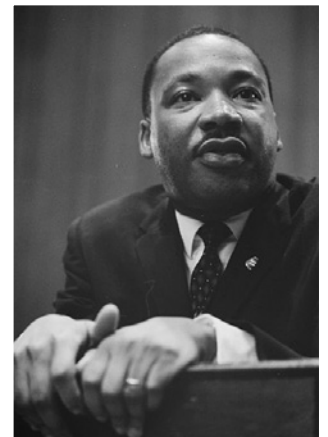




ISRAELI-ARAB CONFLICT

Primer to understanding the centuries-old struggle



*"When people criticize Zionists, they mean Jews.
You're talking anti-Semitism."*

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



HonestReporting
Defending Israel From Media Bias

ANTI-SEMITISM IS THE DISSEMINATION OF FALSEHOODS ABOUT JEWS AND ISRAEL

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ISRAELI-ARAB CONFLICT

Primer to understanding the centuries-old struggle

The Middle East nation we now know as the State of Israel has existed throughout history under a variety of names: Palestine, Judah, Israel, and others. Today it is surrounded by Arab states that have purged most Jews from their borders.

Israel is governed differently. It follows modern principles of a western liberal democracy and it provides freedom of religion.

Until the recent discovery of large offshore natural gas deposits, Israel had few natural resources (including oil), but it has an entrepreneurial spirit that has helped it become a center of research and development in areas such as agriculture, computer science and medical technologies. All Israeli citizens have benefited from the country's success.

Yet anti-Israel attitudes have become popular in some circles. The reasoning is often related to the false belief that Israel "stole" Palestinian Arab lands and mistreated the Arab refugees. But the lands mandated by the United Nations as the State of Israel had actually been inhabited by Jews for thousands of years. Jerusalem was the site of the original Jewish Temple, built by King Solomon, long before either Christianity or Islam existed.

Israel remains a bastion of democracy and freedom in the oppressive Middle East. Israel is productive, successful, and an important political and military partner to many nations.

Supporting Israel in the face of efforts to delegitimize it is in the national and cultural interests of all those who support freedom and democracy. Israel is the only true democracy in the Middle East!

This e-book provides the basic facts about Israel, the Middle East and the Western Media.

ZIONISM IS THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE.

Part 1

History

1.1. Key events in the history of Israel and Palestine



Years 2000 to 1800 BCE (four thousand years ago) – Ancient Jews establish the first tribal kingdoms in the land of Israel. This is known as the period of the Patriarchs. The Prophet Abraham lived during this era.

950 BCE – King David unites all Jewish tribes and rules over them as a single nation. Jews build the First Holy Temple on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. The Temple becomes the center of Jewish religious observance. Israel expands and prospers under subsequent Jewish kings, including Solomon.

Map: Israel (green area) 950 years before the birth of Jesus Christ. For comparison, borders of modern Israel are marked in red.



Map: Neo-Babylonian Empire, 626 BCE–539 BCE. Judah was captured and exiled circa 586 BCE–516 BCE.

586 BCE – The Babylonian Empire conquers Israel, destroys the First Holy Temple and expels most of the Jews to Babylon. Many of them return to Israel 70 years later from their Babylonian exile.

515 BCE – Jews rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem (called the Second Temple).



During the 70-year-long exile, Jews developed the main principles of their religion.



The Second Temple, the most holy place for all Jews. (Model reconstruction shown.)

330 BCE – Alexander the Great of Macedonia conquers Israel. Beginning of the rule of Seleucid kings who introduce Greek culture to Israel.

161 BCE – Israel regains independence. Beginning of rule of Jewish Hasmonean dynasty (Maccabees).

63 BCE – Israel loses independence. Roman leader Pompey gains indirect control over Israel. Twenty years later, Romans begin direct rule of Israel.

50 BCE – Beginning of the rule of Jewish King Herod who built the famous Masada fortress and renovated the Jewish Second Temple on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

Year 0 – Jesus is born in Bethlehem in ancient Israel. Jesus' disciples were the founders of Christianity. Jesus was condemned to death and crucified by the Romans. NOTE: In later years anti-Semites promote the notion that the Jews are responsible for death of Jesus Christ.

66 to 74 Common Era (CE) – Israel and Rome fight the first war of independence. In 70 CE the Romans capture and destroy Jerusalem and the Second Temple. After a three-year siege, the Jewish desert fortress Masada is captured by the Romans. Rather than surrender, all 900 Jewish defenders and their families in Masada take their own lives. Masada becomes the symbol of Jewish resistance.

132 -135 CE – Second Jewish war of independence led by great Jewish commander, Simon Bar Kokhba. After initial victories, Israel is eventually defeated by crack Roman legions. Many Jews are massacred and others sent into exile. Jews emigrate all over Europe and Africa. This community of expelled Jews is called the Diaspora. The Roman emperor Hadrian applies a new name, "Palestine," to the land of Israel, which refers to the ancient Biblical enemy of the Jews, the Philistines (tribe of Goliath). The name is deliberately chosen by Hadrian to humiliate the Jews.

311 CE – Byzantium Christian Empire begins to rule Israel/Palestine. Many people convert to Christianity. The whole area becomes known to the Christians as the Holy Land. Christian churches are built, and Jerusalem flourishes as the center of Christianity.

622-632 CE – An Arab merchant and warrior named Mohammed starts a new religion called Islam. His followers are called Muslims. Mohammed writes a religious book, the Koran, that is largely based on a modified Jewish Bible.

625-632 CE – Mohammed's Muslim army attacks Jews and Christians living in Arab lands (currently Saudi Arabia).

FACT The Muslims win and expel most Jews including the Jewish tribe of Banu Nadir from Medina. The Muslims beheaded all the men of Banu Nadir, taking the surviving women and children as slaves. After Mohammed's victorious battle of Khaybar (629), Jews are made into second class citizens known as "dhimmis." In the following years most of the Christians are expelled or murdered by the Muslims.

638 CE – Muslim Arab armies defeat Byzantium and capture Israel/Palestine including its capital Jerusalem. For the next 330 years Jewish people of Israel/Palestine are brutally ruled by Arab kings.

7th to 11th century – The population of Palestine gradually becomes a mixture of Jews, Turks, Arabs, Christians, Kurds, Armenians and others.

1071 CE – Turkish Muslim armies win the critical battle of Manzikert. Muslim Turks conquer Palestine and massacre Christians. They start preying on the Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land, and thus provoke Christian crusades to liberate the area from Muslims.

1097 CE – Beginning of the Christian Crusader rule. Crusaders kill many Jews and Muslims, but they also build many great castles and churches. They rule Israel/Palestine for about 200 years.

From 1300 CE – The Mameluks from Egypt defeat the Crusaders and rule the land of Israel/Palestine. Mamelukes prove to be ineffective rulers. Most of the area becomes depopulated and abandoned.

1514 CE – The Turkish Empire gains control of the land of Israel/Palestine and rules for 400 years. The land becomes depopulated further. Small communities of Jews continue to live in Israel/Palestine and follow their old customs and religion. There are also small communities of Turks, Arabs and Christians.

19th century – A new movement to return the European Jews to Israel/Palestine is started by Theodor Herzl. Thousands of Jews attempt to escape persecution and anti-Semitism in Europe by leaving their homes and return to the land of Israel/Palestine. This movement continues today. In the 19th century poor Arabs from Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq also begin to immigrate to Palestine in search of new economic opportunities created by the Jews. Jews build modern farms and workshops and often employ Arab immigrants as well as local Arabs.

1917 – After defeating Turkey in WWI, Great Britain gains control of the land of Palestine. The British half-heartedly try to control hatred and intolerance of Muslim Arabs against non-Muslims, Jews and Christians.



