
Appendix II: Chronology of Palestinian History from Earliest Times until 1949

B.C.

600,000–10,000

Paleolithic and Mesolithic period. Earliest human remains in the area, found south of Lake Tiberias, date to ca. 600,000 B.C.

10,000–5,000

Neolithic period. Establishment of settled agricultural communities.

5,000–3,000

Chalcolithic period. Copper and stone tools and artifacts. Remains from this period found near Jericho, Beersheba, and the Dead Sea.

3,000–2,000

Early Bronze Age. Arrival and settlement of Canaanites (3,000–2,500 B.C.).

ca. 1,250

Israelite conquest of Canaan.

965–928

King Solomon. Construction of the temple in Jerusalem.

928

Division of Israelite state into the kingdoms of Israel and Judah.

721

Assyrian conquest of the kingdom of Israel.

586

Judah defeated by Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar. Deportation of its population to Babylon; destruction of the temple.

539

Persians conquer Babylonia. Some Jews allowed to return. Construction of a new temple.

333

Conquest of Persia by Alexander the Great brings Palestine under Greek rule.

323

Death of Alexander leads to alternate rule by Ptolemies of Egypt and Seleucids of Syria.

165

Maccabees revolt against the Seleucid ruler Antiochus Epiphanes and go on to establish independent Jewish state.

63

Incorporation of Palestine into the Roman Empire.

A.D.

70

Destruction of the Second Temple by Roman Emperor Titus.

132–135

Bar Kokhba revolt suppressed. Jews barred from Jerusalem and Emperor Hadrian builds new pagan city of Aelia Capitolina on its ruins.

330–640

Palestine under Byzantine rule: Jerusalem and Palestine increasingly Christianized.

638

Arabs under the Caliph 'Umar capture Palestine from Byzantines.

661–750

Umayyad caliphs rule Palestine from Damascus. Dynasty descended from Umayya of Meccan tribe of Quraysh. Construction of Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem by Caliph 'Abd al-Malik (685–705). Construction of al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem by Caliph al-Walid I (705–715).

750–1258

'Abbasid caliphs rule Palestine from Iraq. Dynasty, founded by Abu al-'Abbas al-Saffah, who is descended from 'Abbas, uncle of the Prophet.

969

Fatimid dynasty, claiming descent from the Prophet's daughter Fatima and her cousin 'Ali, rule Palestine from Egypt. They proclaim themselves caliphs in rivalry to the 'Abbasids.

1071

Saljuqs, originally from Isfahan, capture Jerusalem and parts of Palestine, which remains officially within the 'Abbasid Empire.

1099–1187

Crusaders establish the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem.

1187

Kurdish general Saladin (Salah al-Din), son of Ayyub, the sultan of Mosul, defeats Crusaders at Hittin in northern Palestine and recaptures Jerusalem. The Ayyubid dynasty rules Palestine from Cairo.

1260

Mamluks succeed Ayyubids, ruling Palestine from Cairo; defeat Mongols at Battle of 'Ayn Jalut near Nazareth.

1291

Mamluks capture final Crusader strongholds of Acre and Caesarea.

1516–1917

Palestine incorporated into the Ottoman Empire with its capital in Istanbul.

1832–1840

Muhammad 'Ali Pasha of Egypt occupies Palestine. Ottomans subsequently reassert their rule.

1876–1877

Palestinian deputies from Jerusalem attend the first Ottoman Parliament in Istanbul, elected under a new Ottoman Constitution.

1878

First modern Zionist agricultural settlement of Petach Tiqwa established.

1882–1903

First wave of 25,000 Zionist immigrants enters Palestine, coming mainly from eastern Europe.

1882

Baron Edmond de Rothschild of Paris starts financial backing for Jewish settlement in Palestine.

1887–1888

Palestine divided by Ottomans into the districts (*sanzjaks*) of Jerusalem, Nablus, and Acre. The first was attached directly to Istanbul, the others to the *wilayet* of Beirut.

1896

Theodor Herzl, an Austro-Hungarian Jewish journalist and writer, publishes *Der Judenstaat*, advocating establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine or elsewhere.

1896

Jewish Colonization Association, founded in 1891 in London by German Baron Maurice de Hirsch, starts aiding Zionist settlements in Palestine.

