

## **Conflict in the Middle East**

**Lesson Topic:** To understand the origin and events of the conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians

**Audience/Grade:** AP World History and/or Global History and Geography, 10<sup>th</sup> grade

**Time Frame:** Two forty-minute class periods

**Materials:** SmartBoard, Handouts, Video clips from United Streaming/Discovery International  
(<https://app.discoveryeducation.com/>)

### **New York State Standards:**

- Standard 1 – United States History, Key Idea 2
- Standard 2 – World History, Key Ideas 1, 2, 3, and 4
- Standard 3 - Geography, Key Ideas 1 and 2
- Standard 5 - Civics, Citizenship and Government, Key Ideas 1 and 4

### **Common Core Curriculum Standards:**

- Reading 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10
- Writing 1, 2

### **Objectives:**

- Students will be able to understand the origin of the conflict between the Palestinians and Israelis.
- Students will be able to demonstrate reading comprehension.
- Students will be able to determine the main idea of primary source documents.
- Students will be able to use critical thinking skills to argue against a presented viewpoint.
- Students will be able to understand multiple perspectives.
- Students will be able to demonstrate civic engagement.
- Students will be able to demonstrate world historical context.
- Students will be able to dialogue about causation of changes.
- Students will be able to analyze statistics.
- Students will be able to interpret maps.
- Students will be able to learn content about the conflict between the Palestinians and Israelis throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

**Do Now:** Students will read “The Jewish State” by Theodor Herzl and answer three reflective questions.

### **Procedure:**

1. The teacher will begin by going over the document and elaborating by putting the history of the time in context. (*Discussing trends in Eastern as well as Western and Central Europe as outlined by Liora Halpin*)

2. The teacher will then distribute a guided note sheet and begin a PowerPoint presentation. The beginning slide asks students to analyze yet another document, an excerpt from the Balfour Declaration. Then, students will interpret the map of the UN partition plan as well as statistics regarding population in the area at the time of partition. *(Statistics and information extracted from the presentation by Bernard Wasserstein.)* Students will be asked to identify problems with the partition plan as well as ideas as to how it might have been divided differently. Students will also be asked to analyze the population of the time and respond to why more land was given to the smaller population *(the idea was that more will migrate in)*.
3. The presentation continues taking the students through the creation of the state of Israel and then the wars that began. A film clip from Discovery International streaming will then be shown that summarizes what had just been discussed and adds visuals. *(Discuss how the Arab armies did not work together as was explained by Ann Lesch)*

### **On Day Two-**

4. The presentation continues to advance through the years chronologically and discusses the formation of the PLO, the Six Day War, the Yom Kippur War and finally attempts at peace with the Camp David Accords in 1979. More video clips are interspersed for clarification and visuals.
5. We then see the digression again with the intifada and then the hope of the Oslo-Peace Accords, followed by Rabin's assassination, the next Intifada, and then the Road Map for Peace. Throughout this, the teacher will be elaborating and stressing the role of individuals, as well as multiple perspectives (terrorists versus freedom fighters, necessary protection or aggression, spoilers and peacemakers, etc.)

**Closure:** Students will be asked to respond to the reflection questions at the end of the handout:

- a. *What is the root cause of the Arab-Israeli Conflict?*
- b. *Has there been any progress towards peace in the region? Explain.*
- c. *What are the major obstacles in the way of creating lasting peace in the region?*

Their thoughts will be shared. *(Following this two day lesson, the teacher will show the movie Promises which does a great job of explaining the conflict but more importantly showing it through the lens of children living in the region.)*

# Arab-Israeli Conflict

## Brief History

### Zionism

In 1896 following the appearance of anti-Semitism in Europe, Theodor Herzl, the founder of Zionism, tried to find a homeland for the Jews, a \_\_\_\_\_. He advocated the creation of a Jewish state in Argentina or Palestine. At the time of World War I the area was ruled by the Turkish Ottoman Empire.

### Balfour Declaration

Britain occupied the region at the end of the World War I in 1918 and was assigned as the mandatory power by the League of Nations on 25 April 1920.

Then in 1917, the British Foreign Minister Arthur Balfour committed Britain to work towards “the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people,” in a letter to leading Zionist Lord Rothschild. It is known as the “\_\_\_\_\_”

### U.N. Partition Plan

Britain, which had ruled Palestine since 1920, handed over responsibility for solving the Zionist-Arab problem to the UN in 1947.

The UN recommended splitting the territory into separate Jewish and Palestinian \_\_\_\_\_. The partition plan gave:

- 56.47% of Palestine to the Jewish state
- 43.53% to the Arab state
- An international enclave around Jerusalem.
- On 29 November 1947, 33 countries of the UN General Assembly voted for partition, 13 voted against and 10 abstained.

### Israel's War for Independence

The State of Israel, the first Jewish state for nearly 2,000 years, was proclaimed on May 14, 1948 in Tel Aviv. The declaration came into effect the following day as the last British troops withdrew.

The day after the state of Israel was declared five Arab armies from Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria and Iraq immediately \_\_\_\_\_ Israel but were repulsed, and the Israeli army crushed pockets of resistance. Armistices established Israel's borders on the frontier of most of the earlier British Mandate Palestine.

