



AN OVERVIEW OF 2000 YEARS OF JEWISH PERSECUTION

Foundational Information for the **Watchman**

An Overview of 2000 Years of Jewish Persecution

ANTI-JUDAISM: 70 to 1200 CE

Persecution of Jews by Roman Pagans:

70	The Roman Army destroyed Jerusalem, killed over 1 million Jews, took about 100,000 into slavery and captivity, and scattered many from Palestine to other locations in the Roman Empire.
113	Jews in Cyprus, Cyrene, Egypt and Mesopotamia revolted against the Roman Empire. This caused " <i>the death of several hundreds of thousands of Romans and Jews.</i> " ¹
132	Bar Kochba led a hopeless three-year revolt against the Roman Empire. Many Jews had accepted him as the Messiah. About a half-million Jews were killed; thousands were sold into slavery or taken into captivity. The rest were exiled from Palestine and scattered throughout the known world, adding to what is now called the " <i>Diaspora.</i> " Judaism was no longer recognized as a legal religion. ²
135	Serious Roman persecution of the Jews began. They were forbidden, upon pain of death, from practicing circumcision, reading the Torah, eating unleavened bread at Passover, etc. A temple dedicated to the Roman pagan god Jupiter was erected on temple mountain in Jerusalem. A temple of Venus was built on Golgotha, just outside the city.
200	Roman Emperor Severus forbade religious conversions to Judaism.

Persecution of Jews by Christians: Initial persecution of Jews was along religious lines. Persecution would cease if the person converted to Christianity.

306	The Church <i>Synod of Elvira</i> banned marriages, sexual intercourse and community contacts between Christians and Jews. ^{3,4}
315	Constantine published the <i>Edict of Milan</i> which extended religious tolerance to Christians. Jews lost many rights with this edict. They were no longer permitted to live in Jerusalem, or to proselytize.
325	The Council of Nicea decided to separate the celebration of Easter from the Jewish Passover. They stated: " <i>For it is unbecoming beyond measure that on this holiest of festivals we should follow the customs of the Jews. Henceforth let us have nothing in common with this odious people . . . We ought not, therefore, to have anything in common with the Jews . . . our worship follows a . . . more convenient course . . . we desire dearest brethren, to separate ourselves from the detestable company of the Jews . . . How, then, could we follow these Jews, who are almost certainly blinded.</i> "
337	Christian Emperor Constantius created a law which made the marriage of a Jewish man to a Christian punishable by death.
339	Converting to Judaism became a criminal offense.
343-381	The Laodicean Synod approved Canon XXXVIII: " <i>It is not lawful [for Christians] to receive unleavened bread from the Jews, nor to be partakers of their impiety.</i> " ⁵

367-376	St. Hilary of Poitiers referred to Jews as a perverse people who God has cursed forever. St. Ephroem refers to synagogues as brothels.
379-395	Emperor Theodosius the Great permitted the destruction of synagogues if it served a religious purpose. Christianity became the state religion of the Roman Empire at this time.
380	The Bishop of Milan was responsible for the burning of a synagogue; he referred to it as <i>"an act pleasing to God."</i>
415	The Bishop of Alexandria, St. Cyril, expelled the Jews from that Egyptian city.
415	St. Augustine wrote <i>"The true image of the Hebrew is Judas Iscariot, who sells the Lord for silver. The Jew can never understand the Scriptures and forever will bear the guilt for the death of Jesus."</i>
418	St. Jerome, who created the Vulgate translation of the Bible, wrote of a synagogue: <i>"If you call it a brothel, a den of vice, the Devil's refuge, Satan's fortress, a place to deprave the soul, an abyss of every conceivable disaster or whatever you will, you are still saying less than it deserves."</i>
489-519	Christian mobs destroyed the synagogues in Antioch, Daphne (near Antioch) and Ravenna.
528	Emperor Justinian (527-564) passed the Justinian Code. It prohibited Jews from building synagogues, reading the Bible in Hebrew, assembling in public, celebrating Passover before Easter, and testifying against Christians in court. ³
535	The <i>"Synod of Clarendon decreed that Jews could not hold public office or have authority over Christians."</i> ³
538	The <i>3rd and 4th Councils of Orleans</i> prohibited Jews from appearing in public during the Easter season. Canon XXX decreed that <i>"From the Thursday before Easter for four days, Jews may not appear in the company of Christians."</i> Marriages between Christians and Jews were prohibited. Christians were prohibited from converting to Judaism. ⁴
561	The bishop of Uzes expelled Jews from his diocese in France.
612	Jews were not allowed to own land, to be farmers or enter certain trades.
613	Very serious persecution began in Spain. Jews were given the options of either leaving Spain or converting to Christianity. Jewish children over 6 years of age were taken from their parents and given a Christian education.
692	Canon II of the Quinisext Council stated: <i>"Let no one in the priestly order nor any layman eat the unleavened bread of the Jews, nor have any familiar intercourse with them, nor summon them in illness, nor receive medicines from them, nor bathe with them; but if anyone shall take in hand to do so, if he is a cleric, let him be deposed, but if a layman, let him be cut off."</i> ⁵
694	The <i>17th Church Council of Toledo</i> , Spain defined Jews as the serfs of the prince. This was based, in part, on the beliefs by Chrysostom, Origen, Jerome, and other Church Fathers that God punished the Jews with perpetual slavery because of their responsibility for the execution of Jesus. ⁵
722	Leo III outlawed Judaism. Jews were baptized against their will.
855	Jews were exiled from Italy.