1897

First Zionist Congress in Switzerland issues the Basle Program calling for the establishment of a "home for the Jewish people in Palestine." It also establishes the World Zionist Organization (WZO) to work to that end.

1901

Jewish National Fund (JNF) set up by fifth Zionist Congress in Basle to acquire land for WZO; land acquired by JNF to be inalienably Jewish, and exclusively Jewish labor to be employed on it.

1904–1914

Second wave of about 40,000 Zionist immigrants increases Jewish population in Palestine to about 6% of total.

1909

Establishment of the first kibbutz, based exclusively on Jewish labor.

Tel Aviv founded north of Jaffa.

1914

World War I starts.

1916**30 January**

Husayn-McMahon correspondence between Sharif Husayn of Mecca (leader of the Arab Revolt against the Ottomans) and Sir Henry McMahon (British High Commissioner of Egypt) ends in agreement for postwar independence and unity of Arab provinces of Ottoman Empire.

16 May

Sykes-Picot Agreement secretly signed, dividing Arab provinces of Ottoman Empire between Britain and France. Agreement revealed by Bolsheviks in December 1917.

June

Sharif Husayn proclaims Arab independence from Ottomans. Arab Revolt against Istanbul begins.

1917**2 November**

Balfour Declaration. British Secretary of State Balfour pledges British support for "a Jewish national home in Palestine."

1918**September**

Palestine occupied by Allied forces under British General Allenby.

30 October

World War I ends.

1919–1923

Third wave of over 35,000 Zionist immigrants increases Jewish population in Palestine to 12% of total. Registered Jewish landownership (1923) totals 3% of area of country.

1919**27 January–10 February**

First Palestinian National Congress in Jerusalem sends memoranda to Paris Peace Conference rejecting Balfour Declaration and demanding independence.

28 August

Paris Peace Conference sends Commission of Inquiry to Near East, led by U.S. commission members Henry C. King and Charles Crane. England and France decline to participate. Commission recommends "serious modification" of idea of "making Palestine distinctly a Jewish Commonwealth."

1920**April**

Disturbances in Palestine; 5 Jews killed, 200 wounded. British appoint Palin Commission of Inquiry. Commission report attributes troubles to nonfulfilment of promises of Arab independence and fear of political and economic consequences of Zionism.

25 April

Palestine Mandate assigned to Britain by Supreme Council of San Remo Peace Conference.

May

British prevent Second Palestinian National Congress from convening.

1 July

High Commissioner, Sir Herbert Samuel, an Anglo-Jewish politician, inaugurates British civilian administration.

December

Third Palestinian National Congress, meeting in Haifa, elects Executive Committee, which remains in control of Palestinian political movement from 1920 to 1935.

1921**March**

Founding of the Haganah, the Zionists' illegal underground military organization.

1 May

Disturbances in Jaffa protesting large-scale Zionist immigration; 46 Jews killed, 146 wounded. British Haycraft Commission of Inquiry (October) attributes disturbances to fears of Zionist mass immigration.

8 May

Haj Amin al-Husayni appointed Mufti of Jerusalem.

May–June

Fourth Palestinian National Congress, convening in Jerusalem, decides to send a Palestinian delegation to London to explain the Palestinian case against Balfour Declaration.

1922**3 June**

British colonial secretary Winston Churchill issues White Paper excluding Transjordan from scope of Balfour Declaration. Ignoring political criteria, White Paper authorizes Jewish immigration according to "economic absorptive capacity" of the country.

24 July

League of Nations Council approves Mandate for Palestine.

August

Fifth Palestinian National Congress, meeting in Nablus, agrees to economic boycott of Zionists (see 1901 entry on JNF).

October

First British census of Palestine shows population of 757,182—78% Muslim Arab, 11% Jewish, 9.6% Christian Arab.

1923**29 September**

British Mandate for Palestine comes officially into force.

1924–1928

Fourth wave of 67,000 Zionist immigrants, over 50% from Poland, increases Jewish population of Palestine to 16% of total. Registered Jewish landownership (1928) totals 4.2% of area of country.

