



Palestine's Trees

Refuting
famous Zionist
myths



Palestinian trees extend their roots to the depths of the earth, and their branches to the crest of the sky refuting famous Zionist myths that Palestine was

“a land without a people for a people without a land”

“Palestinians neglected their lands and caused its desertification”

...two contradictory narratives, both profoundly inaccurate.



The truth is found elsewhere, within the orchards that expand over hundreds of dunams, and under the shade of countless tree species that have been cultivated by Palestinians' ancestors for thousands of years.

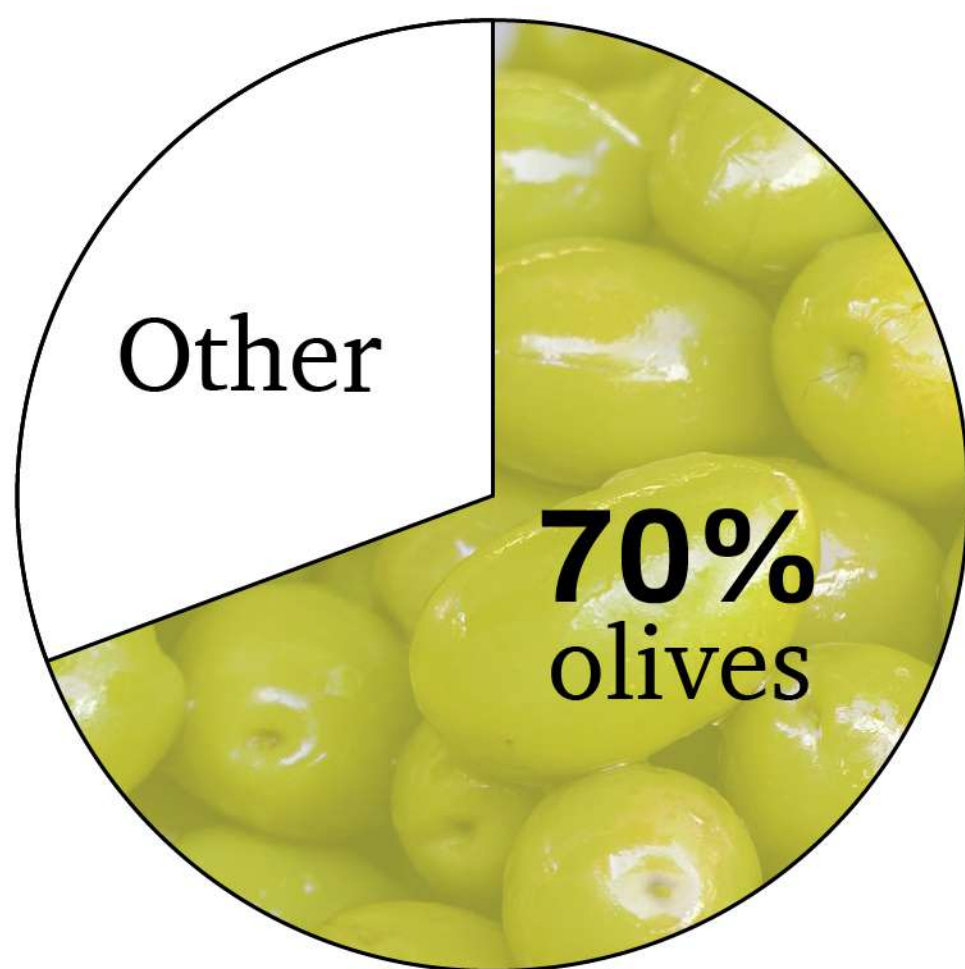
Trees including olives, figs, pomegranates, grape vines, date palms, almonds, pears, and citrus are powerful narrators of Palestine's history.



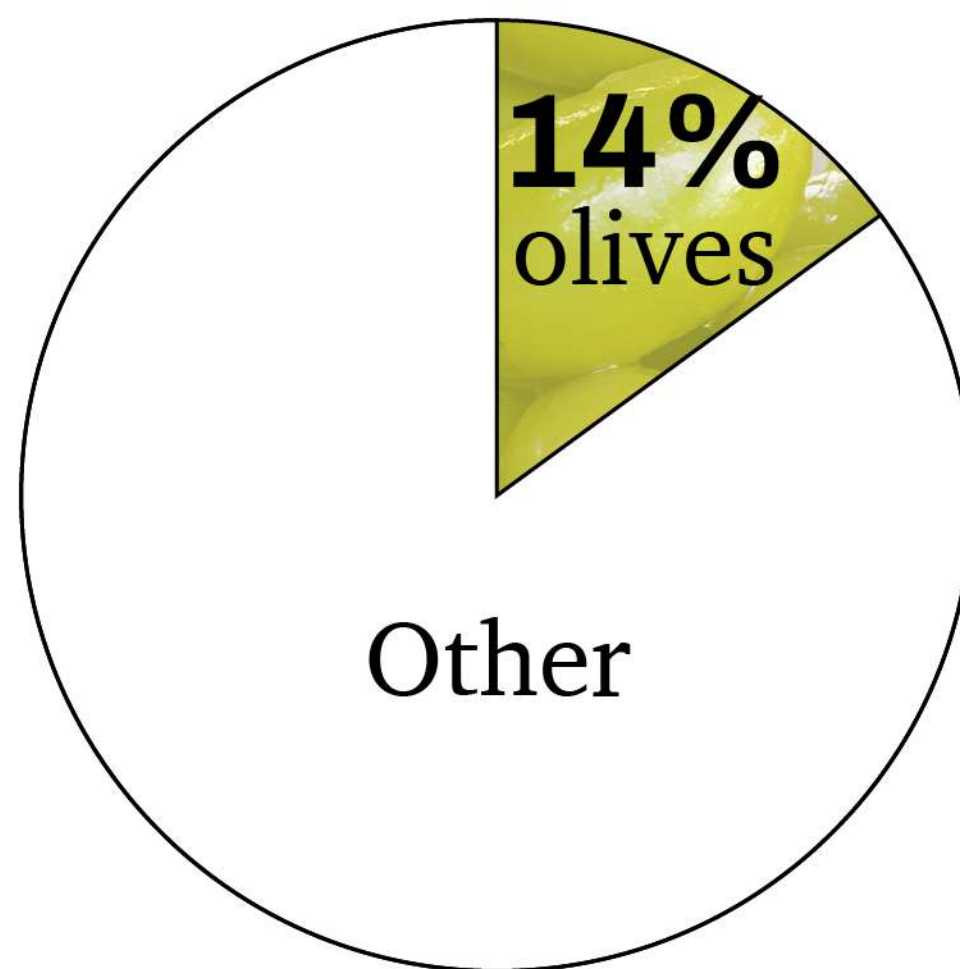
Palestine has some of the world's oldest olive trees, dating back 5,000 years.

About 80 percent of the olive groves in Palestine are more than a century old.

Olives, long-lived and climate-resilient, are symbolic of Palestinian heritage and steadfastness. **Today, these living witnesses make up 70% of fruit production in Palestine and around 14% of the Palestinian economy.**

