

most of the time until the 1900s.

Modern Palestine

In 1917, during World War I, British forces took control of Palestine. Great Britain governed Palestine from the end of the war until 1948. During this period many Jews moved to Palestine from around the world. In 1948 Israel was created as a Jewish homeland.

The surrounding Arab countries did not like having a Jewish country in Palestine. They fought several wars with Israel. During the wars Israel took land from the Arabs. That land included two parts of Palestine called the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The Arabs who lived in Palestine before Israel was created are called Palestinians. After Israel was created, many Palestinians had to leave their homeland. Some Palestinians started a movement to take back Palestine. In 1964 they formed the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). Palestinians sometimes attacked Israelis, and Israelis fought back. In the 1990s Israeli and Palestinian leaders began trying to come up with a peaceful solution for sharing Palestine. However, fighting continued.

"Palestine ." *Britannica Elementary Encyclopedia*. Encyclopædia Britannica Online School Edition. Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 2012. Web. 19 Oct. 2012.
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