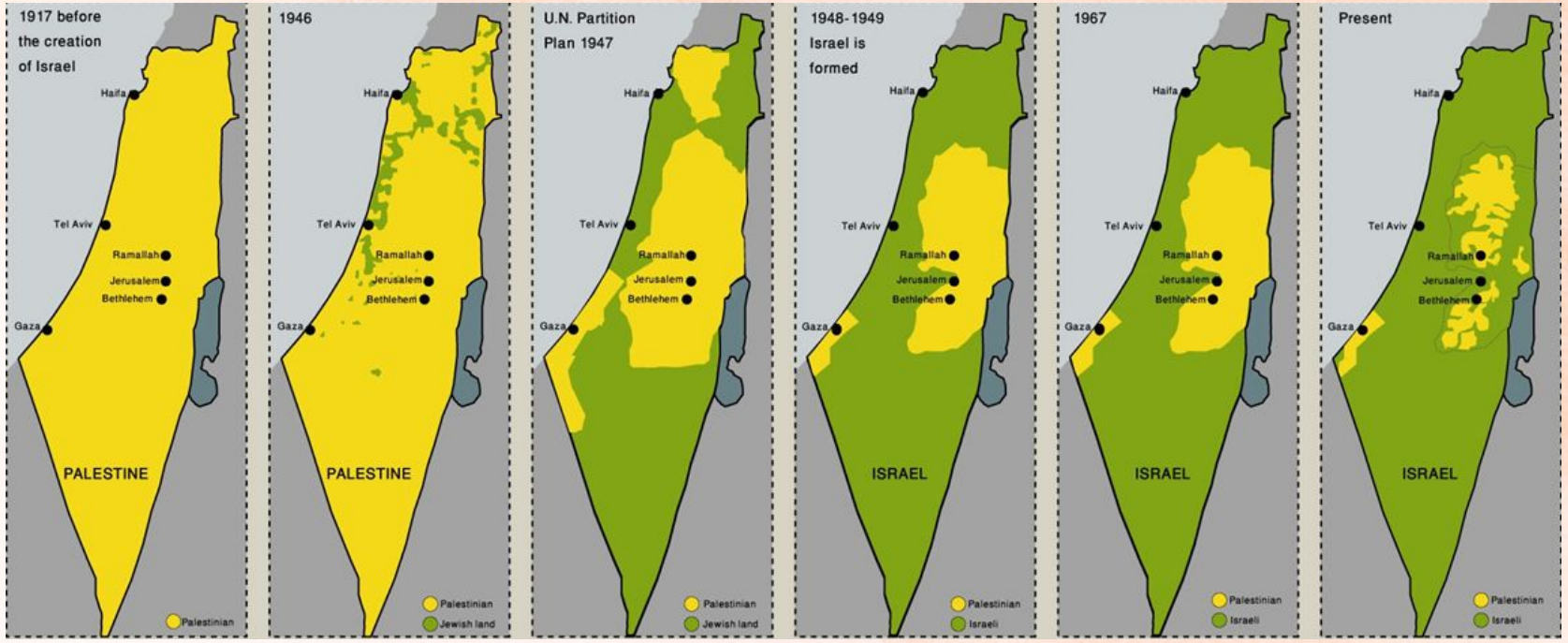
Understanding Palestine: What's habitat got to do with it?

فهم فلسطين: ما علاقة الموئل بالأمر؟

Comprendre la Palestine : Qu'est-ce que l'habitat a à voir avec ?

Entendiendo Palestina: ¿Qué tiene que ver el hábitat con ello?



Habitat International Coalition

Technical Instructions

Interpretation Channels (Original, English, Spanish, French, Arabic)

Write your name and organization as your username or in the chat

Share your **comments in the chat, or raise your hand on zoom** during the open floor.

Please mute yourself when not speaking

Instrucciones técnicas

Canales de interpretación (Original, inglés, español, francés, árabe)

Escribe tu nombre y de tu organización en tu nombre de usuario o en el chat

Comparte sus **comentarios en el chat o levante la mano en Zoom durante la sesión abierta.**

Por favor, silénciese cuando no esté hablando

Instructions techniques

Canaux d'interprétation (Original, anglais, espagnol, français, arabe)

Écrivez votre nom et celui de votre organisation dans votre nom d'utilisateur ou dans le chat

Partagez vos **commentaires dans le chat ou levez la main sur Zoom** pendant la discussion ouverte.

Veuillez vous mettre en sourdine lorsque vous ne parlez pas

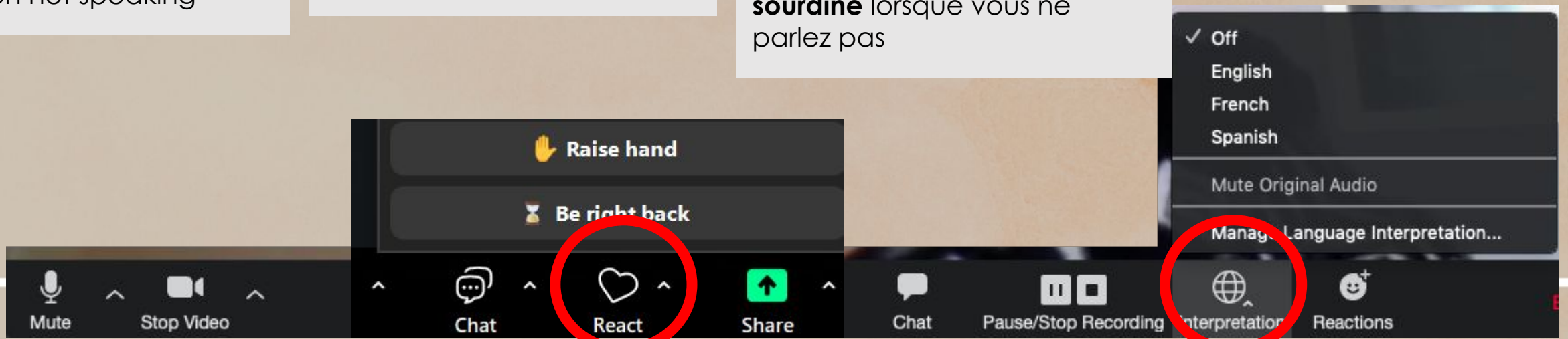
التعليمات الفنية

قنوات الترجمة (الأصلية ، الإنجليزية ، الإسبانية ، الفرنسية ، العربية)

اكتب اسمك ومؤسستك في اسم المستخدم الخاص بك أو في الدردشة

شارك تعليقاتك في الدردشة، أو ارفع يدك على زووم أثناء فترة النقاش المفتوح.

يرجى غلق الصوت في حال عدم التحدث



Understanding Palestine: What's habitat got to do with it?

Session II: Tracing occupation, apartheid, and resistance in Palestine over the years.

Sesión II: Rastreando la ocupación, el apartheid y la resistencia en Palestina a lo largo de los años.

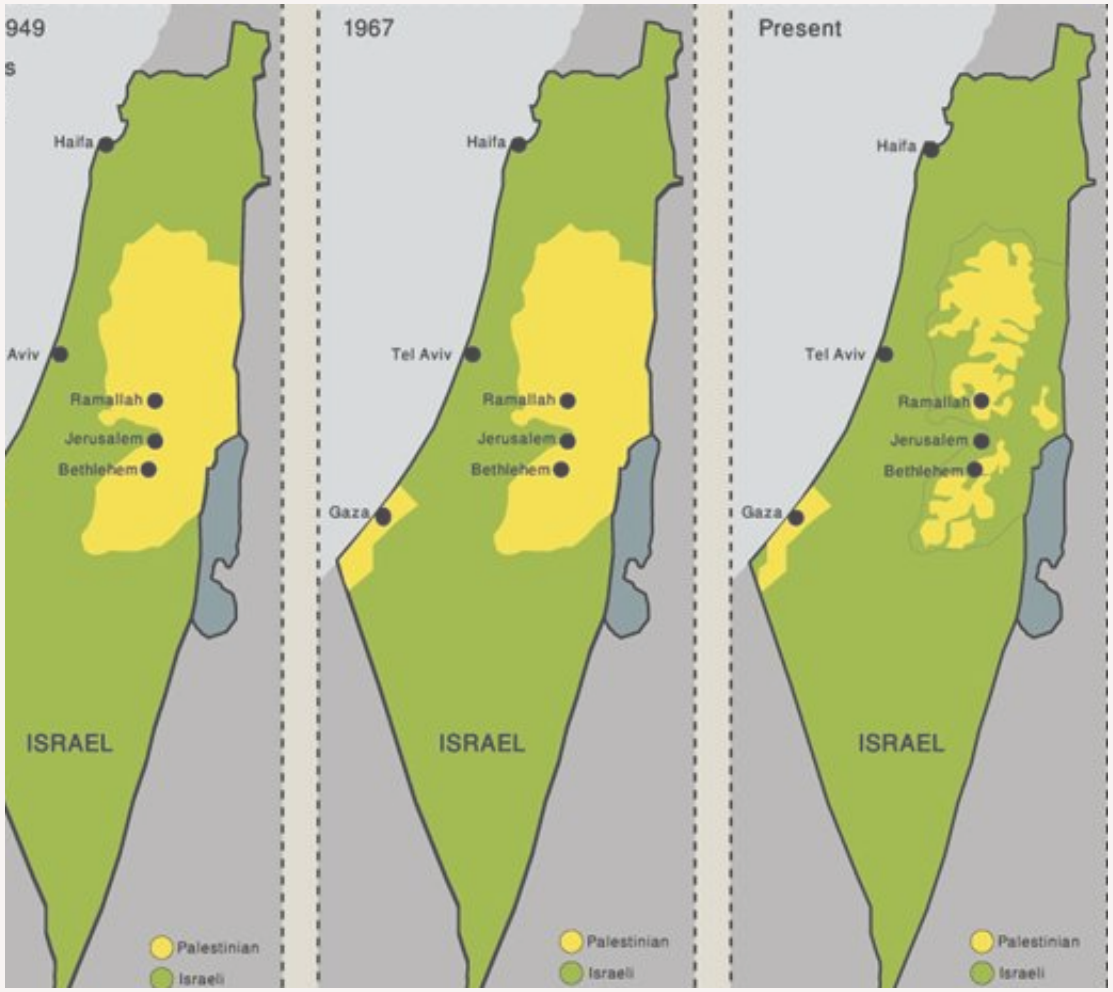
Session II : Dépister l'occupation, l'apartheid et la résistance en Palestine au fil des ans.

الجلسة الثانية: تتبع الاحتلال والفصل العنصري والمقاومة في فلسطين على مر السنين.



