



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 – the only Jewish state

- As documented in the Bible, **Jews first settled in Israel ~4,000 years ago**, and they are the most ancient ethno-religious group still living on the land.
- Jewish presence in Israel has been continuous to this very day, despite numerous persecutions and displacements.
- Israel has served as safe haven to Jews, who were persecuted in the Muslim world and Europe (antisemitism)
- The only democracy in the Middle East.
- Tiny country (the size of New Jersey) - currently home to:
 - 7 million Jews, mostly those who were expelled from the Muslim countries.
 - 2 million Arabs – Muslims, Christians and Druze, all as citizens enjoying full rights.
- Israel has been under constant threat of survival since its formal reestablishment in 1948, due to attacks from its neighboring Muslim countries. Greatly outnumbered, it had to develop a culture of creativity / innovation and is called “The Startup Nation”.

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



The Muslim World and Palestine



- The Muslim world, consists of ~2 billion Muslims across over 50 countries, most of which consider Israel a Muslim land, which they call **Palestine**.
- The Muslim Arabs first occupied the land in 630 CE and maintained continuous presence in it for the past 800 years.

Ancient Israel and the emergence of Christianity

- Several hundreds of years after the Jews first settled in Israel ~4,000 years ago, they established their kingdom, first ruled by King David, residing it its capital **Jerusalem**, where they also built their temple.
- The Roman Empire exiled them around 70 CE, resulting in the **Diaspora** - majority of Jews expelled from Israel to North Africa, Asia and Europe.
- To disassociate the Jews from Israel, the Romans renamed it “Syria-Palestina”.
- **Christianity**, which was derived from Judaism and spread later on to Europe and beyond, was initiated around that time by Jesus Christ, a Jew from Judea, Israel, who spread it in the region.

The Ancient Jewish Temple in Jerusalem (*Illustration*)

