



# TERMS TO KNOW

FROM CUFİ'S THE ISRAEL COURSE

# Terms to Know

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**Abrahamic covenant:** Biblical scholars refer to the covenant God made with Abraham in Genesis 12, 15, and 17 as the “Abrahamic covenant.” In this covenant, God promised to bless Abraham and his descendants with land—the Land of Israel—and innumerable descendants, as well as a great name and great blessings.

**Advocacy:** The act of pleading or arguing in favor of something, such as a cause, idea, or policy; active support.

**Antisemitism:** Hostility, prejudice, or discrimination against Jews based on their ethnic identity. A person who holds such positions is called an anti-Semite or antisemitic. According to the Anti-Defamation League, “Antisemitism is widely considered to be a form of racism. It may take the form of religious teachings that proclaim the inferiority of Jews, for instance, or political efforts to isolate, oppress, or otherwise injure them.”

**Anti-Zionism:** An effort to thwart the self-determination of the Jewish people, anti-Zionism involves “Three Ds”: demonization, delegitimization, and double standards. The three Ds were put forward by Israeli politician Natan Sharansky who suggests using these criteria to distinguish legitimate criticism of Israel from antisemitism masked as anti-Zionism.

**Apartheid:** A former social system in South Africa in which black people and people from other racial groups did not have the same political and economic rights as white people and were forced to live separately from white people.<sup>1</sup> Anti-Israel movements often try to paint the democratic State of Israel as an apartheid state. This is a false representation. Arab and Jewish citizens (and indeed all minorities in Israel) have full and equal rights.

**Arab League:** Organization of Arab states founded in 1945 with the goal of uniting all Arab nations (Pan-Arabism) and destroying Israel.

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<sup>1</sup> “Apartheid,” Merriam-Webster Dictionary, [merriam-webster.com/dictionary/apartheid](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/apartheid).

**Arab Spring:** Series of revolutions throughout the Middle East in which several major regimes were overthrown.

**Assyrian exile:** Also called the Assyrian captivity. In 721 B.C., the Assyrians conquered the northern kingdom of Israel, and many Israelites were taken into captivity.

**Babylonian exile:** Also called the Babylonian captivity. In 597 B.C., Babylon—under King Nebuchadnezzar—conquered the kingdom of Judah and deported most Jews from Judah. By 586 B.C., Judah ceased to be an independent kingdom. During the exile, some Jews remained in the Land of Israel. Before and during the exile, prophets such as Ezekiel, Jeremiah, and Isaiah prophesied about the future return of the Jewish people to their land.

**BDS movement:** A movement designed to target Israel's political and economic stability with boycotts, divestment, and sanctions (BDS). The BDS movement seeks to manipulate world opinion of Israel through thinly veiled antisemitic rhetoric. This movement is especially active on college campuses, where young people

are presented with a false narrative by individuals appropriating the lexicon of the civil rights and social justice movements. They claim Israel's government oppresses Palestinians with the same kind of racial discrimination that white South Africans once used against black South Africans under apartheid. This vicious lie has spread throughout academia and infected the United Nations. The old antisemitism of blatant hatred of Jews has been repackaged as anti-Zionism and hatred of Israel.

**Bedouin:** An ethnic group of nomadic Arabs. The English word Bedouin comes from the Arabic badawī, which means “desert dweller.” While the majority are Arab Sunni Muslims, there are Arab Christian Bedouins in the Fertile Crescent. Some Bedouins serve as volunteers in the Israel Defense Forces, many as trackers in elite IDF tracking units. Bedouin shepherds were the first to discover the Dead Sea Scrolls in the Judean caves of Qumran.

**Biblical Basis:** Israel's biblical roots have been validated through archaeological discoveries dating back over 4,000 years. Nearly every month, another piece of history is found that proves the continuous

Jewish connection to this land from ancient times until the modern era. This growing wealth of archaeological evidence validates Israel's biblically mandated right to exist as a Jewish state.

**Checkpoints:** Places along a road, border, airport screening area, etc. where travelers are stopped for inspection for security purposes. After the Second Intifada, Israel established checkpoints for the security of both Israeli and Palestinian civilians amid the daily threat of terrorism.

