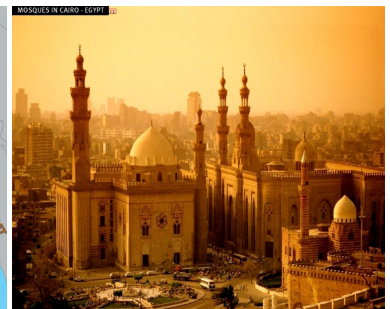


History

The Middle East



Atlantic Academy Portland
an Aspirations Academy



Year 5 - Summer 1

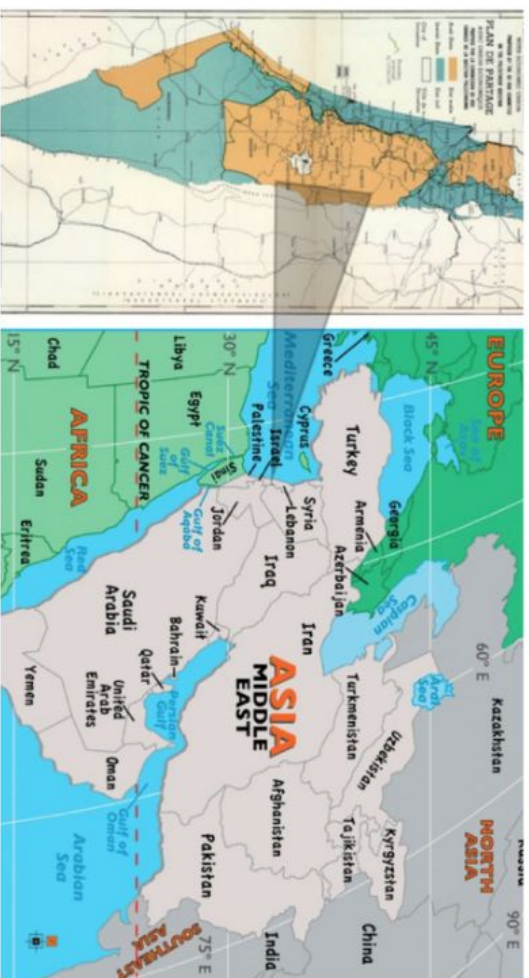
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The Middle East Knowledge Organiser - Year 5 Summer 1

Timeline - Ancient History and the Middle East

12,000 BCE	First humans settle in small houses in pits across Jordan & Syria
3500 BCE	Sumerians & Mesopotamians form the world's first major civilisations
1250 BCE	Following Hebrew exodus from Egypt (led by Moses), the Kingdom of Israel is established in Canaan under King Saul, and then King David
1041 BCE	Jerusalem designated the capital of the Kingdom of Israel
50CE	Christianity emerges and spreads across the region
618 CE	Islam emerges after the prophet Muhammad travels to Medina in Saudi Arabia
634	Following Muhammad's death, a series of Islamic conquests begin, and the Arab Empire begins to flourish
759 - 1258	Baghdad becomes capital of Arab-Islamic empire: Middle East sees period of economic and cultural success.
1189 - 1192	King Richard leads the Crusade, reconquering the Holy Land (Palestine) from Saladin, failing to capture Jerusalem
1258	Mongols invade Middle East ending the Arab-Islamic empire
1517-1918	Ottoman Empire extends throughout most of the Arab world
Key Vocabulary	
Gaza Strip	The area of land in the northwest of the country, given to Palestine and ruled by Hamas
Nakba	Literally the 'catastrophe'. How Palestine refer to the aftermath of the Arab-Israeli war, where 700,000 Palestinians fled or were forced to leave their homes.
Palestine National Authority	(PNA) Group of Palestinians designated to govern Gaza & parts of the West Bank in 1994 following Oslo accords
Zionism	Movement & belief that Judaism is a nation as well as a religion, & should have a homeland in what is now Israel
Hamas	A fundamental Islamist organisation which rules Gaza. Regarded as a terrorist organisation
Israel	A country created in 1948 for Jewish people. Also a biblical Kingdom founded by the Hebrews fleeing Egypt
Palestine	Geographical & historical area in the Middle East. Contains many holy sites including Jerusalem. Not an official country yet.
West Bank	The area of land in the east of Palestine, ruled by the PNA.



Timeline - Recent History and the Israeli - Palestinian Conflict

1897	First Zionist Congress: Led by Thomas Herzl, a new Zionist organisation proposed creating a nation for the Jewish people in Palestine
1917	The Balfour Declaration: The British promise Jewish people a national home in Palestine. (They has secretly also promised Palestine to Mecca).
1918	British Rule: France and Britain divide control of the middle east after the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. Britain takes control of Palestine region.
1936	Immigration: Facilitated by the British, huge numbers of European Jews immigrate to Palestine. Palestinian revolt against the British rulers.
1947	UN Partition plan: The United Nations proposes a partition of Palestine to create a nation for Jewish people. The League of Arab States rejects the plan.
1948	First Arab-Israeli War: Israel declares itself an independent nation. It is invaded by neighbouring Arab states, war breaks out: Israel wins the war, occupying more land than in the original UN plan. 700,000 Palestinians become refugees
1967	The Six Day War: After Egypt mobilises troops, Israel Goes to war with Egypt, Jordan & Syria, taking control of Sinai, the West Bank, Gaza and Golan Heights
1987	First Intifada: Palestinians rebel against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip by refusing to pay Israeli taxes and boycotting Israeli products. This sparked violence between Israel armed forces and Palestine protests.
1993	Oslo Accords: Secret talks lead to a peace process between Israel & Palestine
1995	Second Intifada: Much more violent and uprising against Israel, after an Israeli leader marched armed guards to a Muslim Holy site in Jerusalem.
2014	Operation Protective Edge: A military operation led by Israel against Hamas ruled Gaza strip, which led to a seven-week conflict. Thousands killed

