



84 BC

Romans take control of the independent Kingdom of Judea. The Romans destroy the Jerusalem Temple.



132 AD

Jewish diaspora under Roman Emperor Hadrian – Jews spread out across the world as refugees and migrants. Jews were cast out several times in history.



1099

First Crusaders take Jerusalem and massacre the mostly Muslim inhabitants.



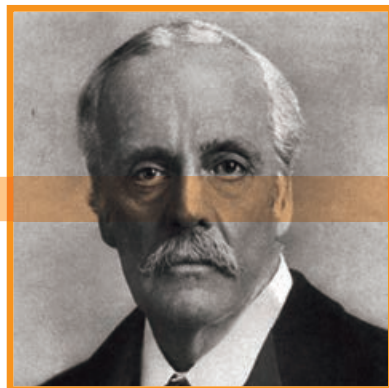
1187

Saladin leads Muslims to victory over Crusaders and retakes Jerusalem.



1512–1918

The powerful Ottoman Empire rules Palestine (ruled from what is now Turkey).



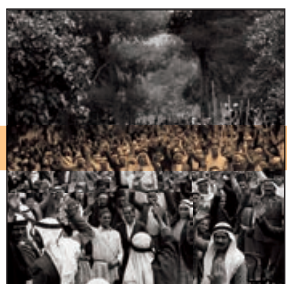
1917

"Balfour Declaration": Britain's Lord Balfour promises a Jewish homeland in Palestine. Meanwhile, Arabs fight alongside the British to free themselves from Ottoman rule.



1920–1948

Having defeated the Ottoman Empire in WWI, Britain controls Palestine under a League of Nations mandate. Jewish migration grows in this time. Arab anti-Jewish riots break out in 1921 in response.



1936

Arab General Strike in opposition to British rule.



1936–1939

Arab Revolt fights the British for a free Arab state, but is defeated.



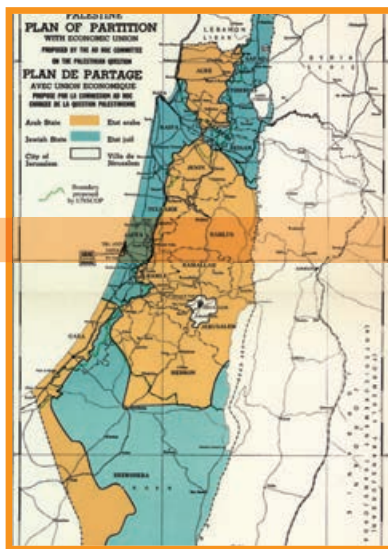
1939–1945

World War II and the Holocaust kill millions, including at least six million Jews in Europe.



1946

The British headquarters at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem is bombed by a Jewish group.



1947

The United Nations tries to partition Palestine into an Arab state and a Jewish state.



1993

Oslo Peace Accords between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation agree path to peace.



1988

Palestine declares independence and is recognised by 50 countries, but not Israel, the USA or Britain. Meanwhile, Women in Black and other peace groups are founded by Israeli women in Jerusalem.



1987–93

First Intifada or "shaking off" uprising by Palestinians opposing Israeli occupation.



1982

Israel invades Lebanon to fight the Palestine Liberation Organisation, which was basing its attacks from there. Palestinian refugees were massacred by Israel's Lebanese allies.



1978

Camp David peace Having fought four wars in thirty years, Egypt and Israel sign a peace deal, which has held since.



1973

The 'Yom Kippur War', named for a Jewish holiday, between Israel and several Arab neighbours causes a global oil crisis.



1967–?

Israeli settlement expansion in West Bank begins and continues today.



1967

'Six-Day War' between Israel and three Arab nations. Israel wins, takes territory from Egypt, Jordan and Syria and begins occupation of East Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza.



1956

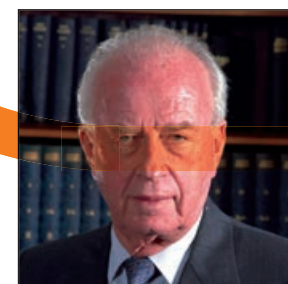
Britain, with support from Israel, fights in Suez War to take control of the important Suez Canal from Egypt.



