

MAPS OF ISRAEL'S HISTORY

The Kingdoms of David and Solomon: 1000 – 900 BC

King David is thought to have ruled Israel from around 1000 BC to 968 BC; and his son Solomon ruled after him until 928 BC. David enlarged his kingdom and brought it to the peak of political and military power. Solomon “*ruled over the kingdoms west of the Euphrates River from Tipshah to Gaza; he was at peace with all his neighbours*” (1 Kings 4:24). The map below shows the boundaries from David’s time as well as the modern boundaries of Israel and the Palestinian territories.



Jewish Communities in the Land of Israel (7th – 11th Centuries)

The Roman Empire conquered Israel and renamed it *Palestina*. After subduing Jewish revolts, the Romans destroyed Jerusalem in AD 70 and in AD 130. Many Jews were sold as slaves or fled into exile. But some Jewish communities remained in Israel, especially in the Galilee area and in the larger cities. So there was continuous Jewish life in Israel.



The British Mandate

During the 1914-1918 war Britain strengthened its strategic position by the McMahon-Hussein Correspondence (1915/1916), the Sykes-Picot Agreement with France (May 1916), and the Balfour Declaration (November 1917). Together, they raised expectations that were difficult to reconcile. In 1920, the San Remo Peace Conference gave Great Britain the Mandate for Palestine.



Separation of Transjordan (1922)

In 1921 the British decided to decrease the size of the Jewish national home and separate Transjordan. The League of Nations approved this change to the Mandate, which took effect in 1923.



1947 UN Partition Plan

In 1947, Great Britain relinquished to the UN the power to make decisions relating to the status of the Land of Israel. The General Assembly appointed a special committee that collected evidence and decided unanimously that Israel should be granted independence. Most of the committee members favoured partitioning the land into two states, a Jewish state and an Arab state, with Jerusalem under international supervision. On 29th November 1947 the UN General Assembly accepted the partition resolution by 33 votes to 13.



War of Independence and 1949 – 1967 Armistice Lines

Jewish leaders accepted the partition of the Palestine Mandate proposed by the UN, but Arab leaders did not. Israel declared independence when Britain withdrew its troops from the Mandate in May 1948. Five Arab armies then attacked the newly-formed state. The UN had no troops and no plan to enforce its partition proposals. Israel fought back and survived a year of fighting, even gaining a larger area. Armistice lines were drawn up in 1949 on the assumption they would be temporary, leaving the West Bank occupied by Jordan and Gaza occupied by Egypt.



June 10, 1967: Israel after the Six Day War

The Six Day War was the first major Arab attempt since 1948 to destroy Israel. An Egyptian-Syrian Defence Agreement was signed in November 1966. Then in May 1967 Egypt moved its military forces eastward across the Sinai desert towards the Israeli border and expelled UN Forces from the Gaza Strip and Sinai. Egypt closed the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping – an act of war against Israel. The governments of Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Lebanon all moved their forces toward the Israeli border. Israel responded to the growing threat and in six days captured the Sinai, the West Bank (Judea and Samaria), Gaza and the Golan Heights.



Resolution 242 (1967)

of 22 November 1967

The Security Council,

Expressing its continuing concern with the grave situation in the Middle East,

Emphasizing the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war and the need to work for a just and lasting peace in which every State in the area can live in security,

Emphasizing further that all Member States in their acceptance of the Charter of the United Nations have undertaken a commitment to act in accordance with Article 2 of the Charter,

1. *Affirms* that the fulfilment of Charter principles requires the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East which should include the application of both the following principles:

- (i) Withdrawal of Israel armed forces from territories occupied in the recent conflict;
- (ii) Termination of all claims or states of belligerency and respect for and acknowledgement of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of every State in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force;

2. *Affirms further* the necessity

(a) For guaranteeing freedom of navigation through international waterways in the area;

(b) For achieving a just settlement of the refugee problem;

(c) For guaranteeing the territorial inviolability and political independence of every State in the area, through measures including the establishment of demilitarized zones;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to designate a Special Representative to proceed to the Middle East to establish and maintain contacts with the States concerned in order to promote agreement and assist efforts to achieve a peaceful and accepted settlement in accordance with the provisions and principles in this resolution;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on the progress of the efforts of the Special Representative as soon as possible.



