

The History of Palestine in 10 Sides



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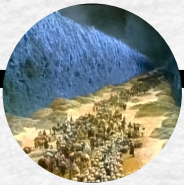
Unknown BC

Adam AS builds the Ka'bah in Makkah. 40 years later, either him or his children build Masjid al-Aqsa in Jerusalem. Masjid is not a 'building', it is a piece of land designated for Allah's worship. Thus, the entire Al-Aqsa compound is designated for Allah's worship.



1,203 BC

Musa AS leads the Children of Ya'qub (Banu Israel) from Egypt, escaping Pharaoh, towards Palestine. The Banu Israel refuse to enter Palestine as the Canaanites in Palestine have might and power. They are banished for 40 years.



1,165 BC

After being banished for 40 years, Banu Israel capture Palestine from the Canaanites under the leadership of Yusha' bin Nun AS. Palestine is divided between the 12 tribes. They still face challenges from some remaining Canaanite tribes and the Phillistines tribe who are near the west coast of Palestine.



550 BC

King Cyrus the Great, of the Persian Empire, defeats the Babylonian Empire and all the Babylonian territories, including Palestine. He allows Banu Israel to return to Jerusalem. Some return, others stay in Persia.



10,000 BC

The city of Jericho, (modern-day West Bank in which Jerusalem is found) is built by the Natufians, the ancestors of the Arabs.



1,500 BC

Palestine falls under Egyptian rule. The Pharaoh of Egypt enslaves many of Ibrahim AS' descendants who had settled in Egypt after Ya'qub AS had moved there.



1,025 BC

The 12 tribes of Banu Israel unite under King Talut (Saul) as their first king. They battle with the Philistines tribe. Goliath, a mighty Philistine warrior, is killed by the Israelite shepherd Dawud AS. Dawud AS later becomes king.



722 BC

Looking at the division of Banu Israel, the Assyrians take advantage and conquer the Kingdom of Samaria, in the North.



5,000 BC

Ghassulians and others immigrate into Palestine, they develop villages and various crafts.



1,790 BC

Ibrahim AS and his nephew Lut AS migrate to Palestine (Canaan) from Ur, a place in modern-day Iraq, which was part of the Babylonian Empire. Later, Ibrahim AS' nephew Lut AS is ordered to go to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, east of Jerusalem. Ibrahim AS' grandson, Ya'qub (also known as Israel), the son of Ishaq AS moves to Egypt at the bequest of his son, Yusuf AS.



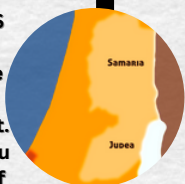
1,018 BC

Dawud AS is the second King of the Israelites and moves towards Jerusalem, currently ruled by the Jebusites, a Canaanite tribe. He defeats them and Jerusalem becomes his capital. He builds a Masjid - *within* Masjid al-Aqsa (which is the entire compound), that was originally designated by Adam AS. Jews refer to this as a 'temple'.



978 BC

After Dawud AS's demise, Sulayman AS becomes king. He completes Dawud AS's Masjid. Jews believe this to be the first house of God and refer to it as 'temple', hence their attachment with it. After Sulayman AS, the 12 tribes of Banu Israel split into 2 areas: the Kingdom of Samaria in the North and the Kingdom of Judea in the South. Jerusalem is the capital of Kingdom of Judea.



538 BC

King Darius, of the Persian Empire, allows the building of the Second Temple. He even provides financial assistance. The rebuilding is led by the governor of Judea, Zerubbabel.

333 BC

Alexander the Great travels East from Greece to conquer the Persian Empire and gains control over Jerusalem. He dies young, and Ptolemies take charge of Egypt while Seleucids take charge of the area of Palestine, Jordan, Syria & Iraq

264 BC

The Romans begin heading to the East, taking control of North Africa - modern-day Tunisia.

164 BC

Banu Israel (the Hasmonean Jews) revolt against Seleucids in the Maccabean Revolt. They recapture Jerusalem and establish the Hasmonean Kingdom but infighting begins amongst Banu Israel.

0 BC

Isa AS is born. However, Banu Israel reject him. They go to the Roman governor Pontius Pilate and have Isa AS 'crucified' - or so they believe.