Crusader leader Richard the Lionhearted, the English king that helped to conquer Israel/Palestine.



1926 to 1929 – Arabs systematically organize massacres of Jewish communities in Palestine. The most notorious was the 1929 massacre in Hebron where 67 Jews were slaughtered. In response to Arab aggression, Jews start to organize their own defense force (called the Haganah) to protect Jewish towns and villages. After 1945 the Haganah grows and becomes more effective.

1939-45 WWII – Muslim Arabs side with Nazi Germany, Jews side with Britain and the United States. Jews form military units in Europe to fight against the Nazis. Muslims form military units to help the Nazis.

November 1947 – The UN votes to re-establish Israel as the Jewish homeland. Palestinian Arabs attack Jewish communities, effectively starting a brutal war.

1947-48 – War of Jewish Independence. On May 14, 1948, Jews in Israel declare independence. The next day the fledgling Jewish state is attacked by five Arab states. Jews lack arms and are few in number; however they fight valiantly and the Arab armies are defeated. Later, Arab states continue to attack Israel. But the Jews successfully defend their homeland.

1967-1973 – The Six-Day War and the Yom Kippur War. Israel successfully defends itself from the assault of the Arab armies despite being vastly outnumbered. Following the Six Day War, Israel controls the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Golan Heights and Sinai Peninsula. (The Sinai is returned to Egypt following the 1979 Peace Treaty while Israel unilaterally disengaged from Gaza in 2005.)

FACTS

In 1882 there were 141,000 Muslim Arabs settled in Palestine [p.244*]. "The great majority of the Arab population in recent decades were comparative newcomers [Dr. Carl Voss, *The Palestine Problem Today*, Beacon Press, 1953]. NOTE: In 2010 total Arab population in Palestine (Gaza, Israel, West Bank, and Jordan) was over 11 Million).

Between 1882-1895 approximately 82,000 Arab immigrants settled in Western Palestine [p. 245*].

Between 1895-1947 about 213,700 Arabs immigrated to predominantly Jewish towns of Jerusalem, Safed, Tiberias, Haifa, Ramle, Jaffa, Beisan [pp. 256, 424*]. This does not include considerable immigration of Arabs to other parts of W. Palestine.

1934 – Approximately 35,000 Arabs immigrated from Hauran (Syria) to W. Palestine during a short period of three months [British Dept. of Migration, 1935, p.19].

* Joan Peters, *From Time Immemorial* (Chicago: JKAP Publications, 1984)



Second Aliyah workers eating lunch
in the fields of Migdal.

1.2. Whose land is Palestine?

The overwhelming impression of Western visitors in the 19th century was that there were very few people living in Palestine. The British Consul General, James Finn, wrote in 1857 that "the country is in a considerable degree empty of inhabitants." He added that the land's "greatest need is that of a body of population." Mark Twain visited the land of Israel/Palestine in 1867, traveled through the Jezreel Valley, and related, "there is not a solitary village throughout its whole extent... A desolate country... a silent mournful expanse. ...We never saw a human being on the whole route...*" Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, the great British cartographer, reached similar conclusions in 1881: "In Judea it is hardly an exaggeration to say that for miles and miles there was no appearance of life or habitation."

In the middle of the 19th century, Palestine was largely a barren desert. There were some small Jewish communities in places like Jerusalem, Safed, Jaffa, Akko and Tiberias. There were also small communities of Bedouins, Turks, and Arabs. Palestine was a backwater province of the Turkish Empire.

Scholar David Meir-Levi on Jewish emigrants from Europe known as Zionists:

“ Zionist pioneers from the middle of the 19th century onward joined the local Jewish communities in rebuilding a Jewish homeland in what was then the Turkish Empire by purchasing land from the Turkish Crown and from Arab landowners (effendi). There was no invasion, no conquest, and no theft of Arab land. [...]

Much of the land that the Zionists purchased was desert and swamp, uninhabited and deemed uninhabitable by the Arabs. Modern agrarian techniques instituted by the Jews and the blood and sweat of thousands of idealistic Zionists reclaimed that land and turned it into prime real estate with flourishing farms and rapidly growing communities sporting modern technology and a healthy market economy.

As a result, Arab migrants poured into the region from surrounding states, with hundreds of thousands seeking a better life and greater economic opportunity. ”

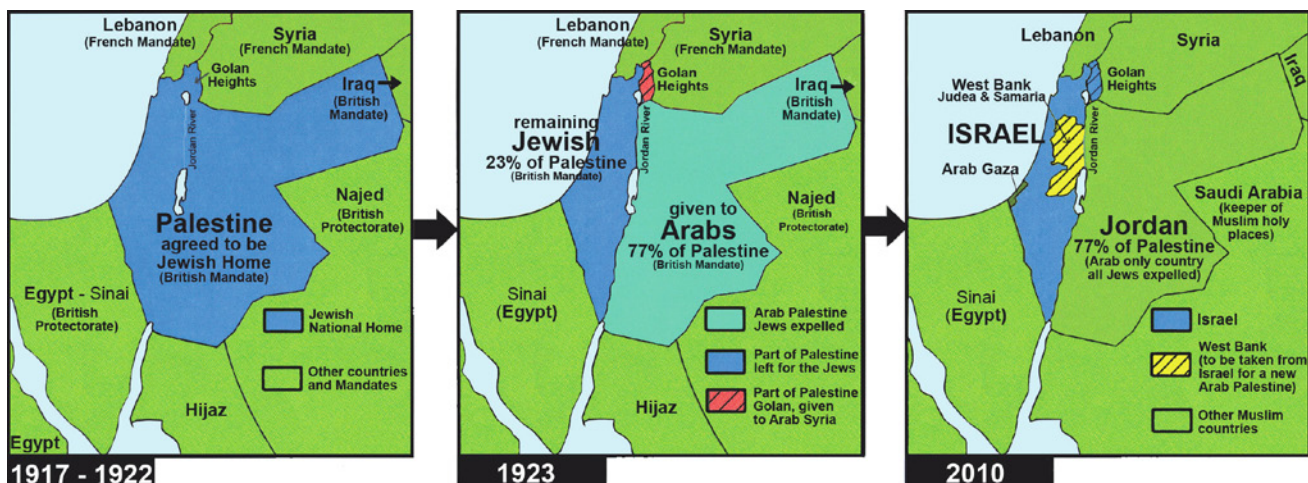
* Mark Twain, *The Innocents Abroad* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1996), p. 349.

NOTE The great majority of Palestinian Arabs (both in Jordan and other parts of Palestine) are descendants of the Arab immigrants of the late 19th and 20th century. They are sons and daughters of the Arabs that immigrated to Palestine in search of work. Their leader Yasser Arafat immigrated to Palestine from Cairo, Egypt.

1.3. The shrinking size of the Jewish homeland

At the end of World War I, on November 2, 1917, the British promised to establish a Jewish homeland in all of Palestine (the Balfour Declaration). The international San Remo Conference decided that all of British administered Palestine was to be given back to the Jewish nation (April 24, 1920; Article 2, 4 and subsequent). The conference's decisions were confirmed unanimously by all fifty-one member states of the League of Nations on July 24, 1922 and they were further endorsed by a joint resolution of the United States Congress in the same year. Later, under Arab pressure, the British split off 77% of the Jewish Palestinian land and gave it to the Arabs. Jews were forcibly expelled from Arab controlled territory. In 1946 an Arab country called (Trans-) Jordan was formed on this 77% of the Palestinian land.

NOTE In ancient times, all of Palestine belonged to the Jews and no Arabs lived there.