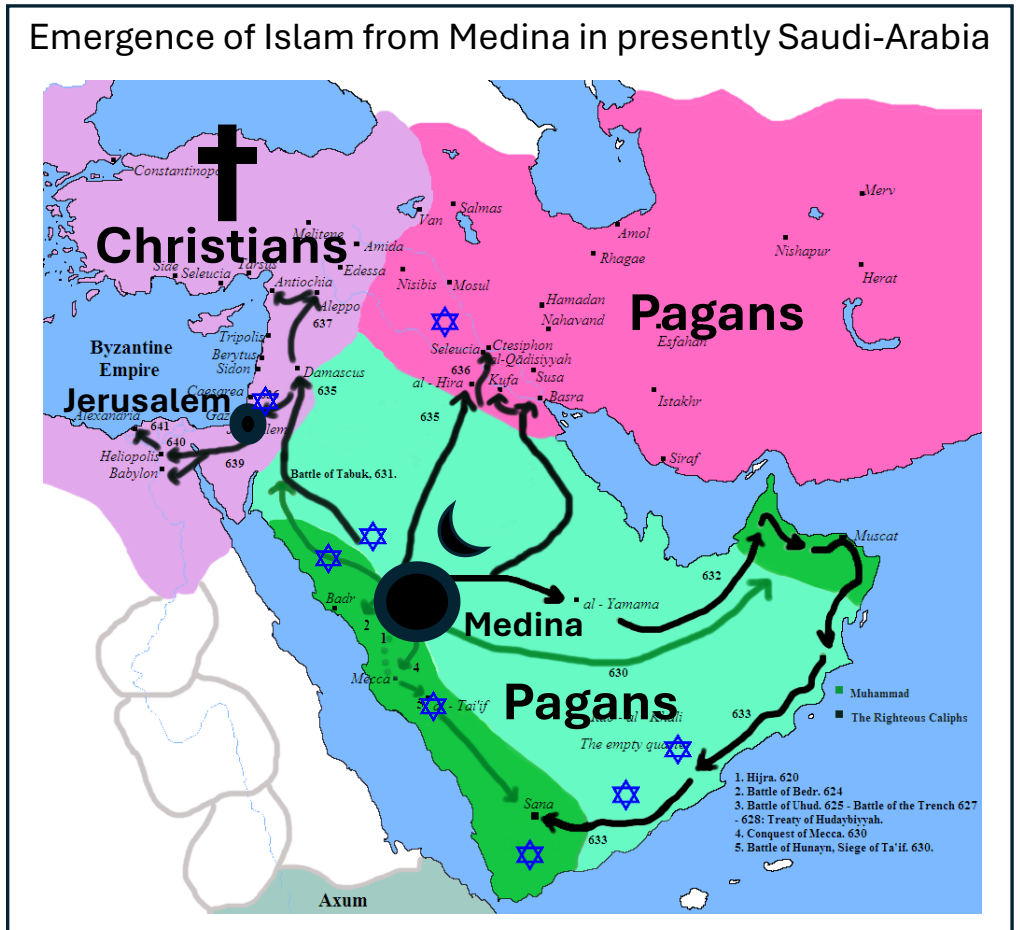


The Wailing Wall - the remains of the ruins of the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem



The Arab / Muslim Conquest and Colonization

- Islam emerged as a religion by the Arabs ~620 CE in present-day Saudi Arabia.
- At that time, the region was inhabited by Christians, Jews and pagans.
- The Arabs, led by their prophet Mohammed, occupied very rapidly major parts of Asia and Africa, including Israel, while colonizing the region and spreading the Islamic religion by force.
- They built the Al-Aqsa Mosque on top of the ruins of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem.
- They limited rights of Jews and Christians, including freedom of religion, leading to the Christian Crusaders invasion and rule in ~1100-1200 CE, later replaced following other Muslim invasions.



The Diaspora, Antisemitism and Zionism

- Although Jews expelled from Israel were productive and loyal to their new countries, they faced **Antisemitism** - hatred and discrimination against Jews, including mass massacres. This resulted in the fact that although Jews existed since ~4,000 years ago, there are only 15 million of them globally.
- Jews have always migrated back to Israel from the Diaspora.
- As of the late 1800s, this movement grew and was called **Zionism**.
- The region was ruled by the Ottoman Empire. The land was very sparsely populated, mostly by Jews and Muslim Arabs, was neglected and suffered from low level of personal safety and health.
- The Zionist movement developed the land and turned more parts of it to being 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.

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



British Mandate

- In 1917 after WWI, Britain received the mandate over the land, while naming it “Palestine-land-of-Israel”, or in short - mandatory “Palestine”, after the name “Syria-Palestina” which was invented by the Romans in 70 CE for the region after they expelled the Jews from it.
- The standalone term “Palestinian” did not exist as a designation for any specific people who originated from the land of Palestine. Rather, the people who lived on the land were then called either Palestinian Arabs, or Palestinian Jews.
- Increasing Jewish immigration to the land resulted in increased Muslim immigration from all over the Muslim world, and in Muslim Arab riots and violence against Jews, with Jewish communities since Biblical times eradicated (e.g. – Hebron in Judea / West Bank, Gaza).
- The British drastically limited Jewish immigration.

The Flag used by Jews in mandatory Palestine during the British mandate



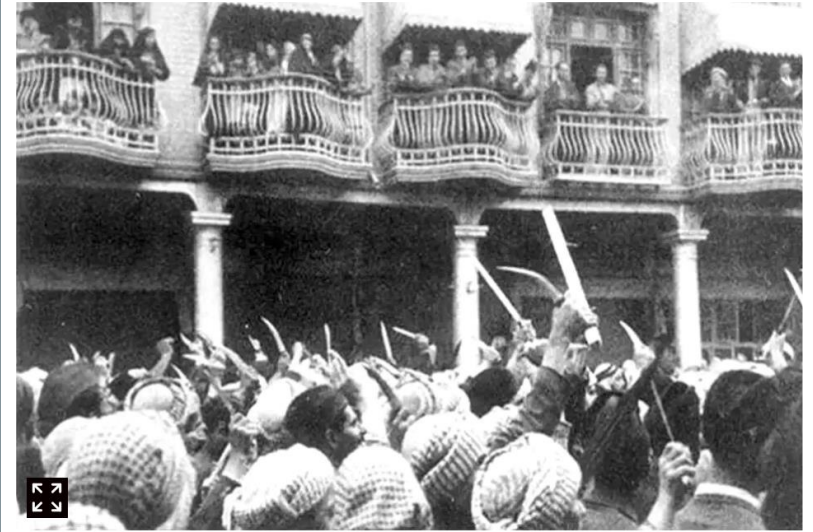
The ancient synagogue in Hebron, Judea (later called West Bank) after the massacre committed by the Muslim Arabs against the Jewish population in 1929. Following the massacre, the Jewish community in Hebron, which existed since thousands of years, was eradicated



