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Palestine Conflict is a long-standing one on the United Nation Table. Discuss its recent escalation since 2023 and critically assess the big powers' reaction to it?

### Introduction:

The conflict between Israel and Hamas have been started in **oct-2023**. This conflict has far-reaching implications on **regional stability, geo-economic and geo-political stability**. Moreover, this escalation has exposed the **double standard** of Western bloc politics. Additionally, this recent development engendered a gap between **Muslim countries** and **Global North**.

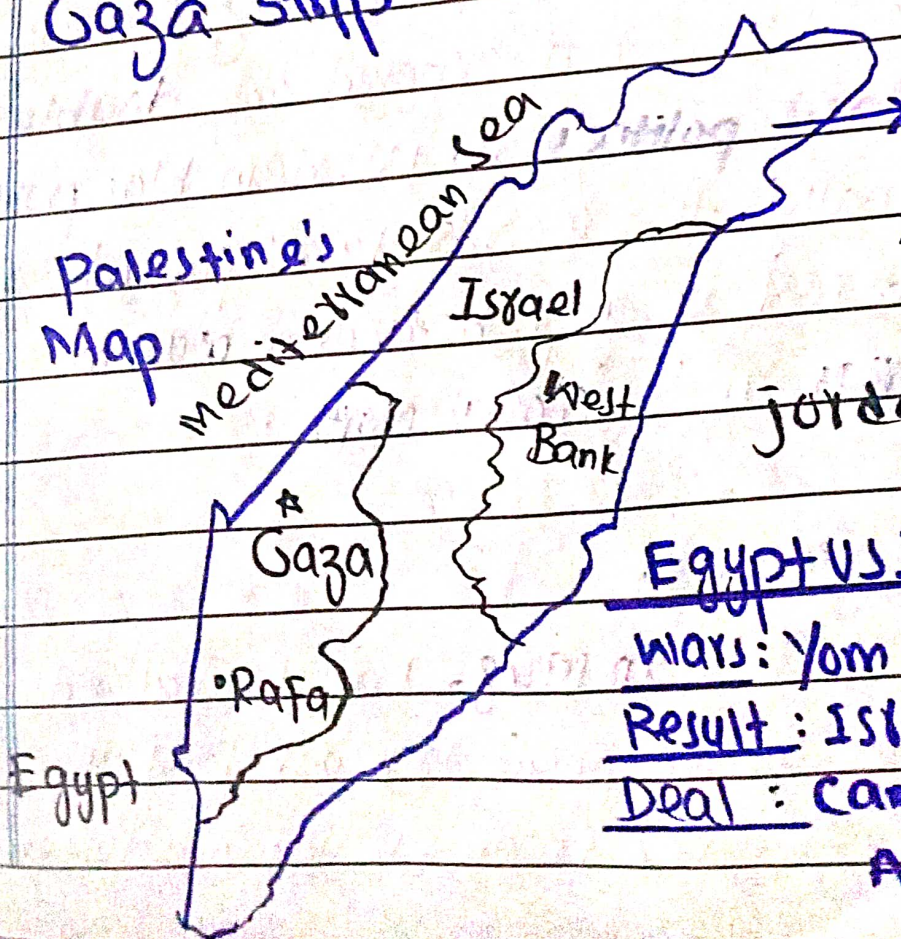
### Background:

In 1948, Israel announced itself as an independent Jewish land. This announcement led to an escalation between Arab

countries and Israel, leading to major wars including **Yom Kippur War, Arab-Israel War and Seven days War.**

Notably, in each war Israel captured a large area of Palestine, Egypt and Jordan. Moreover, after each war Israel has increased its oppression on the residents of Palestine, and has been increased the illegal Israeli settlements in the **West Bank**. However, in recent developments, the government is trying to increase its expansion towards **Gaza strip.**

### Gaza strip.



### Israel Recent Escalation Reason

- 1: Military Expansion
- 2: Territorial Expansion
- 3: Economic Expansion

### Egypt vs Israel

Wars: Yom Kippur  
Result: Israel won  
Deal: Camp David Accord

# Recent Developments After the Attack of Hamas on Israel:

## Israel Response

Death toll in Gaza  
soared to 34,097

Number  
of Palestinians  
Killed  
34,097

← since Oct. 7

Number of  
Injured  
76,980

At least  
14,685  
children

At least  
9,670  
women

Source: Health Ministry of Gaza

1.9  
Million  
Population

→ Displaced

63%  
of Buildings

→ Damaged

Source: Palestine  
Health Ministry

## Recent Development Aftermaths

### 1. Humanitarian Crisis:

Israel ongoing oppression has led to humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Also, Israel's government is not allowing <sup>the</sup> international aid to Palestinian people, violating the **Geneva Convention** rules and regulation. As a result, a mass level distraction has been manifesting in Gaza strip. Nevertheless, Israel has been violating the international law. However, the major power is still silent. As according to them, the attack of Israel is for self defence.

