

The look of the Israeli flag is based on the tallit (prayer shawl)



There are 2,800+ plant species identified in Israel



The Dead Sea is the lowest place on Earth



Israel's national bird is the Hoopoe



Israel is the only country to revive an unspoken language and establish it as its national tongue



The great majority of the population, both Jewish and Arab, reside in urban areas



Israel has 137 beaches



Voicemail technology was developed in Israel



Israel has a population of over



9 MILLION

Israel is only about **470KM** North-to-South

East-to-West it's **135KM** at its widest point



And is bordered by snowy peaks at one end and a desert beach on the other

Israel is only 1 of 9 countries in the world that can launch its own satellites into space



The State of Israel is the only Jewish nation in the modern period



Jews
6.9M
(74%)



Arabs
1.98M
(21%)



Other*
0.4M
(5%)

*Others include Bedouins, Druze, Bahá'í and non-religious groups



THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS

The Abraham Accords are a series of treaties normalising diplomatic relations between Israel, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain, Sudan, and Morocco.

The agreements were called “The Abraham Accords” in honour of Abraham – the patriarch of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

- The Abraham Accords began with the **Israel-UAE agreement in August, 2020.**
- **Israel and Bahrain** announced a similar agreement in **September, 2020.**
- **Israel and Sudan** signed a normalisation agreement in **October, 2020.**
- **Israel and Morocco** announced a normalisation agreement in **December, 2020.**

Hamas stated that these agreements “served the Zionist narrative” and that Arab states should continue to engage in anti-normalisation. These statements led to backlash in the Arab world.

These 4 nations join Egypt (peace treaty in 1978) and Jordan (peace treaty in 1994) in taking steps to bring about peace between Israel and its neighbours.



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, United Arab Emirates Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed, and Bahrain's Foreign Minister Abdullatif Al Zayani

JEWISH POPULATIONS IN ARAB COUNTRIES

For over 2,500 years Jews lived continuously in North Africa, the Middle East and the Gulf region. Throughout the generations, Jews in the region were often subjected to forms of discrimination, pogroms, targeted attacks and antisemitism.

	1948	1958	1968	1978	2018
Algeria	140,000	130,000	1,500	1,000	<50
Egypt	75,000	15,000	1,000	400	100
Iraq	135,000	6,000	2,500	350	<10
Lebanon	5,000	6,000	3,000	400	<100
Libya	38,000	3,750	100	40	0
Morocco	265,000	200,000	50,000	18,000	2,150
Syria	30,000	5,000	4,000	4,500	100
Tunisia	105,000	80,000	10,000	7,000	1,050
Yemen (Aden)	63,000	4,300	500	500	<50
	851,000	469,060	69,600	31,790	3,330



Meir Tweig Synagogue in Iraq

TIMELINE of Israel-Palestinian Agreements & Talks

2007-
2010

Peace talks in '07, '09 and 2010 between Israel and PA, no positive outcome.

2005

Israel disengages from Gaza.

2001

Taba Summit – Additional 17% land offered to Palestinians. Palestinian negotiators accepted this as basis to continue. Later talks broke down and Ariel Sharon, Israel's new PM showed no interest in continuing.

2000

Camp David Summit – Gave sovereignty of 66% of the West Bank to Palestinians. Monetary compensation for lack of right of return. Arafat rejected, with no counter offer.

1993

Oslo Accords – Plans to create a Palestinian state, including designations of Areas A, B and C. This was the first face-to-face agreement between the government of Israel and the PLO.

1991
-1993

Madrid talks – An attempt by the international community to revive the Israeli-Palestinian peace process through negotiations, involving Israel and the Palestinians as well as Arab countries.

1947

UN resolution 181 – UN partition Plan – An end to the British mandate in Israel and the establishment of two states (Jewish and Arab) and an international zone in Jerusalem.

1988

Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) declaration of independence (perceived acceptance of 2 state solution).



Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, U.S. President Bill Clinton, and Yasser Arafat at the Oslo Accords signing ceremony

WHAT IS ZIONISM?

Zionism, **the national liberation movement of the Jewish people**, brought about the establishment of the State of Israel. It views a Jewish, Zionist, democratic and secure State of Israel to be the expression of the common responsibility of the Jewish people for its continuity and future.

The establishment of the State of Israel in 1948 marked the **realisation of Zionism's central goal of attaining an internationally recognised**, legally secured home for the Jewish people, where Jews would be free from persecution and able to develop their national identity.

WHAT IS NEXT?

Post 1948, the **Jerusalem Program became the ideological platform** of the Zionist Movement, and was initially adopted in 1951.

The Jerusalem Program **shifted the goals of the Zionist Movement** once the State of Israel was already established.

The task of Zionism became the consolidation of the State of Israel, the gathering of exiles in the Land of Israel, and the **fostering of the unity of the Jewish people**.



Theodor Herzl on the balcony in Basel, Switzerland

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ISRAEL?



1 Tiberius 2 Two State Solution 3 Knesset 4 Fatah 5 Jerusalem 6 Abraham Accords
7 West Bank 8 Masada 9 Druze 10 Oslo Accords

1. Roman Emperor and Israel's largest freshwater lake
2. Binational peace agreement for Israel-Palestine, commonly accepted internationally
3. The Israeli Parliament
4. Ruling party of The Palestinian Authority
5. The holy city significant to Islam, Judaism and Christianity
6. The recent series of peace agreements between Israel and its Arab neighbours
7. The Oslo Accords created administrative districts of Areas A, B and C in..
8. An ancient fortification in South Israel situated on top of an isolated rock plateau
9. An Abrahamic religious group living primarily in Israel, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon
10. 1993 peace agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ISRAEL?



www.ujs.org.uk/israelportal