

# Palestine Historical Summary in Maps

**Canadians for Justice and Peace  
in the Middle East**

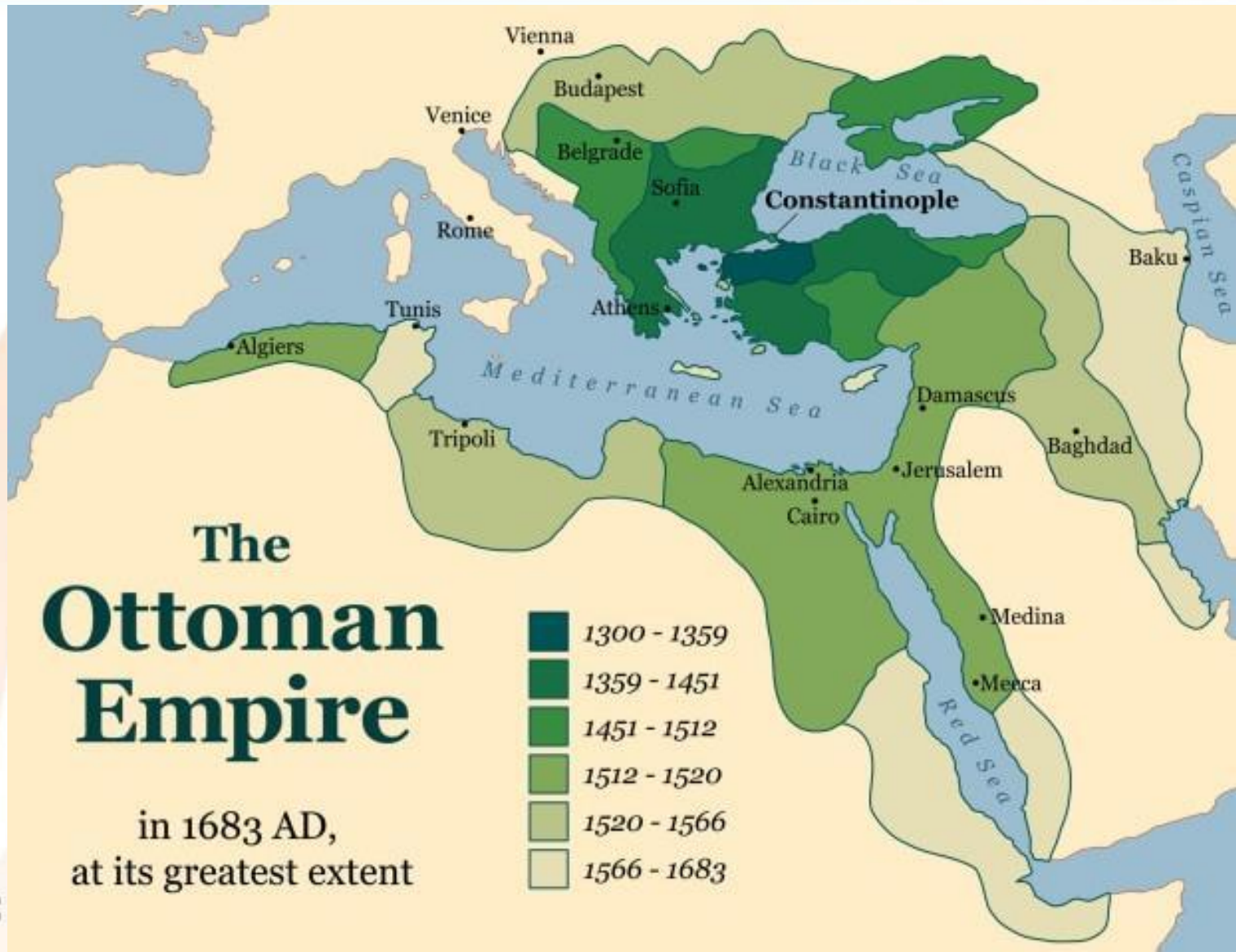


**May 18, 2021**



**CJPME**

# The Ottoman Empire – 600 years



# Ottoman Empire ends with WW I



Soldiers in the Arab Army during the Arab Revolt of 1916-1918, carrying the Arab Flag of the Arab Revolt and pictured in the Hejaz.



