



**Yarko & Daniel, secular Israelis, West Jerusalem, grandsons of Holocaust survivor**

*I think this is our country and it's also theirs. (Yarko)  
In war both sides suffer. Maybe there's a winner but what's a winner? People on BOTH sides die. Both sides lose. (Daniel)*



**Mahmoud, Palestinian Muslim, East Jerusalem, son of merchant in Muslim quarter of the Old City**

*The Jews say this is their land. How could it be their land? If it's their land, why does the Quran say that The Prophet Mohammed flew from Mecca to the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem?*



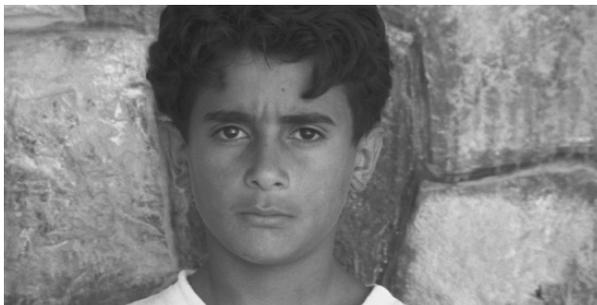
**Shlomo, Israeli Orthodox Jew, Jewish quarter of the Old City, son of a rabbi**

*I understand them because they were thrown out of here 50 years ago and they feel very very small. Very like hurt because they were thrown out that way.*



**Sanabel, Palestinian Muslim, Deheishe Refugee Camp, daughter of jailed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) leader**

*The Jews kicked us off our land and put us in this camp.*



**Faraj, Palestinian Muslim, Deheishe Refugee Camp, son of Palestinian refugees**

*The life we live doesn't allow us to accomplish our dreams. Peace between you and me is impossible unless we get to know each other.*



**Moishe, Israeli Orthodox Jew, Beit-El, settler on West Bank**

*God promised us the land of Israel. The Arabs came and took it. I am surrounded by Arabs. We fight because this land is ours. If I could make my own future, all the Arabs would fly away.*

*NOTE: Often the words used when talking about the Palestinian-Israeli conflict are unfamiliar or mean different things to different people or groups. This glossary provides definitions only for words that occur in the film PROMISES. Wherever possible, we have provided several definitions to illustrate different perspectives.*

### Al Aqsa Mosque

“The Al-Aqsa Mosque (*Masjid Al-Aqsa*, literally “farthest mosque”) is part of the complex of religious buildings in Jerusalem known as either the Majed Mount or Al-Haram ash-Sharif (the Noble Sanctuary) to Muslims and the Temple Mount to Jews. Muslim tradition states that Muhammad ascended to heaven from the Mount in the year 621, making the mosque the third most holy shrine in Islam.” (wordiq.com)

### Arab

“‘Arab’ is a cultural and linguistic term. It refers to those who speak Arabic as their first language. Arabs are united by culture and by history. Arabs are not a race. Some have blue eyes and red hair; others are dark skinned; most are somewhere in between. Most Arabs are Muslims but there are also millions of Christian Arabs and thousands of Jewish Arabs, just as there are Muslim, Christian and Jewish Americans.” (Marvin Wingfield, <http://www.rethinkingschools.org>)

## F Y I

The **Arab League**, established in March 1945, aims to improve relations among Arab nations. Its headquarters are located in Cairo, Egypt. Members include: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

( [http://www.dnb.com/US/communities/intlbusiness/general\\_export\\_\\_info/intl\\_credit\\_terms\\_glossary.asp](http://www.dnb.com/US/communities/intlbusiness/general_export__info/intl_credit_terms_glossary.asp) )

### Checkpoints

“Checkpoints are situated at all crossings between the West Bank and Gaza and Israel. West Bank Palestinians cannot leave the West Bank, travel to Jerusalem or even cross from one Palestinian area to another without a permit issued by the Israeli military. For Palestinians, checkpoints are a daily reminder of the occupation. Most Israelis feel that checkpoints make life in Israel safer — that they offer some form of protection from acts of terrorism.” (**PROMISES** script)

