

1948 Nakba


THE NAKBA

Each year on May 15, Palestinians and those in solidarity with the cause, commemorate al-Nakba or “The Catastrophe,” which is also the day the Zionist plan to build a Jewish homeland in Palestine became a reality and Israel was born.

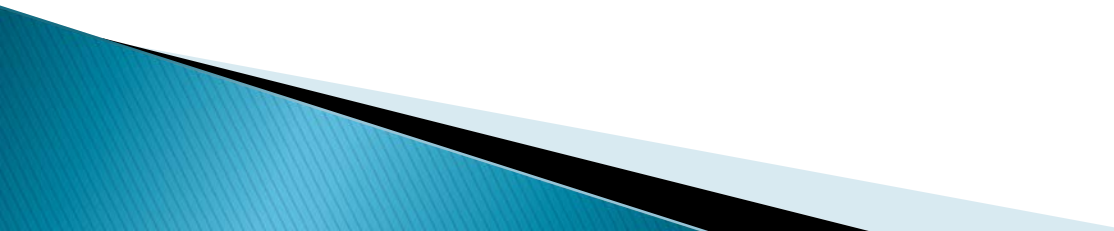
It didn’t come without a cost to the Arabs. Beginning with the UN Partition Plan in 1947, throughout 1948 until an armistice was signed in January 1949, Zionist militants killed 13,000 Palestinians and violently forced 750,000 other from their homes. They and their descendents have become permanent refugees.

The commemoration of al-Nakba is important because in the remembrance of the catastrophe also lies the hope that Palestine one day will be whole again and its rightful inhabitants will once again people the blessed land.

But the Nakba is not just one historical event. It’s a process that began with the formation of Zionism in the late 19th century and still continues today.

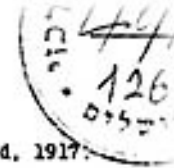


Nakba Basic INFO

- ▶ The Nakba is at the core of the Palestine–Israel conflict, whose resolution will only come about when the world recognizes the tragedies – and the subsequent occupation – that has befallen the Palestinian people
 - ▶ The Nakba is not simply a historical event but an ongoing process to create and maintain an exclusive Jewish state in historic Palestine. The Nakba continues to be a mechanism of dispossession.
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Foreign Office,

November 2nd, 1917.



Dear Lord Rothschild,

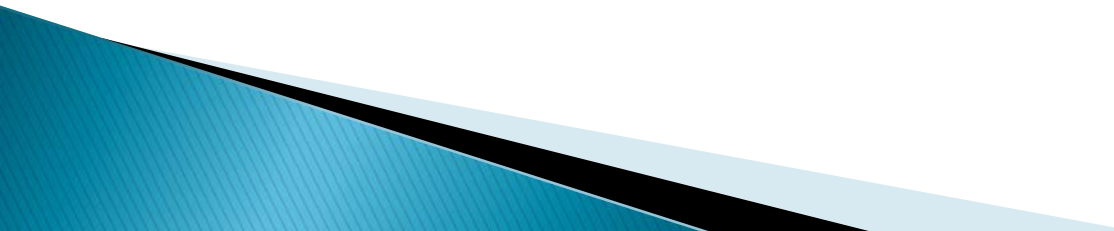
I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

"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.

Y. in
Arthur Balfour

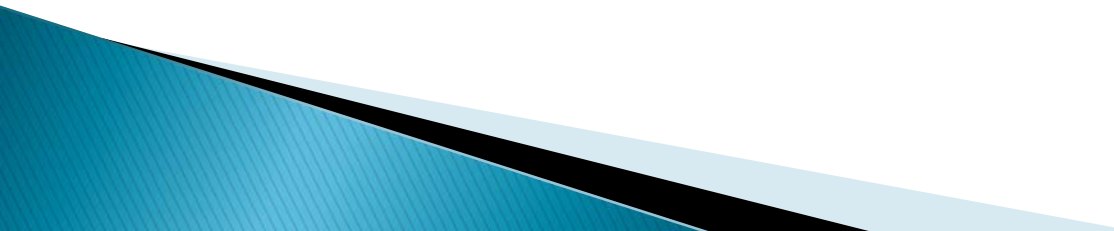
“ The British Deception”

