

Chair Statement

Forum: General Assembly

Issue: Future government of Palestine

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Overview

In 1917 the British government announced Balfour Declaration, which supports the Jewish to establish a “national home for the Jewish people in the Palestine”. This declaration was wildly agreed by the Jewish but opposed by Arab leaders. Because they believe that it disobeys the promise with Hussein in 1916, that the British government would recognize the Arabic country in exchange for Arab fighting the Ottomans in WWI. Meantime Arab leaders believe that a big Arabic country should be formed that include the Levant region. Thus, the conflict shows up in the Palestine area. As the problem develops Arab start to call for a new country under the Mandate of the British and end the supports to Jewish. After the war, based on the 1920 San Remo Resolution by the League of Nations the British is the country that mandate the Palestine region. Before the resolution become effective UK and France work together and form the “Occupied Enemy Territory Administration” (OETA) and the Palestine region is under the control of OETA South. Although under the control of the British the Zionist and Arab are very active in revolting the country, the Palestine region passes a “stable” time during WWII. After WWII the British’s control of the region comes to an end. Therefore the United Nations takes hands on the problem.

Key Terms

Locations

The Middle East

A region that spans Europe's easternmost part and the westernmost part of Asia. And since the countries fall on two different continents, the Middle East is considered a transcontinental region, not a continent or country.

Noting that most countries are part of the Arab world, which strongly against the establishment of Israel.



Palestine, the area of the eastern Mediterranean region, comprises parts of modern Israel and the Palestinian territories of the Gaza Strip (along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea) and the West Bank (west of the Jordan River). However, this region is known for the conflict on its affiliation between the Jews and Arabs.

Palestine 1917

1917

Pre-British Mandate Palestine



On October 31, 1917, British forces conquered Palestine from the Ottoman-Turks, ending 1,400 years of Islamic rule over the region.

Before the British Mandate in Palestine, Jews made up around **six percent of the total population**.



Palestine 1920 - 1947

1918-1947

Jewish immigration from Europe



Under the British Mandate, the **Jewish population in Palestine increased from 6 percent (1918) to 33 percent (1947)**.



Jerusalem 1947

A holy city for Jews (see also Jews), Christians (see also Christian), and Muslims; the capital of the ancient kingdom of Judah and of the modern state of Israel. The name means “**city of peace**.” Jerusalem is often called Zion; Mount Zion is the hill on which the fortress of the city was built.



Ethnics and Religion

Arabs

An Arab can be defined as **a member of a Semitic people**, inhabiting much of the Middle East and North Africa. The ties that bind Arabs are ethnic, linguistic, cultural, historical, nationalist, geographical, political, often also relating to religion and to cultural identity.

Jewish

Relating to, associated with, or denoting Jewish people or Judaism. They often have a strong sense of belonging, since in the past 2000 years, they have been oppressed by other ethnic groups like the Aryans during WWII. Due to their tragic undergo during the war, more and more Jews now have a strong demand of have their own countries; and they believe the best place to establish their country is at the middle east — Jerusalem.

The Bible

The Christian scriptures, consisting of the Old and New Testaments. Seen by many people as the "guide book" of their behavior and life. The Old portion of the Bible is adopted from the Talmud.

The Koran

The Islamic sacred book, believed to be the word of God as dictated to Muhammad by the archangel Gabriel and written down in Arabic. The beliefs in this book is adopted by most of the Arab world at that time; however, it has been misused by many Arab country leaders as well.

The Talmud

The body of Jewish civil and ceremonial law and legend comprising the Mishnah and the Gemara. This is the "Bible for most of the Jewish people.

Judaism

Judaism is the world's oldest monotheistic religion, dating back nearly 4,000 years. Followers of Judaism believe in one God who revealed himself through ancient prophets. The history of Judaism is essential to understanding the Jewish faith, which has a rich heritage of law, culture, and tradition.

Islam

The religion of the Muslims, a monotheistic faith regarded as revealed through Muhammad as the Prophet of Allah.

Zionism

A movement for (originally) the re-establishment and (now) the development and protection of a Jewish nation in what is now Israel. It was established as a political organization in 1897 under Theodor Herzl, and was later led by Chaim Weizmann.

Arab League

Founded in 1945, the League of Arab States (LAS, or Arab League) is the oldest existing international organization in the world, predating even the creation of the United Nations.

