

Chapter 1 : History of the State of Israel

On May 14, 1948, in Tel Aviv, Jewish Agency Chairman David Ben-Gurion proclaims the State of Israel, establishing the first Jewish state in 2, racedaydvl.com an afternoon ceremony at the Tel Aviv Art.

Es Skhul cave Between 2. The oldest evidence of early humans in the territory of modern Israel, dating to 1. Other groups include 1. The oldest fossils of anatomically modern humans found outside Africa are the Skhul and Qafzeh hominids , who lived in northern Israel , years ago. While alternative translations exist, the majority of biblical archaeologists translate a set of hieroglyphs as "Israel," representing the first instance of the name in the historical record. Dever sees this "Israel" in the central highlands as a cultural and probably political entity, more an ethnic group rather than an organized state. This evolved into the Phoenician alphabet from which all modern alphabetical writing systems are descended. The Paleo-Hebrew alphabet was one of the first to develop and evidence of its use exists from about BCE [22] see the Gezer calendar , the language spoken was probably Biblical Hebrew. Monotheism , the belief in a single all-powerful law-giving God is thought to have evolved among the Hebrew speakers gradually, over the next few centuries, from a number of separate cults, [23] leading to the first versions of the religion now known as Judaism. The Bible states that King David founded a dynasty of kings and that his son Solomon built a temple. Standard Biblical chronology suggests that around BCE, following the death of Solomon, the kingdom split into a southern Kingdom of Judah and a northern Kingdom of Israel. Jehu , son of Omri, is referenced by Assyrian records now in the British Museum. This is not included in the Bible which describes conflict between Ahab and Ben Hadad. The Assyrians sent most of the population of the northern Israelite kingdom into exile , thus creating the " Lost Tribes of Israel ". The Samaritans claim to be descended from survivors of the Assyrian conquest. Modern scholars believe that refugees from the destruction of Israel moved to Judah, massively expanding Jerusalem and leading to construction of the Siloam Tunnel during the rule of King Hezekiah ruled 722 BCE. Assyrian records say that Sennacherib levelled 46 walled cities and besieged Jerusalem , leaving after receiving extensive tribute. The Bible also refers to tribute, [31] and suggests that Hezekiah was also aided by Taharqa , king of Kush Nubia , in repulsing the Assyrians. The Book of Joshua and the accounts of the kingship of David and Solomon in the book of Kings are believed to have the same author. The books are known as Deuteronomist and considered to be a key step in the emergence of Monotheism in Judah. They emerged at a time that Assyria was weakened by the emergence of Babylon and may be a committing to text of pre-writing verbal traditions. The defeat was also recorded by the Babylonians [34] [35] see the Babylonian Chronicles. The exiled Jews may have been restricted to the elite. Jehoiachin was eventually released by the Babylonians. According to both the Bible and the Talmud, the Judean royal family the Davidic line continued as head of Babylonian Jewry, called the "Rosh Galut" head of exile. Arab and Jewish sources show that the Rosh Galut continued to exist in what is now Iraq for another 1, years, ending in the eleventh century. Cyrus issued a proclamation granting subjugated nations including the people of Judah religious freedom for the original text see the Cyrus Cylinder. According to the Hebrew Bible 50, Judeans, led by Zerubabel , returned to Judah and rebuilt the temple. Modern scholars believe that the final Hebrew versions of the Torah and Books of Kings date from this period , that the returning Israelites adopted an Aramaic script also known as the Ashuri alphabet , which they brought back from Babylon; this is the current Hebrew script. The Hebrew Calendar closely resembles the Babylonian calendar and probably dates from this period. Sometime thereafter, the first translation of the Hebrew Bible, the Septuagint , was begun in Alexandria. The Books of the Maccabees describe the uprising and the end of Greek rule. A Jewish party called the Hasideans opposed both Hellenism and the revolt, but eventually gave their support to the Maccabees. Modern interpretations see the initial stages of the uprising as a civil war between Hellenised and orthodox forms of Judaism. As part of the struggle against Hellenistic civilisation , the Pharisee leader Simeon ben Shetach established the first schools based around meeting houses. Justice was administered by the Sanhedrin , which was a Rabbinical assembly and law court whose leader was known as the Nasi. Despite its fame, it was in this period that Rabbinical Judaism , led by Hillel the Elder , began to assume popular prominence over the Temple priesthood. The Jewish Temple in

Jerusalem was granted special permission not to display an effigy of the emperor, becoming the only religious structure in the Roman Empire that did not do so. Special dispensation was granted for Jewish citizens of the Roman Empire to pay a tax to the temple. There was a small revolt against Roman taxation led by Judas of Galilee and over the next decades tensions grew between the Greco-Roman and Judean population centered on attempts to place effigies of the Emperor Caligula in Synagogues and in the Jewish temple. In the year 50 CE, the Council of Jerusalem led by Paul, decided to abandon the Jewish requirement of circumcision and the Torah, creating a form of Judaism highly accessible to non-Jews and with a more universal notion of God. Another Jewish follower, Peter is believed to have become the first Pope. Over the next few hundred years this requirement became steadily more ingrained in Jewish tradition. Josephus estimated that over a million people died in the siege of Jerusalem. The Temple and most of Jerusalem was destroyed. During the Jewish revolt, most Christians, at this time a sub-sect of Judaism, removed themselves from Judea. After the war Jews continued to be taxed in the Fiscus Judaicus, which was used to fund a temple to Jupiter. A victory arch erected in Rome can still be seen today. Tensions and attacks on Jews around the Roman Empire led to a massive Jewish uprising against Rome from 66 to 70. This conflict was accompanied by large-scale massacres of both sides. Cyprus was so severely depopulated that new settlers were imported and Jews banned from living there. Jews were banned from living in Jerusalem itself a ban that persisted until the Arab conquest, and the Roman province, until then known as Iudaea Province, was renamed Palaestina, no other revolt led to a province being renamed. From 132 to 136, the Jewish leader Simon Bar Kokhba led another major revolt against the Romans, again renaming the country "Israel" [51] see Bar Kochba Revolt coinage. The Bar-Kochba revolt probably caused more trouble for the Romans than the better documented revolt of 66-70. During the Bar Kokhba revolt a rabbinical assembly decided which books could be regarded as part of the Hebrew Bible: A rabbi of this period, Simeon bar Yochai, is regarded as the author of the Zohar, the foundational text for Kabbalistic thought. However, modern scholars believe it was written in Medieval Spain. The most famous of these was Judah haNasi who is credited with compiling the final version of the Mishnah a massive body of Jewish religious texts interpreting the Bible and with strengthening the educational demands of Judaism by requiring that illiterate Jews be treated as outcasts. As a result, many illiterate Jews may have converted to Christianity. However, persecution and the economic crisis that affected the Roman empire in the 3rd century led to further Jewish migration from Syria Palaestina to the more tolerant Persian Sassanid Empire, where a prosperous Jewish community with extensive seminaries existed in the area of Babylon. Rome adopts Christianity Early in the 4th century, the Emperor Constantine made Constantinople the capital of the East Roman Empire and made Christianity the official religion. His mother, Helena made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and led the construction of the Church of the Nativity Bethlehem, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre Jerusalem and other key churches that still exist. The name Jerusalem was restored to Aelia Capitolina and it became a Christian city. Jews were still banned from living in Jerusalem, but were allowed to visit, and it is in this period that the surviving Western Wall of the Temple became sacred to Judaism. He died while fighting the Persians in 338 and the project was discontinued. Byzantine period Further information: Byzantine Christianity was dominated by the Greek Eastern Orthodox Church whose massive land ownership has extended into the present. In the 5th century, the Western Roman Empire collapsed leading to Christian migration into the Roman province of Palaestina Prima and development of a Christian majority. Judaism was the only non-Christian religion tolerated, but restrictions on Jews slowly increased to include a ban on building new places of worship, holding public office or owning slaves. In 425, following the death of the last Nasi, Gamliel VI, the Sanhedrin was officially abolished and the title of Nasi banned. Several Samaritan Revolts erupted in this period, [61] resulting in the decrease of Samaritan community from about a million to a near extinction. The Jewish Menorah, which the Romans took when the temple was destroyed, was reportedly taken to Carthage by the Vandals after the sacking of Rome in 455. According to the Byzantine historian, Procopius, the Byzantine army recovered it in 527 and brought it to Constantinople. Jews briefly governed Jerusalem when the Persians took over. The Byzantine Emperor, Heraclius, promised to restore Jewish rights and received Jewish help in defeating the Persians, but reneged on the agreement after reconquering Palaestina Prima, massacring the Jews in Palestine, [63] and issuing an edict banning Judaism from the Byzantine Empire. Egyptian Coptic

