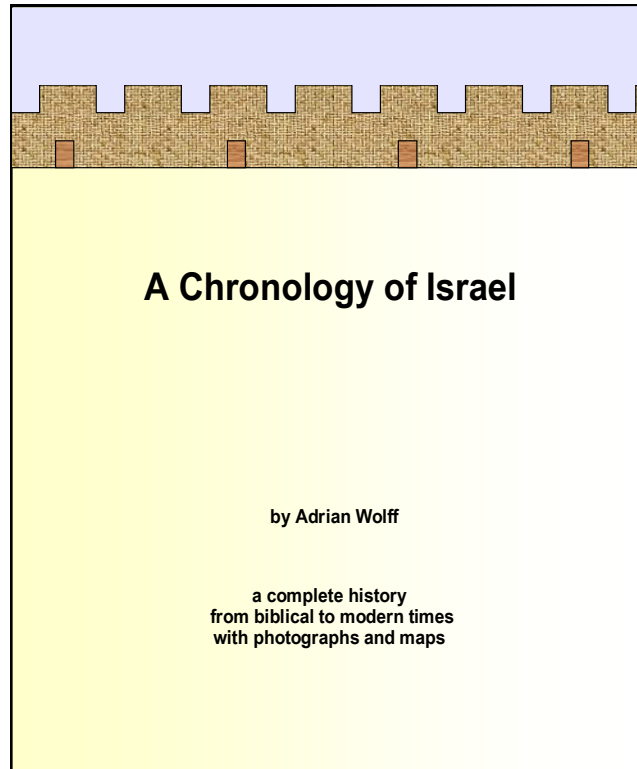


Year Name/Place Events



To order: aewolff@inter.net.il, or www.israeltours.co.il \$40 plus postage \$15 = \$55

A Chronology of Israel, by Adrian Wolff, 359 pages.

This important book concentrates on the history of Israel from prehistoric times until the present day. This book is of use both to newcomers to the history of the region and to those readers who are already knowledgeable about the subject.

As a reference book it is easily readable yet serves as a comprehensive guide to the history of Israel that categorizes and places all the events in a clear and clearly accessible historical perspective in a lucid and logical form. Each chapter can be read separately, according to the reader's interest.

The text highlights important facts in **bold** and summaries in **shaded boxes** that are integrated into the text together with maps and photographs to illustrate the area, events and actors during the relevant periods.

You will find a summary of Judaism, Christianity and Muslim theology with a wide use of Biblical, New Testament and Koranic quotations where relevant. The reader is invited to enjoy the Biblical Quotations that bring alive both their historical content and location.

Appendixes summarize certain events to include tables of data. An Index displays an easy reference and cross-reference according to years, people and events.

Below is the first pages from selected chapters.

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Chapter 2. Exodus to Land of Israel 1300 – 1022 BCE

1300	Israelites	It is generally believed the Israelites are under bondage in Egypt during the reign of Pharaoh Ramses II (1304 – 1227). They help construct temples at Abu Simbel along the Nile River. "A new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph...Egypt enslaved the Children of Israel with crushing hardness." (Exodus 1: 8, 13).
1285	Hittites	Hittites defeat the Egyptian invading forces of Pharaoh Ramses II at the Battle of Kadesh in the foothills of the North Lebanon range. See Lehmann, The Hittites.
1240	Moses	"Moses was shepherding the sheep of Jethro, his father-in-law, the priest of Midan; he guided the sheep far into the wilderness, and he arrived at the Mountain of God, toward Horeb (Horev). An angel of Hashem appeared to him in a blaze of fire from amid the bush...the bush was burning in the fire but the bush was not consumed." (Exodus 3: 1, 2). God tells Moses, "Hashem said, 'I have indeed seen the affliction of My people that is in Egypt and I have heard its outcry because of its taskmasters, for I have known of its sufferings. I shall descend to rescue it from the land of Egypt and to bring it up from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey ...I have seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. And now, go and I shall dispatch you (Moses) to Pharaoh and you shall take My people, the Children of Israel out of Egypt.'" (Exodus 3: 7, 8, 10).
1240	Moses	Jews believe God cannot be defined in physical terms in any way whatsoever, therefore God is known as ' The Name ', Hashem in Hebrew . "You shall not make a carved image nor any likeness of that which is in the heavens above or on the earth below or in the water beneath the earth." (Exodus 20: 4). Moses asks God, "The God of your forefathers has sent me to you, and they say to me ' what is His Name? - what shall I say to them?" (Exodus 3: 13). "Hashem answers Moses 'I shall be as I shall be' (aehiye asher aehiye אהיה אשר אהיה YHVH Yahva)...Hashem the God of your forefathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob has dispatched me to you. This is my Name forever, and this is My remembrance from generation to generation." (Exodus 3: 14). The letters of 'the Name' (YHVH) is never pronounced as it is spelled. During prayer 'the Name' is pronounced <i>Adonai</i> (my Lord), other Hebrew names are <i>Eheveh</i> , <i>Yah</i> , <i>Ei</i> , <i>Elohim</i> , <i>Elohai</i> , <i>Shadai</i> . (See Kabbalah 1570).
13 th c	Moses, Aaron	God tells Moses, "I know that the king of Egypt will not allow you to go, except through a strong hand. I shall stretch out My hand and I shall strike Egypt and with all My wonders that I shall perform in its midst, and after that he will send you out." (Exodus 3: 19, 20). "Moses and Aaron came and said to Pharaoh, 'So said Hashem, the God of Israel, Send out My people.'" (<i>Shlach et ami</i> שלח את עמי in Hebrew, Let my people go!) (Exodus 5: 1). "Pharaoh's heart is stubborn, he refuses to send the people." (Exodus 7: 14).

