



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Thursday 26 May 2022 – Morning

A Level History A

**Y320/01 From Colonialism to Independence:
The British Empire 1857–1965**

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

You must have:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet



INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer the question in Section A and **any two** questions in Section B.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **80**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document has **4** pages.

ADVICE

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

SECTION A

Read the two passages and then answer Question 1.

- 1 Evaluate the interpretations in **both** of the two passages and explain which you think is more convincing as an explanation of why Arabs left Palestine in 1947–48. [30]

Passage A

In December 1947, when the British announced that they would leave Palestine in May 1948, the fighting between Arabs and Jews intensified. At first, the Jewish forces acted defensively: they sought to hold on to and to defend the land they had been allocated by the UN. However, they soon also went on the offensive and fought to gain control of Jewish settlements in the land allocated to the Arabs and of the roads leading to them. The Palestinian Arabs had no centrally organised military forces and their leaders were divided. However, the Jews of Palestine were politically unified, had strong centralised institutions, and were well led and highly motivated. Soldiers from Syria and Iraq began to cross into Palestine to help the Arabs. The Jewish leaders fully expected this, so they resolved to secure control over Jewish territory and came up with Plan D. Already many of the Palestinian elite had left Palestine. This contributed to feelings of insecurity among the Arab masses, especially in the villages, and encouraged others to leave. Then, Jewish forces began the forcible expulsion of Arabs from villages inside what was to become the Jewish state. Nearly all of the villages along the coast from Tel Aviv to Haifa were cleared of their Arab populations. Armed Jewish forces surrounded villages on three sides, forcing villagers to flee through the fourth side. If people refused to leave, they were often forced onto lorries and driven away. Similarly, Jewish forces took over mixed Arab-Jewish towns. In Haifa, where explosions were set off by Jewish forces in Arab areas of the city, nearly all of the Arab population fled.

Adapted from: M. Scott Baumann, *The Middle East 1908–2011*, published in 2016.

Passage B

The beginning of the Arab exodus can be traced to the weeks immediately following the announcement of the UN partition resolution. The first to leave were wealthy Arabs who anticipated the upcoming war and fled to neighbouring Arab countries to await its end. Many more responded to Arab leaders' calls to get out of the way of the advancing armies, a handful were expelled, but most simply fled to avoid being caught in the crossfire of a battle. All of those who left fully anticipated being able to return to their homes after an early Arab victory. In April 1948 many Arabs left the Haifa area following an offensive by the irregular forces led by an Arab leader and rumours that Arab air forces would soon bomb the Jewish areas. In fact, David Ben-Gurion had sent Golda Meir to Haifa to persuade the Arabs to stay, but she was unable to convince them because of their fear of being judged traitors to the Arab cause. The British representative at the United Nations told the delegates that the fighting in Haifa had been provoked by the continuous attacks by Arabs against Jews a few days before.

Adapted from: M. Bard, *The Palestinian Refugees: History & Overview*, published in August 2015.

SECTION B

Answer **TWO** of the following three questions.

- 2*** 'Opposition to British rule of its Empire was never a serious threat in the period from 1857 to 1965.' How far do you agree? **[25]**
- 3*** 'Imperial power had a limited impact on Britain in the period from 1857 to 1965'. How far do you agree? **[25]**
- 4*** 'The British Empire had a greater impact on Britain's relationship with the USA than with any other country in the period from 1857 to 1965.' How far do you agree? **[25]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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