- ▶ In June 1918, Britain promised Arab leaders that the territories Great Britain was occupying (Palestine and southern Iraq) would be governed according to the desires of the indigenous population.
 - ▶ The Balfour Declaration stated “...it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine ...
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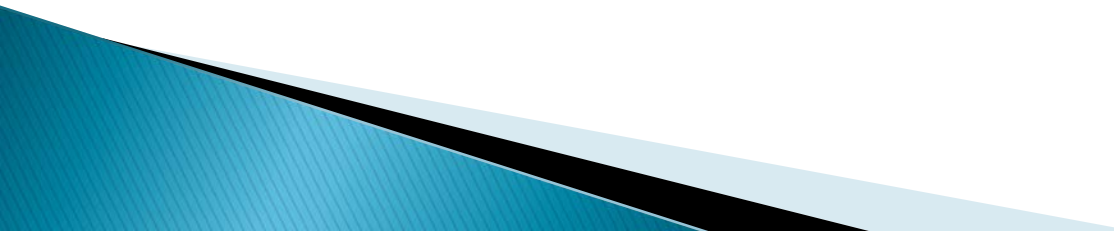
“Land for Money”

- ▶ In May 1944, the British Labor party voted to encourage the Palestinians to abandon their lands, in exchange for large sums of money.

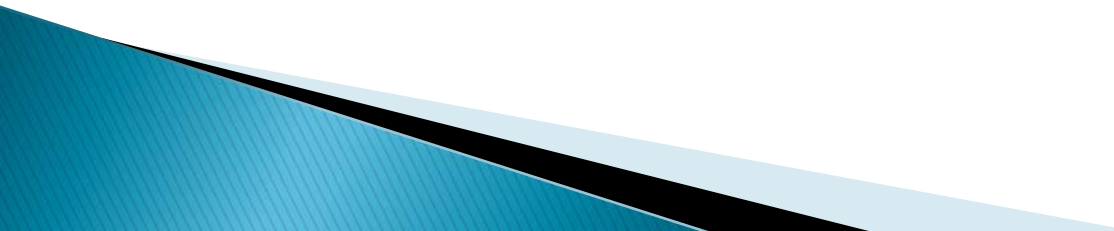
The Commission Recommends the Partition of Palestine

- ▶ On July 3, 1947, the United Nations Advisory Commission recommended ending British rule in Palestine. The commission suggested partitioning the country into two states– one Jewish and the other Palestinian Arab – and submitting Jerusalem to an International Administration.
 - ▶ Both Arabs and Jews rejected this plan due to the “international status” of Jerusalem.
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The Partition

- ▶ Nov. 29, 1947– the United Nations General Assembly passed resolution 181, effectively dividing Palestine. The partition created two states, giving Jews 54 percent of historic Palestine and leaving the indigenous population with just 46 percent of their land.
 - ▶ The fact that Palestinians owned 93.5 percent of the land, and were 68 percent of the population was not taken into account.
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British Withdrawal

- ▶ The British Mandate ended on May 15, 1948, resulting in the withdrawal of British troops that day.
 - ▶ Zionist groups, including the army (Haganah) and the terrorist groups Irgun and the Stern Gang, wanted to occupy as much of the territory as possible before the British army withdrew to avoid conflict with Arab armies.
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The Massacre at Deir Yassin

- ▶ The Deir Yassin massacre was a barbaric incident in which more than 100 innocent Palestinians were murdered in cold blood.
- ▶ **“Mr. Fahimi Zeidan, 12:** “The Jews ordered all our family to line up against the wall and they started shooting us. I was hit in the side, but most of us children were saved because we hid behind our parents. The bullets hit my sister Kadri [four] in the head, my sister Sameh [eight] in the cheek, my brother Mohammed [seven] in the chest. But all the others with us against the wall were killed: my father, my mother, my grandfather and grandmother, my uncles and aunts and some of their children.” ~ From British report made four days after the massacre (Palestine Remembered).

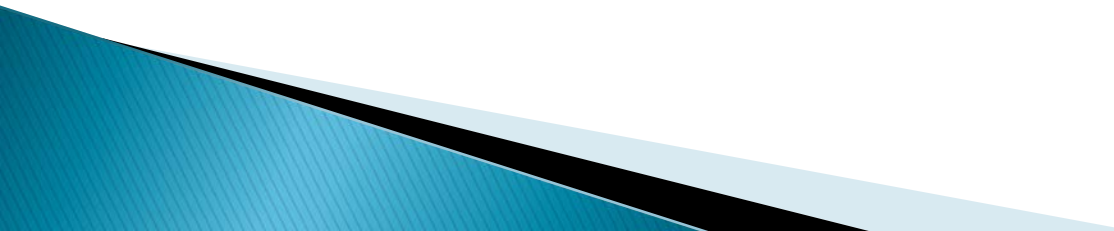
Deir Yassin Continued

- ▶ **Ms. Haleem Eid, 30:** "A man [shot] a bullet into the neck of my sister Salhiyeh who was nine months pregnant. Then he cut her stomach open with a butcher's knife."
Ms. Naaneh Khalil, 16, saw a man: "take a kind of sword and slash my neighbor Jamil Hish from head to toe then do the same thing on the steps to my house to my cousin Fathi."
- ▶ ~ From British report made four days after the massacre (Palestine Remembered).

