

GLOBAL CONFLICTS



PALESTINE



Topic Overview

Table of Contents

History of Israel and Palestine	3
Early history: 1500 BC - 1922 AD	3
Recent history: 1922 - 1979 AD	4
Modern history: 1980 -	5
Major themes	6
Zionism, persecution & nationalism	6
Palestinian resistance, nationalism & martyrs	7
Terrorism & security	7
Settlements	8
Human rights in the conflict	9
Peace	9
Conclusion	11
The people behind Global Conflicts: Palestine	12

Maps

Palestine under British Mandate	3
United Nations Partition Plan (1947) & Armistice Line (1949)	4
Israel/Palestine after 1967 war	5
Projection of the West Bank Final Status at Camp David (2000)	10

ISBN 978-87-991784-3-8
Printed in Denmark 2007

© 2007 Serious Games Interactive ApS, All Rights Reserved.

The truth about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is among the most contested in the world. This quick guide does not attempt to present one objective truth but rather to provide a balanced overview of the conflict in a condensed and accessible form.

The conflict between Israelis and Palestinian has taken place over the last 4000 years in a land area referred to as Israel or Palestine depending on the time period or one’s point of view. During its long history, the size, population and ownership of the area have varied greatly.

History of Israel and Palestine

To some history is a straightforward business that at its core deals with the factual accounts of past events. However, any account of past events involves a certain amount of interpretation. You may downplay some elements and stress others – indeed history is as common a battleground for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as the Sinai Desert. The truth about the conflict is often supported by reference to historical sources. The choice of these references is often informed by a specific purpose, and a critical approach is therefore important to grasp the complexity of the conflict.

History is for example used to support or undermine (depending on ones agenda and viewpoint) the legitimacy of the state of Israel – the same is the case for a future Palestinian state.

Early history: 1500 BC - 1920 AD

The area was first known as the Land of Canaan. At this time several tribes lived in the areas. The Land of Canaan was part of the Egyptian empire until 1500 BC. At this time the 12 Hebrew tribes invaded from Egypt and the Kingdom of David was established, but constantly challenged by invading armies and civil war. Until 640 AD the invading armies included the Babylonian Empire, the Persian Empire, the Macedonian Empire, the Byzantine Empire and the Roman Empire of which several were more or less successful in subduing ancient Israel.

Map: Palestine under British Mandate

The map shows the different agendas present in the divide of the region. You have the entire British mandate consisting of Israel/Palestine and Trans-Jordan. It is clear that the Jews planned homeland extents far beyond the current borders of modern Israel.

Source: Adapted from Sachar, H.M., A History of Israel, New York: Knopf with permission from www.passia.org.

