

**WE BELIEVE  
IN ISRAEL**



**WHAT THEY SAID  
ABOUT ZIONISM**



# Historical Zionist Movement Figures



"The Jewish people alone has for centuries been in the anomalous position of being victimised and hounded as a people, though bereft of all the rights and protections which even the smallest people normally has... Zionism offered the means of ending this discrimination.

Through the return to the land to which they were bound by close historic ties... Jews sought to abolish their pariah status among peoples."

**ABBA EBAN**



"Hebrew is the most wonderful of languages, a language of a thousand antonyms, hard and strong as steel, while soft and gleaming as gold."

**VLADIMIR JABOTINSKY**



"With a home of his own, he will no longer feel himself a pariah among the nations... He will feel that he belongs somewhere and not everywhere."

**RICHARD JAMES HORATIO GOTTHEIL**



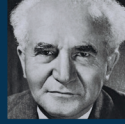
"Above all, this country is our own. Nobody has to get up in the morning and worry what his neighbours think of him. Being a Jew is no problem here."

**GOLDA MEIR**



"It is true that we aspire to our ancient land. But what we want in that ancient land is a new blossoming of the Jewish spirit."

**THEODORE HERZL**



"Suffering makes a people greater, and we have suffered much. We had a message to give the world, but we were overwhelmed, and the message was cut off in the middle. In time there will be millions of us - becoming stronger and stronger - and we will complete the message."

**DAVID BEN GURION**



"The foundation of Zionism was, and continues to be to this day, the yearning of the Jewish people for its homeland, for a national centre and a national life."

**CHAIM WEIZMANN**



"Zionism is the modern expression of the ancient Jewish heritage. Zionism is the national liberation movement of a people exiled from its historic homeland and dispersed among the nations of the world. Zionism is the redemption of an ancient nation from a tragic lot and the redemption of a land neglected for centuries. Zionism is the revival of an ancient language and culture, in which the vision of a universal peace has been a central theme. Zionism is the embodiment of a unique pioneering spirit, of the dignity of labour, and of enduring human values. Zionism is creating a society, however imperfect it may still be, which tries to implement the highest ideal of democracy - political, social and cultural - for all the inhabitants of Israel, irrespective of religious belief, race or sex. Zionism is, in sum, the constant and unrelenting effort to realize the national and universal vision of the prophets of Israel."

**YIGAL ALLON**

# Historical Figures



"Israel must never be expected to jeopardise her security: if she was ever foolish enough to do so, and then suffered for it, the backlash against both honest brokers and Palestinians would be immense - 'land for peace' must also bring peace."

**MARGARET THATCHER**



"As a movement, we recognise the legitimacy of Palestinian nationalism just as we recognize the legitimacy of Zionism as a Jewish nationalism," he said in 1993. "We insist on the right of the State of Israel to exist within secure borders, but with equal vigour support the Palestinian right to national self-determination."

**NELSON MANDELA**



"I had faith in Israel before it was established, I have faith in it now."

**HARRY TRUMAN**  
President of the United States  
1945-1953



"Restoring the Jews to their homeland is a noble dream shared by many Americans."

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN**  
President of the United States 1861-1865



"I have on numerous occasions, as you know, expressed my sympathy in the establishment of a National Home for the Jews in Palestine and, despite the setbacks caused by the disorders there during the last few years, I have been heartened by the progress which has been made and by the remarkable accomplishments of the Jewish settlers in that country."

**FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT**  
President of the United States 1933-1945



"Israel was not created in order to disappear- Israel will endure and flourish. It is the child of hope and the home of the brave. It can neither be broken by adversity nor demonised by success. It carries the shield of democracy and it honours the sword of freedom."

**JOHN F. KENNEDY**  
President of the United States 1961-1963



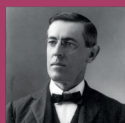
"Peace for Israel means security, and we must stand with all our might to protect its right to exist, its territorial integrity. I see Israel as one of the great outposts of democracy in the world, and a marvellous example of what can be done, how desert land can be transformed into an oasis of brotherhood and democracy. Peace for Israel means security and that security must be a reality."

**MARTIN LUTHER KING**



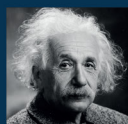
"I am in favour of a Jewish state and I believe the Jews are entitled to have security in Israel. I don't believe that a criticism of individual items of policy can be used to see Israel destroyed."

**TONY BENN**



"During the last two or three generations the Jews have recreated in Palestine a community, ... it is essential that it should know that it is in Palestine as of right and not on the sufferance. That is the reason why it is necessary that the existence of a Jewish National Home in Palestine should be internationally guaranteed, and that it should be formally recognized to rest upon ancient historic connection."

**WOODROW WILSON**  
President of the United States 1913-1921



"Zionism springs from an even deeper motive than Jewish suffering. It is rooted in a Jewish spiritual tradition whose maintenance and development are for Jews the basis of their continued existence as a community."