37 BC

The Romans appoint Herod, a Jewish convert, to oversee Jerusalem. He extends the Masjid (called 'Herod's Temple') on a grand scale. He places an eagle at its entrance to please the Romans.

63 BC

The Romans take advantage and conquer Jerusalem under Emperor Pompey. Judea (where Masjid al-Aqsa is) is now a part of the Roman Republic.

66

The Banu Israel revolt against the Romans in Palestine. After several months of fighting, Vespasian and Titus crush the revolt and flatten Jerusalem entirely. Herod's temple is destroyed and Banu Israel are banished.

320

The Eastern/Byzantine Roman Emperor (Roman Empire by now had a Western and Eastern Empire) Constantine becomes a Christian. Jerusalem is now run by Christians. Persecution of Jews begins as Christians rule Palestine for 300 years.

570

Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam is born

637

The second caliph of the Muslims, Umar RA has conquered much of Persia and now conquers Jerusalem. He meets Sophronius, signs a treaty and cleans Masjid al-Aqsa (which is the entire compound). No blood is shed.

624

Heraclius, the Byzantine emperor recaptures Jerusalem from the Persians as predicted by the Qur'an in Surah al-Rum. Jews are again persecuted. Sophronius, a pious Christian priest, becomes Patriarch of Jerusalem.

614

The Persian Empire, becoming stronger, attacks and conquers Jerusalem. They raze it to the ground and the 'True Cross' is taken to Persia. Jews now are once again able to persecute Christians.



1099

European Christians were allowed to visit holy sites under Muslim rule. However, Al-Hakim, the Fatimid caliph begins persecuting Christians and destroys the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Pope Urban II calls on Christians to take up arms against the Muslims and reclaim Jerusalem, with the promise of heaven. The Byzantines join the Europeans and this is the first crusade. They enter Jerusalem including Masjid al-Aqsa, and massacre everyone. They establish a state called the First Kingdom. They also begin to persecute the Jews.



1114

Nur al-Din Zenghi, of the Zenghid Dynasty which ruled on behalf of the Seljuk Empire, recaptures Aleppo and Edessa in Syria. This prompts the Second Crusade, it is led by King Louis VII of France and King Conrad III of Germany. But they fail to take back Aleppo and are sent back.



1187

After uniting the Muslims, Salahaddin al-Ayyubi defeats the crusaders and recaptures Jerusalem in Battle of Hatin



1192

The Third Crusade primarily led by King Richard I of England leads to a series of wars with Salahuddin, finally ending with a peace treaty. Salahuddin passes away and the Ayyubid Dynasty after him agrees to provide the Europeans a Second Kingdom in Palestine with Acre as its capital



1453

The Ottoman Sultan Mehmed II defeats the Byzantines and captures Constantinople (Istanbul). This completely ends the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire, which was far more prominent than the Western Empire.



1291

After three more unsuccessful crusades by the Europeans, the Mamluks fully retake Acre, the final outpost of the crusaders



1258

The Mongols sack Baghdad, the road is clear for them to take over Palestine. However, in 1260 CE, in the Battle of Ain Jalut, the Egyptian Mamluks (successors of Ayyubid Dynasty) defeat the Mongols and gain control of Palestine



1517

The Ottomans defeat the Mamluks and gain control of Palestine. Jews had been persecuted by the Burji Mamluks, but now were given amnesty by the Ottomans. Jews had also been persecuted in Europe during the black plague, they also find amnesty with the Ottomans and thus some move there. Sulayman builds the beautiful walls encircling Jerusalem.



1683

The Ottomans fail in their second attempt to capture Vienna. The Empire slips into decline.



1789

The French Revolution occurs, Europe's nation states develop and Protestantism is on the rise. Jews are encouraged back into Europe. In Russia and Russia-occupied Poland, animosity for Jews is very high. Jews are massacred in 'pogroms' (killing of Jews) throughout Europe.



1879

As European pogroms (killing of Jews) increase, hatred towards Jews is given the name 'anti-semitism'.



1875

Nationalism grows in the Arabs, disgruntled by Ottoman rule. The first Arab nationalist party forms. The European countries hope to divide and occupy.



1830

European countries begin taking chunks of the Ottoman Empire. France annexes Ottoman Algeria. Many years later, Italy takes Libya.



