Ramat Gan began as an agricultural settlement near the major city of Tel Aviv. It was founded in 1921. The idea had been conceived a few years earlier, around the time of the First World War. Until then, as far as we know, the area of Ramat Gan had been virtually uninhabited over the generations, though it was occasionally used for agriculture. There is no indication of any settlement on historical maps.

With the end of the First World War in December 1918, the first plots of land were purchased. Year after year, further land was acquired and saplings were bought to build a ‘garden city’. In a vote held on 2 April 1923, a new, comprehensive name was chosen for the place – ‘Ramat Gan’. That same year, the first nursery school opened. In the winter winds of 1924, the school hut was blown away, and it was decided to build a wind-resistant structure. In the meantime, lessons continued in the synagogue hut.

Although Ramat Gan was founded as a cooperative settlement, it soon became clear that this form of settlement did not suit the character and aspirations of the settlement’s pioneers. The cooperative settlement became an urban settlement and, in 1926, was recognised by the Mandate authorities as a local council. At that time, there were some 450 people living in 72 houses and 63 huts. Avraham Krinitzi was elected to lead the settlement. For 43 years, until the day he died, he served as mayor and left his unique mark on the town.

The transition from an agricultural to an urban settlement, the settlement’s recognition as a local council, and the election of Krinitz marked a turning point in the history of Ramat Gan and shaped the character of the settlement for many years to come. It became less agricultural and turned increasingly towards industry, crafts, trade and business. In the early years of Moshav Ir Ganim, the committee’s office was housed in a hut in the area now known as Kikar Elite. In 1926, the council building was moved to Dr Cohen’s hut. The current building at 35 Bialik Street was inaugurated in 1941 and originally had only two storeys. Over the years, extensions were added to the building, giving it its present appearance. Some of the municipal offices are scattered across other buildings in various locations throughout the city.

In 1946, on the occasion of the settlement’s 25th anniversary, some 12'000 residents lived there in more than 1200 homes, working in over 560 businesses. Whilst the town’s leaders maintained good relations with the British authorities and received assistance from them to expand the settlement and consolidate its economic foundations, Ramat Gan was a key centre for the activities of all the underground organisations, to the extent that the British secret service even dubbed it ‘the incubator of terror’. One dramatic event took place within its boundaries in April 1946: the Irgun’s attack on the British fortress at the Ramat Gan police station in order to seize weapons. During the attack, Dov Gruner was seriously wounded and captured. He was sentenced to death and hanged in Acre Prison. Years later, a memorial was erected in his honour in the courtyard of the building now used by the Israel Police.

In Shevat 5710 (January 1950), Ramat Gan was declared a city. By 1955, its population stood at around 62'000. At the same time, public services were expanded, particularly the education system. The city’s area continued to grow, and the municipality also took on national tasks, such as building the stadium in preparation for the Third Maccabiah Games in 1950 and planting the National Park. In addition to this large park, the municipality continued to create gardens, the number of which had reached 37 by 1955. Together with the National Park, these gardens then accounted for about one-fifth of the city’s area.

In 1961, 1316 dunams east of the Geha Road were incorporated into Ramat Gan’s municipal boundaries. This move added two important institutions to the city: Bar-Ilan University and the

Sheba Medical Centre in Tel Hashomer. The Israeli Diamond Exchange, which is the largest in the world, opened on 24 October 1968.

On 13 November 1969, the mayor, Avraham Krinitz, was killed in a road accident. This brought to an end a dynamic 43-year period during which the man and the city were virtually one and the same. Dr Israel Feld was elected to succeed him on 1 December 1969, and served as mayor for 13 years. During his tenure, the Ayalon Shopping Centre was built and work began on the redevelopment of Rambam Square. During this period, emphasis was placed on the development of the city's disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Community centres were established there, and new schools and cultural facilities were opened. Furthermore, the Safari Park, which became a household name, was established during his tenure and attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors from all over the country every year. In the 1983 elections, Uri Amit was elected as the city's first mayor from the Labour Party. During his term of office, many of the city's streets were renovated, pavements were laid, street lighting was expanded and new water mains were installed. The Yad Labanim Memorial and the Abraham Krinitzi House were also renovated, and the Museum of Israeli Art on Abba Hillel Street was opened.

In the 1989 elections, after just one term in office, Uri Amit stepped down as mayor and was succeeded by Zvi Bar, a former paratrooper, commander of the Border Police and head of the Operations Directorate at the Israel Police. Zvi Bar placed the emphasis on the education system and on the continued development of Ramat Gan as a city renowned for its quality of life and as a comfortable and pleasant place to live. Alongside this strong focus on education, Ramat Gan has become a leading city in the fields of education, culture and society. At the same time, Ramat Gan continues to serve as a centre for business, commerce and industry, with a focus on light and knowledge-intensive industries that do not compromise the quality of life and living conditions.

In October 2013, Israel Zinger was elected Mayor of Ramat Gan. For 18 years, Zinger headed the 'Blich' Secondary School, which is the largest and best-known school in Ramat Gan. Under his leadership, the school achieved impressive results in academic, social, ethical and financial terms. Upon taking office, the mayor placed the residents at the heart of municipal life. His first budget prioritised improving the quality of life in the city and allocating substantial resources to the municipal education system, whilst emphasising the city's development for the benefit of its young people.

(Translated with DeepL.com)