Feisal party at Versailles Conference. Prince Faisal (front), T. E. Lawrence, 3<sup>rd</sup> from right



Foreboding times ahead: British General Sir Edmund Allenby enters Jerusalem's Old City on Dec. 11, 1917.



# Key Developments, 1898-1939



- **World Zionist Congress (1898)** – Jewish diaspora leaders facing antisemitism meet to raise funds and lobby support for the establishment of a Jewish homeland
- **Sykes–Picot Agreement (1916)** – England and France secretly decide on the post-war division of the Middle East
- **McMahon–Hussein Correspondence (1915-1916)** – British promises independence to Arabs if the Arabs revolt against the Ottomans
- **Balfour Declaration (1917)** – British promise a national home for the Jews in Palestine
- **Treaty of Versailles (1919)** – Allied powers agree on partition of Middle East according to Sykes-Picot (next slide)
- **White Paper (1939)** - British Government proposes limit to Jewish immigration from Europe and restrictions on Jewish land purchases

# British-French Sykes-Picot Agreement, 1916



# British Mandate for Palestine - Inter-war period



- **Massive Jewish emigration** from Europe to Palestine, to escape antisemitism
- **Arab Nationalist Movement** to create an Arab state in Palestine
- **Militant Jewish groups** to secure a Jewish homeland in Palestine
- **Militant Arab groups** to secure an independent Arab state
- **Britain tires of the conflict** and turns the problem over to the new United Nations



# Palestine between the wars



A 1930 protest in Jerusalem against the British Mandate by Arab women. The sign reads "No dialogue, no negotiations until termination of the Mandate."