1050	The <i>Synod of Narbonne</i> prohibited Christians from living in the homes of Jews.
1078	“Pope Gregory VII decreed that Jews could not hold office or be superiors to Christians.” ⁶
1078	The <i>Synod of Gerona</i> forced Jews to pay church taxes.
1096	The First Crusade launched. Although the prime goal of the crusades was to liberate Jerusalem from the Muslims, Jews were a second target. As the soldiers passed through Europe on the way to the Holy Land, large numbers of Jews were challenged: “ <i>Christ-killers, embrace the Cross or die!</i> ” 12,000 Jews in the Rhine Valley alone were killed in the first Crusade. This behavior continued for eight additional crusades until the ninth in 1272.
1099	The Crusaders forced all of the Jews of Jerusalem into a central synagogue and set it on fire. Those who tried to escape were forced back into the burning building.
1121	Jews were exiled from Flanders (now part of present-day Belgium).
1130	Some Jews in London allegedly killed a sick man. The Jewish people in the city were required to pay 1 million marks as compensation.
1146	The Second Crusade began. A French Monk, Rudolf, called for the destruction of the Jews.
1179	Canon 24 of the <i>Third Lateran Council</i> stated: “ <i>Jews should be slaves to Christians and at the same time treated kindly due of humanitarian considerations.</i> ” Canon 26 stated that “ <i>the testimony of Christians against Jews is to be preferred in all causes where they use their own witnesses against Christians.</i> ” ⁷
1180	The French King of France, Philip Augustus, arbitrarily seized all Jewish property and expelled the Jews from the country. There was no legal justification for this action. They were allowed to sell all movable possessions, but their land and houses were stolen by the king.
1189	Jews were persecuted in England. The Crown claimed all Jewish possessions. Most of their houses were burned.

References

- 1 “A Calendar of Jewish Persecution,” at “HearNow,” a Messianic Judaism web site. See: www.hearnow.org/caljp.htm
 - 2 Randy Felton, “Anti-Semitism and the Church,” at: www.haydid.org/antsemer.htm
 - 3 Fritz B. Voll, “A Short Review of a Troubled History,” at: www.jcrelations.com/res/incidents.htm#protokols1
 - 4 “Classical and Christian Anti-Semitism,” at: www.virtualjerusalem.co.il/education/education/holocaust/
 - 5 Max Solbrekken, “The Jews & Jesus: Mistreatment of Jews: Christian shame,” at: www.mswm.org/jews.htm
 - 6 Fritz B. Voll, “A Short Review of a Troubled History,” at: www.jcrelations.com/res/incidents.htm#protokols1
 - 7 Bob Michael, “Jews as Serfs,” at: www.uni-heidelberg.de/subject/hd/fak7/hist/e3/gen/
- © 1997 to 2003 incl., by Ontario Consultants on Religious Tolerance. Latest update: August 15, 2002. Author: B.A. Robinson
www.religioustolerance.org/jud_pers.htm
- Israel Experience College Scholarship Program Handbook*, Version 1.0, Robert Stearns, et al., Kairos Publishing, June 2004; pg. 8-13, 68-69, 71-88.

ANTI-JUDAISM: 1201 to 1800 CE

Persecution of Jews by Christians continues.

- 1205 Pope Innocent III wrote to the archbishops of Sens and Paris that “*the Jews, by their own guilt, are consigned to perpetual servitude because they crucified the Lord . . . As slaves rejected by God, in whose death they wickedly conspire, they shall by the effect of this very action, recognize themselves as the slaves of those whom Christ’s death set free . . .*”
- 1215 **The Fourth Lateran Council** approved canon laws requiring that “*Jews and Muslims shall wear a special dress.*” They also had to wear a badge in the form of a ring. This was to enable them to be easily distinguished from Christians. This practice later spread to other countries.
- 1227 The *Synod of Narbonne* required Jews to wear an oval badge. This requirement was reinstalled during the 1930’s by Hitler, who changed the oval badge to a Star of David.
- 1229 **The Spanish inquisition starts.** Later, in 1252, Pope Innocent IV authorizes the use of torture by the Inquisitors.
- 1236 Pope Gregory ordered that church leaders in England, France, Portugal and Spain confiscate Jewish books on the first Saturday of Lent.¹
- 1259 A “*synod of the archdiocese in Mainz ordered Jews to wear yellow badges.*”¹
- 1261 Duke Henry III of Brabant, Belgium, stated in his will that “*Jews . . . must be expelled from Brabant and totally annihilated so that not a single one remains, except those who are willing to trade, like all other tradesmen, without money-lending and usury.*”²
- 1267 The *Synod of Vienna* ordered Jews to wear horned hats. Thomas Aquinas said that Jews should live in perpetual servitude.
- 1290 Jews are exiled from England. About 16,000 left the country.
- 1298 Jews were persecuted in Austria, Bavaria and Franconia. 140 Jewish communities were destroyed; more than 100,000 Jews were killed over a 6 month period.
- 1306 100,000 Jews are exiled from France. They left with only the clothes on their backs, and food for only one day.
- 1320 40,000 French shepherds went to Palestine on the Shepherd Crusade. On the way, 140 Jewish communities were destroyed.
- 1321 In Guienne [or, Guyenne], France, Jews were accused of having incited criminals to poison wells. 5,000 Jews were burned alive, at the stake.
- 1338 The councilors of Freiburg banned the performance of anti-Jewish scenes from the town’s passion play because of the lethal bloody reactions against Jews which followed the performances.⁹
- 1347+ Ships from the Far East carried rats into Mediterranean ports. The rats carried **the Black Death**. At first, fleas spread the disease from the rats to humans. As the plague worsened, the germs spread from human to human. In five years, the death toll had reached 25 million. England took two centuries for its population levels to recover from the plague. People looked around for someone to blame. ***They noted that a smaller percentage of***

Jews than Christians caught the disease. This was undoubtedly due to the Jewish sanitary and dietary laws, which had been preserved from Old Testament times. Rumors circulated that Satan was protecting the Jews and that they were paying back the Devil by poisoning wells used by Christians. The solution was to torture, murder and burn the Jews. “In Bavaria . . . 12,000 Jews . . . perished; in the small town of Erfurt . . . 3,000; Rue Brulée . . . 2,000 Jews; near Tours, an immense trench was dug, filled with blazing wood and in a single day 160 Jews were burned.”⁵ In Strausberg 2,000 Jews were burned. In Maintz 6,000 were killed . . . ; in Worms 400 . . . ”³

