



FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University in Prague

The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Introduction

18.2. 2020

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Class outline

- Introduction
- Organizational matters
- Why study I/P?
- How study I/P?
- Overview of the semester

Focus of the course

- Contemporary developments, NOT historical overview

Evaluation

- In-class activity
 - You can miss max. 3 sessions (excluding this one)
- Weekly assignments
 - Based on the required readings and other materials
 - Different formats depending on the assigned material
- Proposal
 - 500 words
 - Deadline: 1.5.
- Final paper
 - 2,500 words
 - Deadline: 31.5.

Some organizational matters

- Moodle!
- Updated syllabus on the moodle site
- I might be away in April – will inform you asap; there would be a make-up class in May
- Readings for the classes on domestic and international politics might slightly change
- All presentations will be uploaded to moodle
- There will be in-class group discussions every session – topics will be posted on moodle

Why should we study the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?

Regional (or even global) importance?

- Is the Israeli-Palestinian conflict the most important phenomenon in the Middle East?
- Discuss in small groups

Israel/Palestine as a Contested Issue

“There’s little doubt that Israel is shaping up to be one of the hottest of hot-button issues in the 2020 presidential-election cycle. While one might hope that a presidential campaign could feature a productive discussion about policy toward a region vital to U.S. interests, what we’re likely to have instead is a toxic political firefight, rife with partisan attacks and recrimination, bereft of insight or vision.”

<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2019/02/furor-over-ilhan-omars-tweets-shows-unhealthy-israel-discourse/582859/>



**ISRAEL. THE ONLY FREE,
MULTI-CULTURAL DEMOCRACY
IN THE MIDDLE-EAST.**



So how should we study the I/P conflict?

With caution.

Example: The Politics of Maps

DISAPPEARING PALESTINE



5 million Palestinians are classified as refugees by the UN

Palestinian loss of land 1946 to 2000

Palestinian and Jewish land 1946



UN Partition plan 1947



1949 - 1967



2000



LIES



Jewish Loss of Land 1000 BCE to 2013



1000 BCE



1920



Today

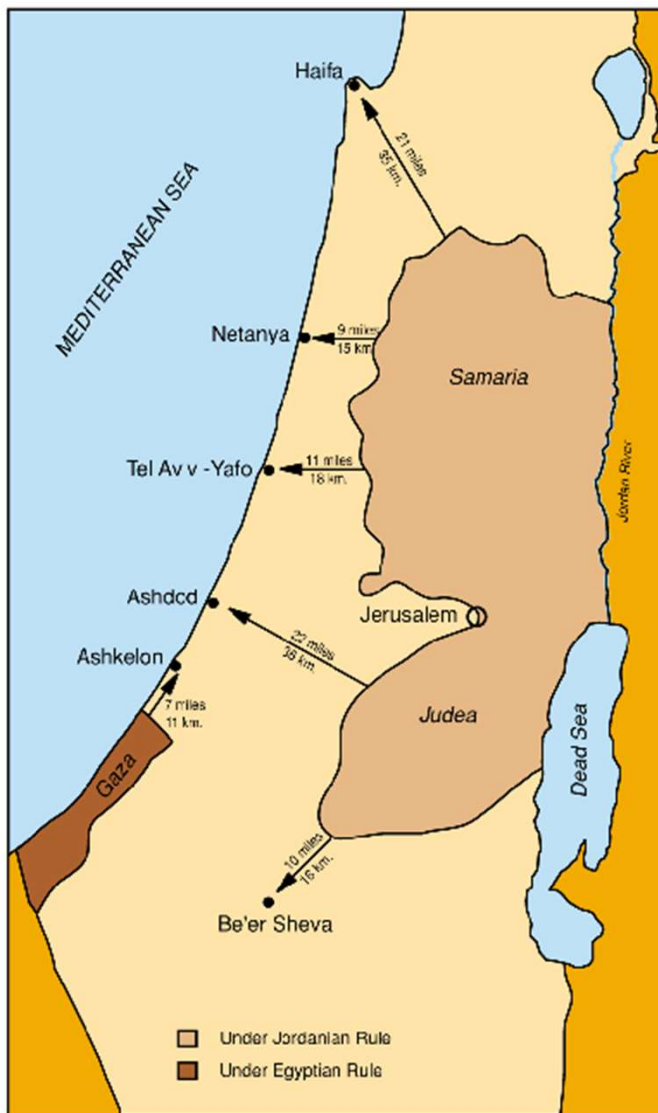


Jewish Land



Disputed Land





Distances between Israeli Population Centers and the Pre-1967 Lines

Regional Map/Facts

Israel And The Arab World



Israel's Size Compared To Arab World

- Israel's land mass is about $\frac{1}{625}$ ($\frac{1}{6}$ of 1 percent) the size of the Arab world
- 6 million Israeli Jews; 370 million Middle Eastern Arabs and Muslims

World Religions

Christianity:	2.2 billion people
Islam:	1.6 billion people
Hinduism:	1 billion people
Buddhism:	500 million people
Judaism:	14 million people

Christian Population In The Middle East

Israel is the only Middle Eastern country where the Christian population is thriving instead of disappearing. Between 1948 and 2011 Israel's Christians grew fourfold, from 34,000 to 154,000.

