



CARTOGRAPHIC REGRESSION

For nearly a century, the Jewish community in what is now Israel and Palestinian Arabs have battled over a 10,000-square-mile territory between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River. Both claim historic and religious ties to the land, so the conflict has become a geopolitical war with far-reaching implications. Throughout the years of fighting, Israel's share of the land has grown from about 3 percent in 1917 to 87 percent today.

1917

Palestine before the creation of Israel

1947

Proposed borders under the U.N. Partition Plan

1948

Israel is formed

1967

After the Six-Day War

PRESENT



A BRIEF HISTORY OF HOW THE BORDERS CAME TO BE

1897

The World Zionist Organization is created to advocate for the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

1917

The Balfour Declaration: British Foreign Secretary James Balfour approves the creation of a national homeland for Jews in Palestine.

1947

U.N. Partition Plan: The U.N. successfully passes a plan to separate western Palestine into two states. Jewish leaders accept the proposal while Palestinian Arab leaders reject it, prompting riots.

1948-1949

Arab-Israeli War: The Jewish community declares itself independent in the new state of Israel. War breaks out between Israelis and forces from nearby Arab nations.

February-July 1949

Israel and the Arab states agree to an armistice that results in Israel controlling 78 percent of Palestine. The U.N. estimates that more than 700,000 Palestinian Arabs become refugees during this period.

1967

Six-Day War: Using air, sea, and ground combat, Israel captures the Sinai Peninsula from Egypt and Golan Heights from Syria. Although the Israeli Army does not annex the West Bank of Jordan, it begins to occupy the region.

1982

Israel returns Sinai to Egypt and the two countries sign a peace treaty, making Egypt the first Arab nation to officially recognize Israel as a state.

1987-1993

First Intifada: Palestinians begin a mass uprising in Gaza. Civil disobedience and riots soon spread to the West Bank.

1993-1995

The Oslo Accords: Palestine and Israel sign the Declaration of Principles, in which both nations seek recognition as autonomous governing bodies. The West Bank is split into three zones: One fully controlled by Palestinian Authority; one that's joint-controlled; and one that stays in Israeli hands.

2000

Camp David Summit: The Israeli Army withdraws from Lebanon. The Camp David Summit aims to help the two sides finally agree on a settlement; the talks eventually fail and the violence leads to The Second Intifada (2000-05).

April 2003

Road Map for Peace: The European Union, U.N., U.S., and Russia release a road map, which outlines a clear timetable toward a Palestinian state.

2005

Gaza Expulsion Plan: Israel's defense forces leave the Gaza Strip and four settlements in the northern West Bank as part of a unilateral disengagement plan.

September 2011

Palestine submits a bid to the U.N. for statehood and membership.

1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

SOURCES: BBC.CO.UK, CNN.COM, ALJAZEERA.NET, ISRAELIPALESTINIAN.PROCON.ORG, LONDONTIMES.COM, NYTIMES.COM, WSJ.COM, UNITED NATIONS

A COLLABORATION BETWEEN GOOD AND COLUMN FIVE