British Mandate Palestine: The blue area (1917-1922) was to become a Jewish state. Today Arabs demand that the ancient Jewish provinces of Judea and Samaria (also called West Bank – yellow area on the right map) are to become a second Palestinian Arab state. Another small province called Gaza had been evacuated by Israel in 2005 and is now ruled by the Islamic Hamas. In principle, Israel agreed to give away all these regions of its historical homeland for the sake of achieving peace with the Arabs.

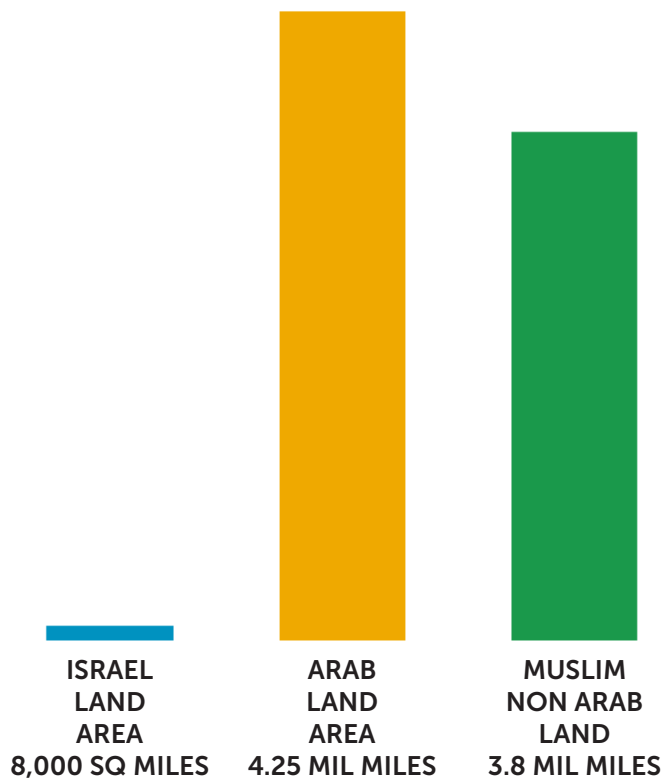
Part 1 History

Israel is the only Jewish country; the rest of the lands in the Middle East are all either Muslim Arab countries or non-Arab Muslim countries such as Iran, Turkey, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and others.



Map and chart (above and below): Comparative size of Arab and Jewish land. Data: World Almanac 2011.

Arab countries have an area of about 4.25 million square miles. Israel has only 8000 sq. miles. This means Arabs have nearly 560 times more land than the Jews. Total Arab population is about 400 million people and the Jewish population is seven million. Many Arabs demand that Israel give up more or even all of its land. Jews feel entitled to their small home called Israel.



1.4. Recent history: Nazis and Palestinian Arabs during WWII 1939-1945

Nazi Germany was a power-hungry, genocidal regime that caused World War II, resulting in the deaths of 60 million people. Most of the Nazis' hatred was directed toward Jews. Nazis systematically murdered six million innocent Jewish civilians in what is known as the Holocaust.

Arab leaders generally sided with Adolf Hitler, the leader of Nazi Germany, and assisted him in the war effort and in the Jewish "final solution" (which meant the annihilation of all Jews).

From 1921 on, the ruler of the Palestinian Arabs and their foremost religious leader was Amin Al-Husseini. (Official title: Grand Mufti of Palestine). He led and inspired Palestinian Arabs until his death in 1974. Husseini was a close friend of the Nazi leader, SS Chief of Staff Heinrich Himmler, and he worked with the Nazis on establishing a death camp in Palestine to exterminate local Jews. During WWII, he traveled many times to Berlin and to the Auschwitz death camp to analyze and implement this plan. Al-Husseini recruited and personally inspected troops of the Nazi Muslim Handschar SS Division, which had a chief religious leader, Muslim Imam Halim Malkoc.



Amin Al-Husseini confers with Adolf Hitler, Berlin, 1942.

NOTE A death camp was to be located in Nablus to implement the "final solution" in Palestine, to exterminate all Jews living there. Nazis lost the war and luckily this death camp was never established.

Today Palestinian Arabs consider Amin Al-Husseini to be a national hero.

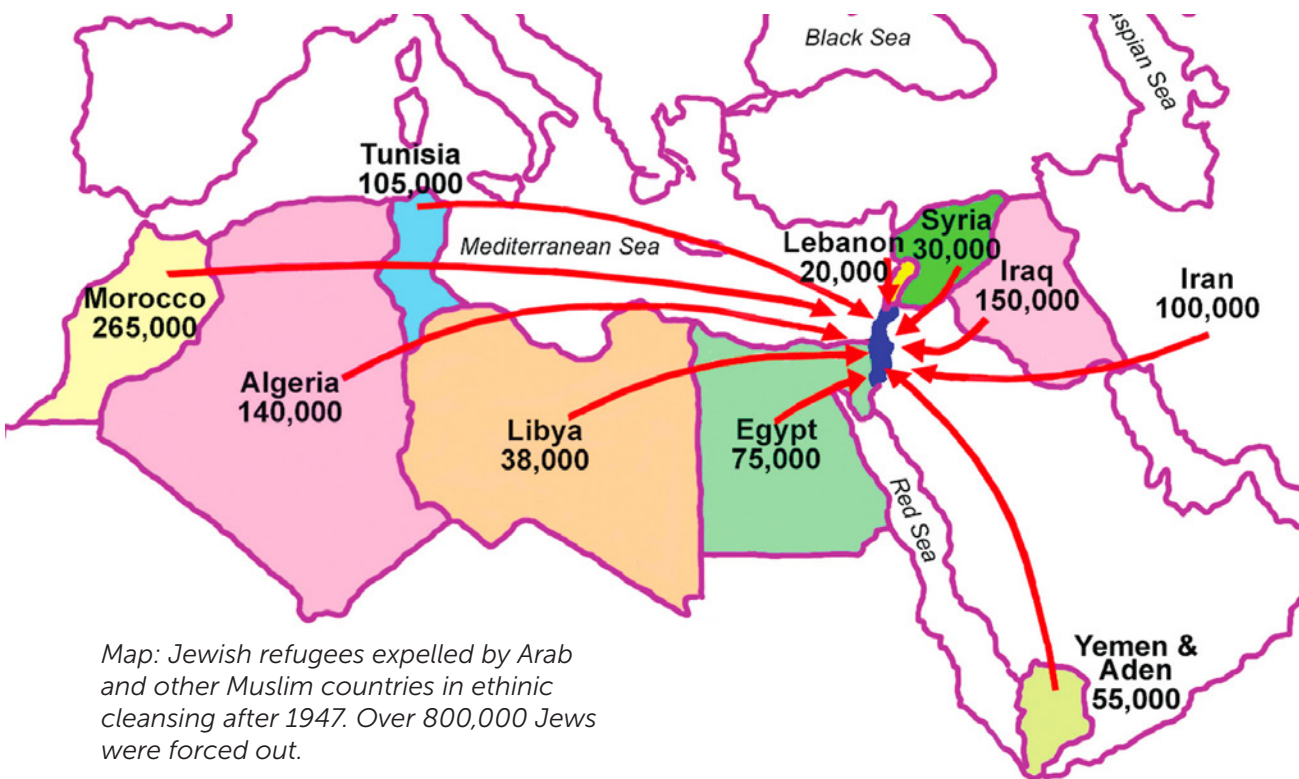
Another Arab leader, Hassan Al-Banna, the founder of the powerful Muslim Brotherhood, had Hitler's book *Mein Kampf* translated into Arabic as "My Jihad".

November, 1943. Al-Husseini greeting Bosnian Waffen-SS volunteers with a Nazi salute. The largest division he helped form was the 13th Handschar division.