Countries in the Middle East

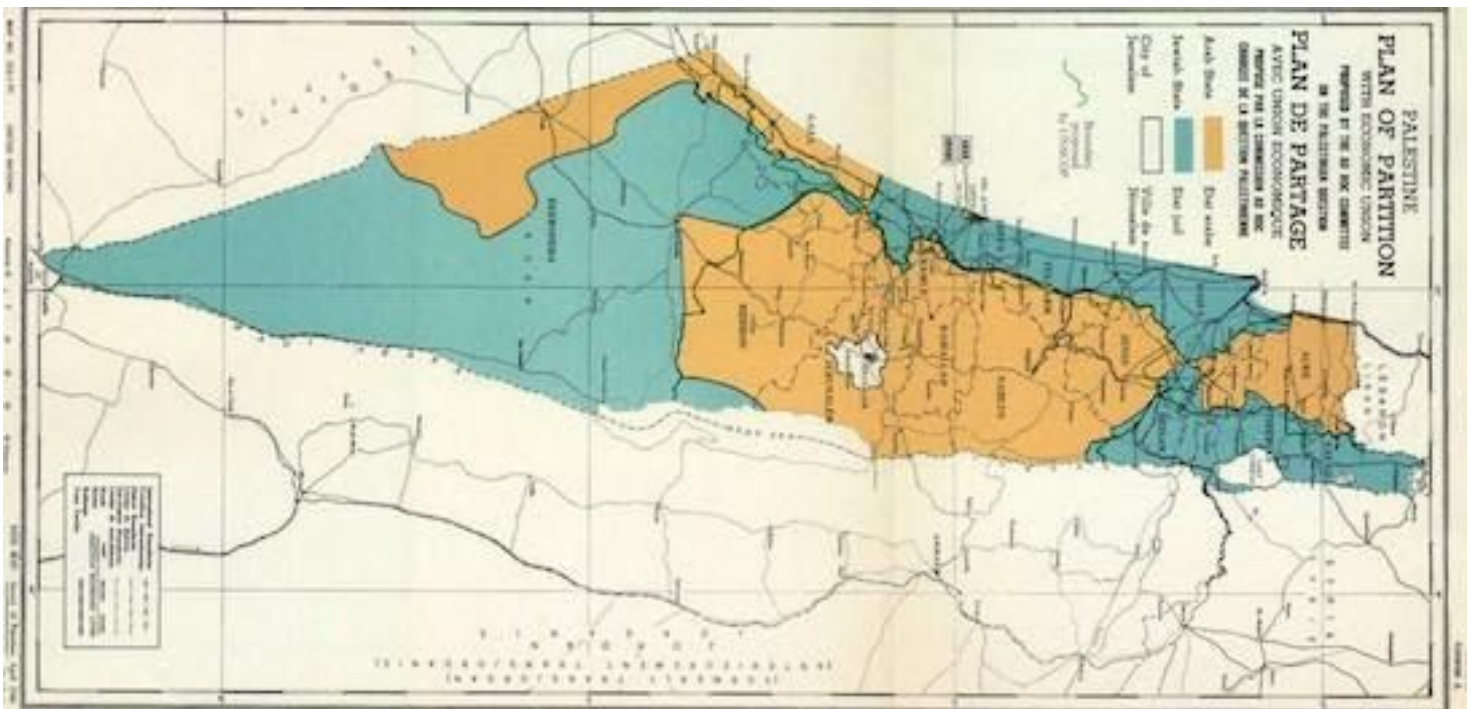
Egypt
Jordan
Lebanon
Oman
Saudi Arabia
Syria
Turkey
Gaza
UAE
Yemen
Israel
Palestine
Cyprus
Kuwait
Bahrain
Qatar
Iraq
Iran

Historical Note

The Israeli- Palestine conflict is one of the most controversial, contested and emotive subjects in history. It is ongoing, [and there](#) are very different narratives offered, both by (and within) either 'side'. Presenting the history in any particular way, is likely to be influenced by, and create, bias.

LESSON ONE: How was the Kingdom of Israel established?





Everybody Reads

Today, the Middle East is divided into many different countries. People disagree about precisely which countries are included in the Middle East, but it usually includes all of those nations west of India and south of Europe. Sometimes some of the northern African countries are included in the Middle East. However, many of these countries are very new. If we go back thousands of years, the Middle East was dominated by a number of successful empires living in the 'fertile crescent'.

Mesopotamia and the Sumerians

There are two major rivers running through the Middle East: the Tigris and the Euphrates. Mesopotamia was a major region, located in the area of land known as the Tigris-Euphrates river system. This area corresponds to modern-day Iraq, Kuwait, the north-eastern section of Syria, south-eastern Turkey and smaller parts of south-western Iran.


Mesopotamia included the Sumerian, the Akkadian, Babylonian, and Assyrian **empires** (a group of states ruled over by a single ruler).



The Sumerians, also known as 'the black-headed ones', lived in the southern part of what is now known as Iraq.

 Which countries does ancient Mesopotamia correspond to today?



 Use a pen to add the Tigris and Euphrates rivers to this map. Then shade in where Mesopotamia used to be.

Ancient achievements

Archaeologists have identified the Sumerian people as inhabiting this area from 3000 BCE, however there is evidence that major cities and people existed in this area for centuries before this. The Sumerians are widely recognised as one of the most important **civilisations** (settled and stable communities in which people live together peacefully) due to their inventiveness.

They are believed to have invented: the wheel; a numerical system called Sexagesimal, which has the number 60 as a base; the sailboat; and the first writing system called Cuneiform.

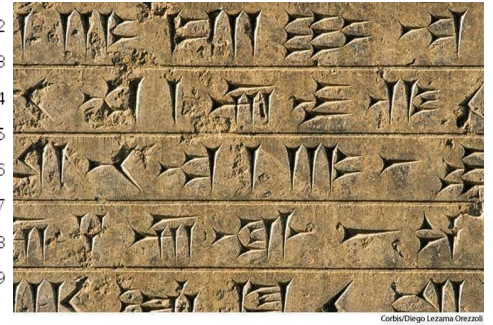
The wheel



Sexagesimal

𐎠 1	𐎠𐎵 11	𐎠𐎵𐎺 21	𐎠𐎵𐎺𐎠 31	𐎠𐎵𐎺𐎠𐎵 41	𐎠𐎵𐎺𐎠𐎵𐎺 51
𐎠 2	𐎠𐎶 12	𐎠𐎶𐎺 22	𐎠𐎶𐎺𐎠 32	𐎠𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵 42	𐎠𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵𐎺 52
𐎠 3	𐎠𐎶𐎶 13	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎺 23	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠 33	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵 43	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵𐎺 53
𐎠 4	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶 14	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺 24	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠 34	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵 44	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵𐎺 54
𐎠 5	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶 15	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺 25	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠 35	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵 45	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵𐎺 55
𐎠 6	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶 16	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺 26	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠 36	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵 46	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵𐎺 56
𐎠 7	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶 17	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺 27	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠 37	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵 47	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵𐎺 57
𐎠 8	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶 18	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺 28	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠 38	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵 48	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵𐎺 58
𐎠 9	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶 19	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺 29	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠 39	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵 49	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵𐎺 59
𐎠 10	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶 20	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺 30	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠 40	𐎠𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎶𐎺𐎠𐎵 50	

