

Palestinian History

What is Palestine?



- The Gaza Strip
- The West Bank

Pre-1500's

- Throughout history, Palestine has been ruled by numerous groups, including the Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Fatimids, Seljuk Turks, Crusaders, Egyptians, Mamelukes and Islamists.

- **ESSENTIALLY**
 - Palestine has never really ruled itself!

1500-WW1

- the Ottoman Empire ruled much of the region.
- Remember: this means they are able to keep their ethnic backgrounds & religions!

1947-1967

- **UN Partition Plan of 1947**
 - Jewish leaders accepted the plan, **but many Palestinian Arabs vehemently opposed it.**
 - Arab groups argued that they represented the majority of the population in certain regions and should be granted more territory. They began to form volunteer armies throughout Palestine.



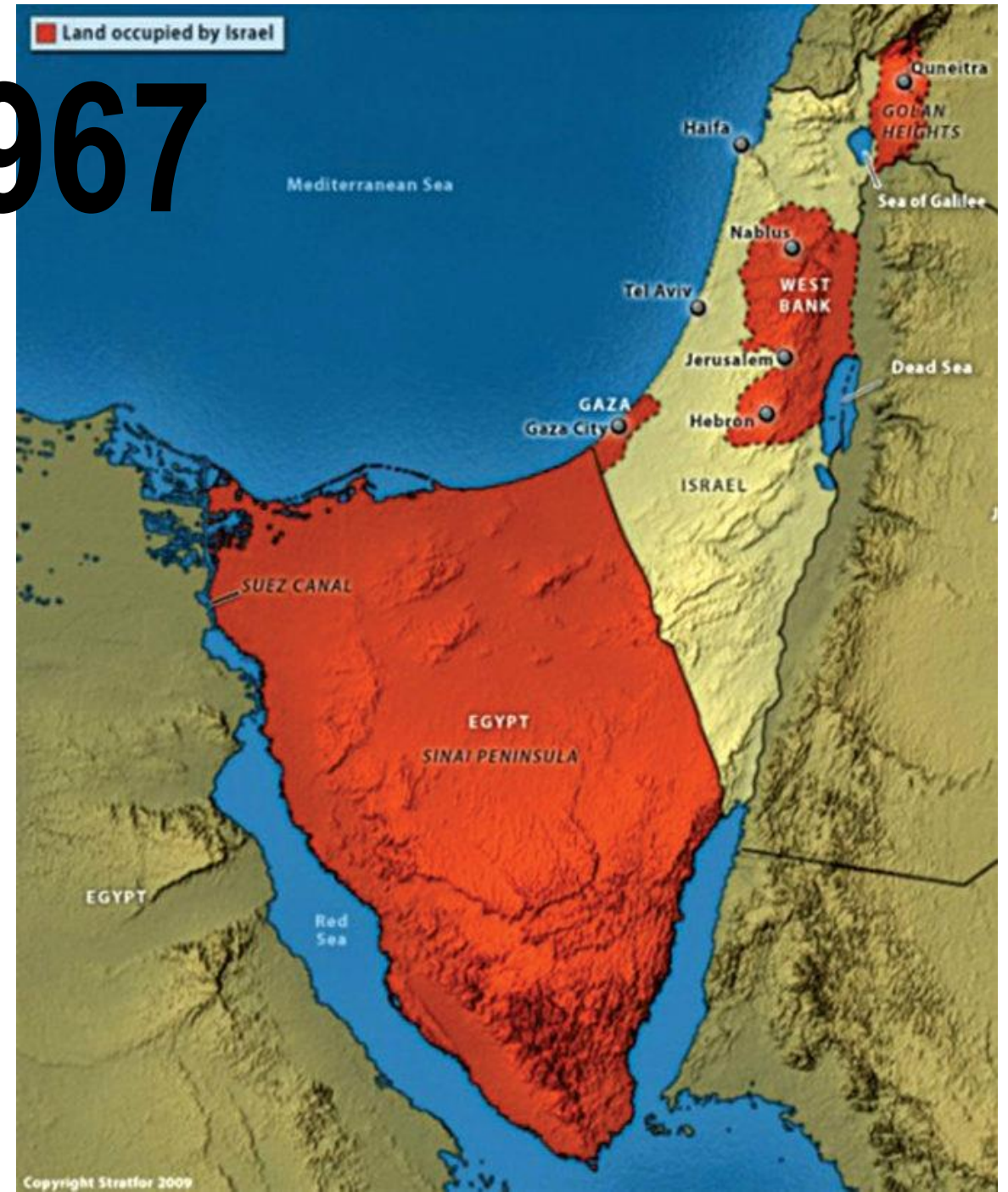
PLO- Palestinian Liberation Organization

- 1964
- was formed to create a platform for establishing a plan for a Palestinian state within Israel.
- Emerged as a response to Zionism
- In the years after its inception, the PLO became associated with extremism and violence
- Yasser Arafat



6 Day War- 1967

- **Israel attacked Egypt, Jordan and Syria** between June 5 and June 10, 1967.
- resulted in major land gains for Israel.
 - After the war, Israel took control of the Gaza Strip, West Bank, Sinai Peninsula (a desert region situated between the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea) and Golan Heights (a rocky plateau located between Syria and modern-day Israel).



1970-1993

• Oslo Accords-

- Created as a response to the First Intifada
- The first Oslo Accord (Oslo I) created a timetable for a Middle East peace process and a plan for an interim Palestinian government in parts of Gaza and the West Bank. The agreement was signed in 1993 and witnessed by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

• First Intifada-

- In 1987, the First Intifada broke out. This conflict was fueled by Israeli occupation of Gaza and the West Bank. Palestinian militia groups revolted, and hundreds of people were killed.
- A subsequent peace process, known as the Oslo Peace Accords, was proposed to end the ongoing violence.

1970-1993

• **Second Intifada**

- In September 2000, the Second Palestinian Intifada began. One of the triggers for the violence was when Ariel Sharon, who would later become Israel's Prime Minister, visited al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. Many Palestinians felt this was an offensive move, and they protested.
- This period of violence between Palestinians and Israelis lasted nearly five years. In 2005, the Israeli army withdrew from Gaza.

• **Hamas**

- In 2006, Hamas, a Sunni Islamist militant group, won the Palestinian legislative elections.
- That same year, fighting between Hamas and Fatah, the political group that controlled the PLO, ensued. In 2007, Hamas defeated Fatah in a battle for Gaza.
- Many countries consider Hamas to be a terrorist organization. The group has carried out suicide bombings and repeatedly called for the destruction of Israel.

Hamas