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



### Formation of the PLO

In January 1964, the Palestinians created a genuinely independent organization when Yasser Arafat took over the chairmanship of the Palestine \_\_\_\_\_ Organization (PLO) in 1969. His Fatah organization was gaining notoriety with its armed operations against Israel. Fatah fighters inflicted heavy casualties on Israeli troops at Karameh in Jordan in 1968.

### Violence

In the 1970s, under Yasser \_\_\_\_\_ leadership, PLO factions and other militant Palestinian groups launched a series of attacks on Israeli and other targets.

One such attack took place at the \_\_\_\_\_ in 1972 in which 11 Israeli athletes were killed.



## Yasser Arafat at the U.N.

But while the PLO pursued the armed struggle to "liberate all of Palestine," Arafat made a dramatic first appearance at the \_\_\_\_\_ in 1974 mooted a peaceful solution. He condemned the Zionist project, but concluded that the speech was a watershed in the Palestinians' search for international recognition of their cause.

*"Today I have come bearing an olive branch and a freedom fighter's gun. Do not let the olive branch fall from my hand."*

## Camp David Accords



In 1979, after intensive negotiations conducted by the U.S., Israel and Egypt signed the \_\_\_\_\_ accords. A peace treaty was concluded and Israel returned the Sinai desert to the Egyptians. President Sadat of Egypt became the first Arab leader to visit the Jewish state and in a sign of the new relations between the two countries, he addressed the Israeli parliament, the Knesset.

Sadat was \_\_\_\_\_ in 1981 by Islamist elements in the Egyptian army, who opposed peace with Israel, during national celebrations to mark the anniversary of the October war.

## Palestinian Uprising or Intifada

A mass uprising-or \_\_\_\_\_ against the Israeli occupation began in Gaza; quickly spread to West Bank.

- Protest took the form of civil disobedience, general strikes, boycotts on Israeli products, graffiti, and barricades, but it was the stone-throwing demonstrations against the heavily-armed occupation troops that captured international attention.
- The Israeli Defense Forces responded and there was heavy loss of life among Palestinian civilians.
- More than 1,000 died in clashes which lasted until 1993.



## Oslo Peace Process



The election of the left-wing Labour government in June 1992, led by Yitzhak \_\_\_\_\_, triggered a period of frenetic Israeli-Arab peacemaking in the mid-1990s.

- The PLO, meanwhile, wanted to make peace talks work because of the weakness of its position due to the Gulf War in 1991.
- The Palestinians consented to recognize Israel in return for the beginning of phased dismantling of Israel's occupation.
- Negotiations culminated in the Declaration of Principles, signed on the White House lawn and sealed with a historic first handshake between Rabin and Arafat watched by 400 million people around the world.

## Jordan-Israeli Peace

In July 1994 Prime Minister Mr. Rabin and King Hussein of Jordan signed a peace agreement ending 46 years of war and strained relations.

The agreement, which was signed at the White House in the presence of U.S. President Bill Clinton, laid the groundwork for a full peace treaty.

## Rabin Assassinated

Oslo II was greeted with little enthusiasm by Palestinians, while Israel's religious right was furious at the "surrender of Jewish land". Amid an incitement campaign against Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a Jewish religious \_\_\_\_\_ assassinated him on 4 November, sending shock waves around the world. Shimon Peres, architect of the faltering peace process, became prime minister.



## New Talks Failed!

After the withdrawal from Lebanon in May 2000, attention turned back to Yasser Arafat, who was under pressure from Barak and US President Bill Clinton to abandon gradual negotiations and launch an all-out push for a final settlement at the presidential retreat at Camp David. Two weeks of talks failed to come up with acceptable solutions to the status of \_\_\_\_\_ and the right of return of Palestinian refugees.

In the uncertainty of the ensuing impasse, Ariel Sharon, the veteran right-winger who would succeed Barak, toured the al-Aqsa/Temple Mount complex in Jerusalem on 28 September. Sharon's critics saw it as a highly provocative move. Palestinian demonstrations followed, quickly developing into what became known as the al-Aqsa intifada, or uprising.

## Road Map to Peace

- The \_\_\_\_\_ for peace is a plan to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict proposed by the United States, the European Union, Russia, and the United Nations.
- The principles of the plan calls for an independent Palestinian state living side by side with the Israeli state in peace. Bush was the first U.S. President to explicitly call for such a Palestinian state.



## Arafat Dies



- Yasser Arafat, the champion of Palestinian \_\_\_\_\_ died on Thursday 11th November, at age 75 in a military hospital in France.
- While his own people in Palestine have responded to his death with deep sorrow and grief, world leaders and religious bodies around the world express their new hope for peace to be brought to war-torn Palestine.

1. *What is the root cause of the Arab-Israeli Conflict?*
2. *Has there been any progress towards peace in the region? Explain.*
3. *What are the major obstacles in the way of creating lasting peace in the region?*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The Jewish State (1896)  
*Theodor Herzl*

INTRODUCTION:

The Jewish question still exists. It would be foolish to deny it. It is a remnant of the Middle Ages, which civilized nations do not: even yet seem able to shake off, try as they will. They certainly showed a generous desire to do so when they emancipated us. The Jewish question exists wherever Jews live in perceptible numbers. . . We naturally move to those places where we are not persecuted, and there our presence produces persecution. This is the case in every country, and will remain so, even in those highly civilized--for instance, France--until the Jewish question finds a solution on a political basis.

