1949 Exchanges: The Faluja, Lebanon and Syria Deals After the 1948 War

After the 1948 war Israel carried out separate exchanges with Egypt (Faluja, 27 February 1949), Lebanon (3 March – 4 April 1949) and Syria (21 July 1949), the last one, according to Alwatan Voice. [1][2]

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The deal at a glance

Item	Details
Egypt (Faluja)	27 February 1949
Lebanon	3 March – 4 April 1949
Syria	21 July 1949
Israelis held by the Arabs	156 with Egypt, 673 with Jordan, 48 with Syria, 8 with Lebanon
Arabs and Palestinians held by Israel	1,098 Egyptians, 28 Saudis, 25 Sudanese, 24 Yemenis, 17 Jordanians, 36 Lebanese, 57 Syrians and 5,021 Palestinians

[1][2]

Details of the deal

According to Alwatan Voice, the occupation government carried out the exchange with each state holding Israelis separately: the Faluja deal with Egypt on 27

February 1949, with Lebanon between 3 March and 4 April 1949, and the last deal with Syria on 21 July 1949. Alwatan Voice says the Arabs held 156 Israelis with Egypt, 673 with Jordan, 48 with Syria and eight with Lebanon, while Israel held 1,098 Egyptians, 28 Saudis, 25 Sudanese, 24 Yemenis, 17 Jordanians, 36 Lebanese, 57 Syrians and 5,021 Palestinians. Al Jazeera Net says Israel exchanged prisoners with these four states, handing over hundreds of Arab soldiers in return for hundreds of Israeli soldiers. [1][2]

Timeline

Date	Event
27 February 1949	The Faluja deal with Egypt [1]
3 March 1949	The exchange with Lebanon begins (until 4 April) [1]
21 July 1949	The exchange with Syria [1]

Frequently asked questions about the 1949 exchanges

When was the Faluja deal?

On 27 February 1949, with Egypt. [1]

With whom were the exchanges?

With Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. [1]

Sources and references

1. Alwatan Voice, “Prisoner exchange operations with the occupation from 1948 to 2011”, for Palestinian Prisoners’ Day (in Arabic; the link is to the site’s home page).
2. Al Jazeera Net, “Exchange deals between Israel and the Arabs”, 12 October 2011 (in Arabic).