

# Solidarity through sovereignty - connecting our collective liberation

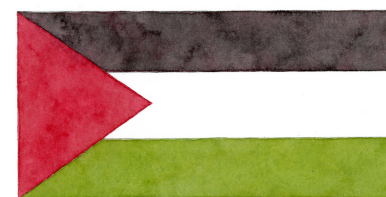
This series – Solidarity through sovereignty: connecting our collective liberation – gives background to the genocide we are witnessing in Palestine.

We speak from sovereign Yagera land in Magandjin/Brisbane, a place of ongoing colonisation, racial violence & Blackfulla resistance. This reality informs our solidarity with Palestine, led by Blackfullas who are also enduring colonial occupation & fighting for Indigenous futures.

We explain why Blackfullas & allies in Magandjin/Brisbane are taking action in solidarity with Palestine, & why Palestinians here are grounding their resistance in Blackfulla sovereignty.

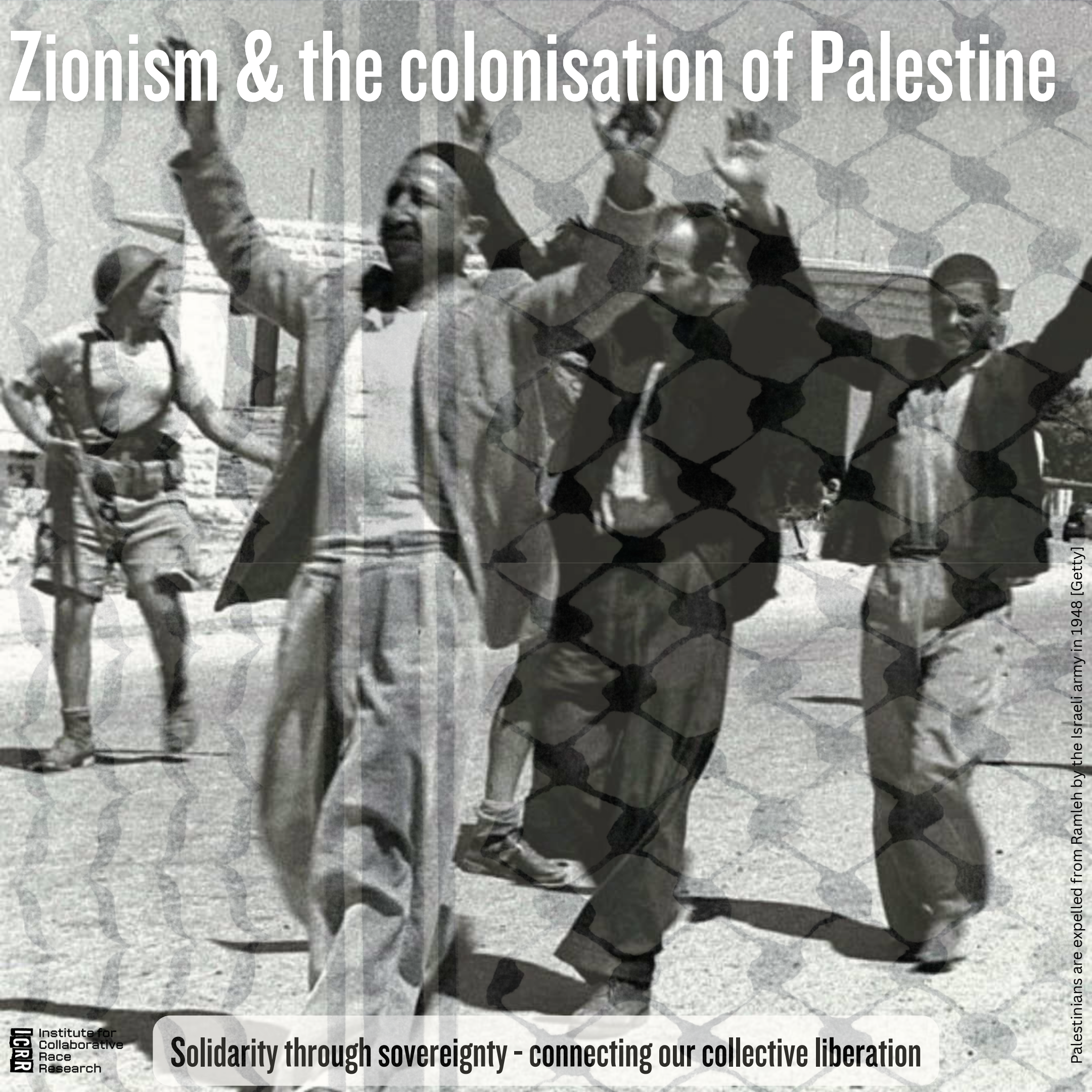
We draw connections between colonial white supremacy oppressing Indigenous people here, in Palestine & across the world.

