



FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
*Charles University in Prague*

# The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Religion

17.3. 2020

# Outline

- Adjustments
- Final paper and proposal
- Politics and religion in Palestine
- Politics and religion in Israel
- The Israeli-Palestinian conflict as an instance of a religious conflict?

# Changes

- Technical issues?
- Skype consultations
- Group discussions
  - Next time
  - Division into groups
- Assignments slightly different
  - More expressing of your own opinion regarding the arguments in the readings

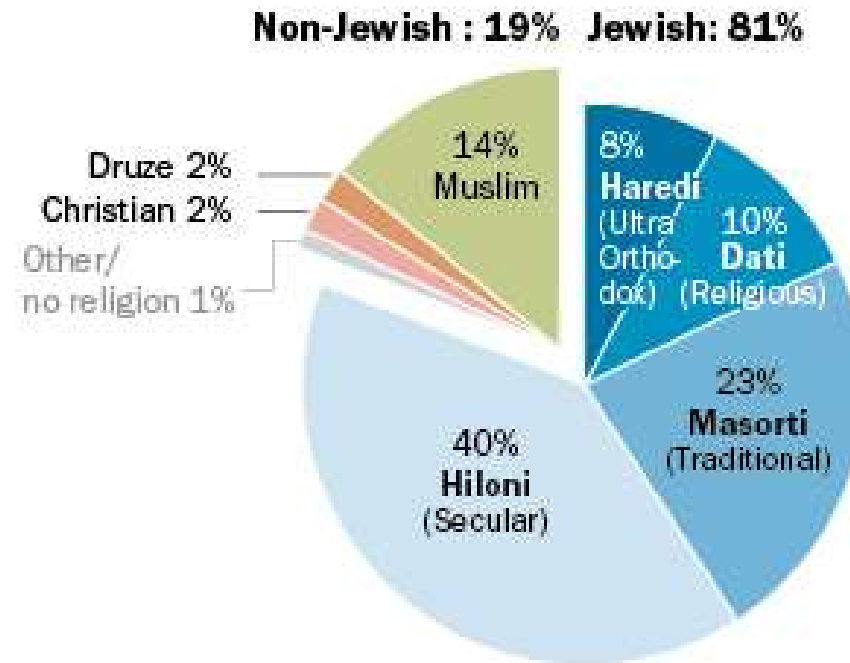
# The final paper and proposal

- It should not be (purely) descriptive
- Research question and/or argument
- Narrow focus
  - Temporal, spatial, choice of cases
- At least 5 academic sources (plus newspapers etc.)
  
- Proposal
  - Outline of what you want to write about
  - Research question/argument
  - Identification of sources

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## Israel's diverse religious landscape

*% of Israeli adults who identify as ...*



Source: Survey conducted October 2014-May 2015. A small proportion of Jewish respondents (<0.5%) did not specify their subgroup.

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# Political religion among Palestinians

# Palestine

## Religious-Ethnic communities

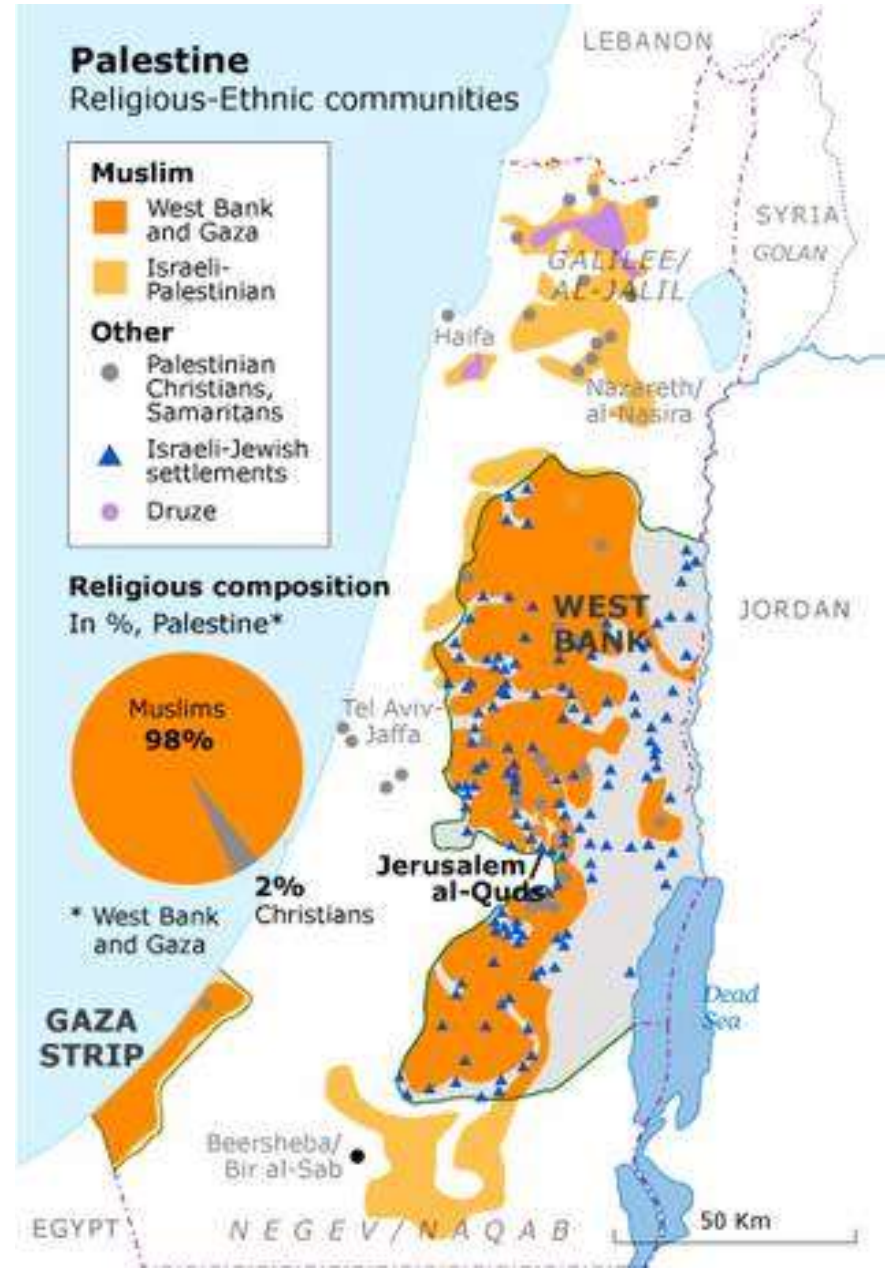
- Muslim**
  - West Bank and Gaza
  - Israeli-Palestinian
- Other**
  - Palestinian Christians, Samaritans
  - ▲ Israeli-Jewish settlements
  - Druze

