

## **The Palestinians between the Arab States and Israel**

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Graduate seminar, Spring 2010

Tue. 5-8 pm. GAR 2.124

Professor Joseph Nevo

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The course discusses the history of the Palestinian Arab society since WWI, the emergence of its national movement and its struggle for nation building and for statehood. It examines Palestinians' life, after 1948, under three regimes (Jordan, Egypt and Israel) as well as in their diasporas; their reemergence as a political factor in the 1960s and the 1970s and the political and military role they have played ever since. The course also focuses on the role of the Jewish community/Israel and that of the neighboring Arab states in shaping the Palestinians history and politics.

### Course Textbook

Rashid Khalidi, *The Iron Cage: The Story of the Palestinian Struggle for Statehood*, Beacon Press, Boston, 2006.

### Course Requirements and Grading

1. Attendance of classes and participation in discussions, reading assignments as indicated below. (25%)
2. A 10-12 pages seminar paper (list of topics is in the 'Course Assignments' on Blackboard), to be submitted through Tuesday, April 20th. (45%)
3. Final Exam. (30%)

### OUTLINE

Part I: Up to 1948

#### I. 19 January: **Background and Introduction: Arab Society in Palestine Before WWI.**

##### **Reading:**

1. Muhammad Y. Muslih, *The Origins of Palestinian Nationalism*, New York 1988, pp. 24-45.

2. Donna Robinson Divine, *Politics and Society in Ottoman Palestine*, Boulder and London, 1994, pp. 143-165; 169-186.
3. Rashid Khalidi, *Palestinian Identity*, New York, 1997, pp. 35-62.
4. Beshara Doumani, *Rediscovering Palestine: Merchants and Peasants in Jabal Nablus, 1700-1900*, Berkeley and Los Angeles, pp. 233-245.

II. 26 January: **The Emergence of Arab Nationalism and of the Palestinian Arab National Movement**

**Reading:**

1. Mark Tessler, *A History of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, Bloomington and Indianapolis, 1994, pp. 96-122.
2. Yehoshua Porath, *The Emergence of the Palestinian-Arab National Movement, 1918-1929*, London, 1974, pp. 20-69.
3. Abd al-Wahhab al-Kayyali, *Palestine: A Modern History*, London, n.d., pp. 43-79.
4. Zeine N. Zeine, *The Emergence of Arab Nationalism*, Delmar, NY, 1973. pp. 30-45.

III. 2 February: **Political and Violent Activity in the 1920 and in the 1930s**

**Reading:**

1. Kayyali, pp. 130-151; 187-223.
2. Khalidi, pp. 145-175.
3. Yehosha Porath, *The Palestinian Arab National Movement. From Riots to Rebellion. Part II, 1929-1939*, London, 1977, pp. 140-161.
4. Joseph Nevo, "Palestinian-Arab Violent Activity During the 1930's" in Michael J. Cohen and Martin A. Kolinsky (eds.), *Britain and the Middle East in the 1930's*, London, 1992, pp. 169-189.
5. W.F. Abushi, "The Road to Rebellion: Arab Palestine in the 1930's" *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Vol. IV, No. 3, Spring 1977, pp. 23-46.

IV. 9 February: **The Beginning of Arab States' Involvement in Palestine**

**Reading**

1. Barry Rubin, *The Arab States and the Palestine Conflict*, Syracuse, 1981, pp. 66-116.
2. Aaron Klieman, "The Arab States and Palestine" in: Elie Kedourie and Sylvia Haim, (eds.), *Zionism and Arabism in Palestine and Israel*, London, 1982, pp. 118-136.

V. 16 February: **Jews, Arabs and Palestinians 1939-1948.**

**Reading**

1. Isa Khalaf, *Politics in Palestine, Arab Factionalism and Social Disintegration 1939-1948*, Albany, 1991, pp. 90-132.
2. Rubin, pp. 148-164.
3. Walid Khalidi, "The Arab Perspective" in Wm Roger Louis and Robert W. Stokey (eds.), *The End of the Palestine Mandate*, Austin, 1986, pp. 104-120.