**Christian Persecution:** The Middle East is one of the most dangerous places for Christians to live. The ancient Christian communities in that region have been decimated by terrorism and persecution. Israel is the only safe place for Christians in the Middle East. In other places, Christians face daily threats of imprisonment, torture, and execution. We pray for the protection of Christians throughout the Middle East and want to raise awareness of the dangers they face.

**Christian Zionism:** “Also known as biblical Zionism, [Christian Zionism] supports the right of the Jewish people to return to their homeland on scriptural grounds. The biblical foundation for Christian Zionism is found in God’s [everlasting] covenant with Abraham. It was in this covenant that God chose Abraham to birth a nation through which He could redeem the world, and to do this He bequeathed them a land on which to exist as this chosen nation.”<sup>2</sup>

**Covenant:** Literally, a contract. In the Bible, an agreement between God and His people, in which God makes promises to His people and usually requires certain conduct from them. In the Old Testament, God made agreements with Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David.

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<sup>2</sup> Malcolm Hedding, “CHRISTIAN ZIONISM 101: Giving definition to the movement,” [INT.ICEJ.org int.icej.org/media/christian-zionism-101](https://int.icej.org/media/christian-zionism-101).

**CUFI:** Stands for Christians United for Israel. Every day, CUFI works to make Israel stronger and its people safer. We do this because the Bible makes it clear that God's covenant with the Jewish people and the Land of Israel, established in the book of Genesis, is everlasting and unbreakable. This belief in God's love for the Jewish people and their biblical and historical right to sovereignty in their ancient homeland crosses denominational and ethnic boundaries to unite Christians of many different backgrounds. Our rapid growth from just 400 members to over 10 million members has made CUFI not only the largest pro-Israel organization in America, but also one of the largest and most influential grassroots organizations in the nation.

**Diaspora:** Most often used to describe the Jews exiled from their homeland in the wake of the Roman conquest of Israel. The Hebrew word that describes the Jewish Diaspora, "*galut*," means "exile from the land." There is a long held Jewish tradition believing that Jews who do not live in Israel live in an unnatural state because they are divorced from the land given to them by God.



**Druze:** The Druze religion has its roots in Isma'ilism, dating back to the 10th century. Historically, Druze have suffered persecution in the Middle East as a religious minority. Druze are monotheistic and believe in reincarnation, revering prophets in Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. Israeli Druze hold prominent positions in the Israeli government and serve in the military. Israeli Druze make up roughly 2% of the country's population.

**East Jerusalem:** Predominantly Arab section of Jerusalem which includes the Old City of Jerusalem, it was held under Jordanian control from 1948–1967, and officially annexed to Israel in 1980.<sup>3</sup>

**Eretz Israel:** Meaning “the Land of Israel” in Hebrew, this is the traditional Jewish name for the Promised Land.

**Fatah:** (Arabic: “conquest”). A Palestinian organization that has carried out numerous attacks against Israel in the name of Palestinian nationalism. It was founded in secret during the late 1950s. Appearing publicly in 1965, Fatah soon

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<sup>3</sup> See “Jerusalem: An Introduction,” Jewish Virtual Library, [jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jerusalem-an-introduction](http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jerusalem-an-introduction).

became the largest and most important of the organizations of the Palestine Liberation Organization, taking full control in 1968 under the leadership of Yasser Arafat. Fatah remained in control of the PLO until Hamas was elected to power in 2006.<sup>4</sup>

**Gaza:** A narrow, 25-mile-long strip of land along the Mediterranean Sea that Israel captured from Egypt in the 1967 War. The Cairo Agreement of May 4, 1994, led to civil autonomy for the Gaza Strip's Palestinian residents within the framework of an Israeli military withdrawal from the region. Israel later dismantled all Israeli settlements and withdrew fully from the Gaza Strip in August 2005 as part of Israeli Prime Minister Sharon's unilateral disengagement plan. Since then, there have been close to 20,000 rockets fired from Gaza into Israel by Hamas.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> See "Fatah: History & Overview," Jewish Virtual Library, [jewishvirtuallibrary.org/fatah-history-and-overview](http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org/fatah-history-and-overview).