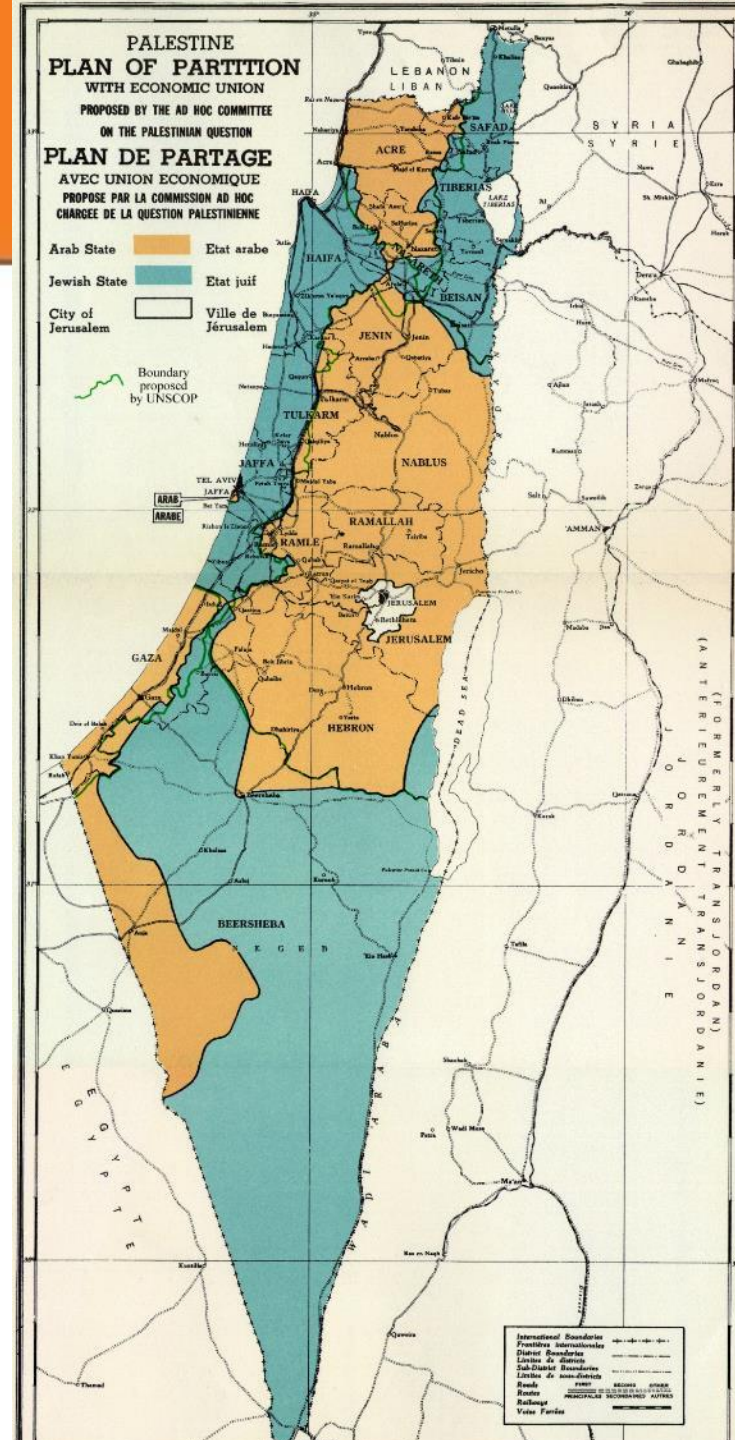


Jewish women demonstrate against White Paper in Jerusalem in 1939



# Partition of Palestine

- **Israel allocated 53% of land, Arab state allocated 47%. At the time Jews were about 30% of population**
- **Arabs consider the partition unfair, but Jews are prepared and equipped for a war, and seizes the positions they want, including Jaffa and the Galilee**
- **Jerusalem is intended to be an international city, but is split by war**
- **700,000 Palestinians become refugees, fleeing to Jordan, Lebanon, etc.**





# High-level Strategies of Conflict of 1948



**A May, 15th: Arab attacks**



**B 1948-1949\*: Israel's counteraction**



UN Partition Plan 1947

Arab State  
Jewish State

Jerusalem  
(Corpus Separatum: international adm.)

# Realities of Conflict of 1948



- **The Jewish militias were well-funded and well resourced** using surplus military equipment from Europe
- **The British had handicapped the Palestinian leadership**
- **The Arab countries saw it as a possible “land grab” too**
- **Jordanian Army had British leadership**, and occupied the West Bank
- **Egypt seizes** and occupies what ends up becoming the Gaza Strip
- **Jerusalem is intended to be an international city**, but is split by war
- **700,000 Palestinians become refugees**, fleeing to Jordan, Lebanon, etc.

