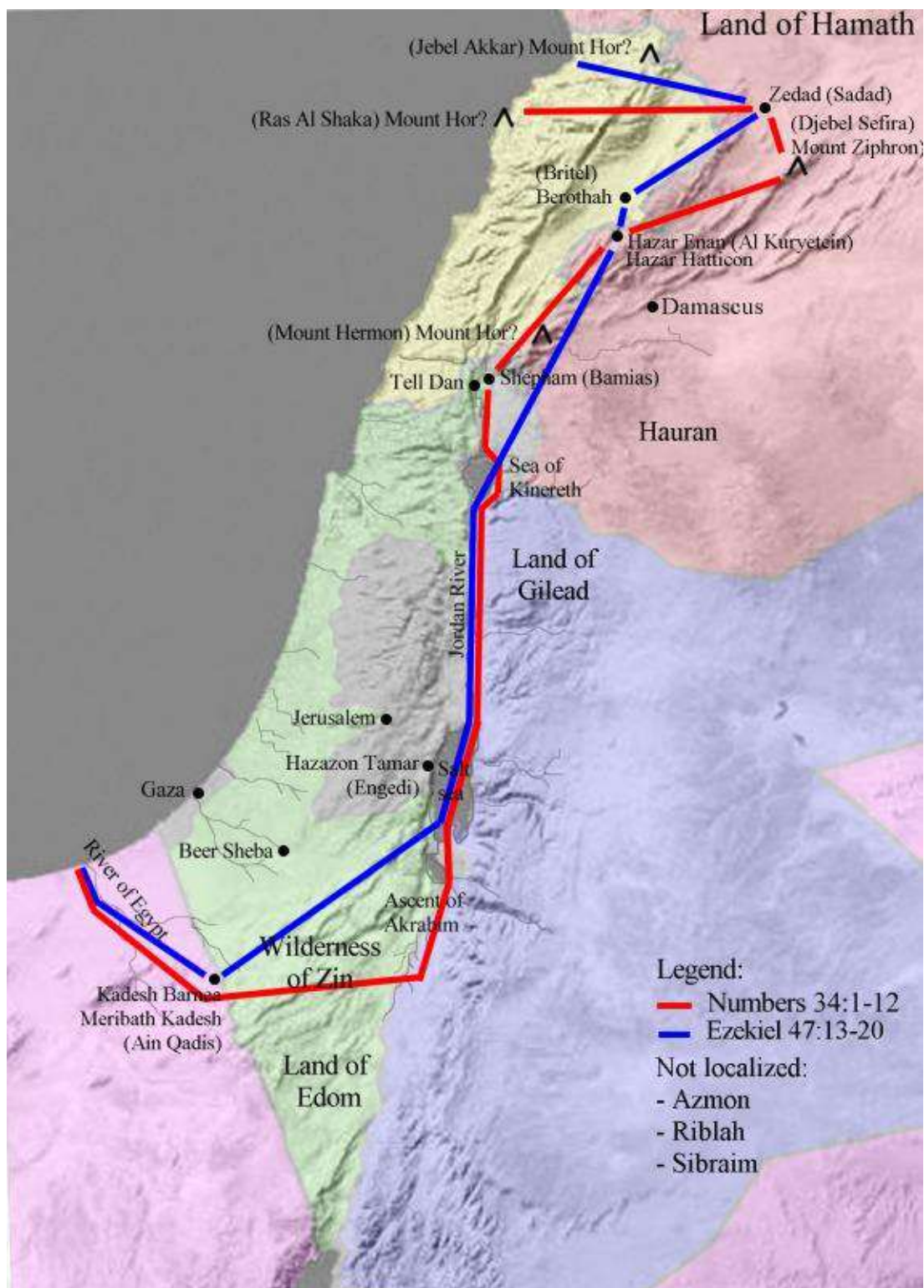


## **Who has the stronger right to the land between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River?**

The Jews have the stronger right:

1. This land is the ancient homeland of the Jews as promised by God in the Bible
2. The British government promised the land to the Jews in 1917 and this was later endorsed by the League of Nations
3. Jews needed a place of safety after centuries of persecution in Russia and Europe culminating in the Holocaust
4. The new state of Israel which had been recognised by the United Nations had to establish defensible borders because it was surrounded by Arab enemies
5. Even today a major Palestinian group called Hamas is committed to the destruction of Israel
6. Israel has been prepared to offer land for peace, but the Palestinians have never kept their side of the bargain



The Biblical Land of Israel





The Pale of Settlement in Russia



**The First Zionist Congress in Basel in 1897**



Foreign Office,  
November 2nd, 1917.