1925

Revisionist Party, founded in Paris by Polish Zionist Vladimir Jabotinsky, demands establishment of Jewish state in Palestine and Transjordan and stresses military aspects of Zionism.

October

Sixth Palestinian National Congress convenes in Jaffa.

1928**June**

Seventh Palestinian National Congress convenes in Jerusalem.

1929–1939

Fifth wave of over 250,000 Zionist immigrants increases Jewish population in Palestine to 30% of total. Registered Jewish landownership (1939) totals 5.7% of area of country.

1929**August**

Riots arise out of dispute between Jews and Palestinians over claims to Wailing (Western) Wall in Jerusalem, a site holy to Muslims and Jews. In resulting clashes 133 Jews killed and 339 wounded, 116 Palestinians killed and 232 wounded, the latter mainly by British military.

October

General Palestinian conference meets in Jerusalem to formulate position on Wailing Wall controversy.

1930**14 January**

League of Nations appoints international commission to investigate legal status of Arabs and Jews at Wailing Wall.

March

British Shaw Palestinian Commission of Inquiry attributes 1929 disturbances to Palestinian fears of Jewish immigration "not only as a menace to their livelihood but as a possible overlord of the future."

October

British Hope-Simpson report on land settlement, immigration, and development in Palestine concludes that there is not sufficient agricultural land for substantially increased numbers of Jewish settlers.

British Colonial Secretary, Lord Passfield, issues White Paper which takes note of views of Hope-Simpson and Shaw commissions of inquiry.

1931

Irgun Zvai Leumi (National Military Organization), Irgun or IZL for short, founded by Revisionist groups and dissidents from Haganah, advocates a more militant policy against Palestinians. Valdimir Jabotinsky is commander-in-chief.

14 February

British prime minister Ramsay MacDonald in a letter to Zionist leader Chaim Weizmann virtually retracts Passfield White Paper.

18 November

Second British census of Palestine shows population of 1,035,154—73% Muslim Arab, 16.9% Jewish, 8.6% Christian Arab.

December

Lewis French, British director of development for Palestine, publishes report on "landless Arabs," caused by Zionist colonization.

1933**14 July**

British Secretary of State issues statement on resettlement of Palestinian farmers displaced from land acquired by Zionists.

1935**October**

Revisionists quit World Zionist Organization (WZO) to form New Zionist Organization with aim of "liberating" Palestine and Transjordan.

November

Shaykh 'Izz al-Din al-Qassam, Muslim cleric from Haifa, leader of first Palestinian guerrilla group fighting British policy in Palestine, killed in action against British security forces.

1936

25 April

Leaders of Palestinian political parties form Higher Arab Committee under Chairman Haj Amin al-Husseini.

8 May

Conference of Palestinian National Committees in Jerusalem calls for no taxation without representation. Great Rebellion begins.

25 August

Lebanese guerrilla leader Fawzi al-Qawuqji enters Palestine leading 150 volunteers from Arab countries to help fight British.

11 November

Royal Commission headed by Lord Peel arrives in Palestine.

1937

18 January

Royal Commission leaves Palestine.

April

IZL/Irgun, linked to Revisionist movement under Jabotinsky, reorganizes and advocates armed attacks on Palestinians.

7 July

Royal (Peel) Commission report recommends partitioning Palestine into Jewish state comprising 33% of country including Haifa, Galilee, and coastal plain north of Isdud; Arab state in rest of country (to become part of Transjordan); and British mandatory enclaves including Jerusalem. Part of Palestinian population to be forcibly transferred, if necessary, from Jewish state.

23 July

Arab Higher Committee rejects Royal Commission proposal and demands independent unitary Palestine with protection of "legitimate Jewish and other minority rights" and the safeguarding of British interests. Rebellion intensifies.

September

Arab National Congress at Bludan, Syria, attended by 450 delegates from Arab countries, rejects partition proposal, demands end to Mandate, a stop to Zionist immigration, and prohibition of transfer of Palestinian lands to Zionist ownership.

1 October

British dissolve Arab Higher Committee and all Palestinian political organizations. Five Palestinian leaders deported. Haj Amin al-Husayni escapes to Lebanon.

11 November

British establish military courts to counter Palestinian rebellion.

1938

April–August

IZL/Irgun bombings kill 119 Palestinians. Palestinian bombs and mines kill 8 Jews.