- 1354 12,000 Jews were executed in Toledo.
- 1374 An epidemic of possession broke out in the lower Rhine region of what is now Germany. People were seen “*dancing, jumping and [engaging in] wild raving.*” This was triggered by enthusiastic revels on St. John’s Day—a Christianized version of an ancient Pagan seasonal day of celebration which was still observed by the populace. The epidemic spread throughout the Rhine and in much of the Netherlands and Germany. Crowds of 500 or more dancers would be overcome together. Exorcisms were tried, but failed. Pilgrimages to the shrine of St. Vitus were tried, but this only seemed to exacerbate the problem. Finally, the rumor spread that God was angry because Christians had been excessively tolerant towards the Jews. God had cursed Europe as He did Saul when he showed mercy towards God’s enemies in the Old Testament. Jews “*were plundered, tortured and murdered by tens of thousands.*” The epidemic finally burned itself out two centuries later, in the late 16th century.⁴
- 1391 Jewish persecutions begin in Seville and in 70 other Jewish communities throughout Spain.
- 1394 Jews were exiled, for the second time, from France.
- 1431+ The Council of Basel “*forbade Jews to go to universities, prohibited them from acting as agents in the conclusion of contracts between Christians, and required that they attend church sermons.*”⁵
- 1434 “*Jewish men in Augsburg had to sew yellow buttons to their clothes. Across Europe, Jews were forced to wear a long undergarment, an overcoat with a yellow patch, bells and tall pointed yellow hats with a large button on them.*”¹
- 1453 The Franciscan monk, Capistrano, persuaded the King of Poland to terminate all Jewish civil rights.
- 1478 Spanish Jews had been heavily persecuted from the 14th century. Many had converted to Christianity. **The Spanish Inquisition was set up by the Church in order to detect insincere conversions.** Laws were passed that prohibited the descendants of Jews or Muslims from attending university, joining religious orders, holding public office, or entering any of a long list of professions.
- 1492 Jews were given the choice of being baptized as Christians or being banished from Spain. 300,000 left Spain penniless. Many migrated to Turkey, where they found tolerance among the Muslims. Others converted to Christianity but often continued to practice Judaism in secret.

1497	Jews were banished from Portugal. Twenty thousand left the country rather than be baptized as Christians.
1516	The Governor of the Republic of Venice decided that Jews would be permitted to live only in one area of the city. It was located in the South Girolamo parish and was called the “ <i>Ghetto Novo</i> .” <i>This was the first ghetto in Europe. Hitler made use of the concept in the 1930’s.</i>
1523	Martin Luther distributed his essay “ <i>That Jesus Was Born a Jew</i> .” He hoped that large numbers of Jews would convert to Christianity. They didn’t, and he began to write and preach hatred against them. Luther has been condemned in recent years for being extremely antisemitic. The charge has some merit; however he was probably typical of most Christians during his era.
1539	A passion play was forbidden in Rome because it prompted violent attacks against the city’s Jewish residents. ⁹
1540	Jews were exiled from Naples.
1543	<p>In his 20’s, Martin Luther had expected Jews to convert to Christianity in large numbers. <i>Distressed by their reluctance, he developed a hatred for Jews</i>, as expressed in his letters to Rev. Spalatin in 1514, when he was 31 years of age. He wrote: “<i>I have come to the conclusion that the Jews will always curse and blaspheme God and his King Christ, as all the prophets have predicted . . . For they are thus given over by the wrath of God to reprobation, that they may become incorrigible, as Ecclesiastes says, for every one who is incorrigible is rendered worse rather than better by correction.</i>”⁶</p> <p>In 1543, he wrote “<i>On the Jews and their lies, On Shem Hamphoras</i>.” “<i>. . . eject them forever from this country. For, as we have heard, God’s anger with them is so intense that gentle mercy will only tend to make them worse and worse, while sharp mercy will reform them but little. Therefore, in any case, away with them! . . . What then shall we Christians do with this damned, rejected race of Jews?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>First, their synagogues or churches should be set on fire . . .</i>• <i>Secondly, their homes should likewise be broken down and destroyed . . . They ought to be put under one roof or in a stable, like Gypsies.</i>• <i>Thirdly, they should be deprived of their prayer books and Talmuds in which such idolatry, lies, cursing and blasphemy are taught.</i>• <i>Fourthly, their rabbis must be forbidden under threat of death to teach any more . . .</i>• <i>Fifthly, passport and traveling privileges should be absolutely forbidden to the Jews...</i>• <i>Sixthly, they ought to be stopped from usury. All their cash and valuables of silver and gold ought to be taken from them and put aside for safe keeping . . .</i>• <i>Seventhly, let the young and strong Jews and Jewesses be given the flail, the axe, the hoe, the spade, the distaff, and spindle and let them earn their bread by the sweat of their noses as is enjoined upon Adam’s children . . .</i> <p><i>To sum up, dear princes and nobles who have Jews in your domains, if this advice of mine does not suit you, then find a better one so that you and we may all be free of this insufferable devilish burden—the Jews.</i>”⁷</p>

1550	Jews were exiled from Genoa and Venice.
1555	July 12: A Roman Catholic Papal bull, " <i>Cum nimis absurdum</i> ," required Jews to wear badges and live in ghettos. They were not allowed to own property outside the ghetto. Living conditions were dreadful: over 3,000 people were forced to live in about eight acres of land. Women had to wear a yellow veil or scarf; men had to wear a piece of yellow cloth on their hat. ⁸
1582	Jews were expelled from Holland.
1648-9	Chmielnicki Bogdan led an uprising against Polish rule in the Ukraine. The secondary goal of Bogdan and his followers was to exterminate all Jews in the country. The massacre began with the slaughter of about 6,000 Jews in Nemirov. Other major mass murders occurred in Tulchin, Polonnoye, Volhynia, Bar, Lvov, etc. Jewish records estimate that a total of 100,000 Jews were murdered and 300 communities destroyed.

Persecution of Jewish Physicians by the Church

Medicine in Europe during the Middle Ages found itself restricted by the Christian Church. The Church taught that it was irreligious to seek a natural cure from a physician when one could obtain supernatural help from a priest. Some church leaders criticized medical schools because they taught that diseases and disorders came from natural means and not from the evil efforts of Satan. With medicine in such ill repute among Christians, much of the leadership by the 10th century was provided by Jews and Muslim scholars. Jews were largely responsible for founding the medical Schools at Salerno and Montpellier in the 10th century.

