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Jazakullah Kair

The role of the United Nations in resolving the Palestine issue.

Outline:

1. Introduction:

Thesis statement: The United Nations has been playing tremendous roles in resolving the Palestine issue since 1947. The UN has encouraged the nations to recognize the state of Palestine, rejected the spread of illegal settlement, proposed ceasefire, and so forth.

2. Overview of Palestine issue:

2.1 The role of the UN in resolving Palestine issue:

3.1 Recognising the state of Palestine

A case in point: UNGA 2012

3.2 Illegal settlement is being rejected by UN

A case study of UNGA Resolution on illegal settlement

3.3 Achieving ceasefire in Palestine

Three Phases Ceasefire Proposal

3.4 Peace processes are being facilitated by UN

Oslo Accord 1993

3.5 Investigating the violation of human right

UNHRC

4. Challenges to the UN in resolving the Palestine issue:

4.1 Veto power is being used to block resolutions

Israeli lobby and U.S Foreign Policy

4.2 Non-binding resolutions

A case in point: UNGA

4.3 major powers competition have influenced the United Nations

Russia, USA and China

4.4 Alliances among nations have made U.N powerless

5. Future prospects of the UN in the context of Palestine issue:

5.1 Reforms in the United Nations

A case in point: UNSC

5.2 Two state solution

"Palestine-Israel a peace or Apartheid" by Mervin Dymally

5.3 Respecting international law

A case study of Rome Statute principles

5.4 Achieving normalisation among Israel and Muslim world

6. Conclusion

The Essay

Edward w Said ascribed in his book "A Question of Palestine" that the international organizations such as U.N, OIC and EU have played enormous roles to halt aggressions in the Middle East. According to Edward w. Said that if international organization, the U.N had not established, the world would have been vanquished by the aggressive nations. Undoubtedly, same is the case with the Palestine issue. The United Nations has been playing tremendous roles in resolving the Palestine issue. The United Nations has encouraged the nations to recognize the state of Palestine, rejected the spread of illegal settlement and addressed the need of ceasefire. Moreover, the United Nations has facilitated peace processes among Palestine and Israel. There are also numerous challenges for the United Nations in resolving the Palestine issue. These challenges are the usage of veto power, global alliances, non-binding resolutions of the United Nations and major powers competition. There also exists solutions and prospects to the issues of U.N. Therefore, the United Nations has been play enormous roles in resolving the Palestine issue.

To begin with overview of the Palestine issue, the Palestine issue is based on several factors. According to Giden's book "A Punishment of Gaza" that Palestine issue is based religious features and territorial concerns. The issue erupted after the **UN Partition Plan 1947**. The first Nakba (Catastrophe) was erupted in the shape of Israeli violence against Arab natives of historical Palestine. The Palestine issue has been fuelled by numerous players on the name of democracy and religion. Finally, the Palestine issue despite international struggles emerged as a unending bloody series of genocide.

After having the bird's eye view of the Palestine chapter. The following passages are going to shed up light on the role of the United Nations.

United Nations' role to recognize the state of Palestine. The United Nations General Assembly encouraged the member states to recognize Palestine. The **UNGA** in **2012** granted the Observer status to the Palestine. Moreover, the United Nations has passed resolution in **2024** which calls on the nations to recognize Palestine. The United Nations believes in the two state solutions. According to **International Crisis Group (ICG)** that the U.N has been trying to achieve the

perspective of two state solution. Thus, the United Nations has been playing profound roles in resolving the Palestine issue through two state concept.

Besides, the United Nations has rejected the spread of illegal settlements. The United Nations General Assembly passed "**Resolution on illegal Settlements 2024**". This resolution was passed after concerning the **International Court of Justice's** advisory opinion. The United Nations proposed that peace is unachievable until the elimination of illegal settlement. The settlement has reached to **West Bank and Jerusalem**. The United Nations General Assembly has convinced the member states to consider the boundaries of Palestine according to **1967** border lines. Therefore, the UN is trying to halt the Palestine issue.

Additionally, the United Nations has been trying to achieve ceasefire between Hamas and Israel. The United Nations has also proposed the **U.S based "Three Phases Ceasefire"**. This proposal aims to halt the current issue through three phases. The first prisoners deal, the second withdrawal of troops from Gaza and the third phase is based on the reconstruction of Gaza. The United Nations fully backs the U.S based proposal. Thus, the United Nations is playing profound roles to achieve the peace among Palestinians and Israelis.

