Standing with Israel today.

Pages 1-8 are included in our study on Eschatology. A detailed analysis begins on page 9.

Questions to think about?

- Why is there so much hatred towards Israel and the Jews?
- Give three reasons why we should stand with Israel today.
- Why does Israel have a right to the land, and a right to defend themselves?

1. The great majority of antisemitism stems from Satan's hatred for Israel.

Revelation 12:1 A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars; 2 and she was with child; and she cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth.

3 Then another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven diadems. 4 And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child.

5 And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne. 6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

- We've studied this passage before. Please explain these verses.

The apostle John gave a summary of the Bible with these words:

> **1 John 3:8 the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. *The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.***

How would you summarize the Bible? What is the central teaching of the Bible?

This is how I would summarize the Bible. *Angels and man rejected the rule of God and brought sin and destruction to this earth. Jesus came to save man and restore the rule of God, which He does through the nation of Israel.*

In the above passage, this is a great sign because this is dealing with the main theme of Scripture. Israel gave us our Messiah, which happened in the midst of great suffering, brought on by the Roman empire.

The second great sign is that the devil seeks to destroy Jesus. This happened at His birth and then at His crucifixion. The devil used the Roman empire to do this, which is part of the seven nations. But Jesus was resurrected and caught up to heaven. The devil then tries to destroy Israel through the nations of the earth, specifically, the future Roman empire, under the control of the antichrist. But the Lord takes care of Israel during the future great tribulation.

These two signs are great signs. They are dealing with the fulfillment of the main theme of Scripture. If Satan can destroy Israel, then he can defeat God's purpose. God will not allow that to happen.

Satan is the dragon. He has always used the nations of the world to persecute and destroy Israel. The seven heads are the seven nations that Satan has used, Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, and Rome of the future. The last of the seven heads is future Rome which is made up of ten nations. This will be the domain of the antichrist. We also see that Satan is more than a man, he is an incredibly powerful and influential angel, who brought down 1/3 of the angels. They also persecute and hate Israel.

- **Satan has always hated Israel and he has used the nations of the world to oppose and destroy them. This is why we have so much antisemitism today.**
- How have you seen antisemitism?

- Do you have any questions?

Let's say it again. The great majority of antisemitism stems from Satan's hatred for Israel.

2. Why should we stand with Israel?

The Jews are not an easy people to love. They are extremely successful. They have persecuted the church; they persecute believers today. They can be arrogant and rude. You sometimes have to love them from a distance. You can find videos on YouTube where you will see Orthodox men and boys, spitting on nuns, spitting on evangelists, doing damage to evangelical churches. This is actually mild compared to what Israel did to the Apostle Paul and the early church. And yet, God loves them, for the sake of the patriarchs. Someday, Israel will love their God. It would be interesting if one of these youths that spits on Christians now, turned out to be one of the 144,000 that are saved during the tribulation. It's just like our God to save those that persecute Him.

So why should we stand with Israel?

1. We stand with Israel because God promises to bless or curse a person according to how they treat the Jews.

Genesis 12:2 And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; 3 And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

- What does this passage teach us about standing with Israel?

- How has God blessed or cursed nations or peoples depending on how they treated Israel?

Isaiah 40:8 "But you, Israel, My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, Descendant of Abraham My friend, 9 You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, And called from its remotest parts And said to you, 'You are My servant, I have chosen you and not rejected you. 10 'Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'

11 "Behold, all those who are angered at you will be shamed and dishonored; Those who contend with you will be as nothing and will perish. 12 "You will seek those who quarrel with you, but will not find them, Those who war with you will be as nothing and non-existent. 13 "For I am the LORD your God, who upholds your right hand, Who says to you, 'Do not fear, I will help you.' 14 "Do not fear, you worm Jacob, you men of Israel; I will help you," declares the LORD, "and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel.

- Please explain these verses.

- This passage is quite sobering. Why might this cause you to stand with Israel?

2. We stand with Israel because God hardened them so that the Gentiles would be saved. They could have been saved, but God wanted to save you and me. This is a time for compassion.

Romans 11:25 For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery—so that you will not be wise in your own estimation—that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; 26 and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB." 27 "THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS."

- Please explain these verses.

- Whenever I see a Jew, I remember that they are the natural branches, and that God hardened Israel so that you and I could be saved.
- Why might this cause you to stand with Israel?

3. We stand with Israel because God loves them; He grieves over them.

Romans 9:1 I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit, 2 that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. 3 For I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh, 4 who are Israelites, to whom belongs the adoption as sons, and the glory and the covenants and the giving of the Law and the temple service and the promises, 5 whose are the fathers, and from whom is the Christ according to the flesh, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

- Please explain these verses.

- What things belong to Israel according to this passage?

- This passage tells us that God loves Israel. Paul is simply reflecting the heart of God when he has such great sorrow and unceasing grief for his countrymen. Do you think that Jesus also loves them? Do you think it grieves His heart? It's good to remember that Jesus is a Jew and that He was sent first to the lost sheep of Israel. In fact, Jesus wouldn't even respond to the Syrophoenician woman until she humbled herself and showed her faith. Do you really want to ignore or oppose His people?

- If Paul grieves over Israel, if God grieves over Israel, then what should our attitude be towards Israel?

4. Salvation is from the Jews. We should be grateful for this.

John 4:22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

- Why might this cause you to stand with Israel?

In a special sense, the Jews are Jesus' people. Our love for Jesus should also extend to His people.

5. They are the future rulers of the world. The whole world will be blessed through Israel.

Romans 11:12 Now if their transgression is riches for the world and their failure is riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment be!

15 For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

- All that God is doing on this planet, revolves around Israel. Please explain these verses.

- Why might this cause you to stand with Israel?

Review: As you've looked over these passages, why do you think that we should stand with Israel?

Here's a thought question. If Jesus were living among us today, what would His attitude be towards modern Israel?

What would it mean to stand with Israel?

3. Why does Israel have a right to the land, and a right to defend themselves?

What's up with Gaza and the war with Israel?

I asked a former military officer to write a defense of Israel. Starting at this point, these are his writings. It's helpful to understand that when he refers to "the Jews", he is referring to the descendants of Jacob. Israelis on the other hand would include people who are not descendants of Jacob. From here on, these are his writings. He also wrote a longer section for those that want to take a deeper look at the history of Israel. You can find it on our website - In Defense of Israel.

I'm not a historian, nor a theologian, and delving into this subject is risky considering all the heated rhetoric. However I had access to the highest classified sources in the early 2000's on this issue and was expected to stay abreast of all the dirty facets of both sides (using open and closed sources). This is my attempt (with Bob's editing and additions) to explain why I believe it's appropriate to take Israel's side (if you bother to get involved in this mess).

I acknowledge we omit sources for many of the facts and claims made here. I just don't want to write to that sort of standard. I don't want to spend a lot of time here making references to books and well researched authors.

I didn't want to spend a lot of time here: because I don't like this subject due to all of the death, destruction, and manipulations. I do wish to remain anonymous.

Antisemitism - the hatred of Satan for Israel.

The Abrahamic covenant, the Davidic covenant, and the New Covenant, were all made with Israel. Satan only has one chance of winning in his war with God, and that is by destroying Israel. By doing this, he stops God from fulfilling His promises (as if it were possible, and Satan could win). Israel is the key to the future of the world, and Satan hates Israel. Is it any wonder that the world also hates Israel? Why is it that during the tribulation, the antichrist will do all that he can to destroy the Jews? It's because Satan hates Israel.

This section has two parts. It has a 2-page *quick overview,* then it has a detailed analysis (*Further Down the Rabbit Hole*), and then an even more detailed analysis *(Even further down the rabbit hole*). I'll try to compress and summarize things in a few paragraphs that entire books have been written about. We'll also be debunking common maps used as propaganda tools.

Honestly, while we stand with Israel, we do it with a sour taste in our mouths as we know the Israelis aren't saintly and free of guilt.

If you decide to stay out of it, we hope you at least support your nation's government supporting Israel, either directly, or by ignoring calls to sanction or boycott Israel.

Israel is the side that's "clearly more right."

4. The shortest answer.

I am convinced that if Israel were to lay down their arms, the Islamists would eagerly wipe them off the map. If the Islamists were to lay down their arms, Israel would be content to let them live in peace. *(This truth should tell you quickly which side to back.)*

"When peace comes, we will perhaps in time be able to forgive the Arabs for killing our sons, but it will be harder for us to forgive them for having forced us to kill their sons. Peace will come when the Arabs will love their children more than they hate us."***— Golda Meir (Former Israeli Prime Minister),*** *A Land of Our Own: An Oral Autobiography*

5. Their right to the land and to defend themselves.

Teachings: These bullet points were written by Bob.

- The land was granted to Israel by God and the United Nations.
- The Palestinians are abusive and cruel, the leaders keep the money which was designated for their people. They do not want peace. They only want the destruction of Israel.
- Because of this, a two-state solution will not work.
- If the Palestinians would lay down their weapons, there would be peace.
- Israel has additional land due to the spoils of war.
- We need to love and pray for both Jews and Arabs.

First of all, let's state it clearly: Israel has the right to exist. **Not only was the land given to them by God, but also Israel was granted independent nation status in the region by the United Nations.**

The problem of Israel today is one of Religion, Politics, Public Opinion (propaganda), Military Might, and Money. But it's not one the Bible hasn't prepared us to understand (historically, biblically, and prophetically). **There is no human solution to the conflict the Arabs have with Israel.** Satan has always sought to destroy Israel, and always will. We should not oppose Israel.

If you go looking for truth in the reporting on this heated matter, you must always remember that the Palestinian plight is orchestrated to garner international sympathy. The mainstream media are willing participants in pedaling Palestinian propaganda. Millions of Palestinians are living in horrible conditions within the borders of modern Israel. **Unfortunately this humanitarian crisis is designed (by Arabs) to garner international support and aid**, while challenging the only modern democracy in the region: Israel.

Billions in humanitarian aid has been given, but instead of using aid to benefit those in need, **this money is primarily redirected to enrich the Palestinians that are in power** (Yasser Arafat was one of the richest rulers in the world; he was worth at least 4 billion at his death). **These "humanitarian" funds are also used to buy weapons, build tunnels, and kill innocent Israelis**. Any balanced view will always keep this in its perspective while feeling for the plight of the Palestinians used as pawns. Unfortunately their plight is leveraged in an attempt to justify the terrorist strikes against Israel. Don't fall for this well-crafted ruse, while maintaining your concern for the plight of the innocent.

It is not right to support terrorists who launch rockets on playgrounds, assault music festivals and massacre the young people attending, burn babies in their cribs, and who willingly use women and children as pawns. The Palestinians elect terrorist leaders (who claim that the blood of innocents is required to further their cause) to run their government. You must remember this too when considering the enormous humanitarian crisis. However, the propagandist will try to equate or justify the killing of innocents by the Palestinian factions as equal to the killing done by Israel. Comparing the collateral damage caused by Israeli counter strikes to the flagrant killing of innocents by the Arabs is wretched. Killing is bad, but these two are not comparable.

To truly consider the Arab Israeli conflict, one will find neither side is fully innocent. The whole thing is ugly. **Innocents have been killed by both sides. One side regrettably kills them as collateral damage to military strikes in defense of its people, and genuinely strives to reduce collateral damage.** The other purposely targets innocent Israelis, and uses its own people as human shields to increase collateral damage. It also sends suicide bombers into busses of Israeli kids, or sends its own children to attack Israeli soldiers with rocks, This is by design: so that when young Palestinians are killed it garners support to their cause. The Arabs are guilty here. (Any major national conflict tends to devolve into individual hate and animosity on both sides. It is exceptional that Israel has remained so peaceable and neutral despite the wrongs done to them.)

The Islamists are barbarians and cruel. They force upon others wretched things in the name of their religion. Consider that supporting them is to support horrible things like Female Genital Mutilation, Sharia Law, and executions of gays, just to name a few of these wretched practices. Whenever Israel pulls out of areas controlled by Palestinians, the Palestinians break out into factional fighting and chaos. This is not the Israeli's fault; it is the way of Islamist Arabs. Why would you fall for the propaganda and support such barbarians?

Considering this, **the base problem is simply hatred.** The Arabs' war with Israel is religious and also cultural. Their stated intention is the death of Israel. **If Israel was to lay down its arms it would be obliterated. If the Arabs were to lay down their arms they could live in peace and prosper alongside the Israelis.** As long as you can keep these fundamental truths in your perspective you may have a chance at an accurate assessment of the conflict.

This concept is alien to us westerners. We live in a stable, safe world compared to the Middle East. **We don't worry about our neighbors crossing the border in a raid and killing our kids.** Neighbors launching rockets that land in a playground and kill our kids is not commonplace here. **We don't have neighbors who've taught their kids to hate us their entire life, and then send them with a suicide vest to blow up our kids at their bus stop.** Our neighbors don't send their sons to stone our police and soldiers, hoping they'll get killed so it can bring bad press. When we try to understand why someone would do that with their kids, we impart our own bias into the matter, and falsely conclude that their enemy must be so vile, so wretched, that they would sacrifice their children to fight them. Our western perspective is skewed, and easily manipulated.

On top of that we always think of ourselves as the "the good guys." Our movies feed us with simple good vs bad narratives. We always desire to see the world in such simple good vs bad, black vs white manners. We see our world through this skewed binary, and ignore the truth that it is a rarity that one side is pure and good, and the other the full embodiment of evil. This is how the Allies vs the Nazis is always portrayed to us. Life is never that simple when we consider both sides are full of broken sinning people. **Supporting Israel is supporting the better side, but it's not supporting 'the good guys.' We have to understand that before we can argue why supporting Israel is the better choice, not because they are good, but because they are an imperfect Judeo western democracy. One that is opposed by barbaric Islamic neighbors. <u>Most of the Palestinian groups are evil personified, ruled by ruthless dictators.</u>**

We always get involved in the plight of others to save them or set them straight. We like to play savior. This is not a good role for us. In trying to play savior, we ignore our own faults and biases. One way we've tried to play savior is to push a "two state solution". The west has pushed this since 1937. It is not a new idea. It is flawed and we shouldn't push it on the region.

A Two state solution will not work: It was offered 12 times. The Palestinians have never accepted it and will not live peaceably with Israel. Any sort of "One state solution" (a thing I've heard recently from Palestinian protesters meaning kill all the Jews and give it all to the Palestinians) is absolutely wrong. The only possible one state solution is to support what we already have in Israel: a vibrant imperfect but functioning democracy. **There is conflict only because the majority of Palestinians don't want peace!**

Moreover, we should support Israel while acknowledging the complex dirty reality of the world we live in. As a Christian it's best to remember that by-in-large, at the time of this writing, Israel is not a Christian Nation, nor is the USA, nor any EU nation. Satan loves all the division, hatred, lies, and killing (especially in God's name). The issues of Israel today need to be considered through a lens that takes these things into account, while realizing there are not any saints in any matter of nation states.

Did the Jews steal the land?

You may have heard that "the Jews stole the land." That is a very small slice of truth morphed into big propaganda: Yes, the Jews have forced Arabs out of lands by winning wars. Israel won control of areas populated by Arabs. These wars were fought more than 50 years ago. **These were wars that the Arabs started.** Yet the Arabs were defeated each time. There must be a cost to starting wars. It is right for the Arabs to feel loss and shame for losing every war. It would be right for the Arabs to learn their lesson. But they refuse. It is wrong for the west to try and give the Israeli's spoils of war back to the Arabs. It is the right of the Israelis to have spoils of war earned by defending themselves. But **it is not right for one to support the Arab's claims that the lands were stolen**. Especially because there has always been a Jewish remnant in Israel. Remember there is a small truth here: and the propagandists hope you are ignorant of true history. Arabs & Turks sold large amounts of land to Jews, prior to the UN forming Israel in 1947. Also, in 1947 the UN granted Israel a bunch of land and autonomy as a nation. Arabs immediately attacked Israel trying to obliterate it, but lost. Remember your western hypocrisy here: the UN land grant and formation of Israel was

backed by the west! Israel has a right to exist and a right to defend itself! **It has a right to the land it took when it retaliated against Arab attacks!**

Supporting Israel is the best solution to the Middle East issues, but it's far from a simple clean matter. Always remember: We don't support Israel because they are religiously pure! They, in general, are not! Neither are western nations! It is only through Christ that we too are spiritual sons of Abraham, and any true son of Abraham is one through Christ!

Galatians 3:6-9 NASB2020

[6] Just as Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness. [7] Therefore, recognize that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham. [8] The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "All the nations will be blessed in you." [9] So then, those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer.

We should love both Jew and Muslim/Arab as we recognize that only through our faith, we too were made spiritual sons of Abraham, but only believers are "true" sons! May both parties come to true faith in Christ and become true sons of Abraham! Keep the politics of the region separated from your faith as you support Israel, the only western democracy in the region!

If you would like a detailed analysis of the history of Israel and the conflict between the Muslim world and Israel, then I would encourage you to download the following article written by the same author. You can find it at www.mentormaterial.com It's called: In defense of Israel.

6. A detailed analysis.

The main problem that makes me feel like I need to get into the weeds on this is to counter western media (which peddles Pro-Palestinian propaganda as "news"). This propaganda is orchestrated to yield sympathy for the Palestinian's plight, get us watching the news, and to get the uninformed to automatically default to a position against Israel. Satan is at work here. Unfortunately it is succeeding: I hear way too much that a 'two nation solution' is needed. Or the Israelis "just need to get out" of the regions they took from the Arabs. These perspectives are uninformed, foolish, and propaganda driven. Many who spout them refuse to listen to counter arguments or consider things from any other position. If you are a Christian, these perspectives are not 'standing with Israel' like our faith commands, nor are they approaching the matter by first seeking to understand it historically, nor biblically.

Let's first try to illustrate a very rudimentary understanding of the mess that the Middle East is. But before we begin, always remember: No matter how messy and convoluted it is, this is not a mystery to our God. He knew every detail of it before he said "Let there be light" and He will turn it to His good end.

Consider some historical facts & important details that underpin the situation.

The land of Israel was promised to Abraham by God. Both Jews and Islamists believe this is true. They just differ on who is Abraham's true heir. As a Christian or Jew it is clear that God promised the inheritance of the land to Isaac (father of the Jews), not Ishmael (father of the Arabs). Genesis 21-23

However the majority of Arabs are convinced that they, as descendants of Ishmael, have the God ordained right to the land. They will not be dissuaded of this notion by anyone. They will not peaceably co-exist with Israel. **Gen 16:12 "He will be a wild donkey of a man, His hand will be against everyone, And everyone's hand will be against him; And he will live to the east of all his brothers."**

Moreover, as Mohamad declared Jerusalem as a holy place for Islam, and many Islamists teach that is where Mohamad ascended to heaven during a vision, they feel that the entire region should be under their control. Even though Israel conquered Jerusalem, the Palestinian Muslims control the temple mount and will not let Jews worship there.

So the core issue is that two peoples, who descended from Abraham, **believe that they have inheritance rights to the land as ordained by God.** Then these people are convinced that Jerusalem is holy and their religion is true and the other is apostasy. Thus you have two people that will not get along, who both believe they have exclusive entitlement, legally and religiously to the same place. Neither will compromise, and both hate each other. There is no "two-nation-solution" that can exist in such an environment!

However in light of this truth, Israeli' control of the region has yielded somewhat of a peaceful coexistence: when Arabs live as citizens inside Israel. Also in the 'occupied west bank' many Arabs live at peace with Israelis in the zones not fully given to the Arabs (per the Oslo accords). Everywhere else where the Arabs rule, the Arabs have massacred the Jews. When the west abandoned its colonial rule of the middle east, Arab rule yielded chaos and violence even amongst Arabs!

Then consider that the last 3000 years of the region's history is full of conquests, empires, and constant changes in language, cultural identity, and ownership. However **only one of these two peoples exist today with the same culture, religion, and language: The Israelites!** (Who are now speaking the original Hebrew language.) It is God's will that the Jews continue as a nation, and occupy the land ordained by Him. It is foretold and will come to pass, whether you support it or not! The Bible says this region will be in turmoil until Jesus brings it lasting peace. Zechariah 12:3 How can you as a Christian not see this and support Israel!?!

The preservation of the Israelites must be revered as miraculous even by those who deny God's hand working here to preserve them! Considering the time alone is miraculous, but it is even more so considering the grave history of the region!

Islam didn't get its start until almost 700 AD. It is a relatively new, false religion based on works, piety, honor, and shame that usurps the Jew's position as God's chosen people. It denies the deity of Christ, and his payment for sin, while trying to put itself above Christ. It is not a religion of peace, but of war, lies, and vicious barbarity. It masquerades under a vale of tolerance and peace, and while some practice this peaceful part of Islam well, there is a sizable portion of Muslims using Islam to conquer, kill and dominate.

Multiple two state solutions have been proposed. The Israelis were willing, the Arabs were not. The Palestinians feel like they should have it all, and won't settle for anything short of pushing the Jews out. The Islamists do not want a two-nation solution: they want to rid the region of Jews by any means! Any claims to the contrary are propaganda meant to sway you to weaken Israel.

You should back Israel: it is the only one willing to compromise a little, and stand up for Judeo, Christian, and Western values. I'm not saying the Israelis are or ever were saints. I'm saying if you are going to get involved, stand with Israel.

There are (and should be) consequences to starting and or losing a war. Arabs have started and lost all of the multiple wars in Palestine. Remember all the wars were started by Arabs, but won by the Israelis. Then in the aftermath of shame and loss, the Arabs cry foul to the UN and play the victim in world politics. You should not fall for their propaganda and support the Arabs: support Israel.

Why a "Two nation solution" and most other proposed solutions are foolish.

I'm convinced that the Islamists and Palestinian Authority are absolutely not interested in peace. They gained power through hate and a fervent devotion to destroy Israel at all costs. These so-called leaders only desire to enrich themselves while pursuing the complete destruction of Israel. They use their own civilians as public opinion weapons while enriching themselves. They have repeatedly demonstrated that they cannot be trusted, and have no true interest in a two-state solution, nor peace. They only use these concepts as a lever to kill Israelis and get rich. How do you make peace with such people?

The Palestinians have rejected every offer to have its own nation, aka 'a two-state solution.' They rejected offers 12 times: 1937, 1947, 1967, 1991, 2000, 2001, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2019, 2020. It's foolish to believe that a 'two state solution' is viable or will ever be accepted by the Arabs.

One only needs to read the various Arab/Islamist/Palestinian players' charters to see their true intent is to kill Jews, destroy Israel, and control the entire region. Pro-Palestinians are typically ignorant of this truth, or attempt to minimize it. The Palestinians in power don't want to compromise nor live in peace with Israel. They indoctrinate their youth from a very young age with this hate.