Christians took responsibility for this broken pledge and fasted in penance. Jund Filastin and Jund al-Urdunn According to Muslim tradition, in Muhammed was taken on spiritual journey from Mecca to the "farthest mosque", whose location many consider to be the Temple Mount , returning the same night. Over the next few centuries, Islam replaced Christianity as the dominant religion of the region. Jews consider it to contain the Foundation Stone see also Holy of Holies , which is the holiest site in Judaism. Between the 7th and 11th centuries, Jewish scribes, called the Masoretes and located in Galilee and Jerusalem, established the Masoretic Text , the final text of the Hebrew Bible. During the conquest, both Muslims and Jews were indiscriminately massacred or sold into slavery. Maimonides was buried in Tiberias. A Crusader state centred round Acre survived in weakened form for another century. From to the area became the frontier between Mongol invaders occasional Crusader allies and the Mamluks of Egypt. The conflict impoverished the country and severely reduced the population. The fall of the last one, the Kingdom of Acre , in ended the Crusades period in the region. Mamluk period " Further information: Mamluk Sultanate Cairo Egyptian Mamluk sultan, Baibars " , conquered much of the Holy Land, ultimately leading to the end of Crusader rule in The Mamluks ruled Palestine until , regarding it as part of Syria. In Hebron , Baibars banned Jews from worshipping at the Cave of the Patriarchs the second-holiest site in Judaism ; the ban remained in place until its conquest by Israel years later. Ports were destroyed and various materials were dumped to make them inoperable. The goal was to prevent attacks from the sea, given the fear of the return of the crusaders. This had a long-term effect on those areas, which remained sparsely populated for centuries. The activity in that time concentrated more inland. Expulsions began in England and were followed by France During the Black Death , many Jews were murdered after being accused of poisoning wells. The completion of the Christian reconquest of Spain led to expulsion of the Jews of Spain in and Portugal in These were the wealthiest and most integrated Jewish communities in Europe. Many Jews converted to Christianity, however many secretly practised Judaism and prejudice against converts regardless of their sincerity persisted, leading many former Jews to move to the New World see History of the Jews in Latin America.

Chapter 2 : The Events Leading Up to the Establishment of the State of Israel

On 14 May , on the day the last British forces left from Haifa, the Jewish People's Council gathered at the Tel Aviv Museum and proclaimed the establishment of a Jewish state in Eretz Israel, to be known as the State of Israel.

Over time it became one of the only two democracies in the Middle East, the other being Turkey. Israel is the essential Ynetnews From the national anthem, religion and demographics to languages, industries and government, here are some essential facts about the State of Israel Israel holds territories that it captured in from Syria the Golan Heights , Jordan the West Bank and Egypt Gaza. In certain sections of the West Bank, an autonomous Palestinian Authority was established. Government and Administration The state of Israel is a republic, defined as a parliamentary democracy with proportional representation. The legislative authority is the Knesset and the executive authority is the government. The Israeli president is chosen by the Knesset once every seven years. His role is primarily symbolic: The President is the one who delegates the job of establishing that government on one of the members of Knesset after an election; Presidential consent is required for the dissolution of the Knesset, should it be required. The President authority also extends to granting presidential pardons, appointing secular court judges, rabbinical judges to religious courts, and Kadis to the courts of Muslim law; appointing members to the Council on Higher Education, the National Academy of Science, the Broadcasting Authority, the Authority to Rehabilitate Prisoners, the Chief Rabbinical Council and the Governor of the Bank of Israel; The President also confirms and endorses the credentials of the Israeli ambassadors leaving for posts abroad and receives the credentials of the foreign diplomats posted in Israel. Israel is administratively divided into 6 districts and 14 provinces. Judea, Samaria and Gaza have a separate administration. The regional authorities – municipalities and local or regional councils – have legal jurisdiction in their area, as well as responsibility to provide residents with legal, social and sanitary services. The country has a mandatory education law, which states that all Israeli children are entitled to eleven years of State funded, free education, ranging from kindergarten to the 10th grade. Israel provides general health care, making an array of medical services available for every citizen. Healthcare enforcement is divided between the Ministry of Health and the health maintenance organizations. Israeli citizens are required to pay a health tax to the National Insurance Institute to ensure their social rights. History The State of Israel was established in 1948, amidst clashes with British Mandatory forces, Arab residents, and the Arab states which declared war on the nascent state on the very day of its founding. The struggle for Israeli independence In the wake of the Holocaust, the Jewish community in the Land of Israel, as well as the worldwide Zionist Movement, became increasingly cognizant of the fact that an independent and sovereign Jewish state was necessary to provide a safe haven for the decimated Jewish nation. The struggle was carried out on two fronts: An armed and political battle against the British Mandatory forces, and a worldwide diplomatic campaign for the cause, especially in the United States. Once the British Raj ended in India, the Land of Israel lost much of its strategic importance, as the British no longer required a foothold adjacent to the Suez Canal. On November 29, 1947, the General Assembly voted in favor of partition, which became known as UN Resolution 181; according to which, the British Mandate was set to expire on May 15, 1948. Since the 15th came out on Shabbat that year, the National Council convened on Friday, May 14, and declared the establishment of the State of Israel – acknowledging the historical connection between Am Yisrael the nation of Israel and its land, but failing to specify its borders. The Declaration of Independence further introduced the name of the Jewish State: However, the Arab League was determined to destroy the new state, and on May 15, the Egyptian, Jordanian then called Trans-Jordanian , Syrian, Iraqi and Lebanese armies, together with irregular forces from other Arab nations, invaded Israel. From the War of Independence until the Sinai War The War of Independence evolved from a conflict between two resident populations to a full-fledged war between organized armies. Following a year and a half of fighting, an Armistice Agreement was reached between Israel and most of the Arab countries. Iraq, which continued to maintain a state of war with Israel, remained the lone exception. Hagana troops practicing Photo: Meanwhile, large immigration waves reached Israeli shores: Between 1948 and 1951, some 800,000 Jews arrived, entire communities from Libya, Yemen, Bulgaria, and Iraq. In 1950, the Law of Return, which granted full Israeli