### Religious composition

In %, Palestine\*



\* West Bank and Gaza



50 Km

- Historically, the Palestinian national movement led by PLO and Fatah was largely secular
- The holy city of Jerusalem (Al-Quds) played a role in the Palestinian national narrative, but more in political rather than religious terms



# Hamas

- Branch of Muslim Brotherhood, established in 1987 during the First Intifada
- Longer histories of Islamic political activism in Palestine
- Intensified since 1967
- Quickly gained popularity because of its local nature, existing activities and resistance to the Israeli occupation



# Hamas as a Hybrid Actor

- Islamist movement
- National movement
- Provision of welfare
- Terrorist organization (Al-Qassam Brigades)



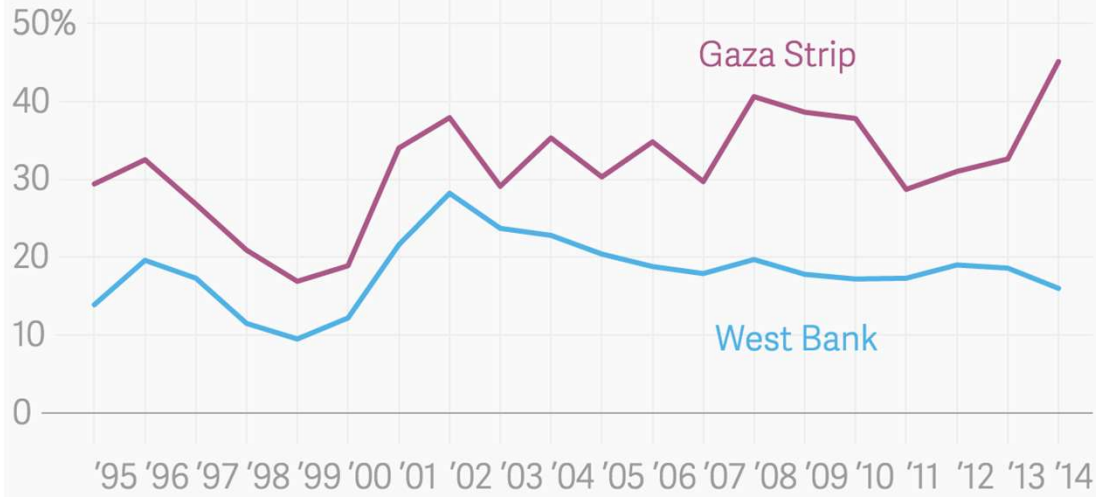
# Hamas after 2006

- Western countries refused to recognize the results of the 2006 elections in Palestine
- Becoming more state-like following the over-take of Gaza
- Talks about long-term ceasefire with Israel