**ALBERT EINSTEIN**



"It is manifestly right that the scattered Jews should have a national centre and a national home and be reunited, and where else but in Palestine, with which for 3000 years they have been intimately and profoundly associated?"

**WINSTON CHURCHILL**



# Contemporary Political Figures



"You can't incite against Israel and say you want a state."

**CONDOLEEZZA RICE**



"We saw in the creation of Israel not only the rehabilitation of a people, but also a gesture of decency by the entire human race."

**MADELEINE ALBRIGHT**



"Beacon of democracy, human rights and technological innovations."

**ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER**



"For the Jewish people, the journey to the promise of the state of Israel wound through countless generations. It involves centuries of suffering and exile, prejudice and pogroms and even genocide. Through it all, the Jewish people sustained their unique identity and traditions, as well as a longing to return home. And while Jews achieved extraordinary success in many parts of the world, the dream of true freedom finally found its full expression in the Zionist idea, to be a free people in your homeland ... Palestinians must recognise that Israel will be a Jewish state and that Israelis have the right to insist upon their security."

**BARAK OBAMA**  
President of the United States 2009-2017



"Our future relations must be built on cooperation and engagement, not isolation of Israel. We must take on those who seek to delegitimise the state of Israel or question its right to exist."

**HILARY BENN**



"If by Zionist you mean that the Jews have the right to a homeland in Israel and the right to a country then I am a Zionist."

**DAVID CAMERON**



"And Israel is not only our ally; it is a beacon of what democracy can and should mean... If the people of the Middle East are not sure what democracy means, let them look to Israel."

**HILARY CLINTON**



"Israel's democracy is the bedrock on which our relationship stands. It's a shining example for people around the world who are on the frontline of the struggle for democracy in their own lands. Our relationship is also based on our common interest in a more stable and peaceful Middle East, a Middle East that will finally accord Israel the recognition and acceptance that its people have yearned for so long and have been too long denied, a Middle East that will know greater democracy for all its peoples."

**BILL CLINTON**

President of the United States 1993-2001



"I have never actually found it hard to be a friend of Israel, I am proud to be a friend of Israel."

**TONY BLAIR**



"I do support Zionism, I absolutely support the right of Israel to exist as a homeland. My only concern is that Zionism can mean slightly different things to different people, and... to some extent it has been weaponized. I wouldn't read too much into that. I said it loud and clear - and meant it - that I support Zionism without qualification. If the definition of 'Zionist' is someone who believes in the state of Israel, in that sense I'm a Zionist."

**SIR KEIR STARMER**  
Leader of the Labour Party



"I am a Zionist. You don't have to be a Jew to be a Zionist."

**JOE BIDEN**  
President of the United States



"I served a stint at a kibbutz in my youth, and... saw enough to understand the miracle of Israel: the bonds of hard work, self-reliance and an audacious and relentless energy that hold together a remarkable country."

**BORIS JOHNSON**  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom



# Contemporary Figures



"Zionism is a movement celebrated by people right across the political spectrum, all over the world, and requires no endorsement or otherwise of the particular policies of any Israeli Government at any time.

But to those people who have nevertheless sought to redefine Zionism, who will vilify and delegitimise it, be under no illusions - you are deeply insulting not only the Jewish community but countless others who instinctively reject the politics of distortion and demonisation."

**CHIEF RABBI MIRVIS**



"Israel is... Where I was born...Where my grandparents were not born, but where they were saved."

**NATALIE PORTMAN**



"Sometimes, just the thought of coming to Israel blows my mind."

**JOHN LEE HOOKER JR**



"Israel is at the forefront of women being treated equally, relative to other areas of the world. There are shining examples of women advancing here, if you look at the army, politics – former Prime Minister Golda Meir. The responsibilities that women have here are impressive. I look at Israel as a forward, progressive country which has done much in the advancement of women's rights in all stations of life."

**EDWINA SANDYS**



"I will always stand with Israel. I can't tolerate people who criticise Israel without walking in their shoes. I hate the lies they spread, their lack of knowledge. I'm proud to stand up for the Israelis."

**ADAM SANDLER**



"No country in the history of the world has ever contributed more to humankind and accomplished more for its people in so brief a period of time as Israel has done since its relatively recent rebirth in 1948."

**ALAN DERSHOWITZ**



"It couldn't be more important to support Israel."

**AARON SORKIN**



From the day I started to think politically and develop my own moral values, from my earliest youth, I have been an ardent defender of Israel. As a Jew I am aware of how important the existence of Israel is for the survival of us all."

**STEVEN SPIELBERG**



"I'm moving to Israel, I'm in paradise."

**FERGIE**



"For those of you who refuse to follow me and discourage others from doing so because I am a Zionist (as if that's a crime!!), I highly recommend you look up Zionism in a dictionary rather than using the definition perpetrated by anti-semitic media and leaders. Zionism is the belief that Jewish people deserve an autonomous homeland free from terrorism and threat to our global existence. If you don't want to follow me because I believe in that, by all means don't."