### Deheishe Refugee Camp

“Deheishe is a camp of approximately 2,500 Palestinian families situated in the West Bank about six miles, or a 10-15 minute drive from Jerusalem. Of the total of 12,000 people in the camp, approximately 50 percent are youth. The camp was established by the United Nations on 430 dunums (107.5 acres) in 1949 for Palestinian refugees from the newly created state of Israel.” (UNRWA)

### Gaza Strip

1. “Of the 3.7 million inhabitants of the Palestinian territories, 1.4 million live in Gaza.” (<http://www.reliefweb.int>)
2. “Gaza is one of the most densely populated tracts of land in the world. About 33 percent of its Palestinian population live in United Nations-funded refugee camps. Gaza is also home to about 5,000 Jewish settlers. Israeli settlements cover or control about 30 percent of the Gaza Strip.” (BBC News)
3. “The Gaza Strip is an area slightly more than twice the size of Washington, D.C., bordering the Mediterranean Sea between Egypt and Israel. Its coastline is approximately 25 miles long. It is Israeli-occupied with current status subject to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement — permanent status to be determined through further negotiation.” (CIA world factbook)

### Hamas

1. “Just over a decade after its foundation, Hamas — an acronym that in Arabic stands for the Islamic Resistance Movement — has turned into a major player in Palestinian politics, a thorn in Israel’s side and a “terrorist” organization in the eyes of some Western governments. The movement’s popularity has grown in recent years largely because of its



military operations against Israeli targets and its network of social services provided to Palestinian citizens.” (Al Jazeera)

2. “Since the start of the first intifada in the late 1980s, the militant Hamas organization has won popularity by offering a welfare network to Palestinians and declaring an uncompromising war on Israel. Its primary aim: The elimination of the State of Israel and the creation of an Islamic Palestine in its place. The movement has consistently refused to participate in any peace negotiations with Israel, initiating its policy of suicide bombings following the signing of the Oslo peace accords in 1993.” (Ha’aretz)

3. “Hamas regards Nationalism (Wataniyya) as part and parcel of the religious faith. Nothing is loftier or deeper in Nationalism than waging Jihad against the enemy and confronting him when he sets foot on the land of the Muslims. And this becomes an individual duty binding on every Muslim man and woman.” (Hamas charter, article 12)

4. “In addition to its military wing, the so-called Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigade, Hamas also devotes much of its estimated \$70-million annual budget to an extensive social services network, which includes schools, orphanages, mosques, health care clinics, soup kitchens, and sports leagues. ‘Approximately 90 percent of its work is in social, welfare, cultural, and educational activities,’ writes the Israeli scholar Reuven Paz. Since the Palestinian Authority often fails to provide such services, Hamas’ efforts in this area explain much of its popularity.”

( <http://cfrterrorism.org/groups/hamas3.html#Q14> )

### Hezbollah

1. “The name of a radical Shii Muslim group from Lebanon. The literal translation is “Party of God.” Formed in 1982 with the goal of creating an Islamic republic in the country, the group is widely known for its participation in various suicide bombings and kidnappings, and for its opposition to the existence of the state of Israel.”

( <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/globalconnections/> )

2. “Iranian-backed Islamic fundamentalist terrorist organization based in predominantly Shi’ite areas of southern Lebanon that has launched numerous attacks on Israeli soldiers and civilians.”

