

## Lesson 1: Introduction and Orientation

*Objective:* Meet the students, calibrate knowledge and attitudes, set the agenda and tone, and generate interest and excitement.

### What to Bring

- Copies for each student: Handouts 1.3, 1.5a, 1.7a, 1.7b
  - One copy of answer key 1.5b, map 1.5c
  - One copy each of flyers 1.3a-1.3t
  - Tape for interactive quiz
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### 1.1. Introductions

Go around the room, each student (and the instructor) says:

- Name and school
- One personal fact
- Personal connection to Israel, if any (family, travel, etc.)

### 1.2. Why study Israel?

- Discussion: Why are we here? Why does the synagogue offer this class?

### 1.3. What do we know? What do we hope to learn?

- Distribute handout 1.3, ask students to take two minutes to fill it out and return (can be anonymous)

### 1.4. Conceptual map

- Draw a circle on the white board, labeled “Israel.” Ask students for free associations: What comes to mind? Brainstorm and list attributes, grouped or connected as appropriate.

### 1.5. Where in the world?

- Distribute blank map (1.5a), ask students to fill in as many country names as they can
- Go over the map together, complete all country names (1.5b)
- Give a perspective of scale: How large is Israel? (1.5c)

### 1.6. Interactive Quiz

What do the students know about Israel? Ask a question, post four answers on four corners of the room (1.6a-1.6t, ask students to stand under the answer they think is correct. Give correct answers (bold).

- Approximately how many people live in Israel?
  - 4.5 million
  - **7.5 million**
  - 12 million
  - 20 million
- What is/are Israel's official language(s)
  - Hebrew
  - **Hebrew and Arabic**
  - Hebrew, Arabic, and Russian
  - Hebrew, Arabic, Russian, English and Amharic [what is Amharic? Language spoken in Ethiopia and by Ethiopian Jews in Israel]
- How old is the city of Jerusalem?
  - About 150 years
  - About 450 years
  - About 1,100 years
  - **About 3,000 years**
- Who founded the Zionist movement?
  - **Theodore Herzl**
  - Yitzhak Rabin
  - Yasser Arafat
  - Lord Arthur Balfour
- Who is the current prime minister of Israel?
  - Ehud Barak
  - Ariel Sharon
  - **Benjamin Netanyahu**
  - Shimon Peres

## 1.7. Outline and timeline

- Distribute timeline (1.7a). Explain non-linear scale, “BCE” and “CE.” This timeline will be used in future classes; “You Are Here” will move depending on the specific topic or timeframe discussed.
- Distribute class outline (1.7b)

