

# GLOSSARY: PEOPLE

**Abassids.** Rulers of the Arab Empire based in **Baghdad**, 750-1258. They ruled in **Palestine** until 909.

**Abdullah.** Crown Prince of **Saudi Arabia**. Brother of ailing King Fahd and frequently his spokesman.

**Abdullah I.** King of **Jordan**. First ruler of the **Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan** (1946-1952). Grandfather of King Hussein (1952-1999) and great grandfather of present King **Abdullah II**.

**Abdullah II.** King of **Jordan** since the death of his father King Hussein in 1999. Great grandson of King **Abdullah I**, **Jordan's** first king.

**Abraham.** The first of the **Patriarchs**, considered by both **Jews** and **Muslims** to be the founding father of their nations. (See **Isaac**; **Ishmael**).

**Abu Bakr.** A Companion of the **Prophet**, Abu Bakr was selected to be the first Caliph, after the death of **Muhammed** in 632 CE. His accession to power is considered valid by **Sunnis** (See **Sunni Islam**), but not by Shi'ites. (See **Shi'a Islam**).

**Alexander the Great.** Macedonian conqueror who spread Greek culture over the known world, 333-323 BCE. In 332, he marched through **Palestine**, defeating the Persian contingents stationed there.

**Ali ibn Abu Talib.** Cousin and son-in-law of **Muhammed**. Believed by **Shi'ites** (See **Shi'a Islam**) to be the legitimate successor of Muhammed.

**Ammonites.** Semitic people who occupied the **Trans-Jordan Plateau** of **Moab** and frequently clashed with the **Israelites**.

**Amos.** A prophet in the **Northern Kingdom**, beginning about 750 BCE.

**Annas.** High priest in **Jerusalem** in the early part of the first century CE. Succeeded in the office by his son **Caiaphas**.

**Arabs.** A Semitic people who from ancient times occupied the **Arabian**

**Peninsula.** Arabs spread northward into **Palestine** and **Mesopotamia** and westward into North Africa in the seventh century CE, following the founding of **Islam**.

**Arafat, Yasser.** Founder of the **Fatah Party**, head of the **Palestine Liberation**

**Organization**, and leader of the **Palestinian Authority**.