

Aim: What caused the creation of Zionism?

Anti-Semitism=

The Dreyfus Affair

“On a January day in Paris, in 1895, a ceremony was enacted in the courtyard of the École Militaire, on the Champ-de-Mars, that still shocks the mind and conscience to contemplate: Alfred Dreyfus, a young Jewish artillery officer and family man, convicted of treason days earlier in a rushed court-martial, was publicly degraded before a gawking crowd. His insignia medals were stripped from him, his sword was broken over the knee of the degrader, and he was marched around the grounds in his ruined uniform to be jeered and spat at, while piteously declaring his innocence and his love of France above cries of “Jew” and “Judas!” It is a ceremony that seems to belong to some older, medieval Europe, of public torture.”

Trial of the Century, Revisiting the Dreyfus Affair. New Yorker. 2009



The Dreyfus Affair and Anti-Semitism

- Captain Alfred Dreyfus was a French military captain
- Was a Jewish officer
- Accused of selling military secrets to Germany, was found guilty on false evidence
- Anti-Semitism played a role, anti-Jewish groups refused to let the case re-open
- Several years later Dreyfus was later proved not guilty

The Rise of Zionism

We have sincerely tried everywhere to merge with the national communities in which we live, seeking only to preserve the faith of our fathers. It has not permitted us. In vain are we loyal patriots, sometimes super loyal; in vain do we make the same sacrifices of life and property as our fellow citizens; in vain do we strive to enhance the fame of our native lands in the arts and sciences, or her wealth by trade and commerce. In our native lands where we have lived for centuries we are still decried as aliens, often by men whose ancestors had not yet come at a time when Jewish sighs had long been heard in the country. . .

Oppression and persecution cannot exterminate us. No nation on earth has endured such struggles and sufferings as we have. Jew-baiting has merely winnowed out our weaklings; the strong among us defiantly return to their own whenever persecution breaks out. . . Wherever we remain politically secure for any length of time, we assimilate. I think this is not praiseworthy. . .

The Jews who will it shall achieve their State. We shall live at last as free men on our own soil, and in our own homes peacefully die. The world will be liberated by our freedom, enriched by our wealth, magnified by our greatness. And whatever we attempt there for our own benefit will redound mightily and beneficially to the good of all mankind.

Theodor Herzl, *“The Jewish State”*

Using the excerpts from Herzl’s work:

What is the connection between Anti-Semitism and Zionism?

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Zionism and the Creation of the Jewish State

- Modern Israel has its origins in the Zionism movement
- established in the late 19th century by Jews who called for the establishment of a territorial Jewish state after enduring persecution.
- In 1896, Jewish-Austrian journalist Theodor Herzl published an influential political pamphlet called *The Jewish State*, which argued that the establishment of a Jewish state was the only way of protecting Jews from anti-Semitism.
- Herzl became the leader of Zionism, convening the first Zionist Congress in Switzerland in 1897. Palestine, the original home of the Jews, was chosen as the most desirable location for a Jewish state
- The United Nations voted to partition Palestine in 1947 to create the Jewish state of Israel.

According to the video:

What two groups are included in the creation of Israel?

In 4 bullet points: What was the impact of the creation of Israel?

How do you think peace could be achieved?

How can Zionism and nationalism be compared?