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet

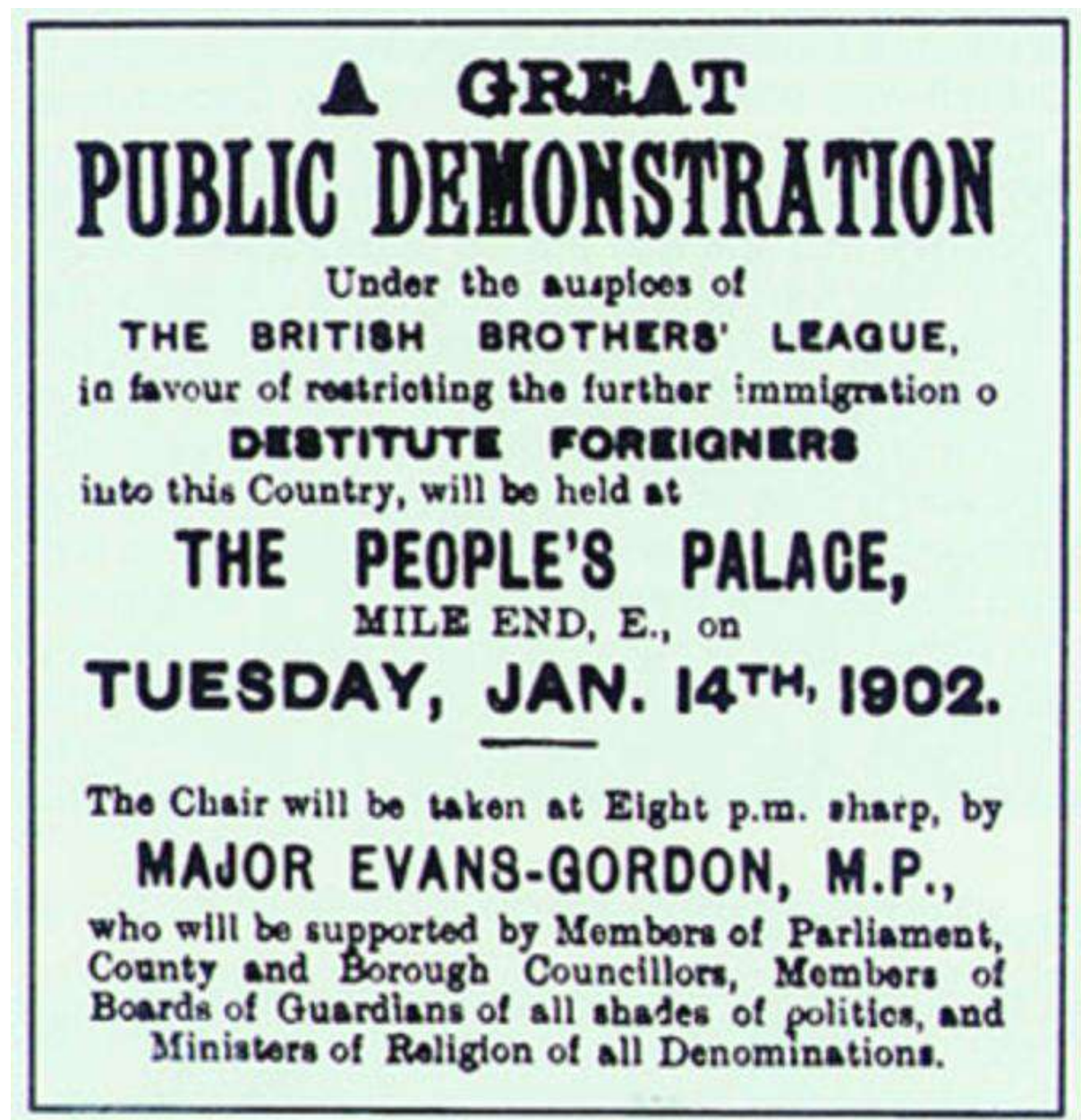
"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country"

