

**SSWH20: DEMONSTRATE AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE GLOBAL SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND POLITICAL IMPACT OF THE COLD WAR AND DECOLONIZATION FROM 1945-1989**

**Palestinian loss of land 1946 to 2000**  
(in Partition plan 1947)

**Element B: Describe the formation of the state of Israel and the Arab-Israeli Conflict.**

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**Formation of the state of Israel and First Arab-Israeli Conflict**

- In 1939, Britain, who controlled Palestine, reversed its 1917 Balfour Declaration, which had promised to secure a Jewish homeland.
  - This deepened conflict between Jews and Arab Palestinians, both of whom had historical claims to the land.
- Following World War II, Holocaust survivors poured into Palestine, and built up American support for their own nation-state.
  - Tensions continued to grow, and in 1947 Britain turned the problem over to the United Nations.
- In November 1947, the United Nations voted to separate Palestine into two separate states: one Jewish, one Arab.
  - This plan was accepted by Jews, but rejected by the Arabs.
- In May of the following year, Israel declared independence.
  - Its Arab neighbors quickly moved against the new nation.
- The war ended with Israel winning the war and increasing its territory, while some 700,000 Palestinians were uprooted and left as refugees, their lands being given to Jewish immigrants.
  - This situation left peace unsettled in the region.

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**Continued Arab-Israeli Conflicts**

- In 1967, Israel responded to Egyptian military movements, and in six days of conflict won the Sinai Peninsula and Gaza Strip from Egypt, the Golan Heights from Syria, and the West Bank and Eastern Jerusalem from Jordan.
  - This resulted in much greater territory for Israel and many more Palestinian refugees. The Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), led by Yasir Arafat gained support among Arab Palestinians.
  - The PLO fought for the destruction of Israel through guerilla warfare including, bombings and airplane hijackings. Israel responded with force, and the conflict continued.

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### Continued Arab-Israeli Conflicts

- ❑ In 1993, the PLO and Israel reached a peace agreement, known as the Oslo Accords.
  - This historic, yet fragile, deal gave Palestinians the Gaza Strip and the West Bank territories, where they could govern with limited self-rule.
    - This would be done under an independent Palestinian Authority, which recognized Israel and pledged to end terror attacks.
  - Both Jews and Arabs rejected the Oslo Accords – Jews because Israel gave up land, and Arabs because they didn't secure their own state.
- ❑ The Palestinian terror campaign and violent Israeli reprisals continued.
- ❑ In 2003, the United States, Russia, the European Union, and the United Nations presented a "road map for peace" to Israelis and Palestinians, with steps to take toward a settled peace in the region.
  - Little progress has been made, each side blaming the other for slow movement toward peace.



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