

Glossary

Aliya (Hebrew) – Immigration of Jews to Israel. The literal meaning of Aliya is “ascent”, expressing the ideological motive - religious or Zionist – for Jewish migration to the Land of Israel.

In the pre-state period there were five waves of immigrants (Olim):

1. The First Aliya, 1882-1904;
2. The Second Aliya, 1904-1914;
3. The Third Aliya, 1919-1923;
4. The Fourth Aliya, 1924-1928;
5. The Fifth Aliya, 1933-1939.

During the years 1882-1948 550,000 Jews immigrated to Israel.

Ashkenazim (Hebrew) – Jews who originate from central and eastern Europe.

Balfour Declaration – A statement of British policy conveyed by the British Foreign Secretary Arthur J. Balfour on November 2, 1917, declaring that “His Majesty’s Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people”.

British Mandate – Under the League of Nations system of mandates Britain assumed the Mandate for Palestine on July 24, 1922. The Balfour Declaration was included in the text of the Mandate.

Caliphs (Arabic)–The Muslim rulers who succeeded Muhammad, the founder of the Islam, and ruled the states conquered by the Muslims.

Eretz-Yisrael (Hebrew) – The Land of Israel. The term refers to the Promised Land which extends over both banks of the Jordan River. During the British Mandate, Eretz Yisrael was part of the official name of Palestine.

Fallah (Arabic. Plural: Fallahim) -A peasant farmer.

Goy (Hebrew. Plural: Goyim) – A gentile, non-Jew.

Hamula (Arabic) – Enlarged family that includes three or four generations who live in the same village.

IDF – Israel Defence Forces.

Intifada (Arabic) – The term refers to the uprising of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip against Israeli occupation. It broke out on December 9, 1987. The uprising gradually expanded from initial local riots in refugee camps into full conflagration with mass participation. By the end of 1991 it had almost totally ended.

Kibbutz (Hebrew. Plural: *Kibbutzim*) – A voluntary collective community based on the principles of collective ownership of the means of production, communal responsibility for all the needs of the members and equal income.

Moshav (Hebrew. Plural: *Moshavim*) – An agricultural village which is Israel's predominant type of rural settlement, based on private ownership of the farm unit combined with cooperative arrangements. The settlement is on national land and basic means of production e.g. land and water, are equally distributed among the members of the *Moshav*. Marketing of produce and joint purchase of equipment are organized through a cooperative agency.

Moshavot (Hebrew. Plural of *Moshavah*) – Small towns established by the new Jewish immigrants to Israel in the late nineteenth century.

PLO – Palestine Liberation Organization. An umbrella organization, established in 1964, which represents the Palestinian people. Its main goal is the liberation of Palestine and the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Sephardim - Jews who originate from Islamic countries.

Yishuv (Hebrew) – The literal meaning is “settlement” or “community”. The word was used to refer to the Jewish community in Eretz Yisrael in the period until the establishment of the State of Israel.