I believe that I understand Anti-Semitism, which is really a highly complex movement. I consider it from a Jewish standpoint, yet without fear or hatred. I believe that I can see what elements there are in it of vulgar sport, of common trade jealousy, of inherited prejudice, of religious intolerance, and also of pretended self-defense. I think the Jewish question is no more a social than a religious one, notwithstanding that it sometimes takes these and other forms. It is a national question, which can only be solved by making it a political world-question to be discussed and settled by the civilized nations of the world in council.

We are a people--one people.

We have honestly endeavored everywhere to merge ourselves in the social life of surrounding communities and to preserve the faith of our fathers. We are not permitted to do so. In vain are we loyal patriots, our loyalty in some places running to extremes; in vain do we make the same sacrifices of life and property as our fellow-citizens; in vain do we strive to increase the fame of our native land in science and art, or her wealth by trade and commerce. In countries where we have lived for centuries we are still cried down as strangers, and often by those whose ancestors were not yet domiciled in the land where Jews had already had experience of suffering. . . It is useless, therefore, for us to be loyal patriots. . . If we could only be left in peace. . . But I think we shall not be left in peace. Oppression and persecution cannot exterminate us. No nation on earth has survived such struggles and sufferings as we have gone through . . .

It might more reasonably be objected that I am giving a handle to anti-Semitism when I say we are a people--one people; that I am hindering the assimilation of Jews where it is about to be consummated, and endangering it where it is an accomplished fact, insofar as it is possible for a solitary writer to hinder, or endanger anything. . . But the distinctive nationality of Jews neither can, will, nor must be destroyed. It cannot be destroyed, because external enemies consolidate it. It will not be destroyed; this is shown during two thousand years of appalling suffering. . .

THE PLAN:

Let the sovereignty be granted us over a portion of the globe large enough to satisfy the rightful requirements of a nation; the rest we shall manage for ourselves. . .

Should the Powers declare themselves willing to admit our sovereignty over a neutral piece of land, then the Society will enter into negotiations for the possession of this land.

Here two territories come under consideration, Palestine and Argentine. In both countries important experiments in colonization have been made, though on the mistaken principle of a gradual infiltration of Jews. An infiltration is bound to end badly. It continues till the inevitable moment when the native population feels itself threatened, and forces the Government to stop a further influx of Jews. Immigration is consequently futile unless we have the sovereign right to continue such immigration. . .

The Society of Jews will treat with the present masters of the land, putting itself under the protectorate of the European Powers, if they prove friendly to the plan. We could offer the present possessors of the land enormous



advantages, assume part of the public debt, build new roads for traffic, which our presence in the country would render necessary, and do many other things. The creation of our State would be beneficial to adjacent countries, because the cultivation of a strip of land increases the value of its surrounding districts in innumerable ways.

### PALESTINE OR ARGENTINE?

Shall we choose Palestine or Argentina? We shall take what is given us, and what is selected by Jewish public opinion. The Society will determine both these points.

Argentina is one of the most fertile countries in the world, extends over a vast area, has a sparse population and a mild climate. The Argentine Republic would derive considerable profit from the cession of a portion of its territory to us. The present infiltration of Jews has certainly produced some discontent, and it would be necessary to enlighten the Republic on the intrinsic difference of our new movement.

Palestine is our ever-memorable historic home. The very name of Palestine would attract our people with a force of marvelous potency. If His Majesty the Sultan were to give us Palestine, we could in return undertake to regulate the whole finances of Turkey. We should there form a portion of a rampart of Europe against Asia, an outpost of civilization as opposed to barbarism. We should as a neutral State remain in contact with all Europe, which would have to guarantee our existence. The sanctuaries of Christendom would be safeguarded by assigning to them an extra-territorial status such as is well-known to the law of nations. We should form a guard of honor about these sanctuaries, answering for the fulfillment of this duty with our existence. This guard of honor would be the great symbol of the solution of the Jewish question after eighteen centuries of Jewish suffering. . .

[S]o great a movement cannot take place without inevitably rousing many deep and powerful feelings. There are old customs, old memories that attach us to our homes. We have cradles, we have graves, and we alone know how Jewish hearts cling to the graves. . . .

Economic distress, political pressure, and social obloquy have already driven us from our homes and from our graves. We Jews are even now constantly shifting from place to place, a strong current actually carrying us westward over the sea to the United States, where our presence is also not desired. And where will our presence be desired, so long as we are a homeless nation?

But we shall give a home to our people. And we shall give it, not by dragging them ruthlessly out of their sustaining soil, but rather by transplanting them Carefully to a better ground. Just as we wish to create new political and economic relations, so we shall preserve as sacred all of the past that is dear to our people's hearts.