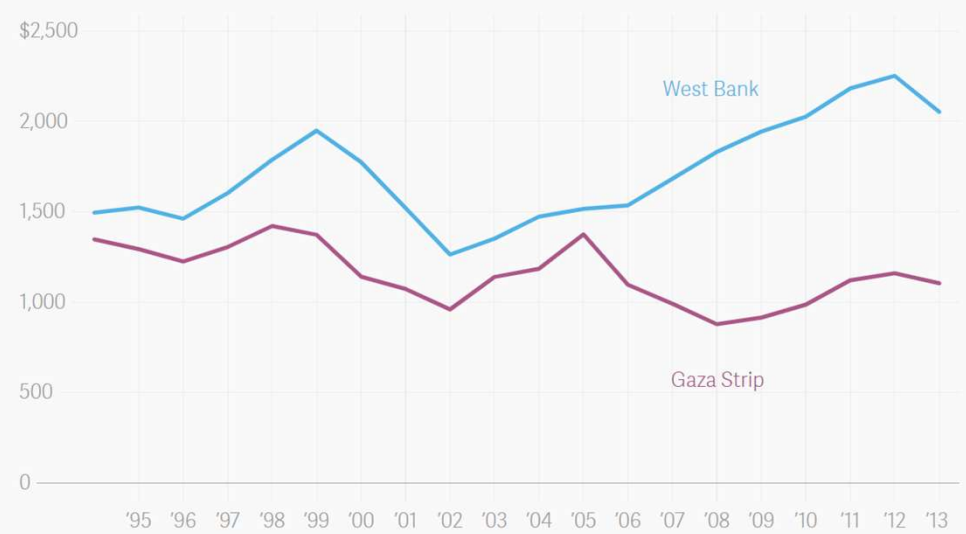
“Much of the politics of Hamas can be explained in terms of the tension between the movement’s dogmatic ideology and its pragmatic approach to political and institutional survival.” (Mishal and Sela 2000, pp. 13)

### Unemployment rates in the Palestinian Territories



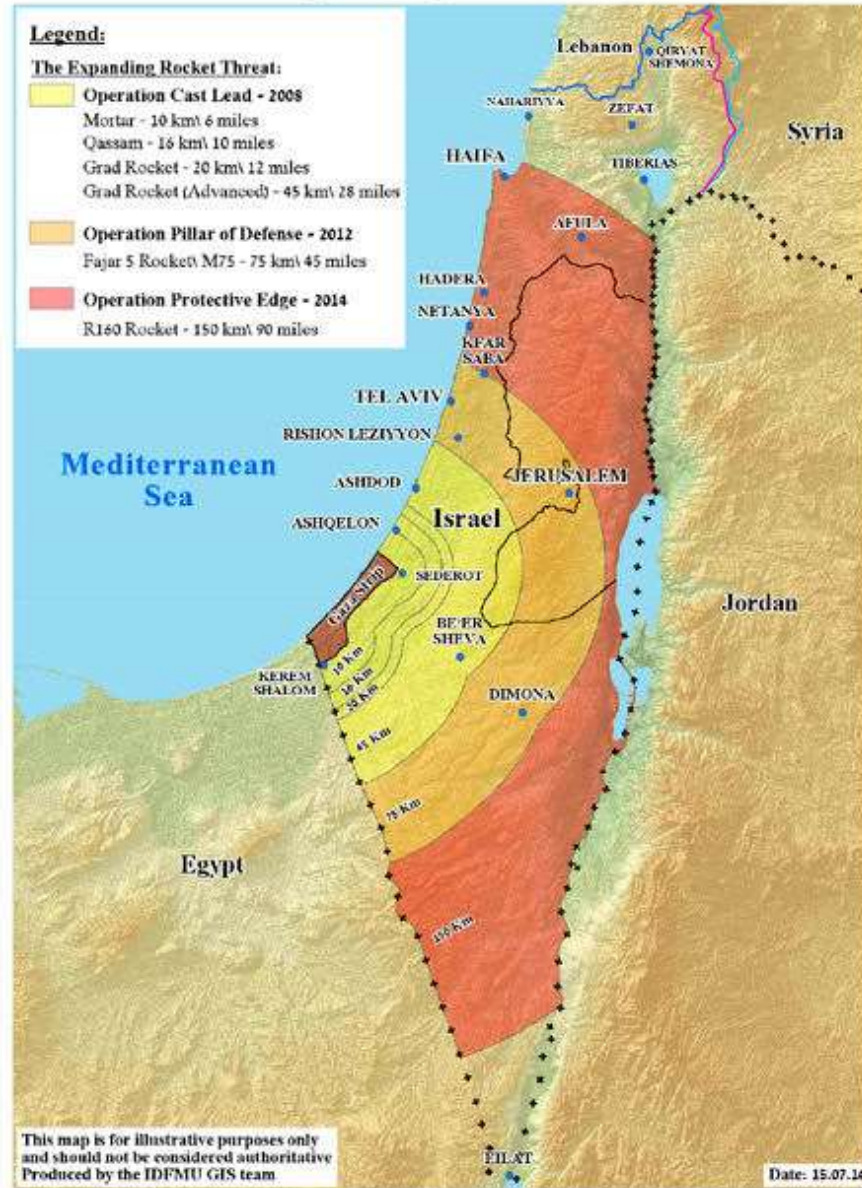
△ T L △ S | Data: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

