

*Founded 1897*



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

# ISRAEL

## THE MYTH OF OCCUPATION



# The Empire of David and Solomon

c. 1000 - 925 B.C.



Hiram of Tyre furnished Solomon with materials and artisans to build the Temple and Palace in Jerusalem. As payment, Hiram received 20 cities in the vicinity of Cabul.

Solomon may have exercised economic control in this area. The Bible states that his dominions reached from Tiphshah, west of the Euphrates, to Gaza.

The Aramaean kingdoms conquered by David were placed under military rule. During Solomon's reign Rezon revolted and secured independence for Damascus.

Solomon maintained huge stables at Megiddo.

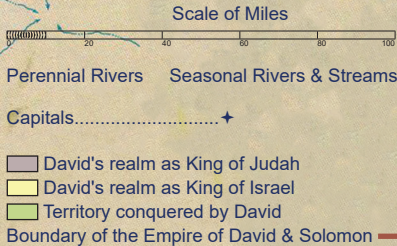
David captured the Jebusite city of Jerusalem and made it his capital.

The Philistines were defeated by David and driven back to the coastal area. Solomon later received Gezer from the King of Egypt.

David defeated the Ammonites at Robbath-ammon and had himself proclaimed King of Ammon.

Moab was ruled as a vassal state by David and Solomon.

Edom was ruled by a military governor until the revolt of Hadad at the close of Solomon's reign.



Jews are the indigenous people of Israel, including Judea/Samaria and Jerusalem.

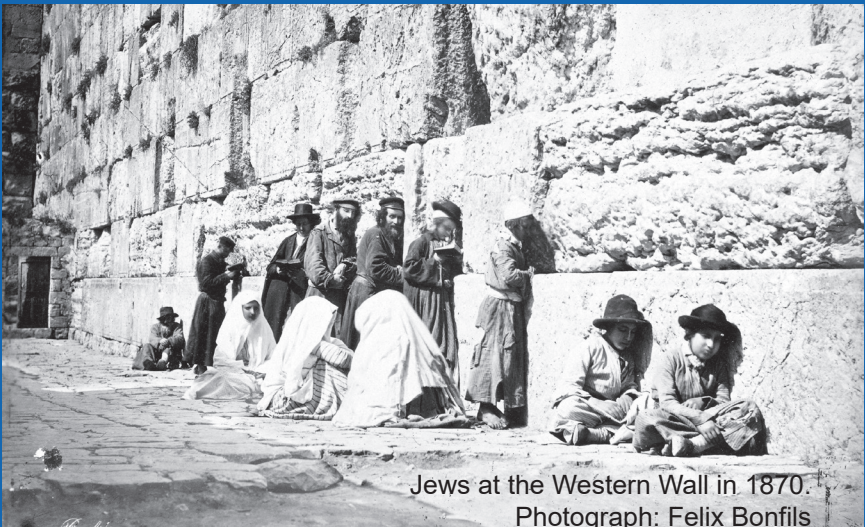
**The word “Jew” comes from “Judea”** — because this is where the Jewish people lived (Jordan renamed Judea/Samaria “the West Bank” in 1950).

Jewish kings and kingdoms reigned in Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria for hundreds of years (c. 1020 BCE - 597 BCE).

Jews have been the largest religious group in Jerusalem since at least the first census in 1844.

Jerusalem is mentioned almost 700 times in Judaism’s holy books. Jerusalem is never mentioned in Islam’s holy book, the Koran.

For millennia, Jews pray daily for Jerusalem while facing Jerusalem. Muslims pray facing Mecca, and have no prayers for Jerusalem.



For over 3,000 years, there has been a continuous Jewish presence in Israel, even after conquests and dispersions of the Jewish people.

