

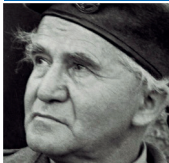
Seven decades of Israel's independence

May 14, 1948: Israel's first Prime Minister **David Ben-Gurion** signs declaration which establishes **State of Israel**

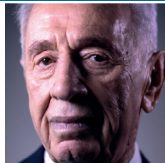
May 15: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Syria launch **First Arab-Israeli War**

Mar 10, 1949: Ceasefire declared. Jordan annexes West Bank and East Jerusalem, Egypt takes control of Gaza Strip

PRIME MINISTERS OF ISRAEL



David Ben-Gurion
May 17, 1948-
Jan 26, 1954



Shimon Peres
Sep 13, 1984-
Oct 20, 1986



Moshe Sharett
Jan 26, 1954-
Nov 3, 1955



Yitzhak Shamir
Oct 20, 1986-
Jul 13, 1992



David Ben-Gurion
Nov 3, 1955-
Jun 26, 1963



Yitzhak Rabin
Jul 13, 1992-
Nov 4, 1995



Levi Eshkol
Jun 26, 1963-
Feb 26, 1969



Shimon Peres
Nov 4, 1995-
Jun 18, 1996



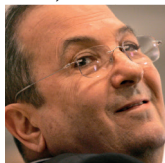
Yigal Allon
Acting PM
Feb 26, 1969-
Mar 17, 1969



Benjamin Netanyahu
Jun 18, 1996-
Jul 6, 1999



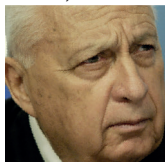
Golda Meir
Mar 17, 1969-
Jun 3, 1974



Ehud Barak
Jul 6, 1999-
Mar 7, 2001



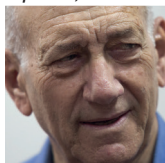
Yitzhak Rabin
Jun 3, 1974-
Jun 20, 1977



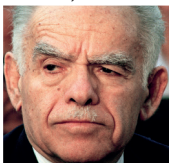
Ariel Sharon
Mar 7, 2001-
Apr 14, 2006



Menachem Begin
Jun 20, 1977-
Oct 10, 1983



Ehud Olmert
Apr 14, 2006-
Mar 31, 2009



Yitzhak Shamir
Oct 10, 1983-
Sep 13, 1984

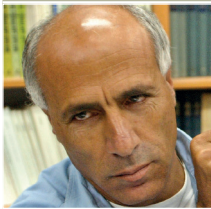


Benjamin Netanyahu
Mar 31, 2009-

1982, Lebanon War: Israel occupies southern Lebanon after repeated attacks by **Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)**. Massacre of Palestinians at **Sabra and Shatila** refugee camps in Beirut, by Israel's Christian Phalangist allies, triggers mass protests in Israel

1984: 7,000 Ethiopian Jews flown to Israel to escape Sudan civil war

1985: Israel withdraws from most of Lebanon



1986: Former nuclear technician **Mordechai Vanunu** reveals details of Israel's nuclear weapons programme at Dimona

1987-93, First Intifada: Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation of West Bank and Gaza

1992: Prime Minister **Yitzhak Rabin** pledges to halt Jewish settlement expansion programme, opens secret talks with PLO

May 1996: Likud takes power under **Benjamin Netanyahu** who pledges to halt further concessions to Palestinians

2000: Likud leader **Ariel Sharon** declares Jerusalem's **Temple Mount** – known to Muslims as **Haram al-Sharif** – will remain under perpetual Israeli control. Palestinian protests escalate into **Second Intifada**



2002: Israel begins building controversial West Bank barrier

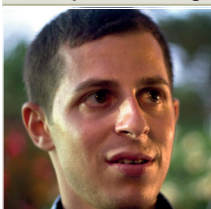
2005: Prime Minister Ariel Sharon withdraws Israeli army from Gaza. 8,000 Jewish settlers in Gaza Strip are relocated

2006: Abduction of two Israeli soldiers by **Hezbollah** escalates into **Second Lebanon War**

Sep 2007: Israeli Air Force destroys Syrian nuclear reactor under construction near Deir ez-Zor

Dec 2008: Israel launches full-scale invasion of Gaza to prevent **Hamas** from launching rockets

2009: Right-wing parties prevail in elections, Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu forms government



Oct 2011: Hamas releases Israeli soldier **Gilad Shalit** – after more than five years of captivity – in exchange for 1,027 prisoners

Nov 2012: Israel launches campaign against Gaza-based armed groups following rocket attacks

Jul-Aug 2014: Military offensive in Gaza following kidnap and murder of three Israeli teenagers

Jun 2017: Work begins on first new Jewish settlement in West Bank for 25 years

Dec: U.S. President **Donald Trump** recognises Jerusalem as capital of Israel

May 14, 2018: Official move of U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem to mark Israel's 70th anniversary



Naqba – “Catastrophe”: Around 750,000 people from population of 1.9 million Palestinian Arabs become refugees

1956-57, Suez Crisis: Israel, Britain and France invade Egypt after Egyptian President **Gamal Abdel Nasser** nationalizes Suez Canal and threatens oil shipments to Europe



1957: Israel, with French assistance, begins construction of nuclear reactor at Dimona in Negev Desert



1961: Trial and execution of Nazi war criminal **Adolf Eichmann**, found and kidnapped by Israeli agents in Argentina

Jun 5-10, 1967, Six Day War: Egypt moves troops into Sinai desert and closes Strait of Tiran to Israeli shipping. Israel launches pre-emptive airstrikes, seizing East Jerusalem, West Bank, Gaza, Golan Heights and Sinai

1972, Munich massacre: Palestinian **Black September** gunmen take Israeli team hostage at Munich Olympics. Eleven Israelis are killed



Oct 6-25, 1973, Yom Kippur War: Egypt and Syria launch co-ordinated attacks against Israeli forces in Sinai and Golan Heights to recover territories lost in Six-Day War. Israel prevails, but at cost of heavy casualties on all sides



Jul 1976: Egyptian President **Anwar Sadat**, U.S. President **Jimmy Carter**, and Israeli Prime Minister **Menachem Begin** sign peace treaty between Egypt and Israel