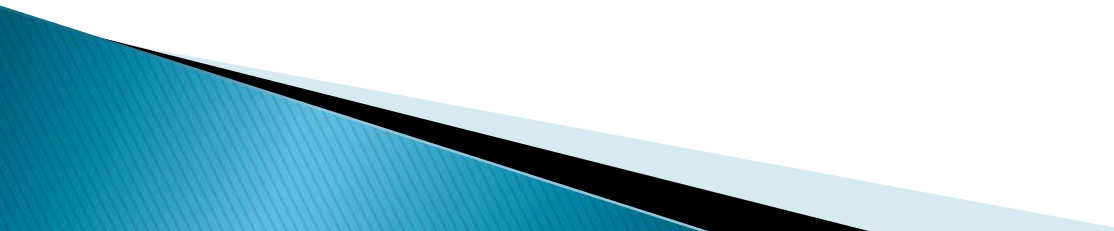
Deir Yassin Continued

- ▶ The leaders of the two Zionist terrorist groups that perpetrated the Deir Yassin massacre later became prime ministers of Israel. Menachem Begin was the head of the Irgun and Yitzhak Rabin lead the Stern Gang. Both groups received permission from the Haganah to attack Deir Yassin.
- ▶ After the massacre, Begin said, “The operation at Deir Yassin gave spectacular results. They (Arabs) were struck with panic; they fled before us, as soon as they heard we were coming. Out of the 800,000 Arabs living in Israel, only 165,000 were left, and all that was thanks to the operation at Deir Yassin.”

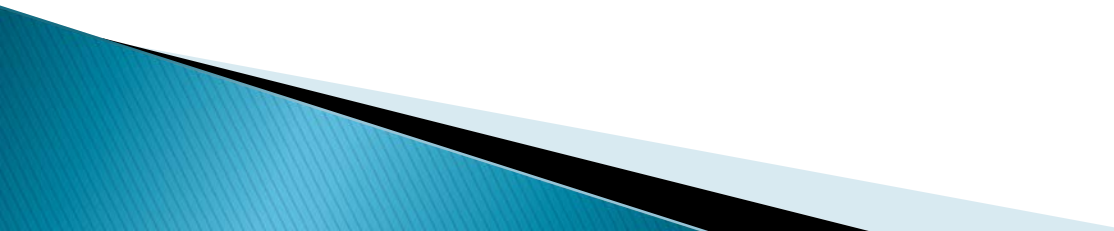
The declaration of the State Of Israel

- ▶ May 15, 1948, Israel declared Independence.
 - ▶ On April 22, 1948, Zionist forces occupied Haifa and drove the Palestinian inhabitants out.
 - ▶ On April 30, 1948, the Haganah took over west Jerusalem and drove the Muslim Arabs out of their homes.
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The fall of the Palestinian Cities

- ▶ Oct. 22, 1948, Zionists capture Bier Al-Sabi' and rename it Beersheba.
 - ▶ Nov. 5, Zionists take Al-Masjdal and Asqalaan and rename it Ashqelon.
 - ▶ Zionists depopulated between more than 500 villages. They committed 34 massacres of women and children and seized 78 percent of Palestinian territory, despite Resolution 181 that gave them 54 percent of historic Palestine.
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Facts

- ▶ 750,000 Palestinians were displaced in 1948. Today, Palestinians make up 40 percent of the world's refugee population.
 - ▶ Today, about 9 million Palestinians are refugees or internally displaced people, meaning they are living in camps sometimes within view of their original homesteads.
 - ▶ Former Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan said, "There is not one single Israeli village in this land that has not been built on top of ... an Arab village, nor before having evicted the people so that a new Israeli settlement could be erected"
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Facts continued

- ▶ After the Deir Yassin massacre, the Haganah army perpetuated fear in among Palestinians by saying, “If you don’t leave, you will have the same fate as Deir Yassin.”

Irgun/Haganah War Crimes

- ▶ The Haganah, Irgun and the Stern Gang committed atrocities that amount to war crimes in villages and towns throughout Palestine. Some of the most well-known crimes are:
- ▶ July 22, 1946
- ▶ Zionist militants bomb the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, killing 91 civilians, including 41 Arabs, 17 Jews, and 15 British
- ▶ Sept. 17, 1948
- ▶ **Jewish Terrorists Assassinate U.N. Peacekeeper Count Folke Bernadotte**