### GDP per capita in Palestinian Territories



# The Expanding Rocket Threat

Scale:  
1:1,600,000







## When electricity was available in the Gaza Strip, November 7, 2017

Beit Lahia

08:00-12:00

Gaza City

18:00-until press time\*

Deir al-Balah

18:00-until press time

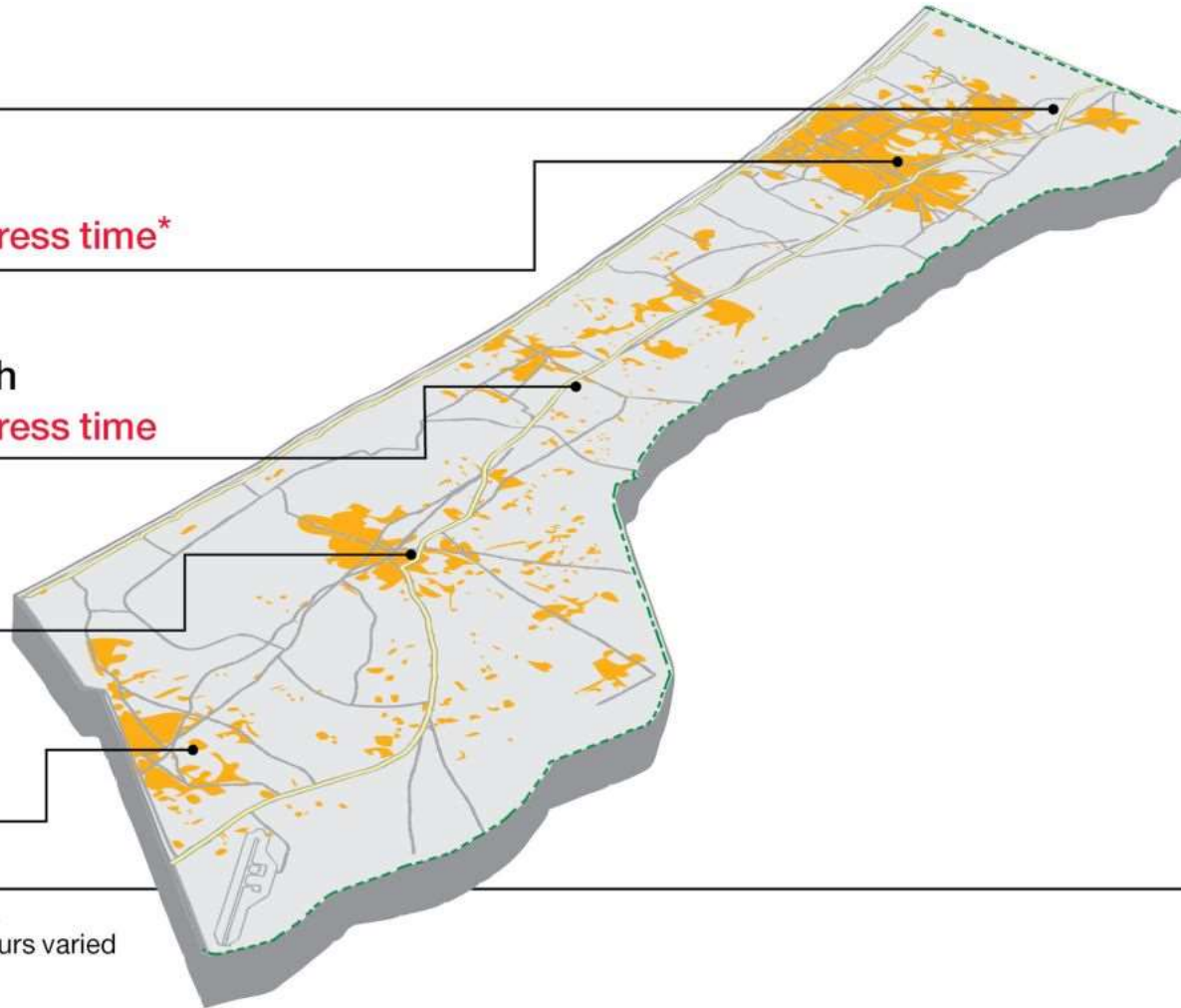
Khan Yunis

10:00-14:00

Rafah

14:00-18:00

\*In the Tel al-Hawa  
neighborhood hours varied

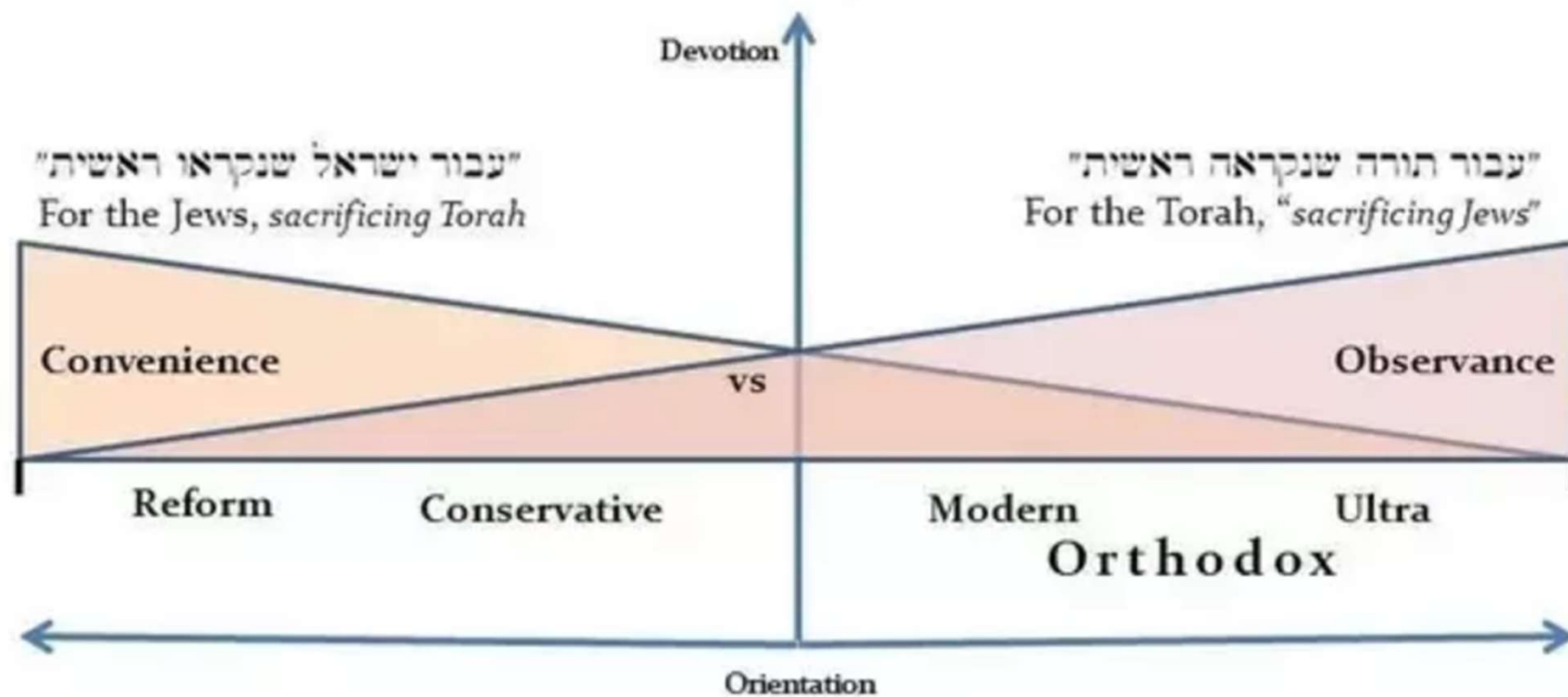