1881

Jewish 'pogroms' (killing of Jews) continue in Russia and Romania. Many groups called 'Lovers of Zion' emerge in Romania and Russia. They want Jewish self-rule.



1896

Austrian Journalist Theodore Herzl, a non-religious Jew, founds the Zionist movement. The only solution he feels is to establish a Jewish state. He needs a government to sponsor his cause. The Jews feel that the only way to tackle antisemitism is to establish a state for the Jewish people in a land where Banu Israel once lived; Palestine.



1890

Due to continued persecution in Europe, many Jews leave Europe for Morocco, Turkey, Canada, America. A tiny minority emigrate to Palestine.



1888

The Ottomans divide Palestine into three areas: Acre, Nablus and Jerusalem. The Ottoman Empire wants to keep a close eye on Jerusalem to avoid European interference.



of the 49 victims of the Kishinev pogrom album J.N.L.L. 7

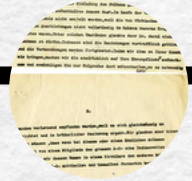
1897

The first Zionist congress happens in Basel. They form the World Zionist Organisation and consider two lands for the Jews; Palestine and Argentina. The Eastern European (Russian) Jews insisted it had to be Palestine. 'Zion' means the area of the Solomon Temple. Around this time, Israel Zangwill coins the term "A land without a people for a people without a land". He later admitted the land already belongs to others.



1901

Herzl writes directly to Sultan Abdul Hamid II, stating that if Jews are to settle in Palestine, the Jews will pay off all of the Empire's debts. He responds with, "I would prefer my body be dissected to small pieces rather than give Palestine away". The Jewish National Fund (JNF) is set up financed by the Rothschilds. Its purpose is to purchase Palestinian land.



1902

After gaining no success with the Germans, Herzl tries to win the favour of the British. He speaks with Prime Minister James Balfour and explains how Zionism will be at the service of British imperialism in the Middle-East. The British knew this would also limit Jewish migration to Britain.



1908

The Young Turk Revolution demands the restoration of the 1876 constitution so that the parliament has power, and attempts to depose Sultan Abdul Hamid of the Ottomans.



1904

Theodore Herzl dies, he is succeeded by Dr. Chaim Weizmann, a Russian Jew. Like most Russian Jews, he has his heart set on Palestine. He meets British PM Balfour. He builds a strong friendship with him.



1903

Britain, not wanting any immigration of Jews into Britain, propose Uganda, Cyprus and Egyptian Sinai as an option for the Jews. This was known as the East African Scheme. They rejected this and demanded Palestine. Many Rabbis are not happy with Zionism, they believe that a return to Palestine can only occur through divine intervention and thus consider Zionism as heretical.



1914 CE

World War 1 begins. Turkey enters as an ally of Germany. The Zionists have their eyes on Palestine and reassure the British that they will be an outpost for the British interests in the region. Weizmann commits himself and Zionism to the British war effort with the understanding that Britain will reward them with a public declaration of political support for Zionism. The British had promised the same to the Arab nationalists, such as Sharif Hussein, if they revolted against the Ottomans.



1909 CE

The nationalist Young Turks overthrow Sultan Abdul Hamid II. Weizmann knows this is his chance to raise the issue of Zionism.



1916 CE

Even before the end of World War 1, the Sykes-Picot Agreement is ratified. The Europeans carve up Ottoman territories which they hope to eventually occupy. Britain would occupy Iraq and from Egypt to Eastern Palestine. France would occupy Lebanon, Syria. Palestine is promised to the Zionists. The Arab nationalists thought they would get Palestine.



1917 CE

The Balfour Declaration is written by British Foreign Secretary and former PM, James Balfour - ironically an anti-semite himself who simply wanted the Jews gone from Britain. This is one month before the Ottomans surrender Jerusalem, hence the British are giving away land that does not yet belong to them. In 67 words, Balfour expresses how Britain would assist the Zionist project of settling Jews in Palestine.

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.

1919 CE

The King-Crane Commission Report is released in which the Palestinian people are asked how they wish to be ruled. The Palestinian response is clear; Zionism's triumph would mean Arab enslavement. 90% of Palestine is currently non-Jewish.



