

Arab-Israeli Conflict: A Historical Perspective

- I. Ancient Histories and Modern Conflicts**
- II. Modern History of the Arab-Israeli Conflict**
- III. The Contemporary Scene**

Nationalism, Zionism and the Search for a Jewish Homeland

- **Historical land of Palestine occupied by many groups, Jews, Muslims, Christians.**
- **19th Century nationalism leads to search for Jewish homeland.**
- **Herzl and Zionism**
- **Where is the Jewish homeland?**



Ancient and Modern Maps



Palestine/Israel in time of King David 1055-1015 B.C.



Israel today

Topography



Jerusalem



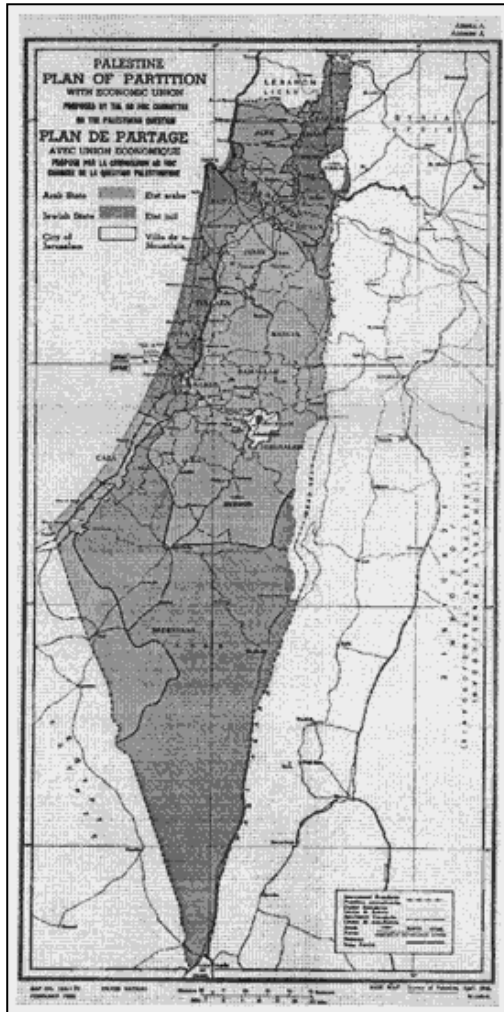
(CNN)

Milestones in the the Founding of the State of Israel, 1948



- **1917 Balfour Declaration: Great Britain support for Jewish homeland in the British Mandate of Palestine without violating rights of Palestinians Muslims living there. Conflicts emerge.**
- **1939-1945: Holocaust leads to 250,000 Jews to emigrate to British Mandate of Palestine.**
- **1947-Great Britain turns over the situation to U.N. Partition of 1947. Jews support partition, Arabs resist. Riots and bloodshed. Underground groups fighting**
- **May 14, 1948-State of Israel founded. 78% of land Israeli. Conflict breaks out. 700,000 Palestinians flee from Israel into surrounding Arab countries.**