<sup>5</sup> See "Palestinian Authority: The Gaza Strip," Jewish Virtual Library, [jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-gaza-strip](http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-gaza-strip).

**Ghetto:** This term may have originated from the name of the Jewish quarter in Venice, Italy where Jews were forced to live. By the 13th century, Jews were systematically removed from their homes and required to live in designated communities. By the 16th and 17th centuries, Jewish ghettos existed in Frankfurt, Rome, Prague, and other cities throughout Europe. Jews were forced into ghettos after Nazi Germany took power, including the Warsaw Ghetto in Nazi-occupied Poland in which nearly 500,000 Jews were segregated and confined.

**Golan Heights:** An upland region on the Israeli-Syrian border, from which Syria launched attacks against Israel prior to 1967. During The Six-Day War in 1967, Israel captured this strategic high ground and continues to hold it today to ensure the safety of Israeli citizens in the Jordan River valley and upper Galilee.

**Grafted:** To join or unite as if by grafting. This is a reference to the act of uniting new olive branches to an existing older olive tree. This is the image Paul uses in Romans 11 to explain to Christians that they are like the new olive branches, while the existing tree is God's everlasting

covenant with Abraham and his descendants, the children of Israel.

**Hamas:** (Arabic: acronym for Islamic Resistance Movement). Hamas is a terrorist organization that primarily targets Israeli civilians. According to their charter, their goal is to destroy Israel and replace Jewish sovereignty over any part of the land with radical Islamist rule from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea. After Israel voluntarily withdrew from the Gaza Strip, Hamas won control of the territory. Since 2006, Hamas has consistently used Gaza as a launching pad for rocket and mortar attacks against Israel. In 2006, Israel discovered Hamas was digging tunnels beneath the Gazan border. Hamas uses the Palestinian people living in Gaza as human shields, stealing money and resources from them in order to support terror. Hamas is continually preparing for the next war with Israel by stockpiling thousands of rockets and digging new tunnels in Gaza.

**Hezbollah:** (Literal translation: Party of God). Hezbollah is one of the deadliest terror groups in the world. They are responsible for the deaths of hundreds of Americans since the 1980s. They were

founded, trained, and armed by Iran's government and are commissioned with the destruction of Israel. Based in Lebanon along Israel's northern border, Hezbollah has become the dominant political force in Lebanon and frequently launches attacks against Israel from deep within civilian population centers. The terrorist organization has grown in size and sophistication, gaining experience in warfare through its involvement in the Syrian civil war, and poses an extreme threat to Israel's security.

**IDF:** The Israel Defense Force (IDF) upholds the highest moral standards. The IDF's commitment to protecting innocent human life during combat is upheld even when it makes winning more difficult and more dangerous for its own soldiers. The IDF is also one of the most inclusive militaries in the world, and provides opportunities for women, minorities, and people with disabilities to serve their country with honor and respect. Although they serve the State of Israel, the soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces make the whole world safer by fighting the same enemies that want to destroy America and all other free societies.

**Incitement:** The Palestinian Authority regularly incites violence against Israelis, and then rewards terrorists and their families with a lifetime salary worth more than most Palestinians could ever hope to earn. In 2017, this “Pay to Slay” program handed out over \$350 million in payments for terrorism. In 2018, the Palestinian Authority increased its budget for this program to \$405 million. For many years, American tax dollars given to the Palestinian Authority as foreign aid intended for humanitarian services and civil government programs were redirected into this slush fund for terrorists. CUFI was the first major pro-Israel organization to strongly support the Taylor Force Act (passed into law in October 2018) in the United States, which cut off most American foreign aid to the Palestinian Authority until our State Department can certify that the Pay to Slay program has been shut down.

**Indigenous:** Native to a particular place. The Jewish people are considered indigenous to the Land of Israel, as there has been a continued Jewish presence in Israel for over 4,000 years.