June

British officer Orde Wingate organizes Special Night Squads of British and Haganah personnel for operations against Palestinian villages.

18 October

British military commanders take over administration from district commissioners to help suppress rebellion. Reinforcements brought from England.

19 October

British recapture Old City of Jerusalem from Palestinian rebels.

9 November

Report of British Woodhead technical commission of inquiry (January–April 1938) declares impracticability of Royal Commission's partition proposal. British call for general conference on Palestine in London attended by Arabs, Palestinians, and Zionists.

1939

7 February

London Conference starts.

27 March

London Conference ends without agreement.

22–23 May

British House of Commons votes 268 to 179 in favor of White Paper issued by Colonial Secretary of State Malcolm MacDonald. White Paper calls for conditional independence for unitary Palestinian state after ten years; admission of 15,000 Jewish immigrants annually into Palestine for five years, with immigration after that subject to "Arab acquiescence"; protection of Palestinian land rights against Zionist acquisition.

British official estimates of Palestinians killed or executed by British military and police during Arab Rebellion is over 2,000 for 1936 and 1938 alone. Total for all years is estimated at 3,500–4,000. About 500 Jews killed in same period.

1 September

World War II begins.

October

Stern Gang or Lochemay Herut Yisra'el (LEHI; "Fighters for the Freedom of Israel") formed by dissident IZL members led by Avraham Stern.

1940–1945

Arrival of over 60,000 Zionist immigrants, including 20–25,000 who have entered the country illegally (April 1939–December 1945), increases Jewish population in Palestine to 31% of total. Registered Jewish landownership rises to 6.0% of area of country.

1940

28 February

Land Transfers Regulations, suggested by 1939 White Paper to protect Palestinian land rights against Zionist acquisition, enter into force.

1942

February

Avraham Stern killed by British police.

May

Biltmore Conference in New York attended by Zionist leaders from U.S. and Palestine, urges that "Palestine be established as a Jewish commonwealth."

1943**November**

Five-year limit on Jewish immigration (expiring April 1944) extended so all 75,000 visas permitted in 1939 White Paper can be filled.

1944**January**

Stern Gang and IZL join to conduct terror campaign against British.

6 November

Stern Gang murders Lord Moyne, British resident minister of state, in Cairo.

1945**8 May**

End of World War II in Europe.

September

Large-scale illegal Jewish immigration into Palestine resumes under Haganah control.

13 November

British foreign secretary Ernest Bevin issues White Paper announcing continued Jewish immigration into Palestine after exhaustion of 1939 White Paper quota.

1946**6 March**

Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, proposed in 1945 White Paper, arrives in Palestine.

May

Anglo-American Committee report estimates size of Jewish armed forces at around 61-69,000 people (Haganah: 58-64,000; IZL: 3-5,000; Stern: 2-300) and declares "private armies" illegal. Recommends admission of 100,000 Jews into Palestine and abolition of Land Transfers Regulations. Palestinians strike in protest.

11-12 June

Arab League meeting in Bludan, Syria, adopts secret resolutions warning Britain and U.S. that disregard for Palestinian rights will damage their oil and commercial interests in Arab world.

July

British White Paper on terrorism in Palestine accuses Haganah of cooperating with IZL and Stern Gang in acts of sabotage and violence.

22 July

Ninety-one British, Palestinian, and Jewish civil servants and visitors killed when IZL blows up wing of King David Hotel in Jerusalem housing British government secretariat.

31 July

Anglo-American Conference in London produces Morrison-Grady Plan proposing federal scheme to solve Palestine problem. Zionist and Palestinian leaders reject the plan.

1947**26 January**

London Round Table conference reopens.

7-10 February

British foreign secretary Ernest Bevin proposes variant of Morrison-Grady Plan to London Conference and Jewish Agency. Arab delegates in London and Jewish Agency reject proposal.

18 February

Bevin announces submission of Palestine problem to United Nations.

28 April-15 May

UN General Assembly special session on Palestine problem leads to appointment of eleven-member Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP).

8 September

Publication of UNSCOP report. Majority of members recommends partition, minority recommends federal solution.

