

Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Palestine conflict is a long-standing one on UN table. Discuss its recent escalation since Oct 2023 and critically assess the big powers reaction.**

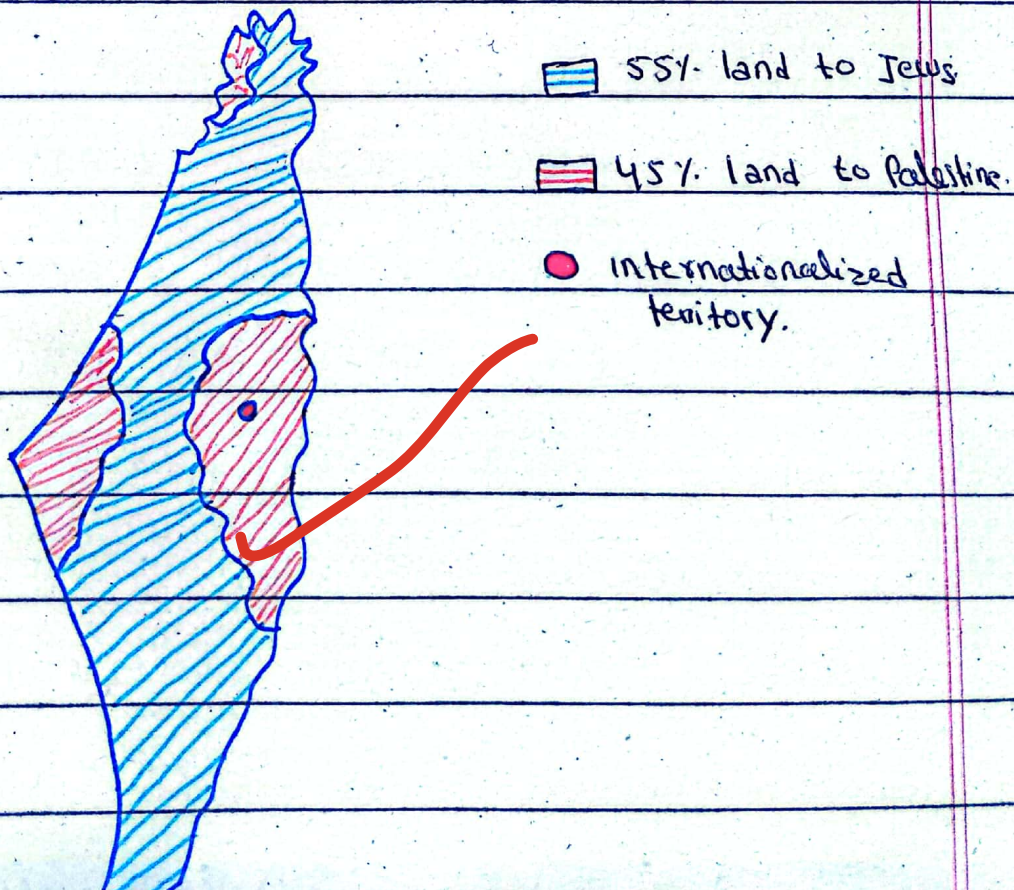
## **Introduction:**

Palestine conflict is deeply rooted in the Balfour declaration, Migration of Jews in Palestinian territory, The Nakba, occupation of East Jerusalem and West Bank, United Nation Partition plan, and Jews violation of this plan. The recent escalation started on 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 with the Hamas' surprised attack on Israel and Israel's retaliation. This escalation resulted into widespread war and casualties. US and UK supported Israel's defense right while China, Russia and Muslim states supported Palestinians and two-state solution for conflict.



## A brief history of Palestine conflict and role of UN:

The conflict started when Jews migrated into Palestinian territory and started attacking on Palestinian and establishing their settlements. United Nation gave partition plan by dividing Palestinian territory into Arab and Jews state and declared Jerusalem an internationalized territory.





The Zionism emerged as a Political ideology and demanded separated homeland for Jews. In 1948 it declared itself a state and 750,000 Palestinian were ethnically cleansed. This exodus of people was marked as Nakba. Jerusalem was divided into West Jerusalem that was in control of Jews and East Jerusalem that was in control of Palestine. But in 1967 Israel attacked and captured East Jerusalem and West Bank.

"300,000 Palestinian were displaced in six-day war of 1967." Source: Aljazeera.

Further, the Israel took control over Gaza Strip since 2007, to the till when they fully blockade Gaza strip on 9 October and recent escalation started.



## Recent escalation between Israel and Palestine:

Recent escalation between Israel and Palestine started on 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 with Hamas surprised attack on Israel that killed 1200 Israelis. In return Israel retaliate with airstrike and ground operation.

"Israel's attack on Palestine killed 46000 Palestinians."

Source: UN office of Humanitarian Affairs.  
Israel fully blocked Gaza strip on 9<sup>th</sup> October that hindered the supply of food, health, water, and fuel.

## War Crimes Conducted by Israel:

i) War crimes conducted by Israel include:

i) Indiscriminate killing of civilians.