**Intifada:** (Arabic: “rebellion, uprising,” literally: “shaking off”). A wave of deadly violence launched by Palestinian leadership against Israel and Jews. The First Intifada lasted from December 1987 to September 1993. The Second Intifada began in September 2000 and lasted to February 2005. Additionally, the more recent Stabbing Intifada began in 2015. The wave of terror has continued to present day.

**Intrafada:** Cycle of violence coinciding with the intifada in which over 2,000 Palestinians were killed by other Palestinians on suspicion of collaborating with Israel.<sup>6</sup>

**Iran:** Iran’s obsession with destroying Israel began in 1979 after the violent Islamic Revolution empowered radical fundamentalists committed to dominating the Middle East. Iran’s hatred of Israel and America has been the foundation of its foreign policy ever since. The U.S. State Department recognizes Iran as the world’s leading state sponsor of terrorism.

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<sup>6</sup> “Palestinian Authority: Statistics on the ‘Intrafada’ (1987–2009)” Jewish Virtual Library, [jewishvirtuallibrary.org/statistics-on-the-palestinian-quot-intrafada-quot-1989-2009](http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org/statistics-on-the-palestinian-quot-intrafada-quot-1989-2009).

**ISIS (The Islamic State in Iraq and Syria):**

ISIS seeks to re-establish an Islamic caliphate, or empire, across the entire Middle East. Over the last several years, these brutal terrorists have murdered thousands of Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East. Despite defeats in Iraq and Syria, their radical ideology continues to inspire deadly terror attacks around the world. At the same time, ISIS has set its sights on Israel, and wants to destroy the Jewish state.

**Israel:** Israel is the name given to the Jewish patriarch Jacob according to Genesis 32:28. Jacob's descendants are the 12 tribes of Israel which make up the biblical nation of Israel. Today, Israel is the name of the modern Jewish state which exists in its historical homeland.

**Israeli Arab:** Those Arabs who chose to stay in the area that became the State of Israel during the War of Independence. They include Muslim Arabs, Christian Arabs, Druze, and Bedouins. They enjoy equality and full citizenship in Israel and participate actively in its politics.<sup>7</sup>



**Israeli Technology:** The Bible describes Israel as a light unto the nations, and modern Israel has lived up to that description. The innovative discoveries and technologies coming out of Israel continue to revolutionize our world. In nearly every scientific field, Israel's inventors and entrepreneurs are on the cutting edge. These technological advancements are saving lives and transforming the way nations address critical challenges. From fighting cancer to eliminating hunger, Israel's technology is one of the primary ways the nations of the world are blessed through the Jewish state.

**Jerusalem:** Jerusalem has been the political, cultural, and spiritual center of Jewish life since the time of King David. The Jewish people have an unbroken connection to Jerusalem dating back over 4,000 years. Even while persecuted and scattered around the world, Jerusalem has always been home to a resilient Jewish community. When Israel established its independence and

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7 Mitchell Bard, "Israeli Arabs: Status of Arabs in Israel," Jewish Virtual Library, [jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-status-of-arabs-in-israel](http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-status-of-arabs-in-israel).

modern rebirth in 1948, it lost East Jerusalem and the Old City to Jordanian occupation for 19 years. During that time, Jewish holy places were desecrated, Jewish inhabitants were kicked out of their homes, and Christians living in the Holy City had many of their rights restricted. But in 1967, Israel won a miraculous victory against five Arab armies who failed in their plan to wipe Israel off the map. As a result, Israel won control of East Jerusalem and reunited the city under Jewish sovereignty for the first time in thousands of years. For decades, the international community refused to recognize Israel's legal and historical right to Jerusalem as its capital city and continues to pressure Israel to divide Jerusalem as part of a peace deal with the Palestinians. CUFJ worked with President Trump to aid him in fulfilling his campaign pledge to move the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem and recognize the Holy City as Israel's capital. This announcement led several other countries to reconsider their foreign policy and announce plans to also move their embassies to Jerusalem including Guatemala, Honduras, and Kosovo.

**Jewish Diaspora:** Refers to the dispersion of Jews out of their ancestral homeland (the Land of Israel) and the communities they established and built across the world.

