

Zionism On The Web

Learn about Zionism: Online facts to combat real world hate

(BCE - Before the
Common Era)

17th-6th C. BCE

c. 17th century

c. 13th century

13th-12th centuries

c. 1020

c. 1000

c. 960

c. 930

722-720

586

536-142

538-515

332

166-160

142-129

129-63

63

63 BCE-313 CE

(CE - Common Era)

37 BCE – 4 CE

c 20-33

66

70

73

132-135

c. 210

313-636

c. 390

614

636-1099

691

1099-1291

1291-1516

1517-1917

1564

1860

1882-1903

1897

1904-14

1909

1917

1917

1918-48

1919-23

HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS of ISRAEL

BIBLICAL TIMES

The Patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob - patriarchs of the Jewish people and bearers of a belief in one God - settle in the Land of Israel. Famine forces Israelites to migrate to Egypt
Exodus from Egypt: Moses leads Israelites from Egypt, followed by 40 years of wandering in the desert. Torah, including the Ten Commandments, received at Mount Sinai.

Israelites settle the Land of Israel

Jewish Monarchy established; Saul, first king

Jerusalem made capital of David's kingdom

First Temple, the national and spiritual center of the Jewish people, built in Jerusalem by King Solomon

Divided kingdom: Judah and Israel

Israel crushed by Assyrians; 10 tribes exiled (Ten Lost Tribes).

Judah conquered by Babylonia; Jerusalem and First Temple destroyed; most Jews exiled to Babylonia

PERSIAN AND HELLENISTIC PERIODS

Many Jews return from Babylonia; Temple rebuilt

Land conquered by Alexander the Great; Hellenistic rule

Maccabean (Hasmonean) revolt against restrictions on practice of Judaism and desecration of Temple

Jewish autonomy under Hasmoneans.

Jewish independence under Hasmonean monarchy.

Jerusalem captured by Roman general, Pompey.

ROMAN RULE, 376 yrs

Herod, Roman vassal king, rules the Land of Israel;

Temple in Jerusalem refurbished

Ministry of Jesus of Nazareth

Jewish revolt against the Romans

Destruction of Jerusalem and Second Temple.

Last stand of Jews at Masada.

Bar Kokhba uprising against Rome.

Codification of Jewish oral law, Mishnah, completed.

BYZANTINE RULE, 323 yrs

Commentary on the Mishnah, the Jerusalem Talmud, completed.

Persian invasion

ARAB RULE, 463 yrs

On site of First and Second Temples in Jerusalem, Dome of the Rock built by Caliph Abd el-Malik

CRUSADER DOMINATION; (Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem), 192 yrs

MAMLUK RULE, 225 yrs

OTTOMAN RULE, 400 yrs

Code of Jewish law, Shulhan Arukh, published.

First neighborhood, Mishkenot Sha'ananim, built outside Jerusalem's walls.

First Aliya (large-scale immigration), mainly from Russia.

First Zionist Congress convened by Theodor Herzl in Basel, Switzerland; Zionist Organization founded.

Second Aliya, mainly from Russia and Poland.

First kibbutz, Degania, and first modern all-Jewish city, Tel Aviv, founded.

British Foreign Minister Balfour pledges support for establishment of a "Jewish national home in Palestine", the Balfour Declaration