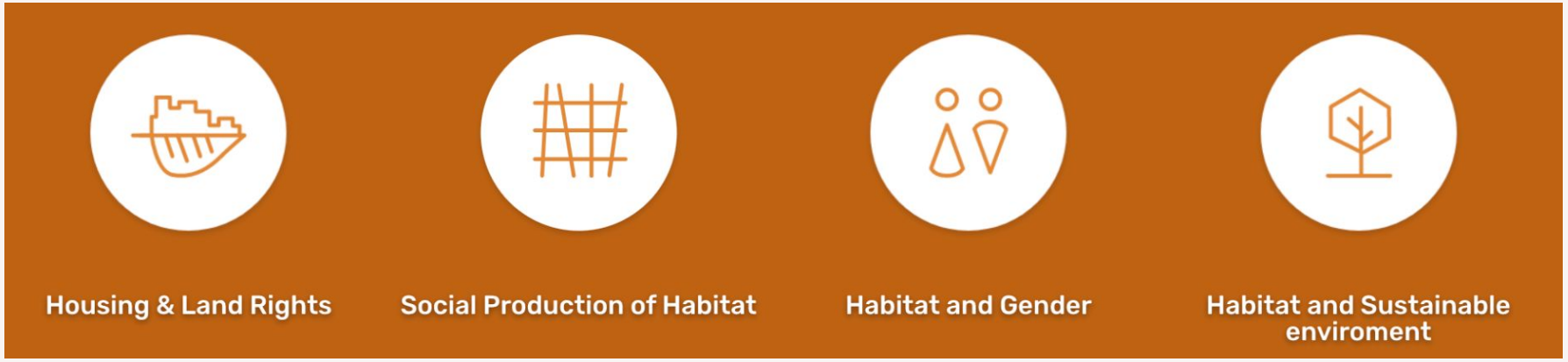
Program

1.	**Welcome, recap and overview**	20 min
2.	**Understanding the ideological roots:** racism, colonialism, anti-semitism and zionism as forms of apartheid that dispossess, fragment and erase indigenous Palestinian people	15 min
3.	**Open floor 1**	**20 min**
4	**Understanding the imperial systems, institutions and mechanisms of dispossession** for settler colonialism in Palestine	15 min
5	**Reflections** by Discussant	7 min
6	**Open floor 2**	**20 min**
7	**Closing**	5 min



Who is Habitat International Coalition (HIC)?

A global, member-based civil society coalition that fights for the recognition, defence and full implementation of human rights related to habitat.



Why this Teach-In Series?

What does it mean to support and stand in solidarity with Palestine?

- civil society conscientisation - Palestine & Habitat
- beyond reaction to immediate events to building deep understanding that can inform action



What is a teach-in?

A forum for open discussion and debate aimed at encouraging critical thinking and collective action.

- inspired by "sit-in" protests during Vietnam war era
- a form of protest against the war and its lack of transparency and debate.

Sit-down strike → sit-ins → teach-ins







Overview of the four sessions

Session 1:
Understanding housing & land policies as instruments of domination.
30 July 2025

Session 2:
Tracing occupation, apartheid and resistance in Palestine over the years
Ideological Roots and Imperial Systems and Mechanisms of Dispossession
13 August 2025

Session 3:
Tracing occupation, apartheid and resistance in Palestine over the years
The Occupied Palestinian Territories: Nakba, Blockade, Intifadas, Wars on Gaza
27 August 2025

Session 4:
Solidarity and action with Palestine and beyond
10 September 2025

Recap of Session 1

Menti Results: Which country are you joining from?



Menti Results Session 1: Why did you join this Teach-in?

Learning and solidarity
Transnational solidarity/ Build solidarity

Because I want the world to better understand the Palestinian cause and stand with us to stop the ongoing genocide.

Porque Palestina nos necesita

Estoy involucrada con temas de hábitat y ambiente y me interesa este enfoque propuesto

To learn about Palestine and HIC perspective into it

I want to know how I can be a better ally & express my solidarity with the Palestinian people.

It is urgent that all of us concerned with housing and land rights deepen our solidarity with Palestine

Quiero conocer mas sobre como las politicas de tierra y vivienda constituyen instrumentos de dominacion en zonas de conflicto

Because i work in the built environment, i want to have a greater understanding on housing justice and how i can apply my skills to causes such as the occupation of palestine

interesada en la relacion de las politicas urbanas como dominacio

Deepen my understanding of how land and housing policies have played into apartheid policies

As a matter of solidarity with the people of Palestine and to further understand the usage of land policies for domination of an indigenous people

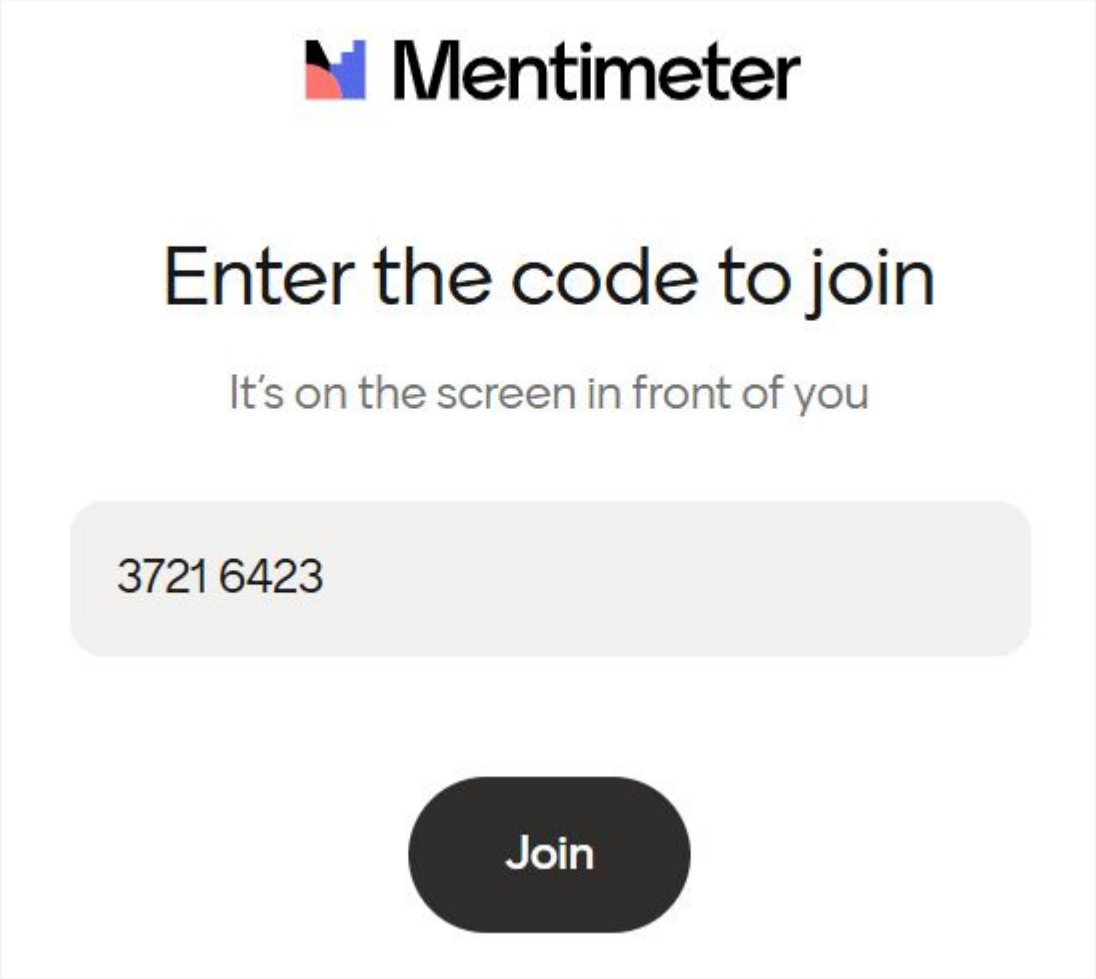
Mentimeter Exercise

On your device, go to the search engine and type menti.com.

Enter this code to join: **3721 6423**

Respond to the questions.

- Which country are you joining from?
- What would you like to learn from the teach-in series?



Menti Results Session 2: Which country are you joining from?



Menti Results Session 2: Which do you wish to learn from this session?

How we can stop conflicts	Tools of analysis and resistance	How best to support the people in Gaza
Policies which have been positive for Palestine and ways to expand on them	cómo contrarrestar el lobby mediatico	Housing rights under occupation
The role of urban planning/planners in colonization processes	How to show solidarity, use the position we have	how to uphold the international law in amidst the killing and destruction process
Ways in which collective action can stop the war	How can we stop people like Trump taking Gaza	La historia y base ideologica de este conflicto. Politicas de resistencia contra el despojo y desplazamiento. Solidaridades globales.
como apoyar de forma activa al pueblo Palestina, dar a conocer la destrucción humana, cultural y territorial del pueblo y territorio de Palestina para poder sensibilizar y sumar mas gente al apoyo	… how we can act collectively to exert effective influence to put an end to the genocides carried out by the Zionists against the Palestinian people.	increase knowledge and opportunity for transnational solidarity increase accountability for Israeli crimes and stop the complicity of states Stop the genocide

Why is a habitat lens so relevant and important to understanding Palestine ?

"**The ideologies of States are reflected in their human settlement policies.** These being powerful instruments for change, **they must not be used to dispossess people** from their homes and their land, **or to entrench privilege and exploitation**. The human settlement policies must be in conformity with…human rights."

The Vancouver Action Plan, Preamble para. 3 (1976)

United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, Canada, 31 May–11 June 1976, A/CONF.70/15, https://habitat76.ca/2016/06/un-habitat-1976-vancouver-declaration-action-plan/.

Key Points from Session 1 Speakers

Leilani Farha, Former Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing:

All laws and policies in Israel are geared towards the dispossession of housing and land in Palestine.

Ashraf Abu Hayyeh, Al Haq:

What does international law mean, and whom is it meant to protect?

Enrique Ortiz, Co-founder of HIC

The old ways are no longer working, so we need to rethink our approach to supporting Palestine.

Hiba Al-Wahoush, Land Research Centre, Palestine

Israel has occupied Palestine since 1948 and has violated the Palestinian's right to housing for over 70 years.

Key Points from Session 1 Participants

Comments on solidarity & action

- We need to focus on stopping genocide & solidarity, then reconstruction
- How to target government actors, banks and businesses with concrete asks?
- Solidarity through media & public education esp. In countries where protesting the genocide is banned - what small places of power we have

