



# CONFLICT IN ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

## The First Intifada

WERE THE ISRAELIS JUSTIFIED IN THE USE OF FORCE IN THE  
FIRST INTIFADA?





# It was Israel's responsibility to maintain order

**Source 1:** Extract from 'The Uprising: Causes and Consequences' by Gail Pressberg, Journal of Palestine Studies, 1988

*'The first immediate trigger was the 26 November hang glider incident, in which a young Palestinian guerilla entered Israel and succeeded in killing 6 Israeli soldiers.'*



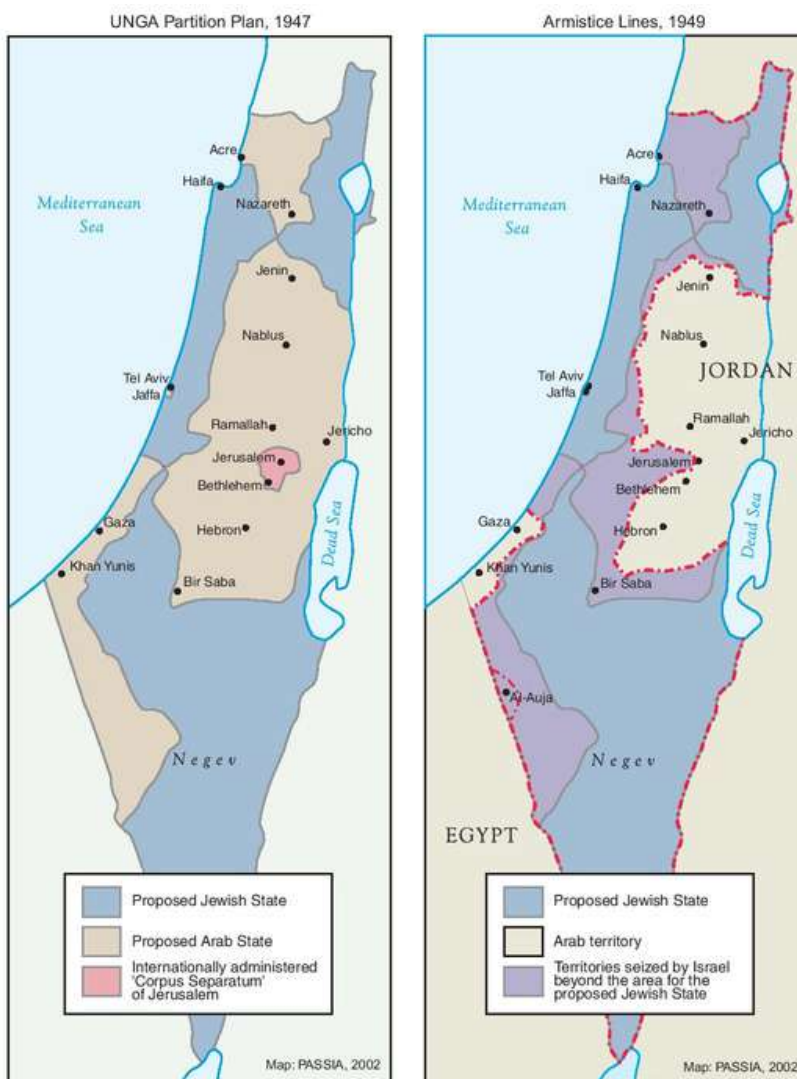
# It was Israel's responsibility to maintain order

Source 2: Palestinian barricades during the First Intifada





# Israel was an occupying force that illegally seized land from Palestinians



**Source 3:** Map comparing the UN-proposed Israeli State, to the land seized by Israel





# Israel was an occupying force that illegally seized land from Palestinians

**Source 4:** Swedish peacekeepers are forced to flee from Hill 88 near Gaza due to Israeli strikes on the area in 1967





# The uprising was driven by radical Islamists, not civilians

## Source 5: Extract from the Covenant of Hamas, 1988

On the Destruction of Israel:

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'Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it.' (Preamble)

The Exclusive Moslem Nature of the Area:

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'The land of Palestine is an Islamic Waqf [Holy Possession] consecrated for future Moslem generations until Judgment Day. No one can renounce it or any part, or abandon it or any part of it.'  
(Article 11)

'Palestine is an Islamic land... Since this is the case, the Liberation of Palestine is an individual duty for every Moslem



# The uprising was driven by radical Islamists, not civilians

**Source 6:** Extract from 'The Iran Primer: Power, Politics and US Policy', R. Brandenburg, 2010

*'After the 1979 revolution, Iran ended its alliance with Israel and started supporting the Palestinians, symbolized by turning over the Israeli embassy in Tehran to the Palestine Liberation Organization.*

*As part of its campaign to export the revolution, the theocracy also aided emerging Palestinian Islamic groups, notably Islamic Jihad and Hamas. Both sent representatives to Tehran'*