16-19 September

Arab League denounces UNSCOP partition recommendation, and appoints Technical Military Committee to supervise Palestinian defense needs.

26 September

Arthur Creech Jones, British colonial secretary, announces Britain's decision to end Palestine Mandate.

29 September

Arab Higher Committee rejects partition.

2 October

Jewish Agency accepts partition.

7-15 October

Arab League meets at Aley, Lebanon. Iraqi General Isma'il Safwat, chairman of Technical Committee, warns of dangers posed by Zionism at end of Mandate and urges Arab states to "mobilize their utmost force and efforts to counter Zionist intentions." One million pounds sterling allocated to Technical Military Committee.

29 October

Britain says it will leave Palestine in six months if no settlement reached.

27 November

Report by Safwat warns of virtual impossibility of overcoming Zionist forces with irregulars; urges prompt Arab action in organizing military force; advocates training Palestinians to defend themselves.

29 November

UN General Assembly recommends variant of UNSCOP partition plan allocating 56.5% of Palestine to Jewish state and 43% to Arab state with international enclave around Jerusalem; 33 votes for, 13 against, 10 abstentions. Arab representatives walk out.

30 November

Haganah calls up Jews in Palestine aged 17-25 to register for military service.

December

Arab League organizes Arab Liberation Army (ALA), a voluntary force of Arab irregulars under guerrilla leader Fawzi al-Qawuqji to help Palestinians resist partition.

2 December

Palestinians start three-day strike protesting UN Partition Resolution. Intercommunal clashes leave 8 Jews and 6 Palestinians dead.

8 December

Britain recommends to UN that Palestine Mandate be terminated on 15 May 1948 and independent Jewish and Palestinian states be established two weeks later.

8–17 December

Arab League Political Committee meeting in Cairo declares partition illegal and resolves to provide 10,000 rifles, 3,000 volunteers (including 500 Palestinians) and a further 1,000,000 pounds sterling to Technical Military Committee.

15 December

British announce intention to hand over policing in Tel Aviv–Petach Tiqwa area to Jews and in Jaffa to Palestinians.

17 December

Jewish Agency Executive reports that American Jews will be asked for \$250 million to help Jewish community in Palestine.

21 December–late March 1948

Haganah and IZL attack villages and Bedouin settlements of coastal plain north of Tel Aviv in first coastal “clearing” operation.

December 1947–January 1948

Arab Higher Committee organizes 275 local committees for defense of Palestinian towns and villages.

1948**January**

Palestinian guerrilla leader ‘Abd al-Qadir al-Husayni secretly returns to Palestine after ten-year exile to organize resistance to partition.

8 January

First contingent of 330 ALA volunteers arrives in Palestine.

10 January

ALA assault on Jewish settlement of Kefar Szold repulsed with help of British.

14 January

Haganah concludes arms deal with Czechoslovakia for \$12,280,000 worth of arms including 24,500 rifles, 5,000 light machine guns, 200 medium machine guns, 54 million rounds of ammunition, 25 Meserschmitts. By end of Mandate at least 10,740 rifles, 1,200 machine guns, 26 field guns, and 11 million rounds of ammunition arrive in Palestine. Rest of arms arrive by end of May.

16 January

British report to UN estimates 1,974 people killed or injured in Palestine from 30 November 1947–10 January 1948.

20 January

British administration announces that predominantly Jewish or Palestinian areas will be gradually handed over to local majority group in every area concerned.

21 and 28 January

Second and third contingents of 360 and 400 ALA irregulars arrive in Palestine.

January–March

JNF leaders encourage evictions from villages of Haifa area. Haganah attacks villages near Lake al-Hula. Palmach attacks Negev Bedouin.

16 February

ALA mounts unsuccessful attack on Jewish settlement of Tirat Zvi north of Baysan.

18 February

Haganah calls up men and women aged 25–35 for military service.

24 February

U.S. delegate to UN says Security Council role should be to keep peace in Palestine, not enforce partition. Syrian delegate suggests appointing committee to explore possible Jewish Agency–Arab Higher Committee agreement.

March

Transjordanian prime minister Tawfiq Abu al-Huda secretly meets British foreign secretary Bevin. They agree that Transjordanian forces will enter Palestine at end of Mandate but will restrict themselves to area of Arab state outlined in Partition Plan.