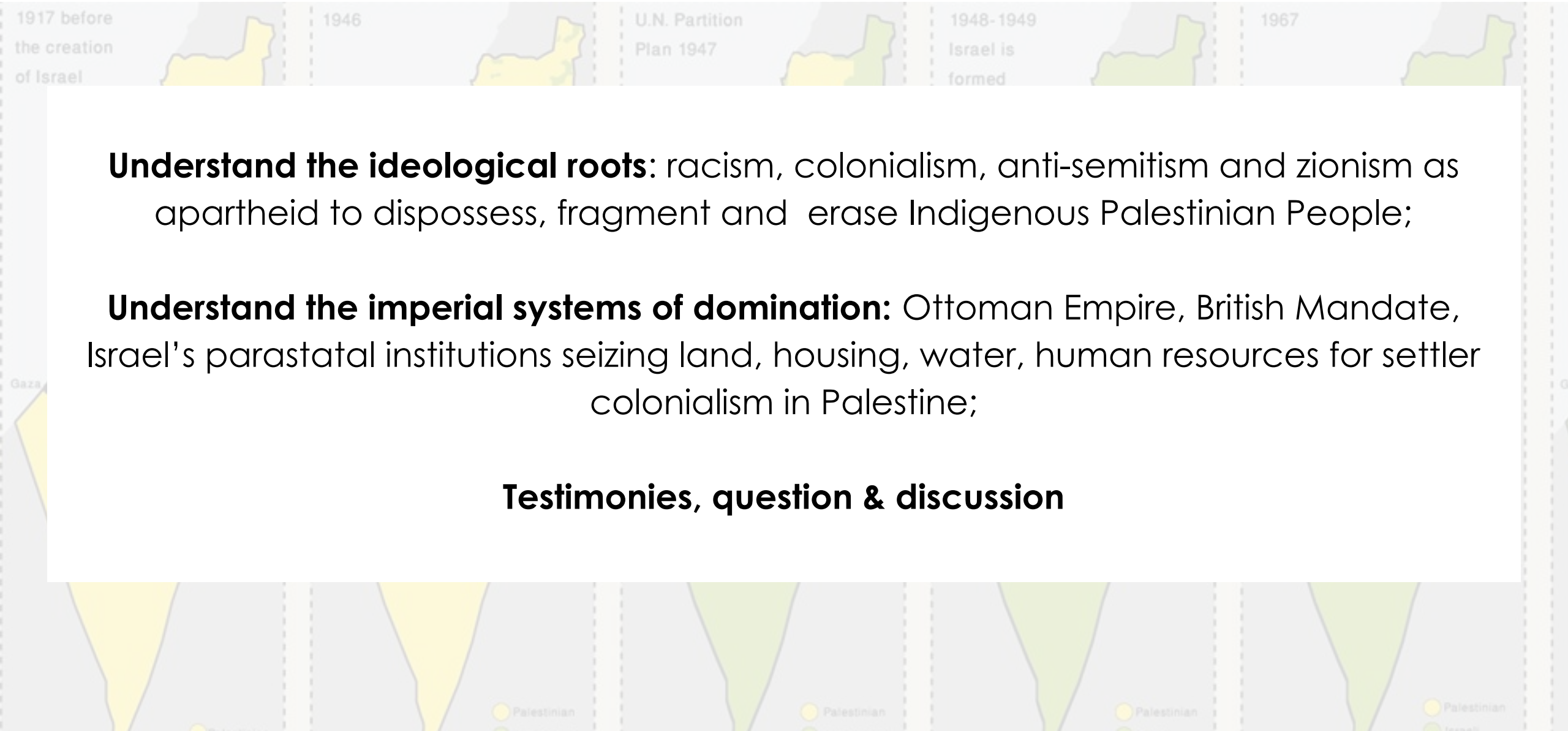
Request to organise session information

- esp. Hiba's presentation into infographic

We will return to participants suggestions on solidarity in session 4

Current moment is one of DEBUNKING narratives & discourses re Israel

Overview of Session II:
Tracing occupation, apartheid, and resistance in Palestine over the years



Understand the ideological roots: racism, colonialism, anti-semitism and zionism as apartheid to dispossess, fragment and erase Indigenous Palestinian People;

Understand the imperial systems of domination: Ottoman Empire, British Mandate, Israel's parastatal institutions seizing land, housing, water, human resources for settler colonialism in Palestine;

Testimonies, question & discussion

Introducing the Session Moderator



Heather Elaydi is a Palestinian-Canadian researcher and human rights advocate working on policy and politics around food, land and water, primarily in contexts of conflict and crisis in West Asia and North Africa.



Understanding ideological roots: racism, colonialism, anti-semitism and zionism as apartheid to dispossess, fragment and erase indigenous Palestinian people

Paul Hendler

- What is **anti-semitism**?
- What is **zionism**?
- What is **apartheid**?
- How have **anti-semitism and zionism been used to justify an apartheid system** in Israel?

Paul Hendler is a South African activist scholar of housing and urban development, working within a political economy framework.

As a Jewish South African, he has traversed the full spectrum from the Zionist youth movement to becoming an anti-Zionist activist in the last 10 years. He is a member of the South African Palestine Solidarity Campaign, Western Cape Chapter.

Antisemitism is a form of racism, of othering people interpellated as semites , a category that includes Palestinians and Jews.

Historically antisemitism came to mean the othering of Jews, as:

- different from "normal" citizens (the nation);
- malevolent to their interests;
- unassimilable to their culture; and,
- degrading the national spirit and genes.

SOURCE: Paul Hendler, 'Contesting Zionist identity claims', Medium platform

Aaron David Gordon (1856 to 1922), said that

Jews living in the diaspora were 'a parasitic people.

We have no roots in the soil; there is no ground beneath our feet. And we are parasites not only in an economic sense but in spirit, in thought, in poetry, in literature, and in our virtues, our ideals, our higher human aspirations.

Every alien movement sweeps us along, every wind in the world carries us. We in ourselves are almost nonexistent, so of course we are nothing in the eyes of other peoples either.'

Non-Jewish Zionism

Its Roots in Western History

Regina S. Sharif



Zed Press, 57 Caledonian Road, London N1 9DN.

- **New antisemitism** = criticizing Israel in ways you wouldn't criticize any other nation (resistance to Jewish nation state)
- New antisemitism – inversion of meaning of classical antisemitism (concept of **inverted antisemitism**)
- Anti-Zionist or critical-of-Israel Jews = self-hating Jews = antisemitic Jews
- Concept of inverted antisemitism = **segmented antisemitism** (certain sub group of Jews are 'othered')
- Sub-group of Zionist Jews are loved (philosemitism)

Zionist Federation of Germany [ZVfD] which on June 21 1933 wrote to Hitler explaining their kinship:

> Zionism has no illusions about the difficulty of the Jewish condition, which consists above all in an abnormal occupational pattern and in the fault of an intellectual and moral posture not rooted in one's own tradition… an answer to the Jewish question truly satisfying to the national state can be brought about only with the collaboration of the Jewish movement that aims at a social, cultural and moral renewal of Jewry… On the foundation of the new state, which has established the principle of race... fruitful activity for the Fatherland is possible…. Our acknowledgement of Jewish nationality provides for a clear and sincere relationship to the German people and its national and racial realities. Precisely because we don't wish to falsify these fundamentals, because we, too, are against mixed marriage and are for maintaining the purity of the Jewish group… The realization of Zionism could only be hurt by resentment of Jews abroad against the German development. Boycott propaganda… is in essence unZionist, because Zionism wants not to do battle but to convince and to build.

SOURCE: Lucy Davidowicz, 'A Holocaust Reader pages 150 to 153.

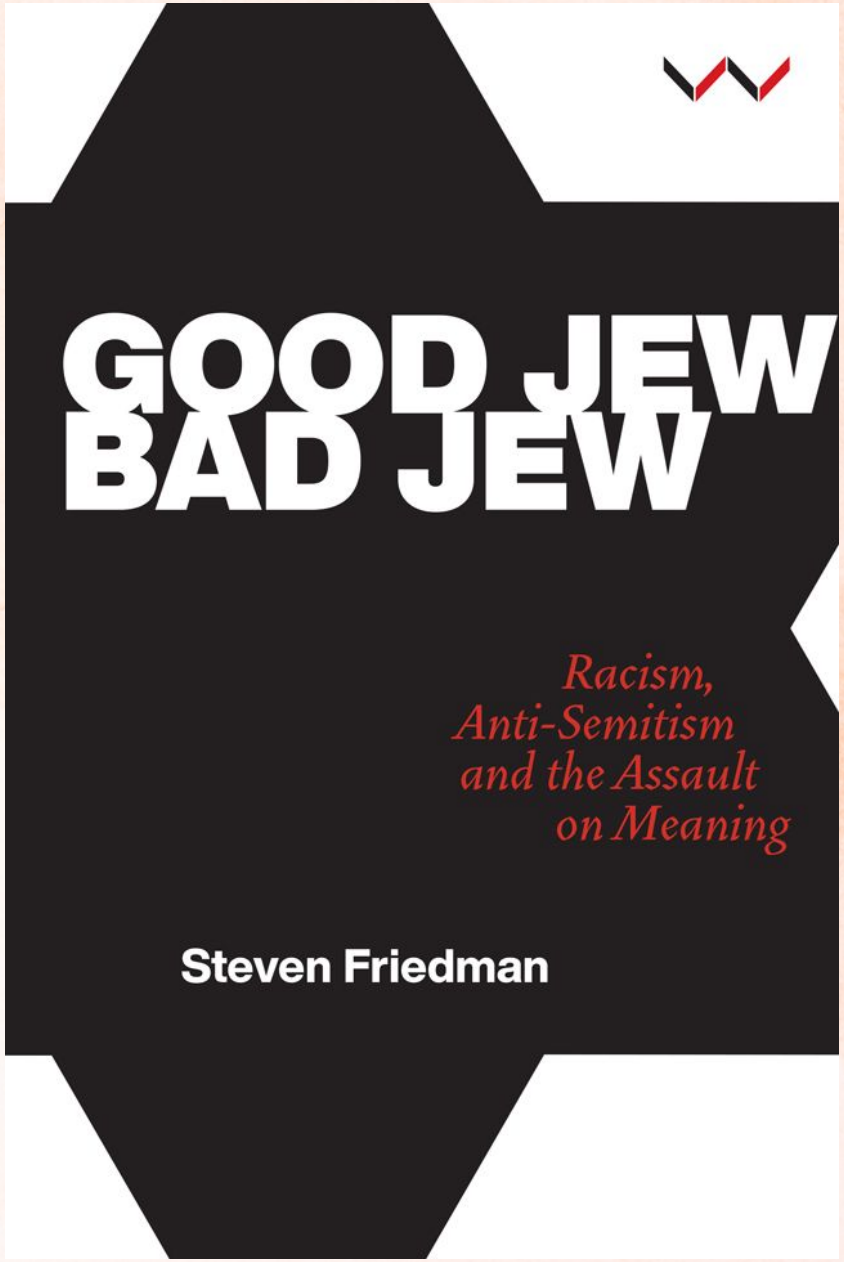
Former head of Chai FM, a Jewish community radio station in Johannesburg, Ivan Blumenthal's blog (2012)

"You cannot fight it darling – a Jew is a Zionist by birth, not by choice",

referring to anti-Zionist Jews:

> *"Centuries ago we would have stoned people like this to death. Death is not an option today because, it just so happens that in South Africa we have some of the most stringent Human Rights legislation…. If we cannot have death squads because our Human Rights legislation forbids death squads, if we cannot stone these people to death because as South Africans we have sensitive stomachs, then we have to find other ways of closing them down"*

SOURCE: Surraya Dadoo and Firoz Osman, "Why Israel", pages 334 to 335



Reviewed by Paul Hendler,

‘The essentialization of identity and the identity of essentialism.

Medium platform

Apartheid is a crime against humanity, legally defined as a system that:

1) denies people's right to life and liberty;

2) imposes conditions to cause the physical destruction of a racial group;

3) implements measures to prevent a racial group from participating in the political/social/economic/cultural life of society;

4) divides the population along racial lines;

5) exploits the labour of a particular racial group; and,

6) persecutes organisations and people opposing apartheid.

Not all the six aspects of apartheid (as defined above) **have to be identified** in an existing system to conclude that it is an apartheid system, **but there should be a sufficient number,** which in combination constitute a systematic regime of racial oppression.

SOURCES:
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) (1965)
International Convention for the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid ('Apartheid Convention') (1973)
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court ('Rome Statute') (1998)



Open Floor



Understanding the imperial systems, institutions and mechanisms of dispossession for settler colonialism in Palestine

Joseph Schechla

- **Ottoman Empire**
- **British Mandate**
- **Israel's parastatal institutions** and mechanisms of 'judaizing' land, housing, water, human resources & industry
- **Domicide** as military doctrine

a thematic structure of Habitat International Coalition (HIC).

With an anti-racism background, Joseph joined HIC in 1989, networking with Palestinian organizations to build HIC's housing and land rights advocacy on Palestine within the UN Human Rights System. After years of experience in the region, he served as training officer for the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, based in Gaza before becoming MENA regional and, then, general coordinator of HLRN from Cairo since 2000.