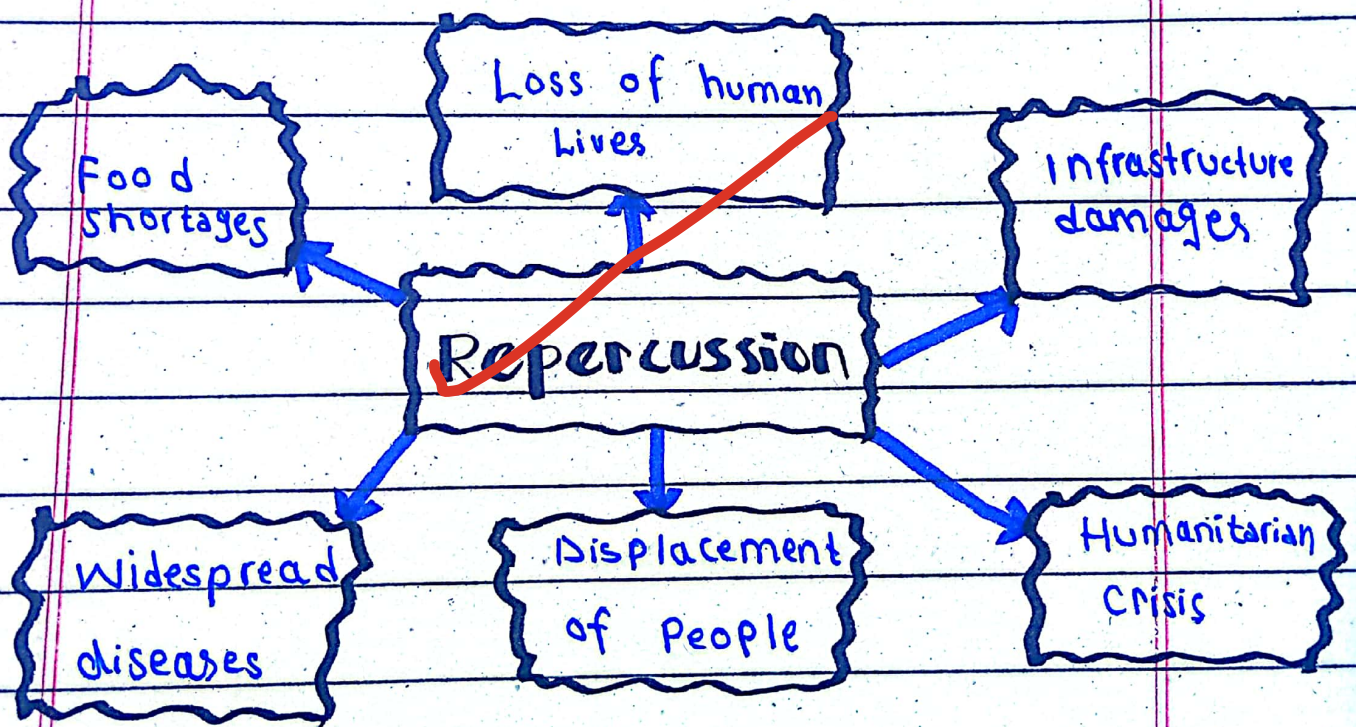


ii) Suppression of Humanitarian aid to Gaza.

iii) Blockade of food, water, and supply of medicines.

## Repercussions of conflict:

Widespread repercussions of recent escalations are:



i) Loss of human lives:

Indiscriminate killing

resulted into the deaths of women, men, and children.

"350 aid workers also died according



to International Rescue Committee (IRC)."

## ii) Infrastructure damages:

The escalation resulted into widespread destruction of schools, hospitals, and Residential buildings.

## iii) Food insecurity:

The blockade of supply of food, water, and fuel resulted into food insecurity.

"The Famine Review committee warned that famine is imminent."

## iv) Widespread diseases:

Due to the lack of water and clean water there is widespread diseases among the children and old aged people. source: IRC

## v) Displacement of People:

According to the IRC,



there is widespread displacement of people in search of shelter.

#### vi) Humanitarian crisis:

The war resulted into the humanitarian crisis through the violation of basic human rights. Source: INTR Rescue Committee.

### Critical evaluation of reaction of big power:

Reaction of big powers to the recent escalation can be observed through the lens of real Politik.

be specific with your headings. what was the reaction???

#### i) Reaction of US and UK:

United states and UK condemned the attacks of Hamas and turned it as terrorist attack. The supported the Israel's right of self-defense. The



US support to Israel is due to the presence of strong lobby of Israel in USA. Moreover, the economic interest of USA is also linked with the continuation of war. This is because of the weapons supplies to the Israel.

## ii) Reaction of China and Russia:

China and Russia both criticized the Israel's attack on Palestine. They both called for immediate cease fire and two state solution for the Israel and Palestine. Their reaction can also be observed through the lense of real politik as both countries wanted to increase their influence in the Middle East.

## iii) Reaction of Saudi Arabia and Iran:

Saudi Arabia



called for immediate cease fire and two-state solution for the conflict resolution. Iran also supported Palestine and facilitated Hamas with weapons against Israel.

add and highlight references/examples against these arguments.

#### iv) Reaction of India:

India supported the Israel right of self-defense and termed the Hamas' attack as terrorist attack.

#### v) Reaction of Pakistan:

Pakistan called for immediate ceasefire and a two-state solution as proposed by UN. It termed Israel war crime in the Gaza strip as Genocide and called international community support for the people of Palestine.



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## Conclusion:

In a nutshell, Palestine conflict is a long-standing one on UN table with no practical measures for its solution. Recent escalation causes widespread humanitarian crisis and big powers reacted to this keeping in view of their interests.