

# Israel History

# Ancient times -1800's

- **Early History**

- Canaan, religious ties to the land

- **1517-1917**

- Ottoman Empire until they lost WW1 and the British gained their land
- Zionism (1800s)- an organized religious and political movement. Zionists wanted to reestablish a Jewish homeland in Palestine. Massive numbers of Jews immigrated to the ancient holy land and built settlements. Arabs in Palestine resisted the Zionism movement, and tensions between the two groups continue. An Arab nationalist movement developed as a result.
- British Mandate of Palestine after WW1

# British Mandate of Palestine after the Ottoman Empire's rule



# Balfour Declaration- 1918.

- Britain owns the land at this time & it was called the British mandate of Palestine.
- The mandate lasted from 1920 to 1948.
  - In 1917, at the height of the war, British Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour submitted a letter of intent supporting the establishment of a Jewish homeland in [Palestine](#). The British government hoped that the formal declaration—known thereafter as the [Balfour Declaration](#)—would encourage support for the Allies in World War I.
  - When World War I ended in 1918 with an Allied victory, the 400-year Ottoman Empire rule ended, and Great Britain took control over what became known as Palestine (modern-day Israel, Palestine and Jordan).
  - The Balfour Declaration and the British mandate over Palestine were approved by the [League of Nations](#) in 1922. Arabs vehemently opposed the Balfour Declaration, concerned that a Jewish homeland would mean the subjugation of Arab Palestinians.

The Balfour Declaration was just a promise. It didn't actually accomplish anything and they didn't follow through with it. The Palestinian people **OPPOSED** this declaration!

# Holocaust- during WW2

- Most Jewish survivors, who had survived concentration camps or had been in hiding, were unable or unwilling to return to eastern Europe because of postwar **antisemitism** and the destruction of their communities during the Holocaust.
- Holocaust survivors from displaced persons camps in Europe and from detention camps on Cyprus were welcomed into the Jewish homeland. Many of them fought in Israel's War of Independence in 1948 and 1949.

# Post WW2

- **United Nations Partition Plan of 1947-**

- The United Nations approved a plan to partition Palestine into a Jewish and Arab state in 1947, but the Arabs rejected it.
- To find a safe homeland for the Jews after the Holocaust
- Cause of the 1948 Arab-Israeli War

- **1948 Arab- Israeli War-**

- Following the announcement of an independent Israel, five Arab nations—Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, [Syria](#), and Lebanon—immediately invaded the region in what became known as the 1948 Arab-Israeli War. A cease-fire agreement was reached in 1949. As part of the temporary armistice agreement, the West Bank became part of Jordan, and the Gaza Strip became Egyptian territory.

# UN Partition Plan of 1947





# UN Partition Plan of 1947



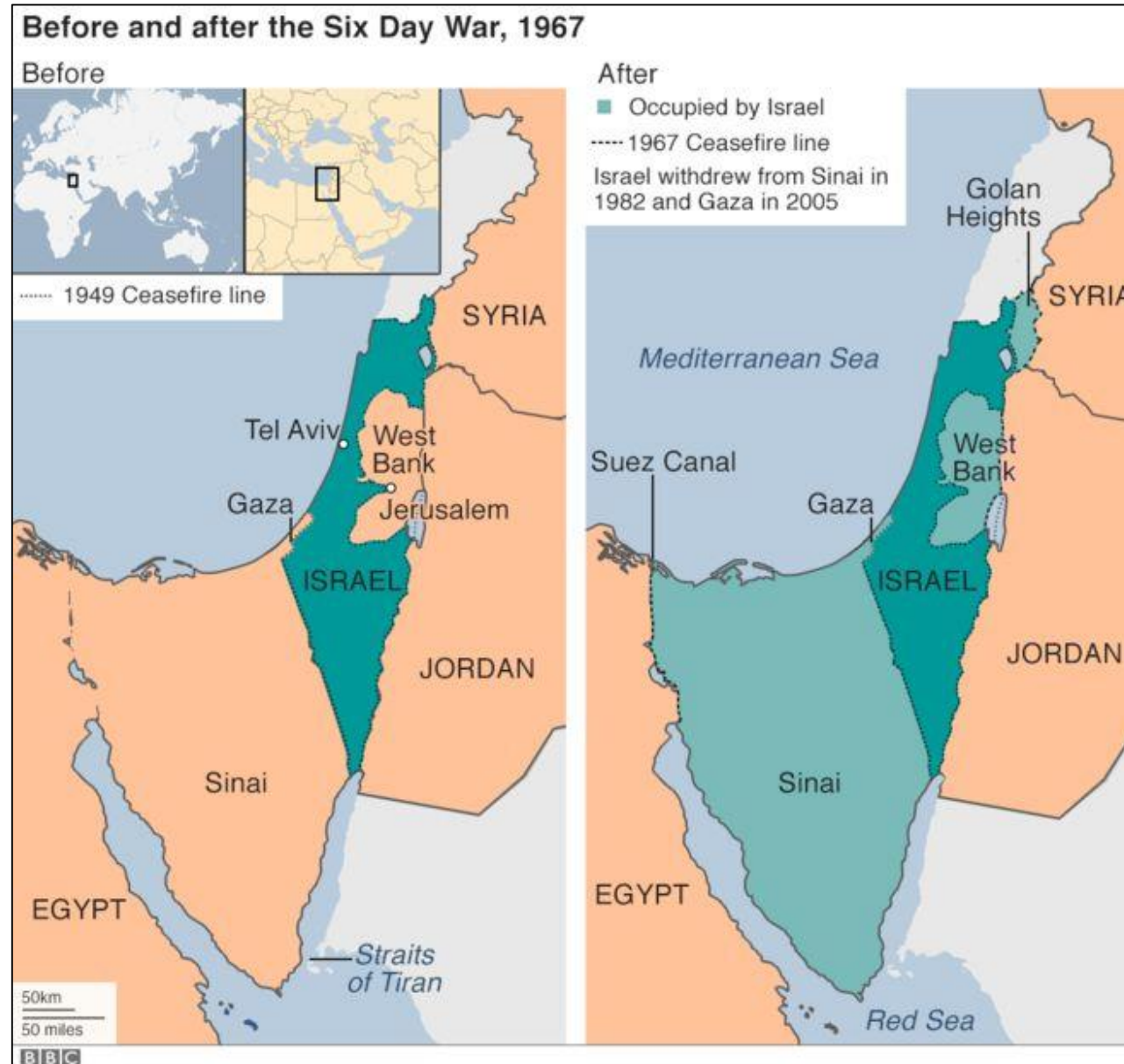
# Arab-Israeli War (1949 Armistice)



# 6 Day War

- In what started as a surprise attack, Israel in 1967 defeated Egypt, Jordan and Syria in six days. After this brief war, Israel took control of the Gaza Strip, Sinai Peninsula, the West Bank, and Golan Heights. These areas were considered **“occupied”** by Israel.

# Before & After the Six Day War



# ISRAEL TODAY

- Clashes between Israelis and Palestinians are still commonplace. Key territories of land are divided, but some are claimed by both groups. For instance, they both cite Jerusalem as their capital.
- Both groups blame each other for terror attacks that kill civilians. While Israel doesn't officially recognize Palestine as a state, more than 135 UN member nations do. (not the US)