1948

In one year:

- Britain leaves Palestine
- A war is fought between the new Jewish state of Israel and its Arab neighbours
- It is remembered as the 'Nakba' (catastrophe) by Palestinians and as the War of Independence by Israel
- The state of Israel is created
- 700,000 Palestinians are displaced from their homes.



1995

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who signed the Oslo Peace Accords, is assassinated by a Jewish extremist.



2002

Israel begins building a barrier in and around the West Bank, often called 'the wall'.



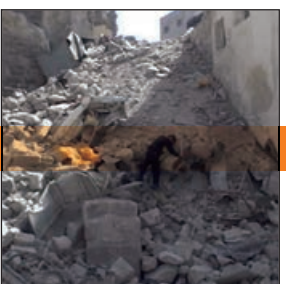
2000–2005

Second Intifada or "shaking off" uprising by Palestinians opposing Israeli occupation.



March 2002

"Passover bombing" during the Second Intifada kills 30 Israelis.



April 2002

Palestinian family of five killed in house demolition.



2002

Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel started by the World Council of Churches to provide human rights monitors in the West Bank.



2005

Israel withdraws its settlements from Gaza, but keeps tight control of the Gaza Strip's land and sea borders.



2006

Hamas, a group that uses violence against Israelis, is elected in Gaza. Israel fights wars against Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon.



2006/08/12/14

Israel continually blockades the Gaza Strip and conducts several bombing campaigns.



2014

Sweden becomes one of 136 countries to recognise Palestine as a nation state.



2017

President Donald Trump changes USA policy, recognising Jerusalem as Israel's capital and relocating the embassy from Tel Aviv. Palestinians who see East Jerusalem as their capital are enraged.



2018

The Great March of Return sees six weeks of largely nonviolent protests by Palestinians in Gaza, protesting the blockade of Palestinian territory and calling for refugees' right to return. 150 Palestinians are killed by Israeli forces.

Important events

1948

The creation of Israel in 1948 was the result of many factors: Zionism, the Holocaust, war, and Britain as the colonial power. It was also seen as a homecoming for the Jewish people, answering what many felt as a historic longing. It was also a violent time as many Arabs resisted the creation of Israel in Palestine during and after British withdrawal.

beyond measure, gathered the remnants of their vitality and the remaining sparks of their humanity, and rebuilt."

Jewish immigration after World War II

Britain still controlled Palestine after World War II. Because of the Holocaust, Jewish immigration from Europe to Palestine grew to new levels. Britain did not welcome the immigration, but could not control it. Jewish fighters attacked British forces in an attempt to force them out.

Zionism

Zionism was a movement that began in the 19th century to create a Jewish homeland. Most wanted this to be in what was then Palestine. Zionists persuaded Britain to support the idea of a Jewish homeland in Palestine during World War I.

In 1917 Britain's Foreign Secretary, Lord Balfour, promised:

"His Majesty's government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

This became known as the Balfour Declaration.

UN Partition: 1947

The United Nations wanted to create two states side by side: one Arab, one Jewish. Britain would give up control. They tried to do this in 1947. The partition deal was rejected by Arab leaders in Palestine who felt they were losing their home, and this led to war.

War of 1948 – Nakba and Independence

Israel remembers this war as the War of Independence, Palestinians as the Nakba (catastrophe).

Even though Arab countries joined the fight, Jewish forces were well prepared and won the war, conquering more land than they had been offered by the United Nations, and the state of Israel was created. 700,000 Palestinians became refugees. Palestinian children still grow up in United Nations refugee camps that were created in 1948. David Ben Gurion, the Jewish fighter who became Israel's first prime minister, said:

"A partial Jewish State is not the end, but only the beginning. ...I am certain that we will not be prevented from settling in the other parts of the country, either by mutual agreement with our Arab neighbors or by some other means."

850,000 Jews migrated, fled or were expelled from Muslim and Arab countries to Israel in the following decades.

The Holocaust (1933–1945)

The Holocaust was the organised murder of six million Jews by Nazi Germany. Disabled people, homosexuals and other ethnic groups were also targeted.

While the persecution of Jews in Europe goes back a lot further, the Holocaust was committed during World War II.

According to Yad Vashem, The World Holocaust Remembrance Center in Jerusalem:

"Most of the Jews of Europe were dead by 1945. A civilization that had flourished for almost 2,000 years was no more. The survivors – one from a town, two from a host – dazed, emaciated, bereaved