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Y. in  
Arthur Balfour

This is a letter from the British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour to Lord Rothschild, the leader of the British Jewish community

The Balfour Declaration

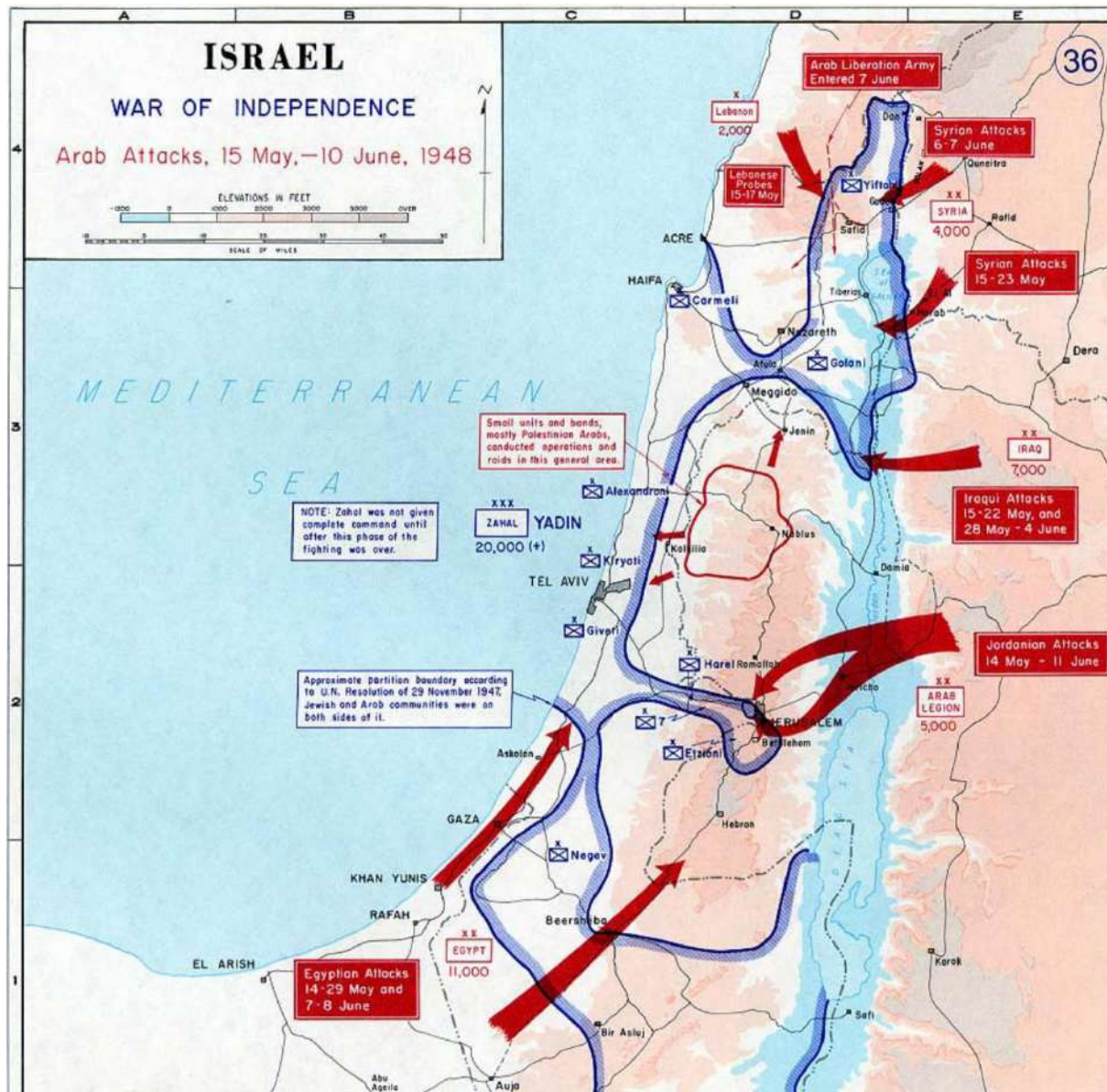


Poster advertising a public meeting in London protesting Jewish immigration caused by pogroms in Russia