*Adopted unanimously at the
1382nd meeting.*

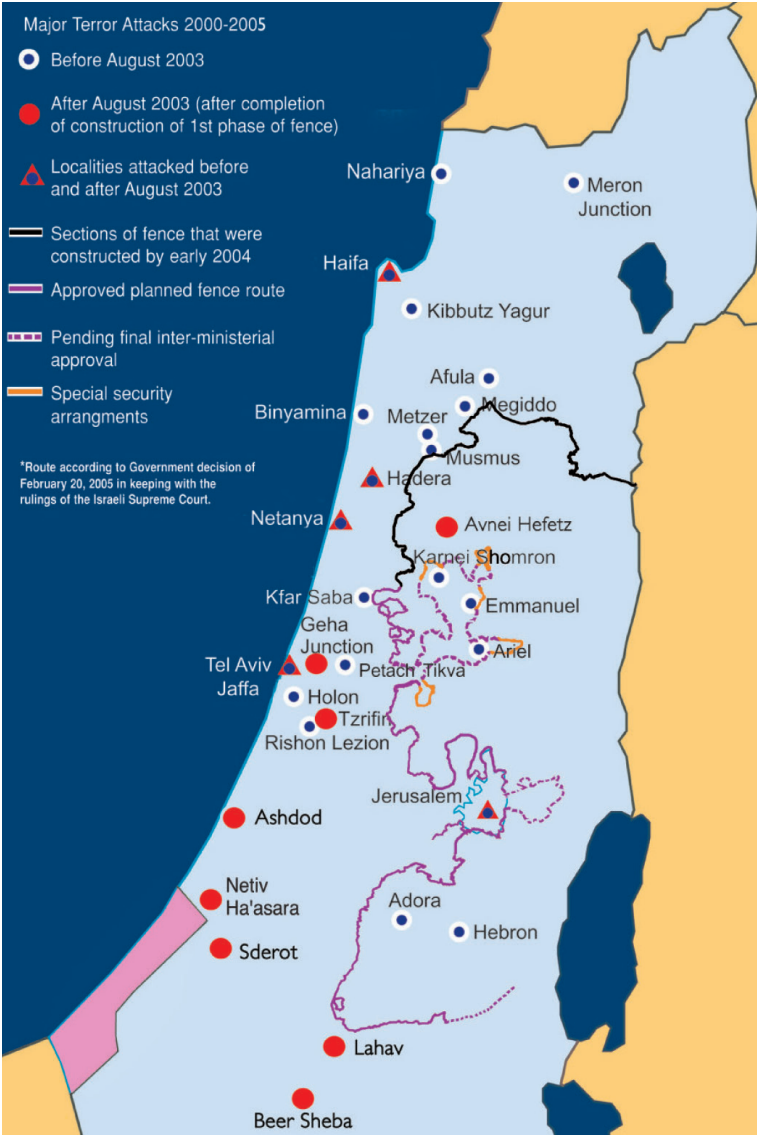
Modern Israel – Within Boundaries and Ceasefire Lines

In 1977 President Anwar Sadat of Egypt made a courageous visit to Israel – the first by an Arab leader. Two years later Egypt and Israel signed the Camp David Accords, returning Sinai to Egypt. In 1995 Israel and Jordan signed a peace treaty, agreeing their boundaries. On the basis of land for peace, the Oslo Agreements were signed in 1993 between Israel and the PLO, and further accords signed in 1997/1998. But the offer of 95% of the West Bank to the Palestinians was not enough to secure agreement at the Camp David negotiations between Ehud Barak for Israel and Yasser Arafat for the Palestinians. In 2005 Israel withdrew unilaterally from Gaza.