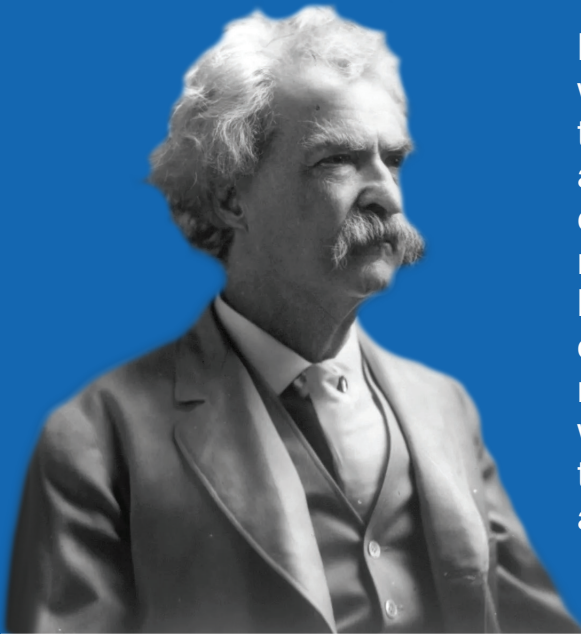
- ★ Jewish patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac and Jacob) & matriarchs (Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah) settle in Israel and are buried in Hebron, Israel – site of the world's oldest and virtually continuous Jewish community (17th century BCE)
- ★ Exodus from Egypt to Israel (13th century BCE)
- ★ First Temple period (c. 960-586 BCE)
- ★ Building of the Second Temple in Jerusalem after Jews exiled to Babylon in 586 BCE were permitted by Persian King Cyrus to return to Israel (538-515 BCE)
- ★ Second Temple period (538 BCE - 70 BCE)
- ★ 25-year-long Maccabean revolt, from bases in Beit El, in Judea (167-142 BCE)
- ★ Maccabees rededicate the Second Temple in Jerusalem (164 BCE)
- ★ Age of the Tanaim (great teaching rabbis, including R. Akiva) (100-200 BCE)
- ★ Bar Kochba revolt (132-135 BCE)
- ★ Jewish oral law (Mishna) recorded for posterity in written form in the Galilee, Israel (170-200 BCE)
- ★ Jerusalem Talmud is written in Tiberias, Israel (4th century BCE)
- ★ After fleeing from Spain, famed Torah scholar Nachmanides (Ramban) builds synagogue and sets up yeshiva in Jerusalem, leads the synagogue in Akko, Israel, and dies in Israel (1267-1270 CE)
- ★ Ramban synagogue is moved to the Old City, Jerusalem (1270 CE) and actively used for hundreds of years afterwards
- ★ Jewish community in Safed, Israel thrives (14th century onwards) and becomes the cradle of Jewish mysticism, Kabbalah (beginning in the 16th century)
- ★ Still standing, active synagogues are constructed in Safed (beginning in the 15th century)
- ★ Rabbi Joseph Caro writes and publishes the influential Code of Jewish law (Shulchan Aruch) in Safed, Israel (16th century)
- ★ First Hurva Synagogue is built in Jerusalem (1700) and then destroyed by Muslims (1720)
- ★ Second Hurva synagogue is built (in 1864), becomes a center of Jerusalem's Jewish Quarter, and then is blown up by the Jordanians in 1948



There was NEVER a Palestinian Arab state or kingdom in Israel, Jerusalem or Judea/Samaria. EVER.

Palestine was a region, not a country. The Romans renamed the area "Palestina" after Israel's enemies, the Philistines, who were not Arabs.

Israel fell into desolation under Ottoman rule and was sparsely populated (1517-1917).



Mark Twain wrote in 1867 that Israel was a "desolate country. . . We never saw a human being on the whole route. . . There was hardly a tree or a shrub anywhere."

Until the late 1960s, the whole world understood that the word “Palestinian” meant Jew and that “Palestine” was the Jewish homeland:

- The Jewish Palestinian newspaper was called the “Palestine Post” until 1950 when it was renamed the “Jerusalem Post.”
- The Jewish Palestinian orchestra was called the “Palestine Symphony Orchestra” until 1948 when it was renamed the “Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.”
- The American movement to reestablish the Jewish State was called the “American League for a Free Palestine.”
- The Israeli Jewish hero of Exodus stated: “*I am a native-born Palestinian.*”