This presentation

Appropriating Palestine by instrumentalizing:



- **Ideology**
- **Law and legislation**
- **Institutions and mechanisms**
- **Policy and practice**


Danube
Vienna
Venice
ADRIATIC SEA
Belgrade
Nicopolis
WALACHIA
Varna
BLACK SEA
Kafa
Don
ARAL SEA
CASPIAN SEA
Rome
Kosovo
Niš
Sofia
Gallipoli
Istanbul
Üsküdar
İznik
Sinop
Tabrīz
Chāldirān
Otranto
Salonika
Bursa
İzmit
Ankara
Algiers
Tunis
AEGEAN SEA
Aydın
Konya
Dulkadir
Adana
Tigris
Euphrates
MOREA
Antalya
MALTA
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
RHODES
Tripoli
Basra
PERSIAN GULF
Jerusalem
Alexandria
Suez
Cairo
Nile
RED SEA
Medina
Mecca
EXPANSION OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE
Ottoman Turks, 1300
Acquisitions, 1300–59
Acquisitions, 1359–1451
Acquisitions, 1451–81 (Mehmed II)
Acquisitions, 1512–20 (Selim I)
Acquisitions, 1520–66 (Süleyman I the Magnificent)
Acquisitions, 1566–1683
Boundary of the Ottoman Empire at its greatest extent, 1683–99
0 250 500 mi
0 250 500 750 km
© Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

Ottoman Land Code 1858

- **Restricted community tenure:** waqf (religious endowment)
- **Private tenure:** mulk (freehold)
- **Sovereign proprietary interest:** mewat, metruke, *miri* (>1913).



Parastatal “national” institutions

World Zionist Organization (1897)
Jewish Agency (1929)

- **“agricultural colonization based on Jewish labour”**
- **“it shall be deemed to be a matter of principle that Jewish labour shall be employed”**
- **“redeeming” land as “inalienable”**

Jewish National Fund (1901)

- Memorandum of Association, Article 3(a): "To purchase, acquire on lease, or in exchange, or receive on lease or otherwise, lands, forests, rights of possession, easements and any similar rights, as well as immovable properties of any class…for the purpose of settling Jews on such lands and properties."
- Article 3(c): "benefit, whether directly or indirectly, to those of Jewish **race or descent**"
- Article 3(g): "…promote the interests of Jews in the prescribed region."
- Article 6: "upon dissolution…any properties whatsoever…shall be transferred to the Government of Israel."

Sisters in Apartheid

World Zionist Organization (1897)

Jewish National Fund (1901)

United Israel Appeal (1920)

Histadrut (1920)

Jewish Agency (1929)

Mekorot (1937)

Tahal (1952)

British Mandate Period, 1920–48

Colonialism □ Settler colonialism

1. Arab feudal landlords
2. British taxation
3. Influx of European capital
4. Immigration of Jewish settlers
5. Pressures on peasants to move to cities
6. Dismissal of Arab workers
7. Deteriorating economic conditions
8. BM flagrant discrimination in favor of Zionist capitalists and workers

- WZO/JA, JNF, Histadrut:
  - 'Jewish labor' only
  - "Arab development against Zionist objectives"
- Influx of European (Jewish) settlers & capital
  - 1935: 872/1,212 industries; 13,678 v. 4K employees
  - 90% British concessions to Jewish enterprises
  - Jewish wages 145% > Pals. (♀ 255%>)
  - 1931–37: Arab wages 10%, / Jewish 10%>
  - 1920–22: 75.4% absentee landowners (v. 20.8/3.8%)
  - 1933–36: 62.7% present landowners (v. 14.8% absentee)
  - By 1931, Zionists expelled 20K peasant families
- Military operations
  - Forced eviction
  - Land theft
  - *Tagmul* ('reprisals')

Arab Revolt/Revolution, 1936–39

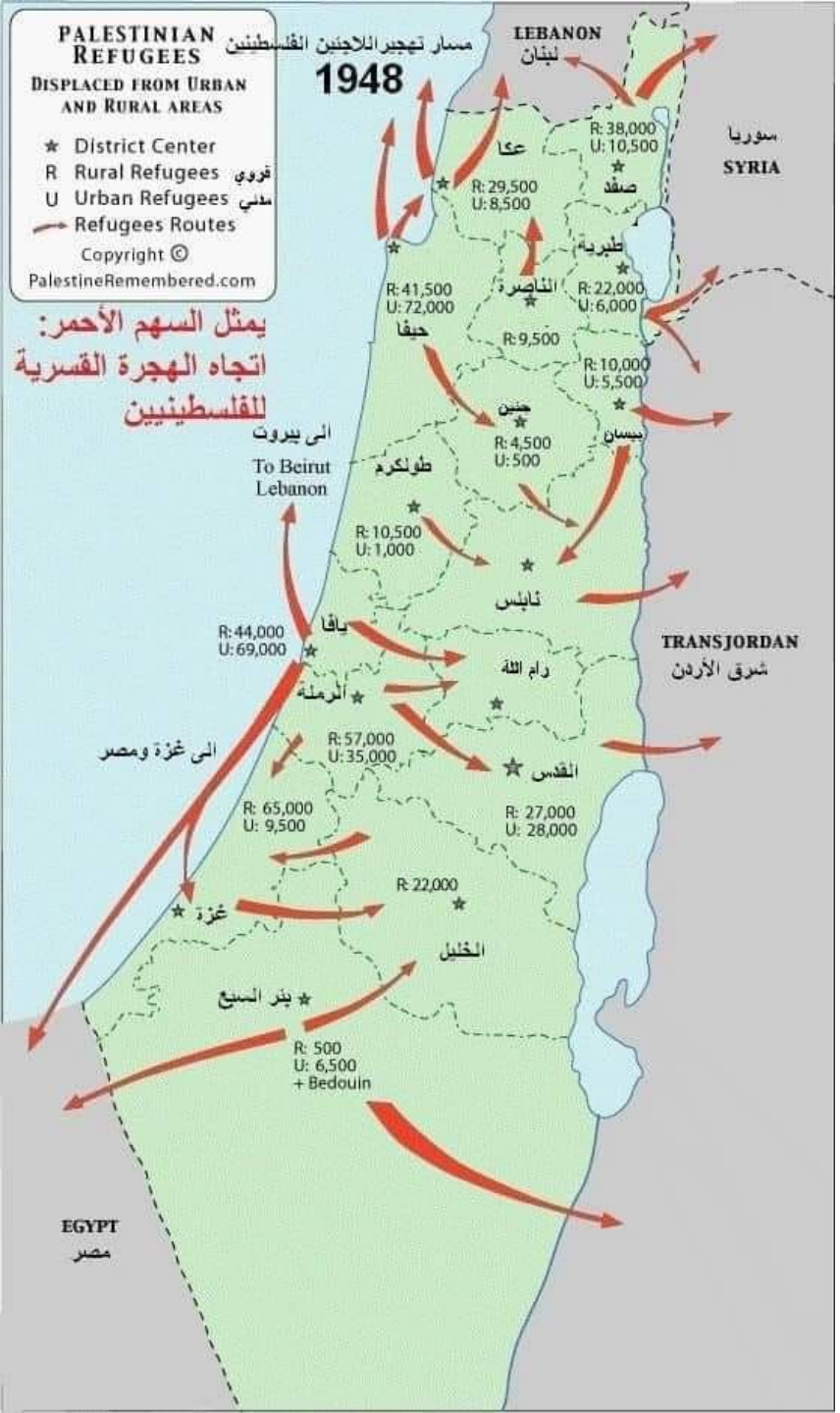


Plan Dalet, 10 March 1948

“Destroying villages (by setting fire to them, by blowing them up, and by planting mines in their debris), especially those populations centers that are difficult to control continuously;

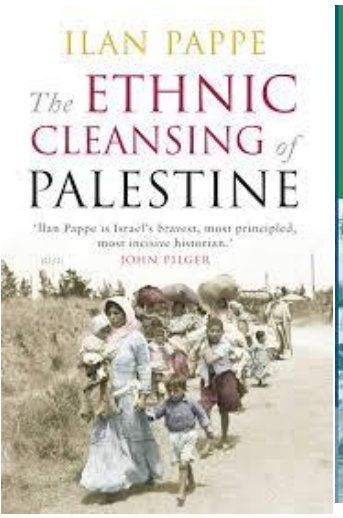
Mounting search and control operations according to the following guidelines:

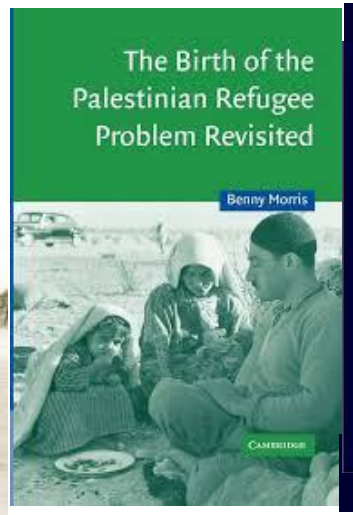
- Encirclement of the villages, conducting a search inside them;
- In case of resistance, the armed forces must be wiped out and the population expelled outside the borders of the state.”

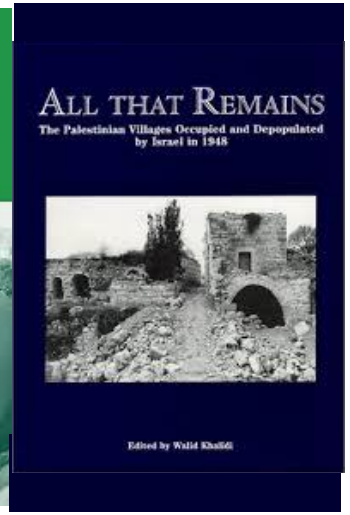


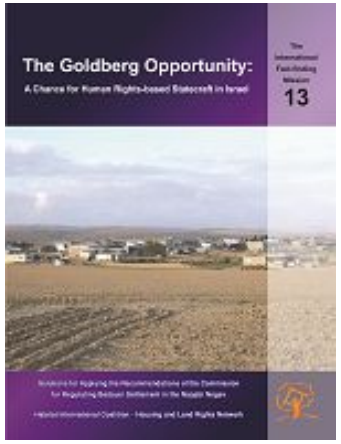
Refugees/IDPs	
Jordan	**2,390,000**
Lebanon	**500,000**
Syria	**5,900,000**
Palestine:	**2,766,879**
Gaza	1,580,000
West Bank	912,879
In Israel	274,000
Total	**11,556,879**