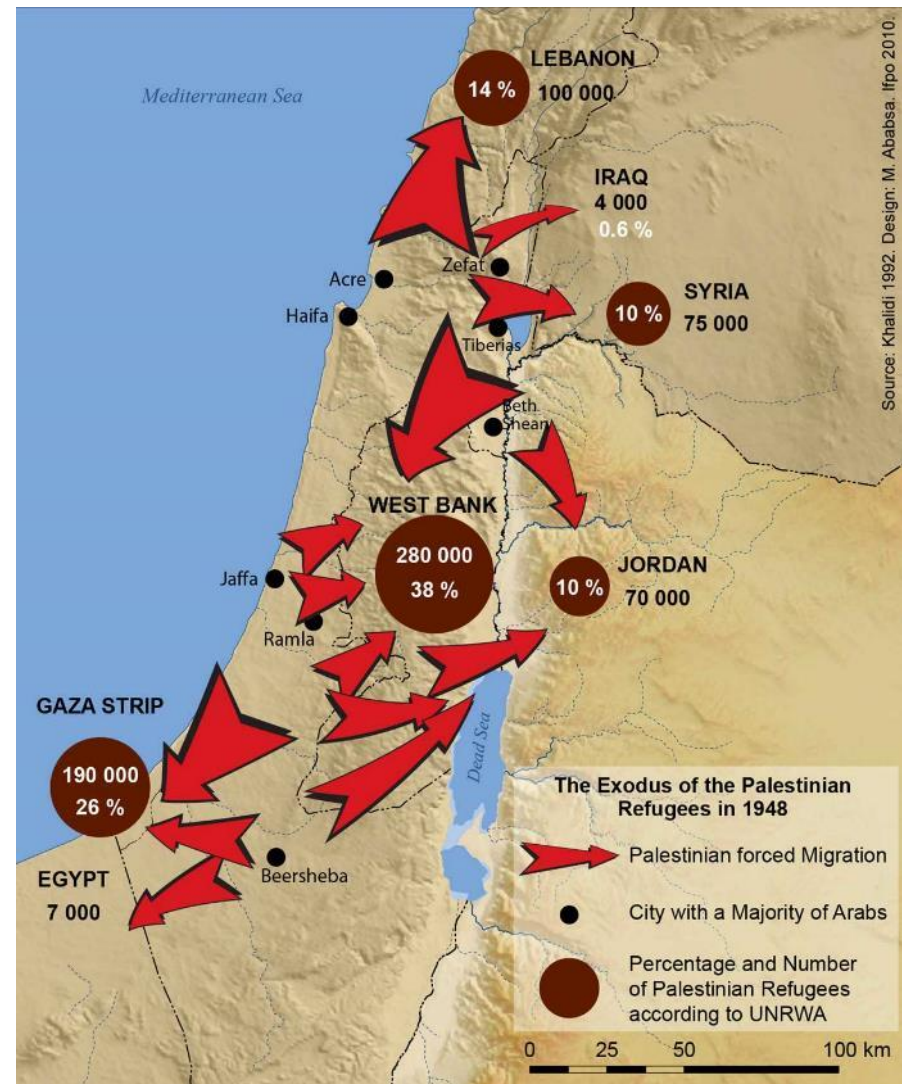
## B 1948-1949\*: Israel's counteraction



# Palestinian Refugees



- **Palestinian refugees number over 5 million today**
- **Refugees normally have three options**, all of which are denied the Palestinians:
  - Return to their homes
  - Become citizens in the country to which they fled
  - Be accepted by a third country
- **Palestinian refugees are 2<sup>nd</sup> class citizens** in many countries
- **Today's Palestinians are extremely vulnerable** in times of war and unrest
- **Well over half of Gaza's people are refugees**





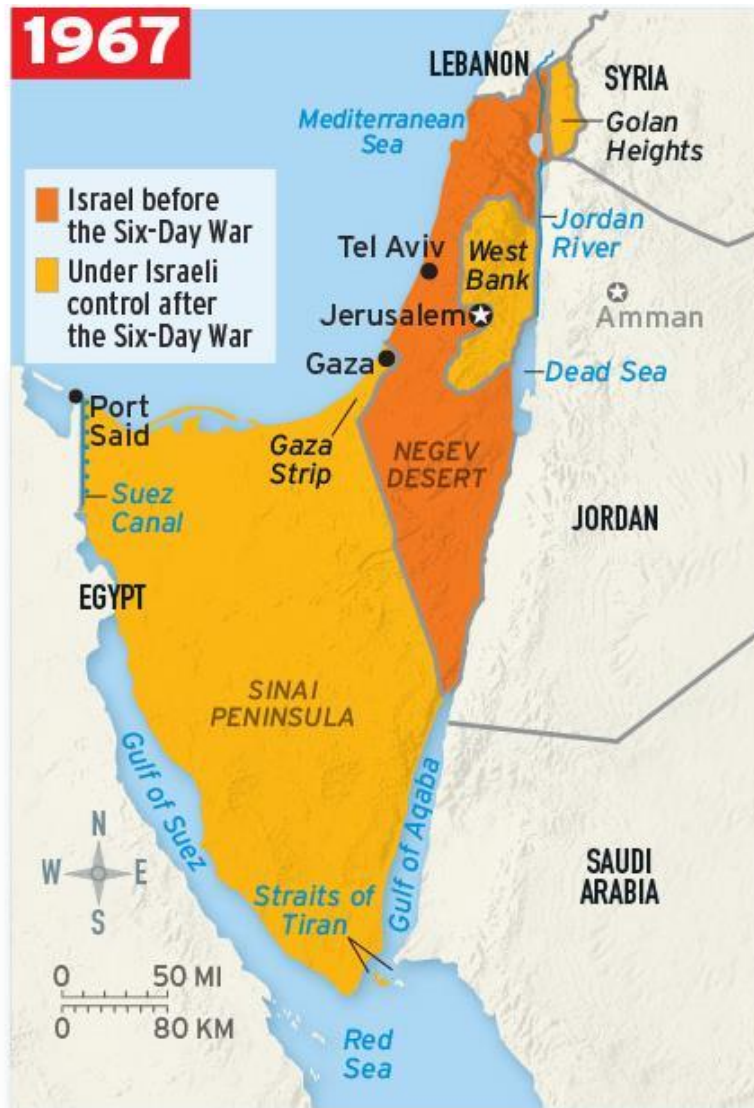
# 1967 War (“Six Days” War)