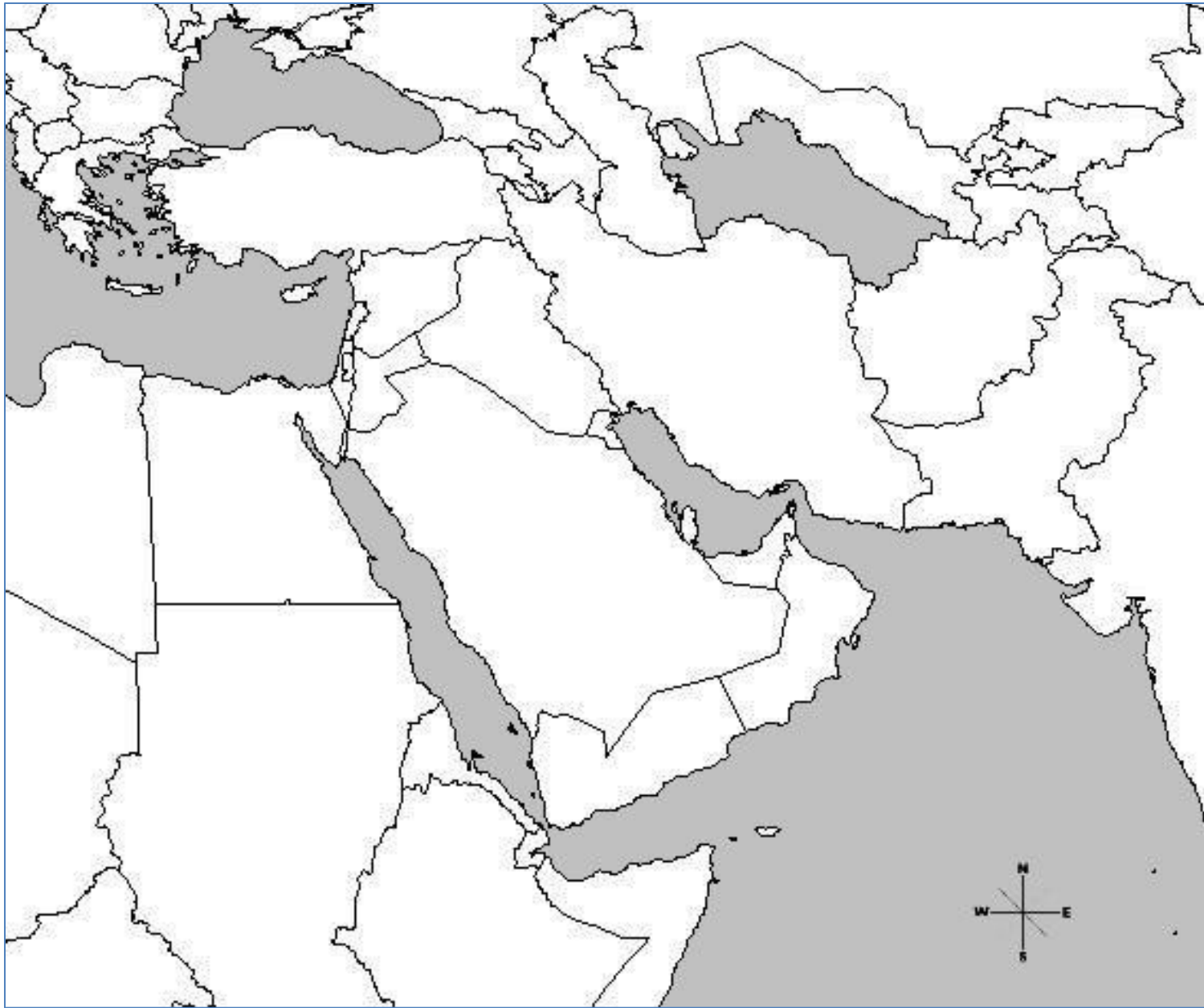
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Some Things I Know about Israel:

- \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- \_\_\_\_\_  
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Some Things I'd Like to Know about Israel:

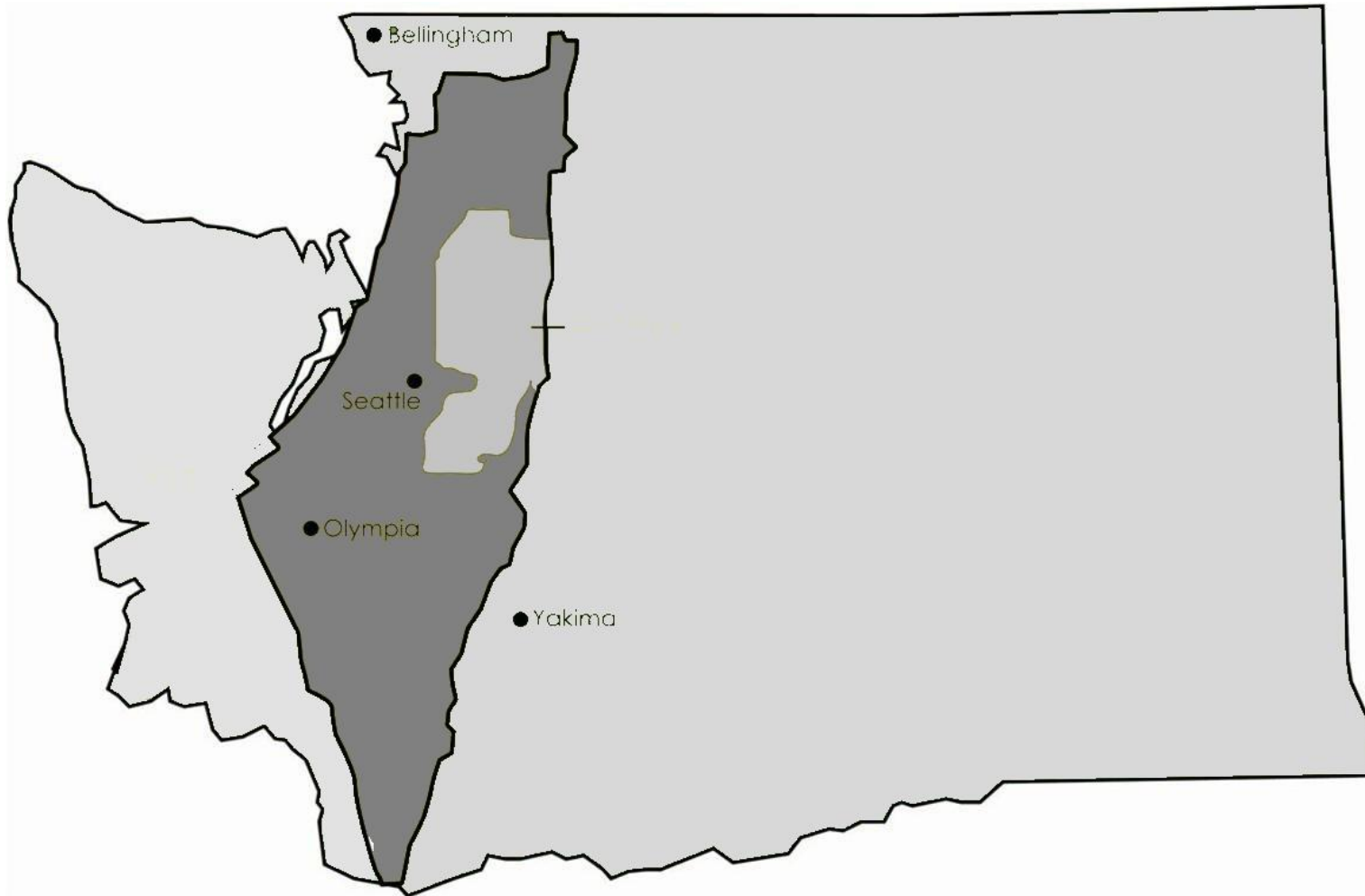
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## *Israel and Washington State: To Scale*

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Approximately how many  
people live in Israel?

**4.5 Million**

Approximately how many  
people live in Israel?

**7.5 Million**



Approximately how many  
people live in Israel?

**12 Million**

Approximately how many  
people live in Israel?

**20 Million**

What is Israel's official language?

**Hebrew**

What are Israel's official  
languages?

**Hebrew and  
Arabic**

What are Israel's official  
languages?

**Hebrew, Arabic,  
and Russian**

What are Israel's official  
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**Hebrew, Arabic,  
Russian, English  
and Amharic**

How old is the city of Jerusalem?

**About 150 years**

How old is the city of Jerusalem?

**About 450 years**



How old is the city of Jerusalem?

**About 1,100  
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How old is the city of Jerusalem?

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Who founded the Zionist  
movement?

**Theodore Herzl**

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Who founded the Zionist  
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**Lord Arthur  
Balfour**

Who is the current prime  
minister of Israel?

**Ehud Barak**

Who is the current prime  
minister of Israel?

