

## The Palestine - Israel conflict: Significant Events

Creation of the State of Israel 1948, results in the 1948-9 war. Israel wins, expands borders into Arab territory. 800,000 Arabs displaced.

1964 the [Palestine Liberation Organization \(PLO\)](#) was formed to create a Palestinian state. Using terrorism, the PLO attack Israel from bases in Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria. From this point on, there has been continual conflict between the PLO and Israel.

6 Day War 1967. Israel demolished Arab armies, expands borders further, captures most of Arab East Jerusalem. More Palestinian refugees.

Camp David Accords 1979: The Sinai Peninsula is returned to Egypt. Palestine situation ignored. 1981 Egypt's Sadat is assassinated.

Israel Incursions into Lebanon 1982: Israel attacks PLO bases, who evacuate to Tunisia. Lebanese Christian militiamen massacre hundreds of Palestinians in refugees camps. Arabs accuse Ariel Sharon of complicity in allowing the slaughter. An Israeli tribunal finds him indirectly responsible for the killings.

The Intafada 1980's: Palestinians begin an [intifada](#) uprising, a campaign against Israel's occupation of Gaza and the West Bank.

Oslo Accords signed 1993-5: Although Israel accepted the formation of a Palestinian State, this has not happened. The Israel architect of this tremendously important milestone to peace - Yitshak Rabin, was assassinated by a right-wing Israeli student opposed to the peace process.

[Camp David II, 2000](#). Although three United Nations (UN) Security Council resolutions condemn Israel's illegal annexation of Arab East Jerusalem (the historic capital of Palestine), President Clinton pressured Arafat to let Israel to keep Jerusalem and other large amounts of their land. The talks failed.

Ariel Sharon visits the al-Aqsa mosque in east Jerusalem, sparking a second Palestinian intifada. Cynics say Sharon knew the visit would trigger violence and gambled on the Israeli public turning to a tough leader like him. The mosque which is on Temple Mount is Islam's third holiest site after Mecca and Medina. Originally this was a Jewish bascilia, held sacred to Jews. Sharon's presence at this mosque was seen by Muslims as a desecration to its sacredness.

The [Mitchell Report](#) April 2001 is a list of recommendations for conducting peace talks.

The [Tenet Plan](#) June 2001 is a list of security measures each side must take to halt violence so that talks can proceed.

Recently, Arab nations offered Israel peace, if they returned to the borders prior to the 1967 war - Israel has ignored this so far.