- Led by Egypt, several Arab countries mass armies on Israel's borders
- Israel launches attack, and catches Arab armies by surprise
- Israel invades and occupies:
  - The Golan Heights (Syrian territory)
  - The West Bank (Jordan/Palestinian)
  - Gaza (Egypt/Palestinian)
  - The Sinai Peninsula

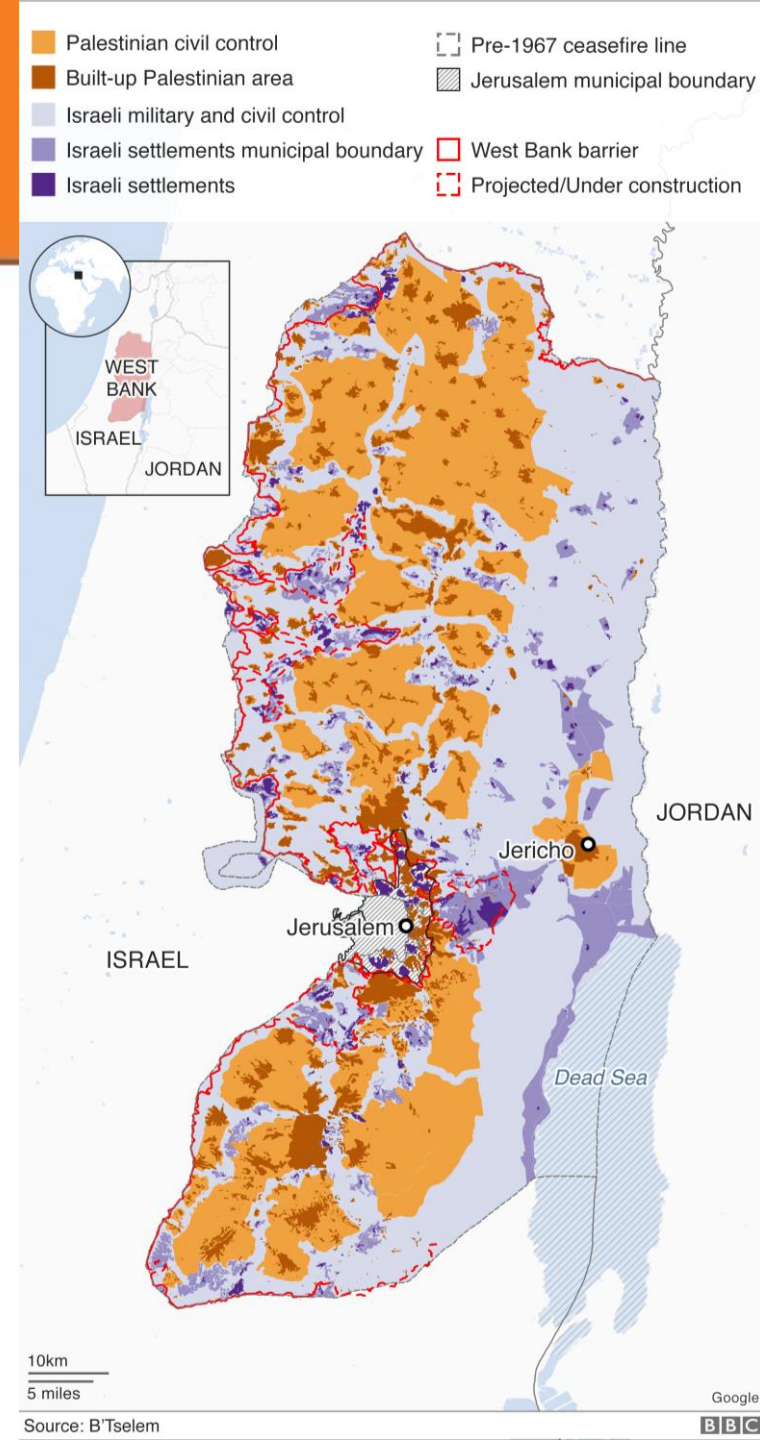


# 1967 War (“Six Days” War)



# Illegal Israeli Colonies ("Settlements")

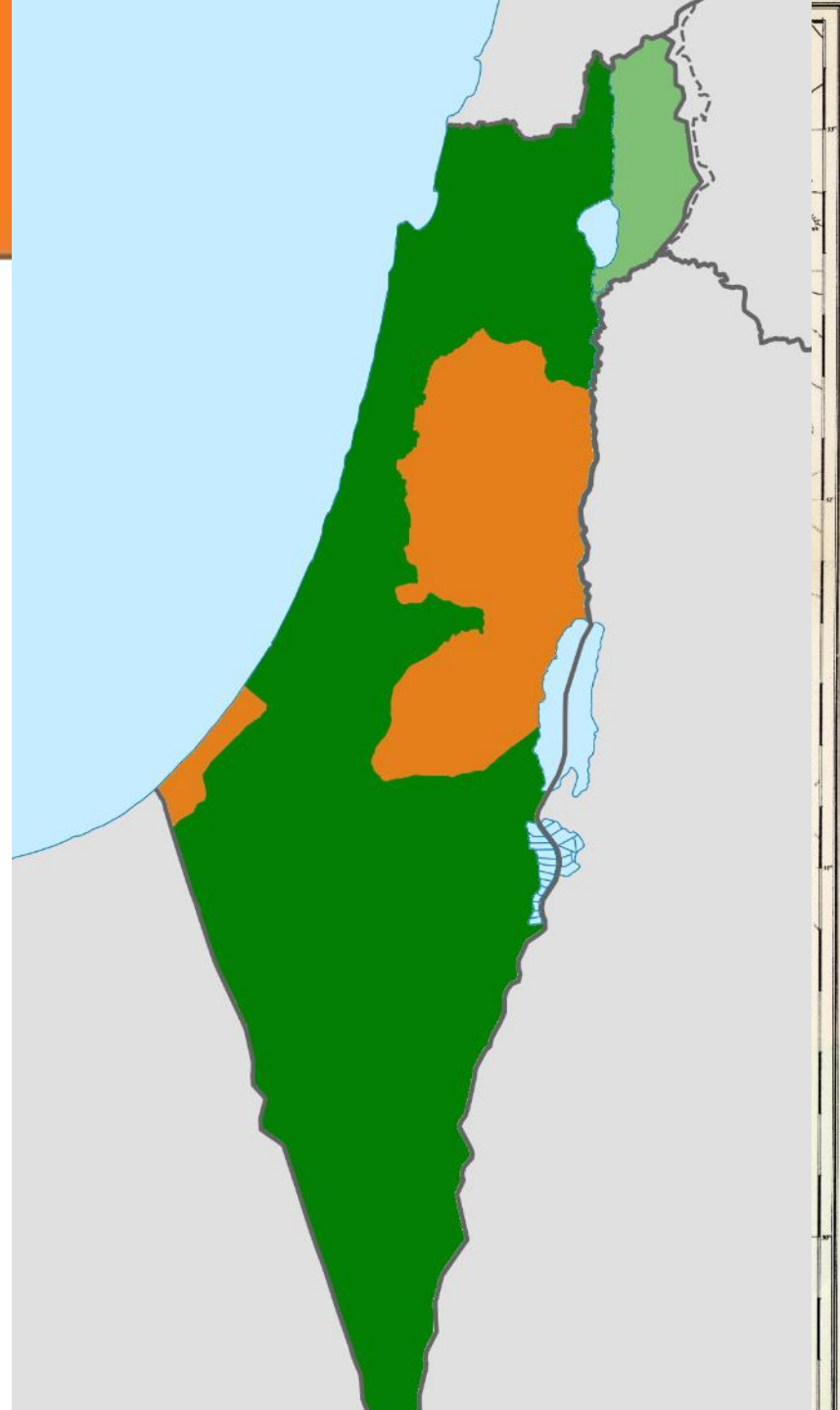
- "Settlements" are communities established by Israel on land occupied in the 1967 Middle East war, including the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights.
- As of late 2019, there were 132 Israeli settlements and 113 outposts - settlements built without official authorisation - in the West Bank, containing well over 400,000 "settlers"
- In East Jerusalem, there are Israeli 13 settlements, inhabited by about 215,000 settlers.
- Colonizing occupied land violates international law. As such all "settlements" and "outposts" are strictly illegal





