

What is the main purpose behind Zionist efforts to claim that Palestinians never existed or that they are backward?

Q1

What was (and still is) the main purpose behind Zionist efforts in enforcing the fallacy that Palestinians never existed?

Q2

What is the Jewish Colonization Association (JCA)?

What were the key factors that contributed to the dynamic changes in Palestinian society in the early 1900s?

1. So that even well-founded Palestinian objections to the Zionist movement's plans could simply be ignored, and
2. To reinforce the Zionist narrative of "land without a people for a people without a land"

Pages 11, 12

A2

1. To ignore well-founded Palestinian objections.
2. To justify the idea that natives didn't know what's best for them.
3. To justify Israel as an "outpost of civilization."
4. To promote the "civilizing" nature of colonization and normalize oppression under the guise of progress.

Pages 10, 11

A1

1. Expansion of export crops (wheat, citrus)
2. Improvement of sanitation and healthcare
3. Advancement of tech, transformation of urban and rural areas
4. More affordable, safer travel access
5. Expansion of state education
6. Evolving national identity, social organization, class solidarity, women's roles
7. Expansion of press and print

Pages 18, 19

1. Established in 1891 by the German Baron Maurice de Hirsch,
2. Provided financial support for land purchases and helped early Zionist colonies in Palestine.

Page 13

What was the status of Jews in Palestine in the early 1900s?

Q5

On what fronts were Palestinians impacted by the late Ottoman wars?

Q6

When was the Balfour Declaration?

Q7

What is the full text of the Balfour Declaration?

Q8

Southern Front (Gaza–Jerusalem): Trench warfare (British vs. Ottoman); Jerusalem captured (Dec 1917)

Coastal Front: Mediterranean fighting; Jaffa captured; naval bombardments

Northern Front (Galilee): Northward push; battles (Nablus, Jordan Valley); gradual British control

Page 22

A6

Most Jews, mainly ultra-Orthodox Mizrahi or Sephardic, integrated with local Muslims and Christians, speaking Arabic or Turkish as a second language.

Page 19

A5

*“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.”*

A8

November 2nd, 1917

A7

What is the analysis of the Balfour Declaration?

Q9

What did the Balfour Declaration practically mean for Palestinians and Zionists?

Q10

Why did Britain support Zionism through the Balfour Declaration?

Q11

What were the impacts of Zionist occupation advancements (1909-1914)?

Q12

It enabled Zionist sovereignty, while Palestinians faced settler colonization and occupation.

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A10

The Balfour Declaration did not recognize the Palestinians, the indigenous majority, but rather referred to them in terms of what they were not. While it granted no political or national rights to them, it supported the Zionist claim to establish a national home for the Jewish minority (6% of the population).

Page 24

A9

18 new colonies (of a 52 total) displaced farmers, causing land loss and armed clashes with paramilitary settlers.

Page 27

A12

Geopolitics, biblical philo-Semitism, and reducing Jewish immigration to Britain.

Page 25

A11

How did Palestinian identity emerge compared to Zionism and other Arab identities?

Q13

How did Palestinians react to the Balfour Declaration?

Q14

How did British-French colonization suppress Arab unity?

Q15

What year did the League of Nations issue the British Mandate for Palestine?

Q16

They organized congresses, held protests, and escalated to armed uprisings by the 1930s.

Pages 31, 32

A14

Palestinian identity emerged in direct response to the existential threat posed by Zionism, paralleling Zionism's development as a reaction to the threat of anti-Semitism in Europe. In contrast, other Arab national identities developed in response to colonialism and local struggles, forming independently of Zionist threats. Palestinian nationalism was both part of this broader Arab awakening and uniquely influenced by the pressures of Zionist settlement and British policies.

Pages 30, 31

A13

1922

A16

The Sykes-Picot Agreement divided the region, with France controlling Syria and Lebanon, while Britain entrenched itself in Palestine.

Page 33

A15

Who was Arthur Balfour?

Q17

What were the similarities and differences between how the British treated Palestinians than how they treated other peoples they colonised?

Q18

What was the Transfer Agreement between the Zionist and Nazi movements?

Q19

Palestinians were frustrated at their leaderships' ineffective diplomatic response for 15 years after the Balfour Declaration. What were the results of this frustration?

Q20

Similarities:

- a. Excluded the natives from top offices,
- b. censored the newspapers,
- c. banned political activity,
- d. spent as little money as possible on their administration,
- e. did little to advance education (as colonial conventional wisdom would produce "natives" who did not know their proper place)

Differences: The Mandate brought an influx of foreign settlers whose mission was to take over the country.

