



Israel as a nation has changed and developed over centuries; however, the people have always had the heart to reside in and establish their roots in the soil of their homeland. From ancient times until present day, Israel has tilled and worked the land for harvest.

around sowing and harvesting because cultivating the ground was the Jewish people's livelihood.

Most of the Jewish feasts center

**ROMAN EXILE (70 AD)** Romans drove the Jewish people from their homeland where they

lived for over 1,000 years.

**BEGIN TO RETURN (Late 1800s)** Jews began to return in small groups to their homeland. This return led to the beginning of the rebirth of the nation. The Jewish people discovered that, in order to survive, they had to make the desert bloom.

OF ISRAEL'S LAND (1881) Mark Twain recorded in his book The Innocents Abroad that the land of Israel was a "desolate country whose soil is rich enough, but is given over wholly to weeds-a silent mournful expanse."

MARK TWAIN'S RECORDING

19th century) **Both pre-Zionist and Zionist** movements began with the goal to revive the Jewish land physically through agricultural production, as well as create and support a national state.

ZIONIST MOVEMENT

FIRST ALIYAH (1882-1903) Approximately 35,000 Jews migrated to Israel. The arid climate made growing crops difficult. The initial settlement in the land founded moshavim (farming communities), and through an investment banker in France, began to thrive.

**SECOND ALIYAH (1904-1914)** Approximately 40,000 Jews migrated to Israel. Most of these immigrants were young people. The first kibbutz was established. Kibbutz means "gathering" in Hebrew. These settlements in Israel consisted of Jews whose communities were based on agricultural production.

Another approximately 40,000 Jews migrated to Israel. The population reached over 90,000 at this point. The Jewish economy began to grow from agricultural production and subsidiary businesses.

THIRD ALIYAH (1919-1923)

Hostile attitudes toward Jews increased, and their demographics in Israel changed. Migration slowed, and Jews dispersed within Europe. **BALFOUR DECLARATION (1917)** 

**WORLD WAR I (1914-1918)** 

support for Jews to return and establish their homeland.

FIFTH ALIYAH (1929-1939)

The British government announced

migrated to Israel. The return was largely due to the Immigration Restriction Act of 1924 when the United States closed its doors to refugees. Jews who moved at this time were mostly middle class and rounded out the economy with small family businesses.

**FOURTH ALIYAH (1924-1929)** 

Another roughly 82,000 Jews

The largest Aliyah to date, this was the time leading up to World War II. Jews who moved at this time were primarily professionals: doctors, lawyers, writers, and artists. The Jews brought innovative engineering and architecture, boosting the economy once again.

Approximately 6 million Jews, about 2/3 of the Jewish population, were systematically and brutally killed.

**HOLOCAUST (1933-1945)** 

**WORLD WAR II (1939-1945)** 



A Jewish inventor and chief water engineer of Israel in the 1930s made the accidental discovery of drip irrigation, resulting in a process that provided plants with healthy water flow while conserving water.

SIMCHA BLASS DISCOVERED

**DRIP IRRIGATION (1930s)** 

to British intervention. **JEWISH STATE ESTABLISHED** (May 14, 1948)

because it was a time in which Jews

couldn't enter their homeland due

David Ben-Gurion became the first prime minister of Israel, and the nation was officially established.

tion increased sevenfold, keeping ahead of the population.

**INCREASED AGRICULTURAL** 

PRODUCTION (1948-pres-

ent) Agricultural communities

grew from 400-900, and produc-



**GREW (1950s)** 

communities struggled.

KIBBUTZIM STRUGGLE

With many Israelis moving to

cities for jobs, the once thriving

(1950s, 60s, 70s)

As military bases were designed, the early kibbutzim were placed along the borders to help defend the country.

MY OLIVE TREE

**ESTABLISHED (2004)** 

economic independence.

and discussed Israel's

Founder Curt Landry met with Prime Minister Ben Netanyahu

KIBBUTZIM POPULATION

Approximately 67,000 Israelis

up 7.5% of the population.

lived on kibbutzim, which made

In recent years there has been a movement to return to kibbutzim, and young families desire the community and slower pace in contrast to

**KIBBUTZIM PEAK (1989)** 

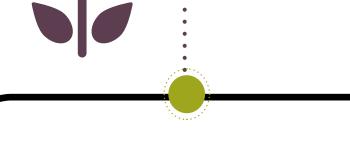
lived on 270 kibbutzim.

**KIBBUTZIM TODAY** 

(1990s-present)

Approximately 129,000 people

the city. MY OLIVE TREE PLANTING (2016) Planted 20,000 olive trees in Israel, furthering the goal of 1 million.



gallons of water. MY OLIVE TREE PLANTING IN **KIBBUTZIM** (present) My Olive Tree provides trees to kibbutz farmers. The farmers plant, care for, and

from the olive production.

**CALIFORNIA DROUGHT (2015)** 

innovative ways to conserve water.

by a Jewish inventor in the 1930s,

70% more tomatoes per 1,000

They used drip irrigation, discovered

and saved 35% water and produced

California farmers experienced a

drought and began looking for



**MOVING FORWARD:** It is our vision to continue standing with Israel just as God calls us to do according to His will and purpose.

harvest the trees, reaping 100% profit

Throughout history, the Jewish people have demonstrated their ability to withstand incredible adversity and still emerge with

strength and prosperity. While there is a

the land, there is no doubt the nation

debate about the state of Israel's rights to

flourished when they returned and called it home. The Lord's steadfast promises remain with His people.

Do you want to know more about Israel's agriculture and how to personally get involved?



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