Cuneiform

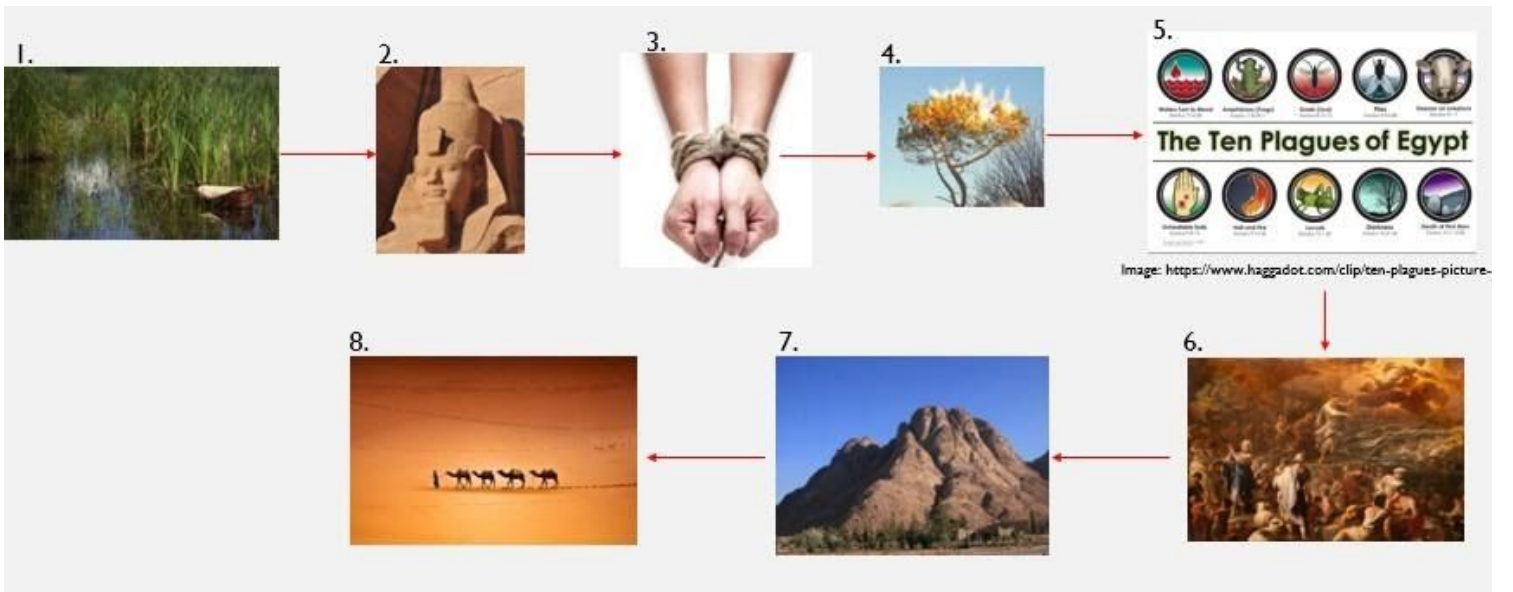


Which of these inventions do you think are the most important? Why?



The Exodus Story

The Exodus Story features in the Jewish scriptures and the Old Testament. The people who finally settled in Canaan (the Promised Land) were called the Israelites.



Using the images and the key words below, retell the Exodus Story to your partner.

Moses	Egypt	Pharaoh	Hebrews	slaves	Mount Sinai
God	plague	Red Sea	Canaan	wilderness	wandering

When Rehoboam refused, the United Kingdom split into two separate kingdoms.

- The Kingdom of Israel in the north, with Jeroboam as leader;
- The Kingdom of Judah in the south, with Rehoboam as leader.



Return to page 2 to complete the learning review.

LESSON TWO: Why is the Middle East important to different religions?

Retrieval Practise

1. What was Mesopotamia?

2. Which countries did Mesopotamia cover? Tick the countries.

- Afghanistan
- Iraq
- Turkey
- Yemen
- Lebanon
- Kuwait
- Syria
- Iran

3. Why were the Sumerians one of the most important early civilisations?

4. Why did Moses try to free the Hebrews?

- He saw an Egyptian kill a Hebrew and felt angry.
- God told him to set his people free.
- He wanted to take them to the desert.

Christianity

Christianity began in the Middle East from 50 CE. From Jerusalem it spread rapidly in all directions. While these countries were not yet established by name, Christianity spread into a variety of regions: south into Egypt and North Africa, east into Syria, north into Asia and west into Cyprus, Greece and southern Europe.

The Roman Emperor, Constantine, favoured Christianity and made it the dominant religion in the Roman empire from around 312 CE. It was during the fourth century that Christianity was widely adopted beyond the Middle East.



Why do you think it took such a long time for Christianity to spread beyond the Middle East?

Islam

Muslims believe that the **prophet** (a person who is regarded as a teacher of the word of God) **Muhammad** was sent to present and confirm the **monotheistic** (belief in only one God) teachings preached previously by Adam, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and other prophets. Muslims believe that Muhammad was the final and greatest prophet.

In 620 CE the twelve leaders of the important clans of Medina (Saudi Arabia) met to discuss the conflict that had been occurring for the past 100 years in the area. They invited the prophet Muhammad to be an **adjudicator** (a person who makes a formal judgement on a subject of disagreement).



Why did Muhammad migrate to Medina?

Muhammad had been based in Mecca and when he left, his followers travelled to Medina too. This **migration** (movement of people) is known as the **Hijra**. While in Medina, Muhammad united Muslim and non-Muslim communities by stating the rights and duties of all citizens.



 **Circle Medina and Mecca on this map.**

It was during this time, when many people had gathered to hear Muhammad's rulings that Islam began to spread throughout the Middle East. In 629 Muhammad returned to Mecca with his followers and conquered the city in a series of battles.

During Muhammad's lifetime, the Muslims in Medina were divided into two groups: the **Ansar**, who were originally from Medina, and the **Muhajirun**, who had converted to Islam in Mecca and migrated to Medina with Muhammad.

The death of Muhammad

In 634 CE, a few months prior to his death, Muhammad delivered a **sermon** (a talk on a religious subject). He announced that **Ali ibn Abi Talib** would be his successor. A number of influential religious leaders were present during his sermon and pledged **allegiance** (loyalty and commitment) to Ali.

However, some of these leaders did not want the Ansars to gain power, so after Muhammad's death a group of Muslims met at Saqifa, where they pledged allegiance to **Abu Bakr**, a man who had recently disobeyed Muhammad's orders.