1.5. Refugees

Although much is heard about the plight of the Palestinian Arab refugees, little is said about the Jews who were forced to flee Arab states. Yet, there were more



Map: Jewish refugees expelled by Arab and other Muslim countries in ethnic cleansing after 1947. Over 800,000 Jews were forced out.

Jewish refugees than all the Arabs that fled Israel/Palestine during the 1948 war.

After Israel's War of Independence more than 800,000 Jews were expelled from surrounding Arab lands and were resettled in Israel. At the same time 700,000 Palestinian Arabs left Israel because of the war, some with the encouragement of Arab governments and leaders. The Jews built for themselves a new life in Israel through hard work. However, the Arab refugees were kept by Arab governments in refugee camps. They continue to be used as pawns in the political struggle against Israel and to make financial demands on world humanitarian organizations. Arab leaders have kept refugees in camps since 1948 and collect welfare money for them from the world community, including the UN and the European Union.

Nearly half of Israel’s citizens today were born in Arab countries and descend from Jewish refugees from Arab lands. Their rights have yet to be officially recognized and their lost assets and property returned.

“ The Arab states do not want to solve the refugee problem. They want to keep it as an open sore, as an affront to the United Nations and as a weapon against Israel. Arab leaders don’t give a damn whether the refugees live or die. ”

Ralph Galloway, UN Relief and Works Agency official, 1958

1.6. Jewish Settlements

Jews have lived in Judea and Samaria (a part of Palestine more recently referred to as the West Bank) for centuries. Some of the most holy Jewish sites are there, including the Cave of the Patriarchs and Rachel’s Tomb. The Jordanian Army captured and occupied this area from 1948 until 1967. Arabs violently expelled many Judean and Samaritan (West Bank) Jews from their homes. Jews were also prohibited from visiting their holy sites.

After 1967, Israel captured the West Bank and Jews started to return. Today the Jewish communities in the West Bank are commonly referred to as the “Settlements.” The media consistently refer to the settlements as dangerous and the biggest obstacle to Middle East peace. Built-up areas of Israeli settlements cover less than 1.7 percent of West Bank land.

Settlers face violent hostility from their Arab neighbors. Jewish settlers live in a constant state of vigilance and are often vilified in the media.

NEW SETTLERS IN WEST BANK AND GAZA SINCE 1950



Neve Dekalim (part of Gush Katif), Gaza Strip, evacuated by Israel in 2005. The settlements are environmentally friendly largely out of necessity. Water conservation and solar electricity production counter the harsh desert conditions.



Part 2

Jerusalem

2.1. Jerusalem has always been Jewish

For over 3,000 years Jerusalem has been the historical, religious and spiritual capital of the Jewish people with an uninterrupted Jewish presence throughout that time. Though Jerusalem has known many foreign rulers, it has been a capital only for the Jews. It has always been the political, cultural and religious center of the Jewish People around the world. Jerusalem is an integral part of the Jewish religion. It is referred to 669 times in the Jewish Bible.

Over the centuries, many other religions, including different Christian faiths, also established a significant presence in Jerusalem. Under Turkish Muslim rule and then after the 1948 Arab-Jordanian occupation, such faiths were often persecuted. Since 1967, Jerusalem has been under Israeli sovereignty. And for the first time in the history of Jerusalem, the different religious communities, including Muslims, now enjoy freedom of worship and the holy sites of all faiths are protected.



NOTE The Islamic Al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem was deliberately built on top of the ancient Jewish Holy Temple to erase any traces of that Temple. Muslim Arabs built Al-Aqsa in the 7th century. Later it fell into disrepair, but in the late 19th century, Arabs rebuilt the mosque to give the impression that the site was always theirs.

The table below shows residents of Jerusalem, grouped by religious identification, based on the earliest modern census data. It dispels the myth that Jews have "stolen" the city from Arabs.

Year of survey	★ Jews	☾ Muslims	✝ Christians
1844	7,120	5,760	3,390
1896	28,112	7,560	5,470
1931	51,222	19,894	19,335

Turkish and British census data from "Myths and Facts", Mitchell G. Bard, AICE 2001, p. 263.



The Western Wall. Part of the retaining wall of the Temple Mount compound, the holiest place for the Jewish people. The Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa mosque were constructed on the site of both ancient Jewish temples. (Location: Old City of Jerusalem)

The following is the transcript of a PA TV documentary:

“ We... look out over [Islamic] holiness and on sin and filth (Jews praying at Western Wall) ... We are drawing our new maps. When they [Israelis] disappear from the picture, like a forgotten chapter in the pages of our city’s history, we will build it anew (residential area). The Mughrabi Quarter will be built here (on the Western Wall Plaza). ”

[PA TV (Fatah), Aug. 10, 2011. Source: PMW bulletin Aug 17, 2011]

Eastern Jerusalem includes the Old City where most of the Jewish and Christian holy sites are located. It also includes the Mount of Olives and the ancient Jewish cemetery.

2.2. How Jewish Jerusalem became Arab Jerusalem after the 1948 war

Today the historic area of eastern Jerusalem is the most contested area between Jews and Arabs. Before 1948 the majority of Jerusalem’s population was Jewish. In May 1948 the Jordanian army captured most of the city and ethnically cleansed it of all the Jews. People were thrown out of their homes and many Jews were murdered. Now, over six decades later, the international community and the media are feeding the myth of “Arab East Jerusalem”.

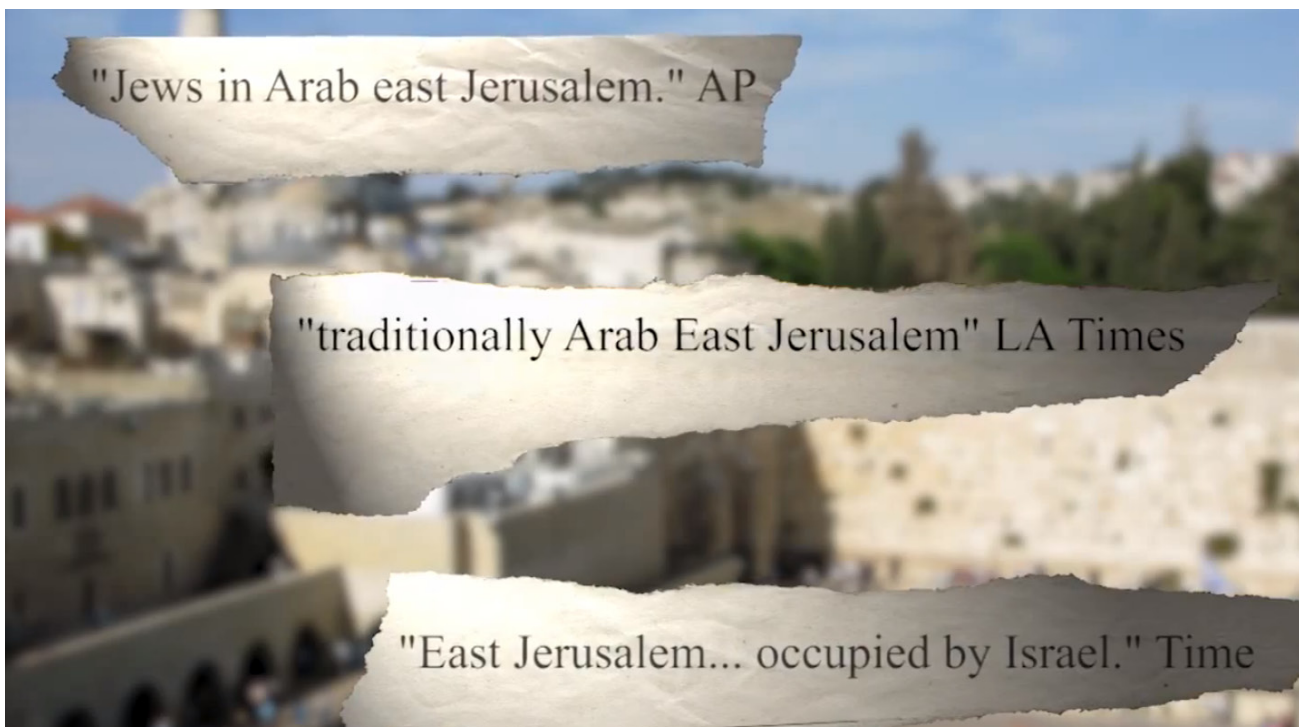


Arab Jordanian forces’ assault on Jerusalem’s Old City, May 1948

A total of 58 eastern Jerusalem synagogues were destroyed and the Jewish Quarter was bulldozed. Arabs from Jordan, Syria and other countries settled in the homes of the expelled Jews. Nineteen years later, in the Six-Day War, Israel captured eastern Jerusalem and its previous inhabitants started to return. The process was very slow because by 1967 all the homes were already occupied by Arabs.