# Political religion in Israel

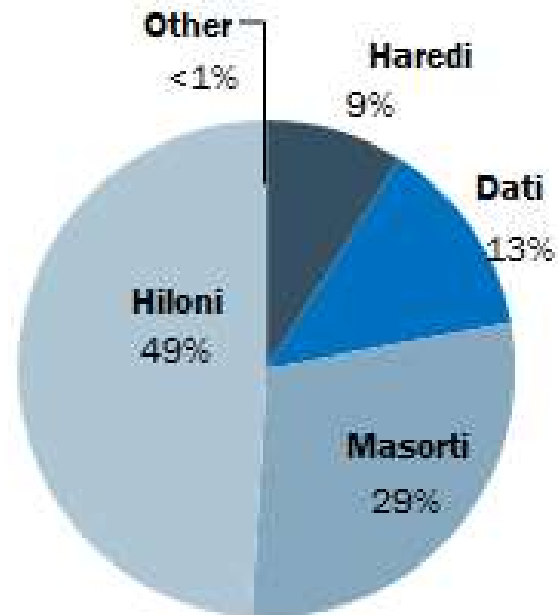
# The scale of Judaism



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## Breakdown of Jews in Israel

*% of Israeli Jews who identify as ...*



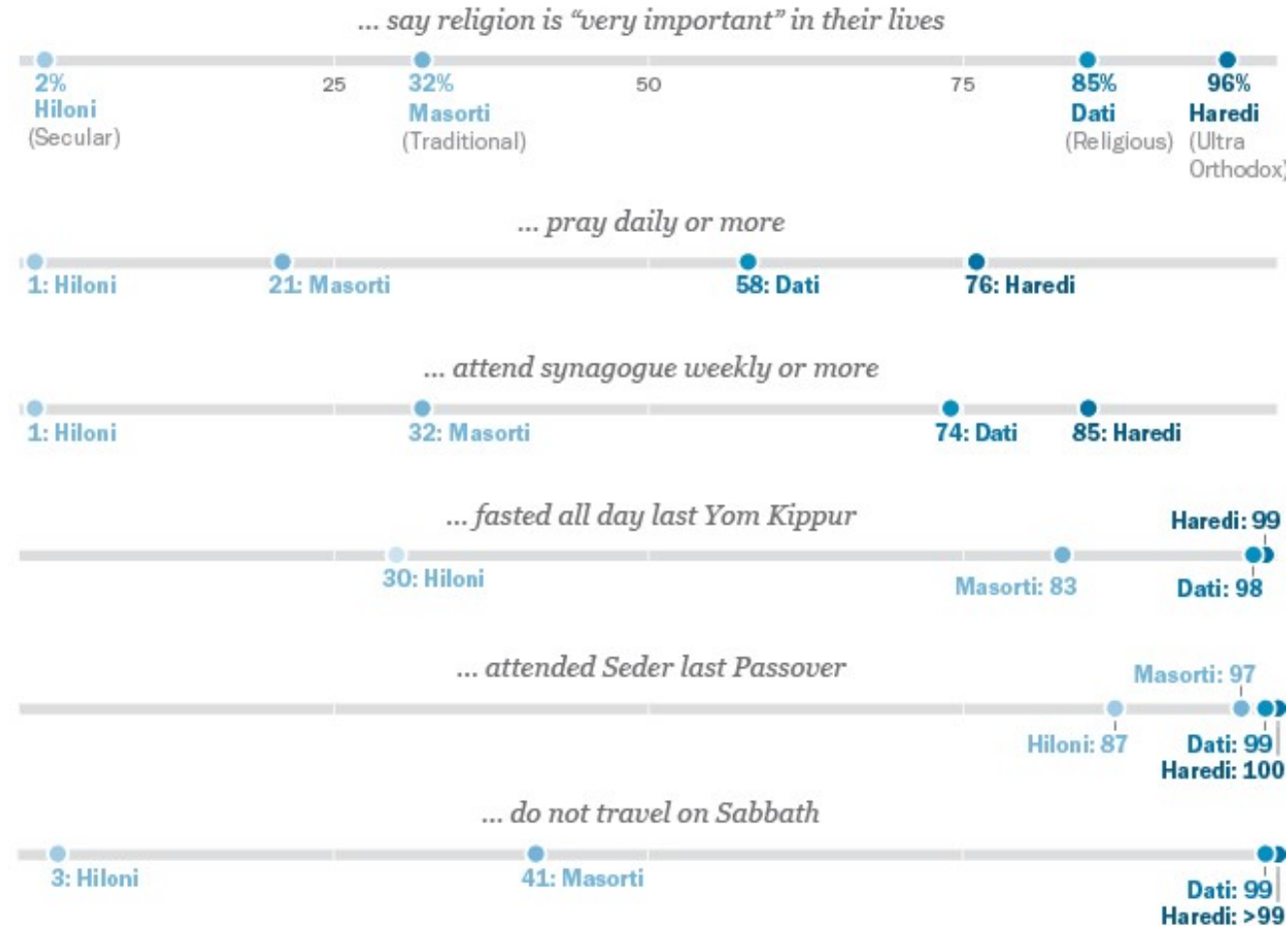
Source: Survey conducted October 2014-May 2015. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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## Large differences in religious observance among Jews of different backgrounds