( <http://www.projectinterchange.org/glossary.htm> )

3. “Hezbollah and its affiliates have planned or

been linked to a lengthy series of terrorist attacks: a series of kidnappings of Westerners, including several Americans, in the 1980s; the suicide truck bombings that killed more than 200 U.S. Marines at their barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1983; the 1985 hijacking of TWA flight 847; and two major 1990s attacks on Jewish targets in Argentina killing 95.” ( <http://cfrterrorism.org/groups/hezbollah.html> )

### Holocaust

“The Holocaust was the systematic, bureaucratic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of approximately 6 million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators. ‘Holocaust’ is a word of Greek origin meaning ‘sacrifice by fire.’ The Nazis, who came to power in Germany in January 1933, believed that Germans were racially superior and that the Jews, deemed inferior, were life unworthy of life. During the era of the Holocaust, the Nazis also targeted other groups because of their perceived racial inferiority: Roma (Gypsies), the handicapped and some of the Slavic peoples (Poles, Russians and others). Other groups were persecuted on political and behavioral grounds, among them Communists, Socialists, Jehovah’s Witnesses and homosexuals. In 1933, the Jewish population of Europe stood at over 9 million. Most European Jews lived in countries that the Third Reich (Nazi regime in Germany) would occupy or influence during World War II. By 1945, close to two out of every three European Jews had been killed as part of the ‘Final Solution,’ the Nazi policy to murder the Jews of Europe.” (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum <http://www.ushmm.org> )

### Intifada/Intifadah — First Intifada

1. “In December 1987, a mass uprising against the Israeli occupation began in the occupied Palestinian territory. Methods used by the Israeli forces during the uprising resulted in mass injuries and heavy loss of life among the civilian Palestinian population.” (United Nations <http://www.un.org> )

2. “In December 1987, collective Palestinian frustration erupted in the popular uprising against Israeli rule known as the intifada, or “shaking off.” At first a spontaneous outburst, the intifada developed into a well-organized rebellion. Amid confusing directives, some abuses occurred.” (Anti-Defamation League)



**Intifada/Intifadah — Second Intifada**

1. “The deeply flawed ‘peace process’ initiated at Oslo, combined with the daily frustrations and humiliations inflicted upon Palestinians in the occupied territories converged to ignite a second intifada beginning in late September 2000. On September 28, Likud leader Ariel Sharon visited the Noble Sanctuary (Temple Mount) in the company of 1000 armed guards; in the context of July’s tense negotiations over Jerusalem’s holy places and Sharon’s well-known call for Israeli annexation of East Jerusalem, this move provoked large Palestinian protests in Jerusalem.” (Middle East Research and Information Project)
2. “Widespread Palestinian violence erupted on

Friday, September 29, in the Old City of Jerusalem and in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. According to the Palestinians, the violence was ostensibly provoked by the visit of then-Likud Party Chairman Ariel Sharon to the Temple Mount the previous day. Israeli leaders maintain that the Palestinian violence was orchestrated by the Palestinian leadership. There were other incidents of violence against Israeli targets in the Gaza Strip days before the Sharon visit, and widespread violence did not break out until a full day after Mr. Sharon’s visit to the area. Indeed, even before the Sharon visit there were incendiary calls for action in the Palestinian media and in sermons by religious leaders.” (Anti-Defamation League)

**F Y I**

**Terrorist Attacks in Israel**

Since the start of the Al-Aqsa Intifada [second intifada] exactly two years ago, the Palestinians have sent 145 suicide bombers on terror attacks within the Green Line and in the territories. Data compiled by the Shin Bet security service show that there have been more than 200 suicide terrorists since 1993. The last suicide attacker, who blew up a bus on Tel Aviv’s Allenby Street 10 days ago, was the 206th such terrorist in less than a decade. (Ha-aretz 9/04)  
 Since the start of the second intifada in 2000 until May 2004, 6694 Israelis were injured and 989 were killed in terrorist attacks. More than 70% of both the dead and injured were civilians. (Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

**Israeli Arabs**

1. “In 1948 only about 150,000 Palestinian Arabs remained in the area that became the state of Israel. They were granted Israeli citizenship and the right to vote. But in many respects they remain second-class citizens.” (Middle East Research and Information Project)
2. “Today there are over a million Israeli Arabs making up approximately 20 percent of Israel’s population.” (Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics)