**Storm Troopers (SA), block the entrance to a Jewish-owned shop. One of the signs says:  
"Germans! Defend yourselves! Don't buy from Jews!" Berlin, Germany, April 1, 1933. - United  
States Holocaust Memorial Museum**





Arab attacks during the War of Independence, Department of History, U.S. Military Academy





Israel-Egypt Peace Treaty – Sadat, Carter and Begin in 1978

On the Destruction of Israel:

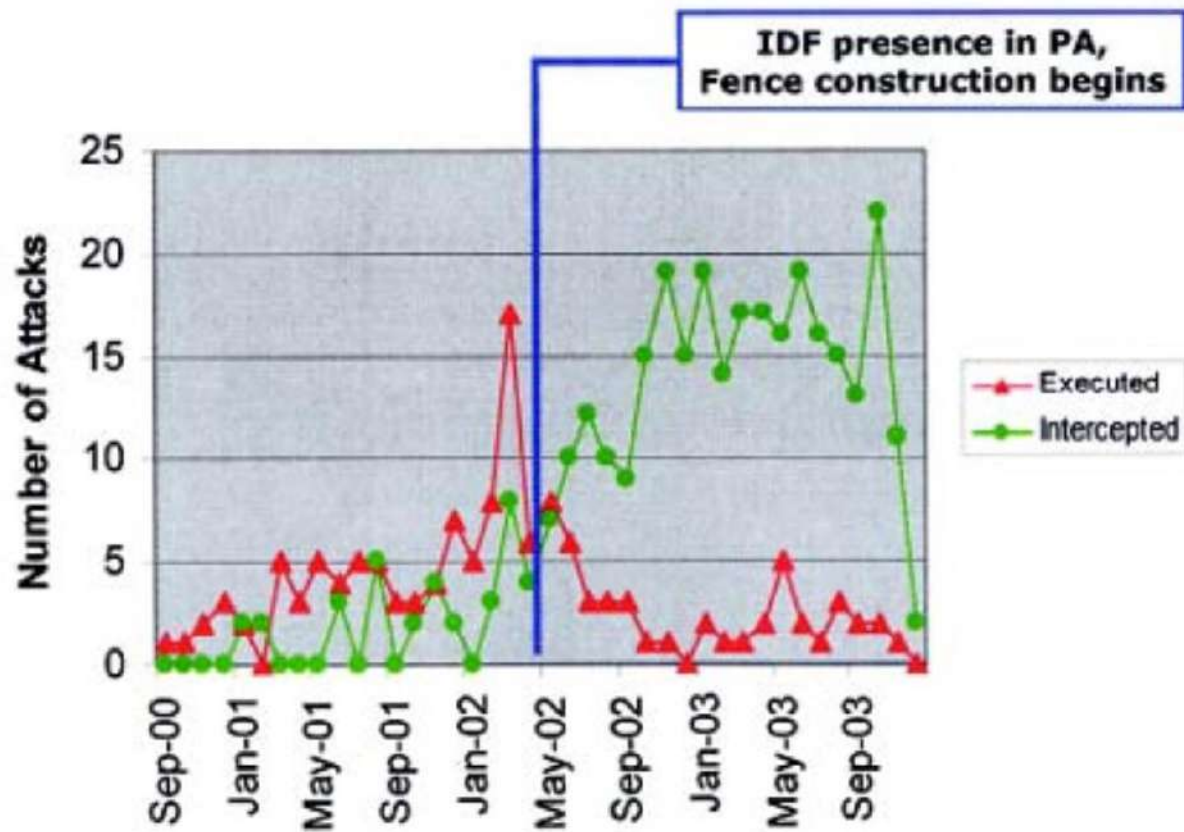
-----  
'Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it.' (Preamble)