2.3. Media manipulation to misrepresent Jerusalem as an Arab city

During the war of 1948, British-armed Arab forces captured most of the city of Jerusalem, including the ancient historical center of eastern Jerusalem with its many Jewish shrines. They expelled almost all of its Jewish inhabitants. Nineteen years later, Israel recaptured eastern Jerusalem in the 1967 Six-Day War, and the expelled Jews started to return. Typically the media begins the story only from 1967 when Israel recaptures the eastern, historic portion of the city. They fail to mention that Israel only entered eastern Jerusalem after Jordan's army used it to launch an unprovoked attack on Israel. The media never mention that Jews were historically the largest constituency in a previously undivided city.



The city conquered and divided by Arabs in 1948 is recaptured and reunited by the Jews in 1967, but it is the Jewish inhabitants that are portrayed as illegitimate thieves and colonizers. This is a popular narrative with much of the Western media and in many academic circles. The view that Jews have no right to live in eastern Jerusalem is often presented by the media as a simple fact. And their desire to live, among Arab neighbors, in the historical center of Jewish life is presented as "an obstacle to peace" and that part of the city misleadingly called "Arab East Jerusalem."



Archaeological dig at King David's City, 11th century BCE



Ruins from the time of King Hezekiah, 8th century BCE



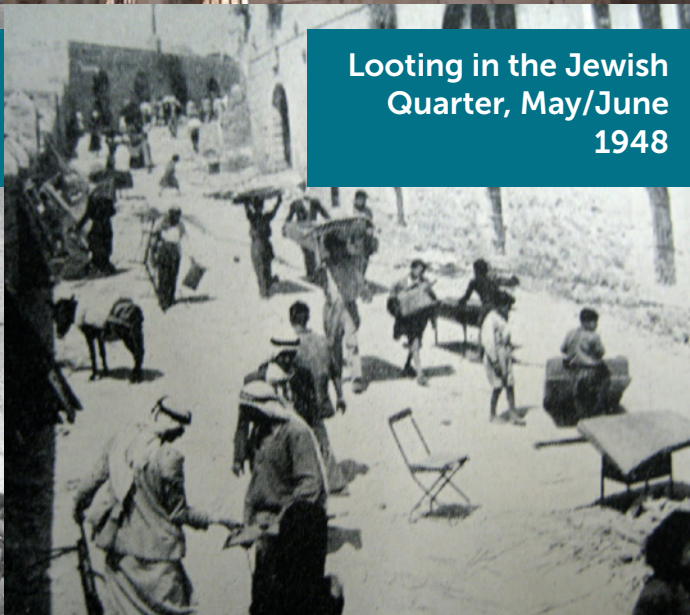
King Herod's palace, 1st century



Tiferet Israel synagogue, 1870



Jews expelled by Arabs from eastern Jerusalem, May 1948



Looting in the Jewish Quarter, May/June 1948

Jerusalem then (above): the only time the city was divided was between 1948 and 1967.

Jerusalem now (below): Jews, Arabs, and tourists walk over the old border without even knowing it.



Part 3 Delegitimization

Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions

3.1. How Israel went from being David to Goliath

“ The Arab -Israeli conflict had pitted hundreds of millions of Arabs and Muslims, in control of two dozen countries [...] not to mention a stranglehold on global oil, against a handful of Jews who then numbered under three-quarters of a million and who lived on a sliver of land so tiny that it could fit into New Jersey. Then came the Six-Day War of 1967. Launched by the then Egyptian President Nasser [...] it ended with Israel in control of the West Bank and Gaza. This humiliating defeat, however, was eventually turned into a great victory by Arab propagandists who redefined the ongoing war of the whole Muslim world against the Jewish state as a struggle merely between the Palestinians and the Israelis. Thus was Israel’s image transformed from a David into a Goliath, a move that succeeded in alienating much of the old sympathy – especially on the Left – that had previously been enjoyed by the outnumbered Jews. ”

Norman Podhoretz, *World War IV*, © 2007

FACT The iconic images of Muhammad al-Dura’s alleged death in Gaza inflamed Palestinian sentiment and provoked terrible bloodshed. Despite evidence that Israel did not kill al-Dura, the accusation continues to prevail. This false story has been broadcast and published many times on BBC TV, NBC, German TV, French 2 TV, *The Guardian*, and *The New York Times*.



Are the lies about Israel and the Jews effective? You bet!

“ At first the claims of the propaganda were so shameless that people thought it insane; later it got on people’s nerves; and in the end, it was believed. ”

Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*

3.2. The Durban Conference & the New Anti-Semitism

The current effort to delegitimize Israel's right to exist as a Jewish and democratic state began in earnest with the 2001 World Conference against Racism held in Durban, South Africa.

Events at the conference, and especially its NGO Forum, were hijacked by anti-Israel activists to declare Israel an apartheid state that deserved to be isolated and sanctioned just as apartheid South Africa had been a decade earlier.

The entire delegitimization program was outlined in the final statement from the NGO Forum of the Durban Conference. Articles included:

ARTICLE 162

We declare Israel as a racist, apartheid state in which Israel's brand of apartheid as a crime against humanity has been characterized by separation and segregation, dispossession, restricted land access, denationalization, "bantustanization" and inhumane acts.

ARTICLE 113

Call for adoption of all measures employed against the South African Apartheid regime.

ARTICLE 119

Call for the launch of an international anti-Israeli Apartheid movement as implemented against South African Apartheid through a global solidarity campaign network of international civil society.

ARTICLE 120

Impose a policy of complete and total isolation of Israel as an apartheid state... the imposition of mandatory and comprehensive sanctions and embargoes, the full cessation of all links (diplomatic, economic, social, aid, military cooperation and training) between all states and Israel.



3.3. The Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement

The effort gained new momentum in 2005 with the launch of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement. Much of the BDS movement’s efforts consist of pressuring international artists, authors, and performers to boycott Israel as a message to their followers that Israel does not belong in the international community. Several prominent artists have cancelled appearances in Israel due to BDS pressure while others have been forced to defend their decisions to perform in Israel.

The BDS Movement also tries to organize boycotts against business that are active in Israel unless the businesses promise to adhere to the BDS Movement’s anti-Israel agenda.

While the BDS Movement employs the rhetoric of human rights on behalf of the struggling Palestinian people, the movement’s real aim is to brand Israel a pariah state with no right to exist.

The growing movement to single out Israel as a criminal state has led leaders such as Natan Sharansky to define a “New Anti-Semitism”. Sharansky explains how it differs from classical anti-Semitism and how to recognize when it is present:

“Classical anti-Semitism is changing, and it’s been replaced with a new anti-Semitism, which takes its shape in the form of unbridled attacks against the idea of a Jewish state.