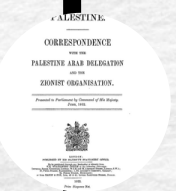
1929

The Buraq (Wailing) Wall incident happens in British-mandated Palestine. Jews living in Palestine march towards Western Wall - which the Muslims refer to as the Buraq Wall as the Prophet left his conveyance there during Al-Isra - they chant "The wall is ours". Jews believe the wall is the sole remaining part of Sulayman AS's temple. Riots break out all over Palestine due to the event, causing 100 deaths on both sides. British blame it on the Palestinians. A 1930 International Commission of Inquiry rules that the wall belongs to the Muslims.



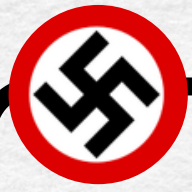
1922

Britain releases a White Paper clarifying the Balfour Declaration and that it does not mean that the Zionists will have authority in Palestine. But, rather, they will simply live there as refugees.



1935

The Nazi holocaust begins as Zionists continue to take the land of the Palestinians under British-mandated Palestine. Fed up, the Palestinians declare a general strike and revolt against the British for 3 years. Over 4,500 Palestinians are killed including many leaders.



1939

To appease the Palestinians suffering from Zionist persecution, the British release a White Paper in which they propose a reduction in Jewish immigration to Palestine. The Zionists now went on the offensive with the Palestinians and British. Irgun and Haganah, two Zionists militias now began bombing and killing Palestinians and British, including Lord Moyne. More Jews continue to settle in Palestine. They now represent 30% of the population of Palestine. Meanwhile, the holocaust in Nazi Germany continues. With World War 1 giving them the Balfour Declaration, the Zionists are convinced World War 2 will give them a state.



1938

The Evian Conference occurs in which the Allies discuss where Jewish refugees escaping Germany could move. The Zionists boycott the event as they don't want the Jews going anywhere except Palestine.



1944 CE

The Zionists attack British government buildings and attempt to assassinate British High Commissioner Sir Harold McMichael. After Lord Moyne's murder and repeated Zionist attacks, Winston Churchill, expresses concern in the House of Commons over British sponsoring of Zionism



1940 CE

Zionists convince Britain to raise a Jewish Battalion as part of the British army. They were trained to high military standards by the British. In 1941, the Haganah militia, with the aid of the British, established the Palmach, a commando unit of 32,000 Jews trained by the British Army.



1946

Zionist militias blow up 11 bridges in one day, severing connections between Palestine and Trans-Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and the Sinai. The Irgun Zionist militia blows up King David Hotel (British Headquarters) in Jerusalem killing 92. US also pressures Britain to relax its restrictions on Jewish migration to Palestine.

Jan-July 1947

4th January 1947

The Jaffa massacre occurs. 26 Palestinians are killed.

Zionists kill more than 20 British servicemen. The British ask the newly-formed United Nations to intervene, but Zionists continue their terror, they kill Clifford Martin and Marvyn Paice, two British Sergeants. They then hang their bodies up whilst booby-trapping them.

November 1947

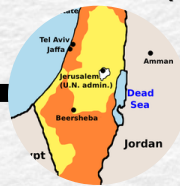
Zionists lobby US to create a Jewish state after which the newly-formed United Nations (formed mainly by the British and US) puts forward a plan for partition. Jews would now be given 55% of Palestine even though they constituted only 37% of its population and currently owned only 7% of land. The UN partition keeps the West Bank (Jerusalem is within West Bank) and the Gaza strip for the Palestinians. The Arabs are livid at this decision and ask an International court to determine how the UN partition is legal.

August 1947

The British announce they will leave Palestine in November. The Zionist have become too difficult to handle and the British know that once the Zionists get the State they want, they will be an outpost for Britain in that region.

12th December 1947

Haifa massacre occurs. 55 Palestinians are killed by Zionists.



13th December 1947

Yaheda massacre occurs. 19 Palestinians are killed by Zionists.

18th December 1947

5 Palestinian children murdered in the village of Qazaza when Zionist terrorists blow up the home of the village leader

19th December 1947

Two carloads of Haganah terrorists drive through the Palestinian village of Khisas and fire machine guns killing 10 Palestinians.

