

Messianic Torah has sent us a resume of significant facts and landmarks about Israel. There is of course no absolute court on earth to assess and adjudicate on these matters, but there is in heaven! It does not, of course, dispense Israel in any way with the need for each person to turn to Yeshua, the Messiah.

## Facts about Israel

1. Israel became a state around 1312 BCE, two millennia before Islam;
2. Arab refugees from Israel began calling themselves "Palestinians" in 1967, two decades after (modern) Israeli statehood;
3. After conquering the land in 1272 BCE, Jews ruled it for a thousand years and maintained a continuous presence there for 3,300 years;
4. The only Arab rule following conquest in 633 CE lasted just 22 years;
5. For over 3,300 years, Jerusalem was the Jewish capital. It was never the capital of any Arab or Muslim entity. Even under Jordanian rule, (east) Jerusalem was not made the capital, and no Arab leader came to visit it;
6. Jerusalem is mentioned over 700 times in the Bible, but not once is it mentioned in the Qur'an;
7. King David founded Jerusalem; Mohammed never set foot in it;
8. Jews pray facing Jerusalem; Muslims face Mecca. If they are between the two cities, Muslims pray facing Mecca, with their backs to Jerusalem;
9. In 1948, Arab leaders urged their people to leave, promising to cleanse the land of Jewish presence. 68% of them fled without ever setting eyes on an Israeli soldier;
10. The Arabs who stayed were accepted as citizens in the state of Israel, some Arabs have been democratically elected as members of the Knesset, the Israeli Parliament;
11. Virtually the entire Jewish population of Muslim countries had to flee as the result of violence and pogroms;
12. Some 630,000 Arabs left Israel in 1948, while close to a million Jews were forced to leave the Muslim countries;
13. In spite of the vast territories at their disposal, Arab refugees were deliberately prevented from assimilating into their host countries. Of 100 million refugees following world war 2, they are the only group to have never integrated with their coreligionists. Most of the Jewish refugees from Europe and Arab lands were settled in Israel, a country

no larger than New Jersey;

14. There are 22 Muslim countries, not counting Palestine . There is only one Jewish state. Arabs started all five wars against Israel, and lost every one of them;

15. Fatah and Hamas constitutions still call for the destruction of Israel. Israel ceded most of the West Bank and all of Gaza to the Palestinian Authority, and even provided it with arms;

16. During the Jordanian occupation, Jewish holy sites were vandalized and were off limits to Jews. Under Israeli rule, all Muslim and Christian holy sites are accessible to all faiths;

17. Out of 175 United Nations Security Council resolutions up to 1990, 97 were against Israel; out of 690 General Assembly resolutions, 429 were against Israel;

18. The U.N. was silent when the Jordanians destroyed 58 synagogues in the old city of Jerusalem. It remained silent while Jordan systematically desecrated the ancient Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives, and it remained silent when Jordan enforced apartheid laws preventing Jews from accessing the Temple Mount and Western Wall.

These are hard times. We must ask ourselves what we should be doing, and what we will tell our grandchildren about our actions during this crisis, when we had the chance to make a difference.