Agreements

Faisal–Weizmann Agreement

In June 1918 Dr Chaim Weizmann, president of the Zionist Organization travelled to Transjordan to meet Emir Faisal, son of King Hussein of Hejaz. They informally agreed that the Zionist organization would support the creation of an Arab Kingdom after the war while Faisal and his associates would support a Jewish settlement in Palestine.

McMahon-Hussein Correspondence

In general terms, the correspondence effectively traded British support of an independent Arab state for Arab assistance in opposing the Ottoman Empire. It was later contradicted by the incompatible terms of the Sykes-Picot Agreement, secretly concluded between Britain and France in May 1916, and Britain's Balfour Declaration of 1917.

Sykes-Picot Agreement

The agreement led to the division of Turkish-held Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, and Palestine into various French- and British-administered areas.

Important Event/Timelines

1914 WWI started – The majority joined on the side of the Allies, including Serbia, Russia, France, Britain, Italy and the United States. They were opposed by Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire, who together formed the Central Powers.

1915 McMahon-Hussein Correspondence - a series of letters that were exchanged during World War I in which the Government of the United Kingdom agreed to recognize Arab independence after the war in exchange for the Sharif of Mecca launching the Arab Revolt

1917 Balfour Declaration - Balfour Declaration, (November 2, 1917), statement of British support for “the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people.”

1917 OETA formed - a joint British, French and Arab military administration over Levantine provinces of the former Ottoman Empire between 1917 and 1920, set up on 23 October 1917 following the Sinai and Palestine Campaign and Arab Revolt of World War I

1919 Paris Peace Conference - the formal meeting in 1919 and 1920 of the victorious Allies after the end of World War I to set the peace terms for the defeated Central Powers.

1920 San Remo Resolution - an international meeting of the post-World War I Allied Supreme Council as an outgrowth of the Paris Peace Conference, held at Villa Devachan in Sanremo, Italy, from 19 to 26 April 1920.

1920 End of OETA

1929 The Arab revolt - a military uprising of Arab forces against the Ottoman Empire in the Middle Eastern theatre of World War I.

1939 WWII started

1945 WWII Ended

1947 Present – See Overview

Major Nations/Organizations

League of Nations

League of Nations is an international organization among nations, it was formed after WWI. And it stop operations on 20 April 1946. The organization is concerning labor conditions, human and drug trafficking, global health, and other global issues. League of Nations gives their resolution on the Palestine region in the San Remo Resolution. But the resolution on Palestine expired in 1948.

OETA

Occupied Enemy Territory Administration(OETA) is an organization that is from by U.K., France, and Arab military administrations. Just like it described in its name, this administration is transition administration for over Levantine provinces of the former Ottoman Empire between 1917 and 1920.

Important Documents/Past UN Solutions

A/RES/181(II) Future Government of Palestine

History resolution made by the General Assembly. It suggests that the Palestine region divides the Palestine region by separating into a Jewish state, an Arab state, and the city Jerusalem.

MANDATE FOR PALESTINE by league of nation

Resolution made by League of Nations in 1920, by letting British control the region until Jewish and Arab could have their own solution.

Official Records of the second session of the general assembly Supplement N0.11 United Nations Special Committee on Palestine Report to the general assembly Volume 1

The report was made by UNSCOP.

Possible solutions

The Security Council take the necessary measures as provided for in the plan for its implementation;

The Security Council consider, if circumstances during the transitional period require such consideration, whether the situation in Palestine constitutes a threat to the peace. If it decides that such a threat exists, and in order to maintain international peace and security, the Security Council should supplement the authorization of the General Assembly by taking measures, under Articles 39 and 41 of the Charter, to empower the United Nations Commission, as provided in this resolution, to exercise in Palestine the functions which are assigned to it by this resolution;

The Security Council determine as a threat to the peace, breach of the peace or act of aggression, in accordance with Article 39 of the Charter, any attempt to alter by force the settlement envisaged by this resolution;

The Trusteeship Council be informed of the responsibilities envisaged for it in this plan;

Calls upon the inhabitants of Palestine to take such steps as may be necessary on their part to put this plan into effect.

Additional Links [*Links only*]

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https://www.un.org/unispal/history2/origins-and-evolution-of-the-palestine-problem/part-i-1917-1947/#The_Revolt_of_1929

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