



Timeline of Israeli history

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_Israeli_history

This is a **timeline of modern Israeli history**, comprising important legal and territorial changes and political events in Israel and its predecessor entities from 1881 onward, along with important events in Jewish history and the history of Zionism from that year on.

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2025

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in

Israel

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Decades:

2000s · 2010s · **2020s** · ·

See also:

History of Israel

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Timeline of Israeli history

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List of years in Israel

1800-1900

Year	Date	Event
1881	13 March	<u>Tsar Alexander II of Russia</u> is assassinated, triggering multiple waves of <u>Jewish pogroms</u> after some blamed "agents of foreign influence", a term often directed at Jewish communities.
1881-1903		The <u>First Aliyah</u> describes the initial major wave of Jewish immigration to <u>Palestine</u> motivated by persecution and economic hardship.
1882	15 May	The Russian emperor <u>Alexander III</u> issued the <u>May Laws</u> , severely restricting the rights of <u>Jews</u> in the <u>Pale of Settlement</u> , and intensifying <u>Jewish emmigration</u> .
1894	December	The <u>Dreyfus Affair</u> was a political scandal in France that involved the wrongful conviction of Jewish army officer, <u>Alfred Dreyfus</u> . It is one of the most notable examples of <u>antisemitism</u> and miscarriage of justice.
1896	February	<u>Theodor Herzl</u> published <i><u>Der Judenstaat</u></i> , arguing for the establishment of an independent <u>Jewish state</u> .
1897	29 August	The <u>First Zionist Congress</u> constituted 218 delegates of <u>Zionist</u> organizations, most from Eastern Europe, convened in <u>Basel</u> . It was instrumental in the formation of the <u>Zionist platform</u> , founding of the <u>World Zionist Organization</u> , and helped unify the Zionist movement.

1900-2000

Year	Date	Event
1901		The <u>Jewish National Fund</u> is established to buy land and encourage Jewish settlement in <u>Palestine</u> .
1915-1916		British diplomats and the Sharif of Mecca exchange the <u>McMahon-Hussein Correspondence</u> , in which Britain promises an independent Arab state, which would include <u>Palestine</u> , in exchange for supporting the British against the Ottoman Empire in the <u>First World War</u> .
1916	3 January	Britain, France, Russia, and Italy sign the secret <u>Sykes-Picot Agreement</u> which would partition the Ottoman Empire in the event of an Allied victory.
1917	2 November	The <u>Balfour Declaration</u> issued by the British Government called for a national home for the Jewish People in Palestine, which was seen as a contradiction by some.
1917	23 November	The <u>Bolsheviks</u> make the terms of the <u>Sykes-Picot Agreement</u> public, exposing contradicting promises made in the <u>McMahon-Hussein Correspondence</u> and the <u>Balfour Declaration</u> .
1919	3 January	Chaim Weizmann and Emir Faisal, son of the Sharif of Mecca, sign the <u>Faisal-Weizmann agreement</u> , promising Jewish support and development in Palestine. Faisal's approval was contingent on the fulfillment of British promises to him.
1920	25 April	The <u>League of Nations</u> assigns Britain the creation of <u>Mandatory Palestine</u> .
1920	June	Jewish paramilitary organization <u>Haganah</u> is formed with the purpose of defending Jewish settlements against Arab attacks.
1920	4-7 April	<u>1920 Jerusalem riots</u> were attacks on Jewish lives and property by Arabs, leaving 216 Jewish casualties and 25 Arab casualties.
1920	1 July	The <u>Palin Commission</u> is created to investigate the 1920 Jerusalem riots. They report that Arab rioters attacked Jewish lives and property, and that the cause was attributed to the disappointment that stemmed from unfulfilled promises to them by the British.
1921	12-30 March	The <u>1921 Cairo Conference</u> convened by Britain aimed to organize the Middle East boundaries and develop a policy of governance. Arab and Jewish delegations were invited to advise or provide input. The conference established the division of Mandatory Palestine into <u>Transjordan</u> , and <u>Palestine</u> with <u>Emir Abdullah</u> ruling semi-autonomously in the former. His brother, <u>Emir Faisal</u> would be crowned King of Iraq.
1921	1-7 May	<u>1921 Jaffa riots</u> were attacks on Jewish lives and property by Arabs, leaving 193 Jewish casualties and 121 Arab casualties.
1921	October	The <u>Haycraft Commission</u> is created to investigate the 1921 Jaffa riots. The report blamed Arabs for the violence but notes growing Arab resentment of British policy, seemingly favoring Jewish communities and ambitions at the expense of the Arab population.
1922	3 June	<u>Winston Churchill</u> drafts the <u>Churchill White Paper</u> . In it contains Britain's will to maintain their commitment to the <u>Balfour Declaration</u> , calls for restrictions on Jewish immigration, clarification that Palestine would not become a Jewish State. This would be the governing policy in the region until 1939.
1923	29 September	British <u>Mandate for Palestine</u> comes into effect.
1929	23-29 August	<u>1929 Palestine riots</u> were a series of violent demonstrations and riots involving access over the <u>Western Wall</u> in Jerusalem. The riots lead to 472 Jewish casualties and 348 Arab casualties.
1930	March	The <u>Shaw Commission</u> is created to investigate the <u>1929 Palestine riots</u> . The report concludes that riots were caused by Arab fears over Jewish immigration and land acquisition. It recommends restrictions on Jewish land purchases and immigration, an inquiry to support the rapidly growing rural Palestinian population, and clarity regarding British policy.