% of Israeli Jews who ...

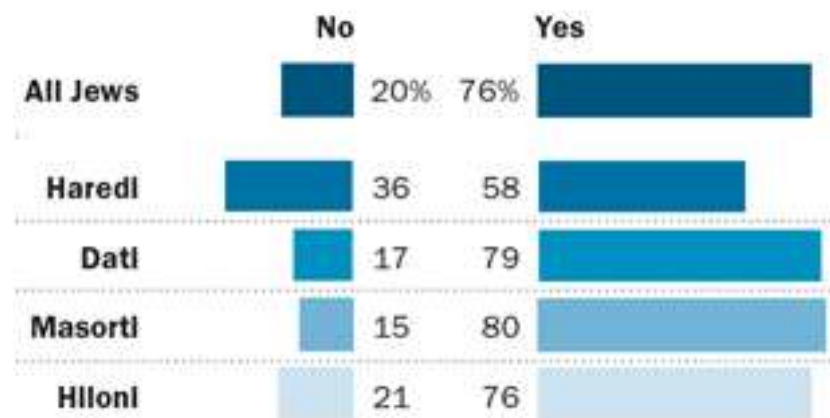


Source: Survey conducted October 2014-May 2015.

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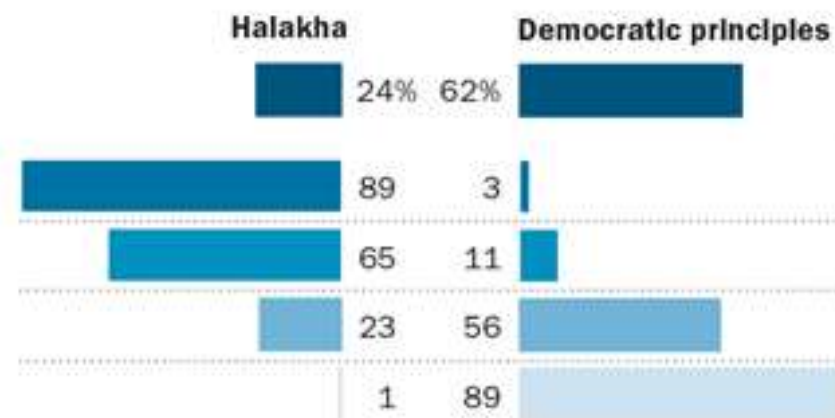
## Israeli Jews see democracy as compatible with Jewish state ...

*% of Israeli Jews who say Israel can be both a democracy and a Jewish state*



## ... but are divided on whether democratic principles or religious law should take priority

*% of Israeli Jews who say ... should be given preference if there is a contradiction between the two*



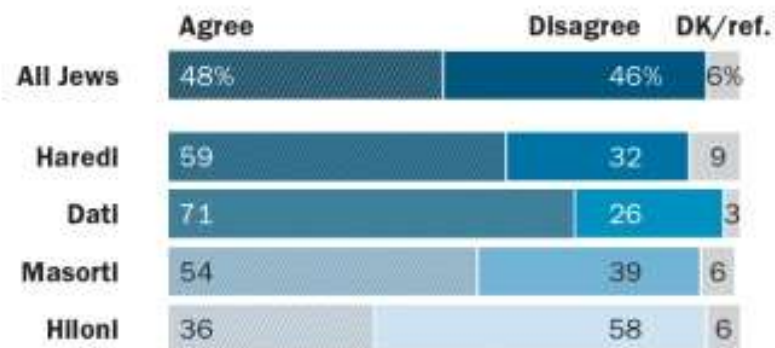
Source: Survey conducted October 2014-May 2015. Neither/Both/Don't know/refused responses not shown.