**MAYIM BIALIK**



"The people who are the most inspiring in Israel tend to be from the cultural community.

The writers, the directors, the poets, the musicians, they are truly extraordinary people doing amazing work, peace giving work, working towards peace all the time," she said. "To cut them off is the craziest idea, I don't agree with it at all."

**HELLEN MIRREN**



"I'm in love with Israel, and I know everyone else will if they just take the opportunity."

**KELLAN LUTZ**



"That trip to the holy land is something that you dream about."

**ANNALYNNE MCCORD**



"I decided to come to Israel because I wanted to see something different."

**ELTON JOHN**



"I shouldn't have stayed so long away. Every time I come here, I get so supercharged with energy. I truly believe that Israel is the energy centre of the world. And I also believe that if we can all live together in harmony in this place, then we can live in peace all over the world."

**MADONNA**



"It doesn't matter what religion you are. If you come to Israel you'll find history that will blow you away...Everywhere we go we end each day saying, 'That was the most incredible day we've ever had.' It's been quite a trip."

**GREG GRUNBERG**



"It would be a dream come true to perform in Israel. We'll get there one day!"

### HAIM SISTERS



"I definitely have a strong sense of my Jewish and Israeli identity. I did my two year military service, I was brought up in a very Jewish, Israeli family environment, so of course my heritage is very important to me. I want people to have a good impression of Israel. I don't feel like I'm an ambassador for my country, but I do talk about Israel a lot - I enjoy telling people about where I come from and my religion."

### GAL GADOT



"I remain a supporter of economic cooperation and social interaction between a democratic Israel and Palestine . . . I am happy that light is being shed on this issue in hopes that a greater number of voices will contribute to the conversation of a peaceful two-state solution in the near future."

### SCARLETT JOHANSSON



"As a Jew I think it's really important to come to this place. There is such a tremendous sense of community, tremendous bond for obvious reasons. I don't know if Israelis have a sense of it because they live here, but I love it."

### ZACH BRAFF



"I have been everywhere and Israel was a place that I've always wanted to visit, but it never worked out. This time I insisted that Israel must be on our list and it happened!"

### JON BON JOVI



"The BDS movement is a very smart media campaign directed against Israel. Its not directed against the settlement issue as it claims. It seeks to destroy the state, its economy and its very legitimacy. BDS offers no answers. They want a one-state solution and that one state is not a Jewish state."

**RONALD LAUDER**



"Israel was great. I had a great time there! I mean how could you not love that place?"

**LEONARDO DI CAPRIO**



"We all have to power to show the world why Israel is a great state, an inclusive state, a state where divergent opinions are shared in the process of creating just law, and correcting unjust ones."

**ROSEANNE BARR**



"Ain't nobody going to keep me from my people here in Tel Aviv! I would never boycott a place like this."

**JESSE HUGHES**



"I don't ask anyone's permission to go to Israel."

**KEVIN COSTNER**



"The world view of Israel is just not reality."

**LADY GAGA**



# Zionism

Zionism is the belief that the Jewish people have a right to a homeland, and national self-determination through the creation and existence of a Jewish State in Israel.

"Zionism is an ideal... It may appear to one as the rebirth of national Jewish consciousness, to another as a religious revival, whilst to a third it may present itself as a path leading to the goal of Jewish culture; and to a fourth it may take the form of the last and only solution of the Jewish problem. By reason of this variety of aspects, Zionism has been able to unite on its platform the most heterogeneous elements, representing Jews of all countries, and exhibiting almost all the different types of culture and thought as only a really great universal movement could command... On one point, however, they all agree, namely, that it is not only desirable, but absolutely necessary, that Palestine, the land of our fathers, should be recovered with the purpose of forming a home for at least a portion of the Jews, who would lead there an independent national life." - Solomon Schechter (1906)

## POLITICAL ZIONISM

Figurehead: Theodore Herzl  
Political Zionism puts emphasis on attaining political rights for Jewish people in the sovereign land of Israel.

## LABOUR ZIONISM

Figureheads: Ber Borochov, A.D. Gordon  
Labour Zionism puts emphasis on working the land and the construction of a state through socialism. Today Kibbutzim in Israel are built on this model.

## REVISIONIST ZIONISM

Figurehead: Vladimir Jabotinsky  
Revisionist Zionism puts emphasis on Jewish self-defence and mass immigration, without having to depend on foreign powers.

## CULTURAL ZIONISM

Figurehead: Ahad Ha'am  
Cultural Zionism puts emphasis on the cultural and spiritual revival of Judaism in the State of Israel which would "radiate to the great circumference, to all the communities of the Diaspora." Focus is put on the Hebrew language, literature, art, music and Jewish studies.

## RELIGIOUS ZIONISM

Figureheads: Rabbi Zvi Hirsch Kalischer, Rav Kook  
Religious Zionism puts emphasis on the belief that living in Israel will bring the Messiah closer.