citizenship to every Jewish immigrant, was enacted. The War and immigration waves took their toll on the young state and an austerity program, which involved much rationing, was instituted. In 1953, the government signed a controversial reparations agreement with Germany. Arab infiltrations began almost immediately following the Armistice. Although the situation escalated gradually, some historians cite the Black Arrow attack of February 28, 1953, as a key turning point: Israel then began strengthening its military ties with France, since Ben-Gurion insisted that Israel not go to war without the support of at least one major power. The Sinai War began on October 23, 1956. A period of relative quiet ensued, and Israel strengthened its economy and developed the national infrastructure during the interlude. By 1957, another wave of immigrants had arrived but faced with the severe recession of 1958, immigration rates dropped. Israeli politics was jolted when David Ben-Gurion resigned and left the Mapai party and Levi Eshkol became the next prime minister; and Israel sent out diplomatic feelers to a number of newly independent Asian and African nations, as well as to several South American countries. Meanwhile trouble was brewing in the northern border: The southern border saw trouble of its own: Egypt further closed the Straits of Tiran to Israeli ships and ordered UN forces to withdraw from their positions along the border. A historical first was achieved when the Herut party joined the newly formed national unity government. Israel immediately annexed the eastern portion of Jerusalem, declaring other territories were being held in the hope of a peace treaty. Official policy was more ambiguous in Judea and Samaria, where the government preferred Jews not move into areas heavily populated by Arabs. Nevertheless, many such settlements were established, supported by numerous government ministers and Knesset members. Most Palestinian organizations relocated to southern Lebanon and Syria. Arab terrorism also targeted Israeli civilian aviation and high profile attacks were committed in Israel itself, aided at times by foreign terror organizations: In March 1968, Egyptian President Nasser instructed his army on the Suez Canal front to open fire on all exposed targets, setting off the War of Attrition, which comprised of heavy fire exchanged across the canal, several raids behind enemy lines on both sides and Israeli air attacks deep into Egyptian territory. In August 1969, the US imposed a ceasefire, the war ended and Nasser died a few weeks later. It was the first time since the Israel was formed that the public believed its existence was guaranteed. Egypt and Syria clandestinely planned a full-fledged surprise attack on Israel, hoping to retrieve the territories they lost during the Six Day War. The assumption was that even if they were unable to regain the land themselves, Israel would be forced to give up the territories, due to the international pressure which would surely result from the war. The IDF was caught off guard, but soon recovered: The territory lost on the Golan Heights was regained within three days, and ten days after the fighting began, IDF forces penetrated Egyptian territory; but the sense of defeat, which had characterized the first few days of fighting, did not abate even once the war had ended. En route to battle. The Yom Kippur War Photo: The commission made several recommendations concerning high-ranking military leaders, including then IDF Chief of Staff David Elazar, but refrained from discussing the political echelon. Israel lost much of its international standing as a result of the war, and its economy, largely dependent on oil imports, suffered. Since 1974, American foreign aid to Israel, comprised of both military and economic aid, has equaled several billion dollars a year. Still, the economic upswing of the prewar period was considerably overturned. The settlement enterprise continued and so did terror. In the infamous hijacking of an Air France plane to Entebbe, Uganda occurred. The subsequent IDF rescue mission on July 4, 1976, resonated throughout the world. Yitzhak Rabin became the next prime minister. From the Political Upset until the Lebanon War The elections have often been described as a dramatic political upset: Although the upset can be attributed to the aftershocks of the Yom Kippur War, other factors also contributed to the political turnaround, as a great rift began tearing through Israeli society. A radical turnabout in Israeli-Arab relations occurred near the end of Clandestine talks between Israeli and Egyptian officials resulted in Egyptian President Anwar Sadat publicly announcing his intention visit Jerusalem, address the Knesset, and discuss peace. Two years later, in 1978, the two signed the Camp David Accords. Virulent public storms arose in the wake of the subsequent Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai and the evacuation of Yamit in 1982. A series of governmental countermeasures soon followed and included the enactment of the Jerusalem Law of 1980 and the declaration of Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights in 1981. A major social development of that time was the growing strength of the Orthodox haredi sector. The northern border new some unrest again, as the Lebanese civil war, which had begun in 1975,