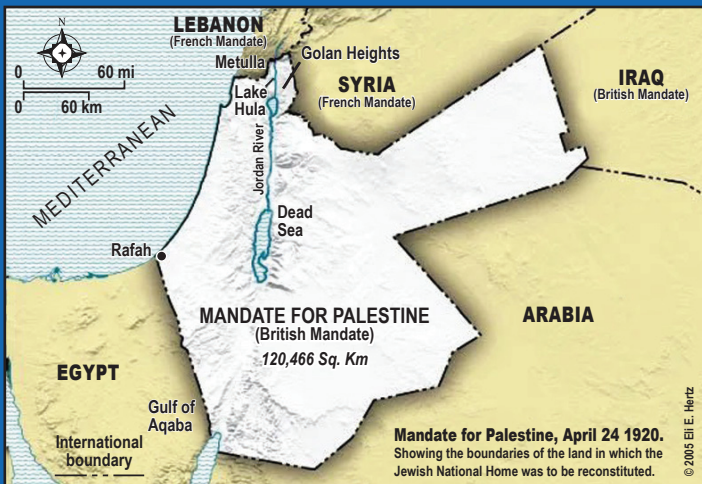


'The Palestine Post' issue announcing the establishment of the modern State of Israel – Jerusalem, May 16, 1948.



Conductor Hans Wilhelm Steinberg directs the musicians of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra to their places at their first rehearsal in Tel Aviv in November 1936. Photograph: Rudi Weissenstein

Britain's Balfour Declaration (1917) and legally binding international treaties, including the League of Nations Covenant, the British Mandate for Palestine (1922), the San Remo Resolution (1920), the Faisal-Weizmann Treaty (1919), and the Anglo-American Treaty (1924, a U.S. treaty obligation) designated the area that is now Israel, including Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria and present-day Jordan, as a sacred trust for close Jewish settlement and reconstituting the Jewish homeland.



In 1922, Britain lopped off 78% of the area legally designated for a Jewish homeland, to create Transjordan, later Jordan. The Jews were left with only 22% of the Mandate designated for the Jewish homeland.



In 1945, the United Nations adopted UN Charter Article 80, which preserved intact all rights granted to the Jewish people under the British Mandate for Palestine – even after the Mandate would expire in 1948. This meant that the area of present-day Israel (including Judea/Samaria) continued to be a sacred trust for close Jewish settlement and reconstituting the Jewish homeland. As legal scholar Howard Grief explained, Article 80 prevents the UN from transferring rights over any part of Israel to any non-Jewish entity, such as the Palestinian Authority or a “Palestinian state.”



In November 1947, the Arabs rejected the so-called “partition resolution” (UN General Assembly Resolution 181). UNGA Res. 181 contained a nonbinding recommendation to partition the remaining 22% of the area legally designated for the Jewish homeland into Jewish and Arab states. (78% had already been given to Transjordan.) Arab rejection meant that the partition recommendation had no legal effect. Instead of agreeing to divide up the Jewish homeland, local Arabs and seven Arab nations went to war to obliterate Israel and murder the Jews.



## KEY FACTS:

- Israel's 1949 armistice (ceasefire) agreements with Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon and Syria stated that the armistice lines were "without prejudice" to a future political settlement. This meant that Israel did not give up its rights to Judea/Samaria or any other area that Jordan, Egypt, etc., captured in 1948-1949 and illegally occupied from 1949-1967.
- After the 1967 Six Day War, United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 called for Israel to have "secure and recognized" borders, and did not call for Israel to surrender "all" the lands that Israel recaptured in 1967.
- The Levy Commission, headed by esteemed former Israeli Supreme Court Justice Edmond Levy, determined that after Israel regained the territories of Judea/Samaria that Jordan had illegally occupied from 1948 to 1967: "This restored the legal status of the territory to their original status: i.e., territory designated to serve as the national home of the Jewish people, which retained its "right of possession" during the period of Jordanian control, but was absent from the area for a number of years due to the war that was forced on it, but has since returned."



"In 1981, President Reagan . . . stated that he didn't believe that the settlements were inherently illegal. . . . After carefully studying all sides of the legal debate, this administration agrees with President Reagan. The establishment of Israeli civilian settlements in the West Bank is not per se inconsistent with international law."