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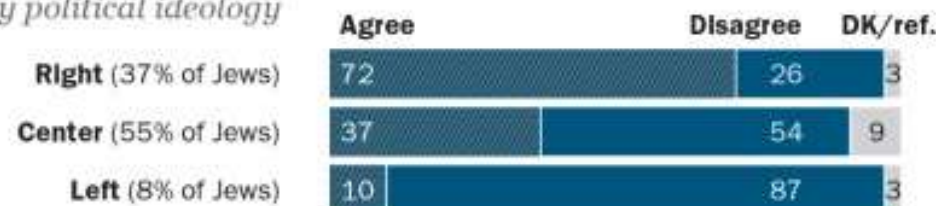


## Majorities of Haredim, Datiim agree Arabs should be expelled

*% of Israeli Jews who strongly agree/agree or strongly disagree/disagree with the statement "Arabs should be expelled or transferred from Israel"*



*... by political ideology*



Source: Survey conducted October 2014-May 2015. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding. Respondents in the survey were asked to identify on a political spectrum from 1-6, with 1 representing the left and 6 representing the right. For purposes of analysis, 1 and 2 make up the "left" category, 3 and 4 are "center" and 5 and 6 are "right."

# Religion and State

- In Israel, the Orthodox rabbinate has a monopoly over civil law among Jewish citizens
- No civil marriages
- Disputes regarding conversions to Judaism
  
- Ultra-Orthodox mostly exempted from work and army service
  
- Debates regarding these issues vis-à-vis the Jewish character of the Israeli state



# women of the wall

נשות  
הקיר







**Do you support or oppose a mixed-gender prayer area adjacent to the Western Wall administered on an equal basis with the services at the Wall itself?**



Support

**73%**

Oppose

**21%**

No opinion

**6%**

Margin of error +/- 3.9%

**Do you support or oppose the existence of a square adjacent to the Western Wall that would serve for mixed prayers, without separation between men and women?**



Support

**42%**

Oppose

**48%**

No opinion

**10%**

Margin of error +/- 3.1%

**AJC**



# Jewish Messianism and Extremism

## RABIN ASSASSINATED

### Peres pays tribute to longtime rival, partner

**YITZHAK RABIN**, the former prime minister of Israel, was remembered last night for a 27-year-old Israeli Jew who shot him in the back of the head at 11:15 p.m. after being shot.

Peres said that Rabin was a man who was not afraid to take risks and who was not afraid to die. He said that Rabin was a man who was not afraid to take risks and who was not afraid to die.



### Pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot

**YITZHAK RABIN**, the former prime minister of Israel, was pronounced dead at 11:15 p.m. after being shot in the back of the head at 11:15 p.m. after being shot.

The assassination was a shocking event that shocked the world. Rabin was a man who was not afraid to take risks and who was not afraid to die.

### A black day for the whole Jewish nation

The assassination of Yitzhak Rabin is a black day for the whole Jewish nation. It is a day of mourning and grief for the people of Israel.

Rabin was a man who was not afraid to take risks and who was not afraid to die. He was a man who was not afraid to take risks and who was not afraid to die.

### War hero and peacemaker

Yitzhak Rabin was a war hero and a peacemaker. He was a man who was not afraid to take risks and who was not afraid to die.

Rabin was a man who was not afraid to take risks and who was not afraid to die. He was a man who was not afraid to take risks and who was not afraid to die.

### Assassin: God told me to kill Rabin

The assassin of Yitzhak Rabin said that God told him to kill Rabin. He said that God told him to kill Rabin.

The assassin said that God told him to kill Rabin. He said that God told him to kill Rabin.

## Massacre in a Mosque

Midnight On the West Bank, Israeli settler kills dozens of Palestinian worshippers, another bloody obstacle to peace

Newsweek, 7 Mart 1994



Time, 7 Mart 1994

# Religion and IDF





# The issue of Haredi Service



## Enlistment compared to exemptions in religious-Zionist yeshivot

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Service postponement	2,228	2,905	3,138	3,272
Exemption	527	142	147	113
Enlistment	634	1,082	1,286	1,345