grew steadily worse. Israel retreated approximately three months later, after a UN peacekeeping force was stationed as a buffer between the Israeli border and PLO positions throughout southern Lebanon, creating, in effect, the SLA-controlled security zone. The arrangement soon proved ineffective, and on June 6, 1982, following an assassination attempt on the Israeli ambassador to Britain, the Lebanon War began. Lebanese Phalangist leader Bashir Gemayel was assassinated on September 14 and in the aftermath Christian Lebanese forces massacred Palestinian residents of the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps, igniting a storm of protests in Israel and throughout the world. The Israeli government and the IDF were accused of ignoring the massacre, and the Kahan Commission, appointed to investigate the killings, recommended that Defense Minister Ariel Sharon be dismissed. IDF forces patrolling the Lebanese border photo: GPO IDF forces in Lebanon came under continuous fire and terror attacks by the assorted paramilitary organizations operating in Lebanon. Socially and economically, this was a tempestuous period in Israeli history: Yitzhak Shamir became the next prime minister. Shimon Peres was the prime minister for the first two years, and then Shamir, maintaining the same coalition, replaced him in October. In order to stabilize the economy, the national unity government took a number of drastic steps, including the implementation of a comprehensive price freeze, and managed to curb the inflation. Nevertheless, the economy did not immediately rebound. In the following elections, the Likud achieved a very narrow margin of victory, resulting in another unity government, but this time, there was to be no rotation. Although some Palestinian Arabs had become members of terror organizations and a small number had committed terror attacks, most refrained from protesting Israeli rule. In December 1987, however, everything changed. A wave of uprisings, later to be known as the Intifada, broke out in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. Israel proved unable to quell the riots. A reluctant Shamir agreed to take part in the Madrid Conference, an international peace conference which included Palestinian representatives, albeit as part of the Jordanian delegation; but the Palestinian uprising continued, unabated. In early 1990, Israel became an unwilling participant in the First Gulf War. Although there were few casualties and property damage was relatively minimal, the constant fear of unconventional weapons led to widespread panic. Nevertheless, life quickly returned to normal once the war had ended. Rabin replaced Peres as Labor party chairman and garnered a majority in the elections, largely as a result of the optimism generated by the collapse of the Soviet Union and the ensuing large immigration wave which began in late 1989. As part of the controversial agreement, Israel accepted the PLO as the official representative of the Palestinians and granted it autonomy over a large portion of Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. As per the agreement, the Palestinian Authority PA was founded.

Chapter 3 : The Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel

Creation of Israel, On May 14, , David Ben-Gurion, the head of the Jewish Agency, proclaimed the establishment of the State of Israel. U.S. President Harry S. Truman recognized the new nation on the same day.

Visit Website Around B. For the next several centuries, the land of modern-day Israel was conquered and ruled by various groups, including the Persians, Greeks , Romans , Arabs, Fatimids, Seljuk Turks, Crusaders , Egyptians, Mamelukes, Islamists and others. In , at the height of the war, British Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour submitted a letter of intent supporting the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. The British government hoped that the formal declaration—known thereafter as the Balfour Declaration —would encourage support for the Allies in World War I. Arabs vehemently opposed the Balfour Declaration, concerned that a Jewish homeland would mean the subjugation of Arab Palestinians. The complex hostility between the two groups dates all the way back to ancient times when they both populated the area and deemed it holy. Both Jews and Muslims consider the city of Jerusalem sacred. Much of the conflict in recent years has centered around who is occupying the following areas: A piece of land located between Egypt and modern-day Israel. A rocky plateau between Syria and modern-day Israel. A territory that divides part of modern-day Israel and Jordan. The Zionism Movement In the late 19th and early 20th century, an organized religious and political movement known as Zionism emerged among Jews. Zionists wanted to reestablish a Jewish homeland in Palestine. Massive numbers of Jews immigrated to the ancient holy land and built settlements. Between and , about 35, Jews relocated to Palestine. Another 40, settled in the area between and Many Jews living in Europe and elsewhere, fearing persecution during the Nazi reign, found refuge in Palestine and embraced Zionism. Arabs in Palestine resisted the Zionism movement, and tensions between the two groups continue. An Arab nationalist movement developed as a result. In May , Israel was officially declared an independent state with David Ben-Gurion , the head of the Jewish Agency, as the prime minister. While this historic event seemed to be a victory for Jews, it also marked the beginning of more violence with the Arabs. Civil war broke out throughout all of Israel, but a cease-fire agreement was reached in As part of the temporary armistice agreement, the West Bank became part of Jordan, and the Gaza Strip became Egyptian territory. Some of these include: Relations between Israel and Egypt were rocky in the years following the war. Israeli, France and Great Britain eventually withdrew from the conflict. In what started as a surprise attack, Israel in defeated Egypt, Jordan and Syria in six days. The fighting went on for two weeks, until the UN adopted a resolution to stop the war. Syria hoped to recapture the Golan Heights during this battle but was unsuccessful. In , Israel annexed the Golan Heights, but Syria continued to claim it as territory. Israeli occupation of Gaza and the West Bank led to a Palestinian uprising and hundreds of deaths. After this, the Palestinian Authority formed and took over some territories in Israel. In , the Israeli army withdrew from parts of the West Bank. Palestinians launched suicide bombs and other attacks on Israelis in The resulting violence lasted for years, until a cease-fire was reached. Israel announced a plan to remove all troops and Jewish settlements from the Gaza strip by the end of Israel went to war with Hezbollah—a Shiite Islamic militant group in Lebanon—in A UN-negotiated ceasefire ended the conflict a couple of months after it started. Israel has been involved in repeated violence with Hamas, a Sunni Islamist militant group that assumed Palestinian power in Some of the more significant conflicts took place beginning in , and Israel Today Clashes between Israelis and Palestinians are still commonplace. Key territories of land are divided, but some are claimed by both groups. For instance, they both cite Jerusalem as their capital. Both groups blame each other for terror attacks that kill civilians. The Two-State Solution Several countries have pushed for more peace agreements in recent years. Many have suggested a two-state solution but acknowledge that Israelis and Palestinians are unlikely to settle on borders. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has supported the two-state solution but has felt pressure to change his stance. Netanyahu has also been accused of encouraging Jewish settlements in Palestinian areas while still backing a two-state solution. In a visit to Israel in May , U. President Donald Trump urged Netanyahu to embrace peace agreements with Palestinians. While Israel has been plagued by unpredictable war and violence in the past, many national leaders and citizens are hoping for a secure, stable

nation in the future. Creation of Israel, Office of the Historian, U. The Arab-Israeli War of The Second Aliyah â€” The New York Times.

Chapter 4 : Israel - Establishment of Israel | racedaydvl.com

On the day the British Mandate over Palestine expired - Friday, May 14, - the Jewish People's Council gathered at the Tel Aviv Museum to declare the establishment of the State of Israel.