1930	October	The <u>Passfield White Paper</u> is drafted to implement recommendations made by the <u>Shaw Commission</u> and <u>Hope Simpson Enquiry</u> . The tone of the paper was considered anti-zionist by many.
1931	13 February	The <u>MacDonald letter</u> written by British Prime Minister <u>Ramsay MacDonald</u> to <u>Chaim Weizmann</u> to clarify the new <u>Passfield White Paper</u> . It is considered to be an informal withdrawal of the <u>Passfield White Paper</u> .
1931	10 April	Jewish paramilitary organization <u>Irgun</u> is founded. Irgun policy was based on <u>Revisionist Zionism</u>
1936-1939		The <u>1936-1939 Palestinian Revolt</u> was a movement calling for independence from British colonial rule and the end to British support for Zionism. 5000+ Arabs, 300+ Jews, and 262 Britons were killed, with at least 15,000 Arabs wounded.
1939–1945		World War II: <u>Germany invades Poland</u> and <u>The Holocaust</u> occurred in <u>German-occupied Europe</u> killing 6 million Jews.
1946	July 22	Jewish terrorists bombed the <u>King David Hotel</u> . The terrorist attack was carried out by the Zionist paramilitary group <u>Irgun</u> . 91 people of various nationalities, including Britons, Arabs and Jews, were killed and 45 people were injured by the militant right-wing group.
1947	25 November	<u>United Nations Partition Plan for Palestine</u> that proposed a creation of one Arab state and one Jewish state passes with the Jewish leaders accepted and Arab states rejected the move. A major civil war between the Arab populations and Jewish populations began shortly after.
1948	14 May	On the last day of the British Mandate, <u>David Ben-Gurion</u> , executive head of the Zionist Organization and chairman of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, issued the <u>Israeli Declaration of Independence</u> which declared the establishment of a Jewish state in the Land of Israel to be known as the State of Israel, which covered part of the territory of what had been <u>Mandatory Palestine</u> . ^[1]
	15 May	<u>1948 Arab–Israeli War</u> : Hours after the expiration of the British Mandate of Palestine, <u>Iraq</u> , <u>Egypt</u> , <u>Jordan</u> and <u>Syria</u> invaded Israel. ^[2]
1949	25 January	<u>1949 Israeli legislative election</u> : Elections were held to a <u>constituent assembly</u> . <u>Ben-Gurion's</u> center-left <u>Mapai</u> won a plurality of seats.
	24 February	<u>1948 Arab–Israeli War</u> : The first of the 1949 Armistice Agreements ending the war was signed between Israel and <u>Egypt</u> . An armistice line was agreed along the prewar border with the exception that Egypt remained in control of the <u>Gaza Strip</u> .
	8 March	The first government of Israel, in which <u>Mapai</u> , the <u>Jewish United Religious Front</u> , the <u>liberal Progressive Party</u> , the <u>Sephardim and Oriental Communities</u> and the <u>Arab Democratic List of Nazareth</u> ruled in coalition with <u>Ben-Gurion</u> as <u>prime minister</u> , was established.
	11 May	The <u>General Assembly</u> of the United Nations adopted <u>United Nations General Assembly Resolution 273</u> , according to which Israel was admitted to membership. ^[3]
	13 December	<u>Ben-Gurion</u> proclaimed <u>Jerusalem</u> the capital of Israel. ^[4]
1950	5 July	The Israeli legislature the <u>Knesset</u> passed the <u>Law of Return</u> , which granted all <u>Jews</u> the right to migrate to and settle in Israel and obtain <u>citizenship</u> .
1956	26 July	<u>Suez Crisis</u> : In a broadcast speech, Egyptian president <u>Gamal Abdel Nasser</u> gave a codeword order for the occupation and nationalization of the <u>Suez Canal</u> and the closure of the <u>Straits of Tiran</u> to Israeli shipping.
	29 October	<u>Suez Crisis</u> : The Israeli <u>air force</u> began bombing Egyptian forces in the <u>Sinai Peninsula</u> .
1960	11 May	Eight agents of the Israeli internal security service <u>Shin Bet</u> and its foreign intelligence service <u>Mossad</u> abducted <u>Adolf Eichmann</u> , the <u>Nazi</u> officer primarily responsible for the actual implementation of <u>the Holocaust</u> , near his home in <u>San Fernando, Buenos Aires</u> .
1966		The <u>martial law</u> imposed on Israeli <u>Arabs</u> from the founding of the State of Israel was lifted completely.

1967	5 June	<u>Six-Day War</u> : The Israeli <u>air force</u> destroyed the Egyptian <u>air force</u> on the ground over a period of three hours.
	11 June	<u>Six-Day War</u> : Israel signed a ceasefire with its enemies <u>Egypt</u> , <u>Syria</u> , <u>Jordan</u> , <u>Lebanon</u> and <u>Iraq</u> . It remained in control of the formerly Egyptian <u>Gaza Strip</u> and <u>Sinai Peninsula</u> , the Syrian <u>Golan Heights</u> and the Jordanian <u>West Bank</u> and <u>East Jerusalem</u> .
	30 June	Mayor <u>Teddy Kollek</u> of <u>Jerusalem</u> announced that the city had been fully reunified. ^[5]
1973	21 February	A Boeing 727-200 serving as Libyan Arab Airlines Flight 114 from <u>Tripoli</u> to <u>Cairo</u> was shot down over the <u>Sinai Peninsula</u> by Israeli fighter aircraft, killing over one hundred passengers and crew.
	21 July	<u>Lillehammer affair</u> : A team of fifteen <u>Mossad</u> agents assassinated a Moroccan waiter in <u>Lillehammer</u> in a case of mistaken identity.
	6 October	<u>Yom Kippur War</u> : Egyptian and Syrian forces simultaneously attacked Israeli positions in the <u>Sinai Peninsula</u> and the <u>Golan Heights</u> , respectively, on the <u>Jewish</u> holiday of <u>Yom Kippur</u> .
	14 October	<u>Operation Nickel Grass</u> : The United States began an airlift of tanks, artillery, ammunition and supplies to Israel.
	25 October	<u>Yom Kippur War</u> : Israel, Egypt and Syria agreed to a ceasefire. Israel remained in control of new territory north of the <u>Golan Heights</u> and west of the <u>Suez Canal</u> in the south.
1976	4 July	<u>Operation Entebbe</u> : Sayeret Matkal freed some hundred hostages held at Entebbe International Airport by hijackers belonging to the Palestinian nationalist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine – External Operations and the far-left <u>Revolutionary Cells</u> .
1977	10 May	<u>1977 Israeli Air Force Sikorsky CH-53 Sea Stallion crash</u> : An Israeli Air Force Sikorsky CH-53 Sea Stallion crashed in the <u>Jordan Valley</u> , killing fifty-four soldiers.
1978	17 September	Israel and <u>Egypt</u> signed the <u>Camp David Accords</u> at the <u>White House</u> . The framework agreement provided for the establishment of an autonomous authority in the <u>West Bank</u> and <u>Gaza Strip</u> and for withdrawal of Israeli forces from the <u>Sinai Peninsula</u> in exchange for the establishment of full diplomatic relations with Egypt.
1979	26 March	<u>Egypt</u> and Israel signed the <u>Egypt–Israel peace treaty</u> under the framework of the <u>Camp David Accords</u> at the <u>White House</u> .
1980	24 February	The <u>old Israeli shekel</u> replaced the <u>Israeli pound</u> as the currency of Israel.
	30 July	The Knesset passed the <u>Jerusalem Law</u> , asserting that <u>Jerusalem</u> was and would remain the undivided capital of Israel.
1981	7 June	<u>Operation Opera</u> : Israel carried out a surprise air strike on an <u>Iraqi</u> nuclear reactor eleven miles southeast of <u>Baghdad</u> . ^[6]
1982	23 April	The <u>Israel Defense Forces (IDF)</u> forcibly evacuated <u>Yamit</u> per the terms of the <u>Egypt–Israel peace treaty</u> .
	3 June	Shlomo Argov, the Israeli ambassador to the United Kingdom, was shot in the head in London in an attempted assassination organized by Iraq's <u>Iraqi Intelligence Service</u> and carried out by the <u>Palestinian nationalist Abu Nidal Organization</u> .
	6 June	<u>1982 Lebanon War</u> : The IDF invaded southern <u>Lebanon</u> in response to repeated attacks by the <u>Palestinian nationalist Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)</u> , whose militants were sheltered there, on Israeli civilians.
1984	12 April	<u>Bus 300 affair</u> : Four <u>Palestinian</u> nationalists hijacked a bus from <u>Tel Aviv</u> to <u>Ashkelon</u> and took its forty passengers hostage.
	21 November	<u>Operation Moses</u> : The first of some eight thousand <u>Ethiopian Jews</u> were covertly evacuated to Israel from refugee camps in <u>Sudan</u> .
1985	5 January	<u>Operation Moses</u> : Prime minister <u>Shimon Peres</u> confirmed the existence of the airlift. <u>Sudan</u> immediately halted flights.