5–7 March

Qawuqji enters Palestine and assumes command of ALA units in Jinin–Nablus–Tulkarm triangle within area allotted to Arab state.

6 March

Haganah declares general mobilization.

10 March

British House of Commons votes to end Mandate on 15 May.

Plan Dalet finalized by Haganah. Plan provides for military conquest of area allotted by UN Partition Plan to Jewish state and of substantial Palestinian territories beyond this state’s boundaries. Plan contains a series of interlocking operations.

18 March

President Truman secretly receives Chaim Weizman and pledges support for declaration of Jewish state on May 15.

19–20 March

U.S. delegate asks UN Security Council to suspend action on partition plan and to convene General Assembly special session to work on a trusteeship plan. Arabs accept limited trusteeship and truce if Jews also accept. Jewish Agency rejects trusteeship.

25 March

President Truman calls for immediate truce and says U.S. will share responsibility for temporary trusteeship.

30 March–15 May

Second coastal “clearing” operation carried out by Haganah Alexandroni brigade and other units. Attacks and expulsions drive out almost all Palestinian communities from coastal area from Haifa to Jaffa prior to British withdrawal.

1 April

Delivery of first consignment of Czech arms deal: Ship “Nora” arrives in Haifa from Yugoslavia with 4,500 rifles, 200 light machine guns, 5 million rounds of ammunition. Two hundred rifles, 400 machine guns and further ammunition ferried in by airplane.

UN Security Council resolutions call for special session of General Assembly and agree to U.S. proposal for truce to be arranged through Jewish Agency and Arab Higher Committee.

4 April

Haganah launches Plan Dalet.

4–15 April

Battle of Mishmar ha-'Emeq: ALA repulsed by Haganah from Jewish settlement of Mishmar ha-'Emeq. Haganah, Carmeli, Alexandroni, and Palmach units occupy villages in Marj ibn 'Amir.

6–15 April

Operation Nachshon: In first operation of Plan Dalet Haganah Giv'ati Brigade and other units capture villages along Tel Aviv–Jerusalem road from local Palestinian militia.

8 April

'Abd al-Qadir al-Husayni, charismatic Palestinian militia commander, Jerusalem district, is killed leading counterattack to recover Qastel village.

9 April

IZL and Stern Gangs massacre some 250 inhabitants in village of Dayr Yasin near Jerusalem.

12 April

General Zionist Council decides to establish independent state in Palestine on 16 May.

13–20 April

Operation Har'el under Plan Dalet launched at conclusion of Operation Nachshon. Villages along Jerusalem road attacked and demolished.

All subsequent Haganah operations until 15 May 1948 undertaken within framework of Plan Dalet.

15 April–25 May

Operation Yiftach: Palmach captures Safad from ALA and local militia (9–10 May). Attacks and psychological warfare used to empty villages of eastern Galilee and Galilee panhandle. Operation Matate (Broom) drives out Bedouin and villagers from area south of Rosh Pinna to Jordan River.

16–17 April

Haganah Golani brigade and Palmach units capture Tiberias as it is evacuated by British. Palestinian inhabitants flee.

17 April

Security Council resolution calls for military and political truce.

20 April

U.S. submits Palestine trusteeship plan to UN.

21 April

Operation Misparayim: British forces suddenly withdraw from Haifa precipitating all-out Haganah dawn offensive against city's Palestinian population. Offensive accompanied by heavy mortar shelling of Palestinian residential quarters.

22 April

Resistance of local Palestinian militia in Haifa collapses. Haifa's Palestinian population flees under combined Haganah shelling and ground offensives.

25 April

IZL starts massive mortar shelling of Jaffa's residential quarters; simultaneously launches ground offensive to cut off northern Manshiyeh quarter from rest of city.

26–30 April

Haganah Har'el and Etzioni brigades launch Operation Yevussi in and around Jerusalem; attack East Jerusalem residential quarter of Shaykh Jarrah but are forced to hand it over to British; capture West Jerusalem residential district of Qatamon from Palestinian irregulars. Flight of Palestinian inhabitants.

27 April–5 May

Operation Chametz: Haganah launches major ground offensive against eastern Jaffa suburbs and neighboring villages to cut off city from its hinterland. Some 50,000 civilians flee under combined IZL and Haganah attacks.