British Mandate and the Holocaust - 1

- 1930's / 1940's - World War II took place - the Jews started being persecuted and mass massacred by Hitler's Nazi party mainly in Europe, in what is known as the **Holocaust**.
- 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.
- Jewish immigration there, together with influence from the Nazis, erupted in 1936 in the 3-year “Arab Revolt” - intensification of prior massacre of Jews and their displacement from their homes since Biblical times, in addition to an uprising against the British.

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



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



British Mandate and the Holocaust - 2

- To appease the Arabs, the British banned immigration of Jews who tried to escape from the Holocaust, while enabling mass immigration of Muslims there, who wanted to ensure Arab Muslim majority and preempt any foundation of a Jewish state in the region.
- 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.**

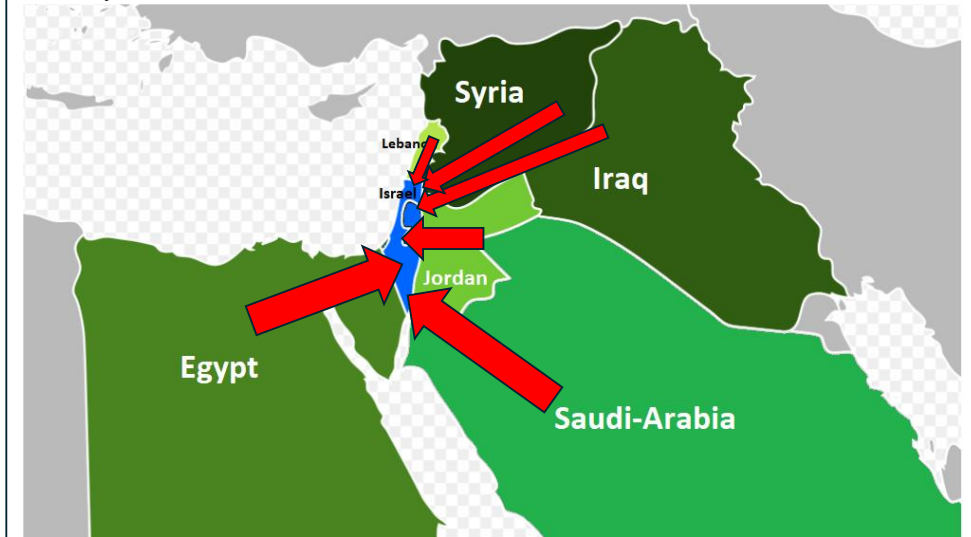
A group of Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto during the Holocaust



UN Partition Plan and War of Independence

- 1947 – while recognizing the need for the Jews to have their own state, the United Nations (U.N.) intended to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict by partitioning mandatory Palestine into two states, one Jewish and one Arab.
- The Jews accepted this plan, as they saw the urgent need for safe haven for both European Jews and for Jews in the Muslim countries.
- The Muslim Arabs were strongly against giving any part to the Jews.
- 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.
- 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 – the cradle of the Jewish people).

1948 Israel War of Independence – Israel invaded by 6 Muslim Arab countries simultaneously, aided by the Arabs who lived in Israel



War of Independence and Partial Population Exchange

- Being a warzone, some Muslim Arabs left and became refugees in the neighboring Muslim Arab countries, which did not give them full rights, thereby perpetuating the Palestinian refugee crisis.
- The Muslim Arabs who stayed enjoyed full rights as Israeli citizens to this very day, including serving in the government and supreme court.
- In contrast, no Jews remained in the areas of mandatory Palestine conquered by the Muslim Arabs. In addition, in their own lands, the Muslims persecuted minorities, such as Jews and Christians, although both lived there many years before the Islamic conquest. Virtually all Jews who lived in the Muslim countries were expelled and now constitute most of Israeli Jewish population.

