PALESTINE 1948

COMMEMORATION OF AL NAKBA

The Towns and Villages Depopulated by the Zionist Invasion of 1948

Prepared by : Salman Abu-Sitta, Copyright 1998.

The dispossessed Palestinians ...

Where do they come from ?

District	Depopulated Towns & Villages	Dispossessed 1948	Population 2000
Acre	30	47,038	306,755
Ramleh	64	97,405	533,215
Baysan	31	19,502	127,832
Beersheba	88	90,507	590,231
Gaza	46	79,947	521,365
Haifa	39	171,196	790,365
Hebron	16	22,991	149,933
Jaffa	25	123,227	803,610
Jerusalem	39	97,930	538,759
Jenin	6	4,005	26,118
Nazareth	5	8,746	57,035
Safad	78	52,248	340,729
Tiberias	26	28,872	188,285
Tulkarm	18	11,333	71,944
Total	**531**	**805,067**	**5,248,185**

The dispossessed are 85% of the people of the land that became Israel ...

Where is their land ?

	Sq. km
Pre-1948 Jewish-controlled Land	1,682
Remaining Palestinians' Land	1,465 -(more than half
Expelled Palestinians' Land	17,178 confiscated)
Total Israel	**20,325**

That is, 92% of the land that became Israel is Palestinian ...

Why did they leave ?

According to Israeli historians :

	Localities
Expulsion by Jewish forces	122
Military assault by Jewish troops	270
Fear of Jewish attack, or of being caught in the fighting	38
Influence of fall of neighbouring town	49
Psychological warfare	12
Abandonment on Arab orders	6
Unknown	54
Total	**531**

That is, 90% were attacked by Jewish forces ...

... and terrorized by massacres at ...

Village/Town	Date
al Abbasiyya	04-05-48
Abu Shusha	14-05-48
Ayn az Zaytun	02-05-48
Balad ash Sheikh	25-04-48
Bayt Daras	21-05-48
Beer Sheba	21-10-48
Burayr	12-05-48
al Dawayima	29-10-48
Dayr Yassin	09-04-48
Eilaboun	29-10-48
Haifa	21-04-48
Hawwassa	25-04-48
Husayniyya	21-04-48
Jjrim	24-07-48
Ishud	28-10-48
Jish	29-10-48
al Kabri	21-05-48
al Khisas	18-12-47 ,25- 5-48
Khulbhayza	12-05-48
Lydda	10-07-48
Majd al Kurum	29-10-48
Mansura al Khayt	18-01-48
Nasir ad Din, Khirbet	12-04-48
Qazaza	09-07-48 ,19- 12-47
Qisarya	15-02-48
Sa'sa	30-10-48
Safsaf	29-10-48
Saliha	30-10-48
Arab al Samniyya	30-10-48
al Tantoura	21-05-48
al Tira (Haifa)	16-07-48
al Wa'ra al-Sawda	18-04-48
Wadi 'Ara	27-02-48

Also at : Abu Zarzyk, Awlam, Azzazma and Altaiaga (Negev), Dayr al Asad, Bi'ne, Ibit, Sha'b, Tel Gezer, Umm al Shauf and Hula (Lebanon).

When did they leave ?

	No of Localities	No of Refugees
While under the protection of the British Mandate (before Israel was created)	213	413,794 (52%)
During 1948 War	264	339,272 (42%)
After signing the Armistice Agreements * including unknown dates	54*	52,001 (6%)
Total	**531**	**805,067 (100%)**

More than half of the refugees were expelled by Jewish forces before Israel was created on Palestinian land...

After 50 years of dispossession, where are the Palestinian refugees today?

Place of refuge	All Population (2000)	of which : Refugees
Palestine 1948 (Israel)	1,012,547	(250,000 internal)
Gaza Strip	1,095,707	813,570
West Bank	1,695,429	693,285
Jordan	2,472,501	1,840,666
Lebanon	459,824	433,276
Syria	494,501	472,475
Egypt	51,805	42,974
Saudi Arabia	291,778	291,778
Kuwait	40,031	39,499
Other Gulf	112,116	112,116
Iraq, Libya	78,884	78,884
Other Arab Countries	5,887	5,887
The Americas	215,195	183,767
Other Countries	275,303	234,008
Total	**8,270,509**	**5,248,186**

Two thirds of the Palestinians are refugees not allowed to return home, because they are not Jews. Meanwhile, Russian and Ethiopian immigrants are pouring in daily...

Denial of the Right of Return is perpetuation of Ethnic Cleansing which is a War Crime.

Should and Can the Palestinian Refugees Return Home ?

Yes. Because the Right of Return is .....

Sacred,

It is in the psyche of every Palestinian. No peace can prevail without it.

Legal,

It is a basic right, derived from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and all international and regional covenants.
It is an individual right derived from the sanctity of private ownership and a collective right derived from the Principle of Self-Determination.
It has no statute of limitation and cannot be extinguished by a treaty or the establishment of a state.
It is affirmed by the UN resolution 194 and repeatedly confirmed by the international community over 110 times in 50 years, unparalled in UN history.

and

Possible.