VI. 23 February: **Economic and Social Development of the Palestinians under the British Mandate.**

**Reading**

1. Khalaf, pp. 25-60.
2. Porath, *The Emergence*, pp. 274-303.

VII. 2 March: **The War of 1948 (Disintegration of Arab Society in Palestine and the beginning of the Refugee Problem)**

**Reading**

1. Joseph Nevo, "The Arabs of Palestine 1947-48: Military and Political Activity" *Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 23, No. 1, January, 1987, pp. 3-32.
2. Benny Morris, *Righteous Victims: A History of Zionist Arab Conflict 1881-1999*, New York, 1999, pp.191-252
3. Khalaf, pp. 205-230.
4. Laurie, A. Brand, *Palestinians in the Arab World*, New York, pp. 1-21.

Part II 1948-1967

VIII. 9 March : **The Palestinians under Jordan, Egypt and Israel's Rule.**

**Reading**

1. Brand, pp. 46-60.
2. Sara Roy, *The Gaza Strip*, Washington, 2001, pp. 65-92.
3. Aqil Haydar Hasan Abidi, *Jordan: A Political Study 1948-1957*, New York, 1965, pp. 168-190.
4. Jacob M. Landau, *The Arabs in Israel: A political Study*, London, New York, Toronto, 1969, pp. 39-68.

16 March : Spring Break

IX. 23 March: **Palestinians in the Arab World : Foundation of the PLO and its Early Activity (1964-1967)**

**Reading**

1. Brand, pp. 26-40, 107-125.
2. Helena Cobban, *The Palestinian Liberation Organization*, Cambridge, 1984, pp. 21-35.
3. Moshe Shemesh, *The Palestinian Entity 1959-1974: Arab Politics and the PLO*, London, Portland OR., 1996, pp. 2-39, 40-54.

30 March : No class

Part III 1967-1993

X. 6 April: **The Palestinians After the Six Day War; The PLO in the 1970s**

**Reading**

1. Jacob M. Landau, *The Arab Minority in Israel 1967-1991*, Oxford, 1993, pp. 162-188.
2. Kamal Salibi, *The Modern History of Jordan*, London, 1993, pp. 222-242.
3. Roy, pp. 103-110.
4. Emile Sahliyeh, *In Search of Leadership: West Bank Politics since 1967*, Washington, 1988, pp. 21-36.
5. Shemesh, pp. 306-315;
6. Cobban, pp. 58-80.

XI. 13 April: **The PLO in 1980s:**

**Reading**

1. Shamesh, pp. 325-343.
2. Morris, pp. 499-525.

XII. 20 April: **The Intifada, Jordan Withdraws its Claim to the West Bank; the Gulf War and the Madrid Conference.**

**Reading**

1. Shemesh, pp. 343-353.
2. Morris, pp. 561-586.
3. Charles D. Smith, *Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict*,

Boston, New York, 2004, pp. 399-424..

20 April: Last day for submission of final papers.

Part IV After 1993

XIII. 27 April: **The Oslo Process, and after; the Al-Aqsa Intifada.**

**Reading**

1. Smith, pp. 437-468, 487-510.
2. Morris, 611-629.

XIV. 4 May April: **Conclusion**

backdrop.

1. Jordan-PLO relations 1964-1967.
2. The impact of the June 1967 war on the Arabs in Israel.
3. Jordan-PLO relations 1967-1971.
4. How and Why the PLO became internationally recognized in the mid-1970s.
5. The first *Intifada*; background, course and consequences.
6. The Palestinians in Lebanon: 1971-1982.
7. Why and how the PLO and Israel reached a mutual recognition in 1993?
8. The Hamas movement: development and activity till its electoral victory in early 2006.