



# The Palestine-Israel Conflict: A Basic Introduction

*Gregory Harms, Todd Ferry*

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Especially after the September 11 attacks, books on the Middle East are flooding bookstore shelves. Yet, regarding the Palestine-Israel conflict -- the most notorious and ingrained conflict of the twentieth century -- the general reader is left with very little in the way of introductory explanations. *The Palestine-Israel Conflict: A Basic Introduction* provides the student and general reader with a comprehensive yet clear and easy rendering of not only the conflict, but the entire history of the region (Canaan and Palestine). By including the ancient background, the common assumption that the Israelis and Palestinians have been "fighting for thousands of years" is put to rest.

Broken up into three sections -- Background History, Pre-Conflict, and Conflict -- the reader is walked through Ancient Israel, Muhammad and Islam, and on through two world wars and up to the current situation covered on the evening news. In addition to the brief history, the reader is also provided with further direction, such as detailed citing of sources, and suggested reading lists and resources (books, periodicals, web sites, etc.).

Written in a comfortable style, people wanting to look beyond the myths and death-tallying news coverage now have available to them a balanced and accessible introduction to the nucleus of Middle Eastern affairs.

"An indispensable, basic introduction ... There is no better single volume -- [this is] objective in every way."  
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-- John K. Cooley, veteran foreign correspondent, and author of *Unholy Wars*

About the Authors:

Gregory Harms is a freelance writer and researcher. He lectures on the Middle East and US foreign policy, and has traveled throughout Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza.

Todd M. Ferry studied Syro-Palestinian archaeology at the University of Chicago and has worked as a supervisor at both the sites of Ashkelon and Tel Beth Shemesh in Israel.

Both authors live in Chicago.

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