400 years of Ottoman rule ended by British conquest

BRITISH RULE – 30 years

Third Aliya, mainly from Russia

- 1920 Histadrut (Jewish labor federation) and Haganah (Jewish defense organization) founded.
Vaad Leumi (National Council) set up by Jewish community (yishuv) to conduct its affairs.
- 1921 First moshav, Nahalal, founded.
Britain granted Mandate for Palestine (Land of Israel) by League of Nations;
Transjordan set up on three-fourths of the area, leaving one-fourth for the Jewish national home.
- 1922 Jewish Agency representing Jewish community vis-a-vis Mandate authorities set up.
- 1924 Technion, first institute of technology, founded in Haifa.
- 1924-32 Fourth Aliya, mainly from Poland.
- 1925 Hebrew University of Jerusalem opened on Mt. Scopus.
- 1929 Hebron Jews massacred by Arab militants.
- 1931 Etzel, (Irgun) Jewish underground organization, founded.
- 1933-39 Fifth Aliya, mainly from Germany.
- 1936-39 Anti-Jewish riots instigated by Arab militants.
- 1939 Jewish immigration severely limited by British White Paper. 100,000 maximum.
- 1939-45 World War II; Holocaust in Europe. British Navy curtails emigration from Europe.
- 1941 Lehi underground movement formed; Palmach- strike force of Haganah, set up.
- 1944 Jewish Brigade formed as part of British forces.
- 1947 UN proposes the establishment of Arab and Jewish states in the Land. Arabs rejected it.
- 1948 STATE OF ISRAEL
State of Israel proclaimed (14 May). 600,000 Jews in the land.
End of British Mandate (14 May)
Israel invaded by five Arab states (15 May)
War of Independence (May 1948-July 1949)
- 1948 Israel Defense Forces (IDF) established
Armistice agreements signed with Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon.
Jerusalem divided under Israeli and Jordanian rule.
First Knesset (parliament) elected.
- 1949 Israel admitted to United Nations as 59th member.
- 1948-52 Mass immigration from Europe and Arab countries.
- 1956 Sinai Campaign against Nasser, with England and France, Pres. Eisenhower defeated it.
- 1962 Adolf Eichmann tried and executed in Israel for his key part in the Holocaust.
- 1964 National Water Carrier completed, bringing water from Lake Kinneret in the north to the semi-arid south.
- 1967 Six-Day War, Jerusalem reunited.
- 1968-70 Egypt's War of Attrition against Israel
- 1973 Yom Kippur War
- 1975 Israel becomes an associate member of the European Common Market.
- 1977 Likud forms government after Knesset elections, end of 30 years of Labor rule.
Visit of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat to Jerusalem.
- 1978 Camp David Accords & framework for comprehensive peace in Middle East and proposal for
Palestinian self-government.
Israel-Egypt Peace Treaty signed.
- 1979 Prime Minister Menachem Begin and President Anwar Sadat awarded Nobel Peace Prize.
- 1981 Israel Air Force destroys Iraqi nuclear reactor just before it is to become operative.
Israel's three-stage withdrawal from Sinai completed.
- 1982 Operation Peace for Galilee removes PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization) terrorists from Lebanon.
- 1984 National unity government (Likud & Labor) formed after elections. Operation Moses,
Immigration of Jews from Ethiopia. Itzhak Shamir and Shimon Peres alternate PM.
- 1985 Free Trade Agreement signed with United States.
- 1987 Widespread violence (intifada) starts in Israeli-administered areas.
- 1988 Likud government in power following elections, Itzhak Shamir PM.
Four-point peace initiative proposed by Israel.
- 1989 Start of mass immigration of Jews from former Soviet Union.
- 1991 Israel attacked by Iraqi Scud missiles during Gulf war.
Middle East peace conference convened in Madrid;
- 1991 Operation Solomon, airlift of Jews from Ethiopia. President Bush major assistance.
Diplomatic relations established with China and India.

- 1992 New government headed by Yitzhak Rabin of Labor party.
- 1993 Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements for the Palestinians signed by Israel and PLO, as representative of the Palestinian people.
Implementation of Palestinian self-government in Gaza Strip and Jericho area.
Full diplomatic relations with the Holy See.
Morocco and Tunisia interest offices set up.
Israel-Jordan Peace Treaty signed.
- 1994 Rabin, Peres, Arafat awarded Nobel Peace Prize.
Broadened Palestinian self-government implemented in West Bank and Gaza Strip; Palestinian Council elected.
Prime Minister Rabin assassinated at peace rally.
- 1995 Shimon Peres becomes prime minister.
Fundamentalist Arab terrorism against Israel escalates.
Operation Grapes of Wrath, retaliation for Hezbollah terrorists' attacks on northern Israel.
Trade representation offices set up in Oman and Qatar.
Likud forms government after Knesset elections.
Benjamin Netanyahu becomes prime minister.
- 1996 Omani trade representation office opened in Tel Aviv.
- 1997 Hebron Protocol signed by Israel and the PA.
- 1998 Israel celebrates its 50th anniversary.
- 2000 Arafat rejects President Clinton's effort to achieve peace after generous offer by PM Barak
Arafat PA starts intensive terrorism against Israeli civilians
- Summer 2005 Israel evacuates all Jewish communities in Gaza, Palestinian infighting starts; [Kassam rockets from Gaza attacks Israel on regular basis](#).
- Jan 2006 PM Sharon incapacitated by massive stroke, Olmert takes over as PM. Hamas won election
- July 2006 Hezbollah war in Lebanon, massive rocket attacks on Israeli civilians in Northern Israel

Original Source, past Israel gov, addition by Dr Matania Ginosar

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