

ISRAELI PERPETRATED MASSACRES IN PALESTINE

As of November 15, more than 210 Palestinians have been killed and 6000 injured by the Israeli army and police. Violent attacks on Palestinian civilians have occurred in Palestinian towns inside Israel, in Gaza & the West Bank.



The latest bloodshed began on Thursday, September 28, after Israeli General Ariel Sharon forced his way into the Haram Al-Sharif, Islam's holiest site in Jerusalem, accompanied by 1,000 heavily armed soldiers. Palestinians protesting this provocation have been brutally suppressed by the Israeli army.

Recent history of the Haram Al-Sharif and Ariel Sharon.

In October 1990, Israeli forces massacred 17 worshippers at the Haram Al-Sharif, and again stormed the compound in September 1996, killing three.

Ariel Sharon was the mastermind behind Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, which claimed more than 20,000 Palestinian and Lebanese lives, and the notorious massacre of thousands of Palestinian men, women and children at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Lebanon in September 1982.

However, the provocative move on the part of Sharon was sanctioned and supported by Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, who is also Defense Minister. Barak is responsible for dispatching the Israeli army and police to the West Bank, Gaza and Palestinian

towns in Israel, for ordering the use of live ammunition on unarmed demonstrators, and for ordering the use of helicopters, missiles, tanks and rockets on Palestinian civilians and property.

Israel has deployed its army against the civilian populations to defend its brutal military occupation.

In one of the most horrifying scenes shown on world television, 12-year old Muhammad Al-Dura was shot dead in cold blood by Israeli snipers, while his father, Jamal, tried to protect him from the hail of bullets. A Palestinian ambulance driver who attempted to rescue the two was also shot and killed by Israeli soldiers. Jamal Al-Dura remains critically injured in hospital. A circle of bullet holes around them shows they were intentionally targeted.

Although Sharon's visit to Haram Al-Sharif was the spark for Palestinian protesters, their anger, frustration and hopelessness is deeply rooted in Israeli oppression, illegal occupation, racism and brutality. The feelings of anger have intensified in the 7 years since the beginning of the Oslo process. The Oslo Accords have failed to deliver peace or justice for the Palestinians. Land confiscation, house demolitions and expansion of settlements have continued since the signing of the Oslo Accords.



**We demand an end to the killing of Palestinians.
We demand the United States stop sending weapons to Israel.
We demand international protection for the Palestinian people.
WE DEMAND AN END TO ISRAELI OCCUPATION.**

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What Would You Do Under Occupation?



After more than seven years of negotiations that were supposed to end the Israeli occupation, Israel still maintains control over 88% of the West Bank, and about 20% of the Gaza Strip ["Areas B&C"].

A conclusion that "Apartheid is indeed a likely consequence of the present "peace process"," was made in a statement by 60 Israeli peace activists convening on October 17, 2000. Are these the signs of a government negotiating in good faith, or one that has no intention of ending its military occupation?

IN ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH AN APARTHEID VIA THE OSLO "PEACE PROCESS", WHAT IS ISRAEL IGNORING?

1. REFUGEES

During and after the establishment of the state of Israel, over 1 million Palestinian refugees were created by a process that today would be called ethnic cleansing. Today, with over 3.2 million refugees registered by the United Nations, Israel continues to ignore international law and deny their right to return to their homes and land.

2. INTERNATIONAL LAW

Israel is bound by international law to withdraw from all territories occupied in 1967, including east Jerusalem, and to implement resolution 194 which affirms the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and lands.

3. LAND CONFISCATIONS, HOUSE DEMOLITIONS & SETTLEMENTS

Since the signing of Oslo, land confiscations, house demolitions, and expansion of illegal Israeli settlements continued.

- According to Amnesty International, 2650 Palestinian houses have been destroyed since 1987 by Israel in the West Bank, including east Jerusalem. Further, thousands of acres owned by Palestinians have been confiscated to build settlements in contravention to the 4th Geneva Convention stating that the "Occupying Power shall not transfer parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies."
[\[http://www.amnesty.org/ailib/aipub/1999/MDE/51505999.htm\]](http://www.amnesty.org/ailib/aipub/1999/MDE/51505999.htm)

4. HUMAN RIGHTS

A perfect example of Israel's disregard for human life and suffering can be seen from an article entitled "No bangs, no smoking guns: victims just fell and bled", by Sam Kiley in Ramallah, The Times (London), Oct. 17, 2000:

"Israeli snipers using specialised rifles fitted with silencers yesterday picked off high-profile Palestinian rioters in Ramallah in an apparent bid to "take out" leaders of the 19-day uprising. Stone-throwing youths watched, stunned, as men and boys at the barricades collapsed with small bullet holes in their chests. Hosni Atari, a doctor who treated many of the victims, said he

had never seen the results of the new Israeli weapon before. Hollow-nosed bullets opened like an umbrella on impact, spun about, chewing up internal organs, and seldom left an exit wound. 'These are intended to cause the maximum amount of damage to a person,' Dr. Atari said."

The US Government is not an "honest broker" when it comes to Israel. US Congressional Candidates in the 2000 Campaign have received \$1,318,796 from Israeli lobbyists and PACs, and \$33,881,372 since 1978.

In contrast, Arab-American and related PAC Contributions to 2000 Congressional Candidates totaled \$44,117.

[source: Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, www.washington-report.org]

The bias created by this legal corruption is manifested in critical ways. "Quite serious is the gradual watering down of the American position as far as Jewish settlements are concerned. These settlements were first described by president Jimmy Carter as illegal. In the Reagan-Bush years, they became "an obstacle to peace." When Clinton assumed office, they began to be described as unhelpful." "We should support international law. Instead, we use our veto to block the application of international law, and our so-called mediation has consisted of pressuring the Palestinians to take the crumbs Israel has offered."

Charles Reese, Orlando Sentinel, October 5, 2000

The Current "Peace Process" is a Sham

The so called "peace process" has been intended from the start to circumvent international law and self-determination, to create isolated Bantustans as South Africa's apartheid regime attempted. The West Bank and Gaza make up only 22% of historic Palestine. By accepting a state in the West Bank and Gaza, Palestinians are giving up 78% of Palestine. There can be no more stalling and delays for implementing international law and giving back the Palestinians their rights and freedom that they have suffered so much for.

What Can You Do to Help End the Occupation

Boycott Israel and all products made in Israel until it puts a complete end to its occupation and respects international law.

Help the thousands of injured. Contact Al-Awda for a list of hospitals and agencies accepting emergency aid.

PALESTINE RIGHT OF RETURN COALITION/AL-AWDA [NY/NJ]
www.al-awda.org

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