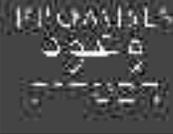
**Jerusalem**

1. “Jerusalem is Judaism’s holiest city, and is also holy to Christianity and Islam. Jerusalem was reunited under Israeli sovereignty as a result of the 1967 Arab-Israeli War. Immediately, Israel passed the Protection of Holy Places Law, which guarantees the sanctity of all holy sites and makes it a punishable offense to desecrate or deny freedom of access to them....Israel maintains that Jerusalem must remain the undivided capital under Israeli sovereignty. Palestinian leaders insist that all of East Jerusalem, including the Temple Mount, be the capital of an independent Palestinian state.” (Anti-Defamation League)
2. “Jerusalem (al-Quds in Arabic) represents the heart of three world religions, yet it is also a dangerous flashpoint to one of the world’s most intractable conflicts, the Palestine Israel issue. ...The issue of the status of East Jerusalem, annexed by Israel but regarded by Palestinians as part of the capital of their own state, remains difficult. Since the start of the second intifada of September 2000, Israel has routinely annexed access of the local Arab towns to Jerusalem, thus sealing the city for its own designs.” (Al Jazeera)

**F Y I**

**Palestinians Killed and Injured since Second Intifada**

Between September 29, 2000 and September 7, 2004, 3,171 Palestinians have been killed and 27,249 have been injured. (Palestine Red Crescent Society)



## F Y I

The **Organization of Islamic Countries** has 55 member states. The 10 countries with the largest Muslim populations are: Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Turkey, Iran, Egypt, Nigeria and China. Of these countries, only Egypt is an Arab country. Most Arabs are Muslims, but most Muslims are not Arabs. (Marvin Wingfield, <http://www.rethinkingschools.org>)

3. “Jerusalem has been important to Christianity in many ways. It was the place where Jesus completed his ministry, was crucified and then rose from the dead. Thus Jerusalem is the stage on which God’s plan of salvation was put into effect. Prior to that, it had been the center of Judaism — the religion of the people Israel—which Christianity claimed to inherit and replace.”

(<http://uwacadweb.uwyo.edu/religionet/er/christ/Cglossry.htm>)

### Judaism/Jew

1. “Judaism is a monotheistic religion. The Jewish People believe there is one God who created and rules the world. Jews do not share one common ancestry or biological distinction. People of many different races have become Jewish people over the years. People of many different nationalities are Jewish. A person who was born to a Jewish mother or has gone through the conversion process is considered a Jew even if he or she does not believe in Judaism and does not observe Jewish practices. Thus, there are non-religious Jews or secular Jews.” (<http://judaism.about.com>)

2. “There are approximately 13 million Jews in more than 80 countries around the world.” (<http://www.us-israel.org>)

### Muhammad

“Muhammad (sometimes Mohammed) (570? – 632 CE), the founder of Islam, is regarded as the ‘seal of the prophets,’ meaning the last of the line of prophets that begins with Adam and runs through the prophets of the Old and New Testaments, including Abraham, John the Baptist and Jesus. At about age 40, Muhammad was visited by the angel Gabriel, through whom he received and recited the Qur’an.” (<http://www.zoofence.com/define4.html>)

### Muslim

1. “A person who submits to the will of God and accepts Islam and all its tenets. One becomes Muslim by saying the shahada (testimony). There is no god but God [and] Muhammad is the messenger [or prophet] of God.” Sometimes spelled Moslem. (<http://www.masjidannur.com/eduoutreach/articles/glossary.html>)

2. “There are nearly 1.2 billion Muslims in the world today. They are of all different racial and ethnic backgrounds including Arab, Asian, African, African-American and Caucasian.” (<http://www.omarfoundation.org/Culture/Educators/Glossary.htm>)

### Nakba See War of Independence/Nakba

### Netanyahu, Binyamin

“Israel’s youngest prime minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, was one of the most right-wing and controversial leaders (of the Likud Party) in the country’s history. His election in 1996 by the narrowest of margins represented a major turning point in Israeli politics.” Defeated in 1999, he is currently Israeli Finance Minister. (BBC News)

### Occupied Territories/Territories

“Regions of the Gaza Strip, West Bank and Golan Heights that have been occupied by the Israelis since the 1967 War. Israel established a military administration to govern the Palestinian residents of the occupied West Bank and Gaza. Israeli policies and practices in the West Bank and Gaza have included extensive use of collective punishments such as curfews, house demolitions and closure of road, schools and community institutions.”