30 April

All Palestinian quarters in West Jerusalem occupied by Haganah and residents driven out.

3 May

175–200,000 Palestinian refugees reported to have fled from areas taken by Zionists.

8–16 May

Haganah Har'el and Giv'ati brigades undertake Operation Makkabi. Capture villages on al-Ramla–Latrun road.

9 May–1 June

Operation Barak: Strikes by Haganah Giv'ati and Negev brigades south and West of al-Ramla.

10–15 May

Golani brigade occupies Baysan, attacks villages of Baysan Valley south of Lake Tiberias.

12–14 May

Arrival of second and third Czech arms consignments for Haganah: 5,000 rifles, 1,200 machine guns, 6 million rounds of ammunition.

13 May

Arab Legion, ALA, and local militia attack and capture Jewish settlements of Etzion bloc, retaliating for attacks on Hebron road.

Jaffa formally surrenders to Haganah.

13–21 May

Operation Ben-Ami: Carmeli brigade occupies Acre and coastal area north of city.

14 May

Haganah launches Operation Qilshon (Pitchfork), occupying strategic areas in Jerusalem evacuated by British and taking Palestinian residential quarters outside Old City from Arab irregulars.

Haganah launches Operation Schifon to take Old City of Jerusalem.

State of Israel proclaimed in Tel Aviv at 4:00 P.M.

President Truman recognizes state of Israel.

15 May

British Mandate ends. Declaration of State of Israel comes into effect.

15–17 May

Lebanese regulars cross border and temporarily retake villages of Malikiyya and Qadas from Haganah, but are forced out of fortress of Nabi Yusha'.

15–28 May

Transjordanian Arab Legion troops cross River Jordan and move towards Jerusalem capturing Jewish settlements of Atarot and Newe Ya'aqov north of city (17 May). In Jerusalem, Legion retakes Shaykh Jarrah quarter (16 May), fails to capture stronghold in Notre Dame monastery (17–25 May), and takes control of Jewish Quarter of Old City (28 May).

15 May–4 June

Iraqi units cross Jordan River, are repulsed from Crusader fortress of Belvoir, and besiege settlement of Geshar for a week. Iraqi regulars move into Nablus–Jinin–Tulkarm triangle (24 May). Haganah advances on Jinin, evicting villagers (28–31 May); it attacks and briefly occupies Jinin before being repulsed (3–4 June).

15 May–7 June

Egyptian regular troops cross border, move up coast to Isdud and capture Jewish settlements of Yad Mordechai (24 May) and Nitzanim (7 June) in Negev. Another column of Egyptian irregulars moves to Bethlehem linking up with Arab Legion. In battle with IDF (21–25 May), Jewish settlement of Ramat Rachel south of Jerusalem changes hands several times and is finally retained by Jews.

16 May–10 June

Syrian columns advance over border and temporarily capture Jewish settlement of Zemach (18–20 May), are repulsed from twin settlements of Degania (20 May), and capture settlement of Mishmar ha-Yarden (10 June). Syrians, Lebanese, and ALA recapture Malikiyya (6 June).

16–30 May

IDF Operation Ben-Nun: Israeli Sheva' and other brigades fail to capture al-Latrun from Arab Legion in attempt to open Jaffa–Jerusalem road, but occupy villages in vicinity.

20 May

UN Security Council appoints Count Folke Bernadotte as its mediator in Palestine.

22 May

UN Security Council resolution calls for ceasefire.

9–10 June

IDF Operation Yoram, launched against Arab legion by Har'el and Yiftach brigades, fails to capture al-Latrun.

11 June–8 July

First Truce.

28–29 June

Count Bernadotte suggests economic, military, and political union of Transjordan and Palestine containing Arab and Jewish states: Negev and central Palestine to go to Arabs; Western Galilee to Jews; Jerusalem to be part of Arab state with administrative autonomy for Jews; Haifa and Jaffa to be free ports and Lydda free airport. Rejected by both sides.

7 July

Security Council calls for prolongation of truce.

