

أسلاف التحرير الفلسطيني

ANCESTORS OF PALESTINIAN LIBERATION KEY TERMS

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1967 War / The Six-Day War / The Naksah

In a pre-emptive strike, Israel attacked Egypt, Syria, and Jordan and over the course of six days occupied the Egyptian Sinai, the Syrian Golan Heights, and the Palestinian West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem. Over 300,000 Palestinians were displaced (in many cases re-displaced). Israel returned the Sinai to Egypt, but retained control over the rest of the territories, immediately establishing Jewish-only settlements in the West Bank, Gaza, East Jerusalem, and later in the Golan Heights.



B'Tselem- [Conquer and Divide interactive map](#)



Al Jazeera- [The War in June 1967](#) (50 minutes)



The Guardian- [The Six-Day war: why Israel is still divided over its legacy 50 years on](#)

Apartheid Wall

A 440-mile-long barrier constructed by Israel under the guise of security, 35% of which is still under construction. Two years after construction began in 2002, the International Court of Justice deemed the wall illegal and called for a halt to construction, as 85% of it is built or scheduled to be built within Palestinian lands in the West Bank rather than on the internationally-recognized 1967 border, cutting off Palestinians from their own land and restricting their freedom of movement.



AJ+ - [Israel's Wall: Security or Apartheid?](#)



United Nations OCHA - [West Bank Access Restrictions](#)

Al Jazeera- [Israel's Illegal Separation Wall Still Divides](#)



B'Tselem- [The Separation Barrier](#)

Balfour Declaration

A 1917 declaration issued by British foreign secretary Lord Balfour promising "the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people," despite the fact that the land was already home to around three quarters of a million indigenous people, over 95% of whom were not Jewish.



Al Jazeera- [More than a Century On, the Balfour Declaration Explained](#)

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Blockade of Gaza

A blockade is a means of preventing goods and/or people from entering or exiting a geographical area. Since 2006 Israel has imposed a blockade on the Gaza strip, putting itself in full control of all movement in and out of the area. It restricts goods such as construction materials and medicines from entering and exiting, as well as people — creating there what is essentially an open-air prison. This has negatively impacted almost all aspects of life for the two million Palestinians locked inside a strip of land only 25 miles long by 4 - 5 miles wide.



Gaza Unlocked- [About the Gaza Blockade](#)



Association of International Development Agencies- [Infographic](#)



Institute of Middle East Understanding- [How Israel Turned Gaza into an Open Air Prison](#)

Exile

Exile is the state of being expelled from and/or prevented from returning to one's native land. In the words of Edward Said, exile "is the unhealable rift forced between a human being and a native place, between the self and its true home: its essential sadness can never be surmounted."



Edward Said- [Reflections on Exile](#)



Electronic Intifada- [In Photos: Generations of Palestinian Exile](#)

Great March of Return

In March of 2018, Palestinians in Gaza began holding massive, daily demonstrations at the Israeli-imposed border, calling for Israel to respect their right to return home, as protected by international law. 85% of the two million Palestinians held in Gaza are refugees from other parts of Palestine. By the end of 2019, Israeli forces killed 214 protestors (including 46 children) and wounded over 36,000.



Al Jazeera- [Gaza's Great March of Return Protests Explained](#)



United Nations- [Two Years On: People Injured and Traumatized During the "Great March of Return" are Still Struggling](#)



Institute of Middle East Understanding- [Great March of Return: Dreaming of Freedom](#)

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Handala

Handala is a cartoon figure of a ten-year-old Palestinian boy created by political cartoonist Naji Al Ali. Handala will remain ten-years old until Palestinians' right to return to their homeland is actualized. Handala is almost always seen with his back turned and his hands crossed behind his back as a symbol of his refusal to shake hands with those who make compromises on Palestinian rights.



