

Arab Israeli Conflict

There has been a significant Palestinian refugee problem for the last 50 years. Do these sources allow you to come to a firm conclusion about who or what is responsible for this War?

The Arabs said it was their right to live in and lead Palestine because simply they had been living there for about 1300 years.

Because of the holocaust (the Germans blamed the Jews for losing the war so the Jews were getting killed) and the pogroms (where the Russians blamed the Jews for the assassination of Tsar Alemandre, so the treated the Jews as slaves) more and more Jews were coming into Palestine.

The Palestinians got mad so they asked the British to step in; they stopped unloading Jews to get on the land. The British promised land to both the Arabs and the Jews and when the British helped the Arabs the Jews got jealous so they decided to bomb Britain, Britain then got scared and decided to hand the problem over to the UN.

In 1948 the UN decided to split the land 50/50 but the Jews got greedy and decided to take all the land by doing this they set up the operation Dallet This was when the Jews attacked a peaceful village in Palestine called Deir Yassin and killed a lot of the Arabs in the massacre, they did this to get the Arabs scared and get them out of the land which they did in their thousands.

The Jews felt it was their land because God promised them it from ancient rights. When the Romans conquered the land that was when the Jews first left they settled in many parts of the world mainly Russia where they suffered the pogroms and in Germany they were suffered the holocaust. The Zionist set up to find a homeland they decided for it to be Palestine because they used to live there. So if they got all power over Palestine there would be a significant refugee problem for the Arabs.

I am now going to analyse sources A, B, C to find out why Palestinians left their homes.

Source A is a pamphlet and was written in 1984 by the p.l.o. The source tells us the Jews massacred Deir Yassin so the Arabs had no choice but to leave otherwise they would have also been killed. So the Palestinians left their country and moved to refugee camps to get out of the Jews way. The source is biased because the p.l.o wrote this source, it is all one sided. The Palestinians wrote this in a pamphlet so they can get attention from the rest of the world so the world can be on their side. This source is completely biased.

Source B is written from Mrs Golda Meir Israeli foreign minister in 1961 to the UN from just reading this you can tell the source is biased because the Jews want the support of the UN so they are trying to seek attention from the Jews. The source tells us the Arabs were ordered by the Arab leaders to evacuate the country so the Arab armies can get in. The source says what happened in Deir Yassin was by Jewish dissidents compared to source A which is saying this was a deliberate attack to scare the Arab so they had to leave but source B is saying the Arabs have been ordered to leave the country by Arab leaders. Sources A and B completely differ. So this is a unreliable source.

Source C is written by an Irish journalist in 1961 so this tells us the source is not biased because he is not an Arab or a Jew. Source C totally disagrees with source B. It disagrees with source B because source B says that the Arab leaders ordered the Arabs to leave Palestine so the Arab armies could get in but source c says the journalist next decided to test the charge that the Arab evacuation orders were broadcasted by Arab radio this could be done because the BBC monitored all the middle east broadcasts they can be seen in the British museums, there was not a single appeal, or order, or suggestion about evacuation from Palestine from any Arab radio station in or out of Palestine in 1948 . They were repeated appeals and even direct orders to the Palestine civilians to stay put. This is a reliable source.

I will now look at source D, E and F to find out why refugees are still living in refugee camps.

Source D is from a Palestinian refugee on the work of the UN it says we continued to refuse houses and compensation offered by the UN because they didn't want anything apart from their homeland.

Source E is from an Israeli ambassador to the UN it says the Arab refugee problem has been artificially maintained for political motives. It says the Middle East economic is great and says the Arab government have stopped sharing this. It says the whole problem can be solved if the Arabs can find homes for millions of people.

Source F is a photo showing 2 Palestinian Arabs and 2 Palestinian Jews demonstrating there right to live in Palestine.

Another thing that could have caused the Arab refugee problem is the six-day war. On 5 June 1967 the Israeli armed forces attacked the Arab countries without warning. The Egyptian air force was virtually wiped out on the ground. The Egyptian army was now helpless and Israeli tanks reached the Suez Canal in three days. The Israelis occupied all of Sinai. The Jordanian army was pushed back across the Jordan River and the Israelis occupied all of the West Bank, capturing the eastern part of Jerusalem. In the north the Israelis seized the Golan Heights from Syria and began to advance on Damascus. The UN called for a cease -fire,

which was accepted by Jordan on 7 June and then by Egypt and Syria. By 10 June the fighting had finished and the Arab states had been devastatingly defeated.

Another thing that could have caused the refugee problem was the war of Yom Kippur. On 5 October 1973 Israeli intelligence reported massive Egyptian and Syrian troop formations on the Israeli border. 1,400 Syrian tanks were supporting them. Moshe Dayan, the Israeli defence chief did not take these reports seriously. On 6 October 1973 Egypt and Syria suddenly attacked Israel. It became known as the War of Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, because the attack took place during the most important religious festival in the Jewish calendar. On this day most Jews spent their time fasting or in prayer. The Israeli's were so taken by surprise that many men went straight from synagogues to their army barracks.

The Egyptian forces crossed the Suez Canal and advanced across Sinai, but moved too quickly and allowed the Israelis an opportunity to counter-attack. On 15 October the Israelis once again crossed the Suez Canal and encircled the Egyptian Third Army. In the north Syrian forces quickly defeated the Israelis and then took the Golan Heights, but were forced back by Israeli reinforcements. At this point the Soviet Union threatened to intervene and the US government ordered the Israelis to agree to a truce. When the war ended on 24 October, little had changed, but massive casualties and damage had been caused.

Because there were too many biased sources I was not able to find out who was to blame for Arab refugee problem. The one source that was not biased, source C said that source B from the Israeli foreign minister is not true now we can believe this because he was not a Jew or an Arab. Source B says that the Arabs were ordered to leave Palestine but source C says that the journalist checked what was been broadcasted in the Middle East and he said there was no appeal to the Arabs by their leaders to leave instead they were saying to them stay and there was even direct orders for them to stay but the source does not say what happened it just disagrees with what the Israeli foreign minister says. Source D is from Arab refugees they say we are not accepting anything from the Americans all we want is our homeland back but that all looks unlikely so maybe they should accept the houses maybe that could make the problem better.

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