Popes Eugene IV, Nicholas V and Calixtus III forbade Christians from using the services of a Jewish physician. The *Trullanean Council* in the 8th century; *Béziers Council & Alby Council* in the 13th century; *Avignon council & Salamanca Council* in the 14th century, the *Synod of Bamberg* in the 15th century; the *Council of Avignon* in the 16th century, etc. also ordered Christians to not seek healing from Jewish physicians and surgeons. This continued even into the 17th century when the city of Hall in Würtemberg (in what is now Germany) granted some privileges to a Jewish physician "*on account of his admirable experience and skill.*" The clergy of Hall complained that "*it were better to die with Christ than to be cured by a Jew doctor aided by the devil.*"

References

- 1 Max Solbrekken, "*The Jews & Jesus: Mistreatment of Jews: Christian shame*," at: www.mswm.org/jews.htm
- 2 Edward Vanhoutte, "*Importance and unimportance of the Jews of Belgium from the Middle Ages to the Enlightenment*," at: pger17.uia.ac.be/JEWS.html
- 3 "A Calendar of Jewish Persecution," at "HearNow," a Messianic Judaism web site. See: www.hearnow.org/caljp.htm
- 4 A.D. White, *A History of the Warfare of Science with Theology in Christendom*, Prometheus Books, Buffalo, NY, (Reprinted: 1993), Volume II, Pages 137-140.
- 5 "Classical and Christian Anti-Semitism," at: www.virtualjerusalem.co.il/education/
- 6 "Modern History Sourcebook: Luther Before 1517: Letters to Spalatin," www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1514luther.html
- 7 "Medieval Sourcebook: Martin Luther (1483-1546): The Jews and Their Lies, excerpts (1543)," at: www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/
- 8 "Curious and unusual: Rome's ghetto: The old Jewish quarter," at: www.geocities.com/Paris/Arc/5319/roma-c9.html
- 9 A. James Rudin, "A Jewish View of Gibson's 'Passion.' The film may transmit negative attitudes, stereotypes and caricatures about Jews." Beliefnet, 2004, at: www.beliefnet.com

© 1997 to 2004 incl., by Ontario Consultants on Religious Tolerance. Latest update: May 21, 2004. Author: B.A. Robinson. www.religioustolerance.org/jud_pers.htm

Anti-Semitism: Racially-based Persecution of Jews: 1800 to 1945, Including the Holocaust, or the *Shoah*

Persecution of Jews by Christians continues.

The conversion from religiously-based to racially-based persecution:

Prior to 1800 CE	Persecution was directed at followers of Judaism because of their religious belief; it has been referred to as anti-Judaism. CE, Jews could escape oppression by converting to Christianity, and being baptized. The Christian Church taught in past centuries that <i>all</i> Jews (past, present and future) were responsible for Jesus' death. The Church also believed that some Jews must be allowed to live, because the biblical book of Revelation indicated that they had a role to play in the "end times." They concluded that it was acceptable to make Jews' lives quite miserable.
Since about 1800 CE	"... Nationalism became a dominant value in the Western and Arab worlds ... anti-Semitism increasingly focused on the Jews' peoplehood and nationhood." ¹⁵ Persecution became a form of racism, and has generally been called "anti-Semitism"—a word "created by an anti-Semite, Wilhelm Marr [in 1879]. Marr's intention was to replace the German word <i>Judenhass</i> (Jew-hatred) with a term that would make Jew-haters sound less vulgar and even somewhat scientific." ¹⁵ The word anti-Semite is not a particularly good choice, because the root word "Semitic" refers to a group of languages, not to a single language or to a race, people or nation. However, it is in near-universal usage.
Anti-Semitism: Persecution of Jews along Racial Lines: Subsequent attacks against Jews tended to be racially motivated. They were perpetrated primarily by the state. The Jewish people were viewed as a separate people or race.	
1806	A French Jesuit Priest, Abbe Barruel, had written a treatise blaming the Masonic Order for the French Revolution. He later issued a letter alleging that Jews, not the Masons, were the guilty party. This triggered a belief in an international Jewish conspiracy in Germany, Poland and some other European countries later in the 19th century.
1846-1878	Pope Pius IX restored all of the previous restrictions against the Jews within the Vatican state. All Jews under Papal control were confined to Rome's ghetto—the last one in Europe until the Nazi era. On 2000-SEP-3, Pope John Paul II beatified Pius IX; this is the last step before sainthood. He explained: " <i>Beatifying a son of the Church does not celebrate particular historic choices that he has made, but rather points him out for imitation and for veneration for his virtue.</i> "
1858	At the age of six, Edgardo Mortara was kidnapped from his Jewish family by Roman Catholic officials after they found out that a maid had secretly baptized him. He was not returned to his family but was raised a Catholic. He eventually became a priest.
1873	The term " <i>anti-Semitism</i> " is first used in a pamphlet by Wilhelm Marr called " <i>Jewry's Victory over Teutonism.</i> "
1881	Alexander II of Russia was assassinated by radicals. The Jews were blamed. About 200 individual pogroms against the Jews followed. (" <i>Pogrom</i> " is a Russian word meaning " <i>devastation</i> " or " <i>riot</i> ." In Russia, a pogrom was typically a mob riot against Jewish individuals, shops, homes or businesses. They were often supported and even organized by

the government.) Thousands of Jews became homeless and impoverished. The few who were charged with offenses generally received very light sentences.¹

1893 “... *anti-Semitic parties won sixteen seats in the German Reichstag.*”²

1894 Captain Alfred Dreyfus, an officer on the French general staff, was convicted of treason. The evidence against him consisted of a piece of paper from his wastebasket with another person’s handwriting, and papers forged by antisemitic officers. He received a life sentence on Devil’s Island, off the coast of South America. The French government was aware that a Major Esterhazy was actually guilty.³ The Church, government and army united to suppress the truth. Writer Emile Zola and politician Jean Jaurès fought for justice and human rights. After 10 years, the French government fell and Dreyfus was declared totally innocent. **The Dreyfus Affair was world-wide news for years. It motivated Journalist Theodor Herzl to write a book in 1896: “*The Jewish State: A Modern Solution to the Jewish Question.*” The book led to the founding of the Zionist movement which fought for a Jewish Homeland. A half century later, the state of Israel was born.**

IN THE U.S., AN APRIL 2004 POLL FOUND THAT 34% OF THOSE BELOW THE AGE OF 30 AND 42% OF AFRICAN-AMERICANS SAY THEY FEEL JEWS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHRIST’S DEATH, UP SUBSTANTIALLY FROM 1997 (10% AND 21%, RESPECTIVELY).

