

Competing Frames, Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Theme/Event	Israeli	Palestinian
Historical timeline of conflict	Thousands of years, dating back to early Biblical times	Modern – beginning about 130 years ago in late 19 th century
Arab Nationalism	Threat to Jews; Jews deserve homeland too	Revolution against Turkish rule; resistance to European and U.S. political, economic and cultural dominance
Zionism	Jewish national self-determination, leading to the restoring the right to live on ancestral land	Colonialism, exploitation and dispossession of indigenous peoples
1948	War of Independence	Al Nakbah (The Catastrophe)
U.N. Resolution 181 (establishing Jewish state and Palestinian homeland)	Endorsed with reservations – land distinctly Jewish and not a multi-ethnic state; wanted all of Palestine and took additional land than what the U.N. decided	Rejected. Illegal dividing of Palestine. Endorse alternate U.N. single-state plan
1967 war	Self-defense, pre-emptive attack	Israel as aggressor
Shaping of language (Occupied Territories)	Judea and Samaria	West Bank and Gaza
Camp David Accords, 1979	Return of Sinai to Egypt	No real gains (losses) for Palestinians, failed to recognize the PLO, increased settlement building in Occupied Territories
Gulf War I, 1991	Israelis fled to rural areas for fear of Iraqi missile attacks; early warning system and gas masks	Total curfew, no early warning system or gas masks
Intifadeh II, 2000 - ?	Peace stalemate, suicide bombings, intensified violence toward settlers	Peace stalemate, retaking of Palestinian-controlled areas, humiliating border controls, large-scale blockades of food, energy and medical supplies, political assassinations, increasing annexation of Jerusalem, increased assaults on Palestinians by settlers
Military power	Strong U.S. as friend to Israel surrounded by hostile neighbors ; nationalism as institutionalized state; right to defend land and state (national security)	Two of largest militaries in world supporting each other; occupied land. Israel controls borders, airspace; nationalism as liberation movement
Camp David II, 2000	Palestinians offered 95 percent of West Bank and Gaza	No contiguous Palestinian state; dispute over numbers of right of return of refugees, Jerusalem, water rights
Peace	Security	Justice
Historical memory	Promotion of ancient homeland, Holocaust	Promotion of peaceful co-existence for centuries