Regardless of how we got here today: If you were constantly harassed, and your family murdered by a certain adjoining neighbor… how long would you tolerate it before you decided just to wipe them off the map? This is how the Israelis must feel. This is the fuel regularly being added to this biblical family feud. This mutual animosity is also what the Palestinians in control, leverage and use to fuel their people's hatred, while raking in international support and enriching themselves. While restraint (usually displayed by Israel) slows adding to the fire, it also allows the adversary to prepare for their next strike. So the solution here is not simple!

Right now, the IDF (Israeli Defense Force) is too strong to be defeated outright by either Arab armies or terrorist plots. The most peaceful route is to support Israel and let Israel deal with the terrorists and insurgents

with their own heavy hand. Let them integrate the remaining Arabs into their democratic society, or not, as they see fit. We must let Israel draw the lines, build their walls, and respond with overwhelming force when attacked. Anything else just foments more terrorism.

It must be emphasized: For over 40 yrs Israel has been the only belligerent here that has the power to wipe its enemies off of the map. Yet since it gained the upper hand, it has exercised considerable restraint, before unleashing overwhelming force. It's tried to broker peace deals, even when it was clearly dominant militarily. Israel hasn't really wiped anyone off the map though they could. I guess this could be challenged now considering Israel's response to the October 7th 2023 attack from Hamas/Gaza. However, Israel does send out notices ahead of assaults, trying to get innocents to remove themselves from these areas they are about to assault (Hamas blocks these non-combatants from leaving). Bottom line: How long do we expect Israel to just absorb terrorist attacks, and not respond due to fears of the enemy using human shields?

I know how little restraint I'd exercise if the military aged males in the next county over were plotting to launch assaults to indiscriminately kill people in my county. I would respond preemptively, overwhelmingly, and completely! And yes, I do mean "county": that is how small of an area and close proximity we are discussing here. Sometimes the two sides are only separated by a wall, fence, or just a street! Too bad Israel's struggle isn't just within their own borders, but it involves the entire region of Arab nations that surrounds them.

Once attacked, is it wrong to go on the counter offensive, seize lands, and hold strategic objectives? I don't believe so. If you believe holding on to strategic areas is wrong, I doubt you went through any sort of military training. It's a modern flawed western idea that borders are immovable. Especially those arbitrarily drawn by western powers like was done in the Middle East. History is filled with changes in borders, language, cultures, and peoples. Usually via war. If I'm attacked, I would seize every opportunity to take the upper hand, hold the strategic and valuable lands, and move those borders to my benefit. This is how the world works.

I don't believe Israel wants to grow by seizing more land, like many accuse them of doing. Yes, some Israelis settled in or near areas taken in 1967, but as a nation I don't think they really want to fully absorb the Gaza strip nor the entire West Bank. Anyone arguing otherwise would have to ignore all the internal discussions Israelis have had on the matter since before Israel's formation. Because Israel is a western democracy their internal debates and public policies are easily researched and monitored. One cannot say the same for the Arabs.

Of note, Israeli settlements in these areas were ethnically cleansed by the Arabs during the 1948 war. All of the Jews living in the west bank were killed or uprooted by the Arab conquerors in the 1948 war. It is completely understandable that after Israel conquered them in 1967, people wanted to move back to the region. On top of that, while many call it the "west bank" today, it was originally called (and still is by many) Judea & Samaria. The name "Jew" meant "Person from Judea". Judea & Samaria are where Jesus lived and led his earthly ministry. I have a hard time understanding why anyone thinks they are morally superior trying to keep Jews out of Judea. This seems more like the twisted work of Satan to me.

However, regardless of the passionate minority of Israelis who wish to settle in the West Bank, Israel as a nation, is tired of assaults from these regions and do wish to crush this threat. They will no longer just accept rocket attacks and random death from these areas. Historically, since conquering the entire region, after crushing a specific threat Israel usually will back out of a town, and leave it for the Palestinians to rule. Typically the Palestinians start by killing each other in their tribal squabbles, before they rebuild their resistance network. Israel stays out, at least until the Arabs ready another assault. There seems to be no end to this cycle.

The Israelis may continue this pacification tactic, or sometimes they absorb areas due to settlers moving in. It must be noted that since the Oslo Accords in the 1990's the main lines haven't moved in the west bank. Yes, some Israelis have grown into more areas of Hebron, but overall we are talking about neighborhoods, not cities being taken over. **The basic truth here is: Israel just wants to be secure and at peace.** It is not a threat to its neighbors; it's not expanding beyond the West Bank. Israel does have a minority of passionate Jews trying to

buy more land in the areas they can in Judea and Samaria. They have grown and will continue this tactic, and Israel will defend its people.

Bottom line: A two-state solution will not work here. It has been offered by the Israelis and rejected by the Palestinians. It is not desired by either party, but was offered by one (the Israelis) in the name of peace.

When the west dictates borders and rules to Israel, it shows its hypocrisy.

It is hypocritical when western countries oppose Israel's right to hold onto lands that Israel has conquered. We need to consider how Europe was carved up after WWII. Parts of Germany were actually ceded to the USSR in order to appease the Russians. Also consider how Poland was abandoned by the west to become a Soviet puppet state. Prior to the war, Poland was a functional democracy allied with Great Britain & France! The German invasion of their ally (Poland) was the mechanism that caused Britain & France to enter WWII! But post war they gave Poland away to the Soviets, and Poland became a Soviet Socialist puppet. Never forget the Soviets invaded the eastern half of Poland at the same time the Germans invaded the western half! Yet the west was content to hand Poland over to the Soviet Union!

Anyone who wants to dictate terms to Israel must first ignore our own western bias, and past western hypocrisy when they try to push their views on Israel. And in doing so they forget the main thing that should cause any nation to fear aggressive attacks on their neighbors: they could lose the war and lose territory. My point is beyond the fact that Israel has a biblical right to the land: <u>If the potential to lose territory is mitigated, what else is there to dissuade a would-be aggressor?</u> In other words, if someone is considering attacking you, but they don't have to worry about you counter attacking and losing their own territory, what else remains to dissuade them from attacking you? The fact that the Arabs lost territory should not be countered nor 'fixed'. The loss of territory is necessary for them to feel such a sting that they chose to never repeat such aggression.

The fact that Israel occupies Gaza after an unprecedented attack, should not be seen as an illegal takeover. The fact that they are considering annexing it should not be alarming: it is normal when attacked. If you've been absorbing terrorist assaults, when is it OK to take the gloves off and wipe out your enemy? When is it OK to take out an enemy who launches rockets and artillery barrages into your lands? Israel does have a right to defend itself! If you attack someone, either by invasion or launching rockets into their neighborhoods, and you lose, how can you cry that you lost territory to them in their counter attacks? I propose that it is ok to overwhelm and conquer an enemy when they assault you and kill your people.

In my opinion Israel has the right to the land they conquered! While they are not the aggressors, they are frequently the winners! To the victor go the spoils!

It's foolish to get in the middle of the Arab Israeli conflict, but if you must, you should support Israel. We must let Israel remove the cancer so that they can heal and try to live in peace. <u>Standing with Israel is better than standing with terrorists, who do not value human life, who use people as human shields, and who twist the truth for their own benefit</u>.

<u>Anyone making an argument against Israel is over simplifying the situation and also cherry picking their facts. They must ignore the fact that Israel is the only western democracy in the region, and ignore that the Arab/Islamic goal is to wipe out Israel while Israel only wishes to maintain peace.</u> Westerners who are Pro-Palestinian forget to look at what the Islamists stand for. They ignore that the Arabs are so opposed to Israel that they will accept nothing short of their total destruction. They also tend to forget that Islamists support wretched things like Female Genital Mutilation, death to Gays, no women's suffrage, Sharia Law, etc. Why would you stand with them, or perpetuate their propaganda message?

Propaganda & the Media:

The media isn't looking for the truth of the matter. They just want headlines, quick answers, clicks/views, and to sell advertising.

For example, you may have heard that the Israelis have been conducting ethnic cleansing against the Palestinians. Consider that the population of the Gaza Strip has grown from under a million to 6 million. The use of such dramatic language like "ethnic cleansing" & apartheid is not appropriate! Within Israel, Israeli Arabs have their own political parties, they have judges and fair and equal representation in the courts. If an Arab Israeli goes to an Arab language school rather than an Israeli school, it's by their own choice! Calling what we see in Israel "Apartheid" or "Ethnic Cleansing" is insulting to those who actually suffer such things. There is a lot more going on here than the hyperbole lets on.

The Western Media's Culpability

The western media foments the Palestinian terrorism by focusing their reporting on the horrible images the terrorists give them, like dead children or innocent civilians. More often than not these deaths are caused when the Arabs assault IDF soldiers, or use their own people as human shields. The media is complicit in not looking for the truth. They spread the cover up of the truth behind Arafat's origin, the blood on his hands, the corruption that enriched him, and even his true private life and cause of death. They are continuing down this path with the current Palestinian groups like Hamas. This just spreads more lies focused on hurting Israel. The media's focus is not truth, it is profit.

The Western Media's culpability is highlighted and demonstrated by how they ignore the blatant anti-western ideals of these Islamists. Moreover it must be noted that the media fails to acknowledge and value:

- 1 - Modern day Israel is the only functioning democracy in the region. Israel uses a multiparty parliamentary system of government more similar to EU nations than the US. Their parliament is called the "Knesset".
- 2 - Although Modern Israel was founded by Jews, not all Israelis are Jewish. This applies ethnically and religiously. Moreover, people of all ethnicities and religions are protected and participate in the Israeli government (Jews, Arabs/Islamists, Christians, & atheists). While the majority is Jewish ethnically, they are all broken into multiple varieties of religious and political views. This variety is reflected in the large number of political parties that have to unite to form a unity government. The Arabs & Muslim Israeli citizens have their own parties too, along with a proportional voice. Together with all the Arab and/or Muslim parties, these constitute about 25% of the seats in the parliament! There are currently many Arabs and other peoples living in Israel, in peace. There are Arab judges and Arabs in the parliament. **Show me any Arab nation that can claim the same with Jews!**
- 3 - On top of freedom of religion, Israel is the only nation that has other typical modern western values like: freedom of speech, a right to self-defense, the right of property and privacy, a right to redress grievances against their government, etc. While the majority are Jews, and Hebrew is the official language, Arabic is a recognized language for doing government work. All minorities are entitled to public schools in their native tongue. They have the right to seek redress of grievances in the courts, and the courts actually tend to default to supporting the Arabs. No other nation in the region can legitimately claim the same concerning rights of people, especially non-Arab Muslims. Israeli Arabs voluntarily serve in the IDF because they recognize that Israel is the only nation in the region that gives these rights to Arabs!
- 4 - While this may challenge your Christian ideals: Israel has gay bars and a diverse western nightlife (alcohol, music festivals, night clubs, etc.). Israel is essentially the only place in the entire region where homosexuality is not punishable by death! It's not hard to find press articles about the life of Arab gays in Israel, and it's not hard to note that they are mostly afraid of how their (Arab) family will react if they come out! You won't find articles like this in any Islamic nation: because gays would typically be put to death!

Prostitution was also legal in Israel until 2018! It is a common western value to tolerate how adults choose to live, and what they choose to believe, so long as it doesn't affect innocents. You will only find these western values in Israel. Remember to love the sinner while hating the sin! This is a western value!

- 5 - Israel has the best public infrastructure in the region. They had the first nuclear power plant in the Middle East! They're rumored to have nuclear weapons, but have never used them. They produce more food and have industry greater than their small size would suggest. Israel is the only nation with not only western values, but also western levels of quality of life, medicine, quality of products produced, and a vibrant western style economy where anyone can succeed.

You too should support Israel!

Can't you see that Israel is the only hope for democracy and human decency in the Middle east? As such it is the center of a struggle between two sects of Islam. These Muslim factions are preventing a peaceful solution. There are massive forces of propaganda at play here, trying to manipulate you. I believe Satan is at work here and delighting in the deception.

The simple truth is, if the Muslims & Palestinians sought and kept peace with Israel: Saudi power would increase and Iranian influence would decrease. The explanation of this truth is farther down in the details of this defense of Israel. However for now, I hope you can push the "I believe" button and keep reading. The point is the Saudi/Sunni vs Iran/Shia conflict affects Israel's chances for peace, and Iran needs the Arabs to be at war with Israel in order to increase its influence. Thus, all of the most recent troubles Israel has, will have Iran at its origins. Iran is why Hamas felt emboldened to strike out on Oct 7th 2023.

But beyond what I have to say, there are more and more Palestinians, who while not Christians nor Jews, are taking a stance similar to mine. I suggest that you listen to Mosab Hassan Yousef (son of one of the founders of Hamas), Sophia Salma Shramko, and Lucy Aharish.

If you are going to get involved, support Israel, and pray for Israel's peace!

Map of Modern Israel


ISRAEL יִשְׂרָאֵל
National capital
District (meḥoz) centre
City, town
Airport
International boundary
Boundary of former Palestine Mandate
Armistice Demarcation Line
District (meḥoz) boundary
Main road
Secondary road
Railroad
Oil pipeline
LEBANON
SYRIA
JORDAN
EGYPT
SAUDI ARABIA
GAZA
WEST BANK
GOLAN
UNIFIL
UNDOF
Damascus
Amman
Tyre
Qiryat Shemona
Al Qunayţirah
Nahariya
Acre
Haifa
Lake Tiberias
Tiberias
Nazareth
'Afula
Dar'a
As Suwayda'
Irbid
Buşrá ash Shām
Al Mafraq
Jarash
Az Zarqā'
Ḥadera
Netanya
Ţūlkarm
Nābulus
Herzliya
Tel Aviv-Yafo
Bat Yam
Rām Allāh
Ramla
Jericho
Ashdod
Jerusalem
Ashkelon
Bethlehem
Mādabā
Kiryat Gat
Hebron
Dead Sea
Gaza
Khān Yūnis
Beersheba
Al Arīsh
Dimona
Aş Şāfī
Al Qaţrānah
Ak Karak
Bi'r Lahfān
Abū 'Ujaylah
'Ayn al Quşaymah
NEGEV
Mitzpe Ramon
Al Jafr
Ma'ān
Ra's an Naqb
Al Kuntillah
Yotvata
An Nakhl
Ţābā
Eilat
Al 'Aqabah
Gulf of Aqaba
Jordan River
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
SINAI
Districts of Israel
1 Northern District
2 Haifa District
3 Central District
4 Tel Aviv District
5 Jerusalem District
6 Southern District
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 km
0 10 20 30 40 mi
© Nations Online Project

Map Credit: Nations Online Project

The Historical roots of the conflict.

To understand where we are today, we must first realize the history of the matter, understand that it is a mess, and few characters in it were saints. To get even the most basic understanding we must build on some simple principles and oversimplify history.

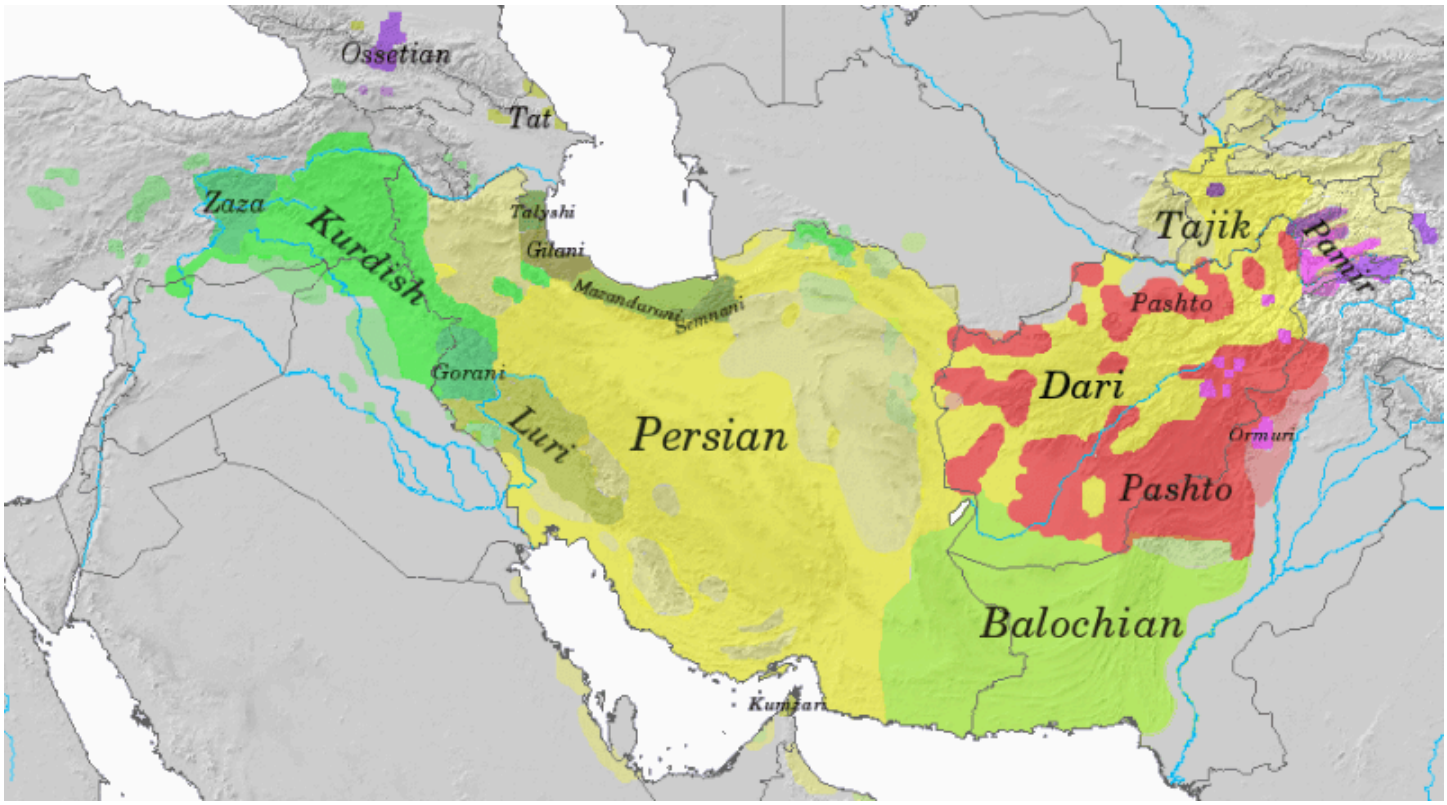
First the people: the Middle East is populated by many different ethnic and religious groups. Outside of the Jewish minority, the two main ethnic/language groups are Arabs and Persians (both of these groups are predominantly Muslim):

Arabs: reside from North Africa eastward all the way to Iraq and the Arabian Peninsula. (Arabs speak Arabic). The people labeled as “Palestinians” are an Arabic tribe.

Maps of Israel and its Arab neighbors.



The green above are all the countries in the Arab League. Note Israel is tiny and surrounded.



The map above shows non-Arab peoples **around and inside Iran**. Persians (aka Iranians who speak Persian/Farsi) reside mostly in Iran with a wider influence outside Iran (seen as yellow above).

Let's start 3000 years ago, with an oversimplified history lesson:

During the reigns of King Saul, David, Soloman the Land of Israel was a sovereign theocratic Jewish state 3,000 years ago (~1,000 BC). Of the states and civilizations of that time, all but Israel have perished. Phoenicians, Hittites, Assyrians, Babylonians, etc. are all gone. Today's Egyptians are Arabs; they are not culturally, linguistically, ethnically, genetically, nor religiously the same as the ancient Egyptians. Only Israel is still populated by the same people, with the same culture, language, and religion.

The Northern tribes of Israel were conquered by Assyria (722 BC) and removed from the land. Later the tribe of **Judah was conquered by Babylon (586 BC)** and removed from the land. These two conquests essentially removed all but a very small Jewish remnant from the Land of Israel.

In 538 BC, after the Babylonian exile, the **Jews were returned to the land by decree of Cyrus** the Great (a Persian emperor who defeated the Babylonians). He gave them a commission to rebuild the Temple. Artaxerxes II gave them a commission to rebuild the wall and the city in 444 BC.

About 400 years later, many Jews were slaughtered by the **Romans** during their **conquest** and rule of the region. Many others were sold into slavery. Just like the prophecy in Daniel foretold, this is the time frame that Jesus Christ (the Messiah) was born, led his ministry, and died on the cross. Then also as Christ & Daniel foretold the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the temple. And then later, about a century and half after first conquering the region, the Romans finally **scattered the Jews throughout their empire** (due to the trouble they had ruling them). After this **Rome renamed the region Siria Palestina** to rid the region of even the name Judea (they traded it for the name of the Philistines the Jews conquered in order to spite the Jews).

Even so, throughout the centuries, there have always been a small remnant of Jews living in the land, they lived with their Jewish customs, separate, yet among those who ruled them.

There cannot be an understanding of the conflicts in the land of Israel of the last 1700 years without at least a basic understanding of Islam's origin, teachings, sects, etc.

Muslims believe that Islam's origin begins more than 500 years after the Jews were expelled from the region by the Romans (around 690 AD). During Mohamad's life, the Land of Israel was controlled by the Byzantine Empire. At that time the Byzantine Empire (the successor of the Eastern Roman Empire) was in conflict with the Persian Empire (Persia lay in modern day Iran). The vast majority of peoples living in the region were descendants of Ishmael and the progenitors of today's Arabs. These people had multiple gods, idols, and pagan religions. Their customs could vary a great bit by what tribe they were part of.

Muslims teach that Mohamad believed in one God (monotheist), claiming his God (Allah) was the same God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (the Jewish & Christian God). Mohamad taught that the Jews had twisted the truth away, and had usurped the Arabs' right to inherit the land of Israel, and that Allah had revealed the truth to him via Gabriel. Islam grew through conquest. Wars were waged against the idolaters and other polytheists. Mohamad united multiple tribes into one people, who we know as Arabs. These Islamists vacillated between tolerating and pitying the Jewish remnant because Jews & Christians were Allah's worshipers who'd been led astray, to violently enslaving or converting them by the sword.

