

Celebrating the Miracle of Modern Israel's 75th Birthday

 Seventy-five years ago, a declaration signed in a Tel Aviv art gallery changed the world forever.

Against overwhelming odds, the fledgling State of Israel not only survived, but has grown beyond expectation, launching it for the next three quarters of a century on the path to becoming a world power.

David Ben-Gurion, Israel's leading founder and first prime minister, declared the birth of modern Israel in Tel Aviv's Independence Hall on May 14, 1948, and for the first time in nearly 2,000 years, the Jewish people had a nation.

"Ben-Gurion chose the words, 'we hereby declare the establishment of a Jewish state in the land of Israel to be known as the State of Israel,'" Independence Hall tour guide Isaac Dror recalled. "This was the birth of a Jewish state as for all Jews. Ben Gurion was standing here as the voice of 11 million Jews around the world who had no voice, who had no address and nowhere to go to."

Dror leads the education effort at the site. "This was promised to us by God," he explained. "We are the only people in the history of the world that live on the same land, speak in the same language and believe in the same God more than 3,000 years."

From a biblical perspective, many see Israel fulfilling the prophecy in the book of Ezekiel, where the "dry bones" of the Jewish people come to life after 2,000 years of exile.

Organizations such as the Jewish Agency helped lay the groundwork for the two thousand years in the making of the

Jewish state.

Danielle Mor of the Jewish Agency told CBN News, “The Jewish Agency was the lead organization in establishing and giving birth to the modern state of Israel. The whole purpose of establishing the Jewish Agency was, on the one hand, unite the global Jewish people, and to bring the global Jewish people in front of the British mandate to be the organization that would lead and establish a national home for the Jewish people in the land of Israel.”

 Dani Dayan, Chairman of Israel’s Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial, recounted the genocide that preceded Israel’s independence. “To fully comprehend the miracle of the country’s birth,” he said, “consider that it happened in the shadow of the Holocaust—or ‘Shoah’ in Hebrew—when the world learned how Nazi Germany murdered 6 million Jews.”

He continued, “When you understand that only three years after the end of the Shoah, the lowest point the Jewish people reached in its exile, we started our redemption process and we ... regained our independence after 2000 years of terrible events. Well, if that’s not a miracle, I don’t know what a miracle is,” he said.

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