Handala.org- [Who is Handala](#)

Global Voices- [Palestine: Remembering Political Cartoonist Naji Al Ali](#)

Homeland

"I come from there and I have memories / Born as mortals are, I have a mother / And a house with many windows / I have brothers, friends / And a prison cell with a cold window-/ I learnt all the words and broke them up / To make a single word: Homeland" -Mahmoud Darwish



ME Transparent- [He made a homeland of words- Mahmoud Darwish](#)

We are Not Numbers- [Keys Cannot be Stolen, a poem by Mohammed Arafat](#)

American Friends Service Committee- [Reflections on Palestine: Symbols of Homeland](#)

Identification Cards

Israel uses a system of Identification Cards to control who has access to certain kinds of movement, services and rights. This system enables Israel to efficiently maintain a Jewish majority in its voters, as millions of Palestinians are assigned ID cards that prohibit them from voting in national Israeli elections. It is one of the fundamental practices that highlight the apartheid nature of the Israeli government.



Visualizing Palestine- [So Close, Yet So Far](#)

Anemoia Projects- [Israel's System of Identification](#)



Visualizing Palestine- [Identity Crisis: The Israeli ID System](#)



Al Jazeera- [The Color Coded Israeli ID System for Palestinians](#)

Intifadas

Coming from an Arabic term meaning 'shaking off', the word intifada is used to refer to Palestinian uprisings. There have been two major Palestinian Intifadas against ongoing Israeli colonization and occupation. The first is known by many as the 'Intifada of the Stones' (1987-1993), and the second as the 'Al-Aqsa Intifada' (2000-2005).



Just Vision- [First and Second Intifada](#)

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First Intifada



Middle East Monitor- [Remembering the First Intifada](#)



Just Vision- [Naila and the Uprising: The First Intifada Begins](#) (3 minutes)

Al Jazeera- [Stories from the Intifada](#) (45 minutes)

Second Intifada



Al Jazeera- [The Second Intifada](#)



Middle East Monitor- [Remembering the Second Intifada](#)

Mossad

The Mossad is the agency responsible for Israeli intelligence collection, covert operations, and counterterrorism. It operates independently from Israel's democratic institutions and is exempt from following the state's constitutional laws. It is the second-largest espionage agency in the Euro-American world after the United States' Central Intelligence Agency.



Al Jazeera- [How Mossad Carries Out Assassinations](#)

The Guardian - [Shadowy and Deadly: The Long arm of the Mossad](#)



France 24- [Israel's Secret Service: deadliest killer in the western world](#)

The Nakba

The Arabic word for 'Catastrophe', the Nakba refers to the violent process of colonization carried out by Zionist militias in Palestine during 1948, leading to the foundation of the State of Israel. These militias destroyed over 500 Palestinian villages and forcefully displaced and expelled approximately 750,000 Palestinians. The Nakba is central to conversations about Palestinian liberation, as it is considered a foundational moment of systematic Palestinian erasure. Because of the Nakba, more than 5 million Palestinians are documented as refugees today, many of whom are waiting to return to their homeland.



Institute for Middle East Understanding - [Quick Facts: The Palestinian Nakba](#)

Jewish Voice for Peace: [Facing the Nakba Curriculum](#)



Al Jazeera- [Al-Nakba: The Palestinian Catastrophe](#) (47 minutes)



Visualizing Palestine- [An Ongoing Displacement](#)

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The Occupation

The Occupation can be understood as a system of Israeli military rule under which Palestinians are denied civil, political and economic rights and subjected to systematic discrimination and denial of basic freedom and dignity. The Occupation covers Palestinian land seized by Israel during the 1967 War, including the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza, as well as the Syrian Golan Heights (where the ancestrally Syrian, largely Druze population also lives under Israeli military rule).



Al Jazeera- [Palestine and Israel: Mapping an Annexation](#)



Jewish Voice for Peace- [Israel Palestine Conflict 101](#)



Amnesty International- [Background: The Israeli Occupation](#)

Oslo Accords

A series of agreements reached during early 90s between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). Initially lauded as a step toward peace between Israelis and Palestinians, the agreements instead gave birth to policies which have further entrenched Israeli occupation and advanced annexation of Palestinian land.



