

QUESTION 2

Critically evaluate the chances of continuations and expansion of Hamas - Israel war across the region.

QUESTION 3

UNGA passed a resolution in favor of two state solution. Three EU states also recognized Palestine as sovereign state. Critically evaluate the chances of two state solution or do you think Israel would continue as an apartheid state.

ANS 2

1) Introduction:-

Started with the Hamas attacks on Israel, on Oct 7, 2024, Israel's assaults on Gaza continued unabated.



Israel has not left any place or any individual to be left with in Gaza. More than half of all the casualties were accounted of women, and children. Israel has continued its assault on its neighbouring countries like Hezbollah and now it is targeting Syria's military installations. It is doing so with the help of active diplomatic, financial and military support of the US, which continue to provide him with all the means necessary to continue and expand the war.

- 2) Several flashpoints where Israel is engaged with its opposition groups
- 1) Fighting against Hezbollah in Lebanon
  - 2) Fighting against Houthis in Yemen
  - 3) Fighting against pro-Assad fighters in Syria.



4) Fighting against Iranian other groups located both in Iran, and Iraq.

3) Chances of continuation of Hamas-Israel war

3.1) On-going ceasefire efforts.

There, for the last many months, are efforts backed by the USA due to the repeated calls of international bodies like UN, OIC and countries like Arab countries, and public protests. However, due to one or other reason Qatar-mediate ceasefire has not been agreed by the warring parties.

3.2) Israel's objective of the destruction of Hamas

It's one of the



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objective of Israel's military operation against Hamas to completely dismantle it. For this he is completely destroying the Gaza's infrastructure and doing ethnic cleansing.

3.3) Difficult for Israel to completely destroy Hamas

Israel has so far been able to eliminate the Hamas fighters and its top notch leadership, however, owing to Hamas capability of ~~doing~~<sup>operating</sup> covertly, it would be difficult for Israel to achieve this objective. Further, the ~~use~~ and tunnels infrastructure makes Israel efforts more difficult.

3.4) Israel's public opinion favours the continuation of war



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Both the government officials, authorities and Israeli public wants Israel to fight against Gaza, till the complete destruction of Hamas and return of hostages.

3.5) US arms, diplomatic and economic support is flowing unabatedly and unconditionally

US, since Israel has provided \$260bn unconditional, and without any scrutiny aid to the state of Israel. Since Obama administration, it provides \$3.8 