The Exclusive Moslem Nature of the Area:

-----  
'The land of Palestine is an Islamic Waqf [Holy Possession] consecrated for future Moslem generations until Judgment Day. No one can renounce it or any part, or abandon it or any part of it.'  
(Article 11)

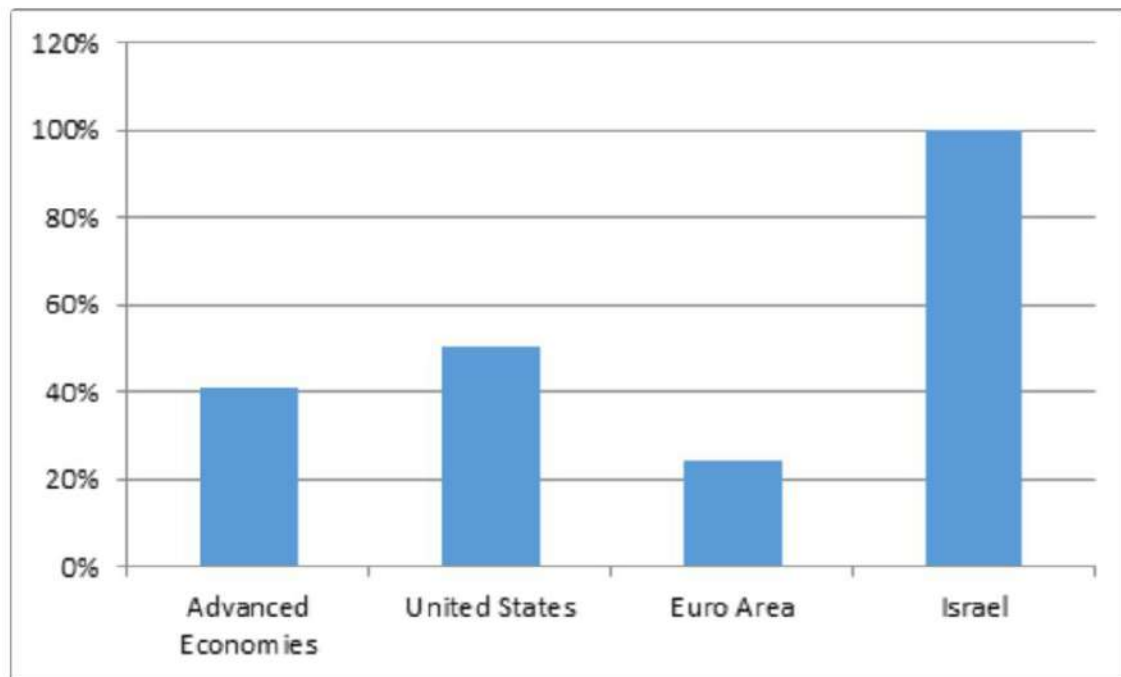
'Palestine is an Islamic land... Since this is the case, the Liberation of Palestine is an individual duty for every Moslem