1903 At Easter, government agents organized an anti-Jewish pogrom in Kishinev, Moldova, Russia. The local newspaper published a series of inflammatory articles. A Christian child was discovered murdered and a young Christian woman at the Jewish Hospital committed suicide. Jews were blamed for the deaths. Violence ensued. The 5,000 soldiers in the town did nothing. When the smoke cleared, 49 Jews had been killed, 500 were injured; 700 homes looted and destroyed, 600 businesses and shops looted, 2000 families left homeless. Later, it was discovered that the child had been murdered by its relatives and the suicide was unrelated to the Jews.⁴

1905 The Okhrana, the Russian secret police in the reign of Czar Nicholas II, converted an earlier anti-Semitic novel into a document called the “*Protocols of the Elders of Zion.*” It was published privately in 1897. A Russian Orthodox priest, Sergius Nilus, published them publicly in 1905. It was promoted as the record of “*secret rabbinical conferences whose aim was to subjugate and exterminate the Christians.*”⁵ The Protocols were used by the Okhrana in a propaganda campaign that was associated with massacres of the Jews. These were the Czarist Pogroms of 1905.

1915 600,000 Jews were forcibly moved from the western borders of Russia towards the interior. About 100,000 died of exposure or starvation.

1917 “*In the civil war following the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, the reactionary White Armies made extensive use of the Protocols to incite widespread slaughters of Jews.*”⁵ Two hundred thousand Jews were murdered in the Ukraine alone.

1920 The *Protocols* reach England and the United States. They are exposed as a forgery, but are widely circulated. Henry Ford [Ford Motor Company] sponsored a study of international activities of Jews. This led to a series of anti-Semitic articles in *The Dearborn Independent*, which were published in a book, “*The International Jew.*”

IF 6 MILLION JEWS
HADN'T BEEN KILLED
IN THE SHOAH, AND
ASSUMING AN
AVERAGE POPULATION
GROWTH RATE OF
1/4% (THE CURRENT
WORLD AVERAGE),
THEN IN 2004 THERE
WOULD HAVE BEEN
APPROXIMATELY 40
MILLION JEWS WORLD-
WIDE, OR NEARLY 3
TIMES THE CURRENT
POPULATION.

1920 The defeat of Germany in World War I and the continuing economic difficulties were blamed in that country on the “*Jewish influence*.” One anti-Semitic poster has been preserved from that era.⁶ It shows a German, presumably Christian woman, a male Jew with distorted facial features, a coffin and the word “Deutschland” (Germany)

**1920s,
1930s** Hitler had published in *Mein Kampf* in 1925, writing: “*Today I believe that I am acting in accordance with the will of the Almighty Creator: by defending myself against the Jew, I am fighting for the work of the Lord.*” The *Protocols* were used by the Nazis to whip up public hatred of the Jews in the 1930’s. Widespread pogroms occurred in Greece, Hungary, Mexico, Poland, Rumania, and the USSR. Radio programs by many conservative American clergy, both Roman Catholic and Protestant, frequently attacked Jews. Reverend Fr.

Charles E Coughlin was one of the best known. “*In the 1930’s, radio audiences heard him rail against the threat of Jews to America’s economy and defend Hitler’s treatment of Jews as justified in the fight against communism.*”¹² Other conservative Christian leaders, such as Frank Norris and John Straton, supported the Jews.⁷ **Discrimination against Jews in North America is widespread.** Many universities set limits on the maximum number of Jewish students that they would accept. Harvard accepted all students on the basis of merit until after World War I when the percentage of Jewish students approached 15%. At that time they installed an informal quota system. In 1941, Princeton had fewer than 2% Jews in their student body. Jews were routinely barred from country clubs, prestigious neighborhoods, etc.⁸

1933 Hitler took power in Germany. On April 1, Julius Streicher organized a one-day boycott of all Jewish-owned businesses in the country. This was the start of continuous oppression by the Nazis, culminating in the Holocaust. Jews “*were barred from civil service, legal professions and universities, were not allowed to teach in schools and could not be editors of newspapers.*”²² Two years later, Jews were no longer considered citizens. Many Jews prefer to refer to the genocide of the World War II as the “Shoah”—which means ‘calamity’ in Hebrew (*Hashoah*). The word “Holocaust” comes from the Greek and means ‘a completely (*holos*) burnt (*kaustos*) sacrificial offering.’ For many Jews it is theologically offensive to imply—by using the word Holocaust—that the European Jews were killed as a sacrifice to God. Nevertheless, it is widely recognized that most people do not intend such a meaning when they use the Greek word Holocaust.

1934 Various laws were enacted in Germany to force Jews out of schools and professions.

1935 The Nazis passed the **Nuremberg Laws** restricting citizenship to those of “German or related blood.” Jews became stateless.

1936 Cardinal Hlond of Poland urged Catholics to boycott Jewish businesses.

1938 On **November 9**, the Nazi government in Germany sent storm troopers, the SS and the Hitler Youth on a pogrom that killed 91 Jews, injured hundreds, burned 177 synagogues and looted 7,500 Jewish stores. Broken glass could be seen everywhere; the glass gave this event its name of Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass.⁹

1938 Hitler brought back century-old Church law, ordering all Jews to wear a yellow Star of David as identification. A few hundred thousand Jews are allowed to leave Germany after they give all of their assets to the government.

