

Part II: History of Israel-Palestine

[To be paired with Part 3 of film]

Lesson Objectives & Pedagogical Goals

- Understand Israel's methods of control of Palestinian population across its jurisdictional authority and what explains its pursuit of different policies.
- Trace and contextualize historical trajectory of events and isolation of Gaza and examine Israel's rhetorical use of self-defense as an argument in light of Hamas's establishment in 1988 and the advent of its use of force.
- Understand that the two-state solution suggests that the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are slated to be the Palestinian state. However, under the Palestinian-Israeli Peace Process, statehood is not an explicit goal, instead the policy goal is autonomy or limited self-governance. Explore the inherent challenges to the establishment of a sovereign state in light of Israel's policy goal of autonomy for Palestinians rather than self-determination and sovereignty.

Suggested Reading List & Resources

- Beinin, Joel and Lisa Hajjar. "Palestine, Israel, and the Arab-Israeli Conflict: A Primer." *Middle East Research & Information Project*, February 2014. [http://www.merip.org/sites/default/files/Primer_on_Palestine-Israel\(MERIP_February2014\)final.pdf](http://www.merip.org/sites/default/files/Primer_on_Palestine-Israel(MERIP_February2014)final.pdf).
- Dana, Tariq. "The Palestinian Capitalists that Have Gone Too Far." *Al-Shabaka*, January 14, 2014. <https://al-shabaka.org/briefs/palestinian-capitalists-have-gone-too-far/>.
- Filiu, Jean-Pierre. "One Palestine against Another." In *Gaza: A History*, 279-310. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014.

- Gelvin, James. "Israel, the Arab States and the Palestinians." In *The Modern Middle East (Third Edition)*, 283-293. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.
- Li, Darryl. "A Separate Piece?: Gaza and the 'No-State Solution'." *Jadaliyya*, December 4, 2012. http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/8762/a-separate-piece_gaza-and-the-%E2%80%9Cno-state-solution%E2%80%9D-.
- Pappé, Ilan. "The Drive for An Exclusively Jewish State." In *The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine*, 10-28. Oxford: Oneworld Publications, 2006.
- Roy, Sara. "De-Development Revisited: Palestinian Economy and Society since Oslo." *Journal of Palestine Studies* 28.3 (1999): 64-82. http://duncankennedy.net/documents/Is-Pal/Second-Syllabus/Sara_Roy_De-Development_Revisited.pdf.
- Tartir, Alaa. "The Evolution and Reform of Palestinian Security Forces 1993-2013." *Stability: International Journal of Security and Development* 4.1 (2015). Accessed 5 June 2016. <http://www.stabilityjournal.org/articles/10.5334/sta.gi/>.
- Timeline from *Gaza in Context*, <http://gazaincontext.weebly.com/gic-slides.html>.

Suggested Discussion Questions

- Where is the West Bank and what is its relationship to the Gaza Strip? Why does Israel want the West Bank? Why does it no longer desire the Gaza Strip?
- What are the Dayton Security Forces in the West Bank? Who trains and funds them? Who are they expected to protect and why? Why are there no Dayton Forces in the Gaza Strip?
- How has Israel de-developed and isolated the Gaza Strip since 1993? Why is that year particularly significant?
- When did Hamas launch its first suicide attack? When did Hamas launch its first

rocket into Israel? What does the chronology of these attacks tell us about Israel's claims for the use of force against Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and beyond?

Suggested Activities

- Review the distinction between autonomy (i.e., limited self-rule) and self-determination (sovereignty and independence). How does this distinction impact the history of the Israel-Palestine conflict, namely:
 - Israel claims that the lack of a State of Palestine in 1967 meant that there was no sovereign and therefore the land did not belong to anyone, including a Palestinian people;
 - As such Israel recognizes the existence of Palestinians as a polity of Arabs who happen to be in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank who should have the right to govern themselves in an autonomy framework. Palestinians consider themselves a nation entitled to independence and sovereignty.
 - After establishing these various concepts, revisit the failure of the Oslo Process and examine how Oslo realized Palestinian autonomy but undermined sovereignty.
 - Now review the governance structure in the West Bank within this autonomy framework.
 - Break the class into 2-3 groups and lead them in small break out discussions by presenting them with the following questions:
 - How did the Palestinian leadership's policies in the West Bank aim to fulfill Israel's demands? Were they successful in meeting those demands? Did their compliance lead to benefit for the Palestinians?
- Why did Israel not pursue the same policies it implemented in the West Bank in the Gaza Strip?
- What happened in 2006 and 2007 between Fatah and Hamas?
- How did this impact the conflict, specifically Palestinian claims for liberation and Israeli military action?
- Imagine you were born in Gaza in 1986 and you are now 30 years old. What are the pivotal events in your life as someone living in the Gaza Strip?
 - o Point to specific years and explain what happened, with the impact this had on you and your family.