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## The Israel Hamas Conflict: An Analysis on Threats and Security Implications Posed by Iran in the Middle East

**Rahat Anwar**

BS Scholar, Department of Political Science. University of Okara, Pakistan.

Email: [rahatanwar67@gamil.com](mailto:rahatanwar67@gamil.com)

**Tajmmal Abbas**

BS Scholar, Department of Political science, University of Okara, Pakistan.

Email: [faykam602@gmail.com](mailto:faykam602@gmail.com)

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### ABSTRACT

In the history of world one can trace a series of wars fought between Arabs and Jews on the land of Palestine, which is sacred land for Muslims, Jews and Christians. A country “Palestine” which is inheritance of Arab Muslims is now mostly occupied by Jews and converting into Israel, a state whose idea of existence came into being after Balfour declaration in 1917, and officially came into existence in May 14, 1948. This research has been conducted by consulting many secondary sources including different research articles, international journals and several books regarding Palestinian conflict. Due to the reason of non-recognition of Israel, it had to go through a series of deadly wars in the past but contemporary war is one of deadliest war in the history of this conflict. This study aims to find out Iranian involvement in the war as Iran is vocal supporter of Hamas attack. Objective of this study is to identify the threats to regional security particularly Iran. Iranian involvement is visible, no doubt China has brokered the peace between Iran and Saudi Arabia but long-standing rivalry cannot be overcome overnight. Iran is anti-American since 1979; it has rivalry with both Saudi Arabia and USA. To destroy U.S. brokered Abraham Accords between Israel and Saudi Arabia, Iran allegedly urged Hamas to attack on Israel. This study suggests that Iran often sacrifice its interests over the lives of hundreds of thousands of people’s securities in the region. This study recommended that to stop terrorist financing and by not proving them safe sanctuaries is the only way to de-escalate war and make this region prosperous..

**Keywords:** Conflict, Palestine, Middle- East, Israel, Intervention, USA, Peace, Security, Region

### Introduction

History of conflicts in the middle-east is as old as middle-east itself. It was axis of conflicts before advent of Islam and multiple wars had been fought on the soil of this region after the arrival of Islam. Although the nature of wars after Islam was not same like previous wars, these were for a peaceful society for a good system of governance for the eradication of evil but human lives always stayed miserable in war time. After the death of holy prophet (P.B.U.H) a series of wars had been fought by four caliphs and after them a number of Muslim ruler’s broke wars in this region against evil and external invaders and to acquire more land for the

Muslims. In whole of this period, no doubt whole Arab world was under the shadow of deadly wars but most miserable country was Palestine. Which is still now is under the shadow of deadly war; Israel-Hamas war. Palestine had borne the brunt of many crusades on its heart, from day one Palestine was bone of contention between Muslims, Jews and Christians as it is holy land of all Muslims, Jews and Christians. Each of them wants the control of Jerusalem as three holy temples of Jews are there, for Muslims it is holy because dome of rock located here where the holy prophet ascended to night journey and Christians believe that Jerusalem is theirs because Jesus crucified there. Middle east is the only region which might not had peace properly, every time at least one of its countries by will or forcefully has indulged into war it could be crusades, holy wars, ottoman invasion of middle east Britain and French occupation of countries in the region, Iran Iraq war, Israel Palestine wars and wars or Arabs against Israel, there is long chain of wars in this region.