Abu Bakr then assumed political power, and his supporters became known as the **Sunnis**. Despite that, a group of Muslims kept their allegiance to Ali. These people became known as **Shias**. They believed that, despite Abu holding power, Ali was the religious and spiritual leader.

Eventually, after the deaths of Abu Bakr and two other Sunni leaders, the Sunni Muslims went back to Ali for political leadership. After Ali died, his son **Hasan ibn Ali** succeeded him, but after six months, due to a terrible civil war he made a peace treaty with the opposing leader **Muawiya ibn Abu Sufyan** (Muhammad's grandson), but he made Muawiya promise that he would not choose the next successor.

Muawiya broke this promise and formed the **Umayyad Dynasty**, which followed Islam, but was against the prophet Muhammad. The Umayyads become increasingly popular and powerful, until their fall in the 8th Century.

After the fall of the Umayyads, the victorious **Abbasid** rulers wanted their own capital from which they could rule. They built Baghdad, which became a hub (a centre) for trade, education, science and technology. The city was a success for over 400 years and this era is often referred to as the **Islamic Golden Age**.



How did the Sunnis and the Shias form?

The Crusades

Jerusalem was a holy site for many religions. Jews feel that Jerusalem is their ancestral homeland and promised land from God. For Christians, Jerusalem was the place where Jesus died and was buried. For Muslims, Jerusalem was the third most holy city, as it was the place where Muhammad died.

Conflicts between Christians and Muslims began to increase in the 11th Century. Both Muslim and Christian rulers were trying to seize control of Jerusalem. The First Crusade began in 1096. Around 10 000 Christians from France and Germany set out to the Holy Land. They captured Jerusalem in 1099, killing many Jews and Muslims.

Why is Jerusalem important to different religions?

Judaism	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Christianity	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Islam	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

The Second Crusade, helped the Crusaders to hold power in the Middle East. However, in 1187 a Muslim leader called **Saladin** took back Jerusalem.

He showed mercy to the Christians, allowing them to leave in safety for a **ransom** (a large sum of money).

The Third Crusade (1189-1192) was led by **Richard I** (Richard the Lionheart), however he and his Crusaders never reached Jerusalem. Over 200 years, several more crusades were launched, but the Christians never regained the city. This was largely because the Muslim world was politically and militarily stronger than the Crusaders.

What do you remember about the Crusades from studying Medieval Monarchs?

The Siege of Baghdad

Use your knowledge organiser to find out when the Arab-Islamic Empire ended.

In _____, Mongol forces and their **allies** (a state cooperating with another for military purposes) marched to Baghdad in order to perform a siege. A **siege** is a military operation, during which enemy forces surround a town or building, cutting off essential supplies, with the aim of forcing those inside to surrender. It took 12 days for the ruler of Baghdad, to surrender. After this, the Mongols executed Al-Musta'sim and massacred many of the city's residents. This event is widely recognised as the end of the Islamic Golden Age.



Return to page 2 to complete the learning review.

LESSON THREE: What was the Ottoman Empire?

Retrieval Practise

1. Where was Jesus Christ crucified?

- Nazareth
- Bethlehem
- Jerusalem
- Mecca

2. The Muslim population were split into two separate groups before Muhammad's death?

True / False

3. What is the name of the man that Muhammad named as his successor?

4. What were the names of the two Islamic groups that formed after Muhammad's death?

Su_____and Sh_____

5. Why were Christians and Muslims fighting over Jerusalem?



 Compare these maps. Which modern day countries did the Ottoman empire used to control?

The Ottoman Empire

The word 'Ottoman' is derived from the name of the dynasty's first ruler, **Osman I**, a nomadic (wandering) chief who founded the **dynasty** (a line of rulers who inherit their title or role) and the empire in around 1300 CE. The Ottoman Empire is one of the most famous and influential empires from history. The Ottoman Empire was created by Islamic Turkish Tribes, who lived in Anatolia (Asia Minor).



What religion did the Ottomans follow?

The Rise of the Ottoman Empire

The Ottoman tribes first gained power by moving north into **Byzantine** territory. This area was the eastern section of the **Roman Empire**. Through many battles and **conquests** (taking control of a place through military force), over the course of almost 200 hundred years, the Ottomans managed to overpower the Romans in Eastern Europe.

One of the most famous conquests during this time was the siege and conquest of **Constantinople** – the capital city of the Roman empire – in 1453. Sultan Mehmed II, then ruler of the Ottoman Empire, changed the name from Constantinople to **Istanbul**, marking it as a Muslim rather than a Christian city. Despite being a Muslim city, Mehmed welcomed other religious groups and allowed them to live peacefully there.



Why do you think that Mehmed allowed other religious people to live in his cities peacefully?

The old **caliphate** (the political- religious state made up of the Muslim community, their land and the people in them) was still controlled by one Islamic leader (**caliph**) in Iran.

However, the conquest of Constantinople made Mehmed II the most famous and respected ruler in the Muslim world.

Mehmed II continued to move through Europe, conquering vast (large) areas of south-eastern Europe, such as states around the Black Sea and the Aegean Sea.



What did the city of Istanbul used to be called?



Read the statements below and tick true or false.

Statement	True	False
The Ottoman Empire gained power very quickly.		
Mehmed II was the ruler of Constantinople.		
Mehmed II allowed people from different religions to live alongside each other in Istanbul.		
Mehmed II became the caliph of the Islamic world.		

Moving into the Middle East

Bayezid II was Mehmed II's successor. While he was not able to conquer any new ground in the Middle East, his son, **Selim I**, was a brutal warrior, who was concerned with gaining power and growing his empire. In fact, he was so motivated to keep his power that he killed all of his brothers, all of their sons and four out of five of his own sons, leaving only one **heir** (a person who inherits power).



Why do you think Selim I murdered all of the men in his family, except one son?

From 1514-17 Selim launched a **campaign** (a military operation with a specific goal) to conquer more land in the Middle East. With a powerful army, weapons and clever tactics, Selim managed to overcome the dominant (main) military powers in the Middle East. Many people living in these old caliphate states were happy to follow the Ottoman rulers, rather than their old rulers, as they offered them protection and political order.

By 1517, Selim had managed to conquer all of the old caliphate, except Iran and Mesopotamia. When his son, Suleimon gained power, he was able to rule over his peaceful empire as one of the wealthiest rulers in the world.