**The Covenant of the Hamas 1988** – main points, published on webpage for Israel's Foreign Ministry



Reduction in terror attacks after the construction of the Security Fence begins





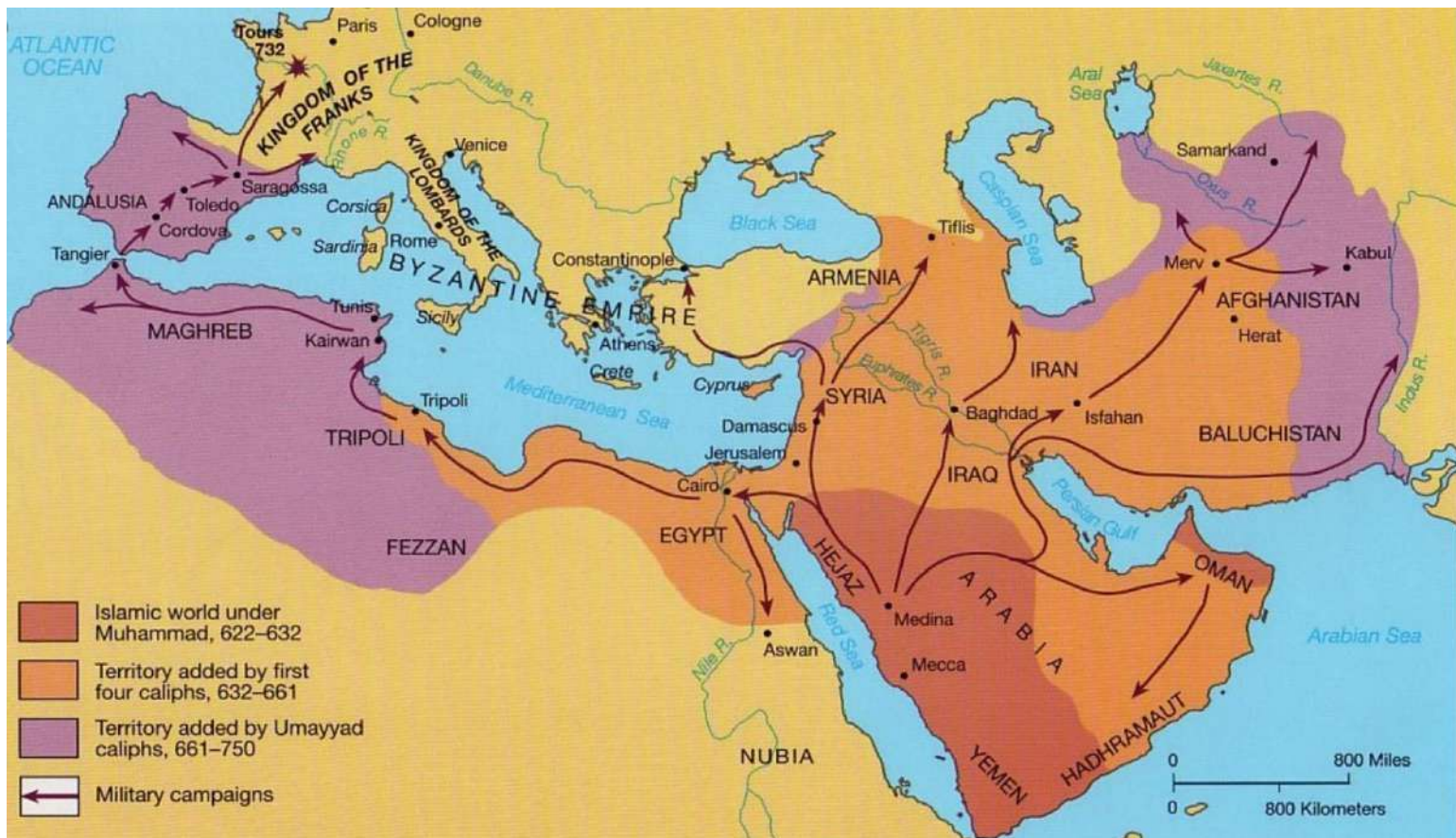
Aggregate Real GDP Growth, 1996-2014

Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook, October 2015.