Ten plagues are brought upon the Egyptians.

1. **Blood.** "I shall strike the waters that are in the River, and they shall change to blood." (Exodus 7: 17).
2. **Frogs.** "I shall strike your entire boundary with frogs." (Exodus 7: 27).
3. **Lice.** "It shall become lice throughout the land of Egypt." (Exodus 8:12).
4. **Vermin.** "The houses of Egypt shall be filled with the swarm (vermin), and even the ground upon which they are." (Exodus 8: 17).

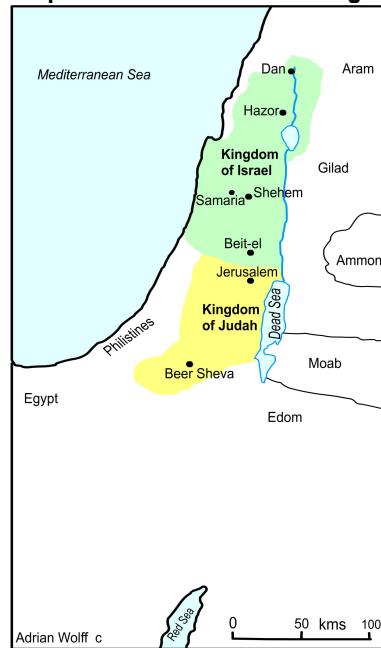
Year Name/Place Events

Chapter 4. The Kingdoms of Israel and Judah 933 – 722 BCE

933 The Kingdom previously united by King David is now divided into two separate kingdoms. The Kingdom of Judah in the South includes Jerusalem from 933 until 586 BCE. The Kingdom of Israel to the north of Jerusalem in Samaria and Galilee from 933 until 722 BCE.

933 Rehoboam/Judah Rehoboam (Rehavam), son of Solomon, King of the Kingdom of Judah in 933, rules until 917 BCE. "*Rehoboam came to Jerusalem and gathered together the entire House of Judah and the tribe of Benjamin...to return the kingship to Rehoboam son of Solomon.*" (I Kings 12: 21).

Map 5. Division into Two Kingdoms 933 BCE



The rivalry for the central position of Jerusalem strains the relationship between Judah and Israel. "*There was warfare between Rehoboam and Jeroboam, all the days.*" (I Kings 14: 30). **Judah**, whose capital Jerusalem is traditionally the more important religious domain of the two; while **Israel**, spanning the northern, milder and wetter climatic zone, is wealthier from the sale of its agricultural produce (fruits and wheat). One-thousand years later Josephus Flavius will describe the beauty and wealth of the Galilee. "*For the whole area (of Galilee) is excellent for crops and pasture and rich in trees of every kind, so that by its fertility invites even those least inclined to work on the land. In fact, every inch of it has been cultivated by the inhabitants and not a parcel goes to waste.*" (Josephus Flavius. De Bello Judaico, III, 42).

933 Jeroboam/Shehem Jeroboam (Yeravam) son of Nebat, King of Israel (933 - 912 BCE). "*Jeroboam built Shehem in the Mountain of Ephraim.*" (I Kings 12: 2, 25). The rivalry between the two Kingdoms, Israel and Judah weakens their stand against potential enemies as they continue to reject a unified alliance.