Number of Countries by Religious Majority

67 Roman Catholic
49 Islamic
49 Protestant
14 Eastern Orthodox
3 Hindu
1 Jewish

Israel's territory is 8,019 square miles (sq. mi.). That makes it smaller than...



Israel at its narrowest point is 9 miles wide.

You cannot stand anywhere in Israel and be farther than 30 miles from any of its borders.

**VISION
for
PEACE
CONCEPTUAL MAP**

*The State
of Israel*



Israeli Enclave Communities*

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Hermesh | 11. Ma'ale 'Amos |
| 2. Mevo Dotan | 12. Asfar |
| 3. Elon More | 13. Karme Zur |
| 4. Tel Hayyim (Tamar) | 14. Tsiem |
| 5. Berakha | 15. Adorah |
| 6. Yichar | 16. Negohot |
| 7. 'Ateret | 17. Bet Haggai |
| | 18. 'Otno'i |

*List not all inclusive.

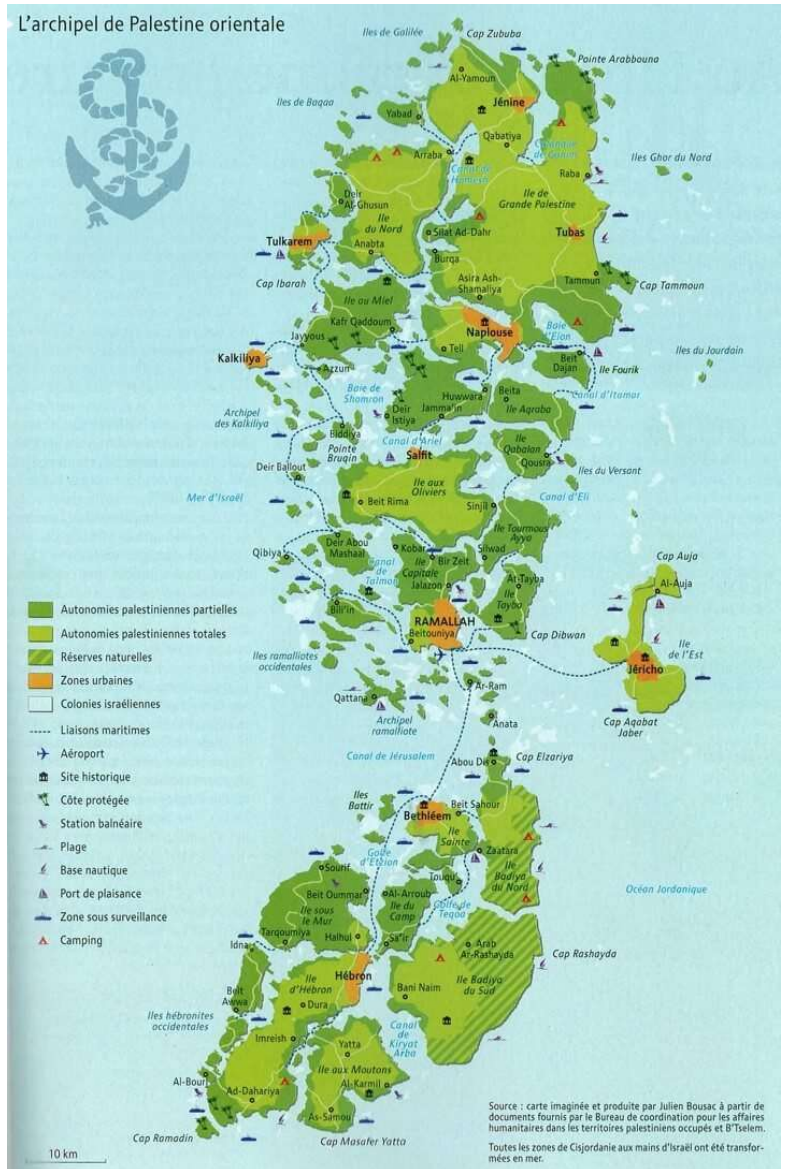
- Israeli access road
- A future State of Palestine
- ⚓ Port access
- Palestinian major road
- 🚧 Bridge or tunnel
- Strategic site

NOTES

1. Status quo over Temple Mount/ Haram al-Sharif is preserved.
2. Jerusalem will remain undivided west of the security barrier.
3. There will be no evacuation of any community, Israeli or Palestinian.
4. Implementation of the Conceptual Map is subject to the terms and conditions provided in the Vision for Peace.