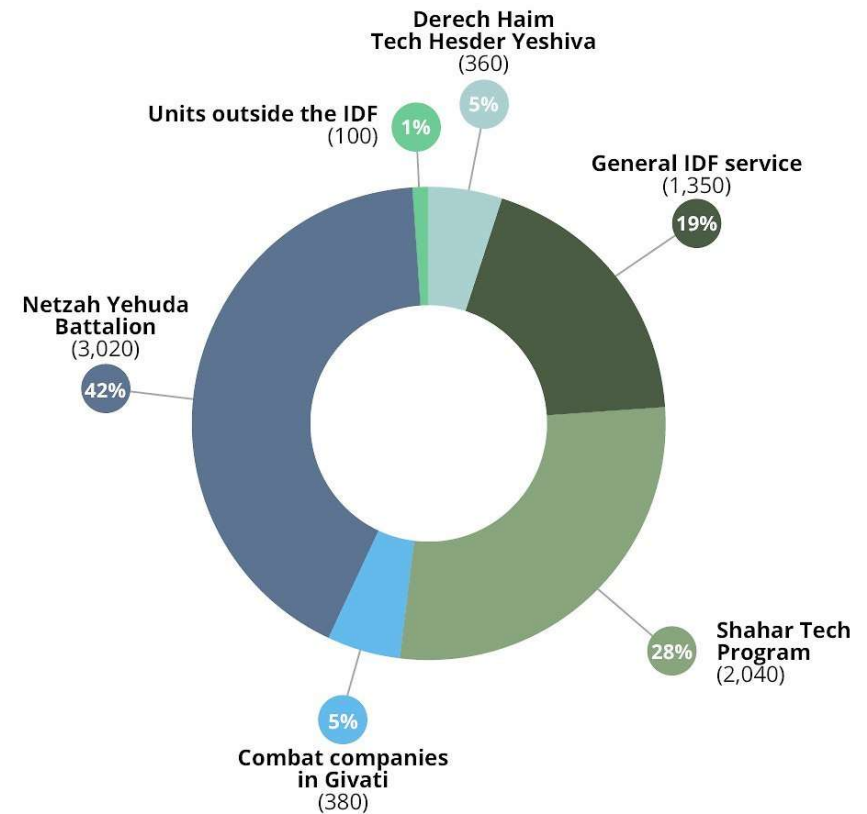


## Enlistment compared to exemptions for the ultra-Orthodox

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Service postponement	23,997	25,745	30,527	27,440
Exemption	18,007	6,838	4,125	2,846
Enlistment quota	2,300	2,700	3,200	Yet to be determined
Enlistment	2,203	2,475	2,850	3,070



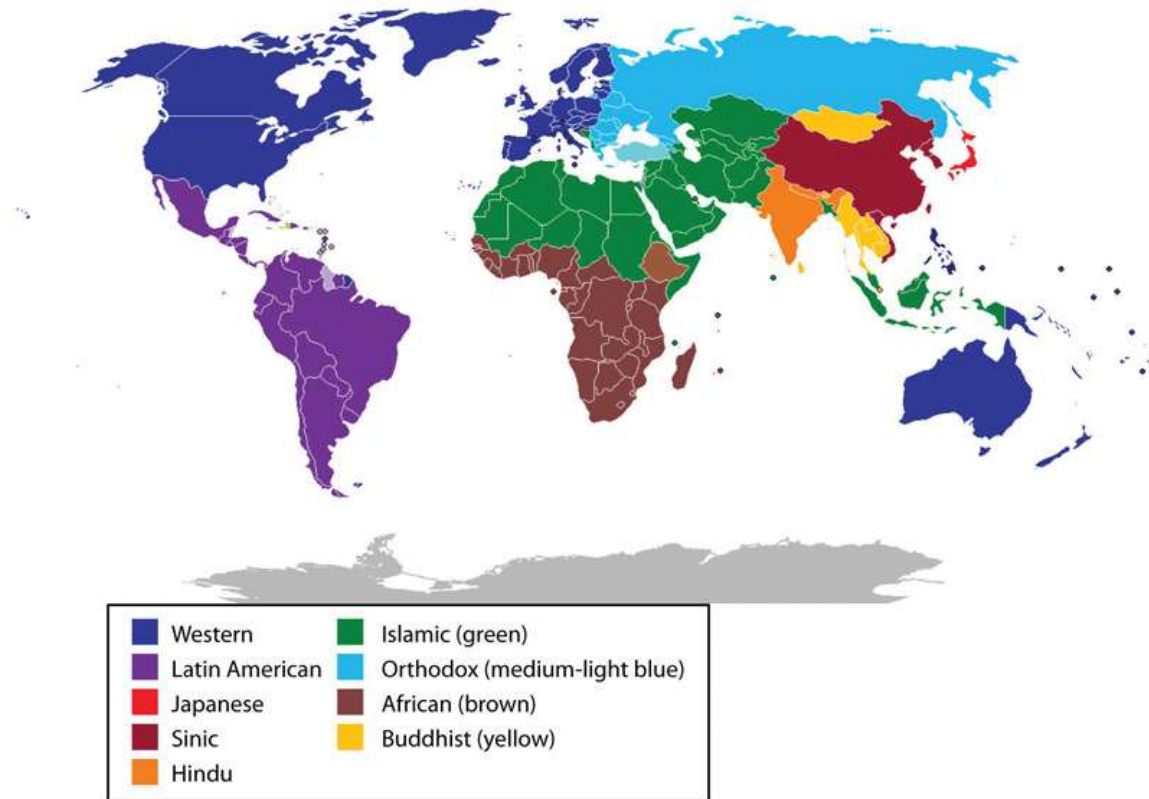
## Types of service among ultra-Orthodox soldiers



# Potential for disobedience of the military?



# The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict as an Instance of Cultural/Religious Clash?







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