Smith Published in "This right is the natural right of the Jewish people to be masters of their own fate, like all other nations, in their own sovereign state. Jews realized that to continue their efforts to create a Jewish state in Palestine, they needed to be organized and efficient. To this end, they established the Jewish Agency. The agency started as an effort to link Zionist fund-raising efforts with the governing bodies distributing those funds to Jews in Palestine. After the agency was redesigned to serve the economic and social needs of Jewish settlement in Palestine, and within a decade the agency had evolved into a fully functioning governing body of the Jewry in Palestine. On behalf of the Jewry in Palestine, the agency negotiated with Palestinian leadership, foreign governments, and the United Nations. Throughout the years under the British mandate 1947; a form of government where Britain ruled over Palestine, the Jewish Agency spent a great deal of effort developing and maintaining influential contacts in foreign governments, and detailed the impact on Jews of every policy made under the mandate. When the United Nations an international organization founded in to promote peace and cooperation between countries around the world investigated the question of which group should rule in Palestine in, members of the Jewish Agency presented their pleas for an independent state in Palestine, which they would call Israel. This resolution called for the partition or dividing of Palestine into separate Jewish and Arab states. In February of the Jewish Agency mobilized its defense forces to seize control over all the territory granted to the Jewish state by the United Nations resolution. The operation sparked a mass evacuation of Arab Palestinians, and nearly, had fled from these areas by May. Note how carefully the document explains why Israel should be an independent state. Here their spiritual, religious and political identity was shaped. Here they first attained to statehood, created cultural values of national and universal significance and gave to the world the eternal Book of Books. After being forcibly exiled from their land, the people kept faith with it throughout their dispersion and never ceased to pray and hope for their return to it and for the restoration in it of their political freedom. Impelled by this historic and traditional attachment, Jews strove in every successive generation to re-establish themselves in their ancient homeland. In recent decades they returned in their masses. In the year, at the summons of the spiritual father of the Jewish State, Theodor Herzl, the First Zionist Congress convened and proclaimed the right of the Jewish people to national rebirth in its own country. This right was recognized in the Balfour Declaration of 2 November, 1917, and reaffirmed in the mandate of the League of Nations which, in particular, gave international sanction to the historic connection between the Jewish people and Eretz-Israel and to the right of the Jewish people to rebuild its national home. The catastrophe which recently befell the Jewish people—the massacre of millions of Jews in Europe—was another clear demonstration of the urgency of solving the problem of its homelessness by re-establishing in Eretz-Israel the Jewish State, which would open the gates of the homeland wide to every Jew and confer upon the Jewish people the status of a fully privileged member of the comity of nations. Survivors of the Nazi holocaust in Europe, as well as Jews from other parts of the world, continued to migrate to Eretz-Israel, undaunted by difficulties, restrictions and dangers, and never ceased to assert their right to a life of dignity, freedom and honest toil in their national homeland. In the second world war, the Jewish community of this country contributed its full share to the struggle of the freedom-loving and peace-loving nations against the forces of Nazi wickedness and, by the blood of its soldiers and its war effort, gained the right to be reckoned among the peoples who founded the United Nations. On 29 November, 1947, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution calling for the establishment of a Jewish state in Eretz-Israel; the General Assembly required the inhabitants of Eretz-Israel to take such steps as were necessary on their part for the implementation of that resolution. This recognition by the United Nations of the right of the Jewish people to establish their state is irrevocable. This right is the natural right of the Jewish people to be masters of their own fate, like all other nations, in their own sovereign state. The State of Israel will be open for Jewish immigration and for the ingathering of the exiles; it will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its

inhabitants; it will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the Prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture; it will safeguard the Holy Places of all religions; and it will be faithful to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The State of Israel is prepared to cooperate with the agencies and representatives of the United Nations in implementing the resolution of the General Assembly of 29 November, and will take steps to bring about the economic union of the whole of Eretz-Israel. We appeal to the United Nations to assist the Jewish people in the building-up of its state and to receive the State of Israel into the comity of nations. We appeal—in the very midst of the onslaught launched against us now for months—to the Arab inhabitants of the State of Israel to preserve peace and participate in the upbuilding of the state on the basis of full and equal citizenship and due representation in all its provisional and permanent institutions. We extend our hand to all neighboring states and their peoples in an offer of peace and good neighborliness, and appeal to them to establish bonds of cooperation and mutual help with the sovereign Jewish people settled in its own land. The State of Israel is prepared to do its share in a common effort for the advancement of the entire Middle East. We appeal to the Jewish people throughout the diaspora to rally round the Jews of Eretz-Israel in the tasks of immigration and upbuilding and to stand by them in the great struggle for the realization of the age-old dream—the redemption of Israel. Placing our trust in the Almighty, we affix our signatures to this proclamation at this session of the Provisional Council of State, on the soil of the homeland, in the city of Tel-Aviv, on this Sabbath eve, the 5th day of Iyar, 14th May.

Israel did secure the international recognition it had hoped for: But just as feared, the Arab states did not. The Arab Palestinians did not have an organized government in place at the time, so the League of Arab States an organization of several Middle Eastern countries that wanted to unify the Middle East under Arab rule served as the governing body speaking for the population of Arabs in Palestine. The day after Israel declared its independence, the Arab League mobilized forces against the new country. Although the Arabs had superior weaponry at the beginning of the war, the efficient organization and greater manpower of the Israeli forces prevailed. By the end of the war, Israel occupied all the territory the United Nations had assigned to it under the partition plan of, as well as land the United Nations had allotted for the Arab state in Palestine, and parts of Lebanon and Egypt. The Arab Palestinians who had been living in the areas now claimed by Israel found themselves without any land of their own. Half of the population had become refugees in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and the other half had fled into neighboring Arab states. After the war, Israel immediately began to build itself as a nation, and within twenty years it had become the most technologically advanced country in the Middle East. After the Arab-Israeli War the Arab Palestinian government was destroyed, and many Arab Palestinians lost their rights, including the right to own land that had been taken over by Israel. This caused many Arab Palestinians to become refugees without a country or a government. Why would this fact give the Jewish people a claim to the land? Are there peoples in other countries who might use this same claim for their own purposes? If the United Nations had resolved that the Jewish people did not have the right to establish a self-ruled state, would that particular decision have been "irrevocable" as well? Immigrants coming to Israel in defiance of British policy. Reference to the Jewish calendar corresponding to the year Impossible to take back. Day of rest and worship; from sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday for the Jewish people. Religious sites located in the city of Jerusalem. The Jewish community living in many countries throughout the world. The British Empire in the Middle East, New York and London: San Diego, CA: Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict: A History with Documents. Boston and New York: Israel and the Arab World. Web Sites "Zionism and the Creation of Israel. Cite this article Pick a style below, and copy the text for your bibliography. Retrieved November 14, from Encyclopedia. Then, copy and paste the text into your bibliography or works cited list. Because each style has its own formatting nuances that evolve over time and not all information is available for every reference entry or article, Encyclopedia.

Chapter 5 : State of Israel proclaimed - HISTORY

Establishment of the State of Israel Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel (May 14,) Issued by Israel's Provisional Council of State at Tel Aviv Reprinted in Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict Edited by Charles D. Smith Published in "This right is the natural right of the Jewish people to be masters of their own.

