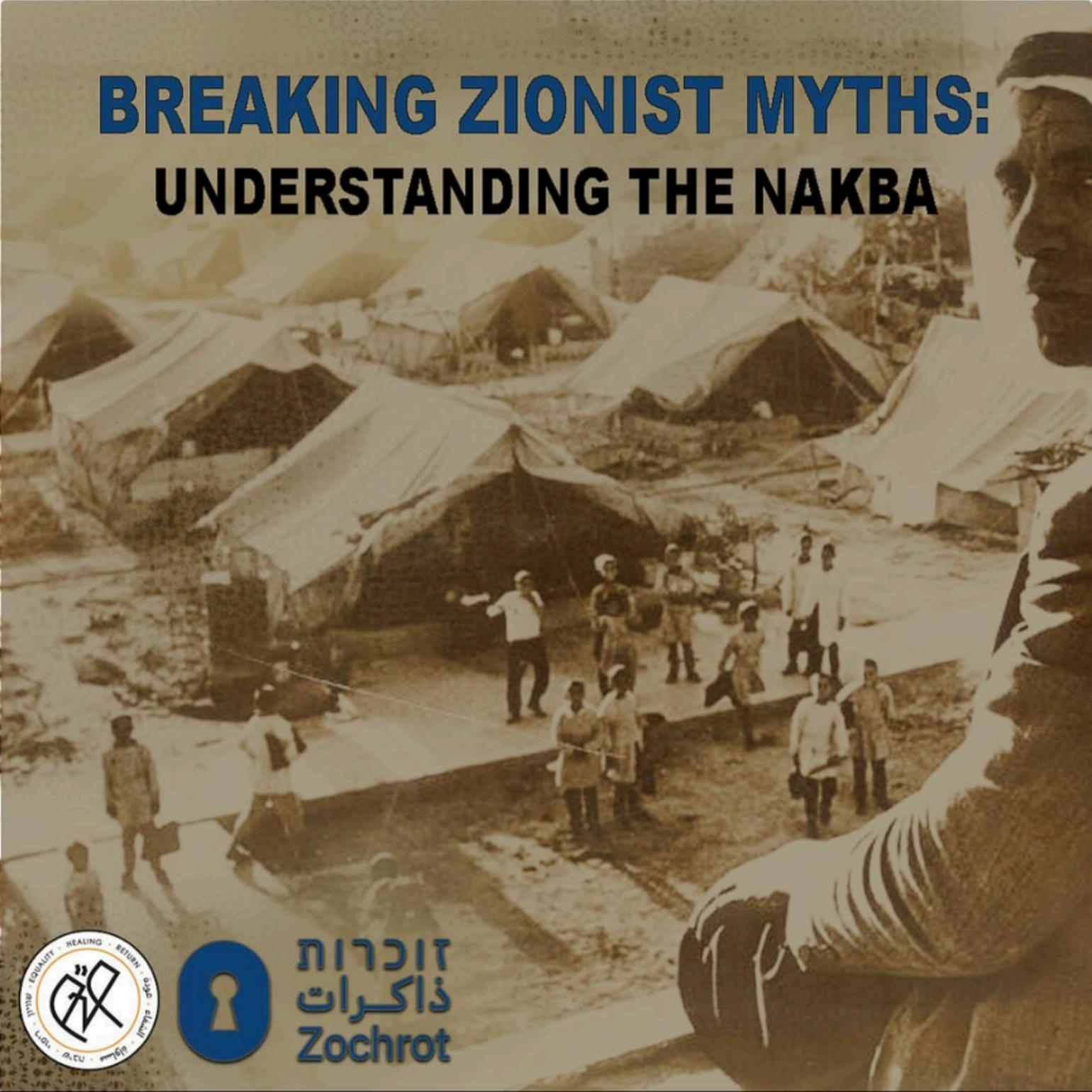


# BREAKING ZIONIST MYTHS: UNDERSTANDING THE NAKBA



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## MYTH 2:

**The Palestinians lost their home because they did not accept the partition plan.**



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On the face of it, it's correct that the Zionist leadership accepted the UN-proposed Partition Plan in 1947, and the Palestinian leadership rejected it. We need to ask why those two opposing decisions were made.

The partition plan allocated 55% of the territory to the Jewish state and only 45% to the Arab state, despite Jews only making up a third of the population and owning less than 10% of the land at the time. Palestinian leadership preferred a plan for one state in which the Jewish minority would have been equal citizens. Instead, **partition followed the Balfour Declaration's preference for Zionist aspirations** over those of the Palestinian national movement.



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According to the partition plan, Palestinians were to make up nearly half of the population in the proposed Jewish state. This raised concerns about forced displacement early on, as the Zionist mainstream had been discussing plans for transferring Palestinians outside of Palestine as early as the 1920s and 1930s. **Even before 1948, 57 Palestinian villages were depopulated**, and many lost their livelihoods due to the ideology of "Hebrew labor", which favored hiring Jews over non-Jewish Arab workers.



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Despite the formal acceptance of the partition plan, the Zionist leadership, in particular David Ben Gurion, viewed the plan as a stepping stone towards the future expansion of the Jewish state. **Military decisions, such as Plan Dalet, disregarded partition borders** and led to attacks and conquests beyond them, contributing to the ongoing Nakba.



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Additionally, the Zionist movement actually acted to prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state, and allowed Jordan to annex territories intended for Palestinians. In November 1947, ten days before the adoption of the decision at the United Nations, Golda Meir went to a meeting with the Jordanian king, which resulted in an oral agreement: the king would annex to his kingdom all the areas of the country that the UN was about to confer to the Palestinian state while committing not to exceed them and not to invade the Jewish state within the borders to be determined by the UN Assembly.

**Would you have accepted this plan?**



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