Year	Name/Place	Events
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Chapter 7. King Herod 37 – 4 BCE

37	Herod	<p>Herodian Period</p> <p>Mark Anthony and Octavian, joint holders of the power in Rome, appoint Herod (born 73, reigns 37 - 4 BCE) King of Judea. Herod's army, financed by Rome, besieges and captures Jerusalem, executing Antigonus, the last Hasmonean king.</p>
37	Romans	<p>Rome's leaders customarily murder their opposition eradicating rivals and family members. Many Roman generals and leaders (Pompey, Julius Caesar, Augustus) use their position to accumulate vast personal wealth. Bribery is the norm as a means to be elected to the Roman Senate. Divorce is very common amongst Roman aristocracy as husbands look for a wife as a stepping-stone to higher power or wealth (what's new!). Roman Army conscripts its citizens in March each year serving for 25 years. Some auxiliary logistics forces use locals who do not enter into battle. Roman soldiers are encouraged to marry local brides. After their release from military service, they receive land to farm and cultivate. Roman theaters do not use topographical features as engineering aids having self-standing stalls and rows, unlike Greek theaters built on a natural gradient of the mountain slope.</p>
37	Herod	<p>Jews of Judea abhor high taxes needed to support Herod's excessive personal lifestyle, his lust for numerous exotic architectural structures resembling Rome and his lack of morality, scruples or honor is not dissimilar to the leaders in Rome. Herod, like many Roman leaders murders members of his own family and eradicates all opposition are examples of his mania and tyranny. He surrounds himself with Greek-speaking learned people, poets and historians and is a patron of the arts. He controls the Jewish administration of Judah, without the responsibility of security and intrusions on the borders, which is under Roman Army control.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Herod appoints his wife's brother, also named Aristobulus as High Priest. Due to his popularity, Herod has him drowned at Jericho in 35 BCE. ▪ Herod executes his uncle. ▪ Herod murders his wife's grandfather, former King Hyrcanus II in 31 BCE. ▪ Herod executes his own wife Miriam I in 29 BCE, her (Miriam's) mother Alexandra in 28 BCE, and his sons Alexander and Aristobulus strangled at Sebaste in 7 BCE. ▪ Herod executes his son Antipater II from his first wife Doris.

Summary of King Herod's Period.

In his capital **Jerusalem**, King Herod has absolute power and maintains his position by avoiding conflict with Jewish traditional customs. He purges the Sanhedrin (Jewish High Council) to become solely an academic and religious council, depriving this body of all executive power.

The kingdom expands to previous Hasmonean borders except the Greek Decapolis cities in the Galilee and parts of Perea east to the Jordan River. The wealth of the population increases due to increased trade, while he funnels heavily taxed income into public works and constructs various palaces in Judea, Perea (Jordan), and Masada. He builds about 20 sites outside his realm in Tyre, Tripoli, Asia Minor, and Greece keeping a sympathetic alliance with foreigners should he flee his own kingdom. King Herod controls state-owned copper mines in Cyprus; lends money to neighboring rulers.

At Caesarea, in honor of Emperor Augustus Caesar, he constructs (22 - 10 BCE) a port **Caesarea Maritima**, one of the three largest ports in the Eastern Mediterranean with a 600-meter pier out to sea as no natural bay is suitable. The other two large ports are

Year	Name/Place	Events
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Chapter 8. The Life of Jesus and His Followers 6 - 65 CE (AD)

