

## THE HISTORY OF PALESTINE/ISRAEL ISN'T COMPLICATED

### CHECK OUT THESE RESOURCES

**CHECK OUT** resources from [If Americans Knew \(IAK\)](#), including [How Palestine Became Israel](#).

### WATCH THE FOLLOWING:

- ***Creation and Catastrophe***. (2017). (1 hr. 25 mins.). About the creation of Israel and how it catastrophically affected Palestinians. Based on the personal recollections of Palestinians and Israelis, film footage, and historians' insights, including those of Israeli historian, Ilan Pappé.
- ***500 Dunams on the Moon***. (2002). (48 mins). Documents the 1948 Israeli expulsion of the Palestinian villagers living in Ayn Hawd. It was turned into an Israeli artist colony, Ein Hod. After the expulsion, the Palestinian villagers moved to a new location 1½ kilometers away, but their village has never been recognized by Israel and they do not receive any services.
- ***Conquer and Divide***. (2018). The Israeli human rights organization, B'Tselem, put together this detailed interactive map of the history of the Occupation of Palestine by Israel: <https://conquer-and-divide.btselem.org/map-en.html>
- ***Occupation 101***. (2006). (1 hr. 30 mins.). A powerful, historical exposition of the roots of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, life for Palestinians under Israeli military rule, the role of the United States in the conflict, and major obstacles standing in the way of a lasting and viable peace. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwLfpTBggF4>
- ***Stones Cry Out, The***. (2013). (55 mins.). A documentary about the impact of the Israeli occupation of Palestine on Christian Palestinians. For example, Bethlehem is now encircled by the apartheid wall, which cuts it off from Jerusalem and robs Palestinians of much of their agricultural land.
- ***They Were Promised the Sea***. (2013). (1 hr. 14 mins.). A myth-destroying documentary about the mass migration of Moroccan Jews to Israel after the 6-Day War in 1967; it challenges the notion that Jewish Moroccans were expelled. The film is the result of a search by the Canadian director, Kathy Wazana, into her family's Moroccan roots.

### WATCH or LISTEN TO the following:

- **Ilan Pappé's** Fall 2023 excellent talk, "[Crisis in Zionism, Opportunity for Palestine](#)," in which this Israeli historian provides an important historical context for events in Palestine/Israel.
- **Mazin Qumsiyah's** November 2023 powerful talk, ***Background & Current Situation in Gaza & the West Bank***. It has been removed from You Tube, but can be found on the Tree of Life website [here](#)—scroll down to News & Commentary.
- The excellent documentary [The Law and the Prophets](#). About the history of Palestine/Israel, it is available on You Tube for free. **Read** a letter from the filmmaker [here](#).

(An annotated list of other films and DVDs about Palestine/Israel is available under

RESOURCES on our website here.)

**READ the following:**

- **If Americans Knew (IAK) [12 Essential Facts for Understanding the Current Israel-Gaza Violence](#).** (Click on the title on the website to go to the page that explores this history,)
- **Phyllis Bennis' *Understanding the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict: A Primer*.** Bennis is a longtime analyst of the Middle East. In this book, which is written in a Q&A format, she provides succinct, yet comprehensive, answers to a multitude of commonly-voiced questions (e.g., What are the Occupied Territories?).
- **Rick Sterling's [A Few FACTS about Gaza](#),** which explains the historical context of what's happening in Gaza.
- **Alison Weir's *Against our Better Judgment: The Hidden History of How the U.S. Was Used to Create Israel*.** This book shows how, after World War II, President Truman supported the creation of a Jewish state in a region that was peopled by mostly Arab Muslims and Christians. Many high-ranking diplomats and military officials opposed this decision.
- **Thomas Suarez' *State of Terror: How Terrorism Created Modern Israel*.** The author shows how supporters of a Jewish state in Palestine used terror to achieve their aims (e.g., during the British Mandate in Palestine). Suarez draws on terrorists' own accounts, in which they boasted of their successes as well as intelligence briefings and secret diplomatic correspondence.
- **Joe Sacco's *Palestine: A Nation Occupied*.** A graphic nonfiction book about the experiences of the cartoonist/journalist in the West Bank and Gaza in December 1991 and January 1992.
- **Joe Sacco's *Footnotes in Gaza*.** Sacco is a cartoonist and journalist and this graphic nonfiction book focuses on the 1956 slaughter by Israeli forces of hundreds of Palestinians in two towns in Gaza, Khan Younis and Rafah.
- **Noam Chomsky & Ilan Pappé's *Gaza in Crisis: Reflections on Israel's War Against the Palestinians*.** The authors explore the fallout from Israel's conduct in the three-week bombardment of Gaza in December 2008 and January 2009, called Operation Cast Lead; they place it into the context of Israel's longstanding occupation of Palestine.
- **Ilan Pappé's *A History of Modern Palestine: One Land, Two Peoples*.** This history of modern Palestine traces events from the 19th century through the early 21st century. Pappé explains why well-publicized events failed (e.g., the Oslo Accords).
- **Ilan Pappé's *The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine*.** In this book, the author, an Israeli historian who now lives in England, uses archival evidence to show how, between 1947 and 1948, Israel destroyed hundreds of Palestinian villages, massacred civilians, and forcibly expelled about one million Palestinians at gunpoint.

(See other books about Palestine/Israel under RESOURCES on our website at [www.norcalsabeel.org](http://www.norcalsabeel.org). We also list books for children about Palestine on our website here.)