1939

The Holocaust, the Shoah—the systematic extermination of Jews in Germany—begins. The process only ended in 1945 with the conclusion of World War II. ***Approximately 6 million Jews (1.5 million of them children), 400 thousand Roma (Gypsies) and others were slaughtered.*** Some were killed by death squads; others were slowly killed in trucks with carbon monoxide; others were gassed in large groups in Auschwitz, Dachau, Sobibor, Treblinka and other extermination camps. Officially, the holocaust was described by the Nazis as subjecting Jews “to special treatment” or as a “solution of the Jewish question.” Gold taken from the teeth of the victims was recycled; hair was used in the manufacture of mattresses. In the Buchenwald extermination camp, lampshades were made out of human skin; however, this appears to be an isolated incident. A rumor spread that Jewish corpses were routinely converted into soap. However, the story appears to be false.¹⁰

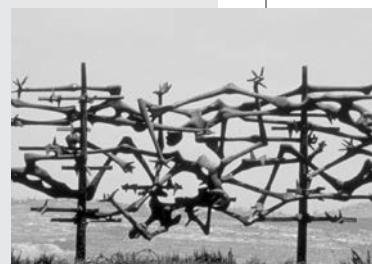
OF THOSE AMERICANS
BETWEEN THE AGE OF
18-34 WHO HAVE SEEN
MEL GIBSON'S “THE
PASSION OF THE
CHRIST,” 42% BELIEVE
JEWS WERE
RESPONSIBLE FOR
CHRIST'S DEATH.

1940

The Vichy government of France collaborated with Nazi Germany by freezing about 80,000 Jewish bank accounts. **During the next four years, they deported about 76,000 Jews to Nazi death camps; only about 2,500 survived.** It was only in 1995 that a French president, Jacques Chirac, “was able to admit that the state bore a heavy share of responsibility in the mass round-ups and deportations of Jews, as well as in the property and asset seizures that were carried out with the active help of the Vichy regime.”¹¹

1941

The Holocaust Museum in Washington DC estimates that 13,000 Jews died on June 19, during a pogrom in Bucharest, Romania. It was ordered by the pro-Nazi Romanian regime of Marshal Ion Antonescu. The current government has admitted that this atrocity happened, but most Romanians continue to deny that the Jews were killed on orders from their own government.¹² Polish citizens in Jedwabne in northeastern Poland killed hundreds of Jews, by either beating them to death or burning them alive in a barn. According to the Associated Press: “*The role played by Polish citizens was suppressed for nearly six decades until publication of a book by a Polish emigre historian, Jan Tomasz Gross. After release of the book in 2000, the Polish government launched an investigation. ‘The role of the Poles was decisive in conducting the criminal act,’ [prosecutor Radoslaw] Ignatiew, said. The book, ‘Neighbours,’ sparked national soul-searching among Poles, many of whom could not believe that anybody but the Nazis would have committed the atrocity.*”¹³



1942

The Nazi leaders of Germany, at the Wannsee conference, decided on “the final solution of the Jewish question” which was the attempt to exterminate every Jew in Europe. From **July 28 to 31**, almost 18,000 Russian inhabitants of the Minsk ghetto in what is now Belarus were exterminated. This was in addition to 5,000 to 15,000 who had been massacred in earlier pogroms in that city. This was just one of many such pogroms during World War II.¹⁴

1945

The Shoah (Holocaust) ended as the Allied Forces over-ran the Nazi death camps.

1946

Even though World War II ended the year before, anti-Semitic pogroms continued, particularly in Poland, with the deaths of many Jews.

The Legacy of Genocide

The New Internationalist, October 2004

“In 1939, just before World War Two, the global Jewish population was approximately 16 million, of which some 11 million are estimated to have lived in Europe. After the War, the European Jewish population was reduced to around 5 million.

“If 6 million Jews hadn’t been killed in the Shoah, and assuming an average population growth rate of 1.4% (the current world average), then in 2004 there would have been approximately 40 million Jews worldwide, or nearly 3 times the current population.”

The October 2004 issue of *The New Internationalist* magazine reports:

- In the U.S., an April 2004 poll found that 34% of those below the age 30 and 42% of African-Americans say they feel Jews were responsible for Christ’s death, up substantially from 1997 (10% and 21%, respectively).¹

- Of those Americans between the age of 18-34 who have seen Mel Gibson’s *The Passion of the Christ*, 42% believe Jews were responsible for Christ’s death.¹

- A 2004 survey conducted in 10 Western European countries found that an average of 21.8% of respondents held anti-Semitic views.²

- 16.4% think that Jews were more willing to use shady practices to get what they want.²

- 49% feel that Jews talk too much about what happened to them in the Shoah, with Germany (56%) and Austria (54%) ranking the highest.²

A 2004 SURVEY
CONDUCTED IN 10
WESTERN EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES FOUND
THAT AN AVERAGE OF
21.8% OF RESPONDENTS
HELD ANTI-SEMITIC
VIEWS.

- 35% of Italians polled believe Jews secretly control finance and the media, and more than 11% feel the number of Jews killed in the Shoah was exaggerated.³
- 15% of Britons believe that the ‘scale of the Nazi holocaust against the Jews has been exaggerated.’⁴

1 Belief that Jews were responsible for Christ’s death increases

2 Anti-Defamation League, *Attitudes Toward Jews, Israel and the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict in Ten European Countries, April 2004* www.adl.org/anti_semitism/european_attitudes_april_2004.pdf

3 *Italian Opinion on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict and the Mideast Question*, Eurispes Research Institute, January 2004.

4 ‘JC/ICM Poll Findings’ published in *Jewish Chronicle*, 23 January 2004.



TEN WAYS **ISRAEL** IS TREATED DIFFERENTLY

TALKING TO OTHERS:
Becoming Articulate Ambassadors

*By David Harris, AJC Executive Director,
Edward and Sandra Meyer Office of the
Executive Director; Senior Associate, St.
Antony's College, Oxford (2009-11)
www.huffingtonpost.com/david-harris/ten-ways-israel-is-treate_b_7579568.html*

It's appalling to see how Israel is treated by a totally different standard than other countries in the international system. Of course, Israel deserves scrutiny, as does every other nation. But it also merits equal treatment — nothing more, nothing less.

First, Israel is the only UN member state whose very right to exist is under constant challenge.

Notwithstanding the fact that Israel embodies an age-old connection with the Jewish people as repeatedly cited in the most widely read book in the world, the Bible, that it was created based on the 1947 recommendation of the UN, and that it has been a member of the world body since 1949, there's a relentless chorus of nations, institutions, and individuals denying Israel's very political legitimacy.

No one would dare question the right to exist of many other countries whose basis for legitimacy is infinitely more questionable than Israel's, including those that were created by brute force, occupation, or distant mapmakers. Just look around at how many nations fit those categories, including, by the way, quite a few Arab countries. Why, then, is it open hunting season only on Israel? Could it possibly have anything to do with the fact that it's the only Jewish-majority country in the world?