Page 39

A18

The former prime minister served for five years as Britain's chief secretary in Ireland, nicknamed "Bloody Balfour". Under him, the British government authored the 1905 Aliens Act which kept destitute Jews fleeing pogroms out of Britain.

Page 37

A17

A massive grassroots uprising, starting with a 6 month general strike (one of the longest in colonial history), which developed into the great 1936-1939 revolt.

Page 43

A20

The 1933 Agreement to cease the Jewish-led anti-Nazi boycott, which had the potential of toppling Hitler's regime, in exchange of transferring wealthy German Jews and their assets to Palestine.

Page 40

A19

**What was the Arab Higher Committee
and what was its only unfortunate
achievement?**

Q21

What is the Peel Commission?

Q22

**How did Palestinians react to the Peel
Commission, and how did Britain
respond?**

Q23

**What is the "triple bind" Palestinians
found themselves in after 1917?**

Q24

The commission resulted from the Arab Higher Committee's intervention led by Lord Peel, who proposed to partition the country to create a small Jewish state in nearly 17% of Palestine, from which over two hundred thousand Arabs would be expelled.

Page 43

A22

A committee consisting of Palestinian wealthy men to lead and represent the Palestinian majority (though it was never recognised by the British), and it eventually brokered an end to the General Strike of 1936 at the request of several Arab rulers in exchange of a promise that Britain would address Palestinians' needs.

Page 43

A21

1. Britain, claiming to implement the League of Nations Mandate, which obligated it to support Zionism,
2. the Zionist movement, emphasizing that it was acting within the legal framework provided by the British Mandate,
3. The League of Nations, proposed by US President Woodrow Wilson, though the US never joined, and formally established by the Allied powers, treated Palestine as a "special case" rather than a typical colonial possession, absolved itself of direct responsibility as it deflected blame onto local actors.

Pages 52, 53

A24

The Palestinian armed revolt broke out in 1937. Britain suppressed it with overwhelming force, killing, wounding, imprisoning, or exiling 10% of Palestinian adult males. Tactics included mass executions, demolitions, deportations, detentions, and confinement in concentration camps such as Sarafand.

Pages 44, 45, 46

A23

How did the outcome of World War 2 influence the geopolitical roles of the US and USSR in the region?

Q25

When is the first time that the Zionist movement openly and publicly called for turning all of Palestine, despite it being a non-Jewish majority, into a Jewish state?

Q26

How did the Zionist movement mobilize during the Holocaust?

Q27

Which factors contributed to the inter-Palestinian differences after the end of World War 2?

Q28

In the Biltmore Conference, 1942

Page 60

A26

1. The US, an empire that never fully acknowledged its colonial nature, became the preeminent global power. US American bases since then never left North Africa and the Arabian Gulf.
2. The USSR, turning inward after the Bolshevik revolution, spreading its ideology but avoiding projecting its strength, had the largest land army. The USSR since then became increasingly assertive in Turkey and Iran.

Pages 59, 60

A25

1. Pre-war division on mufti supporters vs. opponents
2. Britain's refusal of Palestinian political entity
3. Arab governments echoing Britain's stance
4. Distrust of Arab Office's Musa Al Alami (British ties)

Page 66

A28

1. Unceasing PR to shape public/political backing for a Jewish state in Palestine
2. Secured US diplomatic and military support, replacing waning British sponsorship

Page 60

A27

What were the weaknesses of Hajj Amin al-Husayni that undermined his leadership?

Q29

What factors hindered the Palestinian leadership's ability to mobilize Western powers compared to the Zionist movement?

Q30

What were the succession of events which led to Britain's handover of Palestine to the United Nations?

Q31

When did the UN General Assembly Resolution 181 pass?

Q32

1. Zionist leaders were Europeans, many also US-based, giving them deep Western knowledge and influence
2. Palestinian leadership was disunited, militarily weak, lacking external support
3. Divided Arab states under colonial sway offered limited help

Page 70

A30

1. Ties to Nazi Germany damaged his global credibility
2. Failed to form a modern, organized fighting force
3. Avoided broad organizations to retain control
4. Feared charismatic rivals within larger structures
5. Maintained a patriarchal, hierarchical leadership style

Page 66

A29

November 29th, 1947

1. 1939 White Paper limiting Jewish immigration fueled Zionist hostility
2. Yishuv militants assassinated British officials, bombed King David Hotel (1946, 91 dead)
3. Postwar crisis + India's collapse weakened Britain
4. Britain handed Palestine to UN in 1947

Page 71

A32

A31

**What did UN General Assembly
Resolution 181 call for?**

Q33

What is Plan Dalet?

Q34

**What was the fate of Jaffa in terms of
Resolution 181, and what was its actual
fate? How did international actors
react?**

Q35

**What efforts did Palestinians make to
secure assistance from Arab leaders
during the first phases of the Nakba,
and how did these efforts affect their
struggle?**

Q36

1. It is the depopulation campaign implemented by the Zionist paramilitary groups, starting on the first of April, 1948.
2. The campaign targeted the largest Palestinian urban centers; Jaffa, Haifa, West Jerusalem, as well as Tiberias, Safad, Beisan.

Page 72

A34

1. UNGA Resolution 181 (Nov 29, 1947) called for partition: 56%+ for Jewish state, smaller portion for Arab state, despite Jewish minority
2. Jerusalem placed under UN administration

Page 72

A33

1. Director of the Arab Fund asked King Abdullah for West Jerusalem defense; Jordan dismissed the threat, offered no aid, neighborhoods fell
2. Palestinian commander sought arms in Damascus; no support, died soon after, weakening Jerusalem defense

Page 74

A36

Jaffa was designated as part of Palestine in Resolution 181. However, Jaffa was besieged, bombarded, and overrun by Zionist forces in May 1948, resulting in the forced depopulation of most of its Palestinian residents. No international actor intervened to stop this violation of the UN resolution.

Page 73

A35

When was the first phase of the Nakba,
and what were the consequences of it?

Q37

When was the second phase of the
Nakba, and what were the
consequences of it?

Q38

When did the Nakba end?

Q39

What are the three processes which
made the transformation of Palestine
into Israel possible?

Q40

1. After May 15, 1948.
2. 400,000 depopulated Palestinians.
3. Mainly suburban and rural areas, destroying agricultural livelihoods and severing generations-long ties to the land.

Page 75

A38

1. Before May 15, 1948.
2. 300,000 depopulated Palestinians.
3. Mainly from urban centers, dismantling their ability to organize and resist.

Pages 74, 75

A37

1. Systematic ethnic cleansing of Palestinian areas, creating a Jewish majority
2. Seizure of Palestinian land/property, including assets of Arabs who remained
3. Mass displacement of Palestinians, destabilizing neighbors and undermining support

Page 76

A40

The Nakba is an ongoing process, as the erasure and dispossession of Palestinians have persisted over decades.

A39

How did Transjordan's King Abdullah attempt to benefit from the Zionist movement?

Q41

How did Israel manage to face the 7 Arab Armies once it was created?

Q42

How did the relationship between Israel and the US develop after the creation of Israel?

Q43

How did Saudi Arabia's stance on the US-Israeli relationship align with its own ties to the US regarding Palestine?

Q44

1. Israel had superior firepower, refuting claims of being dwarfed
2. Only five Arab armies fought; Saudi & Yemen lacked modern forces
3. Jordan's Legion and Iraqi troops were limited by British constraints
4. Lebanon never crossed the frontier
5. Arab states, economically poor and dependent on past colonial states, struggled internally vs. an aggressive Israel

Pages 77, 78

A42

1. Sought westward expansion of Transjordan via secret deals with Zionists
2. Backed the 1937 Peel Commission partition plan (only Arab leader to do so)
3. Colluded with British/Zionists to block a Palestinian state, securing West Bank/East Jerusalem for Transjordan

Pages 76, 77

A41

The 1933 oil exploration and exploitation agreement anchored Saudi Arabia's close relationship with the US, leading it to accept the US-Israeli alliance despite its implications for Palestine.

Page 80

A44

1. US seen as a refuge for Jews vs. Russian tsarist lands
2. Jewish population in the US grew to 4M, boosting Zionist support
3. Zionism gained roots among US Jews and Christians
4. Holocaust increased US public/political Zionist support
5. US prioritized Zionism over Arab interests for domestic politics
6. Post-war, Israel's strategic value grew for US interests, given Saudi Arabia's compliant stance on the occupation of Palestine

Pages 79, 80

A43

How did the Nakba shape Palestinian identity while also fracturing the Palestinian people into distinct groups?

Q45

How did the Nakba impact Palestinians based on where they ended up after 1948?

Q46

How did King Abdullah's annexation of the West Bank in 1950 impact Palestinian relations with Jordan?

Q47

What were the conditions of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon?

Q48

1. In Israel, 160k Palestinians lived as citizens under martial law, facing land confiscation, discrimination, and isolation
2. Gaza under Egypt; West Bank/East Jerusalem under Jordan, fragmented governance
3. Refugees in UNRWA camps or integrated into cities like Damascus, Beirut, Amman
4. Scattered globally, facing fragmented connections and varied realities

Pages 83, 84

A46

1. Nakba unified Palestinians through shared trauma of loss/displacement across generations
2. Fractured Palestinians into diverse groups, shaped by host nations and varied experiences

Page 82

A45

1. Denied citizenship to preserve Lebanon's sectarian balance favoring Maronites
2. Both Lebanese and Palestinians opposed permanent resettlement (tawtin), clinging to return hopes
3. UNRWA services boosted education, enabling skilled emigration to other Arab countries

Page 86

A48

1. Annexation recognized only by UK and Pakistan
2. Jordanian citizenship given to Palestinians, countering Israeli claims of refugee neglect
3. Palestinian elites integrated into Jordanian government
4. Many Palestinians resented lost self-determination and Hashemite rule
5. Abdullah's anti-independence stance and Zionist ties led to his 1951 assassination, straining relations
6. Jordanians criticized monarchy as repressive and pro-imperial/Israeli

Pages 84, 85

A47

How did the conditions of Palestinian refugees differ in larger more homogeneous countries such as Syria, Iraq and Egypt?

Q49

What were the conditions of Palestinian refugees in Syria?

Q50

What were the conditions of Palestinian refugees in oil-producing countries?

Q51

How were Palestinian refugees generally perceived and treated by host countries and the broader international community?

Q52

Refugees benefited from many rights, such as owning land, accessing state education, and government employment, achieving social and economic integration, though they were denied nationality and the right to vote.

Page 86

A50

In larger, more homogeneous countries like Syria, Iraq, and Egypt, the smaller groups of Palestinian refugees did not have a destabilizing effect on the host societies.

Page 86

A49

1. Arab populations sympathized with Palestinians, driven by shared vulnerability post-1948
2. Israel's military reprisals pressured Arab states to suppress Palestinian activism
3. UN condemned Israel but lacked tangible support for Palestinians due to global power disapproval
4. Western media favored Israel, unlike UN truce observer reports
5. Arab leaders used Palestine as a political tool, avoiding concrete action under popular pressure

Page 87

A52

1. Palestinians boosted economies, government services, and education in oil-rich Arab states
2. Faced alienation, no citizenship, and residency tied to employment
3. Precarious status and border challenges reflected in Kanafani's *Men in the Sun*

Page 87

A51

**How was Palestinian representation
constrained after the 1948 war?**

Q53

**What were the reasons for Israel's
victory in the 1967 war?**

Q54

**What were the military gains for Israel
in the 1967 war?**

Q55

**What were the factors leading to the
1967 war?**

Q56

1. Israel's military was far superior to Arab armies, never at risk of annihilation
2. Destroyed Arab warplanes on the ground, securing air superiority and ground advantage

Page 97

A54

1. Palestinians had little global visibility or media coverage
2. Arab governments denied Palestinians an independent voice, speaking for them
3. Palestine's issue merged into the "Arab-Israeli conflict" with weak UN advocacy
4. "Government of All Palestine" in Gaza failed due to lack of Arab and global support

Page 88

A53

1. Israeli diversion of Jordan River angered Arabs, boosting militant Palestinian groups
2. Egypt's military weakened by Yemen civil war
3. Palestinian raids and Israel's attacks on Syria pushed Egypt to defend its prestige
4. Egypt provoked Israel by moving troops to Sinai and requesting UN peacekeepers' removal

Page 98

A56

Israel was able to conquer the Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, including Arab East Jerusalem, and the Golan Heights in six days.

Page 97

A55

What was the main defining result of the 1967 war?

Q57

What were the main implications of UNSC Resolution 242 as a result of US-backed Israeli exploitative interpretation of the text's technicalities?

Q58

What is the analysis of UNSC Resolution 242?

Q59

What is the geopolitical factor that coordinated Arab states' normalisation with Israel?

Q60

1. Israeli withdrawal tied to peace treaties and secure borders, delaying action due to Arab reluctance for direct talks
2. UNSC 242 enabled Israel to expand borders under its broad "security" interpretation
3. Continued military occupation of Palestinian and Syrian territories
4. UN condemnations lacked sanctions, reflecting global acceptance of Israeli exploitation

Page 105

A58

Security Council Resolution 242 was the result of the new tolerance for Israel's expansive borders. Crafted by the US and approved on November 22nd, 1967, UNSC Resolution 242 represented the third declaration of war on the Palestinian people.

Page 102

A57

The impact of Egypt's defeat in 1967 and its subsequent withdrawal from Yemen, both of which marked the end of its attempt to assert regional hegemony, leaving Saudi Arabia as the dominant actor in the Arab world.

Page 109

A60

1. Excluded Palestinians, treating the issue as state-to-state disputes, reducing Palestinians to a humanitarian issue
2. Reinforced the Israeli narrative, negating Palestinian existence and elevating settler-colonial claims
3. Ignored the right of return, retreating from Partition Plan commitments and legitimizing Israel's expanded borders
4. Focused on 1967 aftermath, obscuring colonial origins and setting a flawed framework for future peace talks
5. Framed conflicts as separate disputes, enabling Israel and the US to negotiate with Arab states individually, sidestepping Palestinian self-determination

Pages 106, 107, 108

A59

How did the Palestinian political agency exist in global and Arab populations in the wake of the 1967 war?

Q61

What were the two strongly present regional movements in the 1960s representing Palestinians' rights and interests?

Q62

What is the PFLP and when and by whom was it established?

Q63

What is Fatah and when and by whom was it established?

Q64

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), and Fatah.

Page 112

A62

1. Globally, the Zionist narrative dominated public opinion
2. Among Arabs, the Palestinian diaspora spurred a cultural/political renaissance, reinforcing identity, resilience, and shared national experience of loss and exile

Pages 109, 110

A61

A nonideological movement founded by Yasser Arafat in 1959, it represented a reaction both to communist and Islamist groups, and called for direct and immediate action by Palestinians.

Page 114

A64

A pan-Arab Marxist organization founded by George Habash. They argued for Arab unity around the question of Palestine as the sole means to reverse the results of the Nakba.

Page 113

A63

How and when was the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) founded, and how did it develop in the wake of the 1967 war?

Q65

What has the Palestinian representation managed to achieve in the 1960s, and what overlooked factor helped them in achieving that?

Q66

What was the PLO's greatest success in the 1970s?

Q67

What were the factors that helped the PLO achieve its 1970s success?

Q68

1. Palestinians regained the "permission to narrate," telling their own story instead of relying on Arab states
2. Improved communication with Arab, developing, and some Western countries
3. Third World countries' prominence in the 1960s created a favorable environment for Palestinian representation

Page 118

A66

The PLO was founded by the Arab League in 1964 to control Palestinian nationalist movements under Egyptian policy. After the 1967 war, resistance groups, led by Arafat as chairman, took control.

Page 116

A65

1. The wave of national liberation movements, including the Palestinian, Algerian, southern African and Southeast Asia, were resonating with China, the Soviet Union, and with Third World countries, gaining global support.
2. These anticolonial movements were also resonating with European and US youth, including the Arab diaspora in western countries.

Page 120

A68

1. Gained recognition in the Third World, parts of Western Europe, and the UN, where Arafat spoke
2. Recognized by the Arab League as the sole legitimate Palestinian representative
3. Opened missions in over 100 countries

Page 120

A67

**What was the PLO's National Charter,
and how did the Charter aims develop
after Fatahs takeover of the PLO in
1968?**

Q69

**How were the 1960s developments of
the PLO's objectives received by
Palestinians and Israelis?**

Q70

**What were the external factors that led
the PLO to further change its objectives
in the 1960s?**

Q71

**What were the internal factors that led
the PLO to further change its objectives
in the 1960s?**

Q72

It became broadly accepted among Palestinians but they were ignored by PLO's opponents and it received little traction with most Israelis, and failed to convince many in the West.

Page 124

A70

1. The Charter declared Palestine an Arab country with rights only for pre-1917 residents and descendants, reversing events since the Balfour Declaration and rejecting British Mandate, Partition, and Nakba outcomes
2. Post-1968, the PLO aimed for a single democratic state for Jews and Arabs, acknowledging Israeli Jews' residency rights but denying Israeli national rights, state legitimacy, and Zionism

Page 124

A69

1. Loss of Jordanian bases weakened the PLO's ability to sustain a guerilla campaign against Israel
2. Israeli policy targeted Palestinian leaders, intellectuals, and advocates with assassinations and vilification as "terrorists"
3. Refugee camps and population centers in Lebanon faced sieges, massacres, and forced expulsions

Pages 126, 127, 128

A72

1. Arab states viewed the conflict as a state-to-state dispute, accepting Israel's right to secure borders and pressuring the PLO to adopt limited objectives
2. USSR and international pressure pushed the PLO toward a two-state solution, shifting to a pragmatic aim of negotiating a Palestinian state alongside Israel under UNSC 242

Page 126

A71

What were the shifts in US-PLO
communications preceding the Camp
David process?

Q73

What and when was the peace treaty
reached between Egypt and Israel,
what did it mean for Palestine, and how
did it benefit Egypt, Israel, and the US?

Q74

What was Beirut's role in the Palestinian
cause up until the 1982 war?

Q75

What were the events with which the
1982 Beirut war started?

Q76

1. It was the result of the Camp David process, reached in 1979.
2. It froze out the PLO, allowed colonization of the territories occupied in 1967, and put the Palestine issue on hold.
3. Egypt restored the Sinai Peninsula, Israel removed Egypt from the Arab conflict, and the US guaranteed Egypt's shift from the USSR towards it.

Page 136

A74

1. Initial US-PLO talks during the Lebanese civil war expanded to broader issues, angering Israel, which assassinated a key PLO figure to deter US engagement
2. Secret talks grew to include PLO acceptance of UNSC 242, US recognition, peace negotiation terms, Iran's revolution, and hostage crises; Israel targeted a US official involved
3. Carter's administration planned a conference with Palestinian participation after supporting a Palestinian homeland
4. Under Israeli and Egyptian pressure, Carter abandoned this approach, adopting the Camp David process instead

Pages 134, 135, 136

A73

1. Israeli bombardment of Beirut began on June 4, 1982, with unanticipated scale and scope
2. Israeli troops entered, overwhelming Palestinian, Lebanese, and Syrian forces; Syria agreed to a separate ceasefire
3. Bombardments included both targeted and indiscriminate attacks, destroying civilian areas
4. Israeli spies executed car bombings, described as "killing for killing's sake" by a Mossad officer

Page 146

A76

Being the journalistic nerve center which covered the Arab-Israeli conflicts, they were immune to propaganda whether it is the PLO, Maronite Lebanese Front (LF), the Syrian regime, or Israeli hasbara.

Page 144

A75

How did the 1982 Beirut war develop after Israel's initial attack?

Q77

What were Israel's arguments to convince the US to support them in their fight against the PLO in the 1982 Beirut war?

Q78

How was the PLO's evacuation plan from Beirut arranged, agreed upon, and implemented?

Q79

What were the political impacts of the 1982 Beirut war?

Q80

Israel presented the PLO as a proxy for Soviet influence in the Middle East, playing on the US's Cold War fears. By portraying the PLO as part of the communist bloc, Israel sought to gain US support as part of the broader fight against Soviet expansion.

Page 150

A78

Under intense pressure from Israel, the US, and their Lebanese allies, and in the absence of meaningful support from any Arab government, the PLO was forced to agree to evacuate Beirut.

Page 149

A77

1. The rise of Hezbollah
2. The first direct US deployment in the Middle East since 1958,
3. The growth of the Israeli Peace Now movement,
4. Provoked intense reactions in US and European causing negative perceptions of Israel

Page 164

A80

1. Plan included buffer zone, partial Israeli withdrawal, international forces, and safeguards for Palestinians
2. US pledged protection for non-combatant Palestinians; PLO evacuated
3. After evacuation, international forces withdrew, siege lifted
4. LF President's assassination led to Israeli reoccupation and Sabra & Shatila massacres

Pages 154, 155, 156, 157, 158

A79

How did the Intifada develop organizationally, and who eventually led it?

Q81

How did Israel exploit the deepened division between Fatah and Hamas?

Q82

What were the events leading to the First Intifada?

Q83

How did Israel respond to the First Intifada, and what internal and external challenges did that response create?

Q84

Israel was able to exploit the deep division among Palestinians and Gaza's isolation to launch three savage air and ground assaults on the strip that began in 2008 and continued in 2012 and 2014, leaving large swaths of its cities and refugee camps in rubble and struggling with rolling blackouts and contaminated water. The lopsided 43:1 Palestinian to Israeli scale of these casualties is telling, as is the fact that the bulk of the Israelis killed were soldiers while most of the Palestinians were civilians.

Pages 221, 222

A82

The First Intifada generated extensive local organization in villages, towns, cities, and refugee camps, and remained locally driven but developed a coordinated structure and it came to be led by a secret Unified National Leadership. The flexible and clandestine grassroots networks formed during the Intifada proved impossible for the military occupation authorities to suppress.

Page 169

A81

Israel responded with systematic brutality; Rabin's orders to "break their bones", rooted in a deeply indoctrinated view of Palestinian resistance as irrational and existential threat. Over nine years, nearly one Palestinian was killed every other day, over 20% of them children under sixteen. Internationally, this shattered Israel's victim narrative. Internally, it exposed the lie of a content population under an "enlightened occupation," while overstressing its security forces.

Pages 169, 170

A84

The immediate trigger was an Israeli army truck striking and killing 4 Palestinians in Jabalya camp. Beneath this lay a decade of intensifying repression: crushed nationalism, settlement expansion, deportations, house demolitions, and imprisonment without trial. The PLO's expulsion from Lebanon paradoxically redirected and intensified resistance into the occupied territories themselves, creating an accumulated fury that finally erupted.

Pages 169, 170, 172, 173

A83

What were the key characteristics of the First Intifada, and how did it differ from previous resistance movements?

Q85

What were the challenges faced by the PLO during the First Intifada?

Q86

What were the limitations of the peace negotiations that began during the First Intifada?

Q87

What were the geopolitical events that weakened the Palestinian position during the First Intifada?

Q88

The PLO, exiled in Tunis, was blindsided by the uprising and struggled to direct it remotely, disconnected from the lived realities of occupation that local leaders understood intimately. Internally, it was weakened by early-1980s mutinies and the assassination of Abu Jihad in 1988, while rising local figures drew public and media attention. Hamas -initially backed by Israel to counterbalance the PLO- grew rapidly, threatening to displace it entirely.

Pages 175, 176

A86

A spontaneous, leaderless uprising that evolved into locally coordinated structures with broad societal participation, including prominent women's leadership. It relied on nonviolent tactics — strikes, boycotts, tax resistance — paired with deliberate, articulate communication to shape global opinion. Palestinians under occupation took the lead in the liberation struggle, unifying Palestinian society while making the occupation internationally indefensible. It became widely recognized as a landmark of effective popular resistance.

Pages 173,174,175

A85

Several compounding blows eroded Palestinian leverage. The 1979 Camp David peace treaty isolated Egypt from the Arab world, removing a critical counterbalance to Israeli pressure. The USSR's collapse left the U.S. as sole arbiter of any peace process. Most devastatingly, Arafat's refusal to oppose Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait alienated Gulf patrons and destroyed the prosperous Palestinian community there — a catastrophic miscalculation that Abu Iyad had presciently warned against, and was assassinated for opposing.

Pages 186, 187

A88

The negotiations were structurally stacked against Palestinians from the outset. They omitted the Palestine question entirely, ignored the Arab state outlined in UNGA Resolution 181 (1947), and made no mention of the refugee right of return under Resolution 194 (1948). Critically, UNSC Resolution 242's ambiguous phrasing -withdrawal from "territories" rather than "the territories"- left Israel room to retain occupied land. Accepting 242 as the negotiating foundation meant Palestinians entered talks on deeply unfavorable terms.

Page 181

A87

What was the Israeli approach to the peace talks?

Q89

What were the impacts of Oslo's Declaration of Principles on Palestinian lives?

Q90

What was agreed upon in Oslo II, and what are Areas A, B, and C?

Q91

What was the Palestinian Authority's reality after Oslo? How did this change the nature of the war on Palestinians?

Q92

Rather than bringing relief, Oslo accelerated dispossession. Israel sealed off East Jerusalem from the rest of the Occupied Territories through walls and fortified checkpoints, strangling its economy by blocking West Bank and Gazan entry. Land seizures, home demolitions, and the arbitrary revocation of Jerusalem residency rights intensified simultaneously; making Oslo's signing not a turning point toward freedom, but a cover for deepening the colonial reality on the ground.

Page 202

A90

Israel's approach reflected core Zionist doctrine: autonomy for Palestinians as people, but never over the land — only the Jewish people held legitimate sovereignty over the entirety of Eretz Israel. Settlement expansion continued unrestrained, with officials openly admitting willingness to drag talks out for a decade while expanding settlements. Simultaneously, Israel pursued parallel negotiations with Syria and Egypt to dilute and weaken the Palestinian negotiating position.