**Ariel Sharon**



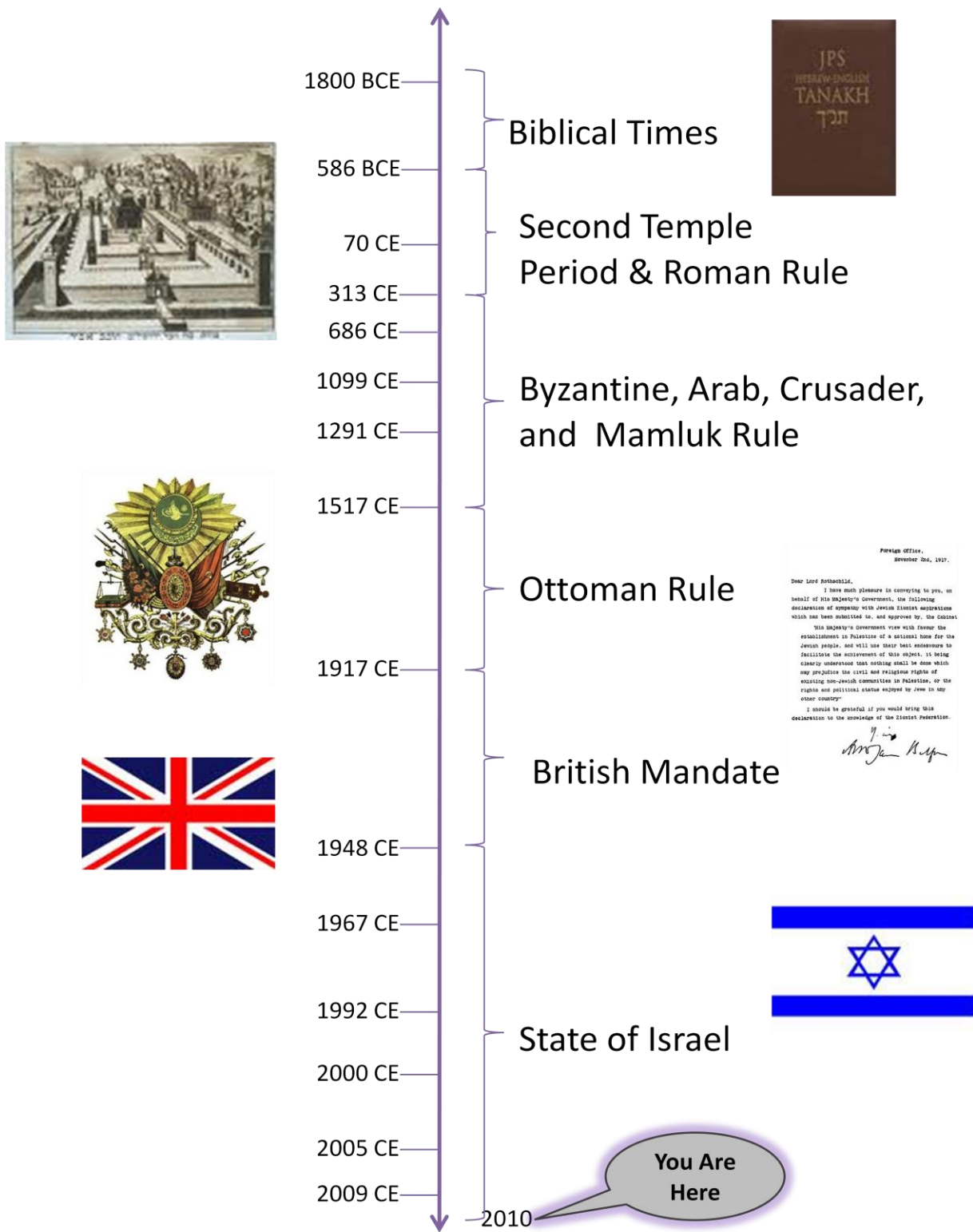
Who is the current prime  
minister of Israel?

**Benjamin  
Netanyahu**

Who is the current prime  
minister of Israel?

**Shimon Peres**

# Israel History Timeline



*Course Outline*

**Modern Israel and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict**  
**Nevet Basker, Congregation Beth Shalom Religious School**  
**Winter 2010-2011**



|            |                                     |                                   |
|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>1.</b>  | <b>Introduction and Orientation</b> | <b>Tuesday, November 30, 2010</b> |
| <b>2.</b>  | <b>The Land of Israel</b>           | <b>Tuesday, December 7, 2010</b>  |
| <b>3.</b>  | <b>Zionism: Jewish Nationalism</b>  | <b>Tuesday, December 14, 2010</b> |
| <b>4.</b>  | <b>The British Mandate</b>          | <b>Tuesday, January 4, 2011</b>   |
| <b>5.</b>  | <b>Independence</b>                 | <b>Tuesday, January 11, 2011</b>  |
| <b>6.</b>  | <b>The Six Day War</b>              | <b>Tuesday, January 18, 2011</b>  |
| <b>7.</b>  | <b>The Quest for Peace</b>          | <b>Tuesday, January 25, 2011</b>  |
| <b>8.</b>  | <b>The Current Conflict</b>         | <b>Tuesday, February 1, 2011</b>  |
| <b>9.</b>  | <b>Beyond the Conflict</b>          | <b>Tuesday, February 8, 2011</b>  |
| <b>10.</b> | <b>Bringing It Together</b>         | <b>Tuesday, February 15, 2011</b> |