What is the history of the state of Israel? The years between C. Christian Era and saw significant events within the history of the state of Israel. Christianity split away from Judaism. The fall of Masada, a separate sect of Jews living within Roman territory, and a failed revolt against Rome left Jerusalem with the Roman name Aelia Capitolina and Jews were forbidden to set foot in Rome during the evangelism of the early Church. The Muslim conquest of Spain alleviated persecution of Jews under Christian rule. The Jewish prayer book siddur , the Rif an important work of Jewish law , and complete commentaries written for the Hebrew Bible were published during this period. In the latter part of this era, many countries expelled the Jews causing them to relocate mostly to Poland. The following timeline of Israeli history ranges from to where the first Jewish ghetto is established in Europe, the Ghetto of Venice. King Sigismund I of Poland abolished the law that required Jews to wear special clothes. The Ukrainian Cossack massacred , Polish gentry and Jewry. Jews were allowed back into England during this time of Israeli history and the Jewish population worldwide was estimated at 1,, By the end of this era, most of the Jews lived in Russia, Prussia, and Austria when the American Revolution gained religious freedom and President George Washington sent a letter to the Jewish community in Rhode Island envisioning a country "which gives bigotry no sanction. The Golden Age of Yiddish and Hebrew literature ranged from to , as Hebrew was a revived spoken language. Jews were emancipated in many countries, as they were formally recognized as a culture. Hebrew Colleges were started, while Hebrew men were elected into offices for the first time in democratic governments. The first wave of Jewish immigrants started to build in the homeland of Palestine with Jewish population growth at 7. The rise of persecuted Jews began in Russia and the Ukraine. From to , Britain defeated the Turks and gained control of the land of Israel in , which many Jews thought meant that all of Palestine was to become a Jewish controlled state. The British government reversed their support of the Balfour Declaration limiting Jewish immigration to 75,, when the Holocaust happened from to The post Holocaust history of Israel saw her officially recognized as a state with her own democratic government in The Arab countries surrounding the small state made a pact between them to not recognize, negotiate, or make peace with Israel. The wars launched against the new state were the Arab-Israeli war, the Suez war with Egypt, the creation of the P. Since Israel saw statehood, her intelligence network became the best and most accurate in the world. Israeli teams rescued hostages taken in Entebbe, Uganda. They rescued their people from oppressive nations like Ethiopia, as seen in "Operation Elijah," "Operation Moses," and "Operation Solomon" in , when Israel airlifted the remainder of Ethiopian Jewry to safety. In the last couple of years we have seen fulfillment of prophesy as Israeli scholars extensively searched the genealogies of the tribes of Israel to initiate the offices of the Levite priests and to seat a king out of the lineage of King David. Learn More about the History of Israel! God , the Father, sent His only Son to satisfy that judgment for those who believe in Him. Jesus , the creator and eternal Son of God, who lived a sinless life, loves us so much that He died for our sins, taking the punishment that we deserve, was buried , and rose from the dead according to the Bible. If you truly believe and trust this in your heart, receiving Jesus alone as your Savior , declaring, " Jesus is Lord ," you will be saved from judgment and spend eternity with God in heaven. What is your response?

Chapter 6 : Israel - HISTORY

establishment of the State of Israel in , practically all the Yemenite, Iraqi, and Libyan Jews and major parts of the other Mizrahi Jewish communities migrated to Israel. Read More conflicts.

The term[change change source] This term describes the announcement of establishment of a Jewish state, named State of Israel. This State of Israel was established on 14th May This was the land where the Kingdom of Israel and the Kingdom of Judah had once been. The State of Israel covered more or less the same land. Some persons call this as the beginning of "Third Jewish Commonwealth". The declaration[change change source] On November 29th , the United Nations had adopted a resolution. The resolution recommended taking steps to establish such a state. They had gathered to decide acceptance of an American proposal for a truce or to declare a new state of Israel. Six of the ten voting members supported declaration of a state of Israel. At mid night of May 14th, , a member of the Council read the Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel. The declaration followed a style generally seen in the United Nations documents. First few sentences stated the reasons for the declaration and the right of the Jews for an independent country. Then, the sentences gave the features and characteristics of the new Jewish state. Quotes[change change source] A few quotes from the declaration: Here their spiritual, religious and political identity was shaped. Here they first attained to statehood, created cultural values of national and universal significance and gave to the world the eternal Book of Books. After being forcibly exiled from their land, the people kept faith with it throughout their Dispersion and never ceased to pray and hope for their return to it and for the restoration in it of their political freedom. Impelled by this historic and traditional attachment, Jews strove in every successive generation to re-establish themselves in their ancient homeland. In recent decades they returned in their masses. The recognition[change change source] The United States , the Soviet Union , and many other major countries of the world accepted the state of Israel. Using terms of international law, these countries recognized the state of Israel. However, many Arab countries and countries of the Middle East opposed the establishment of Israel. They did not recognize the state of Israel as a sovereign state, that is, an independent country. Many countries of the world did not recognize Israel, but establish trading and other relations with it. Wikisource has original writing related to this article:

As Israel's neighbors prepared to destroy the Jewish state, Israel invoked its inherent right of self-defense, launching a preemptive strike (5 June) against Egypt in the South, followed by a counterattack against Jordan in the East and the routing of Syrian forces entrenched on the Golan Heights in the North.