14th April 1948

The Lehi and Irgun militia enter the village of Naser al-Din dressed as Palestinian. They kill all the villagers except 40 people and raze it to the ground.

10th April 1948

The Deir Yassin Massacre occurs in April. Irgun militia kill 250 Palestinians. The events were exaggerated by the Zionists to strike fear into the Palestinians, encouraging many of them to leave Palestine.

1st January 1948

200 Zionist terrorists armed with hand grenades and machine guns sneak into the small village of al-Sheikh in the night. They kill 40 people in the village.

14th May 1948

A group of the Zionist terrorists, led by David Ben-Gurion, declare the birth of the State of Israel



20th May 1948

UN appoint Count Folk Benadotte as a mediator between the Israelis and Palestinians. He rules that Palestinians are persecuted. He is quickly assassinated by the Zionist militia, Lehi (Stern Gang).

21st May 1948

Zionists surround Beit Daras village and massacre the women and children of the village.

15th May 1948

Tantura massacre occurs. 200 Palestinians are killed.



29th October 1948

Zionists butcher women and children in the villages of Dawayma. To kill the children, they fractured their heads with sticks. The individuals who carried out these atrocities became leaders of the Zionist state.

11th July 1948

The Israeli 89th Commando Battalion led by Moshe Dayan occupy Lydda as revenge for the death of several Israeli soldiers. They tell the men they will be safe if they move to the Dahmash Mosque, once the Palestinians move there, 80-100 are massacred. Their bodies are left decomposing for 10 days.



31st October 1948

Hula massacre occurs. 85 Palestinians are killed by Zionists.



1948

1950

After the announcement of Israel, and frustrated at the UN resolution of 1947, a combined Arab military force from Egypt, Jordan and Syria marched to Palestine. The Israeli army, far better equipped and trained by the British in World War 2 destroy the force. Instead of 55%, they now occupy 78% of Palestine. Only the West Bank (taken by Jordan) and the Gaza strip (taken by Egypt) are still not in their control. 700,000 Palestinians are made refugees. This ethnic cleansing is referred to as the 'Al-Nakbah' (catastrophe).

Israel implements the Law of Return. It provides an automatic right of Israeli citizenship to all Jews from anywhere in the world. Israel builds settlements for these Jews. Palestinians are unable to return to their homes after 'Al-Nakbah' despite the UN resolution 194 enforcing that. This law is widely considered an apartheid law.

7th February 1951

Sharafat massacre occurs. They enter the village of Sharafat, 10 Palestinians are murdered and homes destroyed. All over Palestine, there are restrictions on movement and jobs for Palestinians.



1964

29th October 1956

14th October 1953

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is formed under the auspices of the Arab League.

Kafr Qasem massacre occurs. After changing the timing of the curfews suddenly, the Zionists kill 43 men returning home from work.

Qibya massacre occurs carried out by Ariel Sharon's Commando Unit 101. They enter the Qibya village and kill 75 men, women and children.



13th November 1966

al-Sammou massacre occurs. Zionists destroy 125 house in al-Sammou and kill 18 Palestinians.

13th November 1967

The Six-Day war occurs. With the Egyptian Army presence increasing in the Sinai province. Israel attacks Egypt. In 6 days, Israel defeats Egypt and the Arab countries, and annexes the West Bank (Jerusalem is within West Bank) and Gaza strip. A UN resolution is issued to order Israel to give back the annexed land, they do not comply. The West Bank has over 1 million Palestinians. 350,000 were expelled as settlers move in.

21st August 1968

Al-Aqsa mosque is set on fire by a settler and the entire south wing is bunt down, including the precious pulpit of Salahuddin al-Ayyubi.

September 1978

Anwar Sadat signs a Peace Treaty with Israel ending aggression between Israel and Egypt. However, this was just a treaty between Egypt and Israel and only means that Egypt can no longer interfere in the ethnic cleansing of Palestine. Sadat is labelled a traitor by the Egyptians and thus assassinated.

15th March 1978

Zionists always wanted South Lebanon to be theirs. So, Israel encourages the Christian militias to occupy Muslim villages in Lebanon, when Palestinians react by killing 34 Jews in Tel Aviv, Israel has the perfect excuse to invade Lebanon.