Superpowers like United States, China and Russia have interests in the Middle East, especially United States. Middle-east accounts for 31.3 percent of global oil production, it has huge reserves of oil and gas. Saudi Arabia and Iran are two middle-eastern giants and world is aware of their long-standing rivalry which created a gulf between two Muslim sects Shiite and Sunni. In ideology, Saudi Arabia is liberal while Iran is conservative in the same way Saudi Arabia is good friend of U.S. but Iran is anti U.S. state. Iran turns anti U.S. after Islamic revolution of 1979 and its rivalries with Saudi Arabia were also started after this revolution. Iran is trying to pursue its nuclear program since 1957, in this regard U.S. has imposed many economic sanctions on Iran. Tense relations of Iran and USA has a long history. Iranian nuclear program is curse for Iran. In middle-eastern region Israel is alleged to have nuclear weapon or it is a nuclear capable country, USA supports Israel in everything. Administration of Donald j. trump fired the fuel by relocating U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and organizing Abraham Accords, naming this accord the name of Abraham to show the brotherhood of Jews and Muslims as Abraham was common ancestor of both. Abraham accord is a normalization policy between Jews and Arabs, by signing it, UAE and Bahrain became third and fourth to normalize their relations with Jewish state after Egypt's recognition of Israel in 1979 and Jordan's in 1994. Abraham accord is followed by Morocco and Sudan respectively. Normalization with Israel was getting pace in the middle-east as Saudi Arabia also agreed to normalize its relations with Israel with a peaceful solution of Palestine, the deal was brokered by USA. Saudi Arabia remained vocal supporter of peace in Palestine throughout the history, just days before the normalization between Israel and Saudi Arabia \_ Hamas an Iranian backed militia attacked Israel on 7 October 2023. Which became the cause of destruction in Gaza strip, Israel retaliated very next day which took the lives of thousands of innocent people of Gaza. Retaliation from both sides caused massacre, resulted in delaying the normalization of Israel and Saudi Arabia. Iran is supporting militia in Gaza, Syria, Lebanon and Yemen. On April 1, 2024

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Israel attacked Iranian consulate in Syria in retaliation Iran fired 300 missiles on Israel on April 13, 2024. Israel attacked back on Iran on April 19, 2024 damaging its nuclear sight Isfahan. There were chances of full-scale war between Israel and Iran for the first time in history. After all these skirmishes suddenly Iranian president Ibrahim Raisi martyr in helicopter crash. In the century old conflict of Israel-Palestine, Iran is now prominent player in the battle field which could become a reason to change the fate of middle-east both in positive or negative sense forever.

### **Discussions**

#### **Iranian Involvement in the Conflict**

**Tehran, Iran** - One of the loudest critics of Israel's horrific bombardment of Gaza has been Iran. Its adamant anti-Israel foreign policy is consistent with that. The two countries of the Middle East are frequently referred to be archenemies. Tehran has warned Israel and its closest ally, the United States, that the battle with Hamas may intensify in response to Tel Aviv's escalating attacks outside of Gaza. Tensions have been centered on the Palestinian question for many years. Tel Aviv holds substantial sway over Syria and Lebanon, two countries where Israel has launched strikes.

#### **How did ties between Israel and Iran in the modern era start?**

Relations between Iran and Israel were anything but antagonistic during the Pahlavi dynasty's 25-year rule, which ended in the 1979 revolution. In actuality, Israel was recognized by Iran as the second nation with a majority of Muslims following its founding in 1948. After British administration over the territory ended in 1947, a special United Nations committee was formed with eleven members, including Iran, to find a solution for Palestine. Fearing it may prolong the struggle for years to come, one of the three votes opposing the UN's partition proposal for Palestine was cast. "A federative solution, which was about keeping Palestine as one state with one parliament but divided into Arab and Jewish cantons, was what Iran, along with India and Yugoslavia, came up with," Historian Eirik Kvindesland of the University of Oxford told Al Jazeera. Iran made that compromise in an effort to preserve good ties with its Arab and Muslim neighbors, as well as with the Zionist movement and the pro-Zionist West.

Afterwards, two years, the main Arab-Israeli Conflict broke out in 1948 and Israel had the option to get a more area than the UN had approved, Iran, then represented by Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, the second Pahlavi ruler, or shah, became, after Turkey, the second Muslim-greater part country to perceive Israel officially. Zionist civilian armies drove in excess of 700,000 Palestinians from their homes before Israel was laid out in 1948. The Palestinians' constrained removal and seized are alluded to as the "Nakba," and that signifies "calamity" in