Neighbouring Arab states and the Arab League were opposed to the vote and had declared they would intervene to prevent its implementation. In a cablegram on 15 May to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States claimed that "the Arab states find themselves compelled to intervene in order to restore law and order and to check further bloodshed". A truce began on 11 June, but fighting resumed on 8 July and stopped again on 18 July, before restarting in mid-October and finally ending on 24 July with the signing of the armistice agreement with Syria. David Remez was the first signatory to pass away, dying in May , while Meir Vilner, the youngest signatory at just 29, was the longest living, serving in the Knesset until and dying in June Eliyahu Berligne , the oldest signatory at 82, died in . However, the Knesset maintains that the declaration is neither a law nor an ordinary legal document. The Land of Israel was the birthplace of the Jewish people. Here their spiritual, religious and political identity was shaped. Here they first attained to statehood, created cultural values of national and universal significance and gave to the world the eternal Book of Books. After being forcibly exiled from their land, the people kept faith with it throughout their Dispersion and never ceased to pray and hope for their return to it and for the restoration in it of their political freedom. Impelled by this historic and traditional attachment, Jews strove in every successive generation to re-establish themselves in their ancient homeland. In recent decades they returned in their masses. In the year , at the summons of the spiritual father of the Jewish State, Theodore Herzl, the First Zionist Congress convened and proclaimed the right of the Jewish people to national rebirth in its own country. This right was recognized in the Balfour Declaration of the 2nd November, , and re-affirmed in the Mandate of the League of Nations which, in particular, gave international sanction to the historic connection between the Jewish people and Eretz-Israel and to the right of the Jewish people to rebuild its National Home. The catastrophe which recently befell the Jewish people - the massacre of millions of Jews in Europe - was another clear demonstration of the urgency of solving the problem of its homelessness by re-establishing in Eretz-Israel the Jewish State, which would open the gates of the homeland wide to every Jew and confer upon the Jewish people the status of a fully privileged member of the comity of nations. Survivors of the Nazi holocaust in Europe, as well as Jews from other parts of the world, continued to migrate to Eretz-Israel, undaunted by difficulties, restrictions and dangers, and never ceased to assert their right to a life of dignity, freedom and honest toil in their national homeland. In the Second World War, the Jewish community of this country contributed its full share to the struggle of the freedom- and peace-loving nations against the forces of Nazi wickedness and, by the blood of its soldiers and its war effort, gained the right to be reckoned among the peoples who founded the United Nations. On the 29th November, , the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution calling for the establishment of a Jewish State in Eretz-Israel; the General Assembly required the inhabitants of Eretz-Israel to take such steps as were necessary on their part for the implementation of that resolution. This recognition by the United Nations of the right of the Jewish people to establish their State is irrevocable. This right is the natural right of the Jewish people to be masters of their own fate, like all other nations, in their own sovereign State. THE STATE OF ISRAEL will be open for Jewish immigration and for the Ingathering of the Exiles; it will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants; it will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture; it will safeguard the Holy Places of all religions; and it will be faithful to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. WE APPEAL - in the very midst of the onslaught launched against us now for months - to the Arab inhabitants of the State of Israel to preserve peace and participate in the upbuilding of the State on the basis of full and equal citizenship and due representation in all its provisional and permanent institutions. WE

EXTEND our hand to all neighbouring states and their peoples in an offer of peace and good neighbourliness, and appeal to them to establish bonds of cooperation and mutual help with the sovereign Jewish people settled in its own land. The State of Israel is prepared to do its share in a common effort for the advancement of the entire Middle East. WE APPEAL to the Jewish people throughout the Diaspora to rally round the Jews of Eretz-Israel in the tasks of immigration and upbuilding and to stand by them in the great struggle for the realization of the age-old dream - the redemption of Israel.

Chapter 8 : Establishment of the State of Israel | racedaydvl.com

The Israeli Declaration of Independence, formally the Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel (Hebrew: דְּבַר הַיְסוּד, pronounced "Davar HaYisud"), was proclaimed on 14 May (5 Iyar) by David Ben-Gurion, the Executive Head of the World Zionist Organization, Chairman of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, and soon to be first Prime Minister of Israel.

There is no record of who attended the meeting, but invitations were sent out instructing the recipients to keep the information secret. Word got it out, however, and people started singing Hatikvah in the streets even before David Ben-Gurion began reading the declaration he had written. The ceremony was held at 4 p. It took 17 minutes to read the entire document in a 32 minute ceremony. Some people signed the declaration later and one person signed twice. Four hours later, Egypt bombed Tel Aviv. Here their spiritual, religious and political identity was shaped. Here they first attained to statehood, created cultural values of national and universal significance and gave to the world the eternal Book of Books. After being forcibly exiled from their land, the people kept faith with it throughout their Dispersion and never ceased to pray and hope for their return to it and for the restoration in it of their political freedom. Impelled by this historic and traditional attachment, Jews strove in every successive generation to re-establish themselves in their ancient homeland. In recent decades they returned in their masses. In the year , at the summons of the spiritual father of the Jewish State, Theodore Herzl, the First Zionist Congress convened and proclaimed the right of the Jewish people to national rebirth in its own country. This right was recognized in the Balfour Declaration of the 2nd November, , and re-affirmed in the Mandate of the League of Nations which, in particular, gave international sanction to the historic connection between the Jewish people and Eretz-Israel and to the right of the Jewish people to rebuild its National Home. Survivors of the Nazi holocaust in Europe, as well as Jews from other parts of the world, continued to migrate to Eretz-Israel, undaunted by difficulties, restrictions and dangers, and never ceased to assert their right to a life of dignity, freedom and honest toil in their national homeland. In the Second World War, the Jewish community of this country contributed its full share to the struggle of the freedom- and peace-loving nations against the forces of Nazi wickedness and, by the blood of its soldiers and its war effort, gained the right to be reckoned among the peoples who founded the United Nations. On the 29th November, , the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution calling for the establishment of a Jewish State in Eretz-Israel; the General Assembly required the inhabitants of Eretz-Israel to take such steps as were necessary on their part for the implementation of that resolution. This recognition by the United Nations of the right of the Jewish people to establish their State is irrevocable. This right is the natural right of the Jewish people to be masters of their own fate, like all other nations, in their own sovereign State. THE STATE OF ISRAEL will be open for Jewish immigration and for the Ingathering of the Exiles; it will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants; it will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture; it will safeguard the Holy Places of all religions; and it will be faithful to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. WE EXTEND our hand to all neighbouring states and their peoples in an offer of peace and good neighbourliness, and appeal to them to establish bonds of cooperation and mutual help with the sovereign Jewish people settled in its own land. The State of Israel is prepared to do its share in a common effort for the advancement of the entire Middle East.

Chapter 9 : Milestones: “ - Office of the Historian

David Ben Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, declaration of Israel's independence on May 14, On May 14, , David Ben Gurion, along with the People's Council, proclaimed the establishment of the State of Israel.