“We’ve identified [the criteria] through a ‘3-D principle - demonization, delegitimization and a double standard. And if you look at anti-Semitism throughout the ages, we see these principles at play as well – the

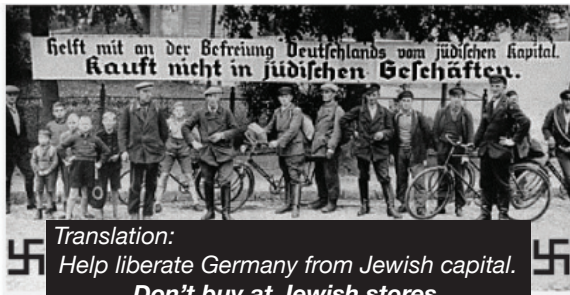
demonization of Jews, the delegitimization of the Jews as a nation, and a double standard towards Jews as a people and a religion.”

All three of those criteria, Sharansky added, were alive and well the world over. The goal is to create anger and hatred towards Israel.

Anti-Jewish propaganda can be very sophisticated. To gain credibility, the BDS movement sometimes employs dishonest or misinformed people of Jewish descent

DIVESTING from companies that do business in Israel is the same as a BOYCOTT of Jewish businesses. Where have we seen that before?

1930s Germany:



Translation:
Help liberate Germany from Jewish capital.
Don't buy at Jewish stores.

Today, in many countries:



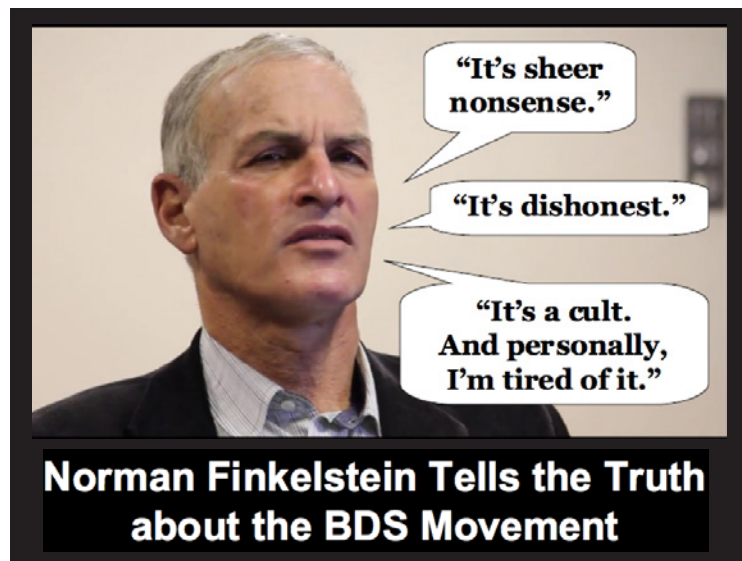
The ongoing campaign to single out and target “Israeli” businesses for divestment is an attempt to hurt the Jewish state. It is driven by an agenda other than peace. It is dishonest, hypocritical, and wrong.

“Singling out Israel for opprobrium and international sanction out of all proportion to any other party in the Middle East is anti-Semitic, and not saying so is dishonest.”
– Thomas L. Friedman

to spread propaganda about Israel. The better known the messenger, the more believable is the falsehood to the uninformed person. If a Jew like Noam Chomsky, a well-known professor, promotes lies about Israel, then it seems that "Jews are finally admitting their crimes".

“ Some Jews have discovered that a quick route to celebrity is by [...] attacking Israel and Zionists. This has always been and remains a tiny minority. [...] Still, anti-Zionists have been a nefarious influence, particularly on college campuses where they are often found teaching courses about Israel and leading anti-Zionist organizations. ”

*Will Israel Survive?, Mitchell G. Bard,
Palgrave Macmillan, 2007*



3.4. The lies about Israel and Jews

“Jews stole Jerusalem and Palestine from the Arabs”

“Israel enjoys murdering defenseless Arab civilians”

Anti-Israel and anti-Jewish propaganda is based on two principal misconceptions. The first misconception is that Jews stole the land of Israel from the Arabs. The second misconception is that Israelis do not want to leave Arabs in peace and brutally attack them for no reason.

Both these misconceptions occasionally appear in the American and European mass media.

The falsity of the first misconception is clear. Jews have lived in Israel for the last four thousand years, and they founded and developed the city of Jerusalem as their capital. It is the Arabs who have migrated into the area. Most of the Arabs came to Jewish land in the last century from Arab Syria, Iraq and Egypt.

The second misconception about Israel killing civilians is even more blatant. Israel does not deliberately target Arab civilians. However, Palestinian Arab terrorists do target Israeli civilians.

The photo tweeted by Khulood Badawi, a United Nations O.C.H.A. media coordinator, allegedly depicting a Palestinian girl killed by an Israeli air strike, was proven to have originated in 2006 and to have had nothing at all to do with Israeli action. This photo was the top tweet for #Gaza in March, 2012. The false information libeled Israel and manipulated public sentiment far faster and with wider reach than any retraction, correction, or apology.



According to Alan Dershowitz, Arabs utilize a policy which he referred to as "the dead children strategy" in order to promote Israel's negative image.

One of the strongest visual objects in the media is a mother holding a dead baby in her arms.

A frequent tactic of Arab terrorists is to fire rockets from Arab civilian locations. Any Israeli response might inadvertently kill these "human shields" and help Arab propagandists to blame Israel. The media are ready and waiting to bring the images to the entire world.

NOTE Israel has built a security fence similar to the U.S.-Mexican border fence. Unlike the U.S. fence, the Israeli one is designed to keep out terrorists on suicide missions. The Israeli fence has proven to be a huge success. It has saved countless innocent lives by reducing suicide attacks by 90%.

Lies have led to the greatest genocide in history: The Holocaust

In the 19th century the infamous Czarist forgery, "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion" was used by right-wing anti-Semites to demonize Jews. Beginning in 1930, Nazis used this book of lies as an excuse to murder six million innocent Jews. The book included fabricated reports about Jews killing and drinking the blood of children, controlling the world banking system and oppressing and stealing from working class people.

Today, Israel's enemies use similar lies to defame Jews. They have updated the Protocols to fit the present day. Some examples of these lies are as follows:

"The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) deliberately kills children in Gaza"

"The IDF deliberately targets civilians"

"Jewish settlers murder Arab children"

"Jews poison water wells in Arab villages"

"Jews capture Arab men and kill them to steal and sell their organs"

"The IDF massacred 500 Arabs in Jenin in 2002"

"IDF soldiers routinely line up Arab children in Gaza and execute them on the streets"

"The IDF deliberately bombed a U.N. school compound in Gaza during Operation Cast Lead"

The list of these deliberate and premeditated lies goes on and on. As long as such lies are spread, the hatred will continue.



Photos: Demonstrations in the USA and Australia in 2009. Note the signs that evoke the Holocaust. Note also the lies about Jews stealing human body organs; this is the old anti-Semitic blood libel that one would hope had disappeared with the Nazi defeat in WWII.

“ Israel’s enemies have become very sophisticated at manipulating the media. In the war with Hezbollah, for example, an Arab woman was shown in one picture wailing about the loss of her home to Israeli bombs and then later she was shown in another picture in another place again wailing about the loss of another home. Anderson Cooper (CNN TV) said he was given a tour in which Hezbollah had lined up some ambulances. They were told to turn on their sirens and then the ambulances drove off as if they were picking up wounded civilians when, in fact, they were simply driving back and forth empty. Boston University professor, Richard Landes, has put together a web site with raw video footage he calls “Pallywood”, which documents how the Palestinians fake everything from shoot-outs with Israeli troops to funerals. The classic scene shows a group of mourners carrying a body on a stretcher. Suddenly, the stretcher falls to the ground and the “corpse” gets up and runs away.”