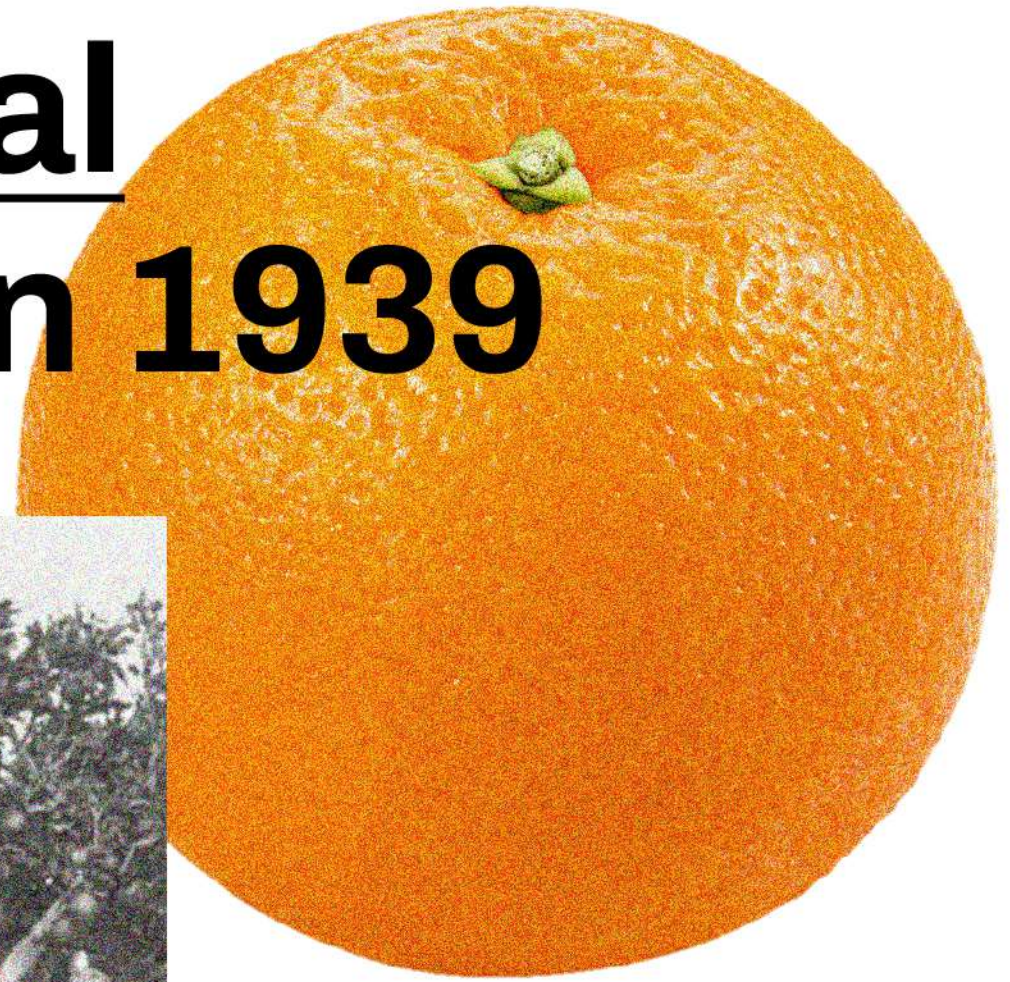


**Palestinian
Fruit Production**



**Palestinian
Economy**

Palestine dominated 23% of the global orange market in 1939



Oranges were Palestine's primary export crop until 1948 when Israel seized the orange groves and appropriated Palestine's famous Yaffa Oranges that reached markets around the world. This variety, sweet and almost seedless, documents Palestine's long and advanced agricultural history.

“Settler colonialism destroys to replace.”

– Patrick Wolfe

To silence living testaments of Palestinians’ existence, Israelis have **uprooted millions of trees, replacing them with colonial landscapes** and foreign invasive species (such as cypress).

These new forests, **forbidden to Indigenous communities**, are like their cultivators, unkind to the soil they rest on, severely disrupting local biodiversity and increasing vulnerability to fires.



Green washing “theft”

Israel has upheld itself as being agriculturally advanced, and for “turning the Naqab desert green”. **Planted on stolen land, using usurped water, the alien crops have caused the extinction of desert plants and reptiles.** Unable to withstand the heat, many of these crops die, unlike Palestine’s cacti.



Cacti or “sabar” means patience in Arabic. It withstands harsh conditions and continues to grow in previously demolished Palestinian villages, symbolising continuity in the face of dispossession.



**Palestinian writers,
poets and artists have
portrayed the sanctity
of Palestine's trees to
Palestinian existence
and perseverance.**

“As long as I have a handspan of my land
As long as I have an olive tree
A lemon tree
A well... and a cactus bush
I still have... myself
And I will forever remain mine”

– Palestinian Poet Samih Al-Qasim



They uproot one, we plant ten.

To defend Palestinian heritage and existence,
the Million Tree Campaign was launched in 2001.
It has so far planted **2.6 million trees** supporting
30,000 farmers.

Go to www.apnature.org/en/mtc
to plant trees in Palestine.

1 Tree = 7 USD

Join the movement and spread the word.

**Let us together plant trees, dignity,
and freedom.**



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#TreesforPalestine
#أشجار_فلسطين