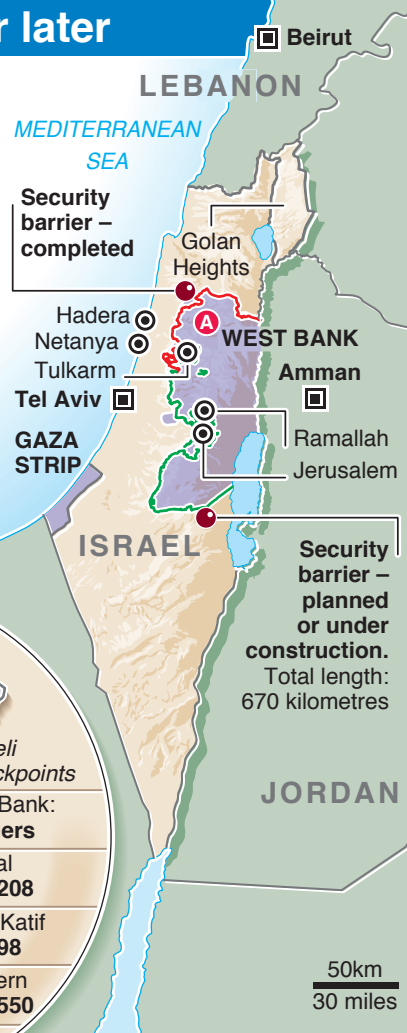


# After Arafat – one year later

Beirut



**Nov 11, 2004:** Palestinian President **Yasser Arafat** dies of multiple organ failure at a French military hospital. Exact cause of 75-year-old leader's illness remains a mystery

**Nov 22:** **Mahmoud Abbas** replaces Arafat as chairman of the **Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)**

**Jan 9, 2005:** Abbas wins 62.3% of vote in presidential election

**Jan 15:** Abbas sworn in as new Palestinian president – uses his inauguration speech to call for ceasefire between Israel and Palestinian militants

**Feb 8:** Abbas and Israeli Premier **Ariel Sharon** announce ceasefire at **Sharm El Sheikh** summit. **Intifada** deemed over – Israel agrees to free around 900 Palestinian prisoners and suspend targeted killings

**Death toll (Sep 29, 2000 – Feb 8, 2005)**

**Palestinians killed** 3,392

**Israelis killed** 695

**Feb 20:** Israeli cabinet approves Gaza disengagement plan and current planned route of highly controversial **West Bank security barrier**

**May 26:** Abbas received at White House by U.S. President **George W. Bush** and promised \$50 million aid

**Jun 2:** Israel releases almost 400 more Palestinian prisoners as part of ceasefire deal. An estimated 7,500 Palestinian prisoners remain in Israeli jails

**EGYPT**

**GAZA STRIP / WEST BANK PULLOUT**



**Jun 18:** U.S. Secretary of State **Condoleezza Rice** visits Abbas and Sharon, insisting that both sides work together on Israel's plan to pull out of Gaza

**Jun 21:** Summit between Abbas and Sharon on wider peace talks ends in failure – Israel resumes targeted killings of Palestinian militants

**Jul 13-16:** Islamic Jihad suicide bomber kills six in Netanya shopping centre. Israeli responds with attack on group's leadership in West Bank town of Tulkarm

**Aug 15-25:** Gaza and West Bank pullout – 21 settlements in Gaza and four in northern West Bank evacuated

**Aug 28:** Suicide bomber wounds 20 people at Beersheba's central bus station

**Sep 23:** Violence escalates as Israel responds to Hamas rocket attacks with targeted killings in Gaza

**Oct 27:** Five people killed in suicide bomb attack in northern Israeli town of Hadera. Islamic Jihad claims responsibility

**Nov 1:** Targeted killing of senior members of **Izz al-Din Qassam** and **al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades**

**Death toll (Feb 8 – Nov 5)**

**Palestinians killed** 230

**Israelis killed** 49



**Feb 21:** First of 500 Palestinian prisoners freed in largest release by Israel in a decade

**Feb 25:** Suicide bombing by **Islamic Jihad** kills five in Tel Aviv. Abbas condemns attack, promising to "hunt down" those responsible

**Mar 16:** Talks open in Cairo aimed at getting militant groups to agree full ceasefire with Israel. **Hamas** resists, but agrees to **tahadia (calm)** – an informal lull in attacks