7–18 July

IDF Operation Dani: Capture of Lydda and al-Ramla from local militia. Population of both cities expelled. Three or four IDF brigades occupy villages along Jerusalem–Jaffa road and cluster of villages east of Jaffa. Yiftach brigade's assault on Arab Legion in al-Latrun (17 July) ends with Second Truce.

8–14 July

IDF Operation Dekel: Carmeli and Sheva' brigades push east and south from Acre, capture Nazareth from ALA under Qawuqji and occupy Lower Galilee.

8–11 July

IDF Operation An-Far: Giv'ati brigade, moving against Egyptians, empties villages south of al-Ramla in an arc between Hebron hills and coast.

9–18 July

IDF Carmeli Brigade fails to recapture the Zionist settlement of Mishmar ha-Yarden, south of Lake Tiberias, that had been occupied by Syrian troops.

15 July

UN Security Council resolution calls on governments and authorities concerned to issue indefinite ceasefire orders to their forces in Palestine to take effect within three weeks.

17 July

IDF Operation Qedem against Old City of Jerusalem is repulsed.

18 July–15 October

Second Truce.

24–26 July

IDF Operation Shoter: Carmeli, Alexandroni, and Golani brigades attack and capture three villages of "Little Triangle" south of Haifa.

16 August–end of September early October

Negev and Yiftach brigades attack and expel Bedouins and inhabitants of villages in Negev.

24–28 August

IDF Operation Nikayon ("Cleansing"): Giv'ati Brigade occupies coastal area west of Yibna and north of Isdud.

16 September

Report by UN mediator Count Bernadotte proposes new partition of Palestine: Arab state to be annexed to Transjordan and to include Negev, al-Ramla and Lydda; Jewish state in all of Galilee; internationalization of Jerusalem; return or compensation of refugees. Rejected by Arab League and Israel.

17 September

UN mediator Count Bernadotte murdered in Jerusalem by Stern Gang. Replaced by his American deputy Ralph Bunche.

15 October–9 November

IDF Operations Yo'av and ha-Har: Negev, Giv'ati, and Yiftach units move against Egyptians to capture Beersheba, Isdud, Majdal, and coastal strip as far as Yad Mordechai, and villages of Hebron Hills. Har'el brigade captures southern Jerusalem corridor.

29–31 October

IDF Operation Hiram: Upper Galilee pocket, held by Qawuqji's forces, occupied and emptied by Giv'ati, Oded, and Sheva' brigade troops. Tens of thousands flee. Israeli forces move into southern Lebanon as far as Litani River.

November

IDF Har'el Brigade expels several communities in Jerusalem corridor along border with Transjordanian forces.

4 November

UN Security Council resolution calls for withdrawal of forces to positions occupied prior to 14 October and establishment of permanent truce lines.

Second week November—mid 1949

IDF expels inhabitants from villages 5–15 km inside Lebanese border, followed by expulsions from other Galilee villages.

22 December—6 January 1949

Operation Horev launched to drive Egyptians out of southern coastal strip and Negev. Asluj and al-'Awja captured. Israeli troops move into Sinai until British pressure forces withdrawal. Golani and Har'el brigades attack on Rafah ended by ceasefire (7 January).

27 December

IDF Alexandroni brigade's attack on isolated Egyptian forces in Faluja pocket is repulsed.

1949

24 February

Israeli-Egyptian Armistice: Egypt keeps coastal strip Gaza-Rafah and evacuates Faluja pocket; Asluj—al-'Awja area demilitarized.

End of February

IDF units intimidate 2–3,000 villagers into leaving Faluja pocket in violation of Israeli-Egyptian Armistice Agreement.

March

IDF Negev and Golani brigades complete occupation of Negev as far as Umm Rashrash/Eilat.

23 March

Israeli-Lebanese Armistice: Frontier of Mandate Palestine accepted; Israel withdraws from most of Lebanese territory.

3 April

Israeli-Jordanian Armistice: Jordan takes over Iraqi-held Nablus—Jinin—Tulkarm triangle but is forced to cede area around Wadi 'Ara; Israel controls Chadera—'Afula road; existing status quo in Jerusalem accepted by IDF and Arab Legion.

20 July

Syrian-Israeli Armistice: demilitarized zones established around 'En Gev and Dardara (including Mishmar ha-Yarden).