# It was a peaceful protest to improve Palestinians' lives

**Source 7:** Palestinian woman protests the actions of IDF soldiers in 1987







## It was a peaceful protest to improve Palestinians' lives

**Source 8:** IDF soldier requesting a resident of Jabalia to erase a slogan on a wall during the First Intifada, February 1988





# Palestinian grievances were not a result of Israeli actions

**Source 9:** President Jimmy Carter shaking hands with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin at the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty in the grounds of the White House, 26 March 1979





# Palestinian grievances were not a result of Israeli actions

**Source 10:** Extract about the frustrations felt by Palestinians after Israel and Egypt signed a peace treaty, effectively bringing the role of Egypt in the Palestinian cause to an end. From 'Palestine and Israel: The Uprising and Beyond', D. McDowell, 1989.

*'Recognition of this fact led Jordan and the PLO to cooperate despite frosty relations...[they were] driven closer by President Sadat's political initiative of 1977 and the subsequent peace negotiations between Egypt and Israel...[the PLO] felt obliged to move into a common 'steadfastness' with the more radical Arab states.'*



# Israel deprived Palestinians of any political expression

**Source 11:** Extract of IDF Order 101 restricting the freedom of expression for Palestinians

<b>Political material</b>	6.	It is forbidden to print or publicize in the region any publication of notice, poster, photo, pamphlet or other document containing material having a political significance, unless a license is previously obtained from the military commander of the place in which it is intended to execute the printing or publication.
<b>Incitement</b>	7.	Any person who – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. attempts, orally or in another manner, to influence public opinion in the region in a manner that is liable to harm public safety or public order, or</li> <li>B. does any act or has in his possession any object with the intent to do or facilitate the commission of an attempt as aforesaid,</li> </ul> will be charged with violating this Order.
<b>Support of a hostile organization</b> Amendment: Order No. 938 Order No. 1079	7A.	A. Any person who – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. publishes praise, sympathy or support for a hostile organization, its actions or objectives, or</li> <li>2. does an act that reveals identification with a hostile organization, its actions or objectives or sympathy for them, by waving a flag, displaying a symbol or slogan or singing a hymn or sounding a slogan, or any similar act that clearly reveals identification or sympathy as aforesaid, in a public place or in a manner that persons in a public place can see or hear such revelation of identification or sympathy,</li> </ul> will be charged with violating this Order.
<b>Amendment of mistake</b>		





# Israel deprived Palestinians of any political expression

*The 1967 War was over  
All the land of Palestine was occupied  
In every patch of land there was a tragedy  
In every house a sad old man  
In every village there was poverty  
And in every camp an orphaned child!  
They reckoned the case was over  
And thought they had gotten rid of us  
Once and for all!  
They thought that after all the suffering  
We had lost out patience  
Or given up our steadfastness\*  
A million times did we tell them:  
No to Camp David  
A million NOs to it and to all those behind it  
No to autonomy: It is futile and deformed!  
No to elections They take our rights away  
They replace our rules  
And divide us more and more  
Our demand is one:  
An independent state  
That only will last forever.*

*\*(this is a crucial word in Arabic – *sumud*.  
It is the self-defined description of PLO policy)*

**Source 12:**  
Extract from a  
Palestinian Folk  
Poem



# Palestinians had benefitted from Israeli rule

**Source 13:** Table showing the economic growth in the Occupied Territories in 1970-1980

**Box 2.1 Occupied Territories—Key Socioeconomic Indicators**

	1970	1980
Population (000)	980	1,181
GNP per capita (1991 US\$)	780	1,700
GDP per capita (1991 US\$)	670	1,310
Wage income from Israel (% of GNP)	12	24
Share of industry (% of GDP)	5	7
Exports (% of GNP)	22	23
Imports (% of GNP)	47	46
Employment (000s) in OT	160	141
Employment (000s) in Israel	21	75
Primary enrollment (000s)	179	259
Secondary enrollment (000s)	26	53
Hospital beds (per 1,000 pop.)	—	1.9
Birth rate (per 1,000 pop.)	42	48
Daily per capita calorie consumption	2,300	2,650
Life expectancy (years)	56	61
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	95	65
Households with electricity (%)	30	66
Households with safe water (%)	15	47
Households with refrigerators (%)	11	57
Households with washing machines (%)	—	23
Households with automobiles (%)	2	—

Sources: Statistical Abstracts of Israel, Central Bureau of Statistics, various issues. Mission estima



# Palestinians had benefitted from Israeli rule

**Source 14:** Entry in the Jewish Virtual Library on education and school closures in the West Bank during the First Intifada

## MYTH

From the Jewish Virtual Library's entry on Palestinian uprisings

*"Israel closed West Bank schools during the intifada to deprive Palestinians of an education."*

## FACT

Educational opportunities in the territories greatly improved under Israeli rule. The number of elementary and secondary schools increased by more than a third from 1967-88. Women were major beneficiaries of the boom. From 1970-86, for example, the percentage of women who had not attended school was slashed by more than half, from 67 percent to 32 percent. Before 1967, no universities existed on the West Bank; six were built under Israel's administration.