## **Who has the stronger right to the land between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River?**

The Arabs have the stronger right:

1. Arabs, whether Christian or Muslim, have been in a majority in this land for nearly 2000 years
2. The British and French governments promised Arabs their own state in what was known as Palestine in 1917
3. The persecution of Jews was by Christians in the West, but western countries refused entry to Jewish refugees and instead made this a problem for Palestinians
4. Israel used its superior armed forces to drive Palestinians from their ancient homelands and created 700,00 refugees
5. Israel continues to use its military might to oppress the civilian populations living under Occupation
6. Israel was never sincere about allowing Palestinians a state of their own. For decades it has ignored international law and its own promises and taken more land from Palestinians



## Arab Conquests





**The Walls of Jerusalem built by Suleiman the Magnificent in 1535**



**Haram al-Sharif (The Noble Sanctuary) in Jerusalem is the site of the al-Aqsa mosque and the Dome of the Rock shrine**

al-Aqsa mosque

The third most holy site in Islam, Muslims believe that the Prophet Mohammad was transported from Mecca to this site during his Night Journey recorded in the Qur'an.

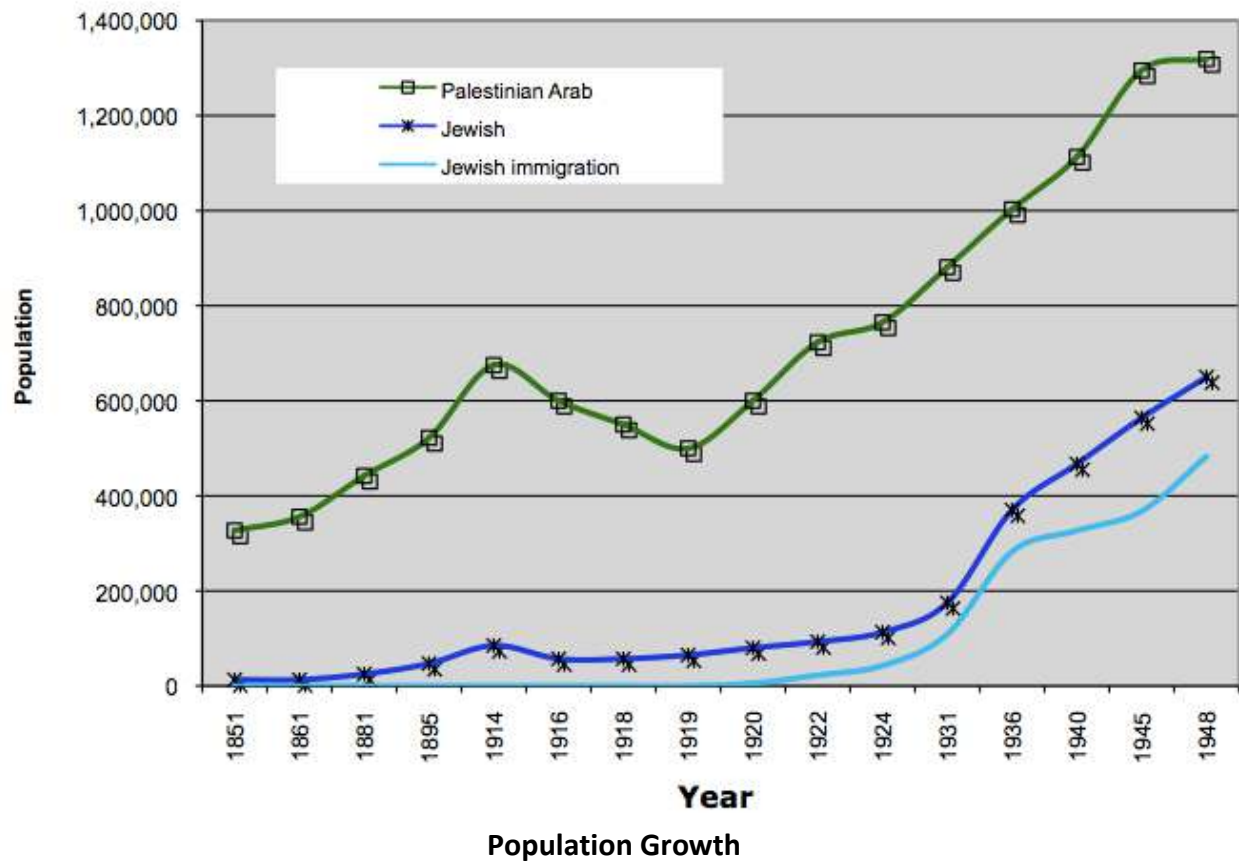
The Dome of the Rock

Muslims believe that the Prophet Mohammed ascended to Heaven on this site.