1987	30 August	The <u>Cabinet</u> voted to cancel development of the <u>IAI Lavi</u> .
	9 December	<u>First Intifada</u> : Protests began in the <u>Jabalia Camp</u> in response to the death of four <u>Palestinian</u> civilians in a car crash with an <u>IDF</u> truck.
1989	19 September	<u>Mount Carmel Forest Fire</u> : A forest fire began on <u>Mount Carmel</u> which would burn over two square miles over the next three days. ^[7]
1991	22 January	<u>Gulf War</u> : An <u>Iraqi</u> Scud missile landed in <u>Ramat Gan</u> , killing three and injuring nearly a hundred.
	24 May	<u>Operation Solomon</u> : An airlift began which would transport some fourteen thousand <u>Ethiopian Jews</u> from <u>Ethiopia</u> to Israel over a thirty-six-hour period.
	30 October	<u>Madrid Conference of 1991</u> : A conference opened in <u>Madrid</u> with the goal of reviving the Israeli– <u>Palestinian</u> peace process.
1992	17 December	Israel deported some four hundred <u>Palestinians</u> to <u>Lebanon</u> .
1993	13 September	Israel and the PLO signed the <u>Oslo I Accord</u> in Washington, D.C. The accords provided for the withdrawal of some IDF forces from the <u>West Bank</u> and <u>Gaza Strip</u> and for the establishment of a self-governing authority for the <u>Palestinians</u> , the <u>Palestinian National Authority</u> .
1994	26 October	Israel and <u>Jordan</u> signed the <u>Israel–Jordan peace treaty</u> in the <u>Arabah</u> . The treaty clarified the borders of the two countries and their water rights; each pledged that neither would allow a third country to use its territory to stage an attack on the other.
1995	4 November	<u>Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin</u> : The radical nationalist <u>Yigal Amir</u> , an opponent of the <u>Oslo Accords</u> , shot and killed prime minister <u>Yitzhak Rabin</u> after a rally in <u>Tel Aviv</u> .
1997	4 February	<u>1997 Israeli helicopter disaster</u> : Two transport helicopters <i>en route</i> to <u>southern Lebanon</u> collided in midair above <u>She'ar Yashuv</u> , killing all on board.
	14 July	<u>Maccabiah bridge collapse</u> : A pedestrian bridge collapsed over the <u>Yarkon River</u> in <u>Tel Aviv</u> , killing four.
2000	24 May	Israel withdrew the last of its forces from <u>southern Lebanon</u> .
	1 October	<u>October 2000 events</u> : The first of a series of riots began in which thirteen <u>Arabs</u> and one <u>Jew</u> would be killed over nine days. ^[8]
	7 October	<u>2000 Hezbollah cross-border raid</u> : The Lebanese Shia Islamist militant group and political party <u>Hezbollah</u> abducted three Israeli soldiers from the Israeli administered side of the <u>Blue Line</u> , the internationally recognized border. ^[9]