Mohamad's teachings/recitations were not recorded by writing them down while he was alive. They were to be recited: Koran basically means "recitations". Muslim history teaches that the first Koran was not written down until 20 years after Mohamad's death. This drafting of the Koran instead of memorizing it, was directed by a Calif (leader of a Caliphate). But this first writing of the Koran was destroyed by a later calif who declared he was correcting it. Thus, the Koran we have was established after the wars of the various sects of Islam ended. The victorious Calif established what was the "true" Koran. The losers' versions of the Koran were lost or destroyed: the Koran that exists today is the victor's version. Prior, there were at least 6 other versions of the Koran that were obliterated through these wars. Though recently scholars seem to have unearthed different 1000-year-old versions that are now quite controversial. Studying them has revealed multiple polemic issues with Islam. I refer to these empire building wars as the "Koranic Wars, because to me their significant net result was one version of the Koran and a single large unified caliphate, proclaiming the Victor's version of Islam. If you research independently, you will find these wars attributed to different Califs and different names. But to me, their importance was that they created modern Islam. They are the root of the modern prolific stance repeated (falsely) today: that there is only one true Koran. Christians believe that any version of the Koran is false and heretical.

Modern Islam makes many claims that are not backed up by evidence or original sources. There is no written record of who Mohamad was, or what exactly he taught (beside the Koran), until over 200 years after his death. Again there is zero manuscript evidence of any Islamic document (beside the Koran) earlier than 200 years after Mohamed's death. If Mohamad was so great, why is it that we don't have any eyewitness drafting any early accounts of his life? The accounts that came 200 years after Mohamad are attributed to supposed eyewitnesses, but none of them have any early manuscript evidence! They were all written 200 years after he died! They claim to be based on earlier works, but there is zero evidence to corroborate this!

The accounts of the life, recollection of the sayings of Mohamad are called "Hadith" & "Sira" by Muslims. One of the Siras Muslims covet as the greatest insight into the life of Mohamad was a fabrication by a German researcher who pieced it together from others works, he found in German archives in the 1800s! (Sira ibn Hisham) On top of the lack of early manuscript evidence, there is evidence that supports that Mohamed and the Koran were made up by califs as a means to use religion for empire building. Islam is false and you should not regard it as anything else.

There are some major issues with early Islam that we need to emphasize. A preponderance of archeological excavations do not show mosques were oriented towards Mecca in the time before the hadiths. Even the Dome of the Rock (built on the temple mount in Jerusalem about 100 years after Mohamed died), one of the oldest Islamic buildings to survive to today, does not have a defined orientation to have prayer facing Mecca. This is glaringly inconsistent with Muslim traditions of orienting mosques so prayer faces mecca. Coins from the time of Mohamed's life and just after seem to conflict with the official Muslim narrative of his life. There is no corroborating evidence archeologically that supports the historicity claims of modern Islam.

The earliest versions of Arabic (like Hebrew) omitted vowels. They were added later. It is more probable that the name Mohamad is mispronounced, and is actually a title meaning "anointed one". This same title was used by Arabs and Jews to refer to someone who was anointed by God. It's a title passed on to different people through generations. Thus, it is probable that there was never anyone named Mohamad who resembled what modern Islam ascribes today. The true answer seems that at best, there may have been a person called by those who practiced early Islam to be "the anointed one", but not a man named "Mohamad" who was a great prophet.

There is more evidence against Islam that I won't get into here: Muslims do not like to be confronted with these polemic truths. They murder people who say such things.

These issues are vastly different from what we have in Judaism and Christianity. Our accounts are much older, and typically written by the eyewitnesses or prophets' hands, then meticulously copied during millennia. The Biblical record is consistent through time and backed up by archeology. The main thing here is that we as Christians know that Muslims have believed a lie. Muslims violently oppose the evidence it is a lie, and that they have been led astray. Even trying to generate critical thought here generates Islamic violent oppression. Satan is at work here.

Regardless, whatever Islam really was during the six and seventh century, it no doubt grew primarily by the sword: capturing cities and towns and converting people to Islam or killing them. This gave rise to the Caliphates, the Mamluks, and eventually the Ottoman Empire ruling the Land of Israel.

Notably the Persians were eventually conquered by an Arab caliphate, converted to Islam, but essentially kept their language and separate culture. Many modern Islamists look to this time (when the caliphates ruled the entire Middle East and west into Spain) as an Islamic golden era and believe they are destined to restore to the region a great new caliphate.

Muslim tradition teaches that just before Mohamad died (after being sick for four years from a poison stew a conquered Jewess fed him), he asked for a pen and paper. Shia Muslims believe that he was going to nominate Ali as his successor, but was blocked by the faction that became the Sunni's. The Sunni's believe he intended something else. Either way, both sects agree that Mohamad died before writing anything. No successor was decreed by Mohamad. This was the beginning of the Shia/Sunni split.

These two sects truly only agree on revering the Koran and hating Jews. They each have different "Hadiths" (**the accounts, traditions, and rules that were written down hundreds of years after Mohamad's death**). **These writings contain additional recountings of the life of Mohamad, and further explanations of what is found in the Koran.** The Koran doesn't fully tell one how to walk, talk, eat, and sleep. That comes from hadiths. Suni are typically skeptical of any Hadith, have few if any they revere. Many Sunnis usually only revere the Koran. Sunnis definitely don't agree with the Hadith that the Shia hold as holy and authoritative. These give the two sects somewhat differing laws and practices due to their differing interpretations and acceptance or rejection of Hadiths. (Hadiths are an interpretation of the Koran written later on.)

Thus, there are two main sects of Islam: Sunni and Shia, they tend to be united only by their hatred of Israel/Jews. The main power brokers/holy leaders to the Shia are the Ayatollahs of Iran (the Ayatollahs claim to

be descendants of Mohamad). Most Arabs are Sunni and they control the holiest place of Islam (the Mosque in Mecca).

The Arab/Persian Islamic World Today

While **most Arabs are Sunni**, there are large populations of Shia Arabs in Southern Iraq (who at the moment are in control of the Iraqi government). There is also a substantial group of Shia Arabs in Yemen (called Houthis and control large portions of Yemen in rebellion against Yemen's Saudi backed Sunni government). There is a pocket of Shia Arabs in Lebanon; Hezbollah is a terrorist group composed of these Lebanese Shias.

Shia typically fanatically bind Islam and government into varying degrees of theocracies. Most Sunni King's still have lots of Islam in their laws, but there is a bit more separation… unless their countries get away from them and go full fundamentalist and implement Sharia Law. The current Arab Kings/rulers in these countries don't want Sharia law as it diminishes their power and riches and empowers their imams.

All Arab Shia governments are influenced or controlled by Iran. Iraq is currently controlled by its Shia population. During the US occupation of Iraq, it attempted to prop up a government run by the Suni minority to insulate against Iranian influence, but it failed. Iraq is now influenced by and aligns itself with Iran. All Shia terrorist organizations are funded by Iran, and should be regarded as nothing but Iranian puppets.

In most of the Arabian Peninsula, the common man is extremely poor and the elite are extremely rich. There isn't much of a middle class in the Arabian Peninsula. Those who would compose a middle class in Arabian Peninsula nations tend to be brought in from other countries (India, the far east, and western nations). One tool the Saudi royalty employs to maintain control is allowing their Sunni imams to portray Israel and the US as the villains responsible for all their subjects' problems. This reduces criticism of their government. But they concurrently ally themselves militarily with the US against Iran. Thus the Saudi military is equipped and trained by the US, and the US frequently has temporary bases there (essentially permanently). But the local imams foment hate of the US and the west amongst the poor residents of these Arabian Peninsula nations. Thus Saudis should not be regarded as a good ally, nor do they like it when the US gets closer to Israel. However, most of all, the Saudis hate Iran.

There are two Arab royal dynasties to pay attention to. We already discussed the Saudi's, the other is the Hashemites. Islamic tradition teaches that the Hashemite dynasty is descended from Mohamad's grandson and Mohamad's uncle (who became Mohamad's adoptive father). Yes, they teach one of Mohamad's daughters, married a descendant of Mohamad's uncle (and adoptive father) and teach that the Hashemites descend from that line. The Hashemites have historically controlled the holy sites in the Land of Israel and the Arabian peninsula. The Hashemites continued to hold control of a high number of holy sites in Israel and the west bank until the 1967 Six Day War.

The Saudi's currently control Saudi Arabia, they don't have these claims of Mohamad's lineage, but defeated the Hashemite ruler of Hejaz (Hejaz is where Mecca and Medina lie) and took control of it away from the Hashemites in 1925. It's been under Saudi rule since this defeat.

So Sunnis via Saudi or Hashemite rulers have controlled access to Mecca & Medina for a very long time. Every Muslim is supposed to make a pilgrimage to Mecca. The pilgrimage (called 'The Hadj') is a source of control and income for today's Saudis because they control access to Mecca. The Saudi royalty in general is not very Islamic, but will use the religion to maintain control and grow their influence. This is somewhat true of all the other Sunni Kings/rulers in the Arabian Peninsula: they must seem Islamic to their people to maintain control, but are privately not too concerned about religion.

It is a common and accepted Muslim war tactic to sue for peace while sincerely plotting to rebuild, reequip, and attack your enemy. For a Muslim, it is ok to lie, deceive, and make false promises of lasting peace to your enemy until you can get the upper hand, and then slaughter him. Anything but total domination is weakness, if your enemy lets you have peace without totally destroying you, they are weak and you should take advantage of it.

The Christian crusades came about 500 years after Islam was established in the region. The crusades bolstered the Christian remnant that resided in the region since the first century AD. Despite the existence of Christian minority factions (of multiple races/cultures) within Lebanon, Syria, and the land of Israel, the Christians have played a relatively minor part in this history since the crusades, as they've always been a minority at large and only controlled pockets of the region. Though many like to confuse modern Christians by bringing up the atrocities committed by "Christians" during the crusades, us Christians really haven't influenced the history of the region.

The Byzantine empire ruled Palestine after the Romans. During Byzantine rule, what I'll call 'The Koranic wars' (the wars that established the Koran as we have it today and grew the influence of Islam) occurred and led to the subsequent Caliphates. Various Islamic caliphates ruled all the way west to North Africa and up into Spain until the 1400's. The caliphates withered and were replaced by mamluks for a short period. The Mamluks were replaced by the Ottoman Empire. The Ottoman Empire ruled the area until the end of WWI (when it was split between France and Britain). These post Roman empires shaped the borders, language, and religion of the non-Jews who lived in Palestine.

Yet there always remained a small Jewish remnant in the land, while the Arabs & Persians fragmented into smaller clans that longed for the return of the great caliphate. The region was never called Palestine, nor was there ever a Palestinian government here. There are no Palestinian coins nor language. The name Syria Palestina was just what the Romans called the region after expelling the Jews around 122AD.

Summary of Islam, Arabs & Persians:

The Shia vs Sunni and Arab vs Persian conflict goes back over 1400 years. Even when a region is all Sunni, internal conflicts rise up. They stem from tribal differences and honor violations of the past. Islam is never truly at peace, though the word's etymology is something like: Peace through surrendering yourself to God. The 'peace' of Islam, like the entire religion, is a lie.

Iran and the kingdom of Saudi Arabia (most other Sunni Arabs follow the Saudi's lead) are locked in a constant battle for control of the Middle East. No event in the region can be properly considered without understanding how it relates to the Saudi/Sunni vs the Iran/Shia power struggle. Usually there is one or the other behind every strike or crisis in the region.

An Islamist's true loyalties are to themselves, but their culture forces them to act publicly in a manner accepted by their religion and their culture (which both are very different from western cultures/religions). They can be extremely pious and outwardly peaceful, then instantly cruel, unmerciful, and barbaric. They see tolerance and forgiveness as a weakness they can exploit. Most of all you cannot trust them to honor peace deals. Especially when they make deals as the defeated party. They act and think in ways us westerners truly cannot comprehend.

Islam and Jerusalem

Islamic tradition teaches Mohamad first taught Jerusalem was the holiest place, then changed it to his home town of Mecca, subordinating Jerusalem to Mecca and also Medina (another place that Mohamad lived). This

makes all three holy to Muslims. Thus the Islamists desire to hold and control Jerusalem and the Temple Mount (which has the Al-Aqsa mosque) as a holy place.

The Islamists even feel that all the land around Jerusalem was ordained by Allah as theirs. They are not willing to share nor compromise. They wish to treat Jerusalem like Mecca: non-Muslims are not allowed to even drive through Mecca, much less visit or control mecca. Jewish *control* of Jerusalem is intolerable to Muslims. This is especially noteworthy considering the Israelis still allow Muslims to restrict Jewish entry to the Temple Mount in order to promote peace.

However when the Islamists have held both Jerusalem and Mecca, you will find that they let Jerusalem falter while focusing on Mecca. They also would use the Christian and Jewish reverence for Jerusalem and the Land of Israel for financial gain and control. For instance, the burial place of Abraham (in Hebron) is holy to both Jew & Islamists, was historically controlled by Muslims, but allowed Jews to visit the outside of the building encompassing the tomb for a fee. Jews could go no further than the 7th step of the entry. The Jews were allowed only at the foundation wall of the Temple mount to pray there, but also only after paying a fee. Only Muslims could go up to the mount, and enter the Al-Aqsa mosque freely.

Jewish control is more even handed than Arab control.

In the most recent past, the Muslims began allowing small controlled groups of Jews to go to the top of the mount (after paying a fee), but they are not allowed to pray (or they are beaten by their armed Arab escorts). The Jews are not allowed too close to the dome of the rock (which covers the altar where Abraham was going to offer Isaac). Nor are the silent Jews allowed near the Al-Aqsa mosque. However this is a very recent relaxation of the Muslim restrictions on Jews. Contrast this with Abraham's tomb in Hebron. It's controlled by the Jews: it currently allows both access without any fees, but segregates them into two sides separated by bullet proof glass and bars. It also has days reserved only for Jews and others for Muslims. The Jews cooperate with the Arabs and coordinate access.

The point here is that before the Israelis gained control of these areas the Arabs dominated and exploited the Jews. The Arabs exploited their dominance by extracting fees from Jews! But now Israel controls these areas, and in the name of peace, allows the Muslims to dominate the temple mount. In some places (like Abraham's tomb in Hebron) the Israelis have forced equitable gentle sharing. This is not apartheid. This is not colonialism. This is not military domination of a civilian populace. It is an amazing sharing and compromise between two stubborn stiff-necked peoples.

Summary of the Islamist vs Israel conflict

Remember when the Jews were expelled by the Romans in 122AD, Muslims did not exist! They came about 500 years after the Romans removed the JEWS. Muslims built their grasp on the region through war. They believe that the Land of Israel is holy and ordained to them, but when they controlled Jerusalem and Mecca, they promoted Mecca and used Jerusalem for gain and control of the Jewish remnant (while enriching themselves) .

There are two main peoples opposing Israel: Arabs & Persians. There are two main sects of Islam (Sunni & Shia). These two people and the two sects don't like each other. Moreover, the various tribes of Arabs don't like each other. The Muslims sects are not broken down across racial lines nor lines of sovereignty. This further complicates relations in the region. All these people would otherwise be fighting each other due to their racial & cultural divides on top of sectarianism.

You cannot understand what is happening in the Middle East without seeing it through the perspective of Arab vs Persian, Sunni vs Shia, Saudi's vs Iran, Islamists against Jews, Modern Western culture vs barbaric tribal Islamists. Moreover, you must understand that all these circles have overlaps and fuzzy edges! It is an incomprehensible mess to our simple western minds!

Also it should be abundantly clear to any Christian that Islam is a false religion, supposedly based on the ramblings of one man, that weren't even written down while he was alive. All copies of what he taught were destroyed, except for the victor's version. Islamists violently block polemic research into Islam, and are uninterested in knowing anything other than what they proclaim. Islam usurps many Judeo-Christian concepts, holy places, and attempts to place itself above Christianity and Judaism.

Islam pretends to be a religion of peace; however it condones wretched things like killing in God's name, sacrificing yourself for God, earning your way to heaven through living a pious life or dying for a righteous cause. Islamists, treat women like property, and practice strange abhorrent practices like taking women who are conquered in war as sex slaves (even while their husbands are alive), Female Genital Mutilation in the name of promoting marital fidelity, killing homosexuals, etc.

Islam at its core, is incompatible with Judeo-Christian values. Muslims kill westerners who draw pictures of Mohamad. They celebrated the 911 attacks. They believe that Spain, Italy, and Greece are theirs to retake and re-conquer. Never forget these things when you consider supporting them.

How did Modern Israel come out of this? The birth of Zionism culminates with Modern Israel.

The Jews that were dispersed throughout the former Roman Empire, largely lived as a separate society. They preserved their language, culture, and religion to a miraculous degree. They were easily made scapegoats and persecuted in Europe, Russia, & Africa throughout the centuries. Sometimes Jews were not allowed to have public office or government powers, but this did vary by time and location. In the 1800's, Zionism was born of this persecution. **Zionism was simply the desire for Jewish liberation: self-governance in their ancestral land.**

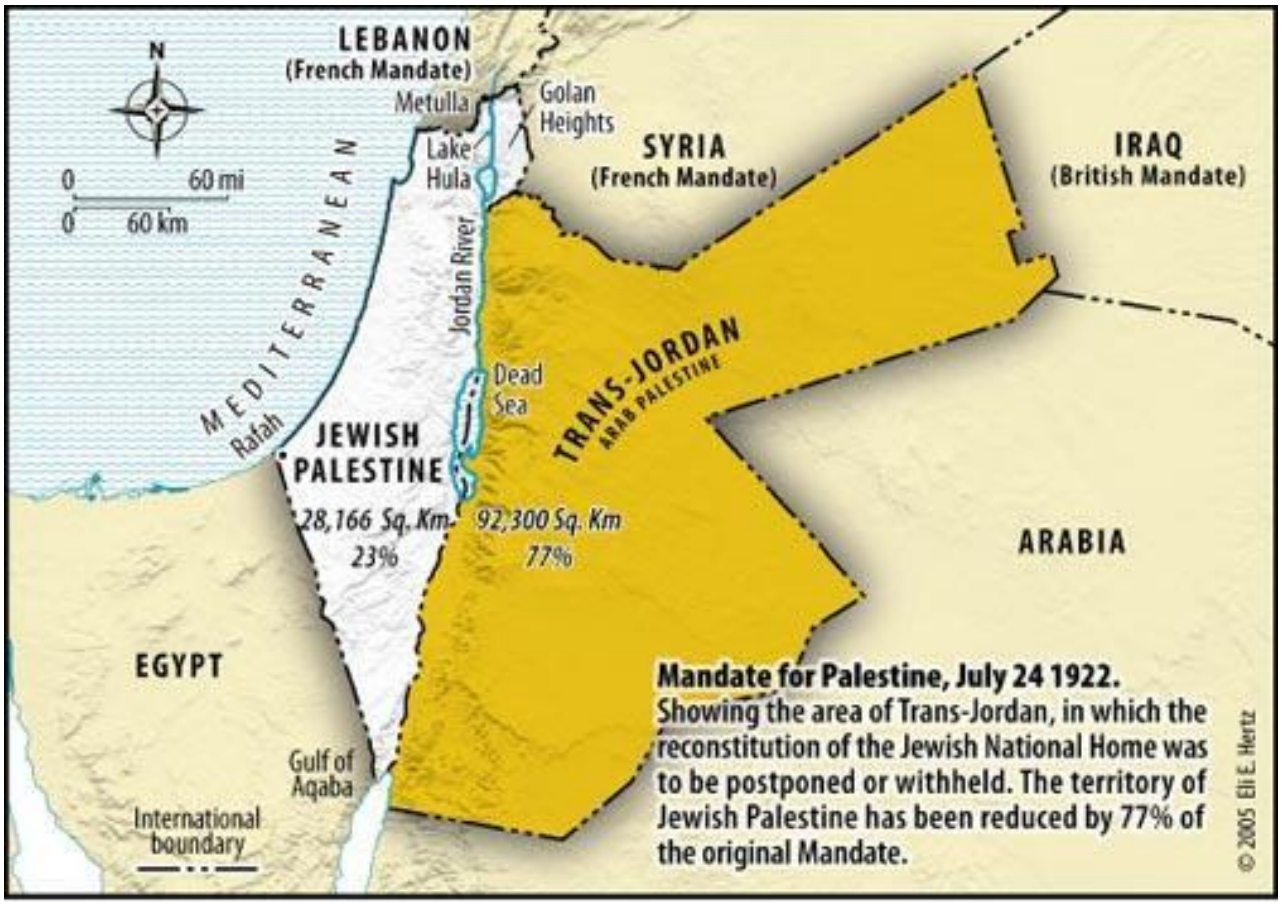
A series of pogroms against Jews in Eastern Europe & Russia during the late 1800's and continuing into the early 1900's caused Jews to flee. While they largely went to Western Europe & North America, some also fled to "Palestine" (while under the control of the Ottoman Empire at this time it was not called 'Palestine'). Other Jews returned to Israel from other lands like North Africa. To this end they began to legally purchase land from absent landowners, such as Turks (Ottomans), Christians, and Arabs. They reunited with the remnant of Jews that remained in Israel. They farmed the land and developed an educational system, as well as industry. At first these Jewish settlements were terrible places to live. It was mostly desert and extremely difficult to cultivate. Where there was water: malaria was common due to mosquito infested swamps. The Jews started cooperative works in colonies and they transformed their land. Thus Jews nearly rid their lands of malaria, and transformed it into the productive agricultural system it is today.

Around 1850 AD more Jews lived in western Jerusalem than Arabs **(that's not a typo: by approximately 1850 AD western Jerusalem was majority Jewish)!** There was a thriving Jewish enclave in western Jerusalem that was surrounded and dominated by Arabs. The Hashemites controlled access to the holy sites, and monetized the system used to allow the Jews to visit the western wall and pray. This was business as much as it was religion for the Arabs. The Jews were only allowed access to the west wall of the temple mount (after paying a daily fee to the Arabs). The Jews were not allowed on the Temple mount itself. This was enough that the Jewish population of Jerusalem concentrated in the western part of the city.

After WWI, the predecessor of the UN, the League of Nations granted Britain control of the region called the "Mandate for Palestine." This region included what was then called Jewish Palestine, and Trans Jordan (which many defaulted to thinking of as "Arab-Palestine"). The plan was to create a Jewish homeland and separate the two peoples. The French took over what we call Lebanon and Syria today. Iraq, Syria, Egypt, and Jordan were created from the lines the British and French drew on the map, largely ignorant of the varying tribes and people distributions within those boundaries.

British policies and interests shaped the borders of the region Israel lies in. The British promised the Hashemite Amir he'd be given his own nation in return for rebelling against the Ottoman Empire during the First World War. This promise went against other promises they had made to other nations, but they found a compromise. The eastern part of what Britain controlled (the Trans-Jordan) in 1921 was partitioned off and slowly transitioned to a Hashemite Amir. So the land just to the east of what Britain carved out as Palestine was given to the Hashemites. You know it today as Jordan. It's more properly called the Hashemite kingdom of Jordan.