Scale: 0 10 20 Kilometers / 0 10 20 Miles

L'archipel de Palestine orientale

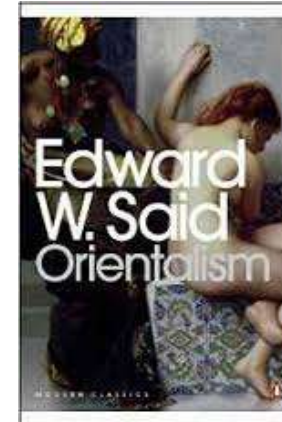
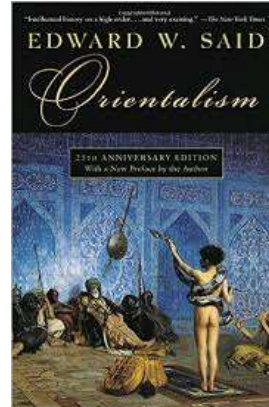
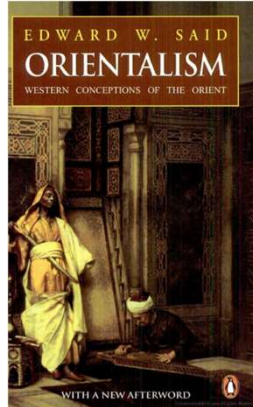


The Political Language/Politics of Language

- Israel/Palestine/Eretz Yisrael
- West Bank/The Occupied Territories/Palestine/Judea and Samaria
- Terrorists/freedom fighters/martyrs
- Settlements/cities
- The wall/fence/barrier

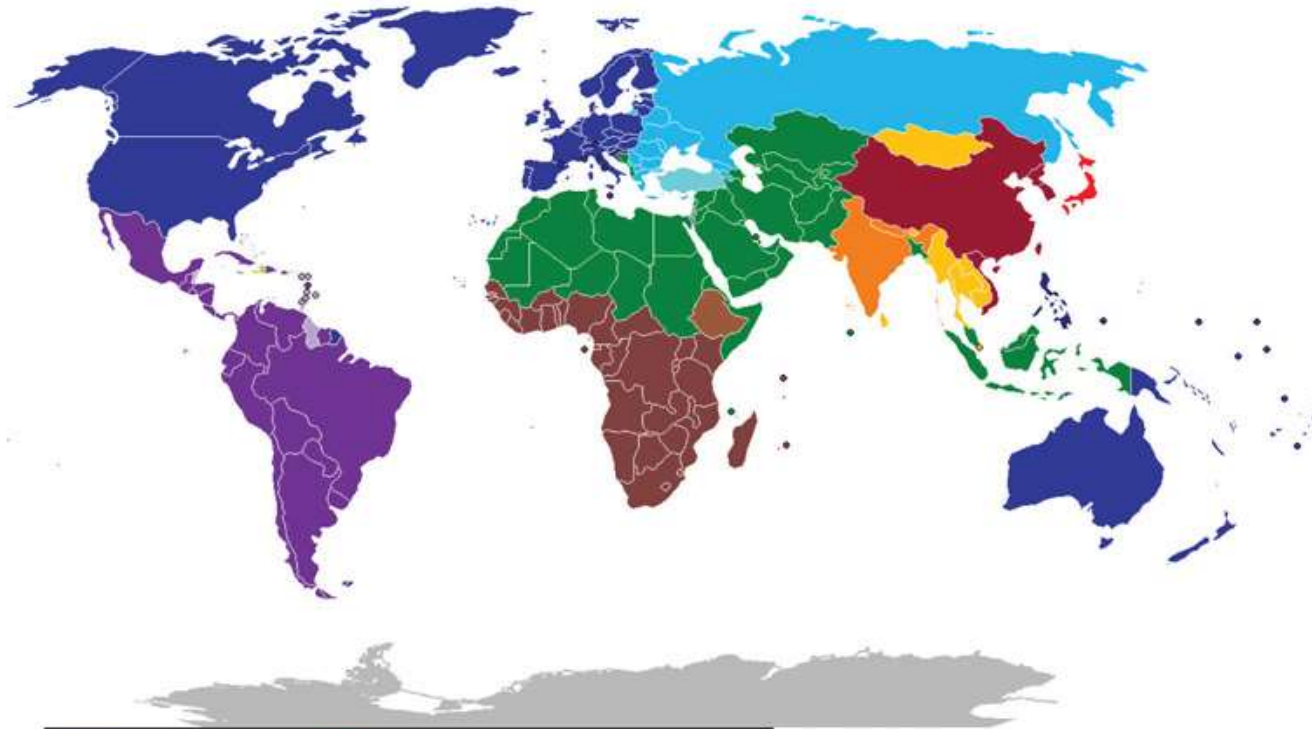
Approaches to Israel/Palestine... and the Middle East at large

Orientalism



- A seminal book by Edward Said published in 1978
- Drawing on post-structuralism, Said argued that the „Orient“ poses as the „Other“ defining the West
- Simplification and homogenization of culture

The Clash of Civilizations



Western	Islamic (green)
Latin American	Orthodox (medium-light blue)
Japanese	African (brown)
Sinic	Buddhist (yellow)
Hindu	

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-evlyrrjTTY>

Political science vs Area studies

- General vs specific

Disciplinary perspectives

- Collective memory
- Domestic politics
- International relations
- Gender studies
- Political economy
- Racial and ethnic studies
- Materiality
- Terrorism studies

Questions?

For the next class...

- Unregister in SIS if you do not want to take the class
- Register to the moodle
- Do the readings
- Do the moodle exercise