21st August 1973

The Yom Kipur War occurs. Anwar Sadat, the President of Egypt, frustrated at Israel not following the UN Resolution of 1967 to give back the land it annexed in the Six Day War, launches a surprise attack on Israel. But Ariel Sharon pushes the Egyptian forces back and dispatches a Division to Cairo. 15,000 Arabs are killed and 2,000 Israelis. The US intervene.

1981

A Peace Treaty is signed between Israel and the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) who are in Lebanon. But Ariel Sharon still wants to invade Lebanon.

3rd June 1982

Abu Nidal murders the Israeli ambassador in London. Despite PLO and Lebanon having no involvement with the murder, Israel invades Lebanon with a ground attack of 200,000 troops. They kill many Palestinians in their refugee camps. 30,000 Arabs are killed.

18th September 1982

The Sabra and Shatila massacres occur. The Lebanese Christian Phalange militia, allies of Ariel Sharon and Israel, are commanded by Sharon to eradicate all Palestinian refugees in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camp in Beirut, Lebanon. 2,750 people are killed.

1990

As the First Intifada united the Muslims with Hamas, Israel and the US want to check their progress by allowing the PLO back into Palestine.

18th September 1987

The First Intifada begins. 'Intifada' means 'shaking off' and this was the Palestinians protesting and expressing civil disobedience at Israeli occupation. With Israel having occupied the West Bank and Gaza since 1967, illegal Jewish settlers had increased and life conditions on Palestinians were made difficult. It was sparked by an IDF truck crashing into a Palestinian car in occupied Gaza. This sparked protests. Hamas is founded.

1991

The Madrid Peace Conference occurs whilst the Intifada is raging on.

18th September 1991

The First Intifada comes to an end. 1,095 Palestinians have been killed. 100 Israelis killed. Shaykh Ahmed Yasin, the leader of Hamas was arrested in 1989 during the Intifada and was given life imprisonment.

**1993**

The Declaration of Principles is written in Oslo (also called the Oslo Accord I), between the Israeli government, headed by Yitzhak Rabin, and PLO, which establishes a frame-work wherein Palestinians would recognise Israel as a state and in return be given Interim Self-Government Arrangements in the West Bank for 5 years. Israel agree to withdraw from West Bank and Gaza in the Declaration, but its civilians will be allowed to 'freely' use the roads in Gaza and West Bank. Israel fails to comply by the 13th December deadline. Innocent Palestinians hopeful for peace are excited that they may get back the West Bank and Gaza strip.

**4th November 1995**

Israelis, including Netanyahu (not yet PM) and Sharon (not yet PM), are upset with their Prime Minister Rabin for his peace negotiations with the PLO, especially Oslo Accord I and Oslo Accord II. He is assassinated by an extremist Jew.

**24th September 1995**

The Oslo Accord II is signed, a further peace treaty between the Israelis and PLO. They divide the West Bank into three areas, A, B and C. The aim is ambitious but as memoirs of prominent Israeli negotiators show, they had no intention to install a Palestinian government in the West Bank or Gaza strip.

**25th February 1994**

The Masjid al-Khalil massacre occurs. Baruch Goldstein, a Jewish settler, enters the Ibrahimi Mosque at Fajr salah time and kills 69 Muslims. He is hailed a hero by the Israeli settlers.

**May 1996**

Benjamin Netanyahu becomes Prime Minister. He makes it clear he has no intention to follow the Oslo accords. They require Israel to withdraw 50% from West Bank, Netanyahu offers 13%.

**24th September 1996**

Netanyahu orders the construction of a tunnel that would run along the Buraq Wall (the Wailing Wall/Western Wall). This was a direct provocation and Palestinians protested, in retaliation, Israelis kill 70 Palestinians.

**17th May 1999**

Netanyahu loses the election and Ehud Barak becomes Prime Minister. He is hailed as the saviour of the Oslo. But in his first speech he strikes a death blow by saying that there will be no concession on the West Bank. He also said no Israeli settlements will be removed from Gaza or West Bank.

