

# Emerging National Consciousness

In the nineteenth century, following a trend that emerged earlier in Europe, people around the world began to identify themselves as nations and to demand national rights, foremost the right to self-rule in a state of their own (self-determination and sovereignty). Jews and Palestinians both started to develop a national consciousness and mobilized to achieve national goals.

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Because Jews were spread across the world (in diaspora), the Jewish national movement, or Zionist trend, sought to identify a place where Jews could come together through the process of immigration and settlement. Palestine seemed the logical and optimal place because it was the site of Jewish origin. The Zionist movement began in 1882 with the first wave of European Jewish immigration to Palestine.

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- Region was part of the Ottoman Empire until early 1918
- First Jewish Settlers arrived 1914
- 1922 – Britain created 2 political entities in region
  - Eastern Palestine – Jordan
  - Western Palestine – Arabs and Jews



- 1947 – UN Partition assigned territory to Israel
  - Split Western Palestine: Jews and Palestinians w/Palestinians assigned West Bank



- 1948 – State of Israel declared independence
- 1988 – Palestinian National Council proclaimed the establishment of independent Palestinian state

# Isaiah 2

They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

# Matthew 5

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

# Psalm 122

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.



## *Social Principles of the UMC - ¶165.VI*

God's world is one world. The unity now being thrust upon us by technological revolution has far outrun our moral and spiritual capacity to achieve a stable world. The enforced unity of humanity, increasingly evident on all levels of life, presents the Church as well as all people with problems that will not wait for answer: injustice, war, exploitation, privilege, population, international ecological crisis, proliferation of arsenals of nuclear weapons, development of transnational business organizations that operate beyond the effective control of any governmental structure, and the increase of tyranny in all its forms

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This generation must find viable answers to these and related questions if humanity is to continue on this earth. We commit ourselves as a Church to the achievement of a world community that is a fellowship of persons who honestly love one another. We pledge ourselves to seek the meaning of the gospel in all issues that divide people and threaten the growth of world community.