



## **Al Nakba – The Palestinian Catastrophe 1948**

Produced by Benny Brunner  
Directed by Benny Brunner & Alexandra Jansse  
Israel / Netherlands, 58minutes  
Year of Production: 1997  
Versions: English



AL NAKBA takes the most contested and misunderstood moment of Israeli-Palestinian history and makes it come alive with intellectual clarity and emotional impact.

Based on the book "The Birth of the Palestinian Refugee Problem" by noted historian Benny Morris, AL NAKBA is the first documentary to examine the tragedy that accompanied the birth of the state of Israel in 1948 – the displacement of 750,000 Palestinians. Dramatic location shooting is combined with riveting testimony of Arab and Israeli eyewitnesses, Palestinian poetry and detailed accounts of the evacuation and expulsion from Haifa, Jaffa, and Lydda.

Through multiple voices, we learn that Palestinians fled 'en masse,' that many were rounded up and forcibly expelled by the emergent Israeli army, and still others died at the hands of Israeli soldiers.

Filmmakers Brunner and Jansse bring authority and sensitivity to a subject too long in the domain of propagandists on both side of the divide.

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