### **QUESTIONS:**

1. Describe the reasons why Herzl advocates for the creation of a Jewish state.
  
2. How do you think Herzl would respond to the question, "Can Jews be integrated in society?"
  
3. Is Herzl writing about religion or nationalism? Explain your response.

# The Arab-Israeli Conflict



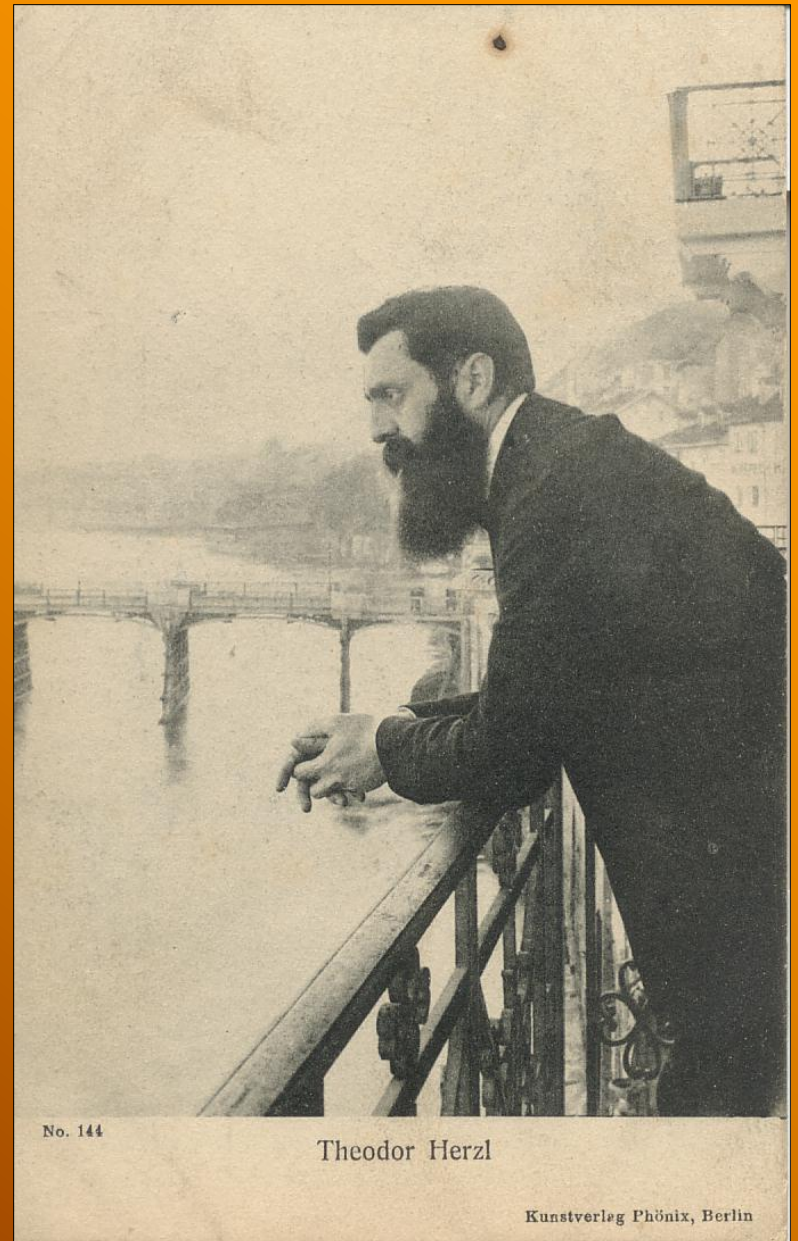
## Objectives:

- ◆ To understand the origins of the conflict
- ◆ To understand the major events of the conflict
- ◆ To determine if peace is possible in the Middle East



# ZIONISM

In 1896 following the appearance of anti-Semitism in Europe, Theodor Herzl, the founder of Zionism, tried to find a homeland for the Jews, a 'Jewish State'. He advocated the creation of a Jewish state in Argentina or Palestine.

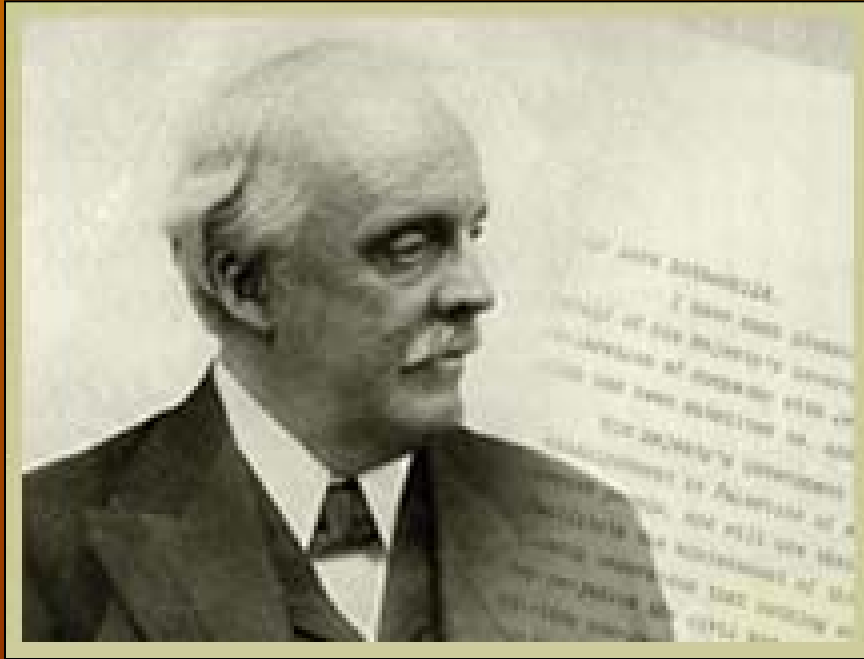


No. 144

Theodor Herzl

Kunstverlag Phönix, Berlin

# **THE BALFOUR DECLARATION**



- At the time of World War I the area was ruled by the Turkish Ottoman empire.
- Britain occupied the region at the end of the World War I in 1918 and was assigned as the mandatory power by the League of Nations on April 25 1920.