**Judaism:** The world's oldest monotheistic religion. Abraham and Sarah were called by God, as recorded in Genesis 12, and are considered the ancestors of the Jewish people. Some consider Judaism a culture, a religion, or a nationality, but in reality, it encompasses all three.<sup>8</sup>

**Judea and Samaria:** The biblical names of the land west of the Jordan River. The [alternative] term, West Bank, was not utilized by Israel until the 1993 Declaration of Principles (the Oslo I Accord).<sup>9</sup>

**Kibbutz:** Jewish communal living in Israel, typically a farming community, originally with all property shared. Prominent before and after the founding of the modern State of Israel. Many still exist and thrive around Israel today.

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<sup>8</sup> MJL, "Judaism," My Jewish Learning, [myjewishlearning.com/article/judaism](https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/judaism).

<sup>9</sup> See "The West Bank: Judea and Samaria," Jewish Virtual Library, [jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-west-bank-2](https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-west-bank-2).

**Knesset:** Meaning “gathering” in Hebrew, the Knesset is the Israeli parliament or legislature, consisting of 120 representatives of different political parties. The name is derived from the “Knesset HaGadolah” (large assembly), the representative Jewish council created in Jerusalem by Ezra and Nehemiah in the fifth century B.C.<sup>10</sup>

**Land for Peace:** A term which developed as a buzzword following The Six-Day War, Israel has demonstrated itself willing to offer land for peace, most notably in the agreement made with Egypt in which Israel returned the entire Sinai Peninsula to Egypt, which Israel had captured in a defensive war, in exchange for peace.

**Law of Return:** On July 5, 1950, Israel passed the “Law of Return” which mandates, on a basic level, that Jews may come and live in Israel and gain Israeli citizenship if they desire to do so. Essentially, anyone who would have been targeted by the Nazis’ Nuremberg Laws for being Jewish, is considered welcome to live safely in Israel.

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<sup>10</sup> See “The Knesset: History & Overview,” Jewish Virtual Library, [jewishvirtuallibrary.org/history-and-overview-of-the-knesset](http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org/history-and-overview-of-the-knesset).

**Minorities in Israel:** Israel is home to many minorities, including Israeli Arabs, Arameans, Baha'i, Druze, Bedouin, and Christians (many denominations).

**Mizrahi Jews:** Descendants of Jews who lived in local communities in the Middle East and North Africa, such as Iraq, Kurdistan, Libya, Egypt, etc. Many Mizrahi Jews were forced to flee their homelands after the establishment of the State of Israel. Today, about 50% of Jews living in Israel are Mizrahi.

**Muslim Brotherhood:** A Salafi inspired organization seeking a return to what they feel is the “authentic” faith of the first Muslims. A Sunni sect of Islam. The Muslim Brotherhood is the parent company, so to speak, of organizations such as Al-Qaeda, the Islamic State, and Hamas.

**Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO):** The PLO was founded in 1964 after an Arab League decision with the purpose of destroying Israel through armed violence and establishing a new state called Palestine. The PLO is now recognized by Israel as the official representative of the Palestinian people, but only after officially renouncing violence and terrorism.

However, PLO-sponsored violence against Israel continues to this day.

**Palestine:** Historically, the name given to the region of Judea and Samaria by the Romans, after they destroyed Jerusalem and sought to expel the Jewish presence in the Land of Israel. Until recent decades, the term has referred only to a region and never to a nation.

**Palestinian Authority (PA):** The Palestinian autonomous government in the West Bank and Gaza areas from which the Israeli Defense Forces have redeployed since the 1994 Gaza-Jericho agreement and the 1995 Interim Agreement (“Oslo II”).<sup>11</sup>

**Pan-Arabism:** Developed during the late 1800s and early 1900s, the ideology that espouses unification and solidarity of all Arabs across the Arab world.

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<sup>11</sup> See “The Palestinian Authority: History & Overview,” Jewish Virtual Library, [jewishvirtuallibrary.org/palestinian-authority-history-and-overview](http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org/palestinian-authority-history-and-overview).