2000-present

Year	Date	Event
2001	17 October	<i>Assassination of Rehavam Ze'evi</i> : Tourism minister Rehavam Ze'evi was shot at a Jerusalem hotel by Hamdi Quran of the Palestinian nationalist <u>Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine</u> . He died of his injuries that night in hospital.
2002	23 June	Construction of the <u>Israeli West Bank barrier</u> began. ^[10]
2004	29 January	Some four hundred prisoners, the remains of sixty Lebanese militants and civilians, and maps showing the locations of Israeli mines in southern Lebanon, were transferred to Hezbollah in exchange for the bodies of the three soldiers abducted in 2000, as well as the abducted Israeli reservist <u>Elhanan Tannenbaum</u> .
2005	12 September	<i>Israeli disengagement from Gaza</i> : The last Israeli settlers and security personnel were withdrawn from the <u>Gaza Strip</u> .
2006	4 January	Prime minister Ariel Sharon suffered a severe hemorrhagic stroke and fell into a coma. The designated acting prime minister <u>Ehud Olmert</u> became acting prime minister.
	12 July	<i>2006 Hezbollah cross-border raid</i> : Hezbollah forces crossed into Israel and ambushed two <u>IDF</u> vehicles, killing three soldiers and capturing two others. <i>2006 Lebanon War</i> : Israeli forces began shelling Lebanese territory in response to the <u>Hezbollah</u> attack of earlier that morning.
2007	6 September	<i>Operation Orchard</i> : Israel carried out a surprise air strike on a suspected nuclear reactor in Syria's <u>Deir ez-Zor Governorate</u> .
2008	27 December	<i>Gaza War</i> : Israel began conducting a series of airstrikes on assets of the Palestinian Sunni Islamist organization <u>Hamas</u> in the <u>Gaza Strip</u> in response to ongoing rocket fire on the western <u>Negev</u> .
2009	18 January	<i>Gaza War (2008–09)</i> : The war ended with a unilateral Israeli ceasefire.
2010	31 May	<i>Gaza flotilla raid</i> : The navy boarded a flotilla organized by the Free Gaza Movement and the Turkish Foundation for Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief, which was attempting to break an Israeli and Egyptian blockade of the Gaza Strip, in international waters. During the takeover, a violent confrontation erupted on board the <u>MV Mavi Marmara</u> in which nine activists were killed. ^{[11][12][13][14]}
	2 December	<i>Mount Carmel Forest Fire</i> : A forest fire began on <u>Mount Carmel</u> which would kill forty and burn nearly twenty square miles over the next three days. ^{[15][16][17][18]}
2011	14 July	<i>2011 Israeli social justice protests</i> : Filmmaker Daphni Leef set up a tent in <u>Habima Square</u> and invited others to join a protest over the absence of affordable housing.
	10 September	<i>2011 attack on the Israeli Embassy in Egypt</i> : A crowd of thousands of Egyptian protestors breached the Israeli embassy in <u>Cairo</u> . ^[19]
	18 October	<i>Gilad Shalit prisoner exchange</i> : <u>Hamas</u> released the Israeli soldier <u>Gilad Shalit</u> to <u>Egypt</u> in exchange for one thousand <u>Palestinian</u> other <u>Arab</u> prisoners held in Israel, including some three hundred serving life sentences for planning and perpetrating terror attacks. ^[20]
2012	14 November	<i>Operation Pillar of Defense</i> : The <u>IDF</u> began an eight-day anti-Hamas operation in the <u>Gaza Strip</u> , a response to ongoing rocket fire on the western <u>Negev</u> , with an airstrike on the senior officer <u>Ahmed Jabari</u> .
2014	8 July	<i>2014 Israel–Gaza conflict</i> : The <u>IDF</u> launched a series of airstrikes against <u>Hamas</u> targets in the <u>Gaza Strip</u> .