Arabic. As per Kvindesland, Tehran's move was predominantly expected to oversee Iranian resources in Palestine, where around 2,000 Iranians resided and had their possessions taken by the Israeli armed force during the conflict. What's more, it occurred inside the boundaries of Israel's asserted "outskirts convention." State head David Ben-Gurion of Israel looked to kill its separation in the Center East by chasing after attaches with non-Bedouin states at the "edges" of the locale, a technique that would later be known as the fringe teaching. Kvindesland said that Iran and Turkey were the best, notwithstanding the way that Ethiopia was additionally included. In the wake of being named top state leader in 1951, Mohammad Mosaddegh led the nationalization of the cornered oil industry in the country. Mosaddegh disavowed Israel since he accepted it was advancing Western interests in the district. As per Kvindesland, the primary storyline in Iran during that time was the endeavors of Mosaddegh and his Public Front political association to nationalize oil, oust the government, and drive away English pilgrim control. Its relationship with Israel comprised "blow-back," he asserts. In Iran, there was some enemy of Zionist activation. Perhaps of the most notable figure who vivaciously went against Zionism and the production of Israel was [important Shia cleric] Navvab Safavi. Notwithstanding, Mosaddegh's essential objective was to prevail upon adjoining Middle Easterner states to go against English strength over the oil area, Kvindesland told Al Jazeera.

In the late nineteenth 100 years, a political development known as Zionism emerged, requesting that Jews who had endured outrages in Europe be given a country. At the point when the US and Joined Realm's mystery administrations coordinated an overthrow in 1953 to overturn Mosaddegh's administration, the circumstance radically different. After the upset, the Shah was reestablished to control and developed to be a dedicated ally of the West nearby.

During the 1970s, the two countries traded envoys when Israel laid out a true government office in Tehran. Iran became one of Israel's essential oil providers exceptionally quick because of developing business ties between the two countries; to convey Iranian oil to Israel and afterward Europe, a pipeline was built. Tehran and Tel Aviv likewise kept up with broad military and security joint effort, however this was for the most part left hidden so as not to agitate the encompassing Bedouin states. Iran relied more upon Israel than Israel relied upon Iran. In spite of the fact that Kvindesland brought up that the shah moreover planned to work on Iran's relations with the US, and at that point, Israel was viewed as a valuable device for achieving that goal, Israel has forever been the proactive party. Further, the security framework may be extended; the Iranian security and knowledge association SAVAK got some preparation from Mossad. Israel required a Center East accomplice that wasn't fundamentally hostile to Israel and hostile to Zionist, hence regardless of whether Iran could get these items somewhere else, Israel was anxious to supply them. The antiquarian asserted that the Shah was driven primarily by the requirement for coalitions, security, and

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exchange and that he "showed little worry for the Palestinians in his dealings with Israel."

### **Israeli and Palestinian Realism in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict**

Because the British had promised to assist the Arabs in establishing an independent Arab government, the Arabs decided to rebel against the Ottoman Empire. The communication known as the Hussein-Mac Mahon communication, which was written between a prominent Arab leader named Sharif Hussein and a top British official in Cairo named Sir McMahon, illustrates Britain's devotion to Arabs. Britain had promised the Arabs that it would assist in the creation of an independent Arab administration, but this never happened. In order to split the former Ottoman Empire's territory into European nations, Britain and France came to a bilateral agreement. We refer to this arrangement as the Sykes-Picot Agreement. The deal stated that Britain would gain portions of Jordan, Iraq, and Haifa, while France would acquire Turkey, northern Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon. Other European nations, meanwhile, are free to select any territory they desire to rule over. The Sykes-Picot Agreement treats the Palestinian land as an international area jointly controlled by the war-winning countries, rather than as territory that has been given to any one nation (Yuanita 2009).

Midway through June 2014, Israel arrested numerous Hamas militants around the West Bank while looking for three Israeli youths, which led to an increase in rocket launches from Gaza once more (Okezone 2021). For the first time in the previous two years, numerous rockets fired into Israel were attributed to Hamas at the beginning of July 2014. The Israeli force destroyed several Palestinian cross-border tunnels and missiles the next day as part of a "border protection" operation. During the 50-day offensive, at least 2,251 Palestinians were murdered, including 1,462 civilians. There were six civilian deaths and 67 military deaths in Israel (Kompas Cyber Media 2021). Based on the conduct of Israel and the Palestinian group, the writer thinks that these two nations apply the Realism approach to international relations.