People called Suleimon 'the Magnificent'. Give two reasons he may have gained this name:

Successes of the Ottoman Empire

For the first time in history, Anatolia and south eastern Europe was added to the Middle East. Not only this, but the Ottoman Empire brought peace, security and order to the Middle East, which had been largely unstable since the siege of Baghdad.

A number of other factors contributed to the success of the Ottomans, such as:

- they always had a single ruler or Sultan who oversaw the whole empire (centralised power);
- they created strict laws for local leaders to ensure they followed the Sultan and enforced ruthless punishments if they did not obey;
- they had a state-run education system;
- they were seen as the 'protectors of Islam';
- they created alliances (unions) across religious groups;
- they were influenced by other cultures and used the 'best' ideas to inform their practices;
- they established Istanbul as one of the great trade centres of the world;
- the power and stability of the empire attracted the best, craftsmen, artists, intellectuals and writers;
- they had a very strong military (made up of a slave-based army, powerful weapons and clear ideas for their conquests).

Which of the factors above do you think were the most important in securing the success for the Ottoman Empire?

The Decline of the Ottoman Empire

Throughout their ruling, the Ottomans had been trying to conquer Vienna (the heart of the Austro-Hungarian Empire). In 1683, they failed again.

This meant that they were not able to secure more wealth and power. It led to the slow decline of the empire.

Some other reasons for decline were:

- European powers were expanding;
- The economy was suffering due to more competition from the Americas, India and the Far East;
- the Sultans became less powerful, less effective and less sensitive to the desires of their people.



Return to page 2 to complete the learning review

LESSON FOUR: What events led to the Arab-Israeli War in 1948?

Retrieval Practise

1. What was the name of the area from which the Ottomans originated?

- a. Byzantine
- b. Anatolia
- c. Turkey

2. In 1543, Sultan Mehmed II conquered Constantinople. What did he change the city's name to?

3. What enabled Selim I to conquer most of the Middle East?

4. State two positive things about the Ottoman Empire

5. Give one reason why the Ottoman Empire began to decline.

Everybody Reads

The next three lessons will be looking through the recent history of the Middle East, specifically the Israeli-Palestine conflict. It is important to understand that this conflict is one of the most **controversial** (like to cause disagreement), **contested** (disagreed upon) and **emotive** (causing intense emotion) in history. It is ongoing and there are very different **narratives** (stories) offered both by (and within) either 'side'. Presenting the history in any particular way, including in this booklet, is likely to be influenced by, and create, **bias** (prejudice against one group or person).

The Rise of Zionism

The homeland of the **Zionists** (people who support Zionism) is meant to correspond directly to that of Canaan (the Promised Land) from Jewish scripture and the Old Testament.

Modern Zionism emerged in the late 19th Century due to increased **anti-Semitism** (prejudice and discrimination against Jews).

When the movement began, the Promised Land (from Jewish Holy Scripture) corresponded to the State of **Palestine**, which contained many holy sites, such as Jerusalem. At this time, Palestine was still part of the Ottoman Empire.

 Use your knowledge organiser to write a definition of Zionism? Try to put it into your own words.

This image shows an effigy (model) of a Jewish man named Mathieu Dreyfus.

What is happening to the effigy? How is this an example of anti-Semitism?





In 1896, **Theodor Herzl** published ***De Judenstaat*** (meaning: The Jews State), in which he called for the creation of a Jewish State. This became one of the most important texts during the modern Zionist movement. He believed that the only way to avoid further antisemitism was to create a Jewish state.

He therefore encouraged Jews to begin purchasing land in Palestine. In 1897, Herzl and other members from the newly establish Zionist Organisation (ZO) held the first Zionist Congress in Basel (Switzerland)

 **Why did Herzl promote the idea of a Jewish state?**

The First World War and the Balfour Declaration

World War I (WWI) was fought between the Allied Powers and the Central Powers. The main members of the Allied Powers were France, Russia, and Britain. The United States also fought on the side of the Allies after 1917. The main members of the Central Powers were Germany, Austria-Hungary, the Ottoman Empire, and Bulgaria.

The British wanted to gain support in overthrowing the Ottoman Empire. In 1915, **Ḥusayn ibn ‘Alī, emir** (protector) of Mecca, and **Sir Henry McMahon**, the British high commissioner in Egypt wrote a series of letters to each other. McMahon agreed land and independence to the Arab population if Ali helped to overthrow the Ottomans.

 **What did McMahon promise Ali if they helped to overthrow the Ottomans?**

Before the end of WWI, the Ottoman Empire was secretly partitioned (divided) into different states, which were to be controlled by Britain and France, making them the dominant powers in the Middle East. The details of this were agreed in the **Sykes-Picot Agreement** of 1916. This document was controversial, because it disagreed with the agreements made between McMahon and Ali.



Which countries were due to be placed in charge of the divided states of the Ottoman Empire?

While the British held political power in Palestine, they were keen to ensure that Jewish people across the world would align themselves to the Allied Powers, rather than the Central Powers. In 1917, **Arthur James Balfour** wrote a letter to **Lionel Walter Rothschild** an important Jewish figure. The letter demonstrated British support for “the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people.”¹ This became known as the Balfour Declaration.

In 1923, the **British Mandate for Palestine** came into effect. It was the first legal step towards the creation of the countries we know today as Israel, Jordan, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Immigration

The rise in antisemitism across Europe in the late 19th Century and WWI caused huge numbers of Jewish people to migrate (leave one country for another) from Europe. However, while 2,367,000 Jews left Europe, 2,022,000 travelled to the U.S.A². The Zionist Organisation, the Balfour Declaration and the British Mandate for Palestine encouraged more Jews to immigrate to Palestine. However, the increasing numbers of immigrants to Palestine caused unrest in the existing Arab population, resulting in mass protests between 1929-33.



How did the different promises made during the war complicate matters in the Middle East?

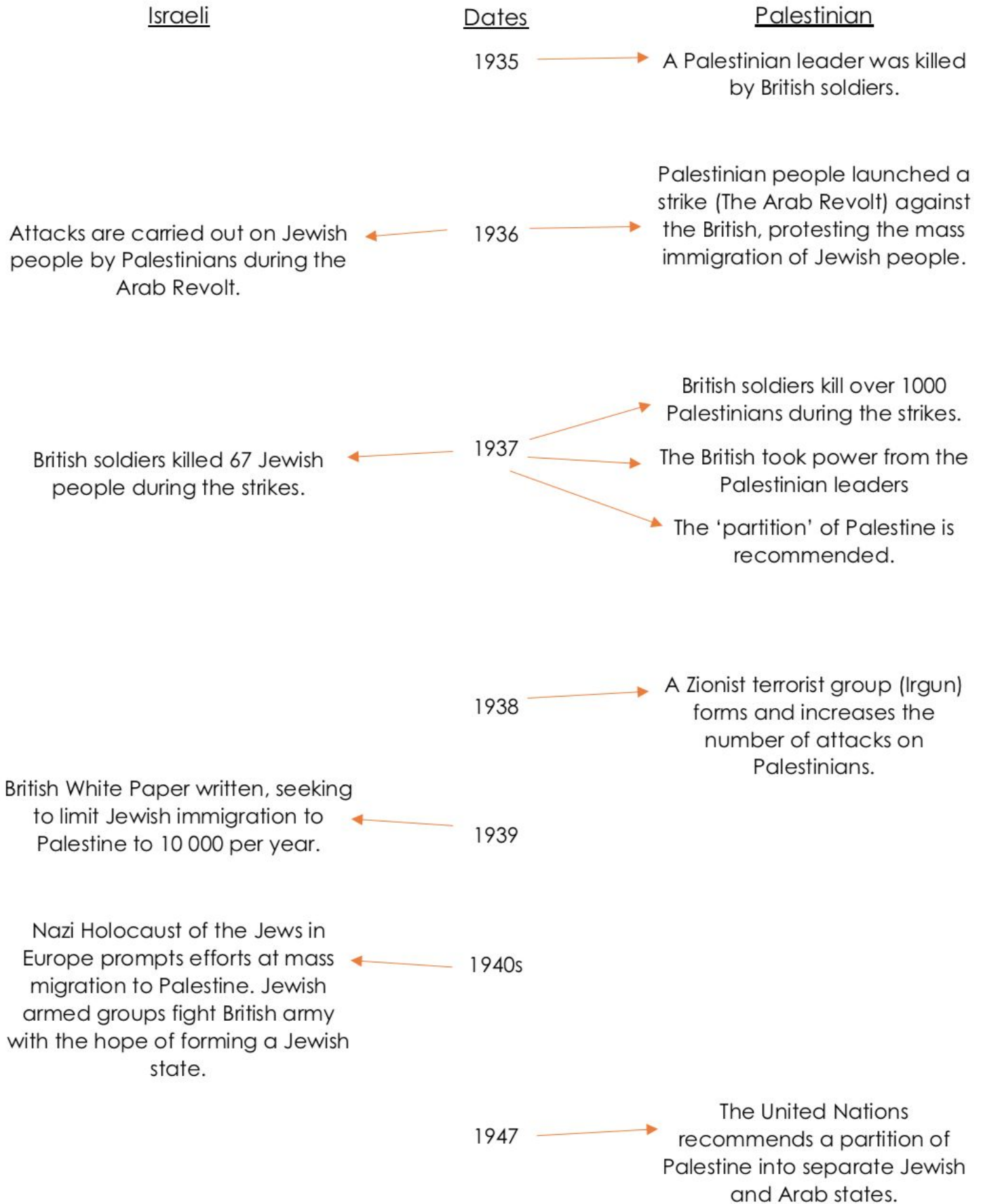
Following the war, Britain remained heavily involved in Palestine.



Read the events of the 1930s and 1940s on the timeline on the next page, and highlight all of the events in which the British were involved.

Tensions Rise

A number of events contributed to tensions rising in Palestine



Return to page 3 to complete the learning review

LESSON FIVE: Why did Israel and Arab nations fight wars, and how did it change who controlled the area?

Retrieval Practise

1. What was the name of the group of people who united after acts of anti- Semitism?

- a. Ottoman Empire
- b. Zionists
- c. Jewish people

2. Britain wanted to unite Jewish people to live in Palestine. Why did they want this?

3. Name who was in the Allied Powers during WWI:

4. State two ways in which Palestinians suffered after WWI:

5. State the main reason why Jewish people emigrated from Europe.

1948 Arab-Israeli War

Following the horror of the second world war, in which over six million Jews were murdered in Nazi concentration camps, an independent Jewish State was drawn up by the United Nations. During the war, many countries had refused to take in fleeing Jews, and so they had migrated to Palestine. In 1946, over 33% of the population of British Palestine was Jewish.

Tensions between the Arabs living in Palestine and the Jewish population were high. The Arab League stated that they would reject any partition of Palestine. A three-day strike by the Arabs followed, and some Jewish groups were targeted by Arab gangs. Jews fought back, causing over 250,000 Palestinians to flee the area.

A month later the Jewish Agency declared the new independent State of Israel.



The Israeli flag features the Star of David. Think back to Lesson One, who was David and why is he important for Jews

This then led to the **1948 Arab–Israeli War**, or the First Arab–Israeli War, was fought between Jews in the newly declared State of Israel and a military coalition of Arab states over the control of former British Palestine (the Palestine that had been created by Britain after WWI).

What reasons did Jewish people have to be aggrieved at this point? What reasons did Palestinians have to be aggrieved?

aggrieved = mistreated/upset

Jews	Palestinians
•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•
•	•

On 29 November 1947 the **United Nations (UN) Partition Plan** for Palestine was proposed to begin on May 1948, which planned to divide Palestine into Jewish and Arab states. The plan also stated that areas of religious significance, like Jerusalem and Bethlehem would remain under international control. Although Jewish people were pleased to hear of these plans, Arabs, both in Palestine and surrounding areas, were in disagreement. This triggered the beginning of a civil war, marking the first stage of the Arab-Israeli War.

The British, who had created Palestine after WWI, reduced their involvement in the war at this point. Tensions increased and the war got increasingly more violent. **Mohammad Amin al-Husayni** (a Muslim leader in Mandatory Palestine), recruited thousands of volunteers in their efforts to create a blockade of 100,000 Jewish residents in Jerusalem (preventing goods or people from entering or leaving).

These events caused the United States to withdraw their support of the UN Partition Plan. The Jewish representations of Palestine were able to create powerful military deals with other nations. Arab Palestinians, on the other hand, had gathered support from other Arab states, as well as from Nazi Germany and Bosnia.





Which other countries became involved in the affairs of Israel and Palestine? What might these countries' motivations have been?



Ben-Gurion (who later became Prime Minister of Israel), declared the establishment of the State of Israel on May 14, 1948. The Arab-Israeli War of 1948 officially broke out when Arab nations (Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Iraq) invaded territory in the former Palestinian mandate immediately following the announcement.

The **Haganah** (Jewish army) had been growing stronger, acquiring weapons from different countries and enforcing conscription (men and women between 17 and 25 were legally obliged to join the army).

After 10 months of fighting (1949), **the State of Israel** (Jewish state) controlled not only the area that had been agreed on the UN Partition Plan, but also 60% of the proposed Arab State as well. 700,000 Palestinians either fled or were expelled from their homes in what was now Israel.

This event is known by Palestinians as the Naqba (which means catastrophe). In the coming years, 700,000 Jews immigrated to Israel and took their place.

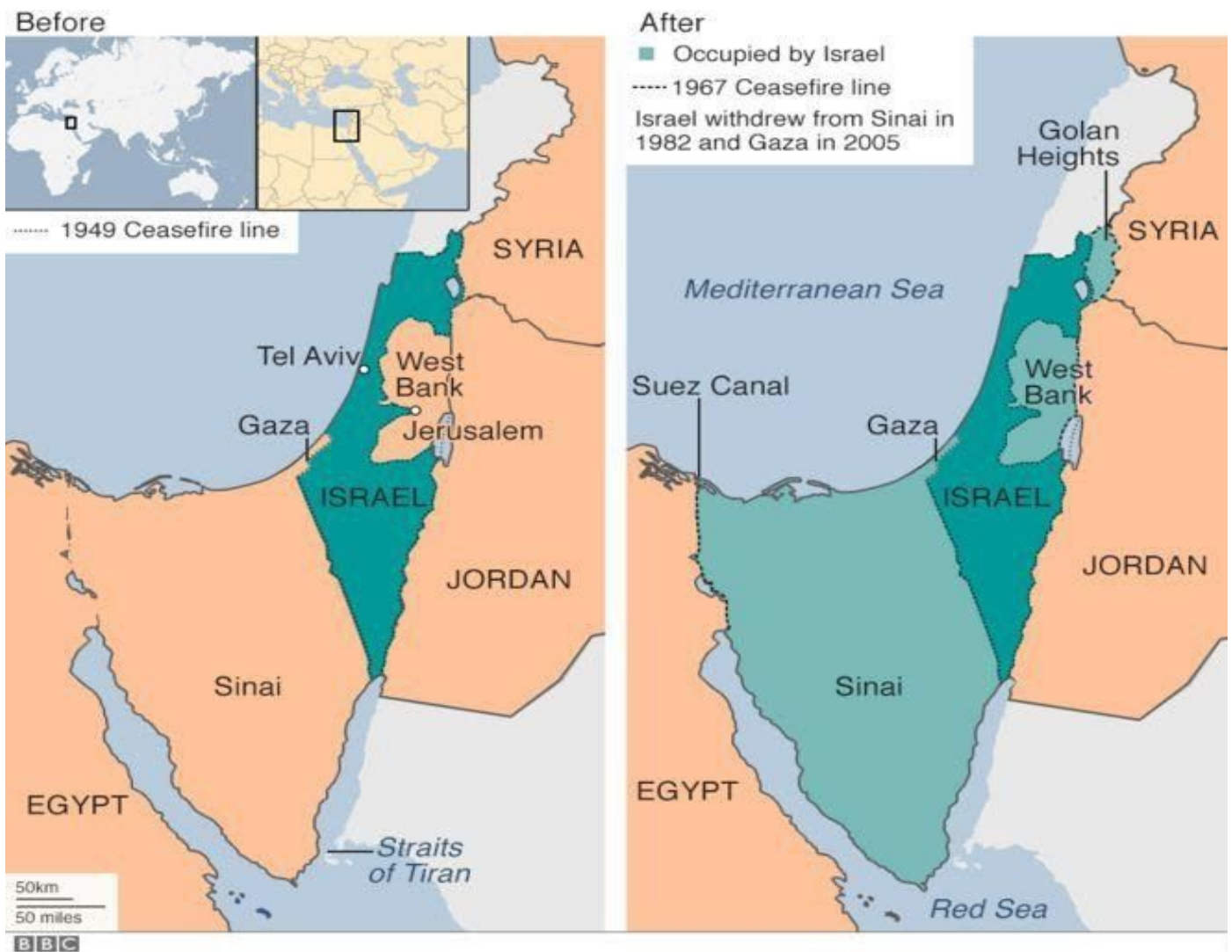
 Complete these sentences by studying the map:

By the end of the 1948 war, _____ controlled the West Bank, which included Jerusalem, and _____ controlled the Gaza Strip (dark blue area).


The majority of "Palestine" now belonged to _____.

The Six Day War (1967)

Before and after the Six Day War, 1967



This map shows which countries controlled which areas before and after the Six Day War, which took place in 1967.

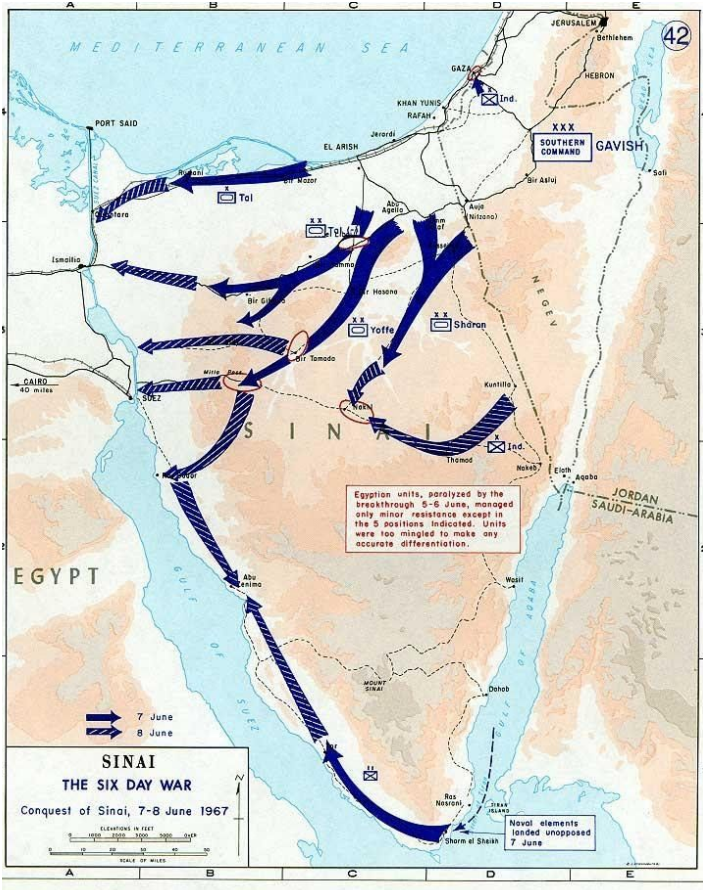
 By looking at the map, describe what might have happened in the Six Day War (1967) in your own words.

The **Six Day War (1967)** was fought between 5 and 10 June 1967. It was a war between **Israel** and **Egypt, Jordan and Syria**. Israel had argued that **the Straits of Tiran** (sea passage, see map above) needed to be available to Israel. In May, Gamal Abdel Nasser (Egyptian President) said that this sea passage would no longer be available for Israelis to use. Nasser mobilised forces his military to enforce this.

What were the two sides who fought in the Six Day War?

Israel caught Egypt by surprise by attacking their airfields first, allowing Israeli forces to have the aerial advantage, and then attacked on ground in Gaza and Sinai. They also managed to gain control over West Bank and Golan Heights (an area in Syria).

A cease-fire (truce) was agreed with the countries involved, and Israel was left in a much more beneficial position. This short war had killed over 20,000 troops from the Egyptian, Syrian and Jordanian militaries. However, Israel lost fewer than 1,000 troops. Their victory resulted in a great loss of morale for Palestinian, causing more of them (around 300,000) to flee.



Write two reasons which made Israelis successful in the Six Day War (1967).



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LESSON SIX: What is the situation with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict now?

Retrieval Practise

1. What area was under Egyptian control after the 1948 Arab-Israeli War?

- The Gaza Strip
- West Bank
- Jerusalem

2. Give one reason the Israelis won the Six Day War?

3. What does Naqba mean?

- Catastrophe
- Victory
- Tragedy
- War

4. Who does the Bible report was the first King of Israel?

- Solomon
- David
- Saul
- Jesus

5. In total, how many Palestinians fled or were expelled after the 1948 Arab Israeli War?

- 700
- 7,000
- 7 million
- 700,000

After the Six Day War (1967), the **Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)** moved to Jordan, where hundreds of thousands of Palestinians lived. This did not last long however, and they were forced to relocate to South Lebanon (north of Israel) in the 1970s.



What do you think the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) believed in?



During their time in Lebanon, the PLO and Israel continued to participate in small attacks, including attacks on civilians (people not in the armed forces). Israel continued attacks in attempts to drive the PLO out of South Lebanon, and eventually invaded the area until PLO was surrounded and had to move to Tripoli (the capital of Libya, across the Mediterranean Sea).

In 1979, Israel reached a peace agreement with Egypt and withdrew from the Sinai Peninsula.

The First Intifada (1987-1991)



The First Intifada was a **Palestinian uprising** against the Israeli occupation of West Bank and the Gaza Strip. It began in Jabalia refugee camp, a camp located in Gaza which hosted thousands of Palestinian refugees.



What does the picture tell you about living conditions in refugee camps?

Living in the Jabalia refugee camp in Gaza looks like it would have been

After some civilian and refugee deaths, a protest movement arose, in which they focused on **resistance** and **civil disobedience** (refusal to obey laws, orders or demands). This became known as an **intifada**, which literally means 'tremor', or 'shuddering'. This comes from the Arabic for 'shake off'. It consisted of:

- General strikes
- Boycotts of Israeli institutions
- Refusing to work in Israeli settlements
- Refusal to purchase Israeli products
- Refusal to pay taxes
- Graffiti
- Barricading (blocking entrances or areas)
- Throwing of stones and gas bombs at the Israeli army



What other significant protests in history do these actions remind you of?

In response to these actions, the Israeli Armed Forces became much more violent with Palestinians, beating and injuring hundreds of civilians. Some Palestinians turned on each other, claiming that groups of people were becoming collaborators (allies) of the Israelis.

The First Intifada eventually came to an end in the 1991 **Madrid Peace Conference**, when all parties agreed to try to find a peaceful solution to their issues.

This led to the signing of the **Oslo Accords** in 1993. This allowed the PLO to relocate to the Gaza strip and West Bank and create the **Palestinian National Authority**. The idea was that Israelis and Palestinians could continue to negotiate their issues and dilemmas like this. However, not all Israelis wanted peace, and an Israeli extremist even assassinated the Israeli Prime Minister at the time, Yitzhak Rabin.



What does 'intifada' mean:

The Second Intifada (2000-2005)

After years of unsuccessfully trying to find peaceful agreements, the tensions between both groups arose. Another **Intifada** began. This “uprising” arguably began in Temple Mount, known to Muslims as Al Aqsa compound. This area of Jerusalem was considered to be the holiest site in Judaism and the third holiest site in Islam. A politician named Ariel Sharon, who later became Prime Minister of Israel, wanted to visit the site.



When he left the site, Palestinians began to protest his visit and began to throw rocks. The Israeli forces reacted by shooting rubber bullets and throwing tear gas at protestors. This became symbolic of the ongoing power struggle between Israelis and Palestinians.

Protests and police violence continued, killing many Palestinians. International organisations and other countries argued that the violence against Palestinians who were protesting was not necessary



Why do you think that more people around the world became informed about the conflicts taking place between Israelis and Palestinians at this time?

The Sharm El Sheikh Summit of 2005 took place on 8 February 2005. Many people credit this as the end of the Second Intifada as both Palestinian and Israeli leaders agreed to stop the fighting against each other.



Where does the Israeli-Palestinian conflict stand after 2005?

In 2006 in the Palestinian side, there was political struggle between two groups: **Fatah and Hamas**. Hamas successfully won an election in 2006. When Israeli leaders asked Hamas to make the same agreement that they had reached after the Second Intifada, the rejected their demands. This resulted in **economic sanctions** from Israel and rising tensions.

Fatah and Hamas eventually agreed to split the Palestinian areas, with Hamas remaining in Gaza and Fatah occupying West Bank. Although they have not always been in agreement, they did reach an agreement in 2014.

At the moment, although no war is in place, there are still conflicts amongst Israelis and Palestinians. Different international powers, particularly the United States, have tried to get involved and continue to do so. Attacks continue to occur and seemingly, there is no agreement that will appease both parties.

Historians, politicians and the general public continue to debate this conflict, and it continues to be one of the most controversial topics in history.



What do you believe are the main reasons that Palestinians and Israelis continue to fight? Refer back to your workbook to see both points of view.

Israeli	Palestinians



Return to page 2 to complete the learning review

LESSON SEVEN: Assessment

Planning Sheet:		Key Vocabulary
Introduction •	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
Paragraph 1 •	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
Paragraph 2 •	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
Paragraph 3 •	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
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<p>Paragraph 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
<p>Paragraph 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
<p>Paragraph 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
<p>Conclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