**Then in 1917, the British Foreign Minister Arthur Balfour committed Britain to work towards “the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people,” in a letter to leading Zionist Lord Rothschild.**

# The Balfour Declaration



Arthur James Balfour (1848-1930)

Foreign Office,

November 2nd, 1917.

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet

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

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

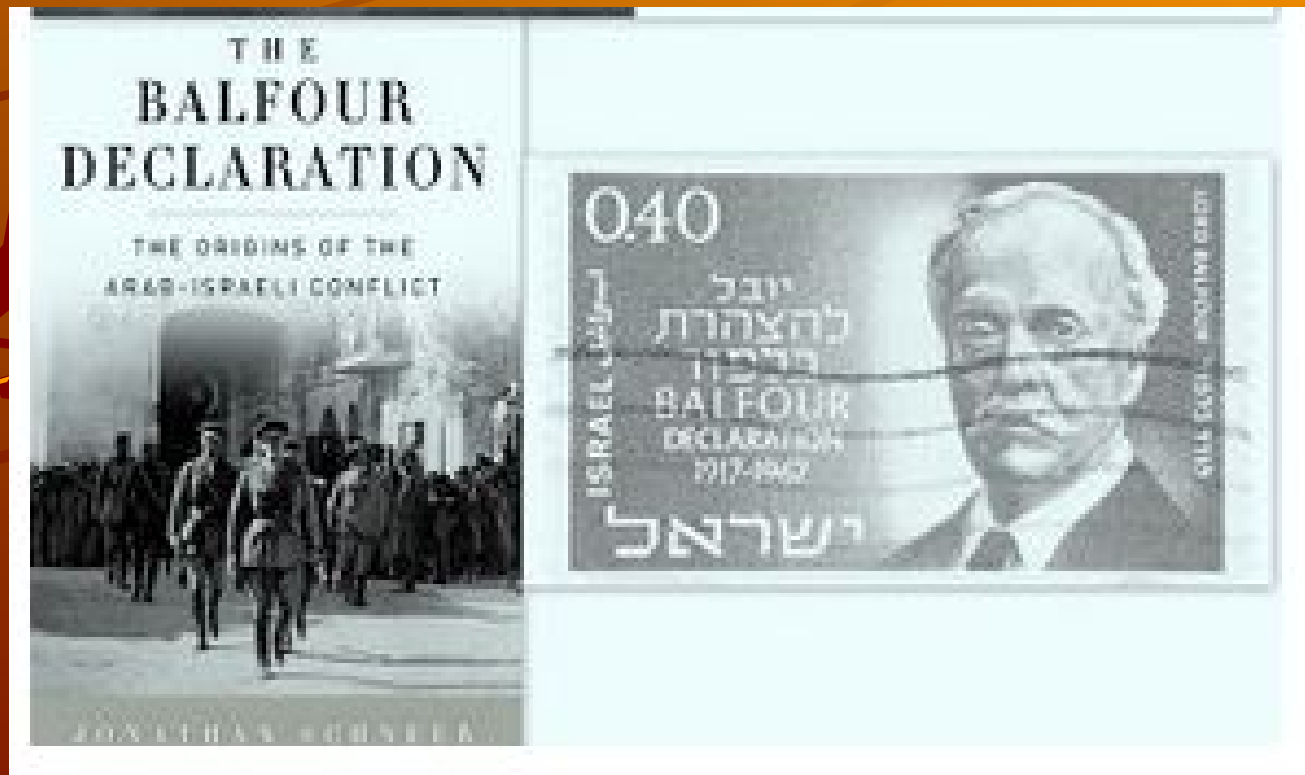
A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "A. J. Balfour". There is a small mark above the signature that looks like a checkmark or a stylized "Y".

The Balfour Declaration

1. How did the British government respond to the Zionist goal of establishing a Jewish homeland in Palestine?
2. What conditions did the British expect Zionists to meet?
3. How do you think Lord Rothschild responded?

# Lord Rothchild's Response

*"I can assure you that the gratitude of ten millions of people will be yours, for the British government has opened up, by their message, a prospect of safety and comfort to large masses of people who are in need of it."*





# UN Partition Plan

Britain, which had ruled Palestine since 1920, handed over responsibility for solving the Zionist-Arab problem to the UN in 1947.



The UN recommended splitting the territory into separate Jewish and Palestinian states.

The partition plan gave:

- 56.47% of Palestine to the Jewish state
- 43.53% to the Arab state
- An international enclave around Jerusalem.

- On November 29, 1947, 33 countries of the UN General Assembly voted for partition, 13 voted against and 10 abstained.

Which countries are most likely to vote against the U.N. Partition Plan?

# Population Breakdown

**The Partition Plan:** The UN partition plan proposed a Jewish state be created on 56 percent of Palestine. The indigenous Palestinians were left with 44 percent of their land to remain as an Arab state. At the time, two-thirds of the population of Palestine was Arab and their land ownership was slightly above 90 percent.