– Secretary of State Mike Pompeo  
November 18, 2019



"There are some who have urged, as a single, simple solution, an immediate return to the situation as it was on June 4 [1967]. . . . [T]his is not a prescription for peace but for renewed hostilities."

– U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson  
June 19, 1967



"The development of the Jewish National Home in Palestine... is not the imposition of a Jewish nationality upon the inhabitants of Palestine as a whole, but the further development of the existing Jewish community... [T]he Jewish people... is in Palestine as of right and not on sufferance."

– British Prime Minister Winston Churchill  
1922

In the 1920s to 1940s, the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, Hitler collaborator Haj Amin al-Husseini, instigated anti-Jewish pogroms in Jerusalem, Hebron, Safed and Haifa, in which thousands of Jews were maimed or massacred.

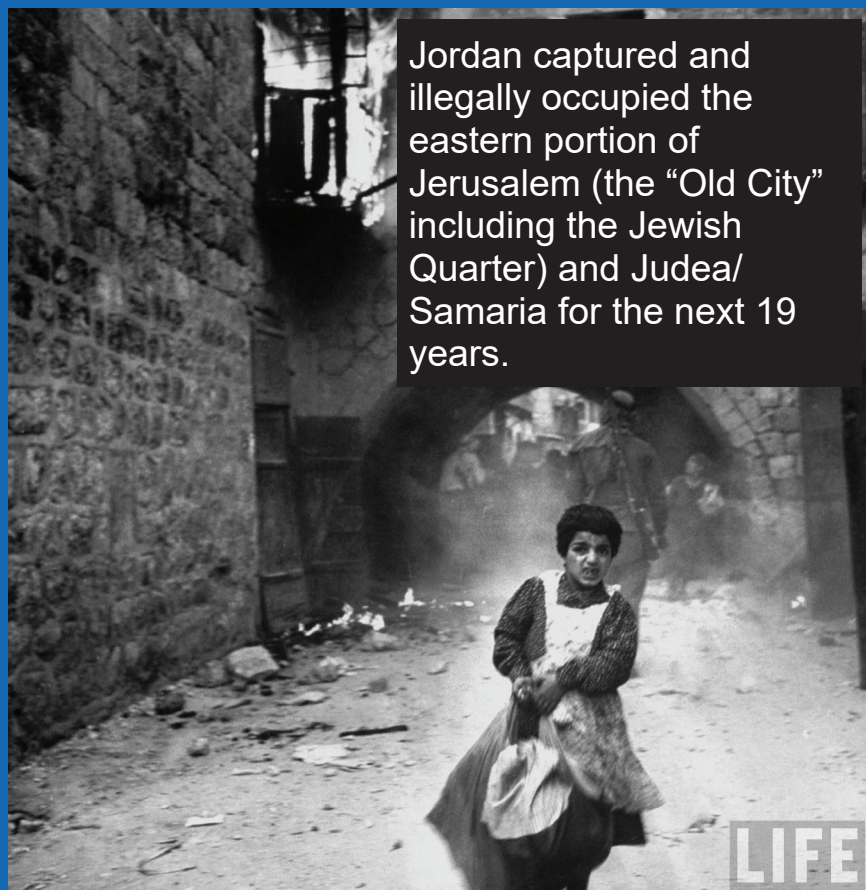
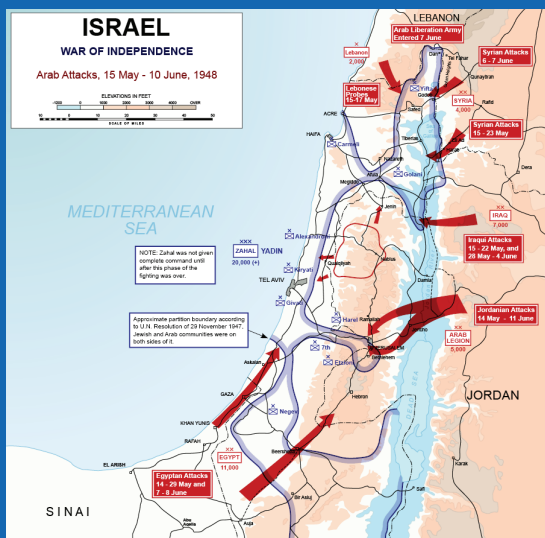