Will Israel Survive?, Mitchell G. Bard, Palgrave Macmillan, 2007



Nazi soldier murdering Jewish civilians, including a mother and child, in 1942, at Ivangorod, Ukraine.

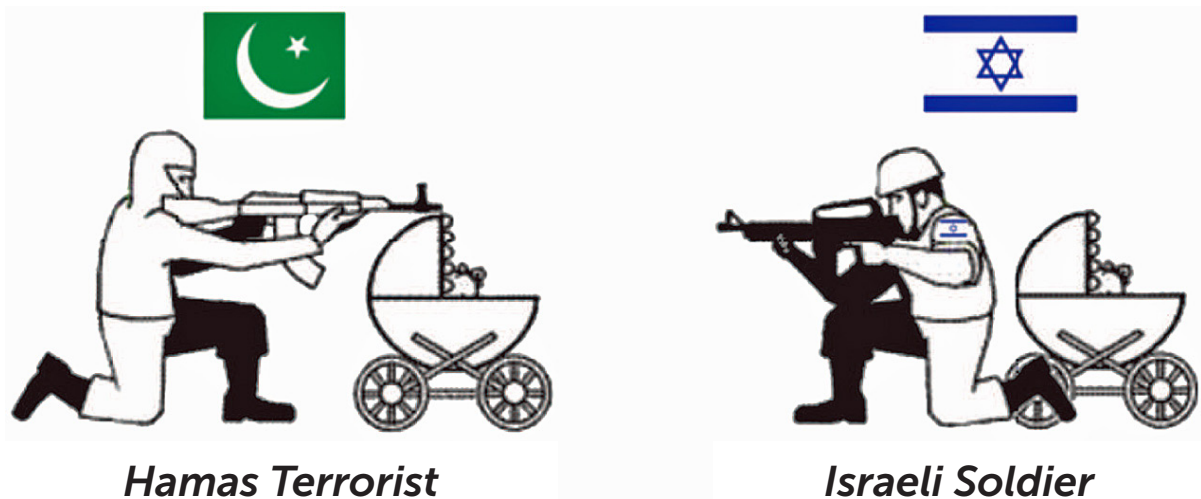


Part 4 Hamas, Gaza, and the Gaza War

4.1. Background on the 2006 Gaza war

For the sake of peace, Israel forcibly removed all Jewish civilians from Gaza in 2005. In 2006, in the first democratic election in Gaza, Palestinians, by a 60% majority, voted for a terrorist organization – Hamas. Hamas is transparent about its fanatical hatred of Jews and other non-Muslims, including Christians. To strengthen its political position Hamas violently expelled its political rival, Fatah, which had lost the election.

Fatah rivals were thrown from rooftops with their hands bound. Hamas then proceeded to fire hundreds of rockets and mortars into southern Israeli cities. After suffering three years of such continuous attacks, Israel decided to act decisively. In December 2008, Israel launched a limited war against Hamas called Operation Cast Lead. Many media outlets failed to report key aspects of this conflict such as the use of human shields and the launching of rockets from homes, hospitals and mosques by Hamas. Efforts by Israel to avoid Palestinian civilian casualties were largely left unreported.



The IDF protects civilians in times of war, Hamas and other Arab terrorists use civilians as human shields. As Colonel Richard Kemp, a former Commander of British forces in Afghanistan, has said:

“During its operation in Gaza, Israel did more to safeguard the rights of civilians in a combat zone than any other army in the history of warfare. Israel took extraordinary measures to give Gaza civilians notice of targeted areas, dropping over 2 million leaflets, and making over 100,000 phone calls. Many missions that could have destroyed Hamas military capability were aborted to prevent civilian casualties.”

Col. Kemp stressed that the civilian casualties were a consequence of Hamas' way of fighting, saying the terror group "deliberately tried to sacrifice their own civilians."

The Hamas Charter is violent and racist:

"Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it."

As long as this remains the guiding document for Hamas, the dream of peace in the region remains impossible.



Captured IDF soldier Gilad Shalit as depicted on a Hamas poster, Nablus, May, 2007.

During the Gaza War, *The Independent* "exposed" Israel's secret uranium bomb. The U.N. concluded otherwise:



"No depleted uranium shrapnel, or other radioactive residue was found." – UNEP

The newspaper has yet to retract the story.

4.2. Gaza misery

Gaza, with its long Mediterranean shoreline and borders with Egypt and Israel, could have been a prosperous region. But thanks to Hamas, it is a radical Islamic theocracy rife with violence, oppression and corruption. Jews are not allowed to live in Gaza and Christians (who lived there for 2,000 years) are routinely terrorized by Hamas' henchmen. It is a place where women are discriminated against. As recently as October 2009, Hamas barred women from driving motorcycles and cars. For safety reasons, Egypt kept its Gaza border closed. Israel opens its border with Gaza to deliver humanitarian supplies to Palestinian civilians.

These problems will not be solved by appeasing Islamic terrorists or by blaming Israel for all of the problems in the Middle East.

The average Arab citizen suffers poverty and a lack of basic human rights in nearly every Arab country. Consider the following facts about Israeli Arab citizens:

- Hebrew and Arabic are both official languages in Israel.
- The Israeli affirmative action program gives Arab businesses and students preferential treatment. The program is patterned after the U.S. affirmative action for minorities.
- There are five official Arab political parties in Israel. All are completely independent from any state influence.
- Israeli-Arabs were elected to the first Knesset (Israeli Parliament) in 1949 and have continued to play an active role in political life. Israeli Arabs have had their representatives in the Knesset every year since then.



The media said the flotilla brought tons of aid to Gaza.

Expired Medicine Unloaded Off Gaza Flotilla



It failed to mention it was less aid than Israel delivers to Gaza every two days.

- Twenty percent of Haifa University's student body and 10 percent of its faculty are Arabs. Other universities also include large number of Arab students and faculty.
- All Arab municipalities in Israel receive government funding for education and infrastructure.
- Many Israeli Arabs hold high-level positions including:
 - Salim Jurban, permanent member of Israel's Supreme Court (2004)
 - Nawaf Massalha, former deputy Foreign Minister.
 - Major General Hussein Fares, commander of Israel's border police.
 - Major General Yosef Mishlav, former head of homeland security as Israel's Home Front commander.
 - Bedouin Ismail Khaldi, Israeli Deputy Consul to San Francisco (2006)
 - Ali Yahya, Walid Monsur and Mohammed Masarwa, who were Israeli ambassadors.

Israel allows over one million Arab Muslims to live in Israel. Israel does not demand that they be removed to Arab countries.

Why can't Arabs do the same and allow Jews to live in countries controlled by the Arabs?

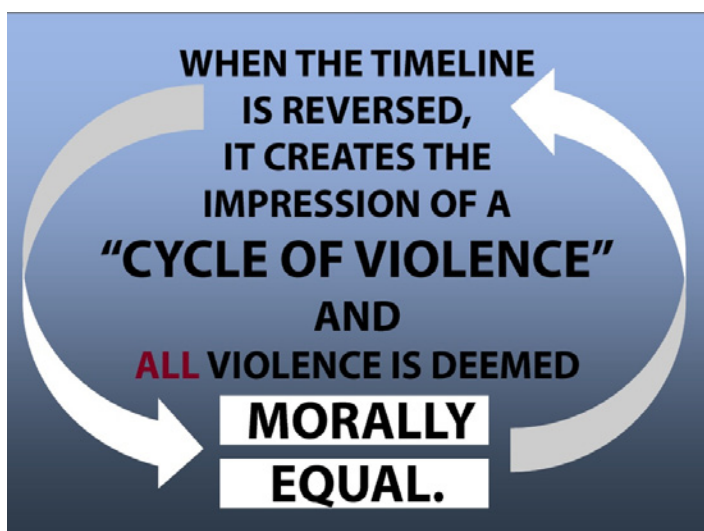


Part 5

Why Media Matters

Much of the delegitimization of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state begins with the media. All too often, media outlets distort Israel's history and its accomplishments. But even when the media sticks to accurate facts, it may not present a reliable portrait of what is taking place.