From Boundary streets to apartheid walls, missions to occupied territories, by naming, explaining & understanding these connections we can cut through colonial fictions to build our collective knowledge for resistance & liberation.





# Zionism & the colonisation of Palestine



Palestinians are expelled from Ramleh by the Israeli army in 1948 [Getty]

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# Zionism: a settler-colonial movement

Zionism is a **modern political idea** that led to the creation of the state of Israel in 1948. Zionism was founded by European Jews in the 19th century, a time when the nation state was increasingly viewed as the strongest way to create order & political power. It was also an era of increasing anti-semitism in Europe. Zionism sought to create a nation-state exclusively for Jewish people.

The original Zionists were clear that **the formation of Israel required colonial violence**. Russian Zionist leader, Vladimir Jabotinsky described Zionism as a “colonisation adventure”, writing that, **“every Indigenous people will resist alien settlers as long as they see any hope of ridding themselves of the danger of foreign settlement**. That is what the Arabs in Palestine are doing, & what they will persist in doing as long as there remains a solitary spark of hope that they will be able to prevent the transformation of ‘Palestine’ into the ‘Land of Israel’.”

# Zionism: a settler-colonial movement

Moral justification for the creation of Israel & the elimination & subjugation of Palestinians relies on one of the **same fictions that enabled the creation of Australia – terra nullius/land belonging to no one. Zionists claimed Israel as ‘a land without a people for a people without a land’**, denying Palestinian existence & Indigeneity as well as justifying the colonial & racial violence required to establish Israel.

# Zionism as white supremacy

Colonisers claimed this continent as 'terra nullius' & Palestine as 'a land without a people' despite knowing & interacting with Indigenous people. **In both cases, the claim is not that Indigenous people did not exist altogether, but that (despite clear contrary evidence) they are considered so backward, racially inferior & politically disorganised that their lives did not have value.**

Zionists considered several places for colonial settlement, including parts of Argentina, Uganda/Kenya & one proposal to **turn millions of hectares in the Kimberley, Western Australia, into the new Jewish homeland.**

After the Holocaust & World War Two, Zionist settlement in Palestine served several purposes for Western powers. The creation of a Jewish state appealed to Western antisemitism by settling Jews outside the West.

# Zionism as white supremacy

Israel also provided a European ally in a strategic, resource-rich part of the world. Zionist founder, Theodor Herzl described the benefits of choosing Palestine as the site of a Jewish state as “a portion of the rampart of Europe against Asia, an outpost of civilization as opposed to barbarism.”

Like all settler-colonial states, the creation of the state of Israel required murder, displacement (ethnic cleansing) & genocide of the existing population.

The racialised dehumanisation of Indigenous Palestinians justified Zionist violence in a similar way that white supremacy has justified colonisation on this continent & across the world.

# Zionism as white supremacy

Zionists continue to justify genocide of Palestinians with white supremacist narratives that Palestinians are primitive, “drunk cockroaches” (Eitan, former Israeli chief of staff) & “human animals” (Gallant, Israeli defence minister). In this language we recognise the **same racist, colonial stereotypes about Indigenous people used to justify the violence of the Australian state & colonies around the world.**

# More from our community

\*links in caption

Let's Talk: Blackfulla-Palestinian Solidarity Archive, Triple A Murri

Justice for Palestine Magandjin Podcast, Radio Reversal

The Continuation of Zionist Settler Colonialism, Dr Jamal Nabulsi

Righting the History of Palestine, Dr Jamal Nabulsi

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# PALESTINE **SHRINKING** **EXPANDING** ISRAEL

1918



UNDER OTTOMAN RULE, ZIONIST ORGANISATIONS INCLUDING THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND BEGIN TO MAKE **LAND PURCHASES** THROUGHOUT **PALESTINE** FOR JEWISH SETTLEMENT.

1947



PRIVATISATION OF LAND UNDER THE BRITISH MANDATE **ACCELERATES ITS TRANSFER AND SALE TO ZIONIST ORGANISATIONS**, AND THE DISPLACEMENT OF PALESTINIAN INHABITANTS.

1960



FOLLOWING THE **FORCED DISPLACEMENT [NAKBA] OF OVER 750,000 PALESTINIANS** IN 1948, THE NEW STATE OF ISRAEL ENACTS LAWS TO **CONFISCATE THE VAST MAJORITY OF PALESTINIAN LANDS**.

