken over by the Arabs, which became parts of Egypt (Gaza) and Jordan (Judea & Samaria – the cradle of the Jewish people).





# Partial Population Exchange and Israel's constant battle of defense

- Being a warzone, some Muslim Arabs left and became refugees in the neighboring Arab countries, which did not give them full rights, thereby perpetuating the Palestinian refugee crisis. Those who stayed enjoyed full rights as Israeli citizens.
- In contrast, no Jews remained in the areas of mandatory Palestine conquered by the Muslim Arabs. In addition, virtually all Jews who lived in the Muslim countries were expelled and now constitute most of Israeli Jewish population.
- The war ended in 1949, yet Israel kept on being attacked by its neighbors. In addition, the PLO - Palestine Liberation Organization, was founded in 1964 aiming at creating an Arab Muslim country, instead of Israel, while coining its people as “Palestinians”. Newer and more radical Muslim organizations ( Hamas, Hezbollah) aim to annihilate of all Jews worldwide. Israel and the Jews are still on the defense

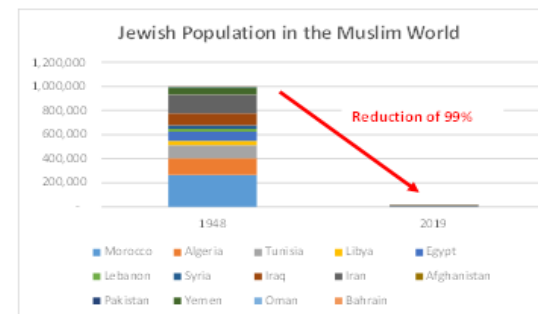
Jewish refugees from Iraq in Israel - 1950



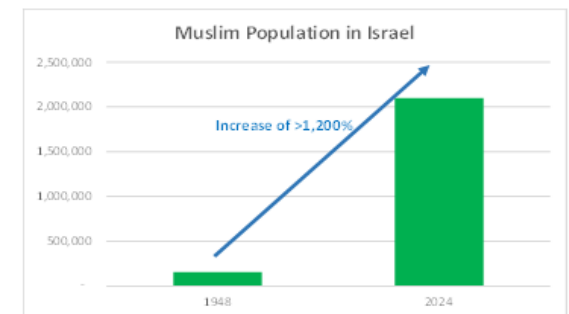
Jewish refugees from Yemen - 1949



Jewish and Muslim Population Growth since 1948



Sources: UN-Watch (unwatch.org);  
www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org



Source: Council on Foreign Relations (education.cfr.org)

# Questions

1. Who were first to inhabit Israel?
  - A. The Arabs
  - B. The Jews
  - C. The Palestinians
  - D. The Muslims
2. For how long did Jews live in Israel consecutively until today?
  - A. Almost 4,000 years
  - B. Since 1948
  - C. Since the crusaders left the country, about 800 years ago
  - D. For the past 1,000 years
3. For how long did the Muslim Arabs live in Israel consecutively?
  - A. Almost 4,000 years
  - B. Since 1948
  - C. Since they drove the Crusaders out, about 800 years ago
  - D. For the past 1,600 years
4. What is the origin of the Palestinians?
  - A. They are Muslim Arabs, who came from now-a-days Saudi-Arabia around 630 CE. Most of them migrated to the land of Israel in later periods, as of the late 1800s from all over the Muslim world, following Jewish immigration there and the British rule
  - B. From Palestine
  - C. They are British
  - D. From Europe
5. What did the Zionist movement do?
  - A. Destroyed houses
  - B. Sold land to the Arabs
  - C. Supported the British
  - D. Developed the land, dried up swamps and devised arid agriculture
6. Where does the majority of the current Jewish population of Israel come from?
  - A. From Europe
  - B. From the Holocaust
  - C. They were expelled from the Muslim countries
  - D. From Africa

# Questions

7. When was the term “Palestinians” first used to describe the Arabs living in Israel?
  - A. In 630 CE
  - B. In 1964
  - C. In 1947
  - D. About 800 years ago
8. What was the objective of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)?
  - A. To found an Arab Muslim country, instead of Israel
  - B. To found an Arab Muslim country, in addition to Israel
  - C. To support the Arab Muslim population in the region
  - D. To support the Jews
9. How many Muslim countries exist?
  - A. 1
  - B. Over 20
  - C. Over 50
  - D. Over 100
10. How many Jewish countries exist?
  - A. 1
  - B. Over 20
  - C. Over 50
  - D. Over 100
11. Why did Zionist leaders accept the UN proposal in 1947 to split mandatory Palestine into a Jewish state and an Arab state?
  - A. They wanted to have another Jewish country
  - B. They wanted to guarantee safe haven for Jews in the Muslim countries who were persecuted there, as well as for Jews who survived the Holocaust in Europe
  - C. They wanted to continue having the British in the land
  - D. They wanted to prevent the Holocaust
12. Who fought the Jews after they declared independence in 1948?
  - A. The British
  - B. The Muslim Arabs in Israel, together with 6 additional Muslim Arab countries
  - C. The Palestinians
  - D. The United Nations

# Questions

13. What was the background of the emergence of the Zionist movement in the 1800s?
  - A. The Holocaust
  - B. Wanting another Jewish country
  - C. Anti-Semitism, which resulted in massacre of entire Jewish communities throughout history
  - D. The British
14. Why did Muslims immigrate to mandatory Palestine around the time of the Holocaust?
  - A. They wanted better life abroad
  - B. They wanted to support the British
  - C. They wanted to support the Jewish population in the country
  - D. They wanted to ensure Arab Muslim majority and preempt any foundation of a Jewish state in the region, in addition to employment reasons following the development of the land by the Zionists and the British
15. Israel is the Jewish state, which the UN resolved to establish in mandatory Palestine. What populations live there?
  - A. 7 million Jews
  - B. Palestinians
  - C. 7 million Jews, and 2 million Arabs, as citizens enjoying full rights.
  - D. Jews and British
16. What is the source of the name Palestine?
  - A. An Arab country which existed in the past where Israel currently resides
  - B. The name the Romans invented for land of Israel after they exiled most Jews, and which later on was adopted by the British in 1917
  - C. That's another biblical name for Israel
  - D. The name the U.N. chose in 1947 for the Arab country which was supposed to be founded in Palestine-Israel



# Questions

17. When did Palestine exist as a country?
  - A. Following the war in 1948 in the areas taken by the Muslim Arabs in Palestine-Israel
  - B. Never. It was the name the Romans invented for the region (“Syria-Palestina”) which is now Israel, a name which the British adopted, as well for the land (“Palestine-land-of-Israel”).
  - C. In 630 AD
  - D. In 1200 AD after the Crusaders rule
18. What other country existed where Israel is currently located?
  - A. None
  - B. The United Kingdom
  - C. Palestine
  - D. The United Nations
19. How did the British call Israel under their mandate system?
  - A. Israel
  - B. Palestine
  - C. Palestine-land-of-Israel, or in short mandatory Palestine
  - D. Judea
20. What happened to the Jews in the areas of Palestine-land-of-Israel which were occupied by the Muslim Arabs?
  - A. They remained there and enjoyed full rights to this very day
  - B. Like the Jews in the Muslim countries themselves, who were persecuted out of there, they all fled to the areas secured by the Jews, which then became the state of Israel
  - C. They received asylum by the British
  - D. They were defined as refugees by the United Nations

# Answers

## Answers

1. B
2. A
3. C
4. A
5. D
6. C
7. B
8. A
9. C
10. A
11. B
12. B
13. C
14. D
15. C
16. B
17. B
18. A
19. C
20. B