

## Document Analysis

*1948: Israeli Independence & Al-Nakba (Palestinian Catastrophe)*

**Document A** provides two perspectives; Jewish and Palestinian of what happened in 1948. Read the document carefully and answer the following questions thoroughly.

1. How can the same historical event be known as a War of Independence and a Catastrophe?
2. What are the main differences between the historical narratives recounted by each side; give two examples?
3. List 3-5 established facts that can be taken from both narratives.
4. How did the actions of the Hagana and the Jewish community affect the Palestinians and neighboring Arab countries? Give a specific example.
5. How did the actions of the Arab armies and the Palestinian community effect the Jewish population? Give a specific example.
6. What lasting outcomes did this war create? Give at least 5 specific examples.

### **Document B: The Deir Yassin Massacre**

1. What happened at Deir Yassin?
2. What do you think the purpose of the Deir Yassin Massacre was?
3. What effects did massacres like this one have on the success of the establishment of the state of Israel?

### **Document C: The Israeli Declaration of Independence**

1. Why was Palestine chosen as the location to establish the Jewish state of Israel; explain the historical and religious roots they have in this land.

2. Which historical event made it urgent that Jews have a national homeland of their own that they could feel safe in? Cite the paragraph where this is stated.

3. The Declaration of Independence states the following: Accordingly, We, the members of the National Council, representing the Jewish people in Palestine and the Zionist movement of the world, proclaim the establishment of the Jewish State in Palestine, to be called Israel.

- What does this statement mean? How do the authors justify creating a state in Palestine?

4. Who can immigrate to Israel?

5. What are the founding principles of the country and how are they similar to the founding principles of the USA?

6. How does the declaration characterize Arabs? Cite the paragraph where this is stated.

### **Document D: The Refugees**

1. Describe what the four pictures of Palestinians leaving show. Be specific.

2. Describe the refugee camps Palestinians lived in after leaving.

3. What do the maps show (look at both).

4. How did the two Palestinian refugees describe their experiences?

## **Document E: Jews come to Israel**

1. Describe the people on the ships arriving at the ports in Israel. Be specific.
2. How do you think these people felt about getting to come to Israel?
3. How many Holocaust survivors live in Israel as of 2008? (The 60-year of Israeli independence was marked in 2008) How many Holocaust survivors originally came to Israel?
4. How did Holocaust survivors integrate themselves into Israel? How did they contribute to the country's development?