Realism defines international relations as a field of study whereby the state plays a central role in interactions between nations. National interests, particularly those related to survival and national security, rationally influence state conduct. Power is the ultimate objective and an end in itself, and the state uses and gains more power in the pursuit of these interests (survival and national security). The state acts based on its power capacity, which is highly significant. In line with Susilo's (2018) assertion that power is necessary to realize national interest, the author claims that Israel and the Palestinian faction apply a realistic viewpoint in their implementation of it through the employment of armed force in the form of soldiers and missiles.

A territorial dispute between the two nations was the initial cause of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Palestine and Israel both use the might of their own nations when they are at odds. Palestine uses its force to attack Israel through its movement division, Hamas. In order to defeat nearly sixty Israelis, Hamas carried out multiple suicide bombings on buses in February and March of 1996, in one of the attacks that left many dead. Retaliation for the December 1995 assassination of Hamas bomb maker Yahya Ayyash has led to the series of Hamas attacks (Kompas Cyber Media 2021). Subsequently, in December 2008, the Israeli military launched a military operation known as "cast lead" against Hamas with the intention of halting Palestinian rocket launches, resulting in numerous casualties. During the 22-day attack, almost 1,300 Palestinians and 13 Israelis lost their lives (Kompas Cyber Media 2021). It is evident from Israel's and Palestine's actions—which were discussed earlier—that power is used in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Realism theory is being applied to this conflict with a focus on Israel and Palestine's use of state power.

## **Result Analysis**

### **What are the Conflicts in the Middle East?**

Many wars and violent incidents resulting from political, religious, and territorial grounds comprise the Middle East's conflicts. These wars intensified after countries War II (1939–1945) in the Muslim and Arab countries, which included sections of northeastern Africa and western Asia. Generally, the Ottoman Domain governed the Center East for the rest of The Second Great War (1914-1918). With the Sykes-Picot Understanding, the Unified Realm and France chose to partition authority over the previously Ottoman-ruled locales following their loss. The "command" over Syria and Lebanon went to France, while the "order" over Iraq, Palestine, and Transjordan (later called Jordan) went to the Unified Realm, except for Egypt, which had turned into a protectorate of the Assembled Realm in 1914.

### **Arab-Israeli Conflict**

With the ascent of the Zionist development in the late nineteenth hundred years and its objective of making a state for the Jewish public, the Bedouin Israeli struggle started. Theodor Herzl, a Jewish essayist and Austro-Hungarian who supported the arrival of Jews to Israel as a method for finishing the segregation and mistreatment they experienced in Europe, is credited with establishing Zionism. Herzl lived from 1860 to 1904. Before The Second Great War, people group of European Jews started to settle calmly in the Palestine locale, which was a piece of the Ottoman Domain. The Holocaust, which was executed by the Nazi system in Europe during The Second Great War and killed large number of European Jews, served as the impetus for the Jewish migration to an area where Palestinian Arabs had resided for decades. Conflicts between groups from the two

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communities fighting for sovereignty of the area—more than 500,000 Jews, most of whom were from Europe—and over a million Palestinian Muslim Arabs emerged in the British Mandate of Palestine following World War II. A partition proposal for Palestine was agreed by the UN on November 29, 1947, after months of violent rioting. Three parts of the region were to eventually make up Palestine: an Arab state, a Jewish state, and the UN-controlled city of Jerusalem. The idea was rejected by the Arab League's member countries due to the partition's uneven distribution of territory among the respective populations of each nation. The State of Israel was established formally, nevertheless, upon the termination of the British Mandate in Palestine.

