

# A TIMELINE OF EVENTS IN PALESTINE-ISRAEL



# Israel-Palestine Historical Timeline



1897

First Zionist Congress meets in Basel

1916

The British Commissioner in Egypt promises the Arab leadership post-war independence for former Ottoman Arab provinces.



1917 -The Balfour Agreement

British Foreign Minister Arthur Balfour commits Britain to work towards "the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people", in a letter to leading Zionist Lord Rothschild.

1920

Palestine becomes British Mandate after Ottomans defeated in WWI



1936-37

Arab revolt begins whilst a Zionist paramilitary organisation was orchestrates attacks on Palestinian and British targets with the aim of "liberating Palestine" by force.

1937- The Peel Commission  
Lord Peel recommends partitioning a third of British Mandate Palestine into a Jewish state and making the rest an Arab state. Palestinian & Arab representatives reject this and demand an end to Jewish immigration. Violent opposition continues until 1938 before being crushed with reinforcements from the UK.

1967

The Six Day War begins on 5 June when Arab armies amass on Israel's border. Israel launches a pre-emptive air strike and manages to defeat the armies of Syria, Jordan and Egypt. Israel gained the West Bank, Gaza, the Sinai and the Golan Heights.



May 1948

David Ben-Gurion proclaims the establishment of the new State of Israel on the 16th May, 1948.



1947

Britain hands responsibility for resolving the conflict over to the UN.

1964

The Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) is established. Yasser Arafat becomes its chairman five years later



April 1948 - Deir Yassin Massacre

The massacre of around 100 Palestinians by Jewish militia leads to hundreds of thousands of Palestinians fleeing to Lebanon, Egypt and the area which is now the West Bank.

1973

The Yom Kippur War catches Israel off-guard as Egypt and Syria make advances in Sinai and the Golan Heights to urge negotiations with Israel.

1974

Yasser Arafat makes a speech at the UN. It becomes a watershed moment for the Palestinian struggle for international recognition. A year later, a US State Department Official would state that "the legitimate interests of the Palestinian Arabs must be taken into account in the negotiating of an Arab-Israeli peace"



1978

Egypt and Israel sign the Camp David peace accords in September 1978 outlining "the framework for peace in the Middle East" which included limited autonomy for Palestinians.





### 1987-1993 The First Intifada

A mass uprising - or intifada - against the Israeli occupation begins in Gaza and quickly spreads to the West Bank. Protests take the form of civil disobedience, throwing stones and molotov cocktails, general strikes, boycotts on Israeli products, graffiti, and barricades. The uprising gets widespread international attention. The Israeli Defence Forces respond with plastic bullets and sometimes live ammunition, which is criticized as disproportionate. During the six years, 1551 Palestinians, 271 Israeli citizens, and 150 Israeli security forces were killed.

1988

The Palestinian National Council (a government-in-exile) convenes in Algeria in November and votes to accept a "two-state" solution based on the 1947 UN partition, to renounce terrorism and to seek a negotiated settlement calling for Israel to withdraw from territory captured in the 1967 war.



### 1993 - The Oslo Accords

The election of the left-wing Labour government in June 1992, led by Yitzhak Rabin, triggers a period of frenetic Israeli-Arab peacemaking in the mid-1990s. Israel finally agrees to allow PLO participants in peace talks and negotiations culminate in the Declaration of Principles, signed on the White House lawn and sealed with a historic first handshake between Rabin and Arafat watched by 400 million people around the world.

1994

On May 4, Israel and the PLO reach an agreement in Cairo to implement Israel's military withdrawal from most of the Gaza Strip, excluding Jewish settlements and the land around them and from the Palestinian town of Jericho in the West Bank. On 1 July, jubilant crowds line the streets of Gaza to cheer Yasser Arafat's return to Palestine after 27 years in exile. The Palestinian National Authority (PA) in the autonomous areas is formed.

1995

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is assassinated by a Jewish religious extremist on November 4th sending shockwaves around the world.



1996

Benjamin Netanyahu wins the election on 29 May, campaigning against the Oslo peace deals. Tensions increase under Netanyahu's settlement and religious sites policies.

2004-05

Yasser Arafat is taken ill and flown to France in late October 2004. He dies of a mysterious blood disorder on 11 November. Mahmoud Abbas is elected president of the PA in January 2005.

2002

Palestinian militants step up their suicide attacks against Israeli citizens in 2002 as the death toll increases at an alarming rate. Israel responds with Operation Defensive Shield, building a "security barrier" along the West Bank that Palestinians see as an attempt to annex more land.



### 2000-05 - The Second Intifada

Ariel Sharon with an Israeli political delegation tours the Temple Mount, a provocative act to Palestinian Muslims, spurring demonstrations. The demonstrations marked a start to the violent Second Intifada lasting five years. During this time, 1010 Israelis and over 3000 Palestinians were killed. The Palestinians engaged in numerous suicide bombings, rock throwing and gunfire, while the Israelis responded with gunfire, tank and air attacks, and numerous targeted killings.

2006

Hamas wins a landslide majority in the Palestinian elections and ousts Fatah from Gaza.



2008-09

Israel launches 'Operation Cast Lead' in a full-scale invasion of Gaza to counteract the launching of rockets by Hamas. In January 2009 Israel and Hamas agree to a unilateral ceasefire ending months of war.

2010

Obama, Abbas and Netanyahu gather to restart negotiations and direct them towards a two-state solution, with a Jewish state of Israel and the creation of a state for the Palestinian people.

2012

Clashes between Hamas and Israel erupted with the deadliest violence since the 2008 Gaza invasion. Israel and Hamas exchange rocket fire killing and wounding dozens of Israelis and Palestinians.

2014

Hamas and the PA form a reconciliation agreement as tensions rise on both sides leading to more violence. During seven weeks of fighting, approximately 2,100 Palestinians were killed (approx. 1617 civilians and 693 Hamas militants), with more than 11,000 wounded and 100,000 left homeless. On Israel's side, 64 soldiers and six civilians were killed while 469 soldiers and 256 civilians were injured.



@realDonaldTrump 21st March 2019  
After 52 years it is time for the United States to fully recognize Israel's Sovereignty over the Golan Heights, which is of critical strategic and security importance to the State of Israel and Regional Stability!

2017

Donald Trump announces that the US government would recognize Jerusalem as the unified capital of Israel. This was followed by the move of the American embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem soon after.

2020

### The 'Deal of the Century'

After ongoing delays to the Trump administration's long awaited 'deal of the century', in January it is finally released. The plan suggests a two-state solution with Israel annexing the Jordan Valley and a complex proposal of land swaps between Israeli settlements in the West Bank and land in the Negev desert. The plan is rejected by the PA who cite that it is biased in nature.