Unfortunately, the media has an immense influence over public opinion. And in most democracies, public opinion is the backbone of government policies. So making sure that Israel is presented accurately in the media is one of the best ways to ensure fair government policies towards Israel – and to fight off public campaigns trying to delegitimize Israel.



Watch out for some of the common media misrepresentations of Israel in the media listed below.

5.1. It all started when Israel fired back...

Any time there is an upturn in violence in the region, there is a tendency on the part of the media to blame Israel. After all, Israel is considered the stronger party and must therefore shoulder most of the blame – at least that's the message delivered by the media.

However, many of the headlines presenting Israel as an aggressor against the Palestinians leave out some of the most important context to the situation – the fact that in most cases, Israel is retaliating to rocket attacks from Palestinian terrorists, not initiating acts of unprovoked violence.



This phenomenon is often referred to as "It all started when Israel fired back." We see it even in venerable publications such as *The New York Times*. In an August 20, 2011 story on an exchange of fire between Israel and Palestinian terrorists, the *Times* included this paragraph:

Five Times as many People Read Headlines as Read the Body Copy

DAVID OGILVY, MARKETING MAVEN



retaliation for

HUFFPOST WORLD

FRONT PAGE POLITICS BUSINESS ENTERTAINMENT TECH MEDIA LIFE & STYLE + CULTURE
WORLD TRAVEL WARWIRE AFGHANISTAN MIDDLEEAST TERRORISM

Israel Launches Air Strikes In Gaza Strip, 19 Wounded



March 22, 2011 12:48:03 AM

By Nidal al-Mughrabi

GAZA, March 21 (Reuters) - Israel launched air strikes in the Gaza Strip on Monday, wounding at least 19 people, after militants fired mortar shells and rockets into the Jewish state, witnesses and militant groups said.

after militants fired mortar shells

Israel blamed The Popular Resistance Committees for Thursday's attack and killed its top commanders in an airstrike later that day, **igniting cross-border exchanges** after months of relative quiet under an informal cease-fire with Hamas. [boldface added for emphasis]

So who exactly "ignited" the violence? According to *The New York Times* it wasn't those who carried out Thursday's terror attack but Israel for responding. In addition, the term "cross-border exchanges" implies, once again, some sort of moral equivalence between Palestinian rocket attacks on Israeli civilian targets and Israeli responses.



THE TIMES OF ISRAEL



The one-stop news site
covering Israel, the region and
the Jewish people worldwide

UK media watchdog rules: Tel Aviv is not the capital

Commentary

UK Press Commission to Media: Stop Lying About Israel's Capital



Guardian 'violated accuracy' over the status of Jerusalem

5.2. The fight over Israel's capital

As mentioned previously, Jerusalem has always been a Jewish city and remains the eternal capital of the Jewish people. You might not know that, however, if your information comes from the media. Virtually none of the major media publications are willing to call Jerusalem Israel's capital. Some in the UK, most notably *The Guardian*, even went as far as to unilaterally declare Tel Aviv as Israel's capital.

While removing references to Tel Aviv as Israel's capital remains an ongoing battle, there has been considerable success in that fight. But pushing major media to acknowledge Jerusalem as the capital city remains an uphill struggle.

The issue is important because it goes directly into the heart of Israel's connection to its most important city. If the media refuses to acknowledge Israel's claims to Jerusalem, people who are informed only by the news will come to doubt it as well.

Don't allow the media to determine Israel's capital. Demand that newspapers and broadcast media refer to Jerusalem as Israel's capital city. It is not enough to call it Israel's seat of government. For Israelis and Jews, the city represents much more than that.

5.3. Watch out for fake or staged photos

With the rise of digital technology, the manipulation of photos from the Middle East has been one of the biggest challenges for organizations seeking fair and honest reporting on the region. Once someone has been exposed to a dramatic image, he or she tends to remember the image, even if it is later proven that the image was either completely false or staged by the photographer to appear a particular way.

Photos altered through photo editing software such as Photoshop are no longer as common as they were during the 2006 Lebanon War, when a Reuters photographer was caught manipulating pictures making Israeli attacks appear worse than they were. But misleading and staged photos continue to appear in the media, even after they have been debunked.



1



2



3



4

Caption includes: "...football fans escape the Gaza Strip's dreary confinement to follow the WC2010 matches which are often interrupted by power cuts."

The most common forms of manipulation tend to fall into four main categories: **1** Deliberate staging; **2** Use of wide-angle lenses and photographer positions to make photos appear more dramatic than the reality; **3** Cropping photos so that vital information is left out; **4** Editorializing in photo captions. Keep a watchful eye for photos or captions that distort the reality in the region. For many people, seeing is believing, and false photos give a false impression of Israel.

ISRAELI-ARAB CONFLICT

Primer to understanding the centuries-old struggle

What can you do to help?

- Buy Israeli products (find them on the web). Support stores that carry Israeli products including Costco, Safeway, Walgreen's, and Trader Joe's.
- Never sign any boycott Israel campaign lists. These are promoted by the anti-Israel and anti-American Far Left organizations.
- Share your views through social media.
- Visit Israel. The country is very safe for tourism despite what the media shows to the world. You will find that it is a peaceful country where Arabs are treated with respect and have the same rights as the Jews. Explore Israel and form your own opinion.

For further reading on the Israeli-Arab conflict we recommend the following sites:

honestreporting.com

jpost.com

timesofisrael.com

standwithus.com

palwatch.org

camera.org

mfa.gov.il

idfblog.com

You can support Israel and purchase Israeli products at:

israelproducts.com

Image credits

Cover

Bullet holes: CC BY-SA flickr/Funky Tee

Hamas green flag rally: CC BY 2.5: Women's Int'l League for Peace and Freedom

Martin Luther King Jr., 1964, Wikimedia Commons/Library of Congress

History

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Second Aliyah Pioneers in Migdal 1912: Wikimedia Commons/public domain

Amin al Husseini and Adolf Hitler: CC BY-SA Bundesarchiv, Bild 146-1987-004-09A / Heinrich Hoffmann

November 1943 al-Husseini Greeting Bosnian Waffen-SS volunteers: CC BY-SA Bundesarchiv, Bild 146-1980-036-05

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Jerusalem

Flag of Jerusalem: CC BY-SA Wikimedia Commons/Jüppsche

Jewish Expulsion from Jerusalem: Wikimedia Commons/public domain

Looting the Jewish Quarter: Wikimedia Commons/public domain

Delegitimization

Al Dura Fake Photo: Wikimedia Commons/fair use

Kiev Jew Killings in Ivangorod 1942: Wikimedia Commons/public domain

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Poster: Apartheid-Abbas, ElderOfZiyon.com and StandWithUs.com

Poster: Divesting/Boycott/Germany/Israel, produced by StandWithUs.com

Hamas, Gaza, and the Gaza War

Gilad Shalit on Hamas Poster, Nablus, May 2007, CC BY flickr/Tom Spender

Posters: George Kara and Mira Awad, ElderOfZiyon.com and StandWithUs.com

NOTE: In this brochure we use the words Muslim and Islam as equivalent. Muslims are the people that follow the religion of Islam.

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This publication is dedicated to the memory of Holocaust survivor **Krystyna Grynglas**