Haj Amin al-Husseini, the grand mufti of Jerusalem, meeting with Adolf Hitler in 1941. Photograph: Jerusalem Post Archive



Baltimore News article reporting on the 1929 Hebron Massacre

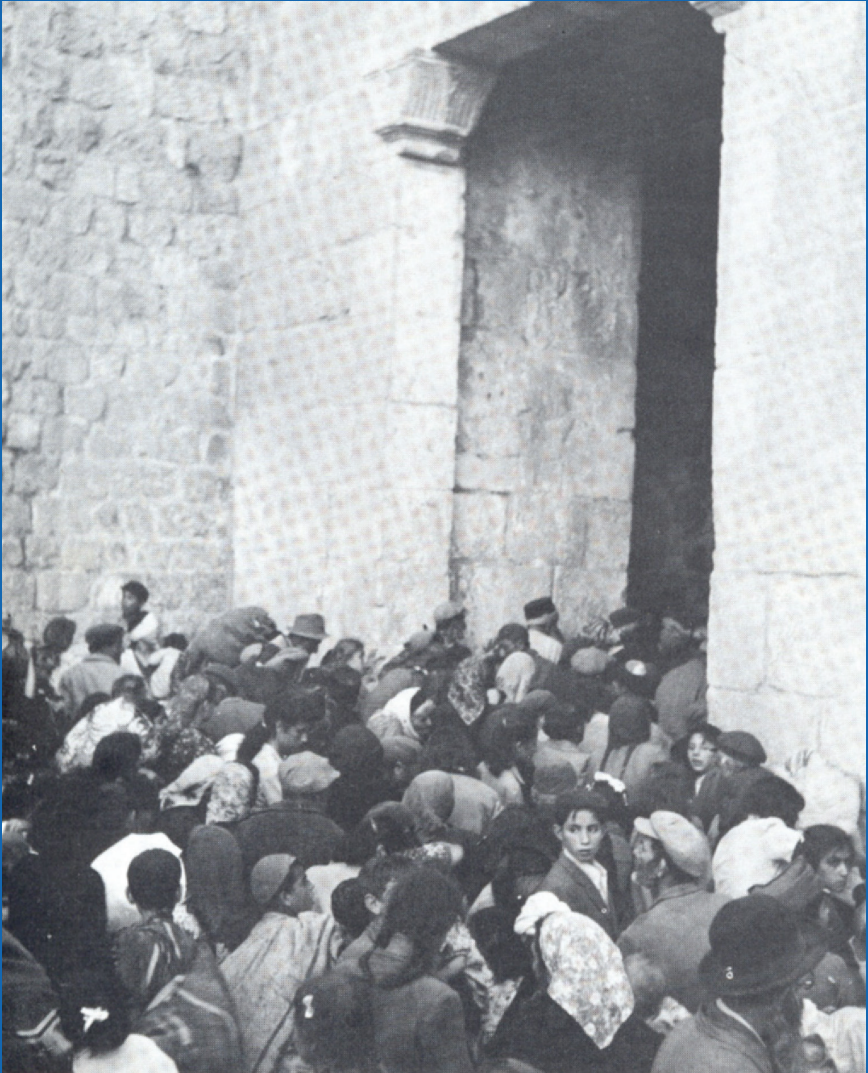
In 1948, the newly reestablished State of Israel was invaded by five Arab nations – Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, and Jordan – along with contingents sent by Saudi Arabia and Yemen.





Jordan expelled, imprisoned and murdered the Jewish residents of eastern Jerusalem (the Old City), destroyed 58 centuries-old synagogues and vandalized the 3,000-year-old Jewish cemetery (the world's oldest and holiest Jewish cemetery) on the Mount of Olives in eastern Jerusalem.

