

The Truth About Israel:

Myth: Israel is a colonizer.

Truth: Jews are indigenous to the land of Israel. The Land of Israel is integral to the Jewish religion and culture, the connection between Jews and the land is a constant in the Bible and is embedded throughout Jewish rituals and texts. Countless archaeological digs in Israel confirm the Jewish nation indigenous presence. Chief among these is the Bible itself. (Fig 1 & 2)

Myth: Israel took the land from Palestine.

Truth: There area surrounding Israel was controlled by Britain in 1916. In 1917 the Balfour Declaration was issued giving control of the Holy Land back to the Jewish people. Israel occupies less than 23% of the land restored to back to the Jewish people. Jordan, which became an independent nation in 1946, occupies the remaining 77%. (Fig 3)

Myth: Jewish people only came back to Israel after WW2.

Truth: While it's true that the nation was re-declared Israel in 1948, Jews have never abandoned Israel. Jewish people have always been present in Israel. Jewish history itself is rooted in Israel, even after the burning of the temple in 70 AD. There was a famous Bar Kokhba revolt in 132 AD. The books of Talmud Jerusalem were composed and compiled between 600 AD-1600 AD, these books were written in the land of Israel.



Figure 1: Israel Stele, dated 1208 BC mentions Israel by name.

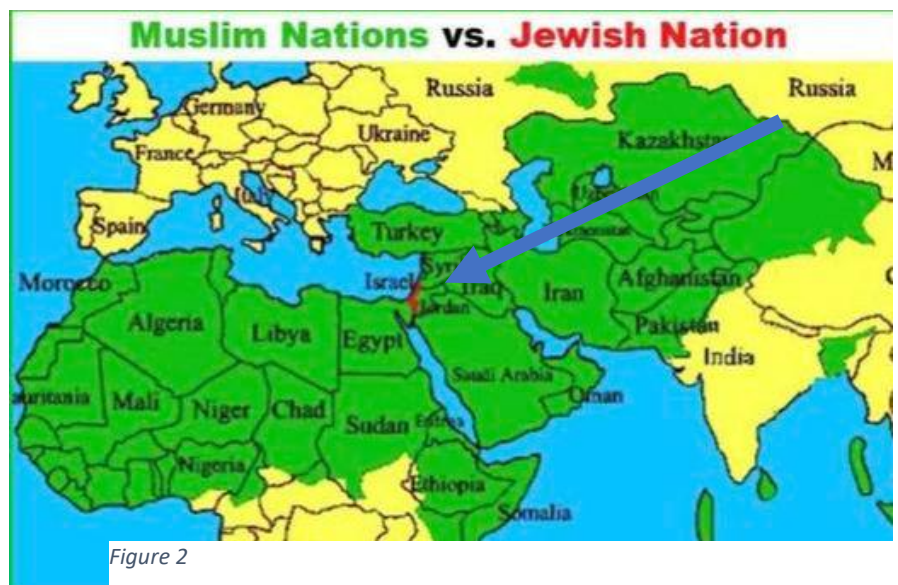


Figure 2

Myth: Israel and Jerusalem is the birthplace of Islam and is the holiest place in Islamic traditions.

Truth: Israel is mentioned 43 times in the Quran and Jerusalem is not mentioned at all. The holiest place in Islam is the Al-Masjid al-Haram in Mecca. Mecca is the

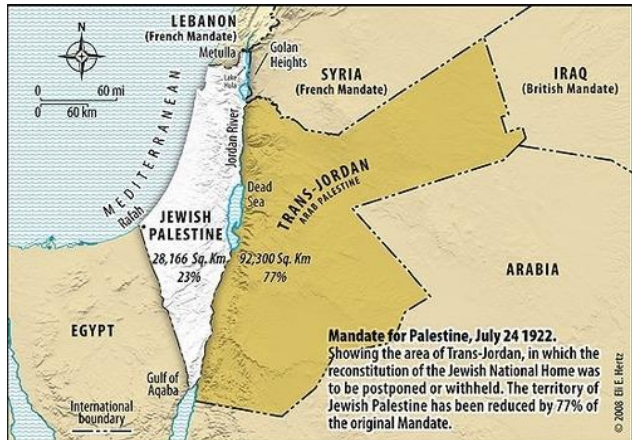


Figure 3

reported burial place of Ishmeal and Hagar and the birthplace of Muhammad. Mecca is located in Medina, Saudi Arabia. Jerusalem (Zion) is mentioned 823 times in the Hebrew Bible, Israel is mentioned 2,228 times and is mentioned virtually every book of the Hebrew Bible.

Myth: If Israel would relinquish land there would be peace.

Truth: In 1993 & 1995, Israel signed the Oslo peace accords, allowing for Palestine self-governance, the removal of the IDF from major areas and the release of 1,000 Palestine prisoners. As part of the self-governance process Palestinians elected Yasser Arafat as their leader. The result was a series of bloody suicide attacks leaving many dead and wounded, most under 17 years of age.

In 2000, another attempt at peace was made, establishing the west bank, Gaza, and separating Jerusalem. The result was the event that came to be known as the 2nd Intifada. Terrorists attacked innocent Jews in restaurants, buses and city streets, leaving 1,000 dead and thousands more wounded.

In 2005, Israel withdrew all Jewish presence from the Gaza strip, were the Gazans elected Hamas as their ruling body. (they maintain a 56% approval rating). The result has been a barrage of missile attacks in 2008, 2009, 2014, 2021 and the attacks of Oct 7th.

Myth: Israel attacks schools and hospitals in Gaza.

Truth: Unlike the terrorists Hamas, Israel goes the great efforts to save innocent civilians. Knowing this, Hamas hides its weapons in heavy residential areas,

schools and hospitals. (fig 4). Israel is known for warning civilians to vacate any area before an attack. Most recently Benjamin Netanyahu called for civilians to flee northern Gaza. Hamas warned the civilians to stay and shot many who tried to leave. While Israel uses high tech weaponry designed to minimize loss to human life, approximately 1/3 of Hamas rockets land on its own people.

The image is a screenshot of a news article from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) website. The header is blue with the UNRWA logo and text in Arabic and English. The article title is "UNRWA CONDEMNS PLACEMENT OF ROCKETS, FOR A SECOND TIME, IN ONE OF ITS SCHOOLS" dated 22 July 2014. Below the title is a photograph of a young boy in a schoolyard, and to the right is a red "DONATE" button with a "GAZA EMERGENCY" banner.

Figure 2

Truth:

2 Samuel 7:23

And who is like Your people, like Israel, the one nation on the earth whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people, to make for Himself a name—and to do for Yourself great and awesome deeds for Your land—before Your people whom You redeemed for Yourself from Egypt, the nations, and their gods?

Genesis 12:3

I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Psalms 135:4

For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel as his own possession.