# Israel-Palestine Today

- **Israel exists on 78% of land, Palestinians may get 22%.** Roughly same 6 millions Jews and 6 million non-Jews now
- **Israel has militarily occupied the West Bank since 1967**, and has settled over 600,000 Jews in Jewish-only towns in the West Bank
- **Israel controls Jerusalem**, and doesn't want the Palestinians to have their capital there
- **Palestinians in West Bank and Gaza continue to suffer human rights abuses** 50+ years after Israel occupied their territories



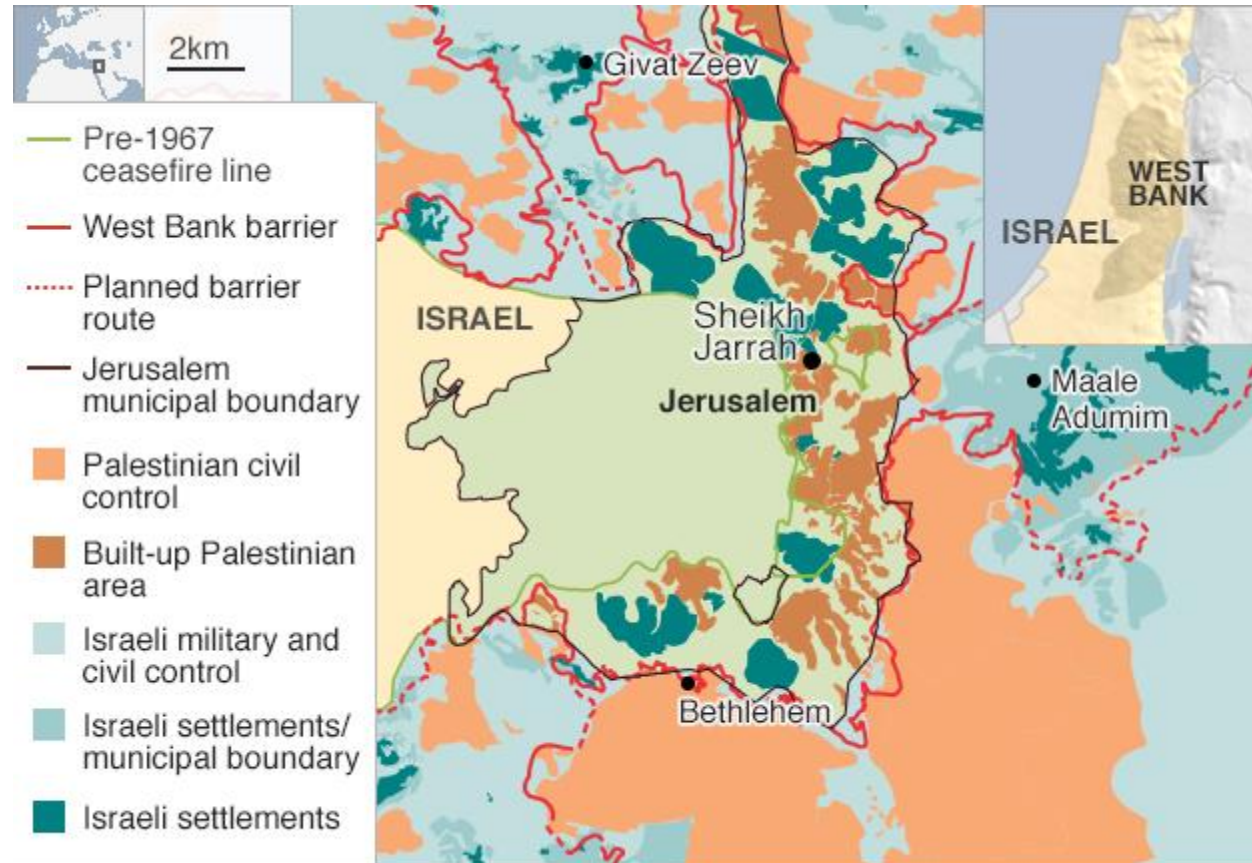
# Israel-Palestine – 1946 to present



# Sheikh Jarrah



In the neighbourhood of Sheikh Jarrah in occupied East Jerusalem, Palestinian families are facing the imminent threat of mass eviction, to be replaced by Israeli settlers. This is one part of Israel's long-term process of dispossession and ethnic cleansing.



Source: B'Tselem

BBC



# Al Aqsa Mosque



For several consecutive nights starting on May 7, Israel conducted violent raids at the Al Aqsa mosque, assaulting worshippers during the holiest nights of Ramadan. Similar raids targeted Palestinians protesting the Sheikh Jarrah evictions elsewhere in Jerusalem. Hundreds of Palestinians were injured by Israeli stun grenades, tear gas and rubber-coated steel bullets.



Israeli security forces in the Al Aqsa Mosque compound last week

# Palestinian Uprising



Jewish supremacist demonstrators approaching East Jerusalem last week.

In response to the Sheikh Jarrah evictions and the Al Aqsa raids, Palestinians have been protesting across the West Bank, Jerusalem, and inside Israel, facing brutal repression and lethal violence from Israeli forces, settlers, and violent mobs.