1922 Map of Israel



Jordan is truly an independent "Palestinian" Arab nation created under the British Mandate for Palestine. The pro-Palestinian propagandists forget this fact when they say the 1947 UN two state solution was unfair to the Arabs (but I'm getting ahead of myself). They would argue Trans-Jordan was never "Palestine", and in one sense they are correct… It was never called Palestine by the Brits, but it was part of the Mandate for Palestine. Also, it was part of what the Romans called 'Syria Palestina'. The British partitioned it off (just like the rest of Palestine) but gave it only to Arabs. The Arabs who lived west of the Jordan river were no different from those who lived to the east of it. So in reality the Arab Palestinians were given their own independent nation and the Jews were left to deal with what remained in the region the Brits called Palestine. Of course many Arab Palestinians lived outside of Trans-Jordan, and inside what was being called Palestine. The lines in this region

were arbitrarily drawn. There is nothing clean and simple here. Be wary of propagandists who try to portray it in that manner.

Britain's true priority was to secure the Suez canal as it was their eastward connection to their empire. Their second concern was to preserve the flow of oil from what we now call Iraq. As the Arabs had a huge majority in the region, the British needed their cooperation. Thus the British policies that governed Palestine rarely were fair to the Jewish minority in Palestine nor those Jews who desired to immigrate. This was despite the British having overall idyllic goals and proclamations of Jews, Christians, and Muslims being able to live in harmony in Palestine. These idyllic goals were always opposed by the majority Arab Muslim factions of the region. The British policies made no party happy, and truly only focused on promoting British interests first, then their idealism second. Thus the Post WWI to 1947 period is full of failed British policies, atrocities and pogroms mostly by Arabs, but also some by Jews, and even Christians.

If you dig into this, you will find lots of eye-for-eye attacks and Arabs wiping out Jews, then Jews responding in kind when they could (they were a minority in the area). Propagandists will try to call it Jewish genocide, but it is really eye-for-eye attacks. Calling all the horrible killings of this time genocide is propaganda. Hate fueled eye-for-eye attacks are a better descriptor for most. However there were entire Jewish enclaves wiped out by Arabs, so if there was genocide in this period, it was Arab wiping out Jew. The Jews were a minority, and were limited in how they could respond, but were gaining strength.

British control meant there were jobs and work that needed to be done. To this end over 400,000 Arabs freely immigrated to the area during the British Mandate. A large proportion of the people called Palestinians today originate from those who came to Palestine to work during the British Mandate. Bedouin is typically the term used to describe the tribe of mostly nomadic herding Arabs that were the majority in the region before the influx of foreign Arabs. Of note, the British allowed Arabs/Muslims to come and go freely, but Jewish immigration was controlled and curtailed. Some Jews made it to Israel despite these British barriers.

The increasing number of Arabs continued to get angry about the increasing number of Jews. Neither side was content under British rule. The British had to put down an Arab revolt in 1936. The British responded by offering the Arabs and Jews a two-state solution in 1937 (remember that was what the League of Nations had intended for the region). The plan required removing Arabs from the area that would be given to Jews, and removing Jews from the area to be given to Arabs. The Arabs rejected it. They felt the entire area was already theirs. The Jews wisely accepted. However, because both parties didn't accept it, it wasn't implemented. The British realized that only one party agreeing to coexist peacefully would be foolish, and forcing the two peoples to move with only one of them agreeing to the plan wouldn't work either. This plan was put forth by the British Peel Commission. It was the first 'two state' offer made and was rejected by the Palestinian Arabs.

The region remained hard for even the British empire to control, but the Jews persisted. They slowly increased their numbers and power while they grew the size of the pockets of territory they owned and controlled.

Today's propaganda says that the Jew's stole Arab lands. The opposite was undeniably true up until 1947: from before the Ottoman period to the end of the British Mandate period (1947) you will not find the Jews doing anything but purchasing land. However, you can find plenty of Jewish villages completely wiped out or taken over by Arabs (and all of the Jews killed) before 1947. There were entire ancient Jewish enclaves in Gaza that were wiped out by Arabs. You cannot find Jewish genocidal land grabs against Arabs until after November 1947 (Deir Yassin is the most significant… and we'll talk about that later). The Jews simply were not able, nor was it ever standing Jewish policy. Genocide was essentially unwritten standard Arab practice. The British spent a lot of time and effort to stop genocide. The British didn't tolerate violence of one group against the other, but they weren't everywhere all the time. Prior to 1947 the Arabs stole Jewish lands and committed essentially all the Genocide!

During WWII the Arab who had power in the land of Palestine (his title was Mufdi) allied himself with the Nazis. The plan was to join forces with the Nazis and become belligerents, after the Nazi's defeated the British in North Africa. After they defeated the British, they planned to build concentration camps and exterminate Jews just like the Nazis did in Eastern Europe. The point of the deal was the Nazis would get the Suez Canal and oil, and the Arabs would be rid of their Jews.

Of course the British defeated the German Afrika Korps, so these plans never materialized. This pact is largely ignored by most Pro-Palestinian propagandists. They will point out that Nazis supported Jewish immigration to Palestine in the 1930's (before Germany started the war and the extermination camps). While it is true that Nazis aided some Jews immigration to Palestine in the 1930's, it was only because Germany wanted to get rid of Jews. Jew's voluntarily leaving fit the Nazi program and made good propaganda that distracted from the multitude of Nazi aggressions against Jews. The Nazi's true desires were found in the Holocaust and significant Arab leaders allied themselves to this cause during the war.

Post WWII & the turbulent birth of Modern Israel

God used the aftermath of WWII to return the Jews to their land in much greater numbers. After WWII, most western powers supported returning Jews to Israel (mostly in response to the horror of the holocaust). Never forget this (the west supported and orchestrated the creation of Israel) when you consider supporting Pro-Palestinian calls to reduce or diminish Israel!

Considering the failure of the Peel Commission, and escalating tension, Britain turned to the UN to broker a two-nation deal, and stated it would withdraw as its mandate was expiring in May of 1948. The Arabs continued to oppose any effort to allow Jews into the area, much less a two-state solution. The Jews persisted, leveraged the post WWII international support to increase immigration dramatically, and after November 1947 outright fought the Arabs in order to increase the size of their enclaves and improve their interconnections. Though the Jews managed to cohabitate in many cities with Arabs by staying in separate areas, or Jewish Quarters, Arabs launched attacks to break the connections between Jewish enclaves. You will not find records of any Arabs keeping Jews as prisoners when they attacked these settlements and their interconnections: they killed or expelled the Jews.

The only example of significant Jewish terrorism in this period was the bombing of the King David hotel in 1946. The Irgun, an extreme, violent socialist Jewish rebel group, executed the attack. The hotel was used as the British Headquarters, and documents embarrassing to the Jews kept in the hotel were the attack's target. 91 people of various nationalities were killed, including Arabs, Britons, and Jews. 46 were injured in the bombing. The Irgun executed the bombing to affect a coverup, not to hurt or kill anyone. Their goal was to destroy evidence the British had just seized in a raid of the largest Jewish organization (the Hagenah). The Hagenah was the largest militia/political party of the Jews at the time, and were centrist democratic mainstream westernist. The British had evidence in the hotel that proved the Hagenah were plotting/supporting a revolt against British rule. The Irgun claimed that multiple warnings of the attack were phoned in (just minutes prior to the detonation) to minimize the loss of life, but these were ignored. The British deny receiving any warnings. This attack is frequently propagandized by Pro-Palestinians today as if the Jews were guilty of broad terrorist campaigns against Arabs, they were not. This is the sole example of Jewish terrorism, and Arabs were not the target. Again, all other examples cited by Pro-Palestinian propagandists of Jewish terrorist operations are better thought of as "eye-for-eye" operations that the Irgun or its splinter group the Lehi executed in response to Arabs murdering Jews.

On November 29, 1947, the United Nations submitted another two-state solution. Britain had opposed the proposal. Britain had veto power and could have killed the proposed solution, but instead abstained from the vote. The Jews accepted the UN's offer of land and sovereignty. However the Arabs again refused the deal (because they wanted **all the land**).

Many will teach that this left the UN areas designated for the Arabs as 'stateless', and the Jews clearly had sovereignty only in the lands the UN granted to them. The real question is: "What was really the legal status for the rest of Palestine that the UN had set aside for Arabs?" Most Jews would argue **all the land of Palestine** became theirs once the British left, as they were the only ones to form an independent government under the UN's terms. The Arabs would argue **all the land** was theirs and they didn't need the UN to give it to them. Remember that Jews lived in this land as well as Arabs. So, I believe that if this was to have been settled in court, Israel would have had the better legal argument: they were the only nation that formed a real government, a democracy, under the procedure laid out by the UN. But in the end that is a moot point; the matter was settled by war. This is the root of how the West Bank and Gaza are called stateless areas, but truly controlled by Israel today.

Instead of forming a government recognized by the UN: The Arab response to the Jew's accepting their own independence in November 1947 was more attacks, genocides, and pogroms. It must be emphasized that the first massacres after the UN plan was implemented were Arabs killing Jews. This period in late 1947 really was the beginning of the 1948 war, though it was a civil war from November 1947 until May of 1948.

When Jews responded to Arab attacks, they also began to broaden the areas they controlled. The British proceeded with their withdrawal from Palestine. During the early period of the civil war, most of the middle- and upper-class Arabs fled. This hamstrung the Palestinian Arabs from becoming a cohesive fighting force (the Arab leaders and their resources had left), while the Jews were much more organized, methodical, persistent, and successful.

During the civil war, Jews sent supply convoys to western Jerusalem (largely populated by Jews) to keep it from falling to Arabs. Under the UN agreement Jerusalem was surrounded by Arab lands, and was supposed to be under UN control, but the Jews in Jerusalem knew it would be foolish to rely on the UN for security when surrounded by Arabs. The Jewish supply convoys were constantly attacked by forces embedded in Arab villages along the route. Overall the Jewish defensive measures for their convoys were not enough: they kept getting slaughtered. So, Israel shifted from a defensive convoy protection system to an offensive one: surround the villages along the route, check to see if they are harboring attackers. If the Arab village won't let you search them for weapons, then attack it. If they submit to searches and no weapons are found, leave in peace. This more aggressive system was successful. It also left Jews controlling the territory along the route from western Jerusalem to the Mediterranean Sea.

The main Jewish militia during the civil war were under the control of the Hagenah **(these militias formally became the IDF in June of 1948).** The Irgun & Lehi militias (about 10% of the total militia) were more extreme violent leftists (they were socialist… any propaganda calling them right wing ignores that they were socialists and that the Lehi had split off from the Irgun because the Irgun wasn't violent enough for them). The Lehi & Irgun were hard for the Hagenah to control. They would typically not follow orders from the Hagenah and would cause trouble by attacking targets that the Hagenah didn't prioritize. The Hagenah knew they needed every fighter they could get, and these two Militias were good at importing arms. The Hagenah decided to deal with them by assigning them dirty work they didn't want to do themselves, or giving them busy work to keep them out of their hair. Frequently these two militias blatantly ignored the Hagenah's orders.

The massacre at Deir Yassin, April 1948 - Propagandists love to twist the truth of this event.

You may have heard of the massacre of Arabs by Israelis at Deir Yassin. It's important to know how it happened to battle the propaganda. Deir Yassin was one of the Arab hill towns along the route to Jerusalem. The Irgun & Lehi (the extreme violent 10% of the militia) were itching for a fight. The Hagenah assigned the town of Deir Yassin to the Irgun & Lehi to secure and remove any Arab threat. Deir Yassin was certainly harboring combatants and arms, but is argued by today's Pro-Palestinians that it wasn't being 'used for attacks'

and ‘should not have been targeted.’ This seems to be a blatant untruth considering how the battle went: Dier Yassin was immediately ready to fight the Jews when they arrived.

Before attacking Deir Yassin, the Jews followed procedure and gave up the initiative by blasting a warning over loudspeakers that they were coming, and that women and children should leave if the Arabs were going to fight. The Arabs immediately responded to the announcement with machine-gun fire. So the opportunity to let innocents leave was ignored. During the initial skirmish the Irgun and Lehi militias quickly suffered over 1/5th of their numbers as casualties. This infuriated the already violent tendencies of these two ultra-violent militias. Thus, they responded by escalating the violence. They stormed buildings by throwing grenades in through windows and doors first. This killed civilians huddled inside along with fighters. Other buildings that put up a fight, the Jewish militias leveled with explosives rather than wasting their own lives storming them. This resulted in killing the fighters and innocents huddled within, who didn’t/couldn’t heed the warning to leave. (You may want to note that this was standard military practice at that time. The U.S. called it reconnaissance by fire.)

It is reported that after the battle, these same infuriated militias, killed upwards of 14-40 civilians who had surrendered. The Deir Yassin massacre killed a total of about 100-200 Arabs (both belligerents and innocents). The hard truth of the numbers of dead and collateral damage here is fuzzy, because of all the propaganda that resulted. Of note, Jewish combatants say in their testimony, Jews from a neighboring Jewish village intervened and stopped the massacre from proceeding further after the fight was won. Thus the Deir Yassin massacre was not planned, nor part of a conspiracy to kill Arabs as Pro-Palestinians claim. The Deir Yassin massacre was a ‘one-off’ situation and it was stopped from getting worse by Jews!

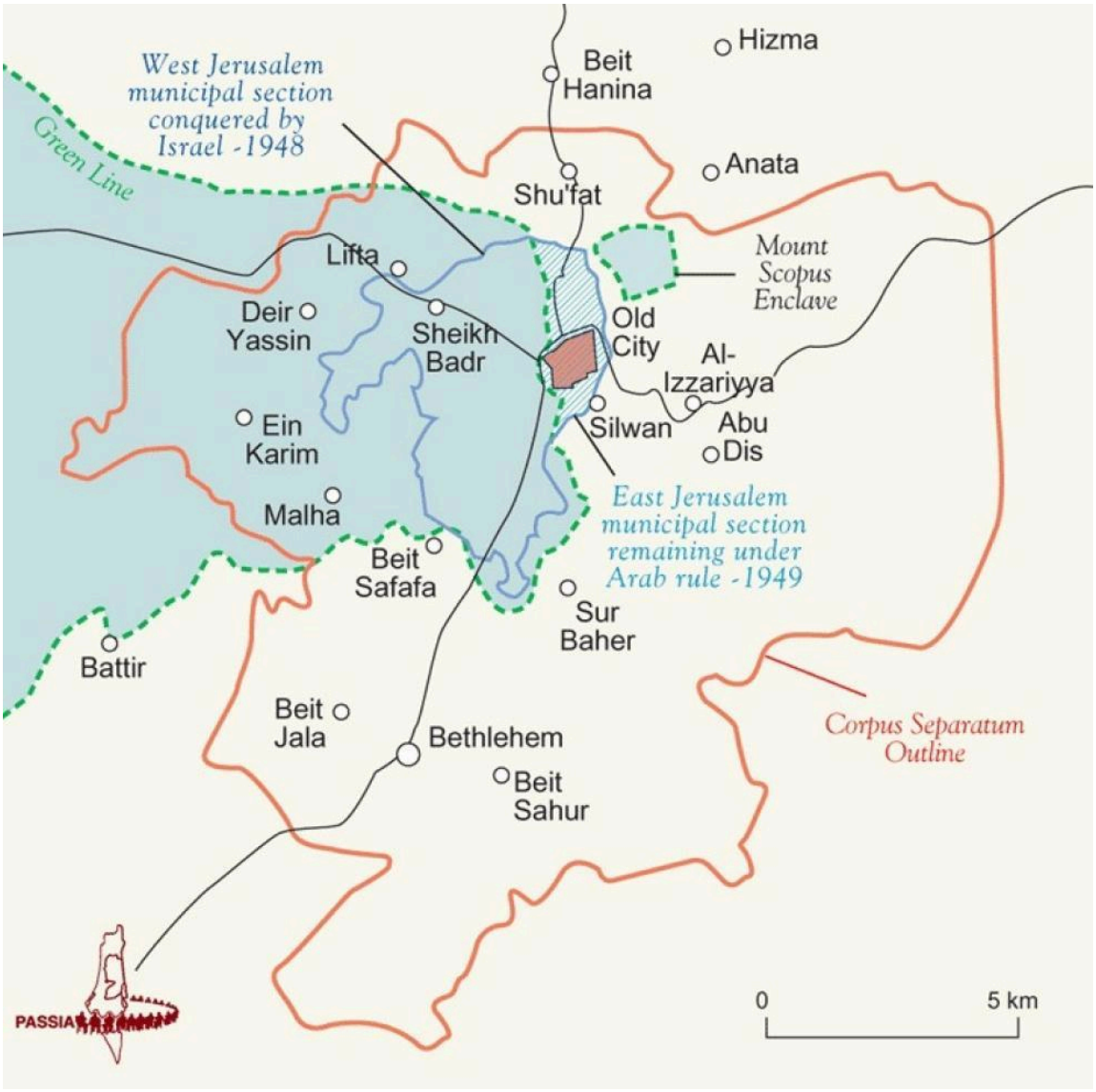
Deir Yassin is used today to further Palestinian propaganda, as if Jewish massacres against surrendered Arabs were commonplace. They were not. Moreover, it's notable that the Pro-Palestinians lack the ability to cite another town where an Israeli group committed a similar massacre. Yet they maintain that Jews massacring Arabs was policy. All lies. YouTube has eyewitness accounts on film (from US Public Television -Frontline) with what happened and how the Arabs twisted it into lies and propaganda (the actual Palestinian propagandists admitted on film of deciding to create the lies as they believed it was needed to help the Palestinian cause).

Deir Yassin was used as propaganda by the Arabs in an attempt to rally more Arabs against the Jews. The Palestinians inflated the numbers killed, along with falsely claiming things like Jews raped pregnant women (there was no rape by any Jew in Deir Yassin, Arab eyewitnesses corroborate that there was no rape). This somewhat backfired: These lies caused more Arabs civilians to flee the fighting for the rest of the war, in fear of the Israelis. Thus Palestinian propaganda caused a higher number of refugees during the remainder of the 1948 war. Of note: Israel later made a formal apology for the Deir Yassin massacre to the King of Jordan (he invaded and held the West Bank at the time). How many Arabs have apologized for lying about it, or for invading Israel and massacring Jews?

The real purpose of Plan “D” (aka “Plan Dalet”)

Just before Deir Yassin, the Israelis developed a formal plan to keep the Arabs within the areas they now controlled from becoming an insurgent problem during the war they knew was coming. The Jews were always better organized and had conducted the civil war with various plans. As they were now on their 4th plan, it was called “Plan D”. Pro-Palestinians promote “Plan D” as an official Israeli genocide plan, and cite Deir Yassin as its implementation. This is propaganda.

Post 1948 Map of Jerusalem



This map is a post 1948 war close-up of the area around Jerusalem. The light blue is the area controlled by Israel. The black Lines are the main roads. The orange "Corpus Separnum" is the area the UN had designated to be a separate UN run area. Of course the war and the refusal of the Arabs to accept the UN plan meant none of it (besides the formation of Israel) was actualized.

I feel I must repeat the truth here: Plan D was not a genocide plan. It was a plan to proactively deal with guerilla assaults from Arab villages by destroying the ones who were hostile. Plan D also directed the gathering of Arabs in large cities to designated parts of the town, where they could be contained during hostilities. In Plan D, if a remote Arab village was peaceful, they were to be left alone, but a garrison was to be put around them to prevent them from becoming hostile. Plan D was how the Israelis prepared to deal with the Arabs now living among them when their Arab neighbor nations attacked.

Pro-Palestinians will try to claim other towns, or battles were places of ethnic cleansing, and point to Plan D as the plan to wipe Arabs out. Besides Deir Nassim (which was just invigorated fighting), they are unable to point out another town that was wiped out in a similar manner. Plan D was just simple military doctrine on how to deal with an insurgent threat. Forcing Arabs out of areas conquered during the 1947-48 war was a random practice that seems more like it was influenced by the temperament of each unit's commander at the time. It was not organized genocide, nor planned expulsion. So again, yes, some villages had their Arabs forced out, but others were allowed to stay. Plan D and the Israeli victories in the 1947-48 war were not organized

genocide. Israeli officers in the field made various, on the spot decisions, on how to deal with potential threats. It's not pretty history. It's ugly war, but it is not genocide.

The 1947 civil war grows into all-out war in May 1948

In May 1948, Britain withdrew as scheduled and Israel declared independence as a free state. The surrounding Islamic Arab nations immediately attacked from all sides. The Arabs attacked not only to expel the Jews, but also to grab the land from other Arabs as well. This means that the Arab nations actually attacked the Palestinians. (Because Britain had left the area, there was a power vacuum so the Arabs attacked in order to gain as much land as possible.)

Many (but not all) commanders of the invading Arab nations warned the Arabs living in the area to leave. Arab propagandists used the Deir Yassin massacre as a warning that the Jews would wipe them out, and promised Arabs that once they killed all the Jews the Arabs could return. Most Arabs left (over 750,000 fled), but over 150,000 Arabs stayed and were given Israeli citizenship after the 1948 war! Today about 25% of the Israeli parliament seats are held by Arab/Muslim political parties. There are many Arab descendants living in Israel as full citizens who ignored the Arab call to evacuate.

Again, yes during this war, some Jews forced Arabs to leave, but it wasn't policy and it wasn't everywhere. When Arabs conquered a town, they did kill all the Jews or forced them out. If there is genocide it's on the Arabs! The Arabs did not let a single Jew remain in the lands they conquered during the 1948 war.

The war grids to a halt in 1949: the 'Nakba'

Even though the Arab nations' militaries were significant and overwhelming, they still lost the war. The Jews again succeeded using war to grow their area of control and gained significant connections between their communities, but many Jews caught behind the lines were killed or expelled. Even so, the overall loss shamed and angered the Arabs. The Arabs have called this the "Nakba" meaning 'catastrophe'. It is a propagandic way to blame their loss on 'Jewish treachery', ignore their own genocidal intent, and not face their own failures. It is a strange way to deal with shame to a westerner, but has yielded great propaganda success.

By the end of the 1948 war, Egypt had invaded and held Gaza as its own territory. Yes: Egypt used the war to seize Gaza. Jordan invaded and held the West Bank. These were areas the UN had offered to the local Arabs in 1947 to be their own independent nation of Palestine. However due to the invasion by Egypt and Jordan they now were given to their Arab conquerors! The west bank was ruled by the King of Jordan and the Gaza Strip was run by Egypt. Had the Palestinians accepted the UN's 1947 deal and formed their own government, and chosen peace, they would have been free and had more territory! Now they were under the rule of other Arab countries.

The Israelis would point out that the war ended in a ceasefire. In this ceasefire, no grants to any nation, to any lands, were made. This is significant to their legal argument that because they formed a nation under the UN, they are the rightful rulers of all Palestine.