### **Main Confrontations of the Arab-Israeli Conflict**

Egypt, Transjordan, Syria, Libya, and Iraq started going after the recently framed state around the same time that the Province of Israel was laid out on Palestinian area and the English pulled out their troopers from Palestine. This started the 1948-1949 Bedouin Israeli Conflict, which finished with Israel's triumph over the Middle Easterner nations. As hence, the recently shaped Province of Israel seized 78% of the previous Palestinian domain, instead of the UN's proposed 55%. The principal aftereffect of this previously equipped fight was the broad mass migration of the Middle Easterner occupants from the boundaries of the recently settled Province of Israel, and their possible settlement as evacuees in adjoining nations.

The Territory of Israel then, at that point, went facing its neighbors in the next many years, with the Suez Emergency (1956), the Six-Day War (1967), and the Middle Easterner Israeli Conflict (1973). Accordingly, the banished Bedouin Palestinians started their own work to retake the districts. It before long became apparent that the Palestine Freedom Association (PLO) was the main association battling for the privileges of banished Palestinians. The nonaggression treaty that Egypt and Israel endorsed in 1978 and 1979, as well as the Camp David Accords, set the lines between the two nations. Moreover, Israel returned previously obtained domain. The "Main Intifada" was a rush of showings that the Palestinian people group in the West Bank and Gaza Strip began in the last part of the 1980s contrary to the developing Jewish pilgrims' property occupation. Through the Oslo Accords, the PLO and the Territory of Israel marked a ceasefire in 1993. With the assistance of these agreements, the Palestinian Public Power — which in 2013 changed its name to the Territory of Palestine — turned into the new Middle Easterner association answerable for administering the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Regardless, disagreements about domain and individuals' freedoms are as yet a consequence of the continuous threats between the two nations.(Gayubas, 2024)

## **Islamic Revolution in Iran 1979**



**Ayatollah Khomeini gained political power after the Iranian Revolution toppled the Shah of Iran.**

After five months of brutally suppressing protests, an Islamic revolution led by the Iranian clergy overthrew the pro-Western Shah monarchy in 1979. Ayatollah Khomeini, the most influential member of the Shiite clergy, came to prominence and established a theocratic regime based on the Shiites' most literal interpretation of Islam. Islamism, a collection of political-religious movements aiming at bringing politics under the control of Islamic principles, gained impetus from the success of the Iranian revolution. Conflicts with other Muslim groups or Middle Eastern governments resulted from the radicalization of these movements, sometimes known as Islamic fundamentalism or integralism. Even while Islamism first emerged in the first part of the 20th century, its globalization and the atrocities carried out by its more extreme factions, such as Al Qaeda, came to define the international scene of the latter half of the century.

### **What Happened after Iran's Revolution?**

Another Islamic Republic of Iran was laid out when the shah was brought down in an upset in 1979. The head of the transformation, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, introduced a new perspective that basically safeguarded Islam and advanced opposition against "haughty" unfamiliar powers and their provincial partners who might rebuff others, especially Palestinians, to additional their own objectives. In this way, Israel became referred to in Iran as the "Little Satan" contrary to the US, which is viewed as the "Incomparable Satan". Tehran slice all connections to Israel; residents were taboo from leaving the country; flying lines were shut; and the Israeli consulate in Tehran was renamed the Palestinian government office. Moreover, Khomeini requested that Quds Day be respected on the last Friday of the Muslim heavenly month of Ramadan. From that point forward, that day has been set apart by enormous scope supportive of Palestinian shows all through Iran. Jerusalem is alluded to in Arabic as Al-Quds. As per Trita Parsi, leader VP of the



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Quincy Foundation for Dependable Statecraft, who talked with Al Jazeera, Khomeini attempted to keep the Palestinian issue from being outlined as a Bedouin patriot cause. This was finished to permit Iran to have the option to lead the Palestinian reason. "To exhibit its authority in the Islamic world and to put Middle Easterner systems aligned with the US on edge, Iran embraced a considerably more forceful situation on the Palestinian issue to defeat both the Bedouin Persian separation and the Sunni-Shia partition," said he.