CE Common Era = AD

6	Archelaus	Emperor Augustus deposes the ethnarch (a subordinate governor) Archelaus and annexes Judea, Idumea and Samaria into a Roman province.
6	Judah	'Judah of the Galilee', son of 'Hezekiah of the Galilee' (See 47 BCE) leads a band of insurgents against the Romans, capturing Zippori. He is defeated while his followers become known as <i>Kana'im</i> or Zealots (Rebels). During this rebellion 2000 Jews are killed and 30,000 taken into slavery.
10	Hillel	Hillel (75 BCE – 10 CE), the famous Talmudic teacher in Jerusalem is known to tell his students <i>'If I am not for myself, who will be?'</i> Also <i>"You shall love your fellow as yourself."</i> (Leviticus 19: 18).
14	Augustus	Emperor Augustus Caesar dies in Rome. He is remembered for establishing a constitutional government, centralizing the power of the empire in Rome with stability and prosperity. He permits religious freedom for the Jews. His son, Tiberius (14 – 37) is a successful administrator.
17	Antipas	Herod Antipas founds Tiberias on the western bank of the Sea of Galilee, honoring Roman Emperor Tiberius, built on ruins of Rakkat, an ancient town belonging to the Naftali tribe. This causes Jewish religious leaders, fearing a Jew may unsuspectingly construct a building over a Jewish grave, to forbid Jewish residence. Emperor Tiberius expels the Jews of Rome. Later in 29, rescinds their exile allowing their return.
26	Pontius Pilate	Pontius Pilate is appointed Roman procurator of Judea (26 – 36). Jews continue to oppose foreign oppression and look for salvation, hoping perhaps the Messiah will deliver them from the Roman yoke.
28	Jesus	Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by his cousin St. John the Baptist. <i>"Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around Jordan went out to him and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."</i> (Matthew 3: 5, 6, 11).
28	Nazareth	Jesus returns to Nazareth, <i>"So He came to Nazareth where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."</i> (Luke 4: 16). Congregants reject Jesus when His claims to be the Messiah. <i>"Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing..." "So all those in the synagogue when they heard these things, were filled with wrath and rose and thrust Him out of the city."</i> (Luke 4: 21, 28, 29).
28	Cana	Mother of Jesus, Mary is invited to a wedding at the home of the governor in Cana, near Nazareth. She, together with Jesus and his friend Simon, a fisherman from Capernaum (Kfar Nahum) attend. Here Jesus performs His First Miracle . <i>"There was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. And...they ran out of wine...Jesus said to them 'Fill the water-pots with water'...the water...was made wine."</i> (John 2: 1, 2, 3, 7, 9).

Year	Name/Place	Events
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Chapter 11. The Birth of Islam 570 - 661

570	Mecca	Mohammed , son of Abdullah and Aminah is born in Mecca, Arabia. Mohammed's father dies before he is born and his grandfather Abdul Mutalib becomes his guardian until he dies, when his uncle Abi-Talib becomes his custodian. Local inhabitants are all members of the Quraysh tribe, pagan worshippers of a large black meteor stone found in Mecca, and in addition, they are reputed to worship a tree and water.
595	Mohammed	At age 25 Mohammed marries his employer, Khadiga about 40 years old. She gives birth to a daughter Fatima, who will marry Ali Ibn Abi-Talib, son of Mohammed's uncle.
610	Mt. Hira	Mohammed retires to Mt. Hira near Mecca to meditate for a month each year. This month is the holy month of Ramadan. After Mohammed receives his first revelations from angel Gabriel at Mt. Hira, he begins to preach his new monotheistic religion to local pagans in Mecca. "... <i>Gabriel. For he it is who has revealed (this scripture, the Koran) to your heart by Allah.</i> " (Koran 2: 97). Mohammed believes he is the messenger (prophet) of God, called 'Allah' by all Muslims. " <i>I swear there is no God but Allah and Mohammed is his messenger (prophet).</i> " (Koran 1: 1).
613	Chosroes II	Chosroes II Parviz the Persian (Parthian) Emperor (606 - 628) during the Perso-Byzantine War, conquers Mesopotamia, the Fertile Crescent and invades the western Christian Byzantine territory including Palestine. Jews living within the Byzantine Empire have been persecuted for centuries and those living in the Galilee assist Chosroes II Parviz to defeat the Christian Byzantines and occupy Jerusalem. During this invasion, Parthians damage the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, destroying the Nea Church. Parthians take the remains of the 'True Cross' into exile.
622	Mohammed	The Rise of Islam. Mohammed continues to preach his vision of monotheism and attempts to convert the local pagan population of Mecca to his new religion, Islam , whose followers are Muslims or Moslems . The followers believe a person can reach 'The Garden of Eden' (<i>Jinat eiden</i>) in after-life through morality, piety and honesty. The religion is without temples and ceremony as the faithful surrender to Islam . Those who sin in this life will be punished and damned in the after-life in hell (<i>'jehenom'</i>).
622	Quraysh	The local pagan tribe in Mecca, the Quraysh who threaten to kill Mohammed for attempting to convert them. The Quraysh make a pact (<i>al-Akabah</i>) with expelling him into exile, never to return to Mecca. On 20 June 622 Mohammed and his followers depart from Mecca for Yathrib, an oasis 300 kilometers to the north where he establishes the ' ummah ' - the Muslim community (empire). Yathrib becomes known as Medinat al-Nabi, ' <i>the town of the Prophet</i> ', later shortened to Medina. Muslims refer to Mohammed's 'flight from Mecca to Medina' as the Hijra (emigration), and recognize this year (622) as the first year of the hijra , the first year of Islamic calendar.