2017	6 December	<i>United States recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel</i> : U.S. President Donald Trump formally announces the <u>United States recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel</u> .
2019	25 March	<i>United States recognition of Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights</i> : U.S. President Donald Trump signed a <u>presidential proclamation</u> to officially recognize <u>Israel's</u> sovereignty over the Golan Heights. ^[21]
2020	10 December	<i>Israel–Morocco normalization agreement</i> : Following the Abraham Accords, Israel and Morocco signed a security cooperation agreement and began normalizing relations.
2021	30 April	<i>2021 Meron stampede</i> : The deadliest civil disaster in Israel's history.
	May	<i>2021 Israel–Palestine crisis</i>
	16 June	Naftali Bennett of the Yamina party was sworn in as Prime Minister, forming a coalition government with Yair Lapid of the <u>Yesh Atid</u> party, marking the end of <u>Benjamin Netanyahu's</u> 12-year tenure as Prime Minister.
	14 July	Israel opened its embassy in the <u>United Arab Emirates</u> in accordance with the <u>Abraham Accords</u>
2022	11 May	Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh was shot and killed while covering an Israeli military raid in Jenin. Her death led to international condemnation and calls for an investigation into the circumstances of the shooting.
	30 June	The Israeli <u>Knesset</u> voted to dissolve itself, triggering the <u>fifth election</u> in less than four years.
	1 November	Israel held its fifth election in less than four years, resulting in a victory for Benjamin Netanyahu's <u>Likud</u> party, which led to the formation of a controversial <u>right-wing government</u> .
2023	7 January	<i>2023 Israeli judicial reform protests</i> : Large-scale protests erupted across Israel in response to proposed <u>judicial reforms</u> by the Netanyahu government, which critics argued would undermine judicial independence.
	9 May	<i>Operation Shield and Arrow</i> : The IDF launched a series of airstrikes against <u>Palestinian Islamic Jihad</u> targets in Gaza following rocket fire towards southern Israel.
	7 October	<i>October 7 attacks and Gaza war</i> : Hamas and several other Palestinian militant groups launched coordinated armed incursions from the Gaza Strip into southern Israel, killing 1,143 and taking 250 hostages, marking the deadliest attack in Israeli history and the first invasion of Israeli territory since the <u>1948 Arab–Israeli War</u> .
	8 October	<i>Israel–Hezbollah conflict</i> : Hezbollah begins attacking northern Israel and the occupied Golan Heights.
	27 October	<i>Israeli invasion of the Gaza Strip</i> : The IDF launched a full-scale invasion of the Gaza Strip with the goal of eliminating Hamas and releasing the hostages.

See also

Timelines of older periods and wider concepts

- Timeline of Jewish history - for the Jewish people
- Timeline of the Palestine region - for the territory
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Other

- Antisemitism

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- Timeline of the Israeli–Palestinian conflict

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