You know the West Bank as Judea & Samaria from your Bible studies (West Bank is a neo-western term coined since the British Mandate). Since the 1948 War, these areas have been the focal point of the land claims and ownership debates.

What you need to remember about the 1947-48 war:

At this point you should understand that Israel was granted lands and nationhood by the UN in November 1947. The local Arabs attacked. Israeli Militias, engaged in a battle for their very survival, responded. Civil war ensued. Israelis were better coordinated, and leveraged the civil war to increase their land holdings and better connect them. The Israeli militias were fragmented into the larger mainstream Hagenah and two small minority extremely Marxist and violent militias (the Irgun & Lehi). You won't find Jewish atrocities before this time, but you will find lots of 'eye-for-an-eye' attacks done by Jews.

Through the fighting in 1947 the Jews were successful in broadening and unifying the Jewish held pockets of the region beyond those areas the UN designated. Most notably the route west of Jerusalem, into the UN designated Jewish lands, was established. Plan D was working to solidify Israeli hold of strategic lands and prepared them for the fight that was coming. This angered Muslims everywhere, but it tied the rest of Israel together more cohesively. This was especially significant to the predominantly Jewish western Jerusalem.

War is ugly. Tempers flare. I'm not saying the Jews were saints but Deir Yassin is the sole legitimate argument the Pro-Palestinian propagandists have of Jews committing any sort of significant atrocity. And the Arabs responded by inflating the numbers and fabricating propaganda lies. The Deir Yassin massacre was a reprisal of hot-headed fighters who'd suffered significant casualties. It wasn't organized genocide. Always remember that the Arab telling of Deir Yassin is inflated with lies. Its 100% clear there were no rapes in Deir Yassin. I'm not saying there weren't rapes in the 1947-48 war, or people were not executed in towns outside Der Yassin: I'm saying if some were lined up against walls or any others crimes against humanity were done by Jews, they were small, individual crimes. This was not organized genocide. Most accounts claiming such things came decades after the war which makes them even more suspect as propaganda. If these war crimes happened, there is little proof, and none were ever official Israeli policy. It's difficult to find the hard truth here, but it's not hard to sniff out propaganda.

The aftermath of the 1948 war (called the Nakba by Arabs)

The Arabs who live in Israel today are the descendants of those that did not evacuate during the 1948 war. They are a minority in Israel, and feel like they are discriminated against and hated. They are harassed when passing security check points. There is deep distrust amongst Jews and their Arab Israeli citizens.

A poll was taken amongst Arab-Israeli citizens before the Oct 7th attacks. A slight majority of these Arab Israeli citizens agreed that the Jews needed to leave and it's OK to kill and murder Jews. In the past, Arab Israeli citizens have conspired in terrorist attacks, or attackers who masqueraded as Arab Israeli citizens. So some of these criticisms against the Arabs is justified. The Pro-Palestinian's propaganda calls the situation in Israel 'apartheid'… It is nothing like apartheid. As bad as Arab Israelis feel, their life and treatment is much better than any Jew would receive, living in a Muslim nation.

Of note, before the October 7th attack, more than 50% of the Arabs polled would support Hamas. After the October 7th attacks those polls swung to less than 25% of Israeli Arabs supporting Hamas. What changed? They saw the videos made by Hamas killing innocents. A significant portion of which were Israeli Arabs. The Israeli Arabs watched Hamas rape and kill other Israeli Arabs. This swung them to a majority supporting Israel against the PLO & Hamas.

After the 1948 war, Israel controlled much more territory. Many Arabs fled their homes (in what was now Israel). These refugees were trapped behind the lines, or had moved to Arab controlled areas. Instead of being integrated into other Arab countries, or allowed by Israel to return to their prewar homes in what was now Israel, approximately 700,000 – 750,000 were placed in refugee camps. These camps were in areas owned/controlled by Egypt or Jordan at the end of the 1948 war. Israel offered to allow the refugees to return in exchange for guarantees of being recognized as a nation, and being given peace treaties, etc. The Arabs refused all these things. So the Israelis refused to allow the refugees to return.

Commonly forgotten by the western media: Arab states responded to the loss of the 1948 war by expelling their Jews. All Jews in Gaza and the west bank who were not killed were expelled after the 1948 War! This was the only real ethnic cleansing conducted, and it was done by Arabs!

This was compounded as the French and British controlled Arab nations in North Africa gained independence in the late 1950's and early 1960's. When these nations gained independence, they expelled or persecuted the Jews living within their borders. They also have persecuted and reduced all other religious groups like Christians, since they were granted independence. After the 1948 war, some 400,000 Jews had their lands and property confiscated and were forced out of Arab nations (though some willingly departed those Arab states in order to return to Israel). Israel welcomed all Jews, set up short lived refugee camps, and quickly integrated the displaced Jews into Israel. This is in great contrast to how the Arab nations handled the Arabs displaced by the 1948 war.

A black spot in this post 1948 exodus of Jews from Arab nations was that there seems to be credible evidence that Israelis committed false flag attacks (Jews masquerading as Arabs and committing atrocities) to incriminate Arabs or encourage the Jews to leave Arabs nations. This is the stuff of intelligence operations and conspiracy theories. It's not clear, but it does seem some Jews bribed Arabs to blow up Jewish Temples and other Jewish facilities in Iraq in the early 1950's. The operation is typically attributed to Mossad (the Israeli foreign intelligence and operations service). Notably, Israel denies the plot in Iraq, but admits to operations in Egypt in the same period. Purportedly, the goal in Iraq was to make the Jews there unsettled and more apt to immigrate to Israel. The propagandists will portray this as vindicating the Arabs from persecuting Jews, but in reality, if Mossad was involved, it didn't take much prodding for the Arabs to plant the bombs, and the Arabs were persecuting Jews in other ways. In contrast to the Iraq plot, Mossad admitted to an operation in Egypt to frame Arabs for bombings of western interests. Notably the bombs killed no one, and the goal was to put the Arabs at odds with the British and other western nations. Remember, the Arabs have done far worse. The simple lesson here is still: These two peoples hate each other and have issues living together in peace, and will twist the truth and employ ruthless methods to try and manipulate public opinion.

Nato & Warsaw Pact countries influence on post 1948 affairs

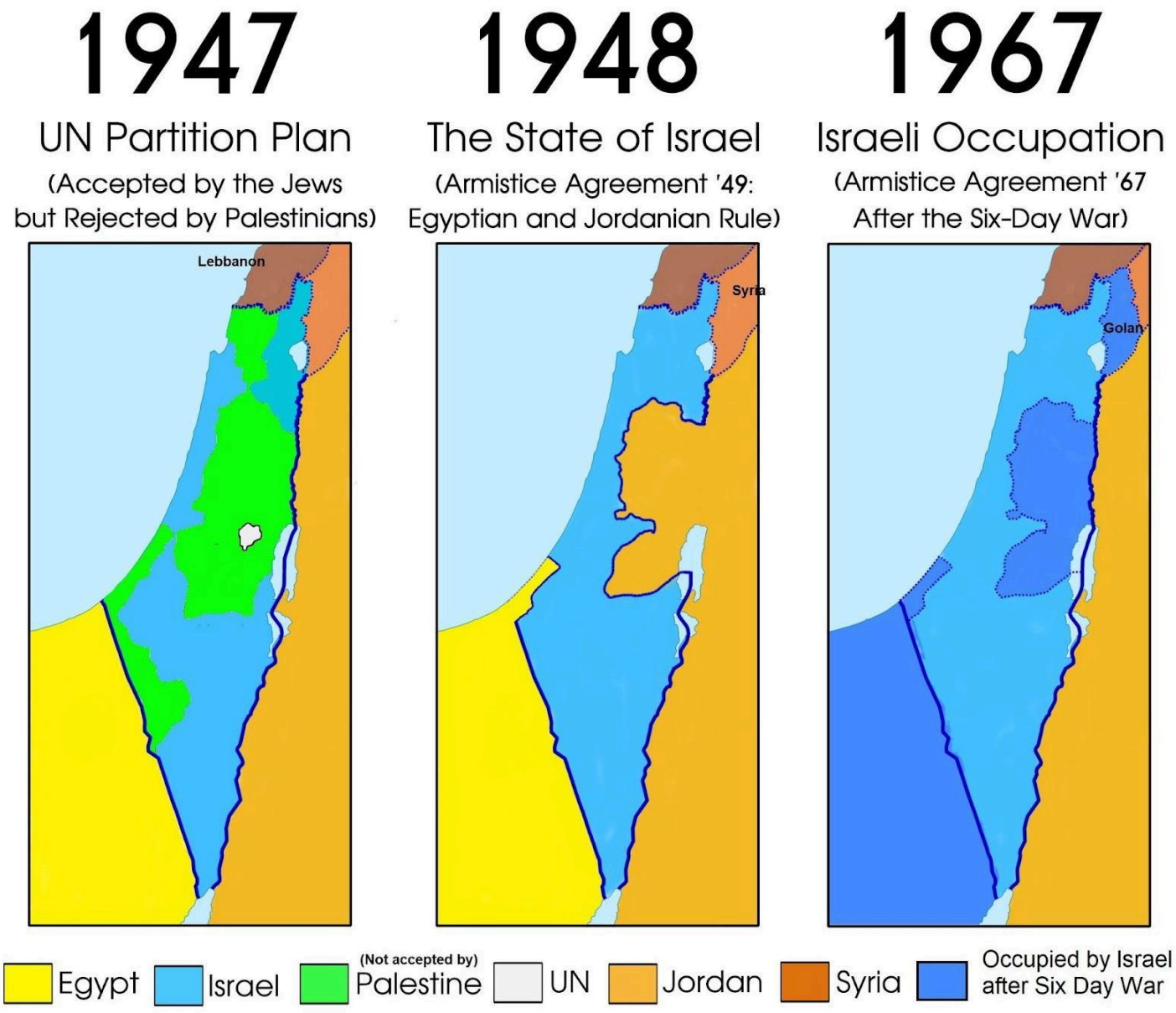
In the early 1950's we must also understand that the US/NATO and the USSR/Warsaw Pact countries were also wanting to control oil and the flow of goods through the Suez Canal. Any conflicts in the region would put their plans in jeopardy. Preparation for conflict generates foreign weapons sales. The Warsaw Pact countries desperately needed this hard foreign currency. These countries had huge stockpiles of both German and Soviet weapons from WWII that they sold to both parties. The Warsaw Pact countries also looked to spread communism and diminish western influence wherever possible. PLO terrorist members like The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) were Marxist groups with ties to these Warsaw Pact nations. The Warsaw Pact nations salivated at the opportunity to turn the newly minted Arab nations to socialism and diminish the west's hold on the region.

The west also benefited from selling arms, wished to maintain the flow of goods through the Suez Canal, and maintain its influence in the region while not being bogged down by sectarian fighting. The west sold arms primarily to Israel, but the Jordanians managed to always keep close ties with the British. The point is that after the 1948 war there were lots of international dealings and covert operations trying to influence the flow of money, weapons, oil/goods, and political influence in the region. Satan was and is at work here on all sides.

No true Peace

Even after the 1948 war ended, there wasn't true peace. The Arabs used the West Bank and Gaza strip as bases to launch raids into Israel. These interwar periods cannot be looked at as 'peaceful', but rather lacking large scale military actions of sovereign states. On top of constant raids, there were crises and other military actions. Crises in the 1950's ended with the UN occupying the Sinai as peacekeepers. There has never been true Peace for Israel since its formation.

Maps of Israel, 1947, 1948, 1967



The 1967 Six Day War

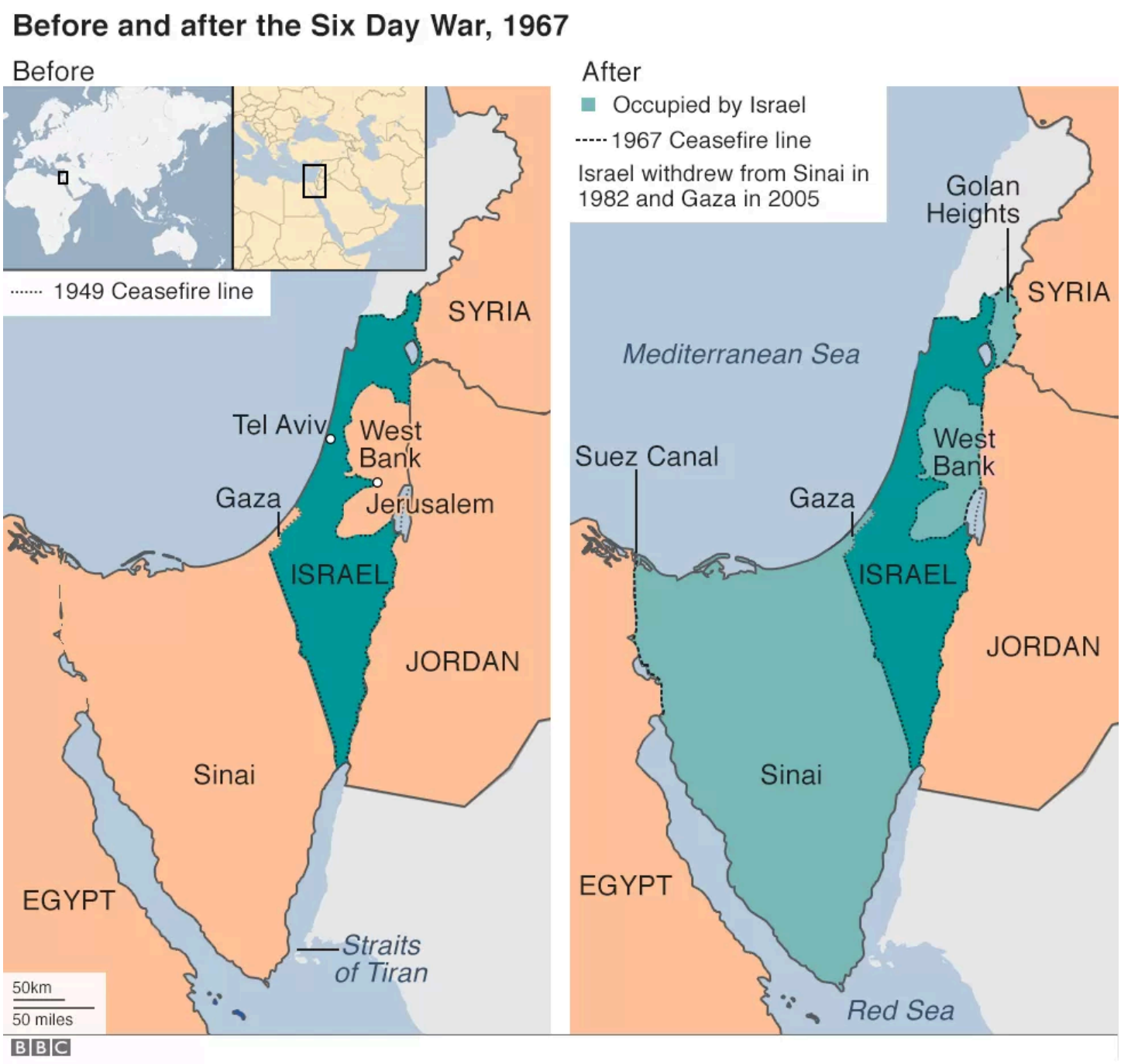
In 1967, the Arabs tried again to destroy Israel. The Arabs started with naval blockades of Israeli ports (which in themselves are acts of war that justified an armed response) and saber rattling, that the Israelis believed to be a prelude to all-out war. Nasser, the flamboyant socialist leader of Egypt kicked the UN peacekeepers out of the Sinai peninsula (the UN troops had been there since the 1959 crisis to give a buffer between Egypt and Israel). Egypt moved its armies into the Sinai peninsula. Then moved them from defensive positions to offensive positions in preparation to invade and destroy Israel.

Nasser's rhetoric against the Jews and the west garnered him popularity across the Muslim world. The Jordanian Hashemites had to appear to cooperate with him or fear losing control of their people. They didn't really want war with Israel. However the Jordanian King was interested in growing his territory by taking it from Israel, and also feared how a commoner like Nasser could gain control and had such sway over the Palestinian Arab populace. The Jordanian king had seen his family in Iraq (the Hashemite King of Iraq) deposed and killed, and replaced in a pro Nasser populist military coup.

At this point Israel realized it had to act or it would be wiped out. Israel consolidated nearly all its forces in the south, and launched an overwhelming response into the Sinai. Israel left the north and central areas lightly guarded because they were outnumbered. Israel's swift action won quick victories in the Sinai. Having been routed, Nasser lied to the Jordanian King, saying Egypt was defeating the Israelis, the Israelis were weak, and he should attack immediately. Before the Israeli attack, Israel understood the Jordanian King's predicament and sent messages begging him to maintain peace. Jordan, believing Nasser's lies, and seeing an opportunity, assaulted from the West Bank into Israel. Israel responded by offering to forgive the transgression into Israel if Jordan would pull out. Jordan ignored it. So, after their swift victory in the Sinai, the Israelis swept up into the West Bank and defeated Jordan.

The Syrians could have overwhelmed Israel in the north but bumbled the opportunity. After the Israelis defeated Jordan, they then continued to sweep north and defeated the Syrians. In Six days, Israel defeated an overwhelming multi-nation Arab force positioned against them.

Map of Israel before the Six Day War, 1967



At the end of the Six Day War, Israel won significant territory and land from the Arabs including the Gaza Strip, The West Bank, the Golan Heights, and the entire Sinai peninsula. They also now occupied the lands that had most of the refugees from the 1948 war.

Why the Israelis won't ever give up the Golan Heights

A significant Israeli gain from the Six Day War was the Golan Heights. Prior to the Six Day War, Syria would bombard Israeli settlements with artillery from the Golan Heights. Syria had been bombarding these settlements for years, even during the "peace time". More strategically, Israel was building an irrigation system to turn large regions of the southern interior desert (the Negev) into cropland by using water from the Sea of Galilee. To prevent this, Syria started their own canal system to redirect the water away from the Jordan River, to dry up the Sea of Galilee. Thus, taking the Golan Heights stopped the Syrian plan to deprive Israel of water. Maintaining control of the Golan Heights is critical for security and the survival of Israel. Israel will

never willingly give it up. Syria has protested Israeli control of the Golan Heights ever since the Six Day War and has had the UN pass resolutions demanding Israel return them to Syria.

The three No's

After the Six Day War, Israel made another offer of a two-state solution. They offered to give the Palestinians their own nation in parts of the lands they just reconquered (Gaza and the West Bank). The Arabs, still led by Nasser, rejected it, and responded with the Khartoum Resolution, also known as "The Three No's": No peace with Israel, No recognition of Israel, and No negotiations with Israel. Despite their total humiliating defeat: The surrounding Arab nations were still committed to the utter destruction of Israel and rejected another two-state solution.

The Yom Kippur War

In 1973, Israel was again attacked, led by Egypt and Syria, with the help of many other Arab countries. Israel just barely won this war, called the Yom Kippur War. Israel faltered at the beginning of this war because they were caught completely off guard, and were overconfident in their military superiority considering the outcome of the Six Day War. After many initial losses, Israel did manage to rally and basically move the Islamists back to prewar lines. The IDF prevented Syria from regaining the Golan Heights (a major Syrian goal for the war). If there were only two lessons for Israel from this war it was first, the Sinai and Golan heights must be controlled and used as buffer zones to prevent Arab attacks from entering the densely populated areas of Israel, and two, always be ready to repel an attack.

The lessons of these Arab-Israeli wars

The tribalism, politics, and sectarianism of the various Islamic Arab nations contributed to their inability to defeat Israel on the battlefield. Sometimes the key to Israeli victory was aid given to Israel from western nations. This foments more hate for the US and western nations. Pro-Arab propagandists typically forget that the Arabs were the aggressors, and that one Arab belligerent would typically lie to others in order to goad them into cooperative military action. They prefer to blame the "treachery of the Jews" along with the US and western nations for these failures.

Usually the Israelis were simply superior militarily (especially their air force) in doctrine and training, but not by numbers. Israel had a common cause and knew that the cost of failure was annihilation. They took advantage of their western training, and were more dynamic at the small unit level. Like western nations their small units are given general objectives and understanding of commander's intent. Western small units act more autonomously and communicate their actions upward, more than waiting for instructions to come downward. Western militaries see opportunity and seize it. They get the initiative and press the attack to keep it. Most Arab army's just follow very specific orders from higher up the chain of command. In a western military, if the officer in charge is killed, the next man is trained to step up and take command. In Arab armies if the commander is killed, or commands stop coming down from on high, the unit gets paralyzed. These are all generalizations that help one to understand how a smaller Israeli military usually prevailed over the Arab invaders.

Overall, in many ways the odds were in the Arabs favor in the early wars, but still Israel prevailed. It wasn't until the late 1970's to early 1980's that Israel was the clear military powerhouse in the region. After this, no nation but Iran or Iraq could seriously consider taking on the IDF outright. This time period is when most campaigns against Israel turned to terrorist and guerilla tactics, or rocket attacks, rather than sovereign nations mounting overt military assaults.

Today, no one can outright challenge the IDF without considering the enormous cost (even the US would pay dearly if it was to mount an assault against Israel). However, the ground forces of the IDF are optimized to handle urban warfare and defend Israel. They are not designed to project ground power deep into any nation. The IDF does that via airpower and allies.

A discussion on Palestinians

During the 1948 war, some Arabs fled early during the "civil war" period, others fled due to fighting coming their way, or due to Palestinian propaganda, some were expelled by Arab forces, some were expelled by Jewish/Israeli forces. Despite what the propagandists on both sides say, the refugee issue is not clearly the fault of one side. The truth lies in the middle here.

Also, it must be factored in that prior to the 1948 war, the Arabs had historically dominated the Jews. There seems to be a lack of recognition, by the Arabs who lived during that period, that power had shifted to the Jews. Thus it is plausible for Arabs to have the expectation of an Arab victory. Islam teaches that the righteous win battles. On top of all that, the UN had a reputation of getting involved in orchestrating elections, which the Arab majority would win. The UN also had a reputation for returning lands and borders to prewar positions. All of these are reasons that 750,000 people would leave their homes during the war. They were confident they would be rid of the Jews; the Jews would be vanquished; and the Arabs would return to the land.

Most of the 700,000+ original refugees were placed in camps. The few "Palestinians" who were relocated to other Islamic nations after the 1948 War caused strife inside their new nations via crime, rebellion, and terrorism. **This yields three primary reasons why no Islamic nation will take Palestinian refugees today:**

1. Historically when Islamic nations did take in Palestinian refugees, they only had trouble. These nations had to expend great effort, lives, and resources to deal with the problems the refugees caused in their nations.

