

BIRTH OF ISRAEL/ ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

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ISRAEL BECOMES A STATE

- ◉ The Jews were driven out of Palestine around A.D 135.
- ◉ The global dispersion of Jews then started, which was known as the Diaspora.
- ◉ Zionism was people who favored a Jewish national homeland in Palestine.
- ◉ This resulted in the creation of the Balfour Declaration by British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour.
- ◉ It was the idea of creating a Jewish homeland in Palestine while protecting the “rights of existing non-Jewish communities.”

ISRAEL BECOMES A STATE

- ◉ In 1947, the United Nations General Assembly voted for a partition of Palestine into a Palestinian state and a Jewish state.
- ◉ All of the Islamic countries voted against partition, and the Palestinians rejected it outright.
- ◉ The creation of an independent Israel happened on May 14, 1948.

ISRAEL AND ARAB STATES IN CONFLICT

- The day after Israel became a state, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Syria invaded.
- There was victory for Israel, because of their quick organization and military capability.
- As a result, the Israelis controlled most of Palestine, including the Palestinian parts.
- Egypt took control of the Gaza Strip and Jordan annexed the West Bank.
- Full-scale war broke out in 1956, 1967, and 1973.

THE 1956 SUEZ CRISIS

- ◉ In 1956, Egypt seized control of the Suez Canal.
- ◉ Egyptian president Gamal Abdel Nasser sent in troops to take the canal, which was controlled by British interests.
- ◉ Outraged, the British made an agreement with France and Israel to retake the canal.
- ◉ They won, but pressure forced Israel and the Europeans to withdraw from Egypt.

ARAB-ISRAELI WARS CONTINUE

- ◉ By early 1967 Nasser and his allies, equipped with Soviet tanks and aircraft, felt ready to confront Israel.
- ◉ Convinced that the Arabs were about to attack, the Israelis struck airfields in Egypt, Iran, Jordan, and Syria.
- ◉ Israel defeated the Arab states, in what became known as the Six-Day War.
- ◉ Israel lost 800 troops, while Arab losses exceeded 15,000.
- ◉ Israel gained territory and Palestinians in Jerusalem were given a choice of Israeli or Jordanian citizenship.

ARAB-ISRAELI WARS CONTINUE



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- ◉ Egyptian president Anwar Sadat, planned a join Arab attack on the date of Yom Kippur, the holiest of Jewish holidays.
- ◉ Arab forces inflicted heavy casualties and recaptured some territory lost in 1967.
- ◉ The Israelis launched a counterattack and regained most of the lost territory.
- ◉ The war ended when both sides called truce after several weeks of fighting.

ARAB-ISRAELI WARS CONTINUE



THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION

- ◉ As the wars continued, the Palestinians struggled for recognition.
- ◉ In 1964, Palestinian officials formed the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), to push for the formation of a Palestinian state.
- ◉ In 1969, Yasir Arafat became chairman of the PLO.
- ◉ Throughout the 1960s and 1970s the group carried out numerous attacks against Israel.

THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION

