

SS7H2 B. and C.

- B. Explain the historical reasons for the establishment of the modern State of Israel in 1948; include the Jewish religious connection to the land, the Holocaust, anti-Semitism, and Zionism in Europe.
- c. Describe how land and religion are reasons for continuing conflicts in the Middle East.

Creation of Israel ~ a homeland for the Jews...



Let's discuss the creation of the country Israel...

- It all started with WWII
- What major event occurred during WWII that affected the Jewish population?
 - THE HOLOCAUST
- Due to the Holocaust that was ongoing in Europe in the 1940's, the Jewish population had no where safe to live
- Therefore, after WWII was over and the Holocaust had ended, the United Nations gathered together to create a homeland for the Jewish population

There are 4 main reasons for the creation of Israel:

1. The Holocaust
2. Anti-Semitism
3. Zionism
4. The Jew's historical connection to the land

What was the Holocaust?

- The mass slaughter of the Jewish ethnic group by the German Nazis during World War II.
- It was the systematic killing of 6 million Jews (genocide=the killing of a specific group/race in an area)
- 5 million others were killed (gypsies, mentally ill, homosexuals)



What is anti-Semitism?

- Hatred towards Jews because they practiced the Jewish faith
- The discrimination and persecution of Jews.
- Widespread in Europe – especially during the Holocaust times

What is Zionism? (Zionists)

- Zionism is the belief among some Jewish people (referred to as Zionists) who feel as though the land in Israel, specifically Jerusalem is holy and sacred and promised to them by God.

Connection to the land

- The connection of the Jews to the land of Israel spans several thousand years –back to Biblical times where they lived.

When was Israel established?

- The modern state of Israel was created May 14, 1948. This creation was led by the Allied countries that won World War II.
- However, this led to SEVERAL conflicts...

SS7H2 C: land and religion = conflict in the Middle East

c. Describe how land and religion are reasons for continuing conflicts in the Middle East.

So, is it **Palestine** or **Israel**?
Depends on **WHEN** you ask...



**BEFORE
1948**



**AFTER
1948**

History of Palestine

- Created as a country by the break up of the Ottoman empire at the end of WWI
- MOSTLY ARABS living in this country
 - MAJORITY of Arabs practice what religion? Islam.
- The land is important to Jews, Christians, and Muslims because it is where much of what is written in their Holy Books took place
 - Most important is the city of Jerusalem
- Before WWII, Palestine divided again and land was taken away from the Arabs
- During WWII to escape anti-Semitism and the Holocaust, Jews started immigrating to the land in Palestine and tried to create a Jewish homeland

The United Nations in 1947 created a plan to create a Palestinian State and a Jewish State.



Arabs vs. Jews

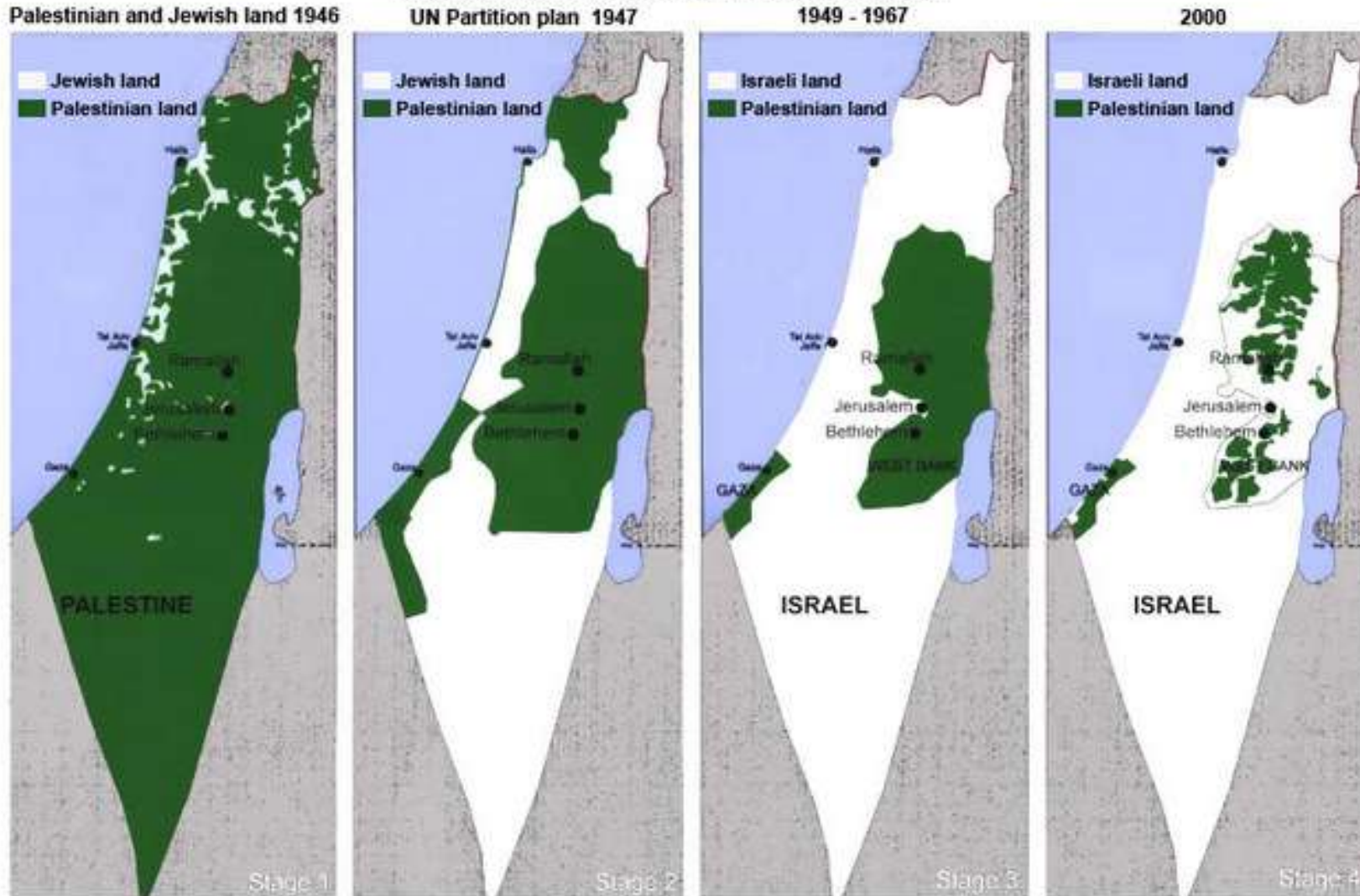
- The Arab population in Palestine did not like the proposal by the United Nations to divide up their land
- Therefore, when Israel was created, the Arab population was extremely unhappy



Wars and Conflict over land...

- May 1948 *DAY AFTER ISRAEL WAS DECLARED A STATE* war broke out between Palestinian Arabs and Israeli Jews
- This became the start of several battles known as the Arab-Israeli Wars (or conflict)
 - Israel won the war
 - Many Palestinians became refugees
 - Israelis are surrounded by Palestinian supporting Arabs
- Arab-Israeli conflict plays a major role in the difficulties that the United States and the rest of the world face when trying to find peaceful settlements to Southwest Asian, or Middle Eastern, conflicts

Let's look at this map again



Arab-Israeli Wars then and now...

- Israel was victorious and gained more territory even after being attacked by 5 Arab nations
 - The United States supported Israel as our ally during this time and came to their defense when they were attacked
- The Palestinian Arabs do not have a formal country of their own
- Currently, most are refugees or live in the area of the GAZA strip located within Israel

Continued...

- Several peace treaties have been signed in efforts to stop the fighting between Israel and the surrounding Arab countries
- The land in Israel still remains important to 3 major world religions and plays a major role in the conflict that is still going on today