2. It's more productive in a media/international policy war to leave the Palestinians in their victim state. Their suffering becomes a humanitarian crisis that makes them a bargaining chip that forces Israel to compromise due to the international outrage it garners.

3. Islamists practice honor and shame. They don't have true compassion for the Palestinians, nor for anyone. (It's worth noting that humanitarian concerns are a western phenomenon. "Loving your neighbor and loving your neighbor as yourself", stem from Jewish and Christian thought. Most peoples in the world don't see it as necessary to care for their brother unless it gains them an advantage.)

In the 1967 Six Day War time period the displaced Arabs from the 1948 war began calling themselves Palestinians. Prior they were just called "Arabs." Prior to recent times, the term "Palestinian" was never used by anyone living there to address themselves nor was it used to identify the region.

"Palestine" and "Palestinian" are terms invented by outsiders, but adopted by the region's Arabs

Remember the Romans renamed the region after they expelled the Jews as an attempt to control language by not even referring to the same region by its historical name of "Judea". The Romans renamed it "Syria Palestina." Palestina was Latin for "Philistine". The Romans forced the area to be named after the arch enemy the Jews had defeated: Philistines. This was to spite the Jewish remnant and the memory of the nation of Israel in general. Palestine and hence the term 'palestinian' were then adopted by the British after World War One from the Roman name for the region.

Palestinian is an outsider's/westerner's term invented and applied to the region by the British. In a more fundamental way even Jews could be included as "Palestinian" as they were in the region too. The British issued "Palestine" Passports to all people who lived there when they controlled the region. Back then even Jews received "Palestine" Passports. Thus, the Jews who lived under the British Mandate sometimes called themselves Palestinians to westerners, but never thought of themselves a "Palestinian". There was never a unique people known as "Palestinian" there was no "Palestinian" language nor coins. Moreover for a long time the Arabs of the region responded to western two state solutions that they were just another Arab people, and not a unique one. During the British mandate for Palestine, anyone who lived in the region was called "Palestinian", but the people who lived there would never think of themselves as such. They were known as Bedouin, Arab, Jew, Chaldean, Druze, etc. No one adopted this descriptor as an accurate label of who they were until it became politically expedient.

It wasn't until the late 1960's that the term Palestinian was self-applied by the Arab Muslims displaced as a result of the wars with Israel that they continued to lose. This term was then adopted by western nations and English speakers at large. Language evolves and changes. Understanding the etymology and history of such words reflects the truth of the strife of the many people who lived there, and the propaganda of the region.

Are 'Palestinians' native to 'Palestine'? Does Israel just need to let them back in?

First, we must always remember that Israel offered to allow the return of many Palestinian refugees in 1949. They only asked for national recognition of Israel and to acknowledge that Jews have the right to reside in the Land of Israel. The Israelis repeated this offer multiple times: Arabs have repeatedly refused.

While, "Palestinian" is the descriptor used to describe the Arabs living in Modern Israel, many of today's "Palestinians" are easily identified by their last names as descendants of those from other places (like Egypt, North Africa, Yemen, etc). Their forefathers migrated to the region for work during the British Mandate. Frequently the original Arabs of the region are called 'Bedouin' (pronounced "Bed-dough-inn") this differentiated them from the Arabs who immigrated during the British Mandate. Wikipedia says in 2005 only 10% of all the Palestinians were Bedouin.

Of key importance: King Abdula of Jordan (a Hashemite) reigns over the same Bedouin ethnic group as the original Bedouin Arabs commonly called "Palestinian" today. If you are looking for a true "Bedouin Palestinian" independent nation, the closest thing ethnically, culturally, linguistically is Jordan. Other than the Arabs who arrived to work for the British, there was no difference between the Bedouin Arabs who lived east of the River Jordan to those to the west of the River Jordan. Remember the lines defining the region were arbitrarily drawn, and Arabs when left to their own, typically devolve into tribal fighting.

Jordanian King Abdula is from a different Arabic Tribe than the "Bedouin Palestinians" who he rules. He is a Hashemite: he descended from a long enduring aristocratic ruling family. The people King Abdula rules over would not call themselves "Palestinian" nor "Bedouin" but rather Jordanian. They are also known as the people who live in the Hashemite kingdom of Jordan. King Abdula wisely married a "Palestinian" Arab (who was raised in Kuwait), and thus his heir is at least half "Palestinian". His "Bedouin Palestinian" ancestry may help him rule his people who are deeply divided tribally.

You may have heard the call to arms "From the river to the Sea." This is call of genocide against all Jews who reside between the Jordan river and the Mediterranean Sea (Israel). It is the "One State" solution pro-Palestinians are calling for. Though lately, propagandists are trying to distance the Palestinian movement from the brutal genocidal truth of this call to arms. Islamic apologists claim it to be a religion of peace… while ignoring the multiple calls to kill within the religion.

It is also notable that when the Egyptians ruled Gaza (from 1948-1967), Egypt ruled with a heavy hand. The 'Palestinians' in Gaza did not rebel, nor cry out for independence, nor sovereignty. The Palestinians in the West Bank didn't cry foul of living under Jordanian rule either. But they still formed the PLO to remove Israel from the Land. Thus the PLO was not formed to free the West Bank and Gaza (like pro-Palestinian propaganda claims). Both of these Palestinian areas were not controlled by Israel when the PLO was formed! The PLO adopted this as part of their mission statement after the Six Day War. The real question here is: "Why is it that the Palestinian national movement has its roots in general nationalism of the 1920's, but it didn't really blossom until after the Six Day War?" I believe the truth here is that the struggle is not about freedom, nor nationalism. The PLO, Fatah, Hamas, Islamic Jihad, etc., exist because they hate the Israelis and will do anything to get rid of them and enrich themselves.

Thus the entire "Palestinian" problem is a mess. One cannot legitimately point the finger and say Israel caused this, is solely to blame, and should be forced to "let them back in." That isn't a viable position if you consider all the messy facts. The Palestinian accusation that Israel is "colonial" is inaccurate as well. The majority of Jews were expelled 2000 years ago by the Romans, and then the Arabs moved in and persecuted the few Jews who remained! Who's really the colonialist?

Peace with Neighbor Nations, PLO/PA, Yassar Arafat, intifada, and guerrilla wars.

Yasser Arafat (originally from Egypt and not a true "Palestinian" Arab) was one of the refugees taken in by Jordan after the 1948 war. Arafat was a member of Fatah and became head of the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization). The PLO is a union of terrorist organizations: it has multiple mostly independent terrorist organizations as members (Fatah and Hamas were both members of the PLO). In the 1960's the PLO attempted to assassinate the Jordanian King, killed officials loyal to the King, and then attempted a coup against his government. They even drew the Syrian army to invade Jordan with ground forces to help oust the Jordanian King. Jordan appealed to Israel and the west for help, especially asking for air forces. Israel sent airplanes, the king of Jordan aggressively attacked the PLO and thousands of Palestinians died. (You never hear much about it as this was Arab v Arab fighting, but it was bloodier than most Israeli campaigns.) The Syrians withdrew. Arafat fled to Lebanon once the coup against the Jordanian king was suppressed in September 1970. The PLO called this period in time, Black September. (Subsequently an extremist unit from within Fatah, called itself Black September. This is the group that killed the Jewish Olympians in Germany).

After the failure of the 1973 Yom Kippur war, President Sadat of Egypt began diplomacy with Israel. This culminated with Israel returning control of the Sinai to Egypt, but as a demilitarized buffer zone between the two nations, as part of the peace agreement brokered by President Jimmy Carter.

Jordan also made peace with Israel, secretly at first, then openly much later. Most hold that Yasser Arafat's PLO's assassinations, attempts at assassinations, and attempted coup drove the Jordanian King to seek peace with Israel in the late 1980's, but kept it quiet. Jordan gave up all claims to the West Bank in their peace agreement that went from secret to official in 1994.

Today Jordan and Egypt have recognized and established peace with Israel. But Egypt has recently swung more towards Islamic fundamentalism and is covertly supporting and exploiting Hamas against Israel. (you can read more about that at the end of this section).

The PLO (after being forced out of Jordan during Black September) took refuge in Lebanon. The PLO and other anti-Israeli terrorist factions launched raids from Lebanon in the 1970's & 1980's. Also the PLO stoked rebellion and acted as an ungovernable tenant in Lebanon. Before the arrival of the PLO, Lebanon was predominantly controlled by Christians and was a relatively good place to live. The PLO again acted as a rowdy tenant and drew Lebanon downward and into chaos. Thus, Israel was drawn into a hot war, civil war, and successive guerilla wars/strikes in Lebanon throughout the 1970's & 80's. The mess in Lebanon has

continued and is even worse today. Eventually between the unrest and Israeli pressure, Arafat fled Lebanon. The point is that anyone who took in the PLO found them to be destabilizing and uncooperative, and Lebanon especially paid hard. Lebanon is still paying today as a result for taking in the PLO 50 years ago.

Iran joined in the mess in Lebanon after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, but Iran continued to get caught openly opposing Israel (and paying a high price for it). Iran progressed to more and more covert support of groups opposed to Israel. They learned that there is tremendous value in working against Israel via proxies: it keeps the heat off them directly. Nowadays, it is using Hezbollah (local Lebanese Arab Shia) and has great influence over Hamas (one of the PLO terrorist organizations). Beyond Israel, Iran is doing similar things today with the Houthis in Yemen (who have recently ramped up attacks on shipping in the Red Sea against anyone they deem is supporting Israel).

Arafat's fake rebranding of himself and the PLO

Up until about 1988 Yasser Arafat's PLO was universally recognized to be a Bonafide terrorist organization. Its members hijacked planes and killed innocent Israeli civilians whenever they could. The Israelis pursued Arafat & the PLO from one Islamic nation to the next as he fled and sought refuge. Eventually in 1988 Arafat decided to overtly denounce terrorism and say he sought peace with Israel with some sort of two nation solution. However, those of us who don't buy his propaganda believe this was always just a ruse to get a chance to quit living in fear of the Israelis catching up to him, to safely return to PLO controlled areas of the West Bank and Gaza, and most of all to further enrich himself. I believe the truth is, he decided to use peaceful talking to gain an advantage. Years of terrorism had yielded little and seemed to unite the west against him. Thus by talking peace, he could resume resistance by taking advantage of locals and their children, over trying to kidnap and hijack.

When the PLO/Hamas/Fatah send children to assault IDF soldiers with rocks and get shot in return: the western media makes it a headline story. This works out well for the PLO, for Arafat's pocket, and is bad for Israel.

Once Arafat returned to Palestine, he made speeches in English expressing peaceful intent. He spoke of "UN touchy feely peace" and "two nation solutions". These speeches in English were followed by one delivered in Arabic promising to drive Israel out of the "Beautiful Land and into the sea" or "to make bread out of the Jew's bones". These speeches were given after the mainstream western news outlets had packed up and left the venue. Western media rarely reported the second type of speech. Rest assured, his violent anti-Israel rhetoric was recorded, translated, and studied by Israeli and western intelligence agencies. Once Arafat changed, and began saying that he supported a peaceful negotiated settlement, Israel chose to let him live (their prior plan was to kill him). Israel wanted to cooperate with western pressures, and viewed the move as at least a superficial step in the right direction.

In 1999 US President Clinton brought Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak together. Arafat was offered Gaza and 94% of the West Bank, with East Jerusalem as the new Palestinian Nation's capital. Arafat refused every compromise offered. Clinton said "Arafat was here 14 days and said 'no' to everything." After this failed deal a new Intifada was declared by the PLO and over 1000 Israelis were killed and countless Palestinian children were sent to attack IDF soldiers with rocks. This is another proof that the Palestinians want nothing short of total control of all of Israel.

Arafat was rumored to have been a closeted homosexual that died of AIDS. Of course this would be a blemish to any Islamic Arab, muchless the leader of the PLO, so it seems that the cover story most pro-PLO folks stick to is that this was a lie made up by Israel to discredit him. These same people say that he died of a 'mysterious' viral infection, or some sort of poison. They will propose that it was somehow an underhanded Israeli assassination method. Some will say it was plain old food poisoning combined with old age (Arafat was 75 years old)

Author's note: I was on active duty in the US military at this time, focused on the PLO, and read foreign intelligence reporting that stated they observed Arafat's homosexual activity when he visited their nation. They even identified who in Arafat's entourage was his 'lover.' They characterized the affair as well established and habitual. I don't believe this nation had any interest in creating a lie. I believe that what I read was straight forward intelligence reporting.

In the early 2000's many of us in the intelligence world knew Arafat was HIV positive. It was generally accepted Arafat would be dead soon, as it was hard to live with AIDS at such an advanced age, even as a billionaire. This was shared with the Israelis, and may have contributed to Israel deciding to not assassinate him.

Thus, I subscribe to the simplest answer being the truth: Arafat contracted HIV through rampant infidelity with one of his male subordinates, died of AIDS, and the pro-PLO faction had to cover it up to save face.

France and the western media are complicit in this cover-up and cannot be trusted. It used to be easy to find news reports that corroborated my view of his cause of death. These all seem to have been removed from Google search results and mostly expunged.

Of note, whatever reporting you can read today on his death will notably confirm no HIV testing was done on Arafat by the French who treated him (after he became gravely ill, he traveled to and died in France). This is a curious omission as an HIV test is routinely done to eliminate HIV as a cause of illness when diagnosing difficult diseases. The absence of an HIV test is confusing, unless you already knew he was HIV positive and didn't need to test for it. Also you don't want to have to hide a positive HIV test from his record, so you would not order one. Either way the absence of the test is curious at best, or could be confirmation of my belief.

I know that the 'mainstreamers' will try to accuse me of being a Zionist or Israeli hack for sharing my view. They will then use this in an attempt to throw out my entire argument. So I genuinely hesitated to share it: I feel I must relate what I read and believed at the time (and still believe it to be true). I had no reason to look for anything but the truth in a sea of propaganda when studying the PLO was part of my duties.

What is not debated is that Arafat got rich off of his exploits. He amassed somewhere between $4 and $9 billion in personal wealth before he died.

The post Arafat PLO and Palestinian Authority autonomy

After Arafat passed in 2005, the PLO & Israel compromised and gave sovereignty to the PLO in areas of the West Bank and Gaza. At this time the PLO essentially became the Palestinian Authority (PA). However the PLO/PA still refused a true 'two state' solution.

Since the formation of the Palestinian Authority, there have been multiple power struggles of the different organizations behind the PLO/PA. The democratic way of selecting power brokers has created new challenges to understanding, who rules where, and how, and why they won. Remember the PLO was a union of terrorist organizations. Now these organizations had to win elections to maintain their power, and control the areas granted to the Palestinian Authority. Though once one of the PLO groups gets power, the following elections are typically delayed or suspended so that they can maintain power without having to win another election.

Currently Hamas has control over the Gaza strip, while Fatah has wrested control of the West Bank. While they used to be united in their struggle against Israel, it's best to think of the two groups as two separate entities now.

Hamas is clearly more radical, militant, and dangerous, but Fatah is only better in that they reject Iranian influence and align more with Sunni Arab influence. Hamas is a terrorist organization under Iran's influence. Hamas' stated charter is to totally destroy Israel. They are pure evil. You can find plenty of video clips of their leaders proclaiming they are glad to sacrifice innocents (even their own people) to aid their goal of destroying Israel.

It is clear that both Hamas and Fatah used all sovereignty deals to prepare assaults, raids, rocket launches, & strikes into Israel. They concurrently enriched themselves like Arafat did by selling and squandering humanitarian aid. Nearly everywhere the Israelis gave autonomy to the PA and pulled out, chaos ensued as old Arab vs Arab scores were settled. Attacks started from these regions and Israel had to return to most of them to quell the unrest. The PA has demonstrated repeatedly it cannot rule, and that any sovereignty given will be used to attack Israel, or settle old scores inside the Palestinian community.

In 2008 Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert offered more than Ehud Barak had to Arafat in 1999. The PLO turned it down.

President Trump was successful in getting Arab nations to sign the "Abraham Accords". This agreement caused a number of Arab nations to recognize Israel as a nation. The Saudis did not sign on, but hinted they could be encouraged to do so soon. Many believe President Biden failed to encourage the Saudis to sign on, because it would be heralded as a continuation of Trump's policy. Many believe the Oct 2023 attack of Hamas against Israeli civilians was ordered by Iran partially to further drive Saudi Arabia away from signing the Abraham Accords. They also knew the IDF would pummel Gaza in response and that response would sour the pot. That an Israeli assault into Gaza would be seen by the Saudi people as intolerable and their unrest would block the Saudi King from recognizing Israel.

There are now over 5.6 million registered Palestinian displaced peoples. Of note, Palestinians are the only refugee group that is allowed to pass this status on to their children (this is curious because in all other matters, refugees are considered resettled and accepted into their new living arrangements, but not in this matter). Fatah and Hamas are getting rich by diverting aid or reselling aid sent to these people. Hamas has been estimated to have profited over $500 Million in the 6 months after its October 2023 attack outside Gaza.

Debunking some map propaganda and discussing the West Bank (aka Judea & Samaria):



Common Propaganda style map shown above

This map and many others like it are used to spread propaganda. To be believed, a lie has to have some truth in it. I hope to help you separate the truth from the lies depicted on these maps. First, you need to recognize the difference between populated areas and sovereign borders. The purveyors of the propaganda want you to believe that the two are comparable but they are not. On top of that, Palestinian sovereignty really never existed! Any depiction of Palestinian "Sovereignty" on a map is just plain deceitful. The PA is not a sovereign nation. Its rule always descends into chaos which forces the IDF to intervene.

1946: What this map shows are the borders of the area the British called Palestine, and shows where the Jews lived within it. That is it! Notably it shows densely and sparsely populated areas similarly as white splotches: it doesn't differentiate between heavily populated, or sparsely populated Jewish areas. The green area is just the area where the Jews didn't live at that time! The green area wasn't 'Palestine': the entire white and green area was what was called Palestine by the British! You can find other maps showing swamps, malaria concentrations, etc. and they'd line up very closely to the areas shown in white, because these are the areas the Jews were left to live in by the Arabs when the Arabs sold their 'junk' land!

The truth here is that **the white area of the 1946 map represents land purchased by and lived in by Jews.** But even those areas were not 100% Jewish! All other land that is green is just that, all other land not lived in by Jews. **The entirety of the green was not, and never was owned, nor 100% occupied and controlled by Palestinians!** The trick here is that they try to get you to think that all the green was occupied by Palestinians. That was never true! The region is arid and inhospitable. People live in pockets, frequently on top of hills. The Arabs also lived in pockets, and predominantly in the best areas! A fair comparison would be based on

sovereignty lines or population. Alternatively, a third color or hue, could be used to denote population density and proximity. Thus, this map is essentially useful only as propaganda!

UN Plan 1947: The white area is the land offered to Israel by the UN which would form the new Jewish State. The Jews accepted, and it became theirs under UN mandate. Israel became a sovereign state. The green area was offered to but never accepted by the Arabs! People today still debate whether this became an ungoverned zone or if by default it belonged to Israel.

The gray area (around Jerusalem) was to be a special, UN run, shared zone due to its value to both parties and the fact that more Jews lived there than Arabs! Note that later maps use gray to depict lands occupied by Israel, and the propagandists want you to think of as having been stolen from Arabs. All this map shows is the UN plan, (which was accepted by the Israelis, but not the Arabs). They want you to draw a false conclusion that the green was fully lived in and controlled by Arabs, and that they Arabs formed a sovereign government, (none of which is true). Comparing this map to the next maps leads you to falsely surmise that the Jews stole land. Keep in mind that the UN controlled area of Jerusalem never materialized.

The Jews accepted the land depicted here, but also won (through warfare) control of the northern area of Palestine. Jews weren't expansionist, they were preservationist. They would need to create territorial buffers and secure inter connections between their settlements, in order to defend them. If you reflect on the 1946 Map, you can see that there were Jews living in the north that would have been trapped in Arab controlled lands, under the UN plan, had the Jews not defeated the Arabs in that area. Also, to connect to western Jerusalem (which was majority Jewish) the Jews had to take and hold the western corridor. So yes, the Jews won the battles and grew the region they controlled, but this map makes no attempt to communicate the necessity of this in order for the Jews to survive.

Another big truth omitted here is that in 1948 Jordan invaded and took over the West Bank, and Egypt invaded and took Gaza. If the map were honest; it would depict this too. Remember: The Arabs started and lost the war, so these lines of sovereignty were settled by war, not diplomacy. Arab nations conquered the Gaza strip and the West Bank. So what they aren't showing you is that the Palestinians were living under occupation of Jordan & Egypt, and the regions the Jews took over during the war also had Jews living in them!

<u>Bottom line:</u> The 1947 map represents the UN plan that never actualized. So it's pretty useless, except as propaganda, to try to falsely paint the Israelis as expansionist. The truth here is that the Jews did expand, but only as a means of survival. Their gains are essentially similar to those shown in gray in the 1967 map. These gains are significant and justified. They were important to preserve the Jews that lived in lands that the 1947 plan would have given to Arab control. If these areas were not conquered, the Jews there would have been totally cut off. Never forget: at the end of the 1948 war, the Jews trapped, in areas where Arabs ruled, were killed or expelled by Arabs!

1967: This map has all sorts of issues… First, if it represented the pre-6 Day war borders, it would look a lot like the 1947 map (but it would still has errors and omissions). Second, if it was the aftermath of the 6-day war, it's way off. It doesn't note that Israel took Gaza, the Sinai, and the Golan heights. The map is just propaganda and of no worth. The fact that it doesn't even say pre or post war tells you little work went into making a useful map.

2010: This map too is worthless propaganda. First Gaza: Israel removed all military forces in 2005 and forcibly removed all its Jewish settlements from the region. Israel went as far as exhuming their dead so that they could say there were absolutely no Israelis in Gaza! The Gaza strip should be depicted all green!

Also, the green spattering in the West Bank shows Palestinian populations within them but omit the Arab populations living in Israel as Israeli citizens! These regions of population density are depicted as if they are political borders (similar to the trick used on the 1946 map, but in reverse). Remember, if you want to use

population distributions then you should depict them for each population everywhere. These propagandists attempt to mislead you by depicting population distributions and political borders as equal.

What the 2010 map seems to show is Oslo accord Zone A & B territories depicted as if they were somehow one zone or sovereignty. This depiction disagrees with the terms of the Oslo Accords. (The Oslo accords were agreed upon by Israel and the PLO/PA in the early 90's). Palestinians live and work in areas A & B, C, though they will have to pass some sort of security check-point (as do the Israelis) to move from one zone type to the next. Also Palestinians in zone C receive heightened scrutiny. Typically Palestinians live and work within the same area, or live in A and work in B (or the opposite).