Just Vision- [Oslo Accords Summary](#)

Institute for Middle East Understanding- [The Oslo Accords: An Overview](#)

Edward Said- [The Morning After](#)

Palestinian Authority

Created as a result of the Oslo Accords, the Palestinian Authority (PA) was to be a five-year, interim governing body with limited control over circumscribed areas of the occupied Palestinian territories. However, as subsequent negotiations between Israel and the PLO were never held, the PA remains the primary governing body of parts of the West Bank today. While some Palestinians adamantly support the PA, many consider it to be a tool of the Israeli government to oversee and legitimize the Occupation.



Institute of Middle East Understanding- [What is the Palestinian Authority?](#)

Electronic Intifada- [A Palestinian Authority Steeped in Paralysis and Corruption](#)

[Ancestors of Palestinian Liberation](#) is a project aiming to uplift, learn from and celebrate the lives and work of some of the Ancestors that have shaped the diverse and resilient fabric of Palestinian culture - past, present, and forthcoming. With printable artwork, biographies, and accompanying educational tools (including this one), this project is made with educators and organizers in mind. Check out all the **[Downloadable Resources](#)**.

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Palestinian Prisoners

The mass incarceration of Palestinians is so pervasive that almost all Palestinians have been or have had a loved one imprisoned. Palestinians from the occupied Palestinian territories are tried in Israeli military courts, where they are convicted at a rate greater than 99%. In these courts, military orders take precedence over Israeli and international law. Prisoners can be and are frequently held under Administrative Detention - a situation where they are not formally charged with anything, have no right to a trial, and can be held indefinitely.



Addameer- [Monthly Statistics of Palestinian Prisoners](#)

Institute of Middle East Understanding- [Israel's Mass Incarceration of Palestinians](#)

B'Tselem- [Minors in Jeopardy: Violation of the Rights of Palestinian Minors by Israel's Military Courts](#)



Visualizing Palestine- [A Guide to Administrative Detention](#)

Return; Right of Return

The Right of Return refers to the basic right for refugees to return to their homes and country of origin, as guaranteed by international law. The Government of Israel denies Palestinians this right, even refusing to allow many Palestinian refugees and their descendants to enter Israel for mere temporary visits. This stands in contrast to Israel's policy of encouraging all diasporic Jews to immigrate and become Israeli citizens, regardless of their ancestral geographic origins.



American Friends Service Committee- [Palestinian Refugees and the Right of Return](#)



Amnesty International- [Israel's Refusal to Grant Palestinian Refugees Right of Return has Fueled 7 Decades of Suffering](#)



Badil Resource Center- [FAQ about Palestinian Refugees and Return](#)

Settlements

Israeli settlements — or colonies — are civilian communities inhabited by Israeli citizens, almost exclusively Jewish, in the occupied Palestinian territories. They are illegal under international law. There are over 200 settlements across the West Bank, and over half are formally approved by the Israeli government, which offers financial incentives for Israeli citizens to settle there. Almost 500,000 Israelis live in these illegal West Bank settlements, with an additional 215,000 living illegally on occupied Palestinian land in East Jerusalem.



Institute for Middle East Understanding- [Israel's West Bank Settlement Enterprise](#)

B'Tselem - [Settlements](#)

Amnesty International- [Israeli Settlements and International Law](#)



United Nations OCHA- [West Bank Access Restrictions](#)

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UN Partition Plan

In 1947, the UN General Assembly passed Resolution 181, which suggested dividing British-controlled Palestine into a Jewish state on 56% of the land and an Arab state on the remaining 44%, with Jerusalem as an international city. At this time, Jews — the vast majority of whom had immigrated during the past few decades — made up around 30% of the population and owned less than 6% of the land. This plan was widely rejected by Palestinians.



Institute of Middle East Understanding- [The UN Partition Plan for Palestine](#)



The United Nations- [the UN Partition Plan of 1947](#)



Palestinian Journeys- [The UN Partition Plan: Paving the Way to the Impending Nakba](#)

Wars on Gaza (from the 21st Century)

Although bombing and killing of Gazans by the Israeli government, often in the name of self-defense, is common and regularly committed, there have been three waves of massacres over the last decade. 2008-2009 'Operation Cast Lead', 2012 'Operation Pillar of Defense' and 2014 'Operation Protective Edge' resulted in the death of over 3,800 Palestinians (a quarter of whom were children), almost 18,000 Palestinians wounded, and countless homes destroyed. 89 Israelis were also killed across these three operations, most of whom were soldiers.