The Security Fence

Israel did not want to build the Security Fence, but the deaths of innocent men, women and children through suicide bomb attacks made it essential to protect Jews and Arabs alike. Approximately 95% of its total length is a high-tech chainlink fence with an early warning system, and approximately 5% is a concrete barrier. Please note that the map included on this page is the most up-to-date available from official, recognised sources.



Rocket fire since the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip:

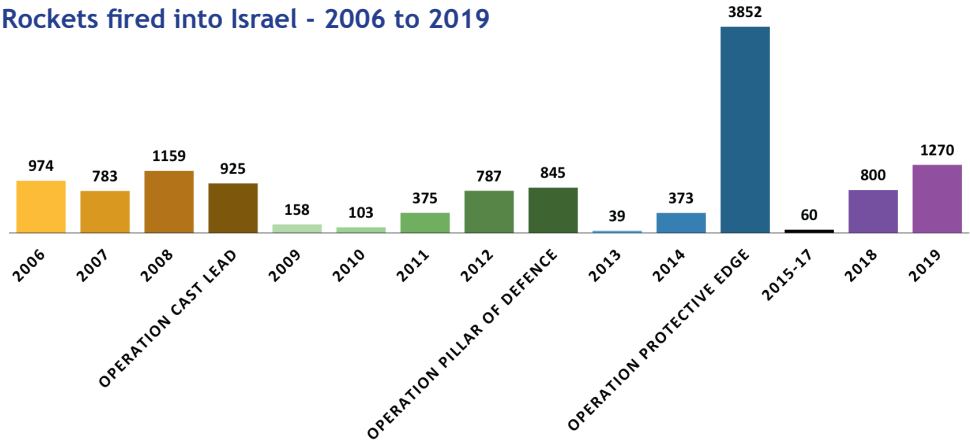
On the basis of the numbers killed in terror attacks in the two years before the Security Fence was built, and the numbers killed since then, it is estimated that the fence saved well over 2,000 lives (both Jews **and** Arabs) in more than six years. Sadly attacks have continued, but the fence makes their interception and thwarting much more likely. There is a similar security barrier around the Gaza Strip.

Since Israel’s withdrawal from Gaza in 2005 the terror organisations have fired rockets over the fence. They have frequently targeted Sderot in Israel, but also strategic installations near Ashdod, and since late 2012 large population centres including Ashkelon, Beersheba, Tel Aviv and even Jerusalem. Those living in communities nearest to the Gaza Strip only get 15 seconds warning of incoming short-range missiles and/or mortar shells; while those living or working further away from Gaza have just over 1 minute to seek shelter.

It is worth noting that if Israel withdrew from the whole of Judea and Samaria (commonly called the West Bank) back to the pre-67 ‘borders’ (which are actually ceasefire lines going back to Israel’s War of Independence in 1948), then planes taking off from Israel’s main airport (Ben Gurion) would be within the range of shoulder-fired missiles from the West Bank. In the light of what has happened in Gaza since Israel’s withdrawal, Israel needs safeguards to prevent a threat to its vital airport communications. At present the Security Fence is a strategic necessity – fences can be moved, but lives lost cannot be regained.

The number of rockets fired into Israel from Gaza between 2006 and 2014 prompted Israel to try to stop them through military action in ‘Operation Cast Lead’ at the end of 2008/beginning of 2009, ‘Operation Pillar of Defence’ in November 2012, and ‘Operation Protective Edge’ in July and August 2014.

Rockets fired into Israel - 2006 to 2019



Israel in Relation to the Middle East

The map below shows Israel in relation to the surrounding states of the Arab League. Israel is approximately 10,000 square miles - just one twentieth of the size of France, and equivalent to the size of Wales.



The maps and graphics in this booklet are copyrighted and used with permission
This edition ~ January 2020

For further details and resources, please contact:

CFI Charitable Trust

PO Box 2687, Eastbourne, BN22 7LZ

Phone: 01323 410810

Email: info@cfi.org.uk

Website: www.cfi.org.uk

UK Charity Registration No: 1101899

UK Company Registration No: 04984515