1947 Partition



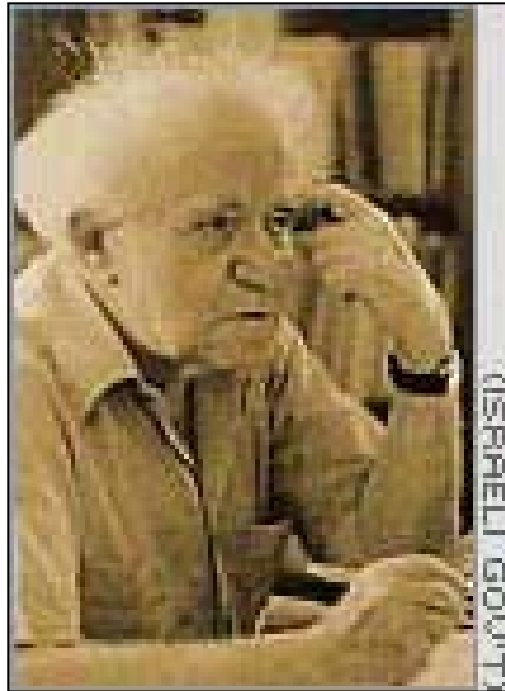
Founding of Israel, 1948



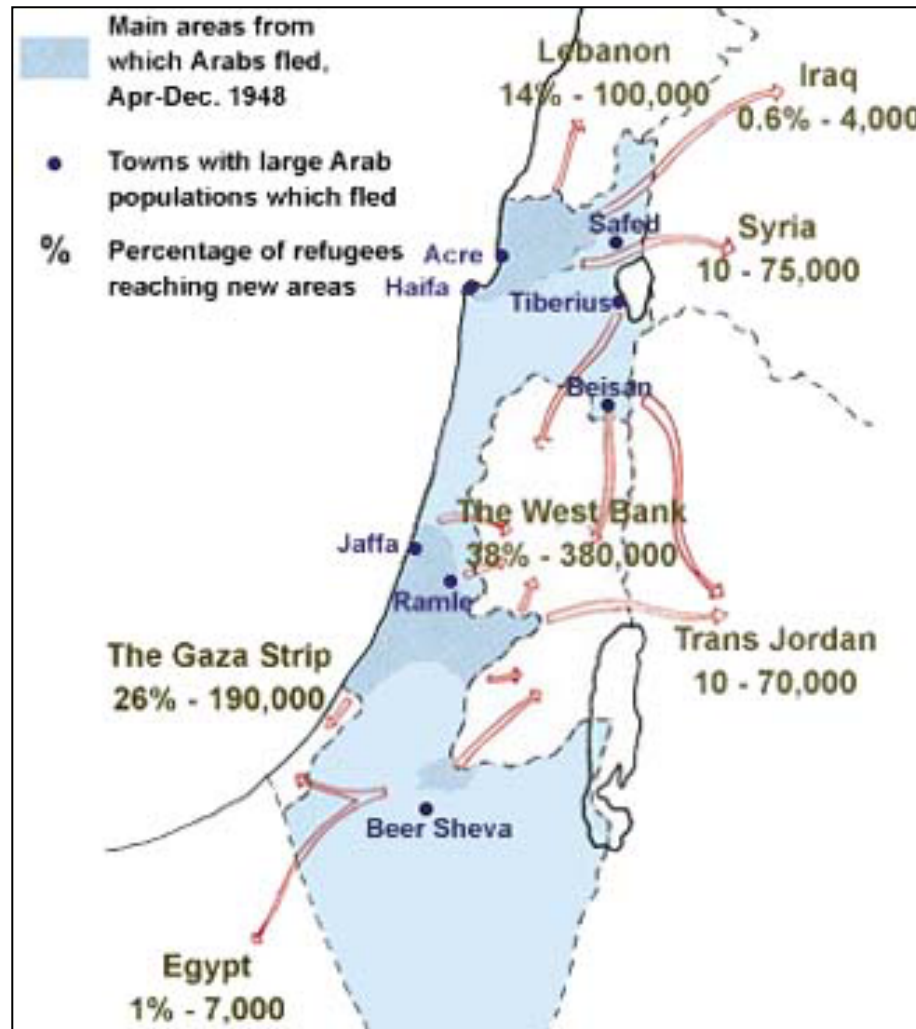
Founding of Israel, 1948



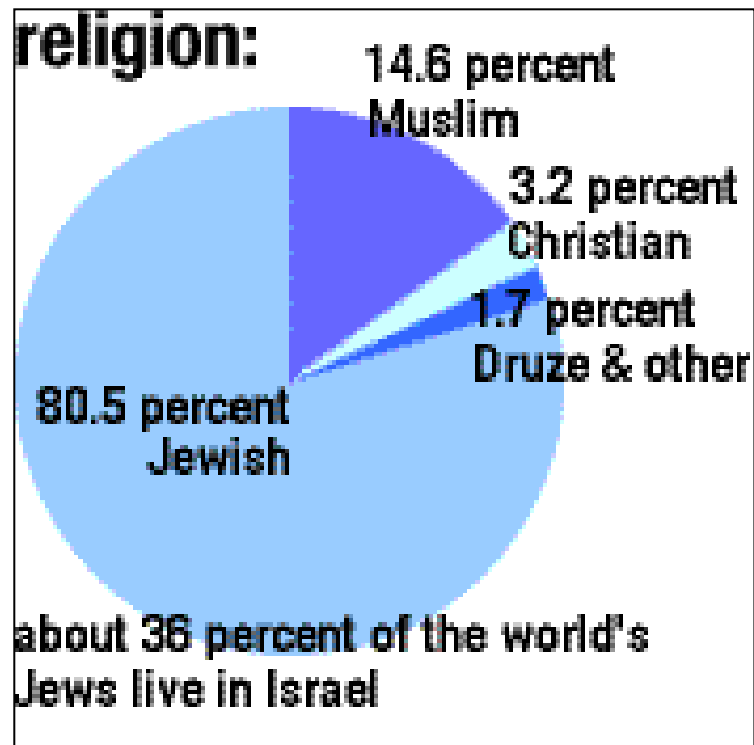
David Ben Gurion: Founding Leader of Israel, 1948



Palestinian Refugees, 1945



Breakdown of Religions in Israel



Major Modern Historical Events in the Arab-Israeli Conflict

- **1967 War-In June, Egypt closed Suez Canal to Israeli shipping. Israel attacks Egypt. Syria and Jordan attack Israel. Israeli army gains Golan Heights, Gaza Strip and West Bank.**
- **1 million Palestinians under Israeli control. P.L.O. (founded in 1964) resist.**
- **Jewish settlements begin in occupied territory.**
- **1973-Egypt and Syria attack Israel to regain Golan Heights. Israeli army devastates Arab coalition and secure occupied territory, especially strategic Golan Heights.**
- **1979-Egyptian and Israeli leaders sign Camp David Accords.**
- **1987-Intifadeh (uprising) by PLO and Palestinians against Israeli occupation begins.**