Second, Israel is the only UN member state that's been targeted for annihilation by another UN member state.

Think about it. The leadership of Iran, together with Iran-funded proxies in Lebanon and Gaza, has repeatedly called for wiping Israel off the map. Is there any other country facing the threat of genocidal destruction?

Third, Israel is the only nation whose capital city, Jerusalem, is not recognized by other nations.

Imagine the absurdity of this. Foreign diplomats live in Tel Aviv while conducting virtually all their business in Jerusalem. Though no Western nation questions Israel's presence in the city's western half, where the prime minister's office, Knesset (Parliament), and Ministry of Foreign Affairs are located, there are no embassies there.

In fact, look at listings of world cities, including places of birth in passports, and you'll see something striking—Paris, France; Tokyo, Japan; Pretoria, South Africa; Lima, Peru; and Jerusalem, sans country— orphaned, if you will.

Fourth, the UN has two agencies dealing with refugees.

One, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), focuses on all the world's refugee populations, save one. The other, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine (UNRWA), handles only the Palestinians.

But the difference goes beyond two structures and two bureaucracies. In fact, they have two different mandates.

UNHCR seeks to resettle refugees; UNRWA does not. When, in 1951, John Blanford, UNRWA's then-director, proposed resettling up to 250,000 refugees in nearby Arab countries, those countries were enraged and refused, leading to his departure. The message got through. No UN official since has pushed for resettlement.

Moreover, the UNRWA and UNHCR definitions of a refugee differ markedly. Whereas the UNHCR targets only those who've actually fled their homelands, the UNRWA definition covers "the descendants of persons who became refugees in 1948," without any generational limitations.

Fifth, Israel is the only country that has won all its major wars for survival and self-defense, yet is confronted by defeated adversaries who have insisted on dictating the terms of peace.

In doing so, ironically, they've found support from many countries who, victorious in war themselves, demanded—and, yes, got—border adjustments.

Sixth, Israel is the only country in the world with a separate—and permanent—agenda item, #7, at the Geneva-based UN Human Rights Council.

No other member state, including serial human-rights violators like North Korea, Syria, Iran, and Sudan, gets its own agenda item.

Only the sole liberal democracy in the Middle East is treated in this blatantly biased manner because that's the way it works—the bad guys circle the wagons to protect one another, and, at the same time, gang up on Israel, creating an automatic majority against it.

Seventh, Israel is the only country condemned by name this year at the World Health Organization annual assembly as a "violation" of health rights.

This canard takes place despite the fact that Israel provides world-class medical assistance to Syrians wounded in the country's civil war and Palestinians living in Hamas-ruled Gaza; has achieved one of the world's highest life expectancy rates for all its citizens, Jewish and non-Jewish alike; is among the very first medical responders to humanitarian crises wherever they may occur, from Haiti to Nepal; and is daily advancing the frontiers of medicine for everyone, something that can't be said for too many other nations.

Eighth, Israel is the only country that's the daily target of three UN bodies established and staffed solely for the purpose of advancing the Palestinian cause and bashing Israel—the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People; the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People; and the Division for Palestinian Rights in the UN's Department of Political Affairs.

Ninth, Israel is the only country annually targeted by up to 20 UN General Assembly resolutions and countless measures in other UN bodies, such as the Human Rights Council.

Indeed, astonishingly, each year, Israel is on the receiving end of more such efforts than the other 192 UN member states combined. No one can seriously argue that this is remotely warranted, but it's a reality because in every UN body, except the Security Council where each of the five permanent members has a veto, it's all about majority voting.

When close to two-thirds of the world's nations today belong to the Non-Aligned Movement, and when they elect a country like Iran as its chair, with Venezuela on deck, that just about says it all.

And tenth, Israel is the only country targeted by the BDS (boycott, divestment, and sanctions) movement.

Has anyone seen any significant campus activity that takes aim at true human rights offenders, including some in Israel's neighborhood, who behead, forcibly convert, and expel Christians; drop chemically-laced barrel bombs on civilians; deny Palestinians full rights; and use capital punishment, including for minors, with abandon?

Has any student group tried to prevent undergraduates from traveling to any country other than Israel, as was the case with a recent "pledge" circulated at UCLA?

Has anyone seen any flotillas or flytillas organized by European far-left groups that don't involve an anti-Israel angle?

Has anyone seen movements for companies to pull out of any country other than Israel?

Turkey, as but one example, has brazenly and unjustifiably occupied one-third of the island nation of Cyprus for 41 years, deployed an estimated 40,000 Turkish troops there, and transferred countless settlers from Anatolia, yet there's not a peep against Ankara from those who purport to act in the name of "justice" and against "occupation."

Given political realities, tackling any of these instances of egregious double standards and blatant hypocrisy can be a daunting challenge. And, still worse, this list is not complete.

The old advertisement proclaimed that you don't have to be Jewish to love Levy's Jewish rye bread. Well, surely, you don't have to be a pro-Israel activist to be troubled by the grotesquely unjust treatment of Israel. All it takes is a capacity for moral outrage that things like this are happening today.



THE TOP 10 FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW

**TALKING TO OTHERS:
Becoming Articulate Ambassadors**

1.

In the summer of 2000, Israel offered the Palestinian Arabs 97% of the land they claim to be fighting for, making Israel the first and only country ever to offer the Palestinian Arabs a homeland. This offer was rejected with no counter-offer from the Palestinians.

Like the United States, Israel is a democracy. Israel's Parliament includes men, women, Jews, and Arabs.

2.

3.

Israel ensures complete equality of all individuals irrespective of religion, race or sex. These civil rights are granted in Israel's Declaration of Independence and Declaration of Establishment.

There is no "Occupation" by the Israeli Government. [There is official documentation that refers to these areas as "Disputed Territories" rather than "occupied" ones; unfortunately, these terms are often used interchangeably.]

4.

5.

Israel gained control of the West Bank (Judea and Samaria) and Gaza (sometimes referred to as the "disputed territories") in 1967 after defeating Egypt, Syria and Jordan in a pre-emptive strike after those countries surrounded Israel with troops, launched repeated terrorist attacks, and threatened to "put an end to Israel."