Over the years, the rivalry intensified as each side aimed to establish and expand their dominance and sway throughout the area. These days, Iran backs a network of military and political organizations known as the "resistance axis" that promotes the Palestinian cause and sees Israel as a key adversary in a number of the region's nations, including Yemen, Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq. Israel has supported a number of organizations throughout the years that are vehemently opposed to the Iranian leadership. Tehran claims that several of the groups involved have been designated as "terrorist" organizations. These include the European-based Mojahedin-e Khalq (MEK), Sunni organizations in the southeast Iranian province of Sistan and Baluchistan, and Kurdish armed groups situated in Iraqi Kurdistan.

### **The Path to October 7: How Iran Built Up and Managed a Palestinian' Axis of Resistance**

Targets in southern Israel were hit by a barrage of between 2,000 and 5,000 rockets fired from the Gaza Strip early on October 7, 2023. After breaches in Israel's much-heralded border fence, gunmen in trucks, motorcycles, and technical as well as armed motorized paragliders began firing at civilian and military objectives. Further spots around Israel's coastline were attacked by small boats and diving enthusiasts.<sup>3</sup> Over 240 Israelis were taken prisoner, 3,500 were injured, and about 1,200 Israelis were killed.<sup>4</sup> There were multiple reports of rape, beheadings, and torture. Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) and Hamas members made up the majority of the fighters that crossed into Israel, but gunmen from other smaller Palestinian organizations also joined them. Many observers inside and outside the government were shocked by the extent, ferocity, and boldness of the strikes as well as the weaponry employed, which demonstrated a degree of preparation, devastation, and proficiency. The assailants' deep political, military, and financial ties to the Islamic Republic of Iran were one thing that brought them all together. This essay will explain how Tehran carefully cultivated and oversaw a Palestinian "Axis of Resistance" for many years, leading to these linkages (SMYTH, 2023).

Ayatollah Khomeini, the late supreme leader of Iran, has the destruction of Israel as one of his main goals, along with furthering the Islamic Revolution. It is accurate to say that following the overthrow of Iran's Shah, Yasir Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), was welcomed by Khomeini to Iran and granted permission to take up residence in the former Israeli

embassy. After Khomeini took command and the Islamic Revolution was well established, Arafat himself told an Iranian assembly that "the road to Palestine now leads through Iran." Since then, Tehran has been committed to eliminating Israel. Iran does not now have the conventional military might to take Israel on directly. While providing Tehran with an asymmetrical way of striking or exerting pressure on Israel, proxy forces have allowed Iran to retain a certain amount of plausible deniability. Moreover, Iranian Islamist doctrine has been able to proliferate because to Iran's establishment of proxy armies. Furthermore, Iran "does not exercise any form of control over these factions or their leadership, but they Iran have always been openly adopting and supporting resistance factions in Lebanon, Palestine, and the region," according to Nasrallah's statement on November 3. It is not appropriate to take this statement at face value. Iran, as this essay will explain, has made numerous attempts over the years to retain power and influence over the so-called "Axis of Resistance." Although it hasn't always been successful in persuading organizations to follow its lead, it has always retained a sizable amount of influence over its network.

## **Conclusion**

Iran's leadership is satisfied, for the time being at least, to allow its proxy militias around the Middle East carry out the tasks for which Iran has been giving funds and weaponry, while simultaneously pursuing its nuclear goals and looking for a successor to Ali Khamenei. The fact that Israel has been charged with war crimes and that Israel's efforts to normalize relations with Saudi Arabia have been severely hampered—the latter of which has the added benefit of undermining Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman of Saudi Arabia's hopes of turning his nation into a regional economic superpower—are probably sufficient for Iran for the time being. In an effort to gain control over the area and make up for its weaknesses, Iran has also been working on building nuclear weapons, which would place it ahead of Saudi Arabia and on par with Israel and Pakistan. Although Iran hasn't developed a bomb yet, the country has been coming closer as the world's attention has been drawn to the battles in Gaza and Ukraine. Ali Khamenei is unlikely to be willing to risk the successful creation of a nuclear bomb at a time when it is almost ready to launch a strike on Iran's nuclear facilities with a careless deed.

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