**Pogrom:** Derived from a Russian word meaning “to destroy, to wreak havoc, or to demolish violently,” pogrom is used to describe an attack on Jews. The first pogrom occurred in 1241 in Frankfurt, Germany. After a debate regarding interfaith marriages between Jews and Christians, 180 Jews were killed and 24 were forcibly baptized; this is known as the “Slaughter of the Jews” or Judenschlacht. By the 1800s, pogroms were commonplace in Russia. More than 200 anti-Jewish events occurred during this time in Kiev, Warsaw, and Odessa. On November 9 and 10, 1938, in what has come to be known as Kristallnacht, mobs ran amuck in the streets of Germany, Austria, and the Sudetenland, attacking Jews in their homes, workplaces, and houses of worship. In two nights, more than 90 Jews were killed and hundreds more were injured. More than 1,000 synagogues were burned, over 7,000 Jewish businesses were destroyed, and tens of thousands of Jews were sent to concentration camps. Kristallnacht is known as “the night of broken glass.” This pogrom, while gruesome, must be remembered so that such an atrocious act of hatred will never happen again.

**Replacement Theology:** Also called supersessionism or fulfillment theology. Replacement theology is a destructive and false theology that teaches that Christians have replaced the Jewish people as the chosen people of God. This is counter to Paul's specific teaching in Romans 11 that Christians are "*grafted in*" to God's promise to Israel but have not replaced Israel.

**Right of Return:** The "Right of Return" has become a stumbling block on the quest for peace between Israel and the Palestinians, as Arab leaders and many in the international community insist that all of the original refugees of the 1948 war *and all of their descendants* be given citizenship in Israel. This right of return has never applied to any other displaced people group on earth in history, and it certainly has never applied to the descendants of refugees born after the initial displacement. Because Israel is a democratic country and its Arab citizens have full and equal rights and participation in government, to allow millions of Palestinians to become Israeli citizens would effectively destroy Israel's identity as a Jewish state. It is important to note that the Right of Return is



demanded in addition to the creation of a Palestinian state, which would mean both Israel and a newly created Palestine would be Arab-majority countries.

**Righteous Gentiles:** Non-Jewish people who, during the Holocaust, risked their lives to save Jewish people from Nazi persecution. Today, a commemorative “The Righteous Among the Nations” garden is maintained in their honor at Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem, Israel, commemorating their courage and compassion, as well as a virtual database that keeps their stories alive.

**Security Barrier:** The Security Barrier is a (potentially temporary) defensive measure constructed by the Israeli government in response to a wave of Palestinian terror attacks including suicide bombings and shootings of innocent Israelis during the Second Intifada.

**Settlements:** The term “settlements” usually refers to the towns and villages that Jews have established in Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) and the Gaza Strip since Israel

captured the area in The Six-Day War of 1967. In many cases, the settlements are in the same area which flourishing Jewish communities have lived for thousands of years.<sup>12</sup>

**Shi'ah and Sunnis:** Two main branches of Islam, rival groups. Sunni is the largest group in Islam.

**Shoah/Holocaust:** A term used to refer to the genocidal Nazi policy of exterminating six million Jews during World War II. “Shoah” is the Hebrew word, meaning “catastrophe.”

**Six-Day War:** War fought in June 1967 when Israel reacted to Arab threats and the blockade of the Straits of Tiran, resulting in a stunning victory over the Egyptian, Jordanian, and Syrian armies.<sup>13</sup>

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12 Mitchell G. Bard, “Facts About Jewish Settlements in the West Bank,” Jewish Virtual Library, [jewishvirtuallibrary.org/facts-about-jewish-settlements-in-the-west-bank](http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org/facts-about-jewish-settlements-in-the-west-bank).

13 See “The Six-Day War: Background and Overview,” Jewish Virtual Library, [jewishvirtuallibrary.org/background-and-overview-six-day-war](http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org/background-and-overview-six-day-war).