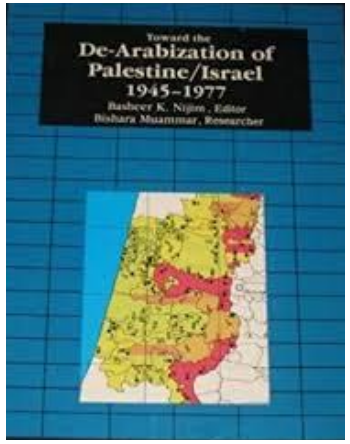


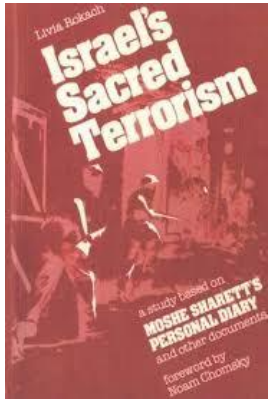


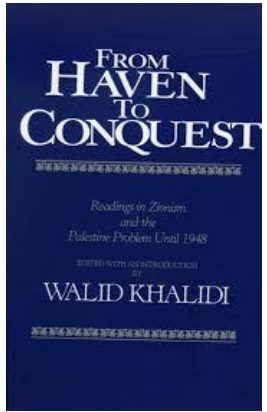


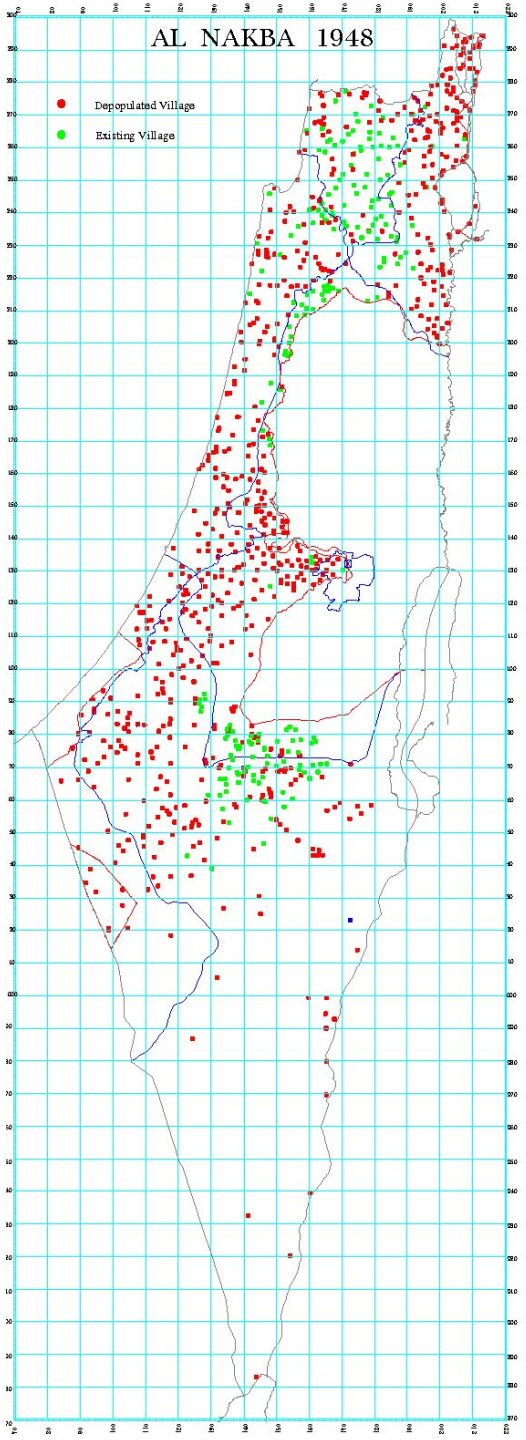












النكبة

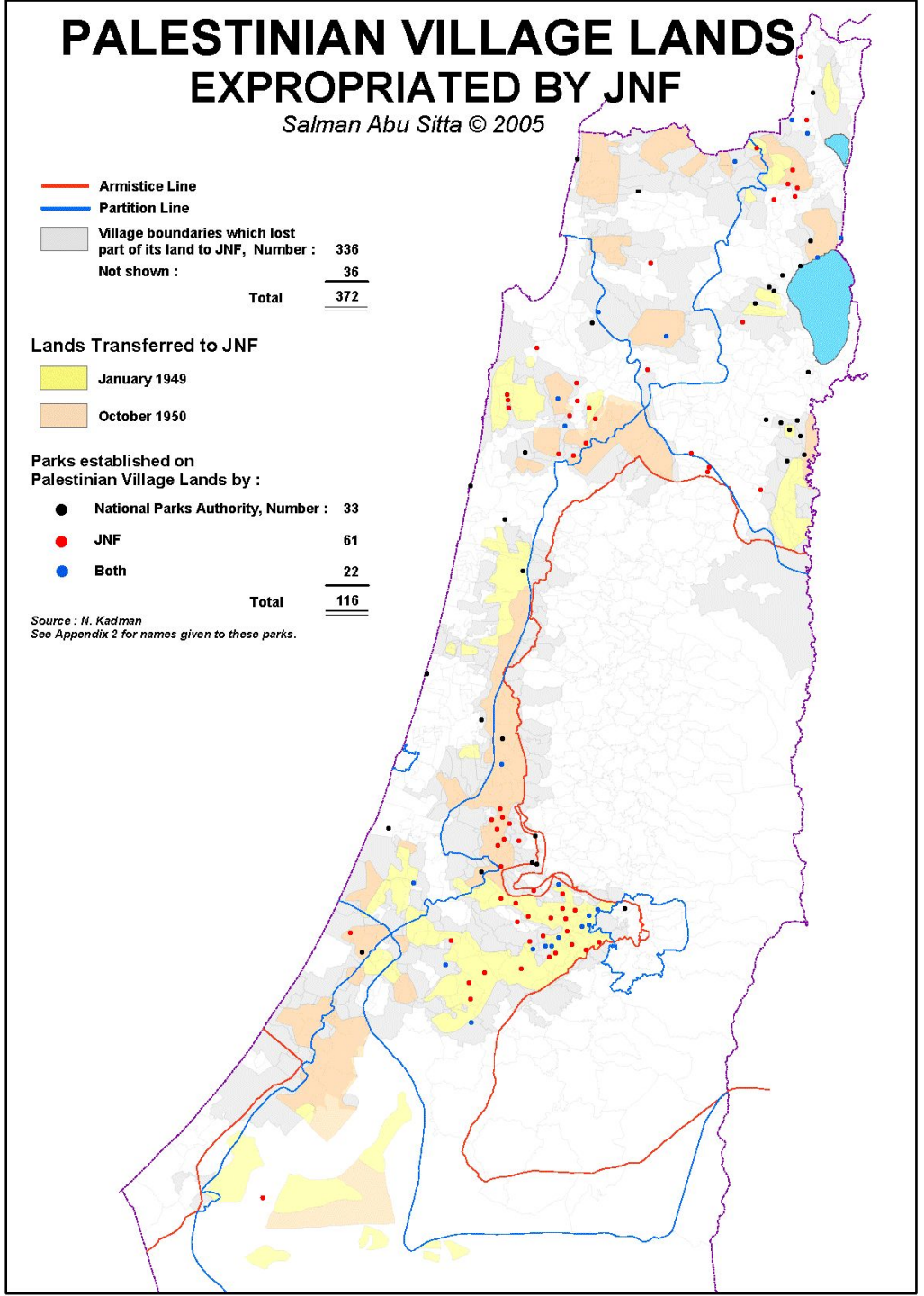
The Nakba (catastrophe)



Serial (33) massacres
770–780,000 expelled (75% of pop.)
154–156,000 homes demolished+

January 1949, 1 million dunams to JNF

October 1950, 1.2 million dunams to JNF.



JNF (1951)

[Transfer to JNF title] “will redeem the lands and will turn them over to the Jewish people—to the *people* and not the *state*, which in the current composition of population cannot be an adequate guarantor of Jewish ownership.”

Jewish National Fund, *Report to the 23rd Congress*, 32–33, emphasis in original, cited in Walter Lehn with Uri Davis, *The Jewish National Fund* (London and New York: Kegan Paul, 1988), p. 108 (emphasis in original).

“Jewish Nationality” versus Citizenship

- **Law of Return** (1950)
- Absentee Property Law (1950)
- Law of *Citizenship* (1952) [*ezrahut* not *le’om*]
- **World Zionist Organization-Jewish Agency (Status) Law** (1952)
- **Keren Kayemet Le-Israel [Jewish National Fund] Law** (1953)
- Covenant with Zionist Executive (1954, 1971)
- **Basic Law: Israel Lands [People’s Lands]** (1960)
- **Agricultural Settlement Law** (1967)
- Basic Law: The Knesset (1958), Amendment 9 (1985)
- **Basic Law: Israel as the Nation-State of the Jewish People** (2018)

Institutionalized Material Discrimination



NO "Israeli nationality" status

The basis for enjoyment of all rights is NOT

Citizenship [*ezrahut*]

but <u>only</u>

"Jewish nationality"

=

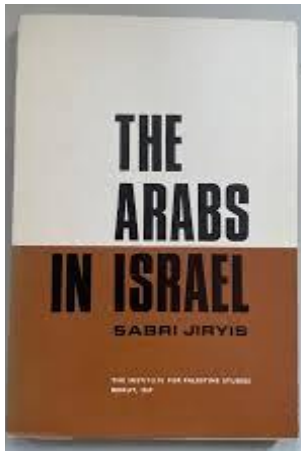
"Jewish nation"

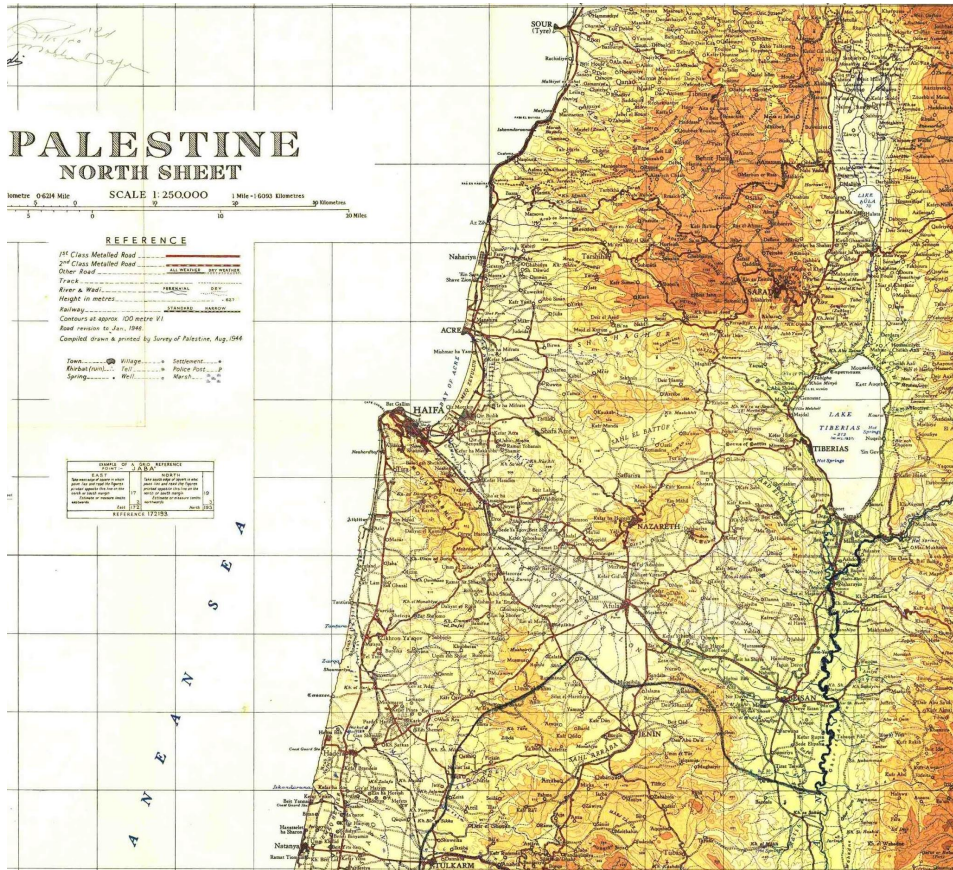
[*le'om yehudi*]