Oslo Accord Map



Bottom line: the Oslo Accords broke the West Bank into pockets of land designated with three types of zones. The above map would be an accurate representation.



Standard signage on roads leading into Zone A.

Zone A is fully and completely under Palestinian rule with Palestinian Police & Security.

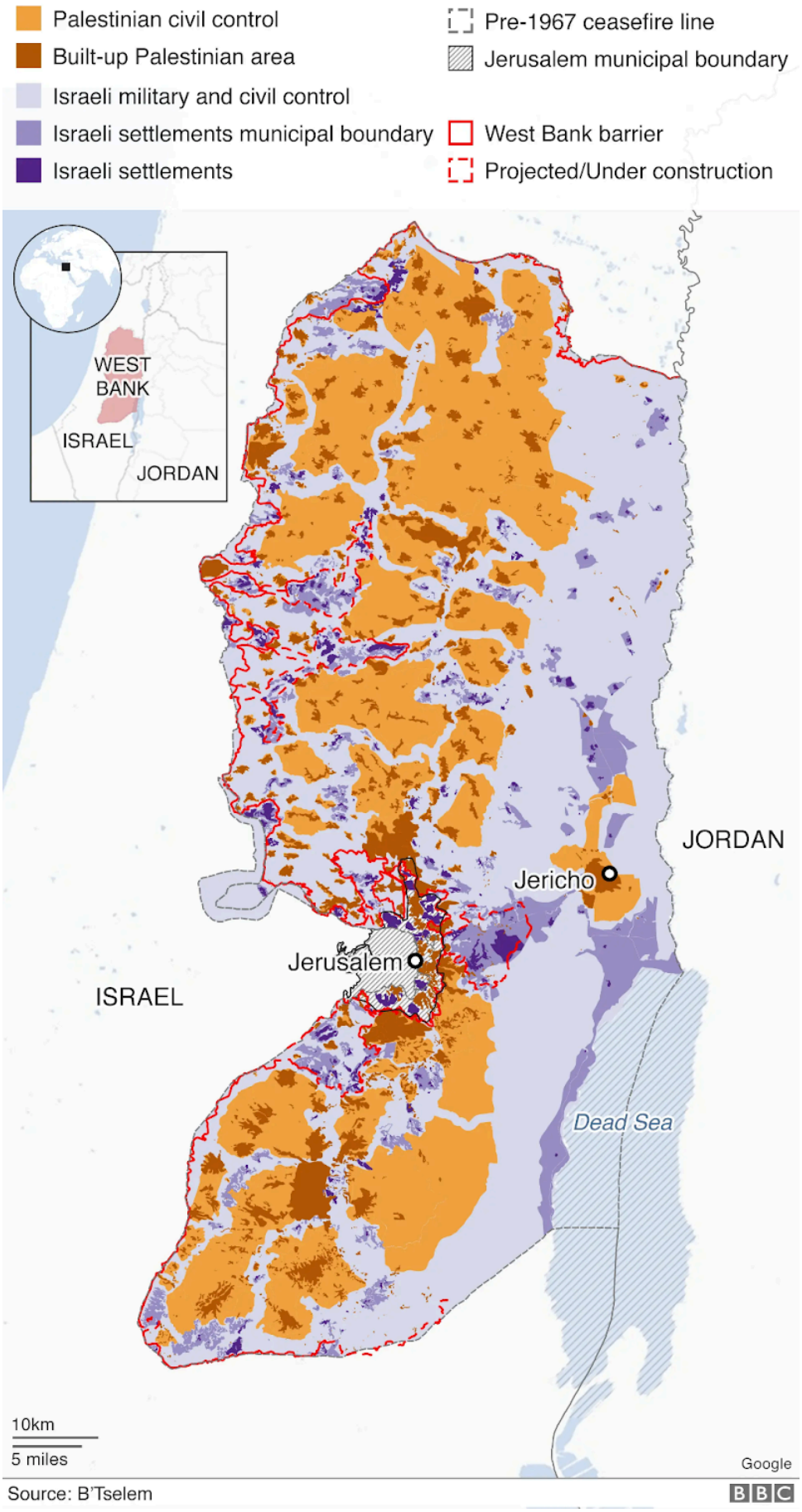
Zone B is Palestinian rule, but with Israeli and Palestinian security.

Zone C is Israeli control with Israeli security. Palestinians are highly restricted from crossing into and out of Zone C unless vetted by passing through a checkpoint. However, Palestinians have prohibited Israelis from entering "Zone A" lands and generally kill them on the spot if they enter Zone A. The signs designating Zone A warn Israelis they will probably be killed.

So the hypocrisy in the propaganda map should be clear: in areas controlled and secured by Palestinians: Jews are warned that they may be killed (Zone A). In areas controlled by Palestinians but secured by Israel & PA (Zone B) all are safe. Zone C is mostly rugged or harsh terrain, and tends to be largely devoid of towns. It is the area controlled and secured by Israel. Palestinians trying to enter Zone C are checked and must have good reason for being in, or passing through. However, unlike Jews in Zone A, Palestinians do safely travel through Zone C regularly.

Map of West Bank Settlements

West Bank settlements



Source: B'Tselem

BBC

Israeli Settlements

Commonly called the main impediment to peace, the Israeli settlements in the west bank can be quite polarizing. First as always, there is a lot of propaganda and rhetoric here. I urge you to never forget that, and in addition, remember one side is focused on security and living peaceably in its biblical homeland, while the other is focused on independence, murder & revenge. It should be clear who to support.

Israeli settlements (frequently in the news) are mainly only in Zones B and C. Many of the Israelis who live here employ Palestinians. They live and work together peacefully.

Please remember Jews lived in this same area (also known as Judea and Samaria) as a persecuted minority since the time of Roman rule. Then after the 1948 war, the Jews in this region were either murdered or forced out. After the Six Day War, the children of the Jews forced out returned and resettled in many places. Many Jews feel it is their ordained right to return to this land and continue to move into the region. Both with and without the support of the government of Israel.

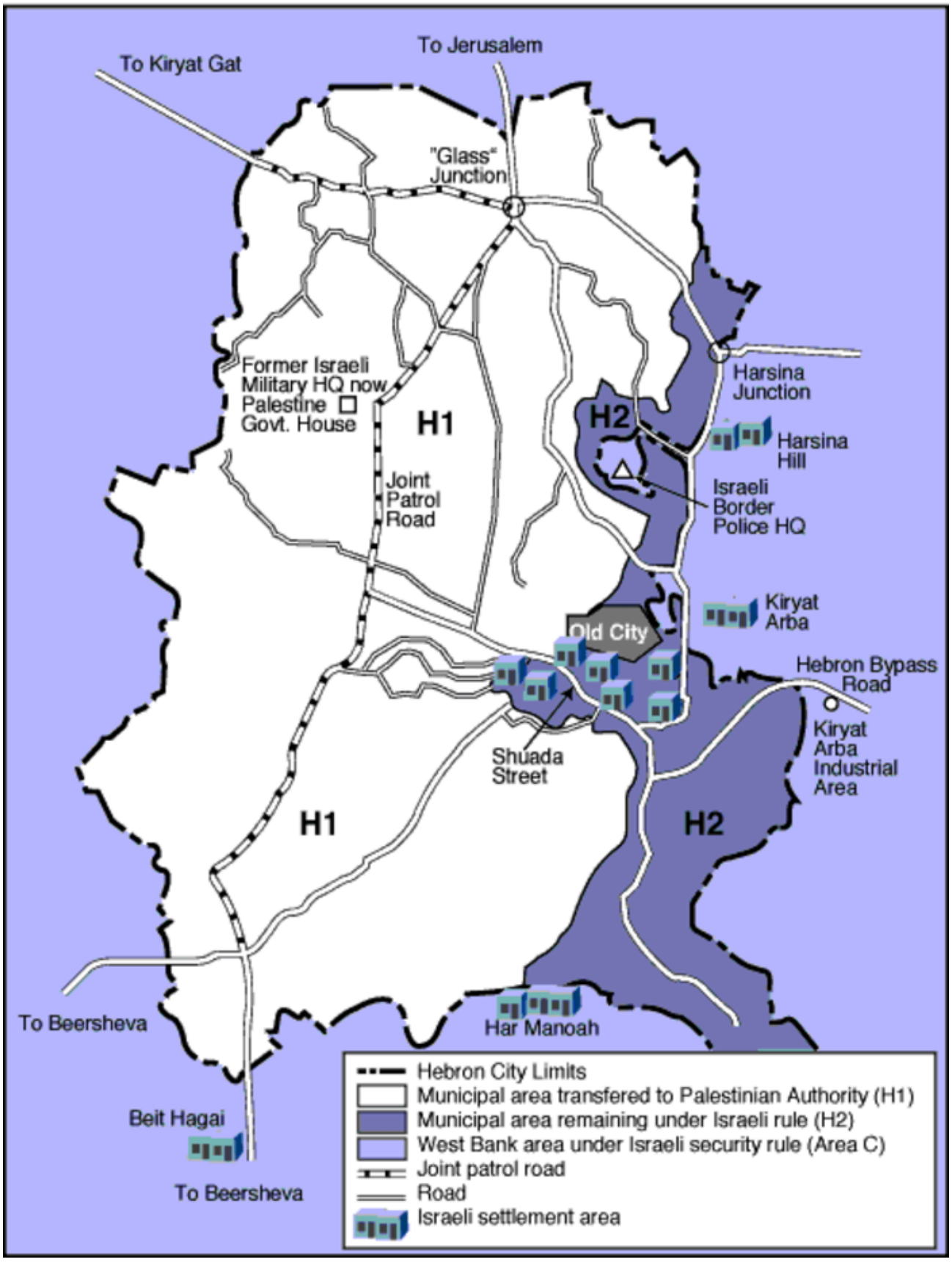
Many archaeological sites were settled by Jewish archeologists (like Shiloh, the place the Ark of the Covenant resided before the Temple was built). All the discoveries at these sorts of archaeological sites have verified the biblical account and prove beyond any doubt this land to have been the historical home of Jews.

Right now there are somewhere between 400,000-700,000 (Depending on who's numbers you trust) Israeli settlers living in Judea-Samaria (aka the west bank). The Palestinian West Bank population is around 3 million. Publicly, a loud majority of Palestinians are in an uproar about the Israeli settlements.

However it's not hard to find Palestinians who just want to live in peace and accept the Jews living there. When interviewed, they typically want their identity protected, so that they are not subjected to reprisals for saying something other than "Israelis are colonial invaders". So there may be a majority upset about the settlements, but the Palestinians are not completely united here. As is typical with Muslims, dissent and free speech are not tolerated. The Palestinians in power are ruthless when dealing with dissent and those who would coexist peaceably.

Map of Hebron, 2000

Hebron – 2000


To Kiryat Gat
To Jerusalem
"Glass" Junction
Former Israeli Military HQ now Palestine Govt. House
H1
H2
Joint Patrol Road
Harsina Junction
Harsina Hill
Israeli Border Police HQ
Kiryat Arba
Old City
Hebron Bypass Road
Kiryat Arba Industrial Area
Shuada Street
H1
H2
To Beersheva
Har Manoah
Beit Hagai
To Beersheva
Hebron City Limits
Municipal area transfered to Palestinian Authority (H1)
Municipal area remaining under Israeli rule (H2)
West Bank area under Israeli security rule (Area C)
Joint patrol road
Road
Israeli settlement area

The Pro-Palestinian propagandists wouldn't ever want you to consider anything beyond a Palestinian 'one state' solution in this region. Israel has stated that this area is sovereign Israeli land, that it must remain Israeli for security reasons, and they have the right to live there alongside the Palestinians. Jordan gave up all claims to the West Bank when it signed a peace treaty with Israel. So legally, the sovereignty of the West Bank seems to be that it belongs to Israel. The Palestinian Authority would argue against that, and the UN has made declarations backing the Palestinians. Curiously, Israel has offered sovereignty many times and it has always been rejected by the Palestinians. They stick to the all or nothing position and will not compromise, at least publicly. How can the issue of the right to settle be clear, when they can't even establish who has legitimate sovereignty over the region?

The Israelis continue to increase their settlements, and buy as much land and buildings as the Palestinians will sell, even if they are in Zone A. The IDF frequently has to go into Zone A to establish peace, put down uprisings, and combat terrorists. They also station soldiers in Zone A where Israelis have purchased, and continue to purchase homes. This is arguably against the Oslo Accords, but necessary for security. Of note, it's very common for Palestinians who sell their homes in the West Bank to Israelis to then flee to other nations. They flee because if they don't, their entire family is killed by other Palestinians. It's pretty common for them to try and flee to another Arab nation, but still get killed in revenge for selling a home to an Israeli. The Palestinians are ruthless when dealing with dissent and those who would coexist peaceably.

The Palestinian conflict with Israeli settlers is increasing. The hottest example of tension with settlers is Hebron. Hebron is a sizable town declared as Zone A (aka H1) with a portion that is Zone C (aka H2) that abuts it (actually Hebron was cut up under prior agreements, hence the H1 & H2. I'm simplifying a complicated mess to make it easier to understand). Remember that Hebron is where Abraham's family tomb resides, and it's in the Jewish controlled area (H2), but remember we are talking city block size areas divided by streets. Also in response to Arab violence, the IDF established "sterile buffer zones" between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Sterile in that Palestinians are not allowed in them. The Palestinians have organized professional agitators who stir up trouble and film it for propaganda. When Palestinians confront Jews, the IDF usually obeys the wishes of the local Israelis over the Palestinians. The local Israelis have been murdered and subjected to Palestinian terrorists for generations. They don't want Palestinians around. The IDF tends to use a heavy hand. Too many IDF soldiers have been murdered by Palestinians to take any other stance.

The building that sits upon Abraham's tomb was a synagogue 2000 years ago, then a byzantine church, then a mosque, but is now partitioned with separate access for each party. Windows of bullet proof glass & bars separate the two groups, with Jews worshiping on one side, and Muslims on the other. Some days, and some parts, are reserved just for Jews, while others are just for Muslims. The hall Of Isaac is the larger, more beautiful part. It's only open to Jews 10 days a year. The Arabic writings have been left in place by the Israelis, even though they've controlled this building since 1967.

The city is thus of historical religious value to both Jew & Arab, Hebrew and Muslim. It attracts the most zealous Jews and most violent Arabs. Jews have lived in Hebron for over 3,000 years. (Abraham bought a cave as a burial place from the Hittites.) In Hebron in 1929, 70 Jews were massacred by the Arabs. As part of the effort to pacify the situation, the British removed all Jews from the city. Remember that the British implementation of their idyllic policies usually favored the Arabs.

The Jews quickly returned in 1967, and continue to grow. In Hebron, and everywhere else in the west bank, Israelis are buying up as much land and houses as they can. The Arab market in Hebron used to be fairly Jewish. But the Jews were purged and murdered by Arabs. It is now off limits to Jews except for special IDF escorted holidays. Because after years of murders and unrest, the city was partitioned and Jews concentrated in one area in the 1990s (area H2). Since then the Jews have been creeping more and more into what was designated Zone A (H1). Arabs live in H2 as well, and the local Jews harass them. There is constant agitation and fighting by both sides. But it's rare that a Jew kills an Arab. The Arabs frequently try to kill Jews, but are the underdogs in this system since 1967.

The IDF is setting up more and more security posts just inside Zone A (H1) to protect the Jews who are creeping further out of zone C (H2). I don't deny that the IDF treats Palestinians with a fairly heavy hand here. Palestinians argue it is designed to make them miserable and leave. The Israeli's say it's necessary to quell terrorism, and point out all the IDF soldiers and relatives attacked and murdered since 1967.

Throughout the west bank, some Palestinians sell their homes, take the money, and then won't leave. They then claim unlawful eviction when forced out of the place they sold. Then Palestinians at large get furious about it. There is hate and deceit on both sides. Satan is at work. Many Palestinians want to sell and move on, but fear other Palestinians will kill them. Remember, if an Arab sells to a Jew and the Palestinians discover the sale, the Palestinians kill the seller and their family. So even the peaceful exchange of property for money is heated and victimized.

Thus, the Israeli settlements in the west bank vary from being peaceful to volatile. The newly formed settlements at the top of unoccupied hills are fairly peaceful but, settlements in which Jews and Arabs work together, are highly volatile. A good example of this is Hebron, as mentioned above. There is literally everything in between. So this matter is different in each situation, and full of nuance for those who care to carefully consider it before taking sides. It is clear that the Israelis rule, and the Palestinians must submit, but many rebel. They don't coexist peacefully in many places. In others they do.

The matter is one of hot debate and contention, even amongst Israelis. It is openly debated in the Knesset (Israeli Parliament) and those records are public. Anyone who wants to make this a simple matter, or try to paint it as black and white is ignoring the complexity here. How the Israeli government deals with settlements in Judea & Samaria tends to vary depending on what party holds the position of Prime Minister. But in my opinion, it's been far better, less bloody, and more 'fair' under Israeli rule.

So again, remember that, the original name of the West Bank is Judea and Samaria. Jews have always lived there, and were oppressed by Arabs for over 1300 years. Whenever Arabs gained control of any part of it in the 20th century, they committed ethnic cleansing (of Jews from the region). The Jews have endured and returned after a legitimate conquest of the land. They did not expel the Arabs, and have attempted to coexist and share with the Arabs (who want to kill them). Telling the Jews to leave, or stop immigrating is not a viable solution. Handing sovereignty and control of the entire area to the Palestinian Authority will not work. The area would break into chaos, and Hamas would rule and kill Jews. Remember that under Israeli control, the 'more reasonable' Fatah group, (but deeply totally unreasonable), currently rules the Palestinian controlled west bank. The Israelis will not tolerate Hamas ruling anything. The Bible warns us that there will be no peace here until Jesus brings it.

The Israelis continue to maintain power and gain ownership of more and more small slivers of land. They have a right to live in the land, too. Palestinians in power oppose and provoke Israel, but many Palestinians are silently content living alongside Jews. So even while the struggle continues: we should support Israel, and Jews living in Judea and Samaria. Pray for the peace of both parties!

Oh, and if you hear anyone complaining of Jewish settlements in Gaza (what we are about to discuss next), remember there hasn't been a Jewish settler in Gaza (alive or dead) since 2005!

Gaza & the October 7th Attack

Gaza came under Israeli control after the 1967 Six Day war. Gaza prospered while under Israeli control, but the Palestinians longed to be rid of the Israeli occupation. Israel desired to pull out, but some Israelis settled in Gaza. Remember that the Jews were purged from Gaza in the 1948 war. This struggle ebbed and flowed.

During the 1980's all the people who lived in Gaza thrived, but the Palestinians wished to be free of the Israeli occupation. Israel moved troops in and out of Gaza as needed to keep order and protect from terrorism.

The first intifada was bloody in Gaza. The first intifada was an active violent resistance during the late 1980's. (Intifada is an Arabic word which basically signifies uprising, but the word itself doesn't have a violent context.) (The second intifada took place from the late 1990's to 2005.) After a series of smaller peace treaties and "land for peace" deals, Israel pulled all Israeli settlers and military units completely out of Gaza in 2005. Yes, In 2005, Israel forcibly removed 9,000 Jewish settlers from Gaza as part of their "land for peace deal". They handed Gaza over to the Palestinian Authority so that Palestinians could live free of Jews. The US supported Fatah in the planned elections.

A few months after the Israeli withdrawal, on January 25, 2006, Hamas won the elections instead of the US backed Fatah. Assuming the election was free and fair, which it seems it was, this shows the people of Gaza chose a terrorist organization to be their rulers. Hamas is a terrorist organization whose stated goal is the destruction of Israel, never to compromise, and to use the death of their people as public opinion weapons. Never forget that they won free and fair elections!

When Hamas took over Gaza, they murdered all their Arab opponents. They rounded up homosexuals and threw them off roofs. The members of Fatah and any other former PLO group were eliminated. Since the 2006 elections, Gaza has been ruled by Hamas alone. Elections were supposed to happen every four years, but were suspended by Hamas.

Israel, unable to stop militant growth within Gaza, and concerned for its security, isolated it by closing or restricting border crossings. This left Egypt on Gaza's southern border to supply Gaza. The Egyptians refused to help. This isolation contributed to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. This humanitarian crisis aided Hamas' propaganda and increased the humanitarian aid Hamas siphoned off.

Remember it was in response to Hamas taking Gaza over, that Israel surrounded Gaza with a security fence and greatly limited the movement of people in and out of Gaza. They were willing to work with Fatah, but Fatah lost.

After gaining their independence from Israel, one of the first things the Gazans did was destroy the industries abandoned by the Jews forced out by Israel. And yes, that's correct. Israel forcibly removed Israeli citizens from Gaza as part of the deal, and the Arabs destroyed the infrastructure previously owned by these Jews, rather than turn it towards their prosperity).

Whenever you hear pro-Palestinian propaganda saying "Isreal was illegally occupying Gaza and that's why Hamas was justified in the 7 Oct 2023 attack." These are lies and propaganda. Remember Israel went so far as to exhume and remove all Jews from the cemeteries in Gaza. So there literally wasn't a single Jewish settler, alive or dead in Gaza since 2005. There were some IDF actions in Gaza in response to threats, but they pulled out rather rapidly. Propagandists will also say; "Israel is responsible for the humanitarian crisis." Remember, It was the PLO/PA that made the agreement to remove Israel from and separate Gaza. Then Hamas siphoned humanitarian support. Egypt essentially sealed its border with Gaza, not Israel. Israel continued to send water and power into Gaza, and only closed the border in response to Hamas taking over. The Palestinians complained that it wasn't enough, wasn't reliable, and that they needed more.

Israel then suffered countless bombings, and rocket/mortar attacks launched from Gaza. Between 2005 & June 2014: 9,062 rockets, 5,099 mortars were fired at Israeli civilians by Hamas. In 2018 1,119 rockets were fired at Israeli civilians. The IDF did launch strikes (mostly by air, but some by ground) into Gaza but the IDF never occupied for much time.

Thus, Hamas made the greatest inroads of all the PLO organizations to use the tactic Arafat pioneered: "ask for peace while preparing to outright betray the peace… all the while enriching yourself." They were very effective in leveraging UN aid into building a resistance structure. Cement sent to Gaza by Israel to build housing was diverted to build tunnels or improve Hamas leaders' villas. Never forget: The leaders of Hamas own high valued property in other Arab nations. And many UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East) workers diverted aid to Hamas and were cooperative during the Oct7th attack. It's actually documented that UNRWA workers kept hostages for Hamas! Israelis have sued in US court. The UN fired 12 workers and said it would not shield them from prosecution. However once they were charged, The UN claimed immunity from prosecution for these UNRWA workers and the US Dept. of State has argued the same. It's not likely that this corruption will be further exposed or corrected.