The Muslim Year

The Muslim calendar begins in the year 622 when Mohammed and his followers are exiled from Mecca to Medina.

8th month - Haj to Mecca with animal sacrifice

9th month - Ramadan, fasting month, commemorating Mohammed's meditation

10th month - Shawwa, begins with joyous feast id-el-Fitir

12th month - Dhul Hijjah, Haj ceremonies.

Year	Name/Place	Events
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Chapter 14. The Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem 1099 - 1187

The Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem 1099 - 1187

- Aim: To conquer Jerusalem.
- End: Salah a-Din's conquest of Jerusalem 1187
- Capital in Jerusalem
- Crusaders control Tyre, Coastal Plain, Galilee, Jerusalem, Northern Negev, Akaba

The Crusaders set up four states:

- Edessa - County of Edessa, ruled by Baldwin II of Boulogne 1100, until 1144.
- Antioch - Principality of Antioch, ruled by Bohemond 1098 until 1268.
- Tripoli - County of Tripoli, 1109 ruled by Raymond of Toulouse until 1289.
- Jerusalem - Kingdom of Jerusalem, led by Godfrey de Bouillon, 'Guardian of the Holy Sepulchre' 1099 until 1187.

1099	Pope	After the conquest of Jerusalem, Crusaders request the Pope settle in Jerusalem. Since the Pope shows no such interest, the Crusaders choose their own leader.
1099	Godfrey	Godfrey de Bouillon, (1060 - 1100) conqueror of Jerusalem does not wish to receive a crown where Jesus had a crown of thorns placed on His head (" <i>they had a crown of thorns, they put it on His head</i> " (Matthew 27: 29). He takes the title 'Guardian of the Holy Sepulchre'. Most Byzantine churches in the Holy Land, previously destroyed now will begin their reconstruction.
1099	Tancred	Tancred captures Beit She'an and Tiberias proclaiming himself King of Tiberias.
1100	Godfrey	Crusader ruler Godfrey, captures the port of Jaffa and Ramle, a Muslim town on the main route from the coast to Jerusalem. The Emir of Caesarea invites Godfrey de Bouillon to attend a banquet at Caesarea. On returning to Jaffa, Godfrey dies suddenly and very unexpectedly, probably from food poisoning. His brother Baldwin I, (1059 - 1118) is crowned the first Crusader King of Jerusalem (1100 – 1118). Both bodies of Godfrey and King Baldwin I are buried in The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, under the Golgotha. Their bones and tombstones disappear during inter-Christian rivalry.
1100	Baldwin I	King Baldwin I controls: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'King's Highway' from Damascus to the Red Sea. ▪ 'via Maris' the Coastal Route from Sinai to Damascus and beyond eastwards. ▪ 'Pilgrims Highway' from Cairo to Medina and Mecca.
1100	Crusaders	Many Crusaders believe they have completed their vows of pilgrimage for the Christian cause and depart back to Europe, leaving a state of disunity and crusader chivalry to govern and protect the new Kingdom. Wealthy knights return to Europe, while the poor, who have little or no assets in Europe remain and are given land, in a method very similar to the feudal manor in Europe. Some Crusaders will take Orthodox wives. The majority of the population is Muslim except in Jerusalem, a Christian city.
1100	Christians	Christian population of Jerusalem consists mostly of Western European Latin Christians, while the Eastern Orthodox - Syrians, Jacobites, Copts are in the minority. End of 1st Crusade.

