

Abstract and key words

This thesis examines the origins and development of two national movements: zionism and palestinian nationalism. The thesis aims at answering these questions: Has there existed any parallels of origins and development of these movements? What has been the major incentive for the formation of the new national identities? What function has had the religion in the persisting israeli-palestinian conflict? For the purpose of answering these questions this thesis follows the historical development in interwar Palestine and the causes of increase of zionistic movement in the afterwar period. The thesis also focuses on the development and character of israeli policies and formation of palestinian identity within the years 1948-1967.

Key words: Palestine, Israel, zionism, nationalism, identity, conflict