## Relevant Statistics:

Palestinian Population in 1947:  
Approximately 1,300,000

Jewish Population in 1947:  
Approximately 600,000

Palestinian Land Ownership:  
Approximately 90%

Jewish Land Ownership: Approximately  
10%

## QUESTION:

Why do you think the UN proposed that the minority Jewish population get the majority of the land for a Jewish state?



# Establishment of Israel



The State of Israel, the first Jewish state for nearly 2,000 years, was proclaimed on May 14, 1948 in Tel Aviv. The declaration came into effect the following day as the last British troops withdrew.

The day after the state of Israel was declared five Arab armies from Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria and Iraq immediately invaded Israel but were repulsed, and the Israeli army crushed pockets of resistance. Armistices established Israel's borders on the frontier of most of the earlier British Mandate Palestine.

# The Suez Campaign 1956

In 1956 Israel, France and Britain went to war against Egypt because:

- Egypt nationalized the Suez Canal and closed it to Israel and Western Europe
- Concern about Egypt's growing military purchases from the Russians
- Raids on Israel by Egyptian units.

During the war, Israel captured the Sinai desert, but eventually withdrew in response to U.S. pressure and returned the territory it had gained to Egypt.



# Wars Divide the Land



# Formation of the PLO

In January 1964, the Palestinians created a genuinely independent organization when Yasser Arafat took over the chairmanship of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in 1969. His Fatah organization was gaining notoriety with its armed operations against Israel.

Fatah fighters inflicted heavy casualties on Israeli troops at Karamah in Jordan in 1968.





# The Six-Day War

In June 1967:

- Egypt blockaded Israeli shipping lanes in the Red Sea, expelled UN peacekeeping troops from the border of the Sinai and built up its own troops in the area.
- Syria amassed large numbers of troops on the Golan Heights
- Israel launched preemptive strikes against Egypt. Syria and Jordan joined the fight.



# The Six-Day War



The war lasted only six days. Israel captured the Sinai and the Gaza Strip from Egypt, the Golan Heights from Syria and the West Bank from Jordan including East Jerusalem.



# The Yom Kippur War, 1973



- In 1973, on Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish year, Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Jordan attacked Israel.
- After initial Arab military successes, the Israelis managed to push back the attack. The U.S. convinced Israel to withdraw from the territories it had taken.
- For many Israelis the 1973 war reinforced the strategic importance of buffer zones occupied in 1967. The heartland of Israel would have been overrun had it not been for the buffer zones of the West Bank, the Golan Heights and the Sinai.

# Violence



- In the 1970s, under Yasser Arafat's leadership, PLO factions and other militant Palestinian groups launched a series of attacks on Israeli and other targets.
- One such attack took place at the Munich Olympics in 1972 in which 11 Israeli athletes were killed.

# The PLO Strives for Recognition



# Arafat at the United Nations



- But while the PLO pursued the armed struggle to "liberate all of Palestine," Arafat made a dramatic first appearance at the United Nations in 1974 mootng a peaceful solution.
- He condemned the Zionist project, but concluded:  
The speech was a watershed in the Palestinians' search for international recognition of their cause.

**"Today I have come bearing an olive branch and a freedom fighter's gun. Do not let the olive branch fall from my hand."**