After success of the 1st Crusade, Jerusalem becomes a pilgrimage status for Western

Year	Name/Place	Events
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Chapter 23. Israel's War of Independence 1947 - 1949

1947	Arabs	The day after United Nations partition resolution (29 November 1947) local Arabs begin rioting and killing Jews. A bus traveling from Netania to Jerusalem is attacked outside Petach Tikva, killing 5 Jews. Thus begins of Israel's War of Independence .
1947	Etzel	After UN Resolution, Etzel emerges from the underground and openly attacks British forces in an attempt to hasten their departure. In a counter-reaction to Arab rioting, Etzel place a bomb at the Damascus Gate Bus Station in Jerusalem, killing 5 Arabs, also in Haifa, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. In a reprisal against Etzel activities, Arabs place a bomb killing 39 at Jews Haifa Petroleum Refineries.
1947	Hagana	By December 1947 the Hagana consists of 12,000 soldiers, many with WW II experience. The Palmach brings 65 ships with illegal immigrants and assist Jews from Syria and Lebanon entering Eretz Israel by foot. End December Hagana volunteers have grown to 15,000 soldiers, including 3,000 infantry. The Palmach has about 3000 volunteers; Etzel 4000 including 1000 soldiers; Lehi 750 with 150 soldiers.
1947	Arabs	Muslims attack Jews in Aden, killing 82 of this small community, plundering 106 of the 170 Jewish owned stores. Four synagogues and 230 Jewish homes are burnt. In Aleppo (Halab), Syria, Arabs destroy Jewish houses, shops, schools and synagogues. In anti-Jewish riots in Iraq, Arabs plunder Jewish-owned businesses and kill Jews. Jewish leaders including Shlomo Hillel emigrate preparing evacuation of Iraqi Jewry.
1947	Population	The population of Jerusalem is 157,000 inhabitants including 97,000 Jews (62%) and about 60,000 Arabs. During 1947, 152 civilians are killed by Arab terrorists.
1948	Arabs	Almost every Arab town and village has a weapons depot. Local sheiks use scouts, <i>najada</i> and <i>futuwa</i> , and an alarm system <i>faza'a</i> to quickly mobilize the population to defend the village or attack Jewish travelers. Occasionally Arabs use services of British Army deserters together with their equipment and vehicles. The Arab League in Cairo declares its armies will occupy Palestine to "drive the Jews into the sea".
1948	British	British Army trains and permits two Arab military units to operate openly, and does not prevent Arab armies from invading Israel before the Mandate ends. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An ex-British officer (Sir John Bagot) Glubb Pasha (1897-1986) leads the Jordanian Arab Legion comprising 8000 soldiers. 2. The second unit, The Transjordan Frontier Force comprises about 3000 troops.
1948	Kfar Szold	Before the British departure The Arab Liberation Army led by Fauzi el-Kaukji attack Kfar Szold. Jewish defenders and a few Hagana soldiers repulse the attacks.
1948	Golda Meir	Golda Meir (1898 - 1978), senior Jewish Agency representative visits the USA to request from US Jewry for financial aid. She becomes the 5 th Prime Minister of Israel (1969 - 1974) and is in office during the Yom Kippur War in 1973.
1948	Jerusalem	Pro-Arab British Army deserters using their military vehicles, bomb the Palestine (Jerusalem) Post building the only English language newspaper. With immense effort, the paper is printed the next morning. In a counter-reaction Etzel kills 20 Arabs.
1948	Jews	In the month of January 1948, 117 Jews are killed by Arabs.

Year	Name/Place	Events
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Chapter 25. The Six-Day and Yom Kippur Wars 1967 - 1973

1967 Syrians January to April 1967, Syrians continue to fire artillery, mortar and machine-guns at Israeli villages, farmers, fishermen and fields in Upper Galilee and Kinneret areas. This includes heavy shelling on 14 April of Kibbutz Ha'on on the eastern shores of Kinneret.



Southern Kinneret and Golan. Syrian artillery emplacements on Golan fire at Israeli civilian targets below. Adrian Wolff

1967 Syrians Syria plans without an operational date Operation Amalita Saddam to capture the Upper Galilee. On 12 May 1967 Syrians open fire on tractor operators in fields of Kibbutz Tel Katzir, Ha'on and Ein Gev in southeast Kinneret. Later that day an aerial combat results in Syrian aircraft losses 6, Israeli 0.



View of Kibbutz Ein Gev from Syrian Artillery camp on Golan overlooking the Kinneret. Adrian Wolff

1967 Russians Russia informs Syria of an Israeli Army buildup in the Upper Galilee opposite the Golan Heights. This fallacious misinformation provokes the Syrians into a war footing.

1967 Nasser Egypt mobilizes over 100,000 troops, 1000 tanks in 7 divisions towards new positions along the Israel-Egypt border without confirming battle plans to attack Israel. President Nasser publicly encourages the Egyptian population of the need to annihilate Israel. Egyptian Government controlled radio announces "*This is our chance Arabs, to deal Israel a mortal blow of annihilation, to blot out its presence in our holy land.*"