The Guardian- [10 years after the first war on Gaza, Israel still plans endless brute force](#)

2008-2009 ('Operation Cast Lead')



Institute for Middle East Understanding- [Operation Cast Lead](#)



Al Jazeera - [Operation Cast Lead, five years on, 'We are still demanding justice'](#)

2012 ('Operation Pillar of Defense')



B'Tselem- [Human Rights Violations during Operation Pillar of Defense](#)



Middle East Monitor- [Remembering Israel's 'Operation Pillar of Defense'](#)

2014 ('Operation Protective Edge')



Institute for Middle East Understanding- [The 2014 Israeli attack on Gaza, one year later](#)



B'Tselem- Whitewash Protocol: [The so-called investigation of Operation Protective Edge](#)

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Zionist; Zionism

Zionism is an ideology seeking to establish a Jewish national homeland. The political Zionism we see prevalent today stems from the thinking of Theodor Herzl, who looked to histories of colonization, including in the Americas, as guides for creating such a homeland in the form of a state. A 'Zionist' refers to a person who follows the ideological thinking of Zionism.



Jewish Voice for Peace- [Our Approach to Zionism](#)



TRT World- [Let's Talk Political Zionism](#)



Al Jazeera- [Zionism, anti-Semitism and Colonialism](#)

Explore the whole project online, and see how these key terms relate to the lives and work of seven Palestinian Ancestors: [Fadwa Tuqan](#), [Ghassan Kanafani](#), [Naji Al Ali](#), [Mahmoud Darwish](#), [Rim Banna](#), [Edward Said](#) and [Razan Al Najjar](#).



MAHMOUD DARWISH
THE POET OF PALESTINIAN IDENTITY
(1941 - 2008)

*"I have learned and dismantled
all the words in order to draw from them
a single word: Home."*
Excerpt from *I Belong There*, 1986

A cornerstone of Arabic literature, Mahmoud Darwish was a deeply beloved poet, author, and cultural icon. Expelled from his village of Al-Birweh in 1947, he soon returned to find that it had been destroyed, two Israeli **settlements** standing in its place. Over the course of his life, he lived as an **exile** in seven countries, as a **refugee** in his own **homeland**, and as a **prisoner** behind Israeli bars for resisting the colonization of his land through pen and paper. "Sometimes they arrest you while you are committing a dream," he wrote. [1] No stranger to Israel's silencing tactics, Darwish was even placed under house arrest when Palestinian demonstrators turned his poem *Identity Card* into a protest song.


Darwish's over 30 books of poetry speak of love, of **exile** and longing for **homeland**, of Palestinian resistance, and of the joy and pain of the common human experience. His writing has on multiple occasions sent Israeli society and politicians into uproar. "The Israelis do not want to teach students that there is a love story between an Arab poet and this land," Darwish said. "I just wish they'd read me to enjoy my poetry, not as a representative of the enemy." [2]

In 1996, Israel granted him permission to live in the Palestinian city of Ramallah. He passed away in 2008. A kind, polite man with a sharp wit and sense of humor, a humanist and poetic tour-de-force, Darwish will forever be remembered as the Palestinian National Poet.

Highlighted quote: Poem I Belong There from *Unfortunately I Was Paradise*, Mahmoud Darwish, 2003
[1] *Journal of an Ordinary Day*, Mahmoud Darwish, 1973
[2] *A Love Story Between an Arab Poet and His Land: An Interview With Mahmoud Darwish*, *Journal of Palestine Studies*, 2002
Artwork by Zaida Edmunds, original image reference: Denis Dallois / Agence VIZ

ANCESTORS OF PALESTINIAN LIBERATION

ANCESTORS OF PALESTINIAN LIBERATION is a collaboration of Anemolia Projects and Palestine Advocacy Project. For more info on this project or to print these images: www.PalestineAdvocacyProject.org/Ancestors



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TIMELINE OF KEY TERMS

Below is a timeline of some of the Key Terms in relation to the decades of these seven Ancestors' lives.