## PROMISES AND ASSURANCES MADE TO THE ARABS 1916-19

Date	Occasion	Substance
running from 14th July 1915 to 30th Jan 1916	<u>McMahon-Hussein correspondence</u> Sir Henry McMahon was British High Commissioner in Egypt, and Sharif Hussein was the ruler of the Emirate of Mecca	The British Government promised support for an independent Arab state in areas then under the rule of the Ottoman Empire in return for an Arab rebellion against the Ottomans.
2nd November 1917	<u>Balfour Declaration</u> in the form of a letter from British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour to Walter Rothschild, 2nd Baron Rothschild, leader of the British Jewish community.	Mainly a promise to the Jews about a national home in Palestine but it contains the provision nothing shall be done which may prejudice the religious and civil rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine,'
January 1918	Following the publication of the Balfour Declaration the British sent <u>Commander David George Hogarth</u> to see Hussein	He carried the message that the "political and economic freedom" of the Palestinian population was not in question. Hogarth reported that Hussein "would not accept an independent Jewish State in Palestine, nor was I instructed to warn him that such a state was contemplated by Great Britain".
16th June 1918	<u>The Declaration to the Seven</u> Read out by an officer of the Arab Bureau to a meeting of 7 Arab leaders.	The British government promised independence for Arabs under the principle of 'consent of the governed'.
7th November 1918	<u>Anglo French Declaration</u> copies were posted in all Arab towns and villages then occupied by Allied forces, including Palestine.	"The goal of [...] France and Great Britain in prosecuting [...] the war [...] is the complete and final liberation of the peoples who have so long been oppressed by the Turks, and the setting up of national governments and administrations deriving their authority from the free exercise [...] of the choice of the indigenous populations"







**Palestinians leaving the Galilee during the Nakba, Oct-Nov 1948, *The Birth of the Palestinian Refugee Problem* by Benny Morris, Cambridge University Press 1989.**



**Faris Odeh aged 15 was killed by Israeli forces Nov 8th 2000 – photo by Imad Eid for Associated Press**





**Rabin, Clinton and Arafat, signing the Oslo Accords in 1998, official White House photograph**

# HOW ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS KILLED PEACE

## WHAT ARE SETTLEMENTS?

Settlements are Israeli colonies built on Palestinian land forcibly taken by Israel in the 1967 war. The territories captured by Israel in that war are known as the "occupied territories," and Israel is obligated by international law to withdraw from them.

## SETTLEMENTS ARE ILLEGAL

UN Resolution 446 (one of many condemning Israeli settlements) states: "settlements... have no legal validity and constitute a serious obstruction to achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace."

## SETTLEMENT GROWTH

The "peace process" was supposed to bring an end to Israel's occupation of Palestinian lands. Instead, it brought a massive expansion of these settlements.

592,900

total settlers in illegal Israeli settlements

Settler population growth  
SOURCE: AMERICANS FOR PEACE NOW



## JERUSALEM

This timeline does not include the **200,000 Israeli settlers** in occupied East Jerusalem.



## THE U.S. HAS LONG OPPOSED SETTLEMENTS

And yet, settlements **continue to expand..**

"Occupied territories should not be changed by the establishment of permanent settlements by the occupying power."



"The establishment of new Israeli settlements in the occupied territories is an obstacle to peace."



"We oppose new settlements in territories beyond the 1967 lines."



"The settlement enterprise... is inconsistent with the Oslo commitment."



"I've been very clear about [Israel's] obligation... no expansion of settlements."



"The United States does not accept the legitimacy of continued Israeli settlements."



While the **Trump Administration's position** remains unclear, President Trump has called on Israel to "hold back on settlements for a little bit."

www.aaiusa.org • facebook.com/arabamericaninstitute • @aaiusa • #Marking50

Poster criticising impact of settlements on peace



Watchtower on the Separation Wall overlooking Bethlehem



