

Grade 9 Answer

Narrative Account Question

8
Marks

Question:

Write a narrative account analysing the key events in the early tensions in the Middle East in the years c1945-c1963.

You may use the following in your answer:

- Bombing of King David Hotel
- UN Resolution 181

You must also use information of your own.

(8 marks)

Answer:

The first key event in the early tensions in the Middle East was the bombing of the King David Hotel on 22nd July 1946 by the Irgun. The Irgun were an extremist group who believed that every Jew had the right to enter Palestine and that the Jewish state could only be secured with armed forces. They led a violent terrorist campaign against the British, to drive them out of Palestine. The bombing of the King David Hotel is included in this, as it was home of the British Army and the Mandate's administration. They killed 91 people, including Arab, British and Jewish citizens, which massively increased tensions and increased restrictions for Palestinian Jews.

Following this, The UNSCOP suggested the UN Resolution 181 in May 1947. It recommended partitioning Palestine into two states, to try and avoid tensions. They also suggested an international zone to allow safe access to religious sites. This was accepted by the Jewish agency, but not by the Arab Higher Committee, because the land given to the Jews was disproportionate to the population. For 2/3 of Arabs, they only got half the land, which displaced 400,000 Arabs. The land given to the Jewish population was mostly desert, although they had been given lots of fertile land, as opposed to the Arabs. It was seen as unfair.

This led to the Arab-Israeli war in May 1948. 5 Arab States (Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq) invaded Israel. They captured east Jerusalem, which included holy sites. The UN then arranged a ceasefire, which gave Israel's forces time to organise, to which they were aided by Zionists in the US. They then attacked before the end of the ceasefire period, and drove the Arab forces back. Armistice agreements were drawn up eventually between the Arab and Israeli states.

Feedback:

This answer would get 8/8 marks because the pupil has identified 3 key events in the early tensions in the Middle East (Bombing of King David Hotel, UN Resolution 181 and Arab-Israeli War). They have explained each point in depth using historical information, and written the events in chronological order, using links between the points.