78% of Jews live in 14% of Israel. The remaining 22% of Jews live in 86% of Israel's area, which is Palestinian land. Most of them live in a dozen or two Palestinian towns. A tiny minority lives in Kibbutz, now ideologically and economically bankrupt. This minority exploits the vast Palestinian land.

Thus, only 200,000 Jews exploit 17,325 sq. km, which is the home and heritage of 5,248,180 refugees, crammed in camps and denied the right to return home ...

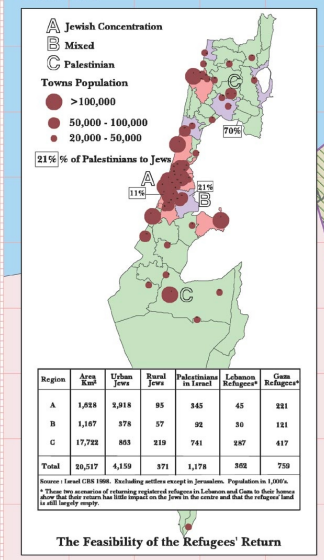
There is no legal or moral justification for bartering a Palestinian State, which is a political act of sovereignty, with the Right of Return, which is an Inalienable Right.

Ben Gurion's Doctrine: 'Destruction of Palestine is a necessary condition for the well-being of Israel.'

Ben Gurion destroyed 78% of Palestine. Sharon completes its destruction.

Legally, the Return can ONLY be implemented to the refugee's original home and land in 1948, not anywhere else, even in Palestine.

A Palestinian Village, 1890



Region	Area Km²	Urban Jews	Rural Jews	Palestinians in Israel	Lebanon Refugees*	Gaza Refugees*
A	1,628	2,918	95	345	45	221
B	1,167	378	57	92	30	121
C	17,722	853	219	741	287	417
Total	20,517	4,159	371	1,178	362	759

Source : Israel CBS 1998. Excluding settlers except in Jerusalem. Population in 1,000's.

* These two scenarios of returning registered refugees in Lebanon and Gaza to their homes show that their return has little impact on the Jews in the centre and that the refugees' land is still largely empty.

The Feasibility of the Refugees' Return

LEGEND

Depopulated Towns and Villages :

- Depopulated between the Partition Plan and the onset of Israeli invasion (Plan Dalet, 29 November 1947 - 30 March 1948.
- Depopulated between Plan Dalet and the end of the British Mandate, 27 March 1948 - 15 May 1948.
- Depopulated during the 1948 War, up to the First Truce (First Round), 15 May 1948 - 11 June 1948.
- Depopulated during the 1948 War, up to the end of the Second Truce (Second Round), 15 June 1948 - 15 October 1948.
- Depopulated in the last phase of the 1948 War until the signing of the last Armistice Agreement, 14 October 1948 - 20 July 1949.
- No data about depopulation date.
- Villages existing in Israel today, remaining from 1948 and increasing in number since. Many are not "recognized" by Israel and not receiving utilities or other services.
- Villages in No Man's Land and around Jerusalem (Corpus Separatum). Some of these villages were destroyed by orders of Rabin in June 1967, including Imwas, Yalu, Beit Nuba.
- Palestinian Towns inhabited by Israelis today.
- Jewish colonies in Palestine in 1948.
- Main Roads today.
- Partition Plan Boundaries (29 November 1947).
- Armistice Line (1949).
- Palestine Grid.

Scale Each grid square is 10 X 10 km.

- District Boundary
- Sand Dunes
- West Bank and Gaza Strip
- No Man's Land
- Demilitarized Zone

Notes : Information in this Map is based on the works of B. Morris, W. Khalidi and his team, B. Nijim and B. Muammar and the authority : Mustapha Al-Dabbagh. The identification of towns, villages and hamlets/districts is in accordance with the administrative definition of the Mandate Government in 1944. Data for Beer Sheba, shown here for the first time, are derived from Survey of Palestine maps (1942-1944). Palestine Exploration Fund maps (1871-1878) are used for the Negev, with the exception of the inhabitant and evidence submitted by Beery Sheba Sons Society (Gaza). Information about unrecognized villages is obtained from the Association of Forty and the Regional Council for Naqab Unrecognized Villages. These villages grew from villages remaining in 1948 and are increasing. Hence they may not be shown in full. The villages in No Man's Land are shown to indicate Imwas, Yalu, Beit Nuba which were destroyed on order of Rabin in 1967. The villages around Jerusalem within the limit and in the vicinity of greater Jerusalem according to the Partition Plan are shown. The limit of the illegal Israeli annexation of Jerusalem is shown (thin red line). The southern edge of Palestine is at Um Rashrash (on which Eilat is located), which is 135 km south of gridline 20.

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