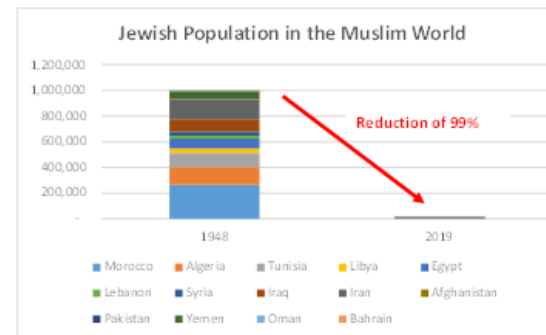
Jewish refugees from Iraq in Israel - 1950



Jewish refugees from Yemen - 1949

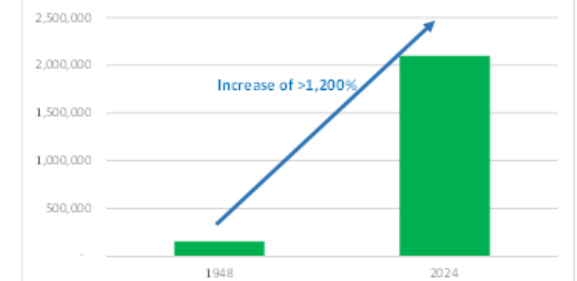


Jewish and Muslim Population Growth since 1948



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

Muslim Population in Israel

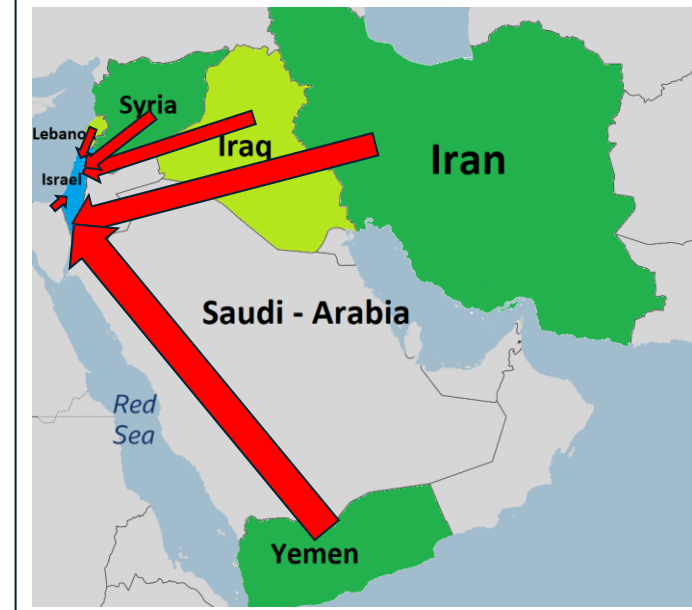


Source: Council on Foreign Relations (education.cfr.org)

Israel's constant battle of defense

- The war ended in 1949 with cease fire agreements, yet Israel kept on being attacked by its neighbors, with major wars in 1956, 1967, 1973, 1982, 2023-4.
- In 1967 Israel was sieged by 5 of its neighboring countries and forced into war, yet managed to win it and take the areas that it lost in the War of Independence - Judea & Samaria / West Bank from Jordan, and Gaza Strip from Egypt.
- In addition, even before that, in 1964, the PLO - Palestine Liberation Organization, was founded, aimed at establishing an independent identity for the Arabs living in Israel by coining them as “Palestinians” and creating an Arab Muslim country, instead of Israel. Despite various Israel - PLO peace initiatives, the PLO never fully recognized Israel's right to exist and waged 2 terror operations (“Intifadas”) against it, resulting in thousands of casualties.
- The PLO was later succeeded and joined by radical Muslim groups (Hamas, Hezbollah), which committed the largest massacre against Jews since the Holocaust on Oct 7th ‘23, and whose goal is the annihilation of all Jews globally.
- Israel and the Jews worldwide are still on the defense

April 14th, 2024 – Israel is attacked by over 350 missiles and drones on 1 day, launched by Iran and its proxy terror-organizations in 4 Muslim Arab countries and Gaza strip



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