Jewish Quarter residents evacuating the Old City through the Zion Gate during May 1948. Photograph: Wikipedia



## **Jordan's 19-Year Illegal Occupation of Judea/ Samaria and Eastern Jerusalem**

During Jordan's 19-year illegal occupation of eastern Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria, Palestinian Arabs made no claim for a state. The 1964 Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Charter said the PLO "does not exercise any territorial sovereignty over the West Bank or Gaza."

### **PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION NATIONAL CHARTER (1964)**

#### **ARTICLE XXIV**

This Organization does not exercise any regional sovereignty over the West Bank in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, on the Gaza Strip or the Himmah Area.

Scan the QR Code to  
read the full PLO Charter:



Scan the QR Code to read  
the Armistice Agreements:



## Israel Recaptures Her Lands

In 1967, Jordan attacked Israel again. In the ensuing defensive Six-Day War, Israel recaptured eastern Jerusalem and Judea/Samaria and Gaza, restoring Jewish sovereignty to reunified Jerusalem.

The so-called “pre-1967 lines” (a.k.a. “the green line” or “1949 Armistice lines” or indefensible “suicide lines”) are not binding internationally recognized borders. In 1949, Israel and its neighbors (which had tried to destroy Israel), signed armistice agreements establishing “armistice demarcation lines” at approximately the point where the fighting stopped after the 1948 Arab invasion of Israel.

The armistice agreements stated that the armistice lines were “without prejudice” to a future political settlement. Israel is not required to return to the tiny area within “pre-1967 lines.” After the 1967 Six Day War, UNSC Resolution 242 called for Israel to have “recognized and secure” borders, and did not call for Israel to surrender “all” lands captured in 1967.

### **ARMISTICE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN LEBANON AND ISRAEL (1949)**

#### **ARTICLE II**

2. It is also recognized that no provision of this Agreement shall in any way prejudice the rights, claims and positions of either Party hereto in the ultimate peaceful settlement of the Palestine question;

**There are 22 Arab states,  
covering vast lands.**





The combined Arab states plus Iran are over 710 times larger than the tiny Jewish state of Israel.



Israeli Jewish communities (aka “settlements”) comprise only about 2% of Judea/Samaria. Since 1993, construction has been within the bounds of existing settlements’ building lines. “Settlements” are not an obstacle to peace.



Israeli Jewish community (a/k/a “settlement”) Ma’ale Adumim

In 1988, Jordan relinquished any claims to Judea/Samaria and eastern Jerusalem.

The 1994 Israel-Jordan Peace Treaty recognized the Jordan River as the international boundary.



U.S. President Bill Clinton sits in between Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (left) and Jordanian Prime Minister Abdelsalam al-Majali as they sign the peace treaty. Standing next to the prime ministers are Elyakim Rubinstein (left), head of the Israeli delegation to the Jordan-Israel peace talks, and Fayez Tarawneh, Jordan’s ambassador to the U.S.

## PLO Recognizes Israeli Jurisdiction

The Oslo Accords (1993-1995), signed by the Palestine Liberation Organization, acknowledge Israel's territorial jurisdiction over "settlements." Oslo never spoke of a Palestinian Arab state.



Yitzhak Rabin (right), with Yasser Arafat and Shimon Peres, at the signing of the Oslo Accords.  
Photograph: Saar Yaacov/  
Israel GPO

## Palestinian Arabs Reject Peace, Choose War

In 1937, 1947, 2000 and 2008, Palestinian Arabs rejected generous proposals to establish an Arab State in portions of the area designated for the Jewish homeland. Instead, Palestinian Arabs maintained their genocidal goal of destroying and replacing all of Israel, and instituted war, terror and anti-Jewish boycotts.

The Palestinian Authority, Hamas and their supporters continue to perpetuate the myth of Israeli "occupation" as a pretext for "justifying" terrorism, attempting to transform Arab terrorists into "freedom fighters," promoting violence over peace, avoiding peace negotiations with Israel, promoting antisemitic boycotts, and ethnically cleansing all Jews from the sovereign Jewish lands that the Palestinian Authority and Hamas seek to seize.

***The facts clearly show there is no "occupation."***

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