Pages 192, 193, 194

A89

Oslo left the PA with no sovereignty, no genuine jurisdiction, and revenues largely controlled by Israel. Its primary function -consuming most of its budget- was not protecting its own people but providing security for Israeli settlers and occupation forces against Palestinian resistance. Oslo thus offloaded the cost of subjugation onto the PA while preserving all Israeli privileges, and introduced a sinister new dimension: the Palestinian Authority itself became a subcontractor of the occupation, enlisted in suppressing its own people.

Page 205

A92

Oslo II fragmented the West Bank and Gaza into a patchwork of zones. Area C (over 60% of the territory, containing virtually all settlements) remained under complete Israeli control. Area B (18%) granted the PA administrative and security roles. Area A (22%) gave the PA administrative control while Israel retained security authority. Though Areas A and B housed 87% of Palestinians, Israel retained total control over borders, population registers, and movement, as settlements expanded, checkpoints multiplied, and walls carved the West Bank into isolated, suffocating enclaves.

Page 203

A91

How did Oslo's implications manifest upon Palestinians by the 2000s?

Q93

Among others, there were three major contributors to the Second Intifada. What were they?

Q94

What factors contributed to Hamas gaining widespread popularity by the early 2000s?

Q95

What did the Israeli proposal at Camp David actually consist of, leading to the claim that Arafat rejected peace?

Q96

1. The worsening economic situation due to Oslo implications,
2. Intensifying rivalry between PLO & Hamas causing instability
3. The Israeli tunnel built beneath Jerusalem causing major damages and an eruption in mass protests

Pages 212, 213

A94

Oslo's architecture produced a system of sophisticated apartheid. Only a privileged PA elite held VIP passes; everyone else was confined; West Bankers and Gazans trapped in their respective territories, moving on inferior roads while settlers glided above them on exclusive highways. Gaza was placed under a suffocating siege by land and sea, its economy slowly strangled as work and export became near-impossible. Jerusalem was severed from its West Bank hinterland, collapsing its economy; East Jerusalem's contribution to Palestinian GDP fell from 15% to 7% between 1993 and 2018.

Pages 208, 209

A93

The proposal that Arafat was condemned for rejecting was not an offer of genuine statehood. Israel sought permanent control of the Jordan Valley -with its critical water resources and strategic buffer position- alongside control of Palestinian airspace and water resources. Rather than a contiguous state, the West Bank would be fragmented into isolated blocs through further annexation. Palestinians were expected to accept sovereignty in name while Israel retained control over every lever of economic and territorial power.

Page 211

A96

Hamas's rise fed on the PLO's failures. While a privileged Fatah elite reaped Oslo's limited benefits and defended its diplomatic approach, Hamas unflinchingly acknowledged Oslo's devastation as proof that armed resistance was the only credible path. Israel's continued tacit support of Hamas as a counterweight further entrenched it. Underlying all this was a broader regional disillusionment with the secular nationalist movements that had dominated the Arab world throughout the 20th century.

Page 210

A95

What is the Dahiya Doctrine?

Q97

How does international law distinguish between an occupying army's use of force and that of armed groups, in assessing war crimes?

Q98

Under what circumstances have U.S. presidents acted against Israeli objections, and what does this reveal?

Q99

International law holds both occupying armies and armed resistance groups to the rules of war, but recognizes a fundamental asymmetry of power. Gaza's armed groups used imprecise, unguided rockets; indiscriminate and potentially criminal, yet limited in scale and destructive capacity. Israel deployed sophisticated, massively destructive weaponry against densely populated civilian areas, producing incomparably greater casualties and destruction. This disproportion in capability and consequence is central to any serious war crimes assessment.

Pages 226, 227

A98

The Dahiya Doctrine is Israel's deliberate strategy of applying disproportionate, devastating force to civilian areas from which resistance is launched, treating entire neighborhoods as military targets. Named after the Beirut suburb Israel leveled in 2006, it was explicitly articulated by General Gadi Eizenkot, who threatened total destruction for any village firing on Israel. Applied to Gaza in 2014, the doctrine produced mass civilian casualties -over 13,000 killed or injured- and the destruction of hundreds of thousands of homes.

Page 225

A97

When core U.S. strategic interests are at stake, presidents have consistently overridden Israeli objections; opposing the 1956 Suez War, halting the 1968-70 war of attrition, pushing Israeli withdrawals after 1973, approving Saudi arms sales, and pursuing the Iran nuclear deal. The pattern is revealing: on Palestine, where no vital American strategic or economic interest is engaged, Washington defaults to full deference to Israel. U.S. support for Israeli positions is thus situational, not unconditional, conditioned entirely on American self-interest.

Page 230

A99