Furthermore, peace processes are being facilitated by the United Nations. The United Nations has facilitated peace processes such as Oslo Accords 1993, Madrid Conference and David Camp Agreement. According to the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) the United Nations has always tried to halt the Palestine issue through peace processes. In nutshell, the United Nations has been facilitating peace processes to achieve peace.

Similarly, the United Nations has been addressing the rights violation of individuals in the ongoing conflict. The United Nations Human Rights Commission has been investigating the violation of human rights. According to Reuters Report on "UN Investigation of War Crimes" the UNHRC has submitted numerous reports to UNSC about the war crimes of Israel. The United Nations has been giving messages to the world about the loss of lives. Thus, the United Nations has been trying to halt the issue of Palestine through investigation.

After having a bird's eye view, of the role of the United Nations. The following passages are going to shed up light on the challenges of U.N in the context of Palestine issue.

The first and foremost challenge to the United Nations in the context of Palestine is the usage of veto. The P-5 nations of the United Nations Security Council have the provision to use veto vote against resolutions which harm the national interests. According to John Meahershemir, an author of "Israeli lobby and U.S Foreign Policy" the U.S is the only country which has been using vetos for the favor of Israel. The United Nations' numerous resolutions such as **considering and granting full membership of Palestine in UNSC** and achieving peace are being vetoed. Therefore, veto power is a challenge to the United Nations in the context of Palestine.

Non-binding resolutions of the United Nations make the organization powerless. According to **New York Times** interviewed with the Chief of the U.N. The resolutions of UNGA have been always considered by the nations weak and flawed. The resolutions of the UNGA are non-binding. This is the case that U.N has never fully resolved the issue of Palestine. Thus, non-binding resolutions are challenge to the U.N.

Major global powers have influenced the United Nations. Global powers such as **Russia, China and the U.S.A** have influenced the decision making in the United States. The global powers have always created hurdles to the United Nations objectives. The global powers have been blocking resolutions in the UNSC and UNSC for the sake of national interests. Thus, the competition among major powers has created challenges to the United Nations.

Also, the alliances among the nations have made the United Nations powerless. Major global powers who capture seats in the United Nations Security Council. The global powers serve the interest of alliances. According to Reuters in 2024, the **United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 2728** on the ceasefire in Gaza. This resolution was not implemented by the U.S along with other powers. Thus, alliances are creating challenge to the U.N.

After having a bird's eye view of the challenges to the UN. The following passages throw light on the prospects in the context of Palestine issue.

The future prospect in the Palestine issue is to reform the UNSC. The issue of Palestine will not be solved through the traditional nature of the United Nations. The issue of Palestine will be halted through the reformation of UNSC. The democratic nature of the UNSC will enable the United Nations to halt the Palestine issue. Thus, the future prospect of the success of the United Nations is associated with the reformation of UNSC.

Two states solution through the United Nations. Marwan Bashra described in his book "Palestine v.s Israel: A Peace or Apartheid" that two state solution will be achieved after taking P.O.S in confidence. Marwan Bashra also described that two state solution is associated with reforms of the UNSC. Thus, the future prospect of two state solution is dependent on the effectiveness of the United Nations.

Respecting international law can enable the U.N to function tremendously on the issue of Palestine. The international humanitarian law is based on **The Rome Statute Principles**, the nations of the world must respect the principles. The violator states and non-state actors must be held accountable. This will enable the United Nations not only solve the Palestine issue but also others. Thus, the Palestine issue will be halted.

The United Nations' role to normalise ties among muslims nation states and the state of Israel. The Palestine will be solved through the normalization process of UN. The United Nations should bring closer to muslim world. The international community should convince Israel that without the independent state of Palestine, The world will never live with peace. Thus, the United Nations will achieve peace.

In short, the United Nations has been playing an enormous role in resolving the Palestine issue. The United Nations has given huge efforts to halt the issue of Palestine. Although, the United Nations has been facing giant challenges in the context of Palestine issue. The United Nations has proposed every strategy to solve the issue of Palestine. The most painful challenges on the way of the success are nothing to the U.N.

"There is new hope, there will be a new day and there is peace for every individual" said, the Secretary General of the United Nations. There is no doubt that the United Nations has been playing tremendous roles in the resolution of Palestine issue.