It is well documented that schools, hospitals, and other benefactors of UN benevolence act as entry/exit points and suppliers of utilities to the Hamas tunnel network. UNRWA is clearly a Hamas puppet in Gaza. Despite what Pro-Palestinian propagandists say: Hamas has a well-documented tunnel network, they are supplied utilities by schools, hospitals, and UNWRA facilities. Note: Hamas didn't build a single bomb shelter for non-combatants. Hamas wants innocents to die to promote the humanitarian crisis. Pro-Palestinian propagandists will try to deny this reality. Using hospitals, mosques, UNRWA facilities, UNRWA workers, and schools for warfare is part of the Hamas human shield plan.

Response to the Israeli's invasion of Gaza (due to the October 7th attack)

Since the Oct 7th 2023 Hamas assault from Gaza into Israel against civilians (Hamas directly targeted and brutally murdered over 1,200 civilians, raped countless women, burned babies in their cribs, and took ~ 251 hostages back to Gaza) The death, casualty, and Israeli hostage numbers are reliable. The other numbers concerning Palestinian casualties are not reliable.

In response to the October 7th attack, Israel has been flattening Gaza. Hamas does not follow the basic rules of war, such as wearing uniforms. They dress like civilians and use civilians as shields. Of note: the IDF drops leaflets, or flies drones with loud speakers telling the civilians to flee an area before an assault. These warnings direct the civilians to a route of escape. Then Hamas blocks that route to force the non-combatants to stay. This makes the Israeli strikes more deadly to civilians and improves their use as a propaganda weapon in the media. This is a wretched barbaric tactic frequently employed by all the Palestinian groups since the 1999 (second) intifada.

Surely women and children are dying. However the UN and official Gaza government death tolls are generated by Hamas. They are inflated, erroneous, and also make no discernment between teenage Hamas fighters killed and innocent children killed. You should give little regard to their publicized figures, while understanding that there are lots of people dying. These numbers are propaganda.

On top of the death tolls reported in the western media coming straight from Hamas/Hamas controlled agencies, there are other good reasons to distrust these numbers. If you look at the numbers the Palestinians have released on previous incursions vs what is verifiable, it's clear any PLO group massively inflates these numbers in an attempt to stoke international outrage. More reliable numbers tend to show a ratio of 1 or 3 Hamas fighters killed per one civilian death (depending who's numbers you trust). Either way, that is a remarkably good ratio considering the dense urban fighting. This indicates the IDF understands the value of innocent life, and genuinely works to avoid collateral casualties when they can.

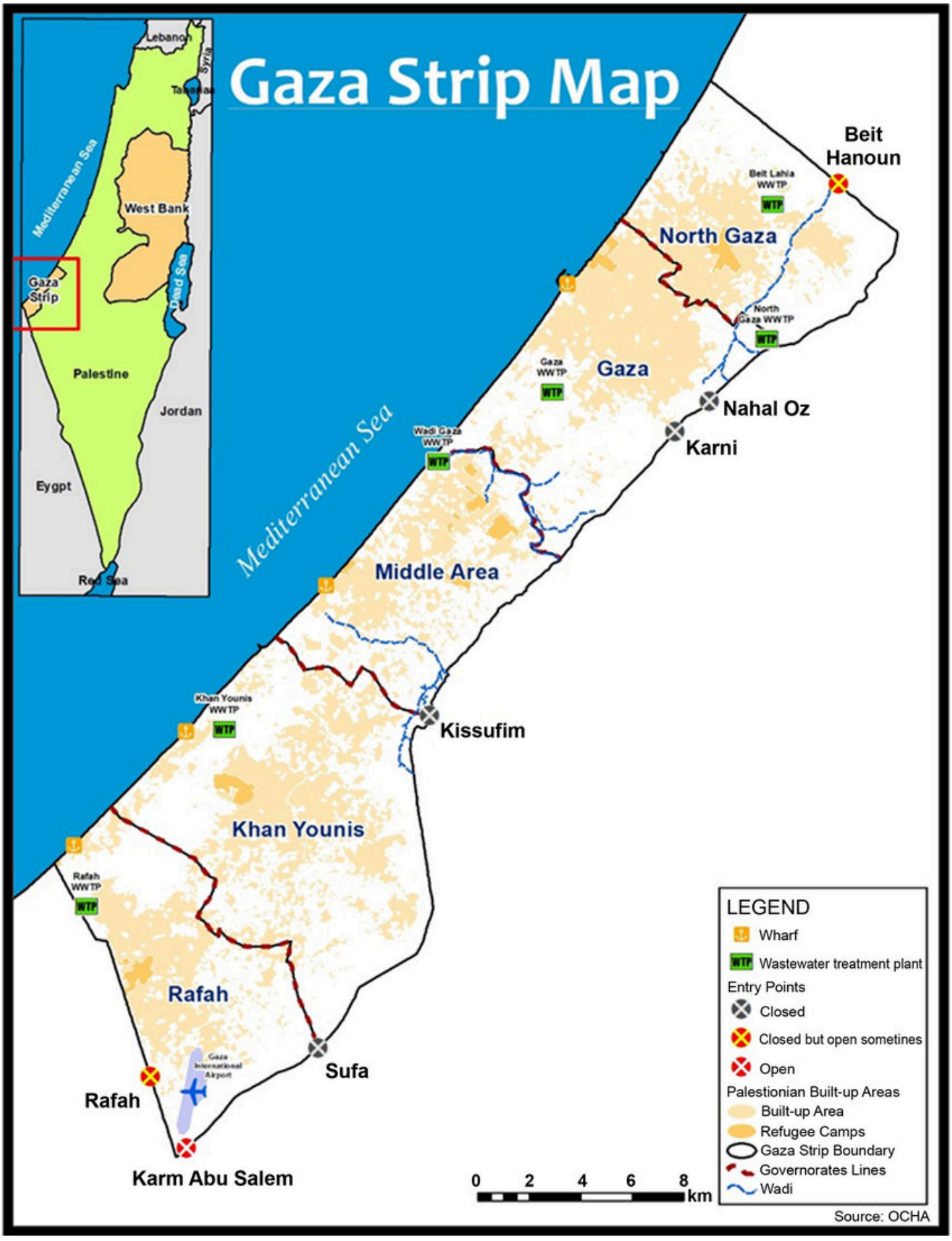
The IDF's incursion into Gaza has revealed a unique tactic employed by Hamas in Gaza. Unlike any other time, the IDF has entered Palestinian towns. The IDF is finding Hamas has prepared fighting positions in essentially every building. Once they can shoot at the IDF, they expend as much ammunition as they can. Then, when the IDF starts to close in on them, they abandon their weapons. They always leave "booby" traps

set to kill IDF soldiers as they close-in. The Hamas fighters then blend in with the innocents who flee the area, and proceed to the next prepared fighting position. This is hampering the IDF, as the IDF won't engage unarmed people fleeing the fight. They cannot discern who are Hamas fighters and who are innocents. This is unique because the weapons have historically been worth more than individual PLO fighters. Typically, they would try to carry the arms with them during the withdrawal. This new tactic illustrates just how successful Hamas was in bringing weapons into Gaza.

Isaiah 5:20 NLT
[20] What sorrow for those who say that evil is good and good is evil, that dark is light and light is dark, that bitter is sweet and sweet is bitter.

May we seek the truth here by sorting through propaganda and still maintaining our sympathy for those used as human shields. It's not right to hate the IDF when Hamas is using human shields.

Map - Gaza Strip


Gaza Strip Map
Lebanon
Syria
Tabaria
Mediterranean Sea
West Bank
Dead Sea
Gaza Strip
Palestine
Jordan
Eygpt
Red Sea
Mediterranean Sea
Beit Hanoun
Beit Lahia WWTP
WTP
North Gaza
North Gaza WWTP
WTP
Gaza WWTP
WTP
Gaza
Nahal Oz
Karni
Wadi Gaza WWTP
WTP
Middle Area
Khan Younis WWTP
WTP
Kissufim
Khan Younis
Rafah WWTP
WTP
Rafah
Gaza International Airport
Sufa
Rafah
Karm Abu Salem
0 2 4 6 8 km
LEGEND
Wharf
WTP Wastewater treatment plant
Entry Points
Closed
Closed but open sometines
Open
Palestionian Built-up Areas
Built-up Area
Refugee Camps
Gaza Strip Boundary
Governorates Lines
Wadi
Source: OCHA

This map is "Pre-October 7th, 2023 Invasion" and shows border crossings with Egypt (Rafah) and Israel (all others). *Note this map reveals a bias in itself: it shows the Golan Heights as owned by Syria. They haven't been Syrian since 1967.*

Egypt's role in Gaza

After the Israeli withdrawal in 2005, Gaza could have been supplied from the Siani via Egypt, but Egypt has essentially prevented even basic humanitarian support from passing through this border for decades. However, the Egyptian border is the common route for black market goods and weapons.

Remember: Egypt officially blocks support to the Gaza strip for the reasons below.

#1 Palestinians tend to be trouble for whoever tries to help them.

#2 The suffering of Palestinians is bad for Israel's public opinion and international position, and thus good for the cause of defeating Israel. This pleases Arabs who opposed Israel

#3 Muslim culture is about honor and shame, not compassion.

#4 Egypt fears that Israel could outright wipe them off the map if they overtly supported Hamas. Egypt must overtly *appear* to honor the 1978 Sadat peace treaty while secretly opposing Israel.

#5 There's a lot more money to be made by leveraging the black-market flow of goods in, and people out. If people can get it easily through their border with Egypt it cannot be leveraged to make black market money. So those in power block overt support in order to profit from the flow of black-market goods.

The USA expended many resources building a pier to resupply Gaza rather than trying to utilize the land route from Egyptian ports directly into Gaza, so I submit that the CIA/US Military are aware of 4 & 5, and find it better to circumvent Egypt.

In the summer of 2024, Israel seized Rafa (the southern portion of Gaza that abuts the border with Egypt). This is also known as the Philadelphia corridor. Thus, Israel now controls the southern (covert and overt) routes to supply Gaza from Egypt. While Egypt has officially denied asylum and any plans for 'free entry of Palestinian refugees,' there were many reports of Egyptian border guards accepting $10,000-$20,000 bribes to allow a civilian to pass from Gaza to Egypt during the Israeli assault (remember #5 above?). (This amount of money would be a fortune for these people.) By the time you read this Israel may have given this region back to Palestinian control. As of the moment I'm writing this, there's public turmoil in Israel about keeping it or giving it back. Tactically it would be beneficial to Israel to maintain control of the Philadelphia corridor. Whatever happens, always remember the bribe system put in place by the Egyptians, obvious ties to black market goods, and the closed highway connecting Gaza to Egyptian shipping ports. Their actions speak loudly here.

Over the last decade the Egyptians have elected more and more "Muslim Brotherhood" members to their government. The Muslim brotherhood has spawned countless terror organizations. They have moved Egypt away from the more moderate stance with Israel that Sadat started (and used to broker peace with Israel). More recently it seems Egypt was responsible for attempting to broker some of the peace deals/ceasefires between Hamas and Israel, and blatantly misrepresented the Israeli offers in order to keep Hamas fighting and the black-market dollars coming in. This also blocked the return of the hostages the IDF seeks. This seems to have precipitated the IDF take-over of the Philadelphia corridor. They needed to cut off those supplies going to Hamas and nullify the influence of Egypt.

There are allegations that Egypt has allowed the tunnels to be used to bring some hostages into Egypt! Upon taking the Philadelphia corridor: The IDF uncovered multiple large smuggling tunnels (big enough to drive a vehicle through). These tunnels are so large, with obvious entry points in Egypt, that it seems impossible for

the Egyptians officials to not know about them. They were certainly being utilized by Hamas (to bring in black-market goods and weapons from Egypt). The IDF also uncovered multiple large rocket-launching systems buried within view of Egyptian security outposts. These launchers were used to bombard Israel, in view of the Egyptian border guards. These facts only seem to make sense if we understand that Egypt backs the Palestinians and Hamas efforts to hurt Israel, but also wants to be safe from Israeli retaliation (while they line their pockets).

The Egypt that signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1978 is not the Egypt we know today. Egypt has always been positioned to relieve the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Never forget they chose to enrich themselves when you weigh the matter. The Pro-Palestinian propagandists (and the western media) are the only ones who minimize, omit, deny, or just forget this reality.

Iran's response to the October 7th Gaza Invasion

Iran responded to the IDF's assault on Gaza in April 2024 by launching hundreds of missiles and drones against Israel (and stirring their Shia proxies to do the same). The Iranian strike in April was largely ineffective because:

1: The Iranians missiles had a high failure rate (bad quality).

2: The IDF's development and use of world class, cutting edge anti-ballistic missile systems.

3: The US, British, and other regional Sunni Arab forces also played a big part in knocking the Iranian assault down.

Iran launched the assault for two reasons:

With the IDF heavily engaged in southern Gaza, Iran has been stoking guerilla assaults in the north, via Hezbollah. Rather than just fight the gorilla fights up north, the IDF struck their enemies' leadership. They took killed a number of Iranian leaders who were meeting with their subordinate terror group leaders. The meeting took place in the Iraqi consulate in Damascus. The Israeli strike killed 14 Iranian, Hezbollah, and other terrorist leaders & destroyed the Iraqi consulate. Iran didn't think the IDF would be brazen enough to hit the Iraqi diplomatic compound and that is why they used it. This strike angered Iran: They launched the missile barrage as a response to the strike in Damascus.

Iran hoped to hurt Israel enough with their missile barrage, to get the Israelis to attack Iran directly. Jews killing Muslims in Iran would upset the Muslims everywhere.

The IDF's response was perfect, they did not take the bait. But they did take out Iranian, Hezbollah, and Shia Iraqi leaders. Then, they took out Syrian Air Defenses, and Iranian Air Defenses around the Iranian uranium enrichment plant. The IDF response essentially had zero collateral damage, and few non-combatant Muslims were killed. Also the removal of Iranian air defense units left a huge hole any western nation could launch airstrikes through. The Iranians will have to reconsider before launching any future strikes against Israel.

Peace through strength: Israeli power strikes fear into their opposition

The Israeli Government promised that all Hamas leaders would be persecuted no matter where they are. They then killed a Hamas leader in the Iranian guest house in the Iranian capital! (He was worth over $4 billion by the way) This will strike fear into all anti-Israel leaders everywhere. They are not safe! And this is good: It sends a message to all who would conduct terror operations against Israelis anywhere that they will not be safe if they attack innocents! Strength and the resolve to use force against evil is the only thing that will force the Islamists to take the peaceful route.

In conclusion

I'd like to draft a nice conclusion to this paper. But there is no conclusion here. As this paper ages, the Gaza campaign will continue and take its turns, just like the three quarters of a century of Israeli campaigns I tried to summarize here. I could continually add to this narrative and it would never finish until Christ returns.

The core of the struggle is not about land. The core issue is hate and a vast difference in values. One side offers freedom, the rule of law, equal rights, and desires peace. The other practices jihad, violence, and terror to try and wrestle control away from the other. The UN is corrupt and is basically a democracy of dictators, with a few large nations having veto power. They are not innocent here either. No side is perfect: Satan is at work and loves all the hate and killing. No earthly solution exists to this mess.

We should never lose sight that the Antichrist will bring peace here for 3.5 yrs before the tribulation begins. Thus, there must be turmoil for him to quell. There are supernatural powers at work here, fueled by deep hatred of two irreconcilable peoples. True peace will be elusive until Christ's return. Our desire and prayer here should be for the Peace of Israel, its prosperity, and for our Lord Jesus to return to fix this mess. It would also be best for the Palestinians to wisely lay down their arms and turn to Jesus.

If you want to continue to study and try to understand more about this mess, you will need to stay abreast of all the happenings, and keep your propaganda filter in proper working order. I suggest that you keep it simple, and cautiously but openly support Israel.

7. Resources

If you want to read more, or understand sources for this paper: I will leave you with the following things and voices to consider. (If you need references, or corroborating voices to what is contained in this writing, here's the people, places, and sources I'd recommend that you look for them):

BEN SHAPIRO Conversation with Pastor John MacArthur (great conversation. Last 15 minutes reflect on the Christian-Jew-Israel situation)
https://youtu.be/fr95oTGqnVQ?si=s0v_UsMB7Iee-yo3

Deeper Look Media, Settling the Facts: A Deeper Look At Israeli Settlements DOCUMENTARY (YouTube)
https://youtu.be/gnIfQbO4dDI

Mosab Hassan Yousef (Son of Hamas) ||| **Douglas Murray**

John Stossel Classic Stossel: Free Speech and Islam https://youtu.be/X_8WG08bdtw
Middle East Enlightenment: https://youtu.be/OvD2WCtB26k

Benny Morris, one of the New Historians who is going back to original sources and fighting the propaganda narrative of both sides. Benny has a great way of sorting through propaganda and determining trustworthy sources, and keeping a realistic perspective against revisionism. He is an author of multiple books. I recommend the following YouTube interviews

Benny with the chanel "Transliminal": https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YzN3hHEvGdc (part I)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XcVDZ2zuEyY (part II)

Benny with channel "Destiny" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LYUkb49BdmQ

Gadi Taub Israeli historian, author, and commentator known for his work in political and cultural criticism. He holds a Ph.D. in American Studies from Rutgers University and is a faculty member at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where he teaches in the School of Public Policy and the Department of Communications and Journalism. Gadi has written several books, both fiction and non-fiction, exploring themes of Israeli identity, politics, and culture. Notable titles include "The Settlers and the Struggle over the Meaning of Zionism" and "The Valley of the Cross," a novel.

Formerly a supporter of a two-state solution, however he now believes it is impossible to reconcile with the Palestinians, because of they value the destruction of Israel over their own self-determination.

"Long form" Conversation with "Quillette" concerning current events (Gaza) and what caused him to shift his view away from a two-state solution: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQ-NEZP2GWc

Taub (formerly an advocate for a two-state solution) said during this conversation in the above YouTube video: "What happened to my former argument? About the Jewish majority, about them ruling over the Palestinians without 'human rights'? My answer is: these dilemmas must be postponed because we cannot solve them at the expense of being alive."

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https://youtu.be/YTwQh72XUZo

7 things the pro-Palestinians forget to tell you **- - traveling Israel** (Israeli tour guide who has a degree in history… Started to make videos combating the propaganda and defending his beliefs.)

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Frontline (PBS) (tends to take a pro-Palestinian position, and favor the US Democratic party but still has coverage of value at times. Two videos stand out:

Deir Yassin Massacre statements from eye witnesses on both sides, and from pro-Palestinian propagandist who aided in turning it into propaganda (Hazzem Nusseibeh). This footage is an excerpt from Frontline/PBS coverage.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JfxSO95aGrg
An extensive rehashing of the last 30 years of US Policy and events in Israel & Palestine (just remember their inherent bias: they hate Trump and Netanyahu)
https://youtu.be/6-vzy4tYfaI

Trigonometry "There is No Genocide, No Apartheid, No Occupation" (Discussion about the Oct 7th Gaza campaign and propaganda, indoctrination of Palestinians since child hood to oppose Israel until utter total destruction) https://youtu.be/6wrhzDBvhEc

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Former U.S. Army JAG Officer Explains Israel & the Law of International Armed Conflict. (the Cipher Brief) YouTube https://youtu.be/U4dAroDXHic

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All **Prager U** videos in general. Some of the more important ones on the matter:
An Arab Muslim in the Israeli Army https://youtu.be/Tu-5xxZJxmA
Do you pass the Israel test? https://youtu.be/yfN2IvnIA4M
Lies about Israel lead to lies about everything: https://youtu.be/V1ohFIJfZ4E
Does Israel Occupy the West Bank? https://youtu.be/wu1rkvwzshE
A Palestinian Explains Hamas: https://youtu.be/t6of72XgiUg
Israel and Human Rights (Stephen Harper, the 22nd Prime Minister of Canada): https://youtu.be/tXy4NXbuE-k
Sophia Khalifa: My Life in Israel as an Arab Muslim https://youtu.be/wkvaxLaIsG0?si=JuZTkzAItywGcFl
Arab Muslim Speaks About Her Life in Israel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i_MfnpuafBg

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Lucy Aharish (Israeli News Anchor, of Arab ancestry) The Free Press interview with **Bari Weiss** on YouTube: "This Muslim Israeli Woman Is the Future of the Middle East" https://youtu.be/8LIcd7wHlCE

Haviv Rettig Gur (Israeli journalist who serves as the political correspondent and senior analyst for The Times of Israel) The Free Press interview with **Bari Weiss** on YouTube https://youtu.be/YVc7PsRr6dY

Discussion of the significance Philadelphia corridor (Rafah) in Gaza (Oct 7th Israeli Response)
Former IDF spokesperson Jonathan Conricus gives an analysis on the importance of the Philadelphi corridor
https://youtu.be/WM56YlwUlgE

IDF Lieutenant [colonel] gives more details on six found hostages in Rafah
https://youtu.be/WM56YlwUlgE

How many Have Really Died in Gaza? An Analysis - Warfronts: https://youtu.be/V7SW7PaYLhk

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VOX: The Middle East's cold war, explained (VOX typically carries thew Pro-Palestinian propaganda message, but in this video (circa 2017), they give a good basic understanding of the Iran vs Saudi, Sunni vs Shia issue of the modern day… though they do skip a lot of important details, or even why the US invaded Iraq … twice).
https://youtu.be/veMFCFyOwFI

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https://youtu.be/pHDtT5mIhN0
FOCOL: Uncovering the Truth About Islam's Historical Sources - Jay Smith

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Joel Kramer "Expedition Bible". Wrote a bestseller book on the bible and archeology and has a YouTube series focused on archeology. Multiple videos illustrate the veracity of the Biblical account, and a history of Jewish presence in the area (like I describe in this document). All help to understand the Jewish attachment to Judea Samaria.

https://youtu.be/8cqBePFD9S4

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https://youtu.be/nI7AIFgyTUw

BBC Hebron: A War of the narrative

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https://youtu.be/Eac1l1ozfLc
NY Times: What It's Like to Grow Up in an Israeli Settlement | Op-Docs (an investigative editorial report from the Israeli liberal perspective).

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https://youtu.be/lOhKHym5y3s

Forgotten History - TRUTH about Palestine
(a good recollection of the past and pertinent facts…. It's just a bit too pro-Israel on a few points [such as why some folks became refugees in 1948… this would be better if it incorporated Benny Morris' works on the creation of the Palestinian Refugee issue)