# Gaza



On May 10, Hamas began to fire rockets indiscriminately into Israel after giving an ultimatum for Israel to remove its forces from Al Aqsa and stop the Sheikh Jarrah evictions. Israel began to respond aggressively with airstrikes and artillery fire, many striking residential targets, medical sites, and UN schools, causing a growing number of civilian deaths. This is Israel's largest and most violent assault on Gaza since 2014, under the moniker "Operation Guardian of the Walls." Israel has repeatedly refused calls for a ceasefire.





# Israeli Apartheid



From Sheikh Jarrah, to Al Aqsa, to Gaza, to the West Bank, and to the violent anti-Palestinian riots inside Israel, Palestinians across historic Palestine are suffering from different aspects of Israel's regime of apartheid. In April, Human Rights Watch concluded that Israeli officials are committing the crime of apartheid. Earlier this year, Israel's largest human rights group B'Tselem said that Israel is an apartheid regime, or "a regime of Jewish supremacy from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea."



# CJPME: Mission & Three Pillars



- Our mission: To empower Canadians of all backgrounds to promote justice, development and peace in the Middle East, and here at home in Canada.
- Support for international law
- Equal expectations for all parties
- A belief that violence is not a solution

# CJPME: Our Activities



- **Speaking Tours** – Middle East and others
- **Advocacy Campaigns** – For Human Rights, for Political Prisoners, etc.
- **Educational Projects** – Exhibitions, workshops, presentations
- **Policy Initiatives** – Research/Recommendations on Arms Control, Peace Proposals, Canada's Role, etc.
- **Community Development** – Networking, Civic engagement
- **Media Work** – Media Advocacy, Op-eds, PRs, Communications





# Thanks!



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CANADIANS FOR JUSTICE AND  
PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

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