## 2- Women Rights violation:

The so called western media has always highlighted the rights of women. However, in the recent escalation the western media is completely out of the sight. As the Israeli Army is abusing the women rights through killing and sexually abusing them.

This development showcases the double face of the western media on human rights.

## 3- Environmental Issues:

The ongoing escalation has far-reaching implications on <sup>living</sup> environment. HAS it been manifested that Israeli Army is attacking and targeting the **olive trees in Palestine** and using lethal weapons, which are harmful for biodiversity. Hence, this escalation has the potential to degrade the environment further.

# Big Powers Reaction On Recent Developments

## 1: UN Security Council:

The recent development in Gaza exposed the double standards of the UN. Additionally, it exposed that the UN Council is function on the interest of one particular power the **USA**. As a ceasefire agreement was proposed in the UN Council. However, this proposal was rejected by the US through veto power. As a result, a number of countries especially the muslim countries including **Iran** criticized the decision of the US over the ceasefire.

## 2: The Role of USA :

Escalation in Gaza highlighted the double image of the USA. As USA openly supported the escalation of Israel through aid and weapons. For instance, the USA approved \$50 bn from the congress for Israel. Additionally, \$3.8 bn for military aid.

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Furthermore, to protect Israel from the  
Iran's aggression. The US send  
**warship vessels** to deter the aggression  
of Iran towards Israel. These incidents  
showcase the role of the USA in the  
recent escalation and highlights  
how much USA is interested in cease-

fire agreement between Israel and Hamas.

### Current Development: Role of the USA

Recent proposal of Ceasefire  
was bring by the US in Security  
Council.

### 3 Phase Plan

- 1: **Five**
  - cease fire
  - quick Humanitarian Funds
  - Hostage release
- 2:
  - withdrawal of the Israeli Army
  - permanent end to hostilities
- 3:
  - multi year reconstruction plan
  - gaza territory remain same

### 3: Decision of the ICJ :

**South Africa** filed a petition against the ongoing 'oppression' of the Israeli Army in Gaza and Rafah. According to the **South Africa**, the ongoing escalation is against the international law and humanitarian law. Therefore, the ICJ should announce its verdict against the Israeli government escalation in Gaza.

**Therefore, the ICJ announced** its verdict that the ongoing humanitarian crisis and blockade of aid is against international norms and orders. Therefore it is high time for the Israel to open the gate for aid and stop and restore the conflict through table talk and peace agreements.

### 4: Reaction of OIC on Recent Developments

The OIC condemned the recent escalation in the Gaza. Moreover, the muslim countries, such as, **UAE, Egypt, Bahrain** have called their ambassadors from the 'Israeli' Embassy.



Furthermore, the recent development between  
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**Israel - Saudi** relations have also  
manifested a setback. Additionally,  
the muslim countries have pressurized  
the multipolar world to normalize  
the escalation and pressurize the  
Israel for the quick withdrawal from the  
Gaza strip.

## Recent Escalation in Lens of Theoretical Framework

The recent escalation  
of Israeli army in Gaza is perfectly  
explained in the lens of **realism**.

According to this theory, the state man,  
is egoistic, uncooperative and always  
prefer its self interest. The same implies  
in Israel's case, the Israeli government  
prefer its self interest over the lives  
of innocent peoples. As the ultimate  
objective of the Israel is to  
maximize its military power, territorial  
power and achieve its **strategic interest**

# Critical Analysis :

All the developments in Gaza including the ~~uncontrolled~~ uncontrolled massacre of Palestinian people showcases the double standards west politics. The role of the major powers like the US and the role of the Muslim nations. These all development showcases that the justice system of the world is controlled by a single country. The decision of the UN is based on the vested interest of the Western nations. And the Muslim nations are weak that they are unable to resolve the ongoing escalation through diplomacy and pressure. These all cases highlight that the ICJ, UN Security Council, ICJ and multipolar countries are working for their own self interest. There is no rule of law for powerful countries. The Humanitarian laws and Geneva convention are <sup>only</sup> good in books.

# Conclusion:

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The ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas have been aggravating the humanitarian crisis, environmental and women right crisis respectively. Moreover, this escalation has highlighted the double standards of the major institutions and major global powers. Furthermore, this development has raised a number of questions on the muslims leading countries and <sup>on the role of</sup> OTC. However, beside these all issues, it is high time for the world to stop the Israeli genocide in Gaza. Moreover, the UN Security Council should come out from the vested interest of the US and other powers and should play its critical role in this time. This can be done through pressurizing Israeli army to withdrawal from the Gaza. Also, resolving the issue through peace settlement. As it is the motto of the UN "This world belongs to all".