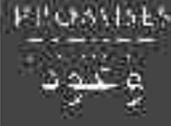
(Middle East Research and Information Project)

### Palestinian

“Today the term refers to the Arabs — Christian, Muslim and Druze — whose historical roots can be traced to the territory of Palestine as defined by the British mandate borders.” (Middle East Research and Information Project)

### Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)

“Founded by George Habash after the occupation of the West Bank by Israel in 1967, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine was formed



as a resistance movement. Combining Arab nationalism with Marxist Leninist ideology, the PFLP opposes peace with Israel.” (BBC News)

### Quran

“The holy scripture of Islam, believed to have been revealed to the prophet Muhammad through the angel Gabriel over a period of 23 years. It contains many of the same teachings, admonitions and stories of earlier prophets found in Jewish and Christian scriptures.” Sometimes spelled Koran.

( <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/teach/muslims/glossary.html> )

### Settlements

1. “Settlements are Jewish communities that were established in the West Bank and Gaza Strip after the territories were acquired in the 1967 War. Today there are at least 170,000 settlers in 145 settlements. Supporters of settlements point to historical and ideological claims, as well as security requirements, to demonstrate the importance of their existence.” (Anti-Defamation League)
2. “According to international law, all Israeli settlements are illegal. However there are 145 official settlements in the West Bank, 19 in the Gaza Strip and 15 in Jerusalem. ... Israel’s settlement system was accompanied by the massive exploitation of land and natural resources, especially water.” (Al Jazeera)

### Settler

1. “An Israeli citizen who chooses for political, religious or purely financial reasons, to live in the occupied territories.” ( <http://www.prairienet.org/cpt/csdglossary.php> )

### Shabbat/Shabbos

1. “Every week religious Jews observe the Sabbath, the Jewish holy day, and keep its laws and customs. Jews often call the day Shabbat, which is Hebrew for Sabbath, and which comes from the Hebrew word for rest.” (BBC News)
2. “Shabbat is primarily a day of rest and spiritual enrichment. The Torah prohibits ‘melachah’ which is usually translated as ‘work.’ The rabbis have also prohibited travel, buying and selling, and other weekday tasks that would interfere with the spirit of Shabbat. The use of electricity is prohibited.” ( <http://www.jewfaq.org/shabbat.htm> )

## F Y I

### Projected population for Israel, West Bank and Gaza

A survey published in December 2003 predicted that by 2020 Jews would account for 6.4 million of the population while Palestinians would count for 8.2 million.

(Agence France-Presse, 31 Dec. 2003)

### Temple Mount/Haram Al Sharif

“This is where the Jewish Temple stood two thousand years ago (See Western Wall). Today, it is the home of two of Islam’s holiest shrines: the Dome of the Rock and the Al Aqsa Mosque. Muslims believe this is the site of Mohammed’s ascension to heaven.” (PROMISES script)

### Terrorist

1. “One who utilizes the systematic use of violence and intimidation to achieve political objectives, while disguised as a civilian non-combatant.” ( <http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/definitions.htm> )
2. “A radical who employs terror as a political weapon; usually organizes with other terrorists in small cells; often uses religion as a cover for terrorist activities. Those involved in using terrorism for political ends call themselves freedom fighters: persons who take part in an armed rebellion against the constituted authority (especially in the hope of improving conditions).” ( <http://www.cogsci.princeton.edu/cgi-bin/webwn> )

### Torah

“The first five books of the Jewish Bible and the Old Testament; also called the Pentateuch; the first major division of the Jewish Bible; torah also means ‘law’ or ‘instruction.’”