Israeli Advances, 1967 War



1967 War



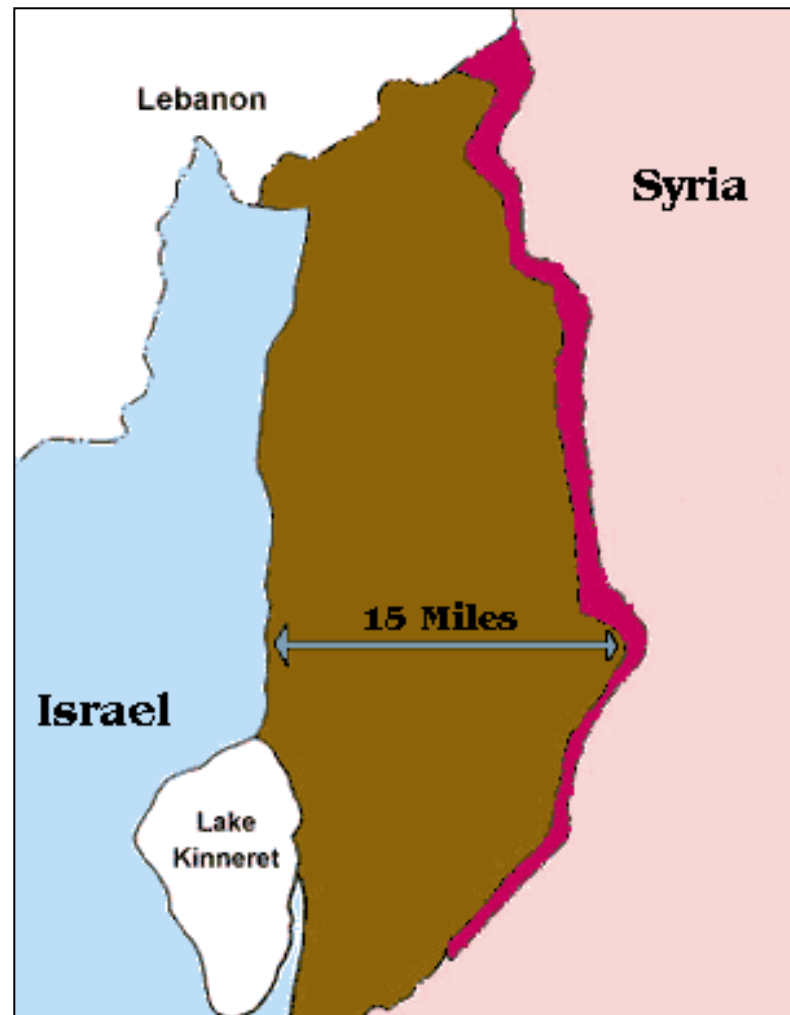
Arab Studies Society

In the 1967 war Israel occupied and annexed the Palestinian sections of Jerusalem. The Palestinian inhabitants were given a legal status as residents of Jerusalem. These residents risk losing their precarious status if they live outside Jerusalem.

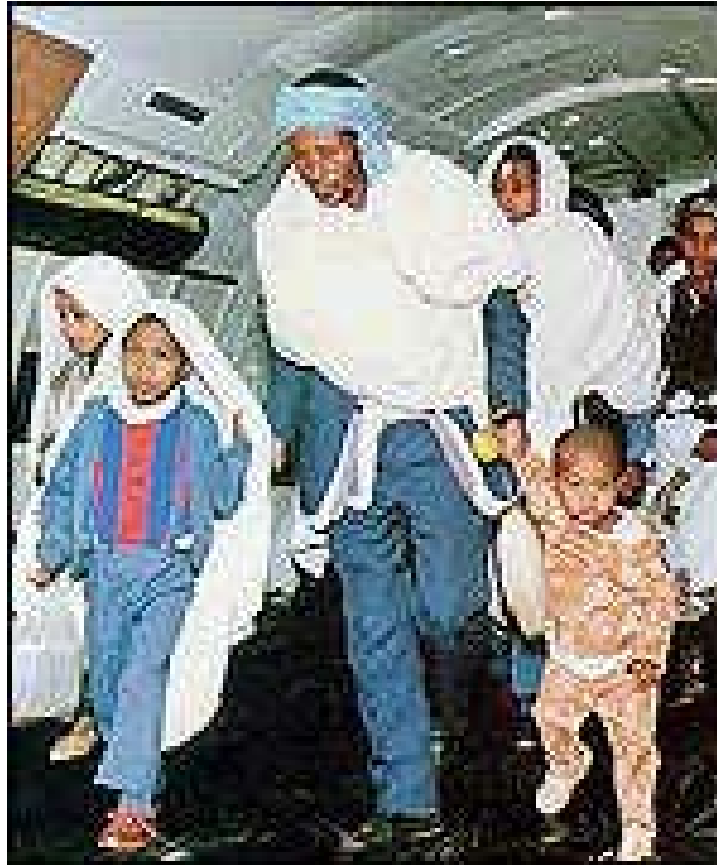
1967 War



Strategic Golan Heights



Jewish Emigres to Israel



Jewish Settlements



(COURTESY ISRAELI GOV'T)

Palestinian Refugees



Robert Fryer

Who am I? When asked to have his portrait taken, the man responded that who he was is in his Palestine identity cards. He was a 1948 refugee from the Akka (Acre) area, and died at the Ayn Al-Hilweh camp in Lebanon.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Article 15

"Everyone has the right to a nationality. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality...."

Palestinians under occupation and Palestinians in refugee camps have been denied the right to a nationality and state.



CNN



CNN

Recent History and Contemporary Events

- **1993-1995-Israel and PLO sign Oslo Accords.**
- **Israel withdraws from Gaza Strip and most West Bank towns. PLO Arafat elected.**
- **Peace breaks down over Settlements and refugee question.**
- **2002-suicide bombings and Israel occupation by force of towns and cities.**
- **Wall built in occupied territories.**
- **“Two-State Solution” – process begins.**
- **November 2004-Arafat dies.**
- **2005-Israel withdraws support for settlements in West Bank. Forced evacuation.**