# Israel damaged the economic development of Palestinian areas

**Source 15:** Former and future Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in the Jerusalem Post, 15 February 1985

“There will be no development in the occupied territories instigated by the Israeli government, and no permits will be given for expanding agriculture or industry, which may compete with the State of Israel.”





# Israel damaged the economic development of Palestinian areas

**Source 16:** Extract from 'Development Under Adversity: The Palestinian Economy in Transition', Edited by Ishac Diwan and Radwan A. Shaban Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute (MAS) and the World Bank

*'Phase III-early 1980s until Intifada in 1987. This phase is characterized by stagnation and declining employment opportunities. The collapse of the regional oil boom prompted a decline in worker remittances from the Gulf. While continued growth in Israel provided a cushion from the regional slowdown, employment in Israel was virtually flat in the mid-1980s. Beginning with the Intifada, employment for Palestinians in manufacturing and services declined. This decline was offset by a rise in construction employment in response to an Israeli housing boom, resulting from a surge in immigration. However, recession and near hyperinflation in Israel had a serious impact on the 35 percent of the Palestinian labor force employed in Israel, and on the majority of Palestinian trade with Israel. Once work opportunities abroad declined, there was increased pressure to employ workers at home.'*



# The uprising was not supported by most Palestinians

**Source 17:** Extract from the Summary of: B'Tselem report: "Collaborators in the Occupied Territories: Human Rights Abuses and Violations", January 1994

*'This report deals with the responsibility of Palestinian political organizations and their activists for the torture and killing of Palestinians suspected of collaborating with the Israeli authorities during the Intifada... According to the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Spokesperson, 942 Palestinians were killed by other Palestinians on suspicion of collaboration between December 9, 1987, when the Intifada erupted, and November 30, 1993.<sup>1</sup> The Associated Press puts the number at 771.'*



# The uprising was not supported by most Palestinians

**Source 18:** Extract from 'Righteous Victims: a History of the Zionist-Arab conflict, 1881–1999', by Benny Morris, 1999

*"[T]he Intifada seemed to have lost direction. A symptom of the PLO's frustration was the great increase in the killing of suspected collaborators."<sup>[77]</sup> Roughly 18,000 Palestinians, compromised by Israeli intelligence, are said to have given information to the other side."*



# The IDF radicalised Palestinians and damaged Israel's reputation

Palestinians killed in the Occupied Territories (including East Jerusalem)

Year	Palestinians killed by Israeli security forces	Of them: Minors under age 17	Palestinians killed by Israeli civilians	Of them: Minors under age 17
Dec 9-31 1987	22	5	0	0
1988	289	48	15	2
1989	285	78	17	5
1990	125	23	9	2
1991	91	24	6	3
1992	134	23	2	0
1993-13.9.93	124	36	5	1
14.9.93-31.12.93	30	4	8	0
1994	106	16	38	8
1995	42	4	2	1
1996	69	10	3	1
1997	18	5	4	0
1998	21	3	6	0
1999	8	0	0	0
2000 until 28.9	12	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,376</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>23</b>

Israelis killed in the Occupied Territories (including East Jerusalem)

Year	Israeli civilians killed by Palestinians	Of them: Minors under age 17	Israeli security forces personnel killed by Palestinians
Dec 9-31 1987	0	0	0
1988	6	3	4
1989	3	0	6
1990	4	0	3
1991	7	0	1
1992	11	0	14
1993-13.9.93	16	0	15
14.9.93-31.12.93	11	0	3
1994	11	0	12
1995	7	0	9
1996	3	1	19
1997	4	0	0
1998	8	0	3
1999	1	0	2
2000 until 28.9	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>91</b>

**Source 19:**  
Casualty figures for the First Intifada





# The IDF radicalised Palestinians and damaged Israel's reputation

**Source 20:** UN Security Council Resolution 607, issued in 1988 to address violations of previous UN resolutions and Geneva Code laws

## Resolution 607

### Territories occupied by Israel

#### Abstract

Resolution 607 (1988) of 5 January 1988  
The Security Council,

Recalling its resolution 605 (1987) of 22 December 1987,

Expressing grave concern over the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories,

Having been apprised of the decision of **Israel**, the occupying Power, to "continue the deportation" of Palestinian civilians in the occupied territories,

Recalling the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and in particular articles 47 and 49 of same,

1. Reaffirms once again that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, is applicable to Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by **Israel** since 1967.

including **Jerusalem**;

2. Calls upon **Israel** to refrain from deporting any Palestinian civilians from the occupied territories;

3. Strongly requests **Israel**, the occupying Power, to abide by its obligations arising from the Convention;

4. Decides to keep the situation in the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by **Israel** since 1967, including **Jerusalem**, under review.