Military Administration, 1948–1966

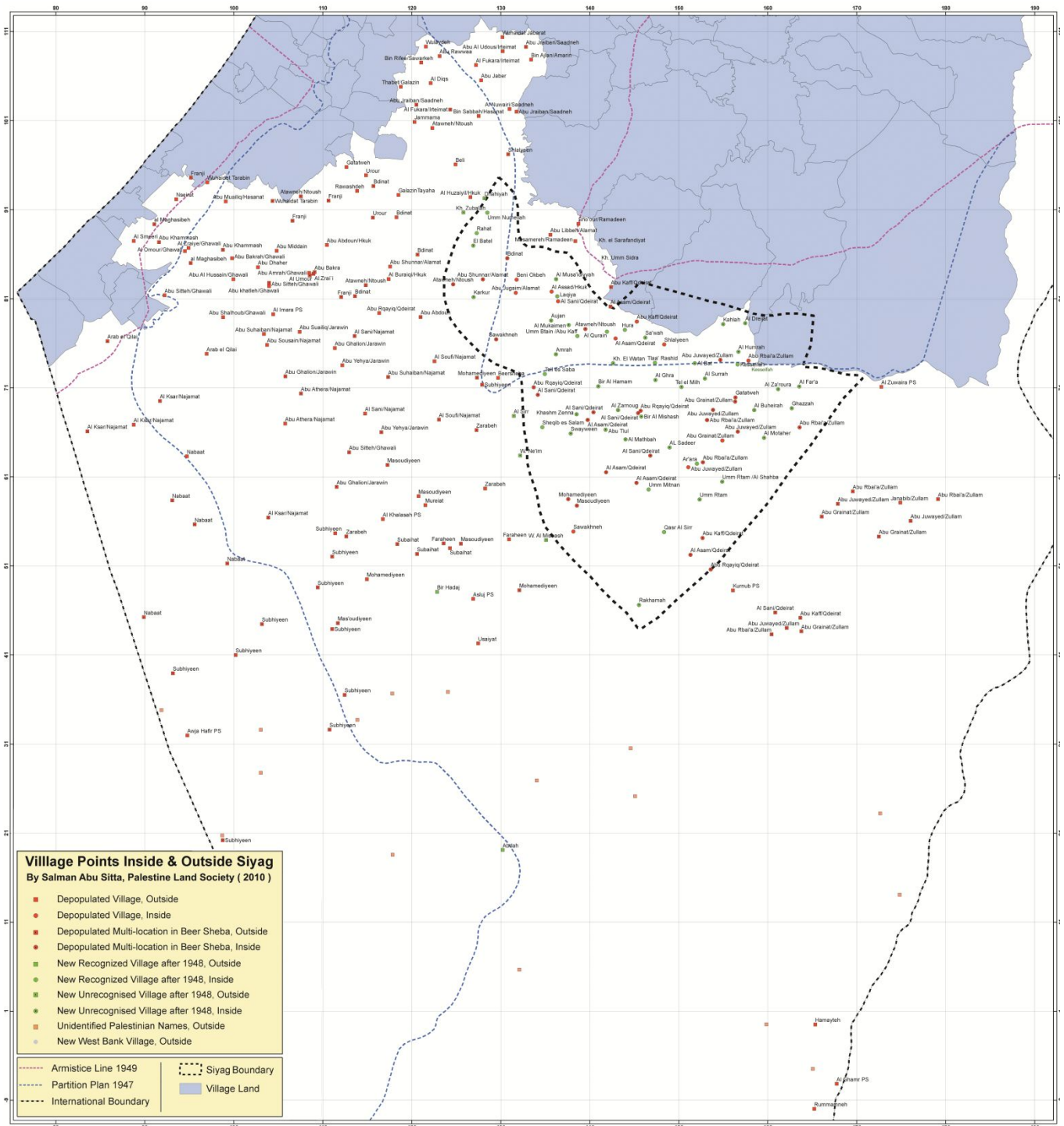
- Imposing and refining segregation system
- Extreme restriction of movement
- Land and property confiscation
- Fragmentation of Palestinian society







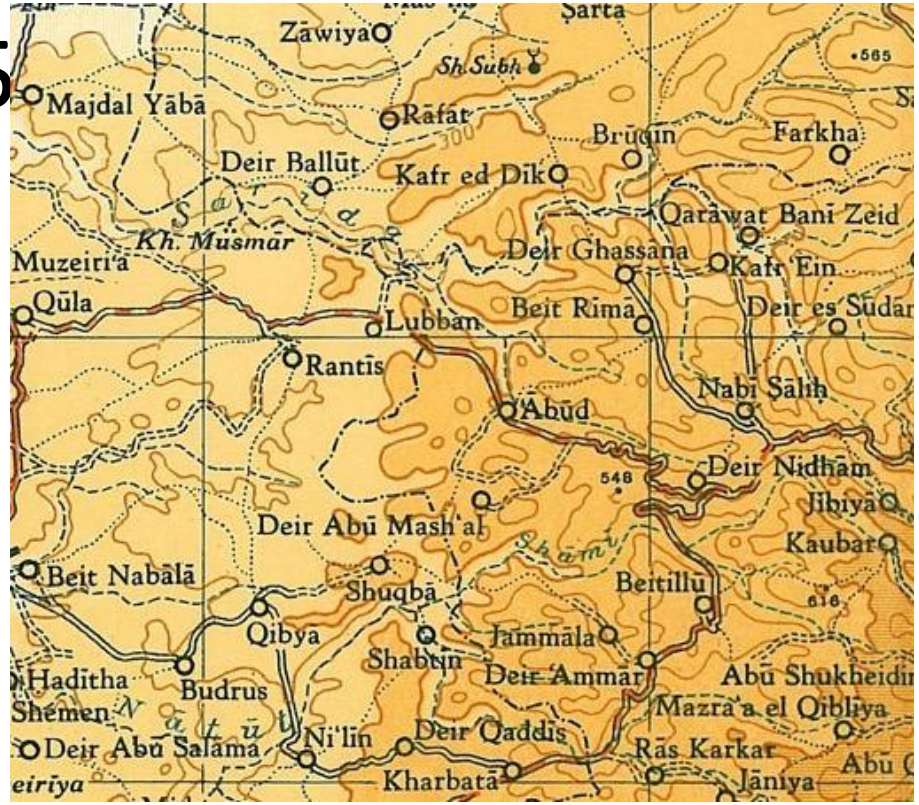
Israel transferred & demolished 108 villages and habitations, 1951–53, to create Bedouin enclosure (*siyaj*) in Naqab region



Military Doctrine, Targeting Homes, Shelters & Shelter Seekers

- Bayt Jala (1948)
- al-Buraij Refugee Camp (1948)
- Qibya (1953)
- Budrus (1953)
- Nahalīn (1954)
- Qalqiliya (1956)

1948–56 *tagmul* operations



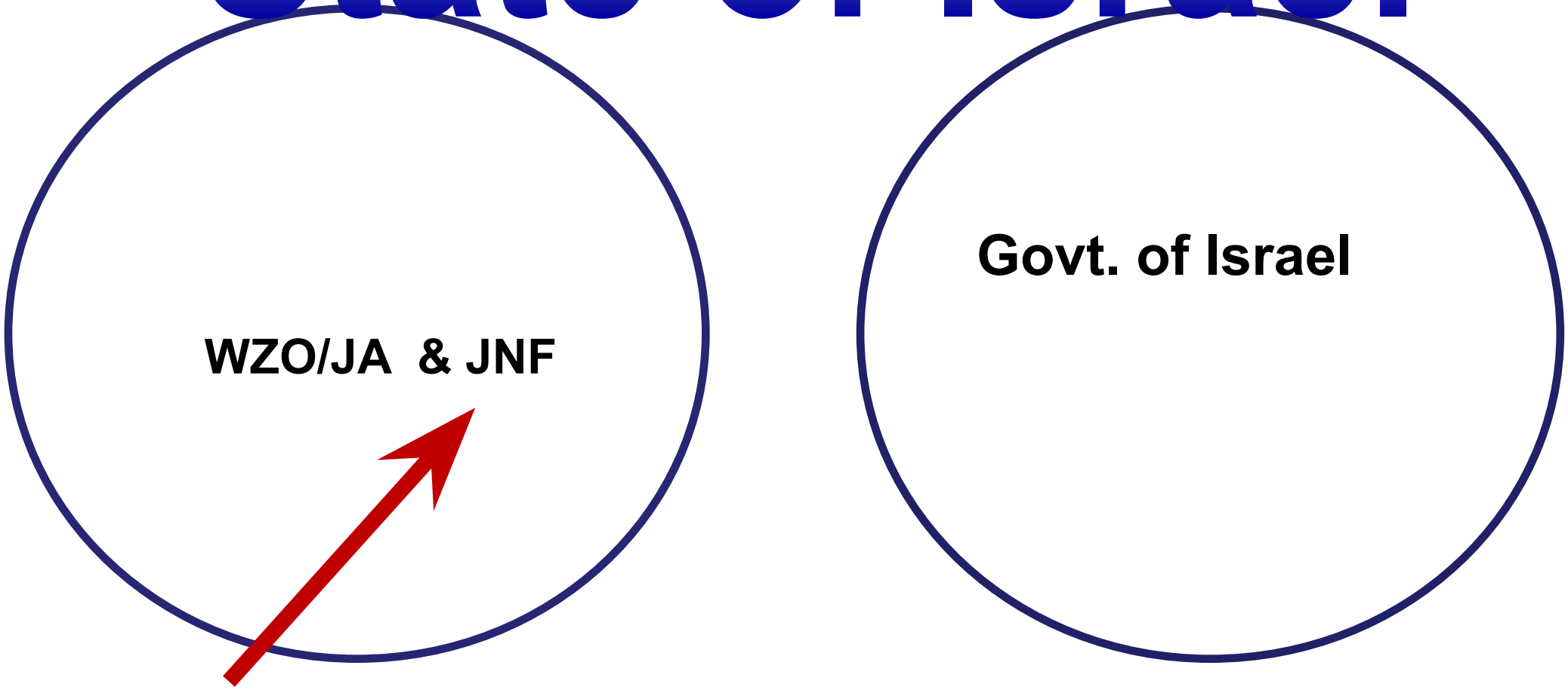
BEYOND BORDERS



- Nahalīn (1954)
- Tel al-Arba`īn village (1966)
- Samu` village (1966)
- 1967 war:
  - Qalqīliya
  - `Ayn al-Sultān Refugee Camp
  - Yalū, Bayt Nūba and Imwās, among others
  - Syrian Golan



State of Israel



Extra-territorial activities legally prohibited for any state and its organs (spheres of government)

Activities by States Prohibited under Public International Law

- Torture
- Genocide
- **Apartheid**
- Cross-border harm
- **Forced evictions**
- Nuclear proliferation
- **Population transfer**
- **Racial discrimination**
- **Demographic manipulation**
- **Denial of self-determination**
- **Wanton destruction of property**
- **Diversion of funds for colonization***
- **Demand allegiance, impose ‘nationality’ duties on other states’ citizens ***