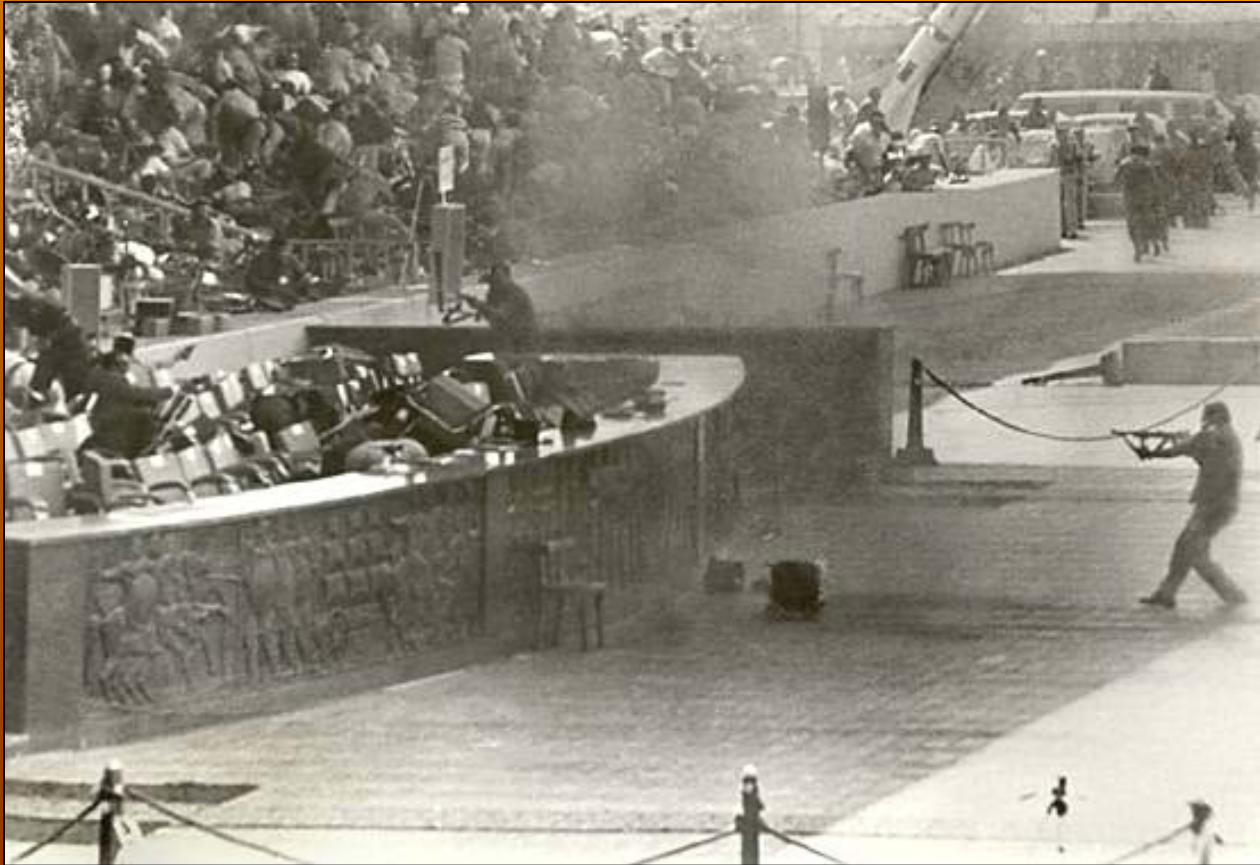
# The Camp David Accords, 1979



In 1979, after intensive negotiations conducted by the U.S., Israel and Egypt signed the Camp David accords. A peace treaty was concluded and Israel returned the Sinai desert to the Egyptians. President Sadat of Egypt became the first Arab leader to visit the Jewish state and in a sign of the new relations between the two countries, he addressed the Israeli parliament, the Knesset.



# Sadat Assassinated



Sadat was assassinated in 1981 by Islamist elements in the Egyptian army, who opposed peace with Israel, during national celebrations to mark the anniversary of the October war.



# Peace Between Israel and Egypt



# Palestinian Intifada



A mass uprising - or intifada against the Israeli occupation began in Gaza and quickly spread to the West Bank.

- Protest took the form of civil disobedience, general strikes, boycotts on Israeli products, graffiti, and barricades, but it was the stone-throwing demonstrations against the heavily-armed occupation troops that captured international attention.
- The Israeli Defense Forces responded and there was heavy loss of life among Palestinian civilians.
- More than 1,000 died in clashes which lasted until 1993.

# The Intifada Uprising



# The Oslo Peace Process



The election of the left-wing Labour government in June 1992, led by Yitzhak Rabin, triggered a period of frenetic Israeli-Arab peacemaking in the mid-1990s.

- The PLO, meanwhile, wanted to make peace talks work because of the weakness of its position due to the Gulf War in 1991.
- The Palestinians consented to recognize Israel in return for the beginning of phased dismantling of Israel's occupation.
- Negotiations culminated in the Declaration of Principles, signed on the White House lawn and sealed with a historic first handshake between Rabin and Yasser Arafat watched by 400 million people around the world.

# Arafat Returns!



- Many critics of the peace process were silenced on July 1<sup>st</sup> as jubilant crowds lined the streets of Gaza to cheer Yasser Arafat on his triumphal return to Palestinian territory.
- The returning Palestinian Liberation Army deployed in areas vacated by Israeli troops and Arafat became head of the new Palestinian National Authority (PA) in the autonomous areas. He was elected president of the Authority in January 1996.

# Jordan-Israeli Peace



- In July 1994 Prime Minister Rabin and King Hussein of Jordan signed a peace agreement ending 46 years of war and strained relations.
- The agreement, which was signed at the White House in the presence of U.S. President Bill Clinton, laid the groundwork for a full peace treaty

