**Israel And The History Of The Land – Slide 8**

### **2000-2007 – PLO Terror, Al-Aqsa, Gaza Strip, Katrina, Second Lebanon War, Hamas 2007**

**2000 – The Second Intifada**

The Second Intifada, also known as the Al-Aqsa Intifada, was a period of intense conflict and Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule that began in late September 2000 and continued for several years. The intifada was characterized by widespread protests, demonstrations, suicide bombings, and armed confrontations between Israeli security forces and Palestinian terrorists. The Second Intifada resulted in a high number of casualties on both sides, with close to 1,000 Israelis killed or injured by Palestinian terror attacks, including suicide bombings and bus bombings. It had a significant impact on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, leading to the construction of the West Bank barrier by Israel and influencing subsequent peace negotiations. It officially ended around 2005, but its consequences continue to shape the region's political landscape.

### **2005: Israel Withdraws from the Gaza Strip**

In 2005, Israel, overcoming huge political pushback domestically and the terror onslaught during the Second Intifada, withdrew from the Gaza Strip, dismantling its settlements and military installations in the name of [**peace**](https://www.c-span.org/video/?188483-1/israeli-disengagement-gaza). After Israeli withdrawal in 2005, [**the coastal territory has been under the control of the Iran-backed Hamas terrorist group,**](https://www.ajc.org/news/tough-questions-about-gaza-answered) which violently ousted the Fatah-controlled Palestinian Authority in 2007. (Bush Jr. Pressured Sharon To Give This Land Up To PLO; Katrina Devastated AMERICA That FALL)

### **2006: Second Lebanon War**

Conflict erupts between Israel and the [**Iranian-backed terrorist group Hezbollah in Lebanon**](https://www.ajc.org/news/hezbollah-hamas-and-more-irans-terror-network-around-the-globe) following an ambush on Israeli soldiers along the border that killed three soldiers as well as led to two being taken hostage. The 50-day war ended with a ceasefire and a UN peacekeeping force deployed in southern Lebanon.

The conflict had several significant impacts, including revealing [**Hezbollah’s potent military capabilities,**](https://www.ajc.org/news/what-to-know-about-hamas-hezbollah-and-rocket-attacks-from-lebanon) questions over Israel’s military planning and leadership, and significant humanitarian impacts on Lebanon. **It also had wide regional impacts, particularly with Iranian and Syrian support for Hezbollah**. It resulted in the adoption of UN Resolution 1701, which called for a ceasefire, the withdrawal of Israeli forces, and the deployment of UN peacekeepers in southern Lebanon. It also called for the disarming of Hezbollah, which has failed to happen.

### **2007: Hamas Takes Control of Gaza**

In June, [**Hamas, considered a terrorist organization by Israel, the U.S., U.K., EU, and others,**](https://www.ajc.org/news/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-iran-backed-terror-group-hamas-and-its-attack-on-israel) took control of the Gaza Strip following violent clashes with its rival Palestinian faction, Fatah. This led to the division of the Palestinian territories, with Fatah controlling the West Bank and Hamas becoming the defacto ruler in Gaza. Hamas has used Iranian support to launch several significant attacks against Israel from its base in Gaza, including in 2008, 2009, 2014, 2021, and most recently on October 7, 2023, when Hamas terrorists murdered over 1,400 Israelis, wounded over 3,200, taken over 200 hostages, and launched thousands of rockets.

### **2007: Annapolis Conference**

In 2007, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, with the support of the U.S., launched the Annapolis Conference. The goal was to reach a peace agreement that would lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state. Hamas called for all parties to boycott the conference. Olmert said that he gave Abbas an “unprecedented offer” based on a return to the pre-1967 borders, including land swaps and a division of Jerusalem. But Olmert [**never received a final response from the Palestinians on the offer**](https://www.haaretz.com/2010-02-14/ty-article/olmert-abbas-never-responded-to-my-peace-offer/0000017f-e279-df7c-a5ff-e27b34550000). A Palestinian negotiator subsequently acknowledged in the media that the Israeli plan would have given his side the equivalent of 100 percent of the disputed lands under discussion.