

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Question:

What are the main obstacles preventing a lasting resolution to the Israel-Palestine conflict, and what steps could be taken to overcome them?

Answer:

### Enigma of Israel-Palestine Conflict and Possible Solutions:-

" Hamas has did not attack Israel in vacuum," says Antonio Guterres, UN secretary General.

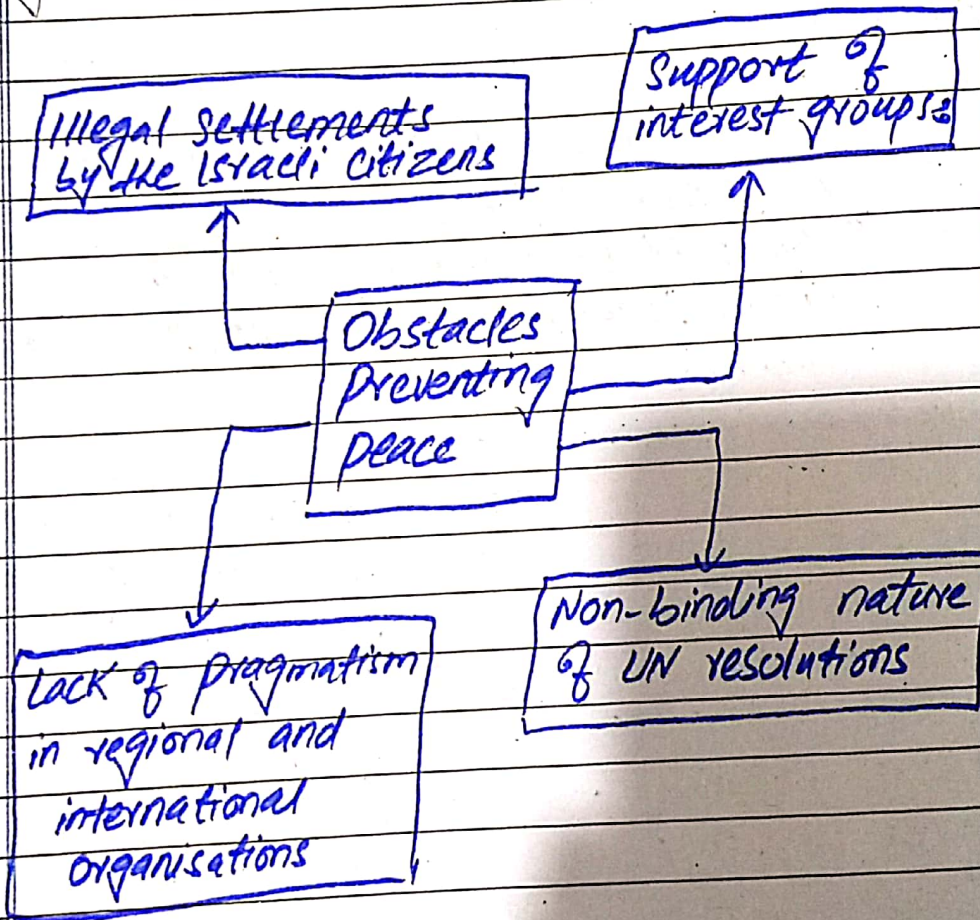
The recent attack by Hamas on October of 2023 on Israel has led the developments to a turning point. This attack has made the prospects of a peaceful resolution to the long-standing territorial conflict gloomy. However, if rational steps are taken and if self-interested decisions of interest groups are not repeated then possibly the innocent civilians, especially Palestinians can see a dawn of a new beginning in <sup>with</sup> their acknowledged rights by Israel.

### Obstacles Preventing Permanent Solution to Israel-Palestine Conflict:

Ever since the issue of state got emerged, with Israel illegally annexing the living-lands of Palestinians, wars and riots have taken place. It would not be surprising

DATE: 1/1

to say that mistakes committed in the past and interests of individual countries are fuelling this long-standing war. Some of the obstacles preventing peaceful resolution to the Israel-Palestine conflicts are given below.



i) **Illegal settlements by the Israeli citizens:**  
Utter disregard to the peaceful resolution:

Since the influx of the Jewish people into the Palestinian land, they are illegally annexing or occupying the territories of Palestinian people. For instance, in 1948 UN offered a two-state solution for Israel Palestine. In that solution, cities coming down the

Jerusalem would become part of Palestine. Cities coming above Jerusalem would become part of Israel. While, Jerusalem would come under the patronage of United Nations, as an international place. However, time and again Israel has inflicted oppression on the innocent civilians by taking their houses illegally. Resultantly, a continuous bout of conflicts have been there for decades.