We ate only pita and drank water, we worked long hours and we were constantly in fear of Arab attacks. At the age of 23, Chaim witnessed the hardships that many Jews had to endure when arriving to Israel from Europe. The establishment of the State of Israel would have been possible without the Holocaust due to the Zionist movement, however the reparations from the Holocaust given by West Germany gave Israel the resources necessary to survive. In this paper I will argue that the Holocaust played an important role in the founding and long term visibility of the State of Israel in three respects: The Holocaust motivated large numbers of immigrants to move to the new country, providing the necessary population; secondly, the Holocaust enabled Israel to pressure Germany into supplying the economic base necessary to build infrastructure and support those immigrants; and finally, the Holocaust swayed world opinion so that the United Nations approved the State of Israel in 1948. The establishment of the World Zionist Organization was created in 1906 in response to a small number of Jewish pioneers who moved to Palestine in 1882. The treaty was an accomplishment, but many Jews in Europe did not want to leave Germany, let alone leave to go to a desert in Palestine. Michael Wolffsohn, author of *Eternal Guilt? Forty Years of German-Jewish-Israeli Relations*, argued that the creation of the State of Israel was primarily due to the political, economic, social and military achievements of its founders. Second, once Israel was established in 1948, Israel needed resources to survive the initial influx of immigrants. West Germany supplied the resources in reparation for the Jews who suffered in the Holocaust. The State of Israel was established with the determination of the Zionist community as Wolffsohn points out, although the Holocaust gave Israel the money, population, resources and approval from other countries, which allowed Israel to survive and thrive for the past fifty years. Some of the leading problems that Israel faced were housing, hostile environment, huge balance of payments deficit, unemployment and lack of foreign currency. The main reason for all of the problems mentioned, according to Lily Gardner Feldman, Associate Professor of Political Science, was immigration. Over 1.5 million, fugitives from Central Europe settled in Palestine between 1918 and 1948. The Nazis had stripped the Jews of their possessions, resulting in hundreds of thousands of Jews wandering in Europe homeless. When many survivors returned to their cities, they were shocked to see others living in their homes. The territory on which Israel stands was called Palestine prior to 1948. A British Mandate controlled the territory and was responsible for establishing order. Jews and Arabs lived side by side, neither group dominating the region. The population in Palestine in 1948 consisted of 600,000 Jews and 900,000 Arabs. When the State of Israel was established, its first measure was to open its gates to Jews all over the world. Over 1.5 million Jews from Nazi-occupied Europe came to Israel between 1945 and 1955. In 1955, the numbers rose to 20,000 per month. In addition to the Jews in Europe, between 1948 and 1955, over 250,000 Sephardic Jews went to Israel as a safe refuge from Islamic Arabs. The mass immigration forced Israel into an economic crisis. Many of the Jews who came to Israel from Europe in 1948 were difficult welfare cases. Most Holocaust survivors came with nothing at all. The European Ashkenazim arrived in Israel with no possessions except some gold coins, some precious stones and some money that they were able to hide in the ghetto. Immigration was the chief problem, which resulted in other economic difficulties for Israel. Overall, the government had to convince the Israeli population to tighten their belts and reduce their standard of living. Balabkins, P. After Arab nations from neighboring countries learned of Israel independence, they attacked Israel from all fronts. Israel was victorious, but suffered heavy losses. The war left a lot of transportation infrastructures damaged and railroads cut off. These problems led Israel to seek outside help. Reparations Israeli political leaders communicated with the United States and England about receiving reparations from Germany. Nehemiah Robinson, head of the Institution of Jewish Affairs of the World Jewish Congress, of the money Nazis stole from Jews, either from stolen homes, jewelry, art and compensation for material damages to the Jews as a nation. Moral Debt and National Interest, the reason that the United States did not help Israel get money from Germany was because the government was far less concerned about the former enemy than about a possible threat from a new one,

the Communist bloc. Israeli leaders understood that if they wanted to receive reparations to help the country, they would need to start negotiations with West Germany. The Israeli government had a difficult time convincing Israeli citizens that they should ask for reparations from West Germany for the aftermath of the Holocaust. Every third Israeli had personally experienced the horrors of Nazism. Political leaders of Israel understood the emotional hatred Jews had toward West Germany, although Israel needed to get money in order to compensate all of the problems the country was having in its early stage. Nahum Goldmann, the leading negotiator with West Germany, argued that since the Nazis had looted Jewish property, it would be immoral for the Jews not to claim it back. You pay us; we forgive you. We are promising nothing; we are offering nothing. The difficulty that faced Israel was how Germany in , suffering from post-WWII economic downfall, was able to make an agreement. Factories, homes and lives were destroyed, and Germany did not have the financial ability to recuperate by . Years of talks continued until , when Israel and West Germany came up with the first important deal between the two nations. In , Israel was facing their hardest economic decline, which was reversed by the Luxembourg Treaty. If Israel was to avoid the danger of isolation by Western Europe, they would need to trade with West Germany. Germany and Israel saw each other as uniquely capable of fulfilling these needs which to a large extent were satisfied with the Luxembourg Treaty. Noah Barou, Vice President of the World Jewish Congress, demanded that the West German government assume a binding obligation to make collective reparation and accept the moral, political, and material responsibility for the deeds of the Third Reich. If the government and a minority of the public figures expressed their view that the German people owed a heavy moral debt to the Jews, the majority did not share that view. Jews in Israel and the Diaspora were unwilling to accept the fact that they were getting help from Germany. Chancellor Adenauer took the initiative in the negotiations with Israel and should be credited with a lot of praise. The treaty would give Israel the needed resources to survive the difficult first years of mass immigration, war, and economic crisis. There is no longer a Nazi Germany. On the Israeli side there is a readiness for close and normal relations and full cooperation. The Luxembourg Treaty helped Israel achieve a level of economic stability between and . The Treaty was divided into four separate agreements, one specifically pertaining to Israel. Israel had little need for cash, and West Germany had little means of supplying the cash. Israel needed raw materials to promote production. Therefore, some eighty- percent of the agreement was accepted in shipments of capital goods of all kinds. About individual enterprises, both large and small, received machinery and other equipment. Between and , exports and imports outside of the agreement started to emerge. On the other side, imports from Israel to West Germany increased; in imports were limited at DM. The economy in Israel was starting to rise and a lot of the economic upswing was due to the Luxembourg Treaty. In an interview Dr. The Hashilumim report offered five alternatives if the Luxembourg Treaty never existed. The first step was to reduce imports, which would lead to additional domestic resources. Then Israel would need to borrow abroad, resulting in foreign investments and unilateral transfers. After the Sinai campaign, few countries, including the United States, were willing to trade with Israel. Israeli leaders at this time felt that Israel needed to stop relying too much on the United States and start looking to other countries. West Germany was one of the countries Israel looked to because West Germany had an army that could help. Israeli leaders, such as Perez, felt that West Germany had the responsibility to protect Israel from Arab nations because of the Holocaust. Israel only agreed to buy arms from West Germany because nobody else would sell it to them and because of the serious security issues Israel was facing. The negotiations over the uzi pistol showed that West Germany continued to feel a sense of responsibility towards the Jewish State. By buying arms from Israel, trade between West Germany and the Arab nations suffered. The establishment of the State of Israel was a great accomplishment for the Jewish people. After being exiled for years, Israel was finally a home again for Jews all over the world. It would be nice to say that the Zionist organization and the desire of the Jewish people were enough to create Israel, but realistically, Israel needed outside help. The Holocaust provided resources for Israel, which helped Israel survive for over half a century. Many countries received independence after WWII, although no country succeeded economically as much as Israel. A lot of the success is due to the reparations given by West Germany to Israel and the continuation of trade between the two countries. The Holocaust was not the reason for the establishment of the State of Israel,

although reparations from West Germany helped Israel to stay economically viable in times of great struggle.