**April 2002**

Israel begins the construction of a wall that cuts off the West Bank from the rest of Israel thus cutting off Palestinian villages from Israeli land taken in 1948. 85% of the wall itself is on the inside of the West Bank, i.e., decreasing the size of the West Bank and bringing more of it under complete Israeli control. The Palestinians inside the wall have to go through checkpoints and deal with Israeli settlers on a daily basis inside the West Bank. This is labelled as apartheid by many. The wall is widely condemned even by Blair and Bush.

**September 2000**

The Second Intifada begins when opposition leader, Ariel Sharon makes a provocative visit to Masjid al-Aqsa with 1,000 Israeli soldiers. This deliberately lit the fuse for Palestinian protests. Ariel Sharon is elected by Israelis as Prime Minister the very next year, 2001.



September 2004

The Second Intifada ends. 3,334 Palestinians are killed in the Second Intifada including 12 journalists. The most harrowing death is the killing of 12-year old Muhammad al-Durra whose father tried to protect him, the child is killed. 75% of Palestinians in the Gaza strip are living below the poverty line. Shaykh Ahmad Yaseen, spiritual leader of Hamas is assassinated earlier in the year and Yasser Arafat, leader of PLO also passes away. Arafat is replaced by Mahmoud Abbas.

2005

In an unexpected move, the Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon unilaterally decides to evacuate Jewish settlers from Gaza. Israel imposes a blockade around the Gaza strip.

26th January 2006

A democratic election is held in Gaza. To everyone's surprise, Hamas wins the election. Many political pundits express that the election was fair. Despite this, the US, Europe and Israel are not happy and impose heavy sanctions on Gaza. They intensify military attacks on Gaza and arrest one third of Hamas-led Palestinian cabinet. The West Bank is still occupied.

31st May 2010

An international flotilla of six ships set sail from Turkey, carrying desperately needed aid to Gaza. Israel's navy boards the MV Mavi Marmara and carries out a deadly attack that leaves 9 Turkish nationals dead. Initially, Israel attempts to deny all wrongdoing, when this is unsuccessful, they apologise to Turkey.

December 2008

Israel launches 'Operation Cast Lead' on Gaza. This is followed by a full land invasion. 1,400 Palestinians are killed. Israel uses Phosphorous bombs against a UN school. By the end of December, food and medicine stocks in Gaza are at an all-time low. The very next year, Benjamin Netanyahu becomes Prime Minister for the second time.

July 2006

After Hezbollah, a political organisation in Lebanon captures two Israeli soldiers, Israel has the perfect excuse to attack Lebanon again. They perform a ground invasion and kill 1,000 Lebanese civilians. The US and Europe do not call for a ceasefire until the Qana massacre occurs in which the Israeli Air Force bombs a three-storey building killing 56 civilians.

2012

In May, Israel launches 'Operation Pillar of Defense' on Gaza. Amongst the killed are 4 teenagers aged 16 to 18 who were killed in a sports stadium. The offensive lasted for 7 days. During the operation, the massacre of the al-Dalu family occurs in which Gaza resident Jamal Mahmoud's entire family is wiped out. In November, the UN passes a resolution to recognise the state of Palestine.

January 2014

Despite attempts for peace, Israel approves plans for the construction of a further 1,400 Jewish settler homes in West Bank and East Jerusalem. The Palestinian negotiators have now essentially given up any hope of peace.

April 2014

Mahmoud Abbas (representative of PLO) signs an agreement to form a unity government with Hamas. Netanyahu uses this as an excuse to say that Israel will not negotiate with a Palestinian government backed by Hamas, this is despite him not wanting the peace talks from the beginning, unless it involved complete control for Israel.

7th October 2023

Hamas launches a surprise attack on Israel from Gaza and kills 1,400 Israelis in 'Operation Earthquake of Al-Aqsa'. In retaliation, Israel launches 'Operation Swords of Iron' which has killed thus far 6,500 Palestinian lives thus far.

2022

Having been ousted as Prime Minister in 2021, Benjamin Netanyahu is voted in for his third term, this makes him the longest Prime Minister of Zionist Israel.

June 2014

Following PLO and Hamas' agreement, Israel is looking to retaliate. When a lone Hamas cell kidnaps and murders three Israeli teens, Israel launches 'Operation Protective Edge'. It was a combined air and ground invasion of Gaza that lasted 50 days. 1,391 Palestinians die. The most harrowing is 4 children killed on a beach in Gaza.