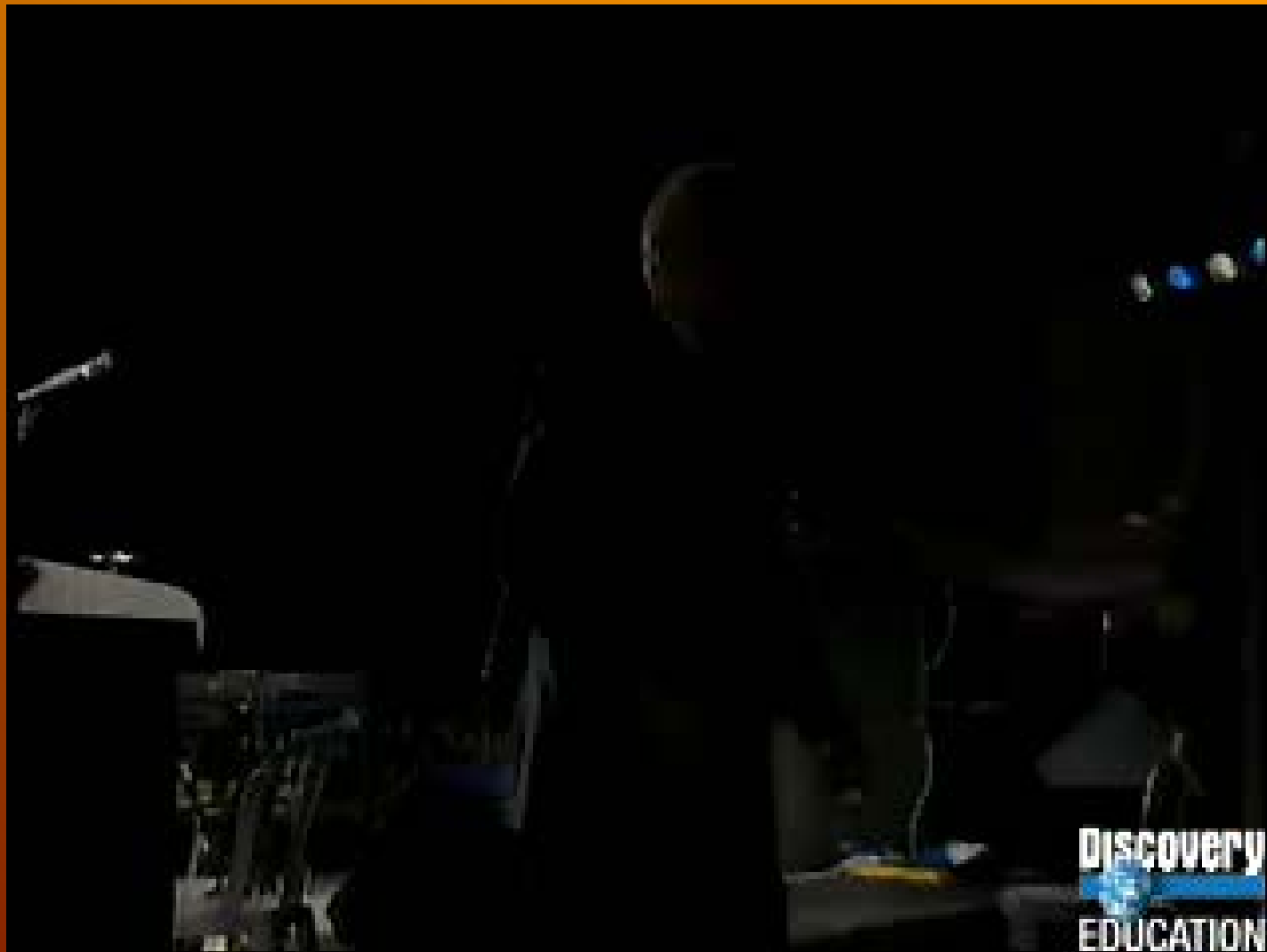


# Rabin Assassinated

- Oslo II was greeted with little enthusiasm by Palestinians, while Israel's religious right was furious at the "surrender of Jewish land".
- Amid an incitement campaign against Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a Jewish religious extremist assassinated him on 4 November, sending shock waves around the world.
- The dovish Shimon Peres, architect of the faltering peace process, became prime minister.



# Rabin Assassinated



# Talks Fail, New Intifada Starts!



- After the withdrawal from Lebanon in May 2000, attention turned back to Yasser Arafat, who was under pressure from Barak and US President Bill Clinton to abandon gradual negotiations and launch an all-out push for a final settlement at the presidential retreat at Camp David. Two weeks of talks failed to come up with acceptable solutions to the status of Jerusalem and the right of return of Palestinian refugees.

- In the uncertainty of the ensuing impasse, Ariel Sharon, the veteran right-winger who would succeed Barak, toured the al-Aqsa/Temple Mount complex in Jerusalem. Sharon's critics saw it as a highly provocative move. Palestinian demonstrations followed, quickly developing into what became known as the al-Aqsa intifada, or uprising.



# Death Toll Increases

- With his coalition collapsing around him, Barak resigned as prime minister to "seek a new mandate" to deal with the crisis.

- However in elections, Ariel Sharon was swept to power by an Israeli electorate that had overwhelmingly turned its back on the land-for-peace formulas of the 1990s and now favored a tougher approach to Israel's "Palestinian problem."



The death toll soared as Sharon intensified existing policies such as assassinating Palestinian militants, air strikes and incursions into Palestinian self-rule areas. Palestinian militants, meanwhile, stepped up suicide bomb attacks in Israeli cities.

# Negotiations Fail





# “Road Map to Peace”



- The "road map" for peace was a plan to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict proposed by the United States, the European Union, Russia, and the United Nations.

- The principles of the plan called for an independent Palestinian state living side by side with the Israeli state in peace. Bush was the first U.S. President to explicitly call for such a Palestinian state.



- The first step on the road map was the appointment of the first-ever Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas (also known as Abu Mazen) by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

# Arafat Dies



- Yasser Arafat, the champion of Palestinian statehood, died on November 11, 2004, at age 75 in a military hospital in France.
- Many of his own people in Palestine responded to his death with deep sorrow and grief, while some world leaders expressed their new hope for peace to be brought to war-torn Palestine.





# New Hope?

During his acceptance speech in Ramallah, Abbas said that "there is a difficult mission ahead to build our state, to achieve security for our people ... to give our prisoners freedom, our fugitives a life in dignity, to reach our goal of an independent state."



*Prediction: Can there be peace in the Middle East? Explain.*