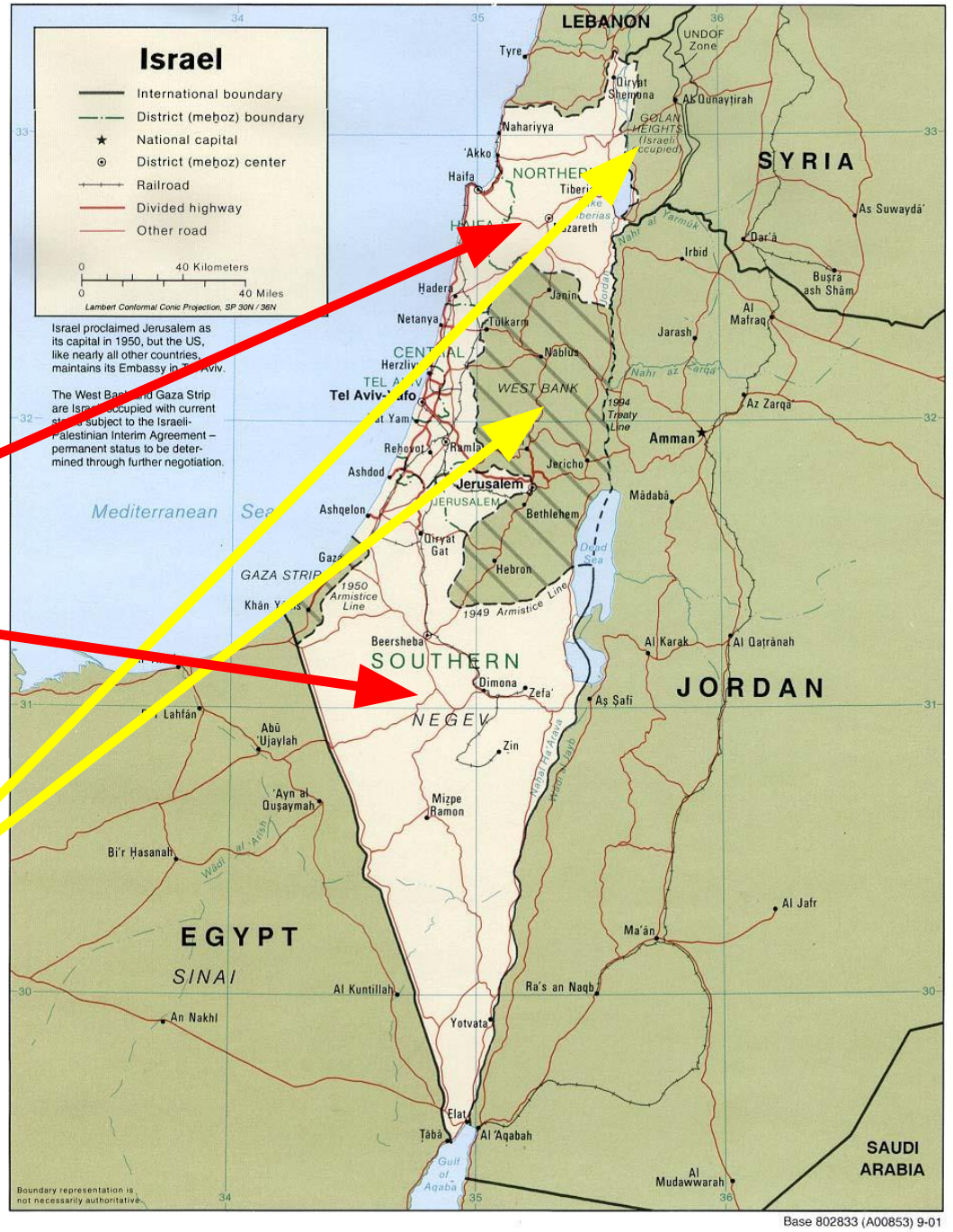


Colonial Division of Labor

Jewish Agency

Jewish National Fund

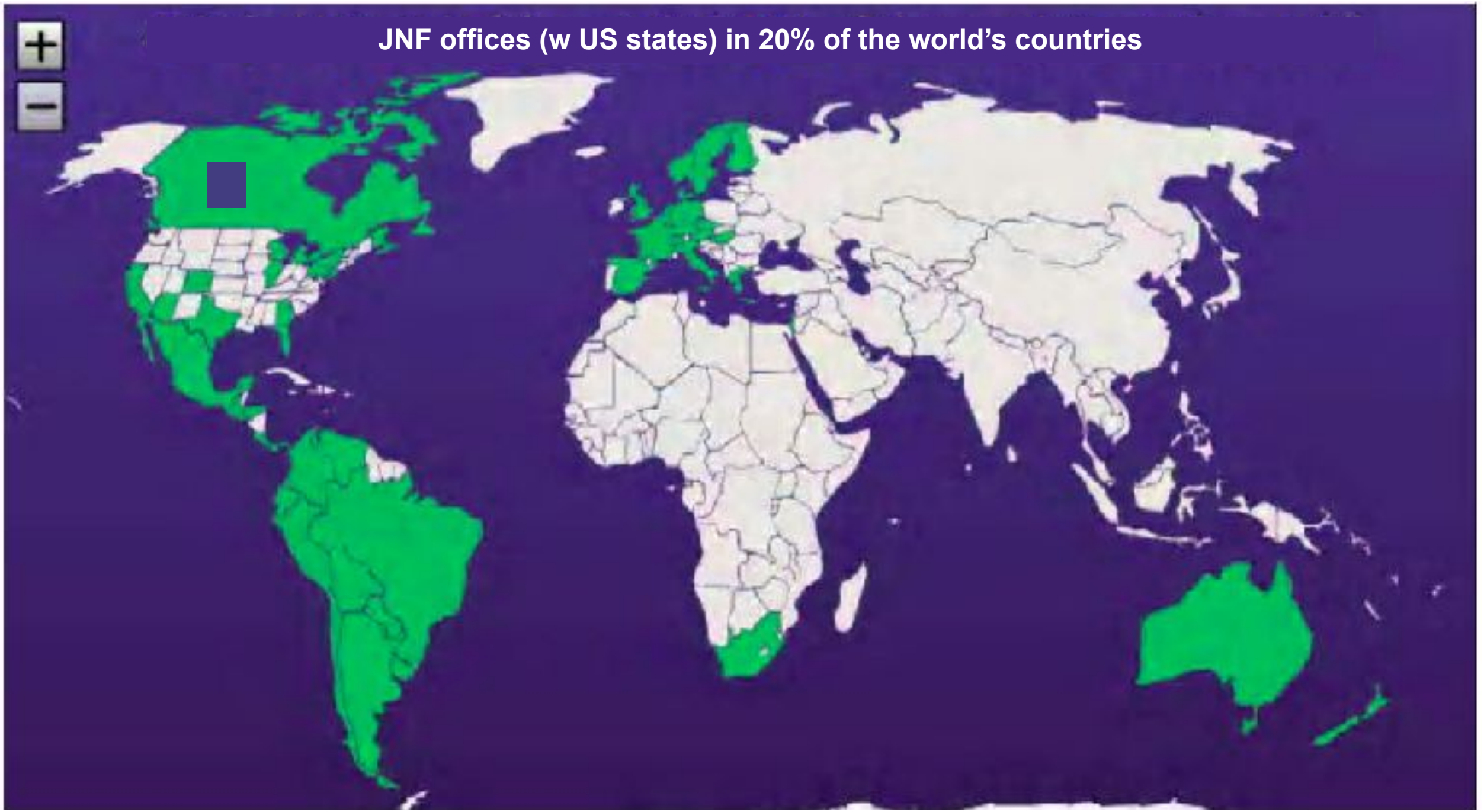
World Zionist Organization




World Zionist Organization offices in 16% of the world's countries


JAFI offices and recruitment centers in 22% of the world's countries

JNF offices (w US states) in 20% of the world's countries



The Land of Palestine

(1897⟶1948: 94% Arab (Christian/Muslim) owned, 6% 'Jewish' acquisition)

BM Defense Emergency Regulations, 1945 (Revocations Order in Council, 1948)

Emergency Regulations & Land Acquisitions [Validation of Acts & Compensation) Law (1953)

Settlement of Title / Land Registration Process

Law of Absentee Property (1950)

The Land (Acquisition for Public Purposes) Ordinance (1953)

Jewish National Fund (JNF)

Development Authority Law (1950)

State of Israel (State Property) Law

Basic Law: Israel Lands (1960)
93% of all lands claimed as (inalienably) "owned" by JNF, Development Authority or State of Israel

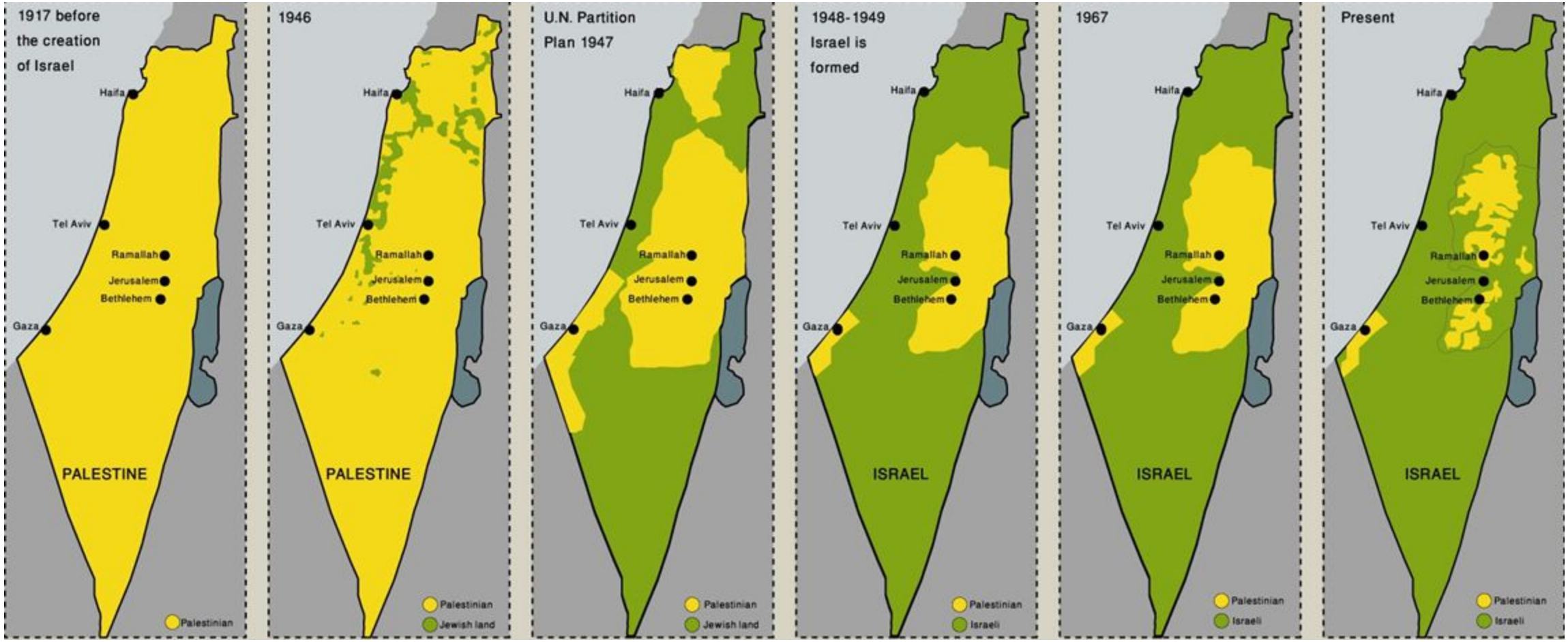
Administration of Israel Lands Law (1980)
Israel Land Council manages w/ 40% JNF members

Israel Lands Authority Law, Amendment 7 (2009)

2010 amendment

Knesset legislation of 2017–18

Land without Its People



Problems with Zionism:

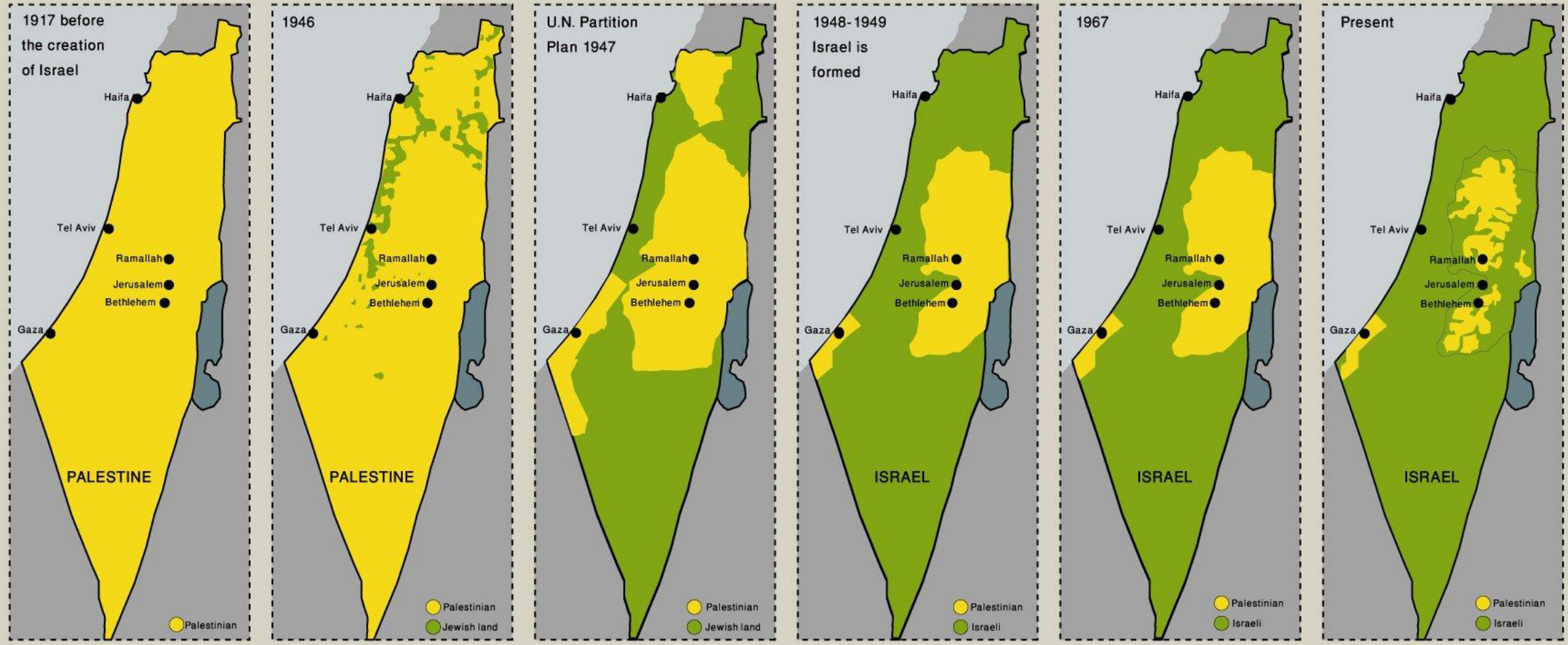
- **Reverts to racist classification of Jews;**
- **Claims to act on behalf (demand allegiance) of all Jews;**
- **Imposes "Jewish nationality" on citizens of other countries;**
- **Establishes chartered ('legalized') basis for institutionalized discrimination in Israel and Israel-controlled territories;**
- **Manages continuing population transfer & dispossession of Indigenous Palestinians;**
- **Pursues programs contravening international human rights, humanitarian and criminal law, etc.;**
- **Meanwhile operates as *tax-exempt charities* in some 50 countries.**



LOSS OF LAND

The Palestinian-Israeli conflict has dragged on for more than 115 years, where both claim historic and religious ties to the land. The geopolitical disputed area stretches over a 100,000 square-miles landscape, sitting between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River with an unresolved conclusion and far-reaching implications. Over the period of the conflict, Israel's share of land has gradually expanded.

Al Arabiya



1897

The World Zionist Organization Founded by Theodor Herzl in Basle during 1897; the Basle Program stated: "Zionism seeks to establish a home for the Jewish people in Palestine, secured under public law."

1917

Under the Balfour Declaration, United Kingdom's Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour approves the establishment of a national home for Jews in Palestine.

1946

The illustrated map demonstrates that more than 90 percent of the land belongs to Palestinians.

During this period, Jewish settlers had paid for most of the land they occupied.

1947

U.N. Partition Plan:
The U.N. General Assembly initiates a plan to separate western Palestine into two states. While the Jewish leader accepts, the Palestinian leaders reject the plan, resulting in uprisings.

1948-1949

Arab-Israeli War:
The Jewish community declares itself independent in the new state of Israel.

Neighboring Arab states then intervened militarily, precipitating the first Arab-Israeli war.

The war left historic Palestine divided into three parts. The 1949 armistice gave Israel control over 77 percent of the territory.

1956

Suez Crisis

1967

The Six-Day War involves Israel fighting against three Arab states (Egypt, Jordan and Syria). It results in Israel claiming control over Gaza and the strategic Sinai peninsula from Egypt, the West Bank from Jordan, the Golan Heights from Syria and East Jerusalem.

Present (2012)

Gaza Expulsion Plan:
As part of unilateral disengagement initiative, Israeli defense forces leave the Gaza Strip and four settlements in the northern West Bank.

Israel launches a massive air campaign on Gaza, with the declared goal of deterring Hamas.

Palestinians submit a proposal for membership and statehood to the U.N.

Information source: Foreign Ministry of Israel, IHR.org, unhcr.org, Reuters, jewishvirtuallibrary.org, unispal.un.org



Discussant:

Lubnah Shomali

BADIL Resource Centre for
Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights

Lubnah Shomali is the Advocacy Manager of *BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights,* a Palestinian human rights organization established in 1998, dedicated to defending and promoting the rights of Palestinian refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Born in Palestine but raised in the USA, Shomali relocated with her family to her hometown in the West Bank in 2008 where she worked with Beit Sahour Municipality for three years before joining BADIL in 2012.

The Israeli state is founded on 3 pillars

1. Ethnic Cleansing of Palestinians from Mandate Palestine
2. Colonisation of Mandate Palestine through settler colonialism
3. Enacting a system of apartheid in Palestine

Since 1948, 66% of Palestinians have experienced forced displacement due to

- demonisation and dehumanisation of Palestinian people
- denial of inalienable rights of Palestinian people including the right to self-determination and the right to return

Palestine cannot be liberated incrementally

- Dismantling of colonial apartheid structures and institutions is needed
- **States need to activate Sanctions** (the "S" in BDS - Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions)

The International Community needs to

- **force states to impose sanctions** and escalate the direct actions that upset the status quo and have material cost to make continued complicity and inaction unfeasible.
- speak about a **reparative approach beyond a reconstruction approach**

Links to publications from
BADIL Resource Centre for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights

- Decolonisation: The Case of Palestine
- Palestinian Self-Determination: Land, People, And Practicality
- Rights-Based Reconstruction: Decolonisation and Reparations



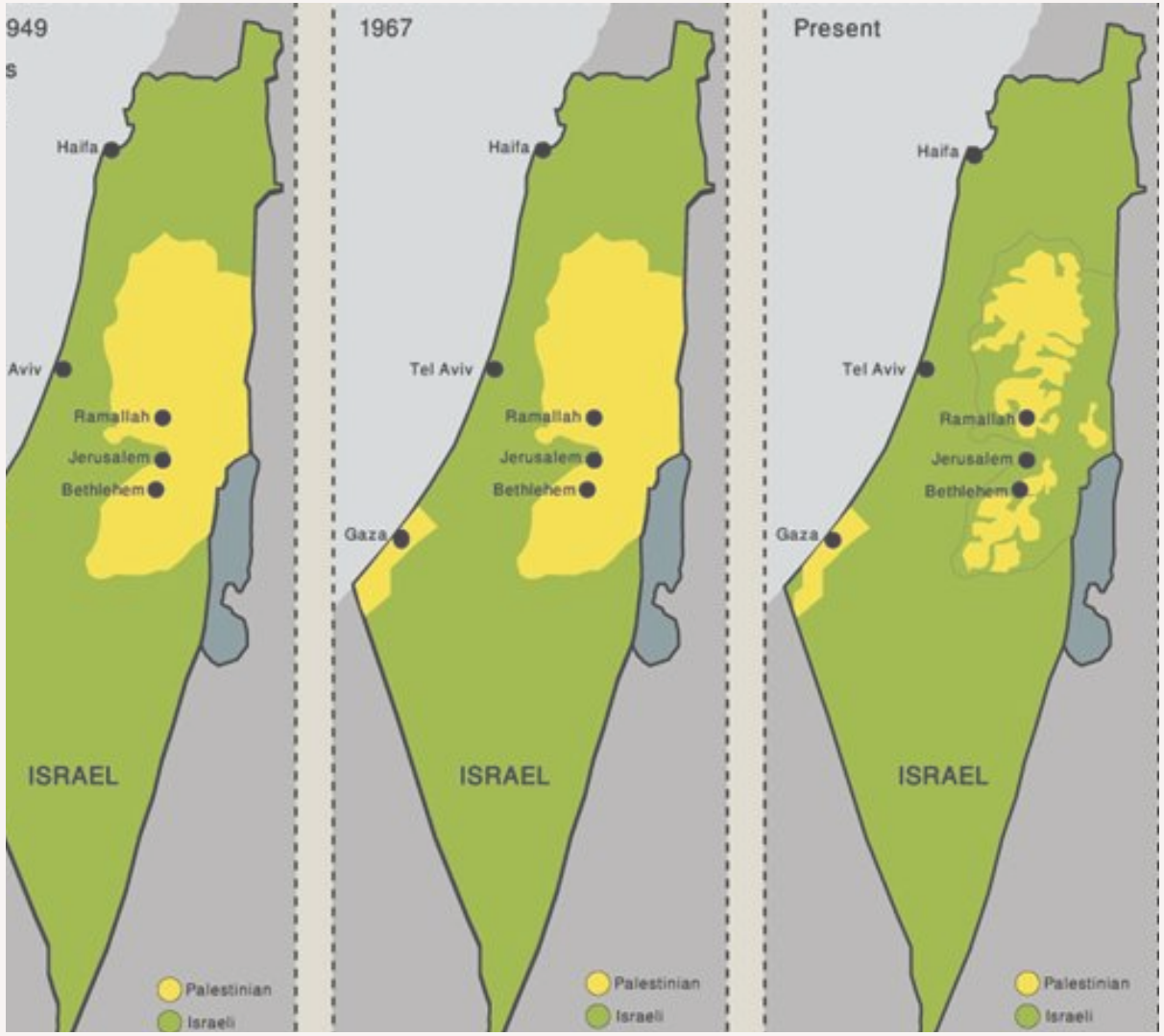
Open Floor

See you in session 3!

The occupied Palestinian territories

- Understanding al-Nakba
- Closure, Blockade and Intifadas
- Serial wars on Gaza
- Culmination in current genocide

Wed 27 August 2025





Thank you very much!

¡Muchas gracias!

Merci beaucoup!

Muito obrigado!

شكرا جزيلا