

Israel

"We can forgive the Arabs for killing our children.

We cannot forgive them for forcing us to kill their children.

We will only have peace with the Arabs when they love their children more than they hate us."

~ Golda Meir

I am Israel

I am Israel-- I was born millennia before I was renamed Palestine by the conquering Romans, before Muhammad took his first breath, and before the U.N. decided to split me in half and turn my Eastern lands into Jordan. My people, the Jews, maintained communities here for three thousand years? that is until the Arabs decided to massacre those Jews without reason in 1920 and 1929. Hundreds of civilians were murdered, most of them women and children. Meanwhile, their brother Arab states massacred and exiled 1 million Arabic Jews from their lands-- erasing their history.

I am Israel-- I have been attacked four times by Arab armies since I declared independence in 1948. I told the Arabs who lived on my land that they were welcome to stay, but they were told by the neighboring states to leave temporarily while the Jews were "taken care of". I have been offering a message of peace since the day I was born, but my enemies answered only in bullets. I am a survivor--I won every war. Realizing they could not defeat me with arms, my enemies have turned to lies.

I am Israel-- Time and time again my name is smeared. Though each of these lies is eventually disproven, my enemies continue to claim I am committing genocide. Is giving educational opportunities to Palestinian Arabs "genocide"? 20% of the students in Haifa University are Arabs. If I am an aggressor who exiled all the Arabs in 1948, why are 20% of my citizens Arabs with full rights? Where did they magically appear from? Why did I give up the entire Sinai and the Gaza strip, uprooting my own people from their homes, only for the hope of peace?

I am Israel-- In combat, I risk the lives of my teenage sons and daughters in order to minimize civilian Palestinian casualties. I make every attempt to target only fighters, often putting my own soldiers in harms way. In wartime, I drop leaflets on areas to be attacked, warning civilians to evacuate. Has any other army in the history of mankind done this for its enemy? I waited 8 years to stop Hamas from its daily rocket attacks on my kindergardens and my hospitals. I am patient, but my patience is not infinite.

I am Israel-- I have created Intel and cell phone technology, medicine for devastating diseases, and I lead the world in scientific publications per capita. I send humanitarian missions to developing countries, including Muslim countries. I have absorbed hundreds of Muslim refugees who faced genocide in Darfur-- refugees no Muslim state would take.

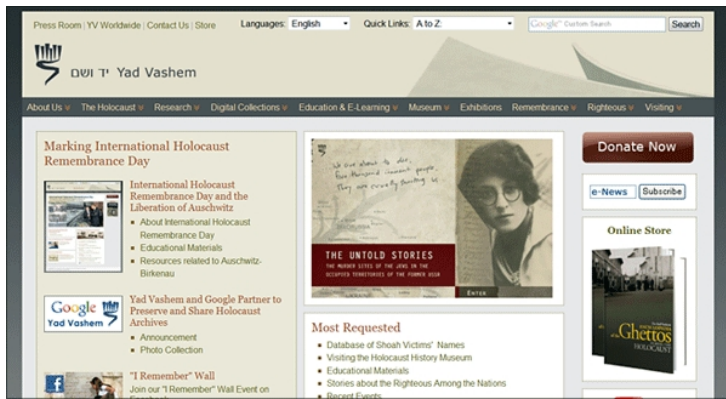
I am Israel-- I am one of the smallest countries in the world, and probably the most stubborn?I refuse to give up hope for peace. My friends support me not because of any lobby, but because they see the truth-- I am the heart of the Middle East, and the hope for its future. My prophet said, "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation," and I will try, and try, and TRY until those words are true.

Because I am Israel.

Yad Vashem - The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority

As the Jewish people's living memorial to the Holocaust, [Yad Vashem](#) safeguards the memory of the past and imparts its meaning for future generations. Established in 1953, as the world center for documentation, research, education and commemoration of the Holocaust, [Yad Vashem](#) is today a dynamic and vital place of intergenerational and international encounter.

"And to them will I give in my house and within my walls a memorial and a name (a "yad vashem")... that shall not be cut off."



Isaiah 56:5, Isaiah 62:6-7, 10-11

On Your Walls, O Jersusalem - by Barry and Batya Segal

"I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; they shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent, and give Him no rest till He establishes and till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth." Isaiah 62:6,7

Lyrics - *On Your Walls, O Jersusalem* - by Barry and Batya Segal

On your walls, O, Jerusalem I have set watchmen, I have set watchmen.

On your walls, O Jerusalem Who shall never hold their peace.

You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent, do not keep silent

Till He establishes and till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth

Day or night, day or night, day or night, day or night, I have set watchmen on your walls.(repeat)

Till He establishes and till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.(repeat)

Al chomotayeech, Al chomotayeech, Al chomotayeech hifkadeti shom'rim (repeat)

Only Israel - by Yedida Freilich

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