### ii) Support of Interest groups: A Proxy Battleground

Another major obstacle is the relentless support by Israel for decades by the interest groups, who if exert pressure on Israel can make them stick to the UN resolution of peaceful settlement. United States has always supported its hardcore ally, the Israel, in the middle-east. On the other hand, Iran which is arch-rival of Israel is supporting different militant groups working against Israel and United States. Actually, the war is between Iran and United States. Thus, it seems that Israel and Palestine are used as a pawns by these countries.

### iii) Non-binding Nature of UN:

The UN was established after WWII to settle bilateral disputes in a peaceful manner, and by averting larger conflagration. However, the UN, too, has several loopholes. First, it has a non-binding nature. This means it can only suggest solutions. It can

force countries to implement those solutions).  
 Second, its Security Council is overshadowed by the west. All of these countries are major supporters of Israel. Hence, until and unless UN brings changes in its working and structure, conflicts would prevail. Like the one between Pakistan and India over Kashmir.

#### iv) Lack of Pragmatism in Regional Organisations: SCO and ICO:

Regional organisations are made to resolve regional issues pertaining to politics, economy and other problems. However, the regional organisations like the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) and Islamic Cooperation Organisation (OIC) have failed to play their roles. They could exert political and economic pressures on Israel to follow the international law.

#### The Arab League and OIC:

Palestine is an Arab country. However, the Arab League have failed to do pragmatic endeavours for their Muslim brethren.

Their own economic goals hinders the prospects of doing something for their Muslim brethren suffering in Palestine.

Similarly, OIC has not come up with a unanimous resolution to pressure Palestine, Israel and United States for the peaceful resolution of conflict.

Resultantly, Palestinians are suffering.

## Possible Solutions to Materialise the Two-States So Solutions:

### i) Reforms in the United Nations Structure:

United Nations has become a place for discussing issues but has failed to deliver on the reason for its existence. Therefore, it needs to change for following changes in order to ensure an end to the long-standing conflicts.

#### a) Reforms in UNSC:

The powerful organ of UN is UNSC. However, this organ is futile. This is because, veto by any one country hinders the implementation of a peaceful resolution. For instance, Russia offered a draft resolution in which some of the countries including non-permanent members did not vote or reject the resolution. While, US which is one of the five permanent members vetoed the resolution. Hence, as per rule that resolution became futile. ~~There~~

Therefore, instead of veto, voting should be based on 2/3rd majority - out of 15 members.

#### b) Binding Nature of UN:

UN resolutions should be binding in nature. This means, member countries would have to implement the resolutions, otherwise, they would face sanctions.

ii) Role of OIC and Arab League:

Both of these organisations are comprising of muslim countries. However, they are facing disunity and lack of uniformity in protecting and providing the oppressed muslim country its due rights. The Arab league and its member countries are busy in securing economic deals and security pacts with the west and Israel. They are the world richest energy producing countries. If they sanctions, the west and cut off all kind of relations with Israel. This would put pressure on them and they would go for two state solutions.

iii) Conciliatory Efforts of Leading power:

Unfortunately, the leading economic powers are at loggerheads. They, if want, can resolve this bilateral conflict. However, it seem that for them the continuation of this war is more beneficial. US despite knowing who is at fault, is not advocating Israel for its wrongs.

Moreover, China and us needs to play their role, which is expected of them. This is because, if not curtailed right now, this war may convert into world war III between Muslims and the west.

iv) Resolution of Jerusalem: A solution for every problem:

Jerusalem has a significance for Muslims,

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Jews and Christians. Hence, it is a place from where every conflict emanates. Therefore, UN should deploy its Green peace forces. It should take over this place by making it an international place. Thus, both Jews and Palestinians could worship under the aegis of UN forces, without any conflict.

Solution:

Conclusion:

"As it is said, the elderly starts the way and the young bears the consequences." Thus, it is a high time that the world learns from the history. It needs to follow the right course of actions in order to save the precious lives of innocent civilians. UN needs reforms and the world leaders, by putting aside their differences, need to work for the materialization of the two state solutions. Otherwise, this way may spread to other regions, like it has started spreading as it is evident from the conflicts in the Red sea between Yemen forces and USA and the UK.