**Syria:** The Syrian civil war between President Bashar al-Assad and rebel forces, including ISIS, has been ongoing since 2011. Iran, Hezbollah, and Russia are all on the ground in Syria fighting to support the Syrian regime against ISIS and many other rebels. This confluence of several different enemies, some religious radicals and others secular, has produced a muddy conflict with no good possible outcomes. Israel, on Syria's southern border, has stayed out of the war except for occasional targeted strikes when Israel's security was threatened, and humanely treating those wounded in the conflict. On February 10, 2018, Iranian forces stationed in Syria invaded Israel's air space with a drone, provoking Israel to respond by shooting the UAV out of the sky and attacking the vehicle on the ground in Syria operating the drone. During Israel's counterattack, Syrian anti-aircraft missiles shot down an Israeli F-16 and injured two pilots. The IDF responded by destroying four Syrian command posts and eight Iranian command posts in Syria. This incident showed that Iran and its allies in Syria are spoiling for a fight with Israel.

**Tanakh:** Also known as the Hebrew Bible, the Tanakh is the canonical collection of Jewish texts, known as the Old Testament to Christians.

**Temple Mount:** The platform on Mt. Moriah where both Jewish Temples once stood and where the Dome of the Rock now stands.

**Terrorism:** Intentional targeting of innocent civilians with violence or intimidation to achieve a political goal.

**Three Nos of Khartoum:** Following their defeat in The Six-Day War, Arab leaders gathered for the Arab League's Khartoum conference in Sudan and adopted an official position against Israel that included three infamous Nos: no peace with Israel, no recognition of Israel, and no negotiations with Israel.

**Tikkun Olam:** The Jewish idea of repairing the world; an action promoting social justice, usually taking the form of community service and humanitarian aid.

**Torah:** Refers to the Five Books of Moses—Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.

**UNRWA:** The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) is a relief and human development agency founded specifically to bring aid to Palestinian refugees. The Palestinian refugee problem was created when the Arab League refused to recognize Israel and instead started a war in 1948. The conflict led to many displaced Jews and Palestinians. Israel absorbed and assimilated the Jewish refugees while Arab countries never did the same for Palestinian refugees or their descendants, creating the current Palestinian refugee crisis.

**U.S.-Israel Relationship:** The United States was the first country to recognize Israel's independence in 1948, and the first country to recognize Israel's right to claim Jerusalem as its capital. Israel's close relationship with the United States has benefited both countries tremendously. Both countries strengthen each other through national security cooperation, joint military training and shared military technology, mutual economic investment, and scientific research and development. More than a pragmatic alliance, the close friendship between our countries is based on shared democratic values. The Judeo-

Christian worldview emphasizes personal freedom, universal civil rights, and places a deep value on all human life. This is the value system upon which America was founded, and it is reflected in Israel's vibrant society. Support for Israel has historically been one of the only issues that generates consistent bipartisan agreement among elected officials.

**West Bank:** Territory west of the Jordan River that Israel captured from Jordan in its defensive 1967 War. Often referred to by its biblical name, Judea and Samaria, this land is home to a Palestinian population of over two million, as well as about 200,000 Jewish residents. Under the terms of the Israeli-PLO Declaration of Principles (Oslo I Accord), Palestinian autonomy has been extended from the Gaza Strip and Jericho to other areas of the West Bank.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> See "The West Bank: Judea and Samaria," Jewish Virtual Library, [jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-west-bank-2](http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-west-bank-2).

**Western Wall/Kotel/Wailing Wall:** The only remaining structure from the Second Temple left standing after the Roman destruction in 70 A.D.

**Yom Kippur War:** In October 1973, Syrian and Egyptian forces, assisted by other Arab nations, launched a surprise attack on Israel on Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish year. Although placed on the defensive for the first two days, Israel eventually was able to counter-attack and repulse the Arab invaders. An internationally brokered ceasefire was established after three days of fighting.<sup>15</sup>

**Zionism:** A nationalist and political movement of Jews and Jewish culture that supports the re-establishment of a Jewish homeland as a modern nation-state in the historical homeland of the Jewish people.

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<sup>15</sup> See "The Knesset: History & Overview," Jewish Virtual Library, [jewishvirtuallibrary.org/history-and-overview-of-the-knesset](http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org/history-and-overview-of-the-knesset).



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