2017



SINCE OCCUPYING THE WEST BANK AND GAZA IN 1967, ISRAEL HAS UNILATERALLY DECLARED **TENS OF THOUSANDS OF HECTARES** OF SO CALLED 'STATE LAND' FOR **ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS**.

#### SOURCES

Text based on  
BADIL, 2000. **Land Ownership in Palestine/Israel 1920-2000**.  
BADIL, 2012. **Living Land: Population Transfer And The Mawat Pretext In The Naqab**.  
BTselem, 2010. **By Hook And By Crook: Israeli Settlement Policy In The West Bank**.

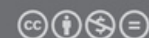
Maps adapted from  
Maklit Shoshan, 2010. **Atlas of the Conflict: Israel-Palestine**.  
BTselem, 2014. **Map of the West Bank, Settlements and the Separation Barrier**.

Legend:  
Palestinian Land  
Zionist Settlements

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# ONE POPULATION IS REPLACING ANOTHER

**1922-1947**  
British Mandate  
of Palestine



**480,000**  
Jewish immigrants  
granted Israeli  
citizenship in 1948



**100,000+**  
Palestinians  
expelled from Palestine  
or forced to leave homes

**1948-1966**  
Nakba & Formation  
of Israeli State



**1,261,000**  
Jewish immigrants  
granted instant citizenship  
under Israeli 'Law of Return'



**750,000+**  
Palestinians  
forcibly expelled  
in 1947-49 Nakba



**35,000+**  
internally  
displaced  
within Israel

**1967-2018**  
Occupation of  
West Bank & Gaza



**2,008,000**  
Jewish immigrants  
granted instant  
citizenship



**400,000+**  
Palestinians  
forcibly expelled  
in 1967 Naksa



**240,000**  
residencies  
cancelled  
by Israel



**200,000**  
internally  
displaced  
by Israel

**3,749,000**  
TOTAL JEWISH IMMIGRANTS

**1,725,000+**  
TOTAL PALESTINIANS DISPLACED

# Sources

- [Visualising Palestine](#)
- [Triple A Let's Talk Palestine Solidarity Series](#)
- [Radio Reversal Justice for Palestine podcast](#)
- [The Continuation of Zionist Settler-Colonialism](#)
- [Reclaiming Palestinian Indigenous Sovereignty](#)
- [Righting the history of Palestine](#)
- [Boe Spearim's Frontier War Stories](#)
- [Israeli forces poisoned Palestinian wells during the Nakba](#)
- [Israel pours concrete into well](#)
- [The occupation of water](#)
- [The myth of a tolerant, open society](#)
- [Anti-colonial solidarities in this moment](#)
- [Palestine, colonialism & global climate justice](#)
- [The Iron Wall](#)
- [Water undrinkable in many Indigenous communities](#)
- [Australia's legacy of denying water rights to Indigenous people](#)
- [Gaza's undrinkable water slowly poisoning people](#)
- [Australia's most toxic site](#)
- [Lesser known history of the Maralinga nuclear tests](#)
- [The environmental Nakba](#)
- [Scorched Earth policies in Palestine & the great plains](#)
- [Destruction of olive trees in the West Bank is an attack on Palestinian Sovereignty](#)

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# Sources

- Jonathon Richards, The Secret War p51
- Sergeant A Whittington (1965) The Queensland native mounted police. Journal of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland 7 (3) 508-520
- [Decolonize Palestine](#)
- [Netanyahu says Israel is a state for the Jewish people & them alone](#)
- [An environmental Nakba](#)
- [Oppressive pines: uprooting Israel colonialism & implanting Palestinian A'wna](#)
- [Jordana Silverstein, Anxious Histories: Narrating the Holocaust in Jewish Communities at the Beginning of the Twenty First Century, Berghahn Books, 2015.](#)
- [Australia's extinct species](#)
- [Jordana Silverstein, 'From the Utter Depth of Degradation to the Apogee of Bliss': The Genderings of Diasporic Zionism & Jewish Holocaust Education,' Journal of Modern Jewish Studies, 11, no. 3 \(2012\): 377-398.](#)
- [Sephardim in Israel: Israel from the standpoint of its Jewish victims](#)
- [The no-state solution: a conversation with Daniel Boyarin](#)
- [How the Kimberley nearly became the Jewish homeland](#)
- [The Palestinian cause & Argentina's equidistant policy](#)
- [Exploring the forgotten Uganda Scheme](#)
- Sovereignty statement from Still Here
- [Let's Talk Blackfulla-Palestinian Solidarity Archive](#)
- [Invention of the Mizrahim](#)

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