6.

Three major attempts to destroy Israel have been carried out by the Arab World: in 1947, 1967, and 1973. Although many neighboring Arab countries today still wish to destroy Israel, Israel still seeks peace. Israel has forged peace agreements with Egypt (1979) and Jordan (1994), and has lived in peace with these countries ever since.

The West Bank (Judea and Samaria) and Gaza were never controlled by any Palestinian government or organization until 1993, when Israel agreed to give the Palestinian Authority certain controls under the Oslo Peace accords.

7.

8.

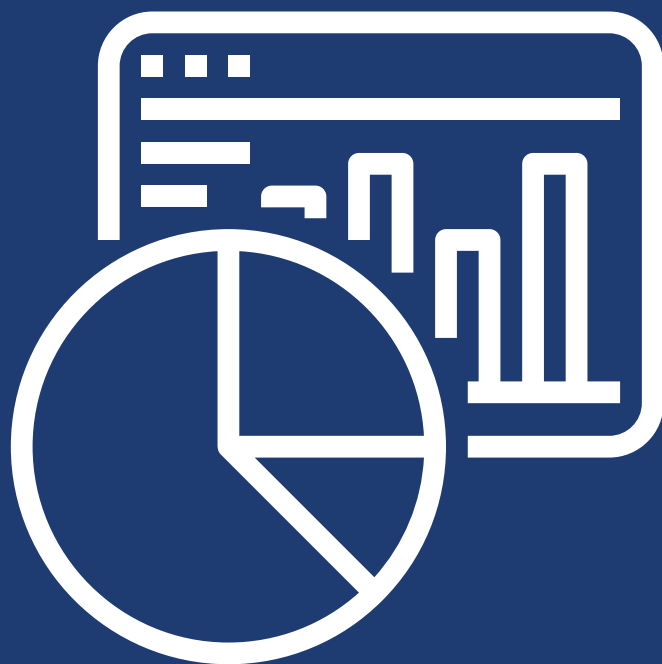
Israeli Settlements in the West Bank and Gaza are not illegal under any international law.

There have been roughly as many Jews displaced from Arab Nations as Arabs displaced from Israeli territory. Israel has absorbed the Jewish refugees, yet the Arab world refuses to accept the Palestinian Arabs into their countries.

9.

10.

The combined land size of Arab countries is 650 times the size of Israel— i.e., Israel is the size of New Jersey, and the Arab countries are the size of the United States, all of Central America, and Mexico combined.



QUICK FACTS AND STATS

**Explaining the Arab-Israeli Conflict
Through Numbers**

by Dennis Prager



For the many readers who have requested a brief synopsis of the moral arguments in the Arab-Israeli conflict, I offer the following list of numerical data.

- Number of times Jerusalem is mentioned in the Old Testament: **over 700**
- Number of times Jerusalem is mentioned in the Koran: **0**
- Number of Arab leaders who visited Jerusalem when it was under Arab rule (1948 to 1967): **1**
- Number of Arab refugees who fled the land that became Israel: **approximately 650,000**
- Number of Jewish refugees who fled Arab countries: **approximately 850,000**
- Number of Arab women killed annually by fathers and brothers in “honor killings:” **thousands**
- Number of Jewish women killed annually by fathers and brothers in “honor killings:” **0**
- Number of Christian or Jewish prayer services allowed in Saudi Arabia: **0**
- Number of Muslim prayer services allowed in Israel: **unlimited**
- Number of Arabs Israel allows to live in Arab settlements in Israel: **2,065,000**
- Number of U.N. agencies that deal only with Palestinian refugees: **1**
- Number of U.N. agencies that deal with all the other refugees in the world: **1**
- Number of Jewish states that have existed on the land called Palestine: **3**
- Number of Arab or Muslim states that have existed on the land called Palestine: **0**
- Number of terrorist attacks by Israelis or Jews since 1967: **6**
- Number of terrorist attacks by Arabs or Muslims since 1967: **thousands**
- Percentage of Jews who have praised the Jewish terrorist: **approximately 1**
- Percentage of Palestinians who have praised Islamic terrorists: **approximately 90**

- Number of Jewish countries: **1**
- Number of Jewish democracies: **1**
- Number of Arab countries: **22**
- Number of Arab democracies: **0**
- Number of Jews Palestinian Authority allows to live in Jewish settlements in Palestinian Authority: **0**
- Percentage of U.N. Commission on Human Rights resolutions condemning an Arab country for human rights violations: **0**
- Percentage of U.N. Commission on Human Rights resolutions condemning Israel for human rights violations: **26**
- Number of U.N. Security Council resolutions on the Middle East between 1948 and 1991: **175**
- Number of these resolutions against Israel: **97**
- Number of these resolutions against an Arab state: **4**
- Number of Arab countries that have been members of the U.N. Security Council: **17**
- Number of times Israel has been a member of the U.N. Security Council: **0**
- Number of U.N. General Assembly resolutions condemning Israel: **nearly 450**
- Number of U.N. General Assembly resolutions condemning an Arab country: **1**
- Percentage of U.N. votes in which Arab countries voted with the United States in 2002: **16.6**
- Percentage of U.N. votes in which Israel voted with the United States in 2002: **92.6**
- Percentage of Middle East Studies professors who defend Zionism and Israel: **approximately 1**

- Percentage of Middle East Studies professors who believe in diversity on college campuses: **100**
- Percentage of people who argue that the Jewish state has no right to exist who also believe some other country has no right to exist: **0**
- Percentage of people who argue that of all the countries in the world, only the Jewish state has no right to exist and yet deny they are anti-Jewish: **approximately 100**
- Number of Muslims in the world: **more than 1 billion**
- Number of Muslim demonstrations against Islamic terror: **approximately 2**

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_members_of_the_United_Nations_Security_Council

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arab_citizens_of_Israel

www.masada2000.org/UN.html

[www.haaretz.com/news/middle-east/sources-europe-arabcountries-
seek-un-condemnation-of-syria-1.396067](http://www.haaretz.com/news/middle-east/sources-europe-arabcountries-
seek-un-condemnation-of-syria-1.396067)

emetnews.org/analysis/explaining_the_conflict.php