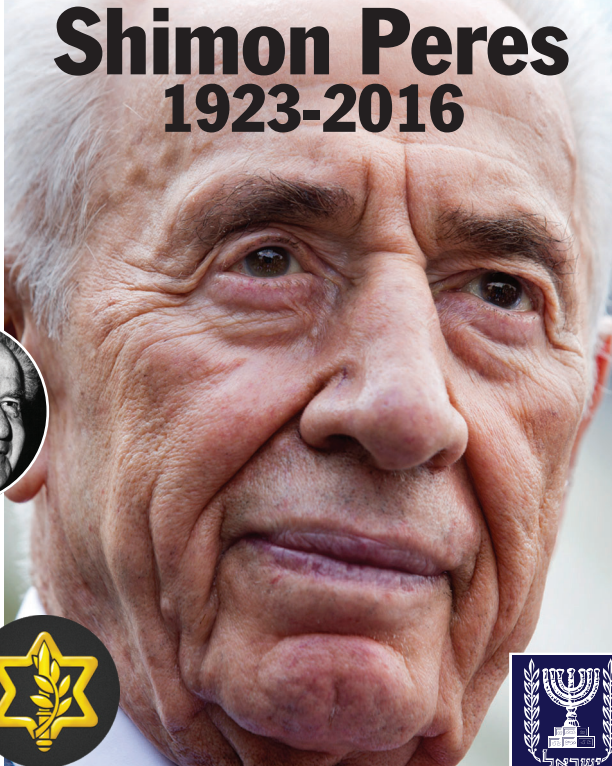


Shimon Peres 1923-2016



■ **Aug 2, 1923:** Born **Szymon Perski** in Wiszniew, Poland (now Vishnyeva, Belarus)

■ **1934:** Emigrates with family at age 11 to British-administered Palestine

■ **1945:** Peres marries **Sonya Gelman**. They have three children

■ **1947:** Joins Haganah – Zionist military organization – under direction of political mentor **David Ben-Gurion**



■ **1948:** Israel gains independence – Prime Minister Ben-Gurion appoints Peres, aged 24, head of Israel's navy

■ **1953:** Director general of defence ministry and later deputy defence minister (1959–65).

Instrumental role in planning 1956 Sinai Campaign and in developing Israel's military, including nuclear programme

■ **1959:** First elected to Knesset – parliamentary career lasts 48 years

■ **1974:** As defence minister in government of **Yitzhak Rabin**, Peres supervises disengagement of Israeli forces on Egyptian front following 1973 Yom Kippur War



■ **1977:** Peres becomes head of Labour party, but is defeated in that year's election by Likud leader **Menachem Begin**, and again in 1981

■ **1984:** Likud-Labour national unity government formed following indecisive election – Peres shares role of prime minister with Likud leader **Yitzhak Shamir**



■ **1985:** Under moderate leadership of Peres, Israel withdraws forces from controversial incursion into Lebanon

■ **1988:** Labour and Likud form new coalition – Peres is finance minister

■ **1990:** Resigns after failing to carry vote of no-confidence against Likud-led government

■ **1992:** Rabin leads Labour to victory. As foreign minister, Peres starts negotiations which lead to Israel's first interim peace accord with Palestinians

■ **1994:** Peres, Rabin and Palestinian leader **Yasser Arafat** awarded Nobel Peace Prize for negotiating Oslo accords



■ **Nov 4, 1995:** **Yitzhak Rabin assassinated** – Peres takes over as prime minister

■ **1996:** Narrowly defeated in bid for reelection by Likud's **Benjamin Netanyahu**



■ **1997:** Peres replaced by **Ehud Barak** as leader of Labour Party

■ **2001:** Barak defeated in general election. At height of Second Intifada, Peres takes Labour into national unity government with **Ariel Sharon's** Likud

■ **2005:** Leaves Labour to join new centrist **Kadima** party alongside old adversary Sharon

■ **Jun 2007:** Elected to largely ceremonial post of Israeli president

■ **Nov:** Addresses Turkish parliament – first Israeli president to speak before legislature of Muslim nation



■ **2012:** Receives U.S. **Presidential Medal of Freedom** from President **Barack Obama**



■ **2014:** Leaves office as president

■ **Sep 28, 2016:** **Shimon Peres dies** aged 93, two weeks after suffering stroke