

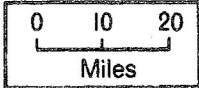
THE ROUTLEDGE ATLAS OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

7th Edition

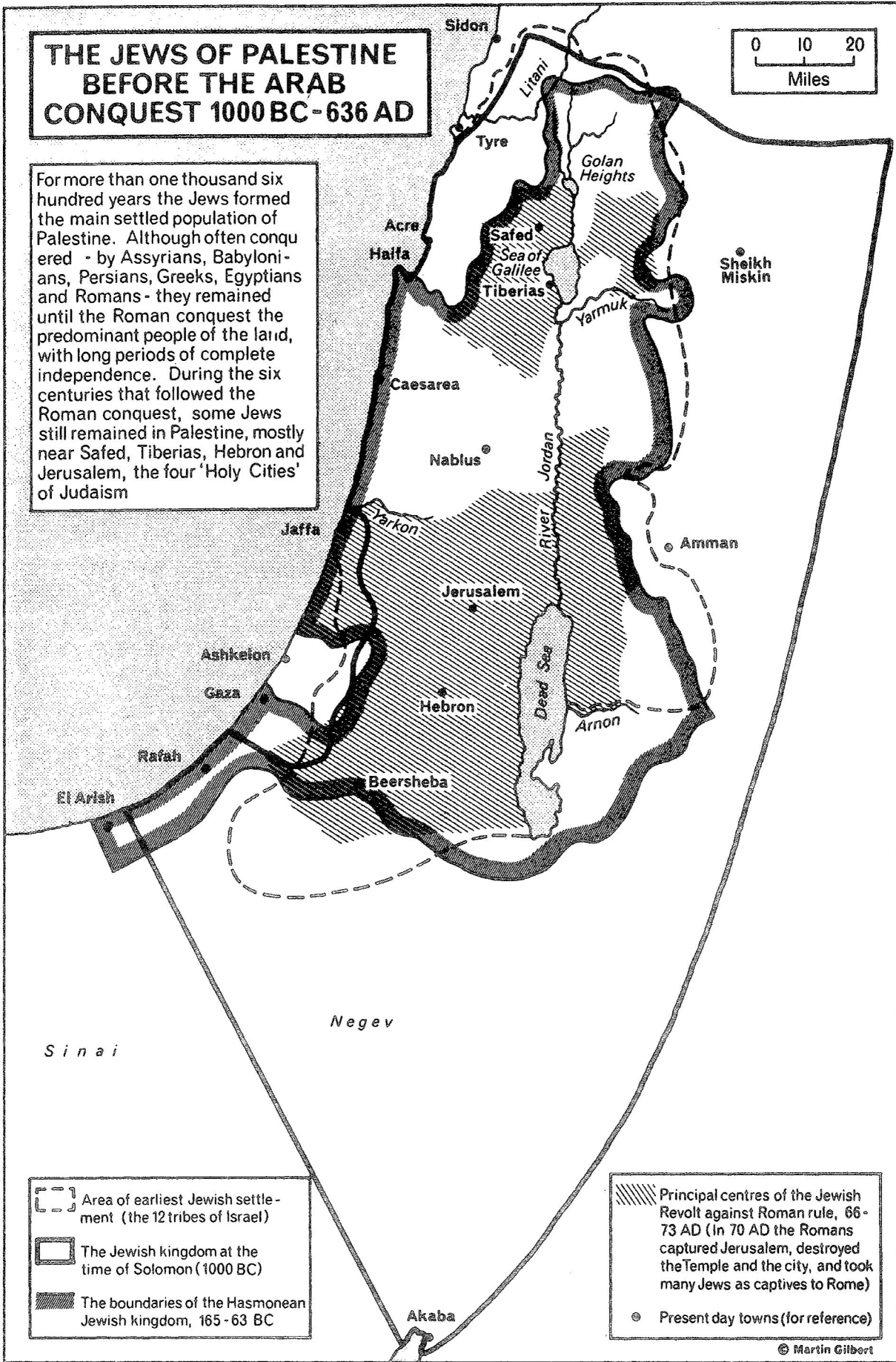
Martin Gilbert

 **Routledge**
Taylor & Francis Group
LONDON AND NEW YORK

THE JEWS OF PALESTINE BEFORE THE ARAB CONQUEST 1000 BC - 636 AD



For more than one thousand six hundred years the Jews formed the main settled population of Palestine. Although often conquered - by Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, Egyptians and Romans - they remained until the Roman conquest the predominant people of the land, with long periods of complete independence. During the six centuries that followed the Roman conquest, some Jews still remained in Palestine, mostly near Safed, Tiberias, Hebron and Jerusalem, the four 'Holy Cities' of Judaism

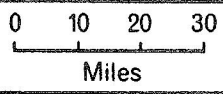


Area of earliest Jewish settlement (the 12 tribes of Israel)
 The Jewish kingdom at the time of Solomon (1000 BC)
 The boundaries of the Hasmonean Jewish kingdom, 165 - 63 BC

Principal centres of the Jewish Revolt against Roman rule, 66-73 AD (In 70 AD the Romans captured Jerusalem, destroyed the Temple and the city, and took many Jews as captives to Rome)
 Present day towns (for reference)

© Martin Gilbert

THE JEWS OF PALESTINE 636 A.D. TO 1880



In 1500 there were an estimated 10,000 Jews living in the Safed region

1563 Establishment of a Hebrew printing press, the first printing press on the Asian Continent





1100 AD Jews take part in defence of Haifa against the Crusaders

1191 The Jews driven out by the Crusaders. Many move to Jerusalem

Jews sought a new homeland here after their expulsion from Spain (1492), Lithuania (1495), Portugal, Sicily and Sardinia (1497), Rhodes (1502) and Naples (1541)

1099 AD Jews take part in the defence of Jerusalem against the Crusaders, fighting alongside the Arabs
1211 Several rabbis from France and England settle here
1267 Ramban settles, and establishes a synagogue. During the next five centuries, Jerusalem is reinstated as a centre of Jewish learning. By 1880 the Jews formed the majority of the population of Jerusalem

24 Feb 1799 The Jewish community flees to Hebron on the eve of Napoleon's entry into the city

-  The four 'Holy Cities' of Judaism, in which there was continuous Jewish settlement from biblical times
-  Towns and settlements inhabited by Jews during the period of Arab rule from 637-1099
-  Area in which the Jews formed the main population from the thirteenth to the nineteenth century
-  Towns and villages with continuous Jewish communities from the thirteenth to the nineteenth century

Jerusalem was conquered by Muslim Arabs in 637 AD. From 637 to 1099 the Arabs sometimes ill-treated and were sometimes tolerant towards their Jewish subjects. From 1099 to 1291 the Christian Crusaders mercilessly persecuted and slaughtered the Jews of Palestine. The Mameluks (Muslims) who ousted the Crusaders in 1291, and ruled until 1516, at times encouraged Jewish settlement, and many Jews came to Palestine to escape from Christian persecution in Europe. After 1517, under the Ottoman Turks the Jews of Europe continued to seek refuge in Palestine from Christian persecution and expulsion, despite spasmodic ill-treatment by their Muslim rulers