( <http://duke.usask.ca/~ckm365/BA110/glossary.html> )

### War of Independence/Nakba

1. “The state of Israel was proclaimed on May 14, 1948 and came into effect the following day. Palestinians remember May 15 as ‘al Nakba’ or the Catastrophe. The day after the state of Israel was declared, five Arab armies from Jordan, Egypt,



Lebanon, Syria and Iraq immediately invaded Israel but were eventually repulsed and the Israeli army crushed pockets of resistance.” (BBC News)

2. “Israel’s independence was officially declared in Tel-Aviv on Friday May 14, 1948 by Zionist leader David Ben-Gurion, who proclaimed: “.....We offer peace and unity to all the neighboring states and their peoples, and invite them to cooperate with the independent Jewish nation for the common good of all.” Despite the euphoria of the movement, Israel faced imminent disaster with an expected invasion by Arab nations who rejected the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine. Outnumbered in men and arms, the new Israeli army was attacked from all directions.”

(Anti-Defamation League)

3. “During the course of the war, about 700,000 to 1,000,000 (the numbers are still disputed) Palestinians fled from villages and cities they inhabited, in the area which eventually became the State of Israel.” ( Wikipedia )

#### Western Wall/Wailing Wall/Kotel/ Hama’aravi

1. “A wall in Jerusalem; sacred to Jews as a place of prayer and lamentation.”

(<http://www.cogsci.princeton.edu/cgi-bin/webwn> )

2. “Jewish tradition teaches that the Temple Mount is the focal point of Creation. Jerusalem was chosen by G-d as the dwelling place of the Divine Presence. David longed to build the Temple, and Solomon his son built the First Temple there about 3,000 years ago. It was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. The Second Temple was rebuilt on its ruins 70 years later. It was razed by the Roman legions over 1,900 years ago. The present Western Wall is a remnant of the western Temple Mount retaining walls.”

( <http://www.ourjerusalem.com> )

#### West Bank

1. “Territory west of the Jordan River, which Israel captured from Jordan in its defensive 1967 War. (Israeli settlers) often refer to it by its Biblical names, Judea and Samaria.”

( <http://www.projectinterchange.org/glossary.htm> )

2. About 2.2 million Palestinians live in the West Bank, together with about 400,000 Israeli settlers — including those who live in East Jerusalem. Currently 59 percent of the West Bank is officially

under Israeli civil and security control. Another 23 percent is under Palestinian civil control but Israeli security control. The remainder of the territory is governed by the Palestinian National Authority — although such areas (are often) subject to Israel incursions.” (BBC News)

#### Zionism/Zionist

1. Zionism is “the national liberation movement of the Jewish people, which holds that Jews are entitled to a homeland in the Land of Israel.

Theodore Herzl, the ‘father of modern Zionism,’ formally organized the Zionist movement in 1897.”

( <http://www.projectinterchange.org/glossary.htm> )

2. “An advocate of Zionism. Also, a derogatory term synonymous with “Israeli” used by some Arabs; it implies the wrongful presence of Israel in Arab land.” ( <http://www-relg-studies.scu.edu/facstaff/murphy/courses/sctro11/glossary.htm> )

3. “Today, decades after the actual founding of a Jewish state, Zionism continues to be the guiding nationalist movement of the majority of Jews around the world who believe in, support and identify with the state of Israel.” (Anti-Defamation League)

#### F Y I

##### 2003 West Bank and Gaza Strip

Population ( <http://www.reliefweb.int> )

Total population > **3.7 million**

West Bank > **2.3 million**

Gaza Strip > **1.4 million**

##### 2003 Israel Population

(Central Bureau of Statistics, Israel)

Total population > **6.7 million**

Jewish population > **5.4 million**

Non-Jewish population > **1.3 million**

(82 percent Muslims, 9 percent Christians and 9 percent Druze)