

The Legacy of the Holocaust

The Arab-Israeli Conflict

- After World War Two, the international community was horrified to discover the true scale of what had happened to the Jews.
- So in 1947, the United Nations, under pressure from Britain and the USA in particular, declared that the Jewish people should be given their own legitimate homeland.
- This was to be in Palestine, where the ancient Jewish Kingdom of Israel had once existed.
- Unfortunately, many Muslim Arabs who already lived in this area refused to accept this decision.
- This gave rise to the Arab-Israeli conflict which continues to pose a serious threat to world peace even today, since broadly speaking "The Christian West" (USA and Western Europe) gives strong support to Israel whilst "The Muslim East" (Iran, Iraq, Egypt) supports the Palestinians.

Task 1

1. Why do you think many Arabs were so opposed to the creation of Israel?
2. What would Jewish people argue in response?
3. Do you think that the creation of the state of Israel was a good decision? Explain your answer.

what has
ARIEL SHARON learned
from the **HOLOCAUST**?



HUMILIATION



TYRANNY



BRUTALITY



MURDER

*Ariel Sharon was leader of Israel in 2000

- The Israelis deal forcefully with any evidence of Palestinian aggression that they come across – kidnapping of Israeli citizens, for example, or suicide bomber attacks.

- Because the Israelis are heavily armed with weaponry from the USA, they have been accused of using unreasonable force against Palestinians.

- Israel has also been accused of human rights abuses in its treatment of Palestinian civilians – their voting rights have been threatened and some have been fenced off into areas described by some as "ghettos" as part of an Israeli defence initiative.

Task 2

Read through the following statements, and answer the questions that follow:

- a. "Given the persecution they suffered themselves at the hands of the Nazis, it is perfectly reasonable that the Jews of Israel are now determined to fight for the defence of their homeland with strength and determination"
- b. "Given the persecution they suffered themselves at the hands of the Nazis, it is disappointing that the Jews of Israel are now dealing so heartlessly with the Palestinian minorities within their own borders"
- c. "Israel's brutal, nasty treatment of the innocent Palestinians just goes to show that Hitler had it right about the Jews all along. They only care about themselves"

Which of the above statements do you agree with most? Explain your answer.

(b) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was produced in 1948.
- Anyone feeling that their human rights are being abused can go to the European Court of Human Rights. This court can even pass judgement on governments. Although governments cannot be forced to respect the judgement of the court, most prefer to do so rather than stand accused of having a poor human rights record.
- For example, a judgement was passed against the British government in 2003 declaring that placing asylum seekers in detention centres was an abuse of their human rights.

Task

Produce a mindmap summarising the main ideas of the Declaration. Start by reading through it, then think of suitable categories (between 3 and 5 are usually best) to start organising the points under. These categories can then be subdivided further as appropriate.

1	All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.
2	Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.
3	Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.
4	No one shall be held in slavery or servitude.
5	No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
6	Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.
7	All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law.
8	Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law.
9	No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.
10	Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.
11	Everyone has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which he has had all the guarantees necessary for his defence.
12	No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.
13	Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.
14	Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution. This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.
15	Everyone has the right to a nationality. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality.
16	Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution. Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses. The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State.
17	Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property.
18	Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to

	change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.
19	Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.
20	Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association. No one may be compelled to belong to an association.
21	Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives. Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country. The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.
22	Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.
23	Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment. Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work. Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection. Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.
24	Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.
25	Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.
26	Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.
27	Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits. Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.
28	Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized.
29	Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible. In the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society. These rights and freedoms may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.
30	Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein