

Israel and Palestine Conflict

Origins of the Conflict:

The roots of the conflict can be traced to the late 19th century, with the rise of national movements, including Zionism and Arab nationalism...The Zionist movement called for the establishment of a nation state for the Jewish people in Palestine, which would serve as a haven for the Jews of the world and in which they would have the right for self-determination. Zionists increasingly came to hold that this state should be in their historic homeland, which they referred to as the Land of Israel. The World Zionist Organization and the Jewish National Fund encouraged immigration and funded purchase of land, both under Ottoman rule and under British rule...

The General Assembly of the newly formed United Nations...proposed recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly that "Palestine within its present borders, following a transitional period of two years from September 1, 1947, shall be constituted into an independent Arab State, an independent Jewish State, and the City of Jerusalem"...Jerusalem and Bethlehem were to be put under the control of the United Nations. Neither side was satisfied with the Partition Plan.

The approval of the plan sparked attacks carried out by Arab irregulars against the Jewish population in Palestine...As the British evacuation from the region progressed, the violence became more prevalent...The termination of the British mandate over Palestine and the Israeli Declaration of Independence sparked a full-scale war...the four armies of Jordan, Syria, Egypt and Iraq invaded/intervened in what had been the area of the British Mandate followed not long after by units from Lebanon...The war resulted in an Israeli victory, with Israel annexing territory beyond the partition borders for a proposed Jewish state and into the borders for a proposed Palestinian Arab state.

Source: Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_Israeli-Palestinian_conflict)

Arguments:

About This Topic	
<p>The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is one of the world's longest standing conflicts. Many people believe that resolving this conflict is the key to resolving the various conflicts throughout the Middle East. Some observers see this conflict creating Arab resentment towards the West and fueling radical Islamic terrorism. Although the conflict generates massive public discussion and debate, there are relatively few forums that maintain an impartial and non-partisan approach to understanding it. We intentionally expose the variations of opinion, narrative and fact, to give our readers the best "big picture" understanding of the conflict and its potential solutions.</p>	
PRO Israel/CON Palestine	CON Israel/PRO Palestine
<p>The Pro-Israel camp generally base their arguments on the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Israel is the historical homeland of the Jewish people who have lived there continuously since biblical times.b. Jews deserve a Jewish state because of historical injustices, such as the Holocaust, and because they have international support and recognition through the United Nations.c. Palestinian rejectionism and terrorism are the main reasons Palestinians do not have an independent state.d. The majority of Israelis support a "two-state" solution, creating a Palestinian state alongside Israel in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.e. Other Israelis support the idea of a "one-state" solution, either by annexing all occupied territories into the Jewish state (far right view), or incorporate the occupied territories into one secular democratic state (far left view).	<p>The Pro-Palestinian camp generally base their arguments on the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. The Palestinian people have lived in the area of Israel/Palestine since biblical times. Israeli Jews are foreign colonizers who began arriving within the last 100 years, and have no right to establish a state on Muslim land.b. Palestinians are a national entity, deserving of the rights of all nations, including an independent Palestinian state.c. Over 40 years of settlement activity has made it impossible to create a Palestinian state and shows that Israel has no intention of making peace.d. The majority of Palestinians support a "two-state" solution, creating a Palestinian state alongside Israel in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.e. Other Palestinians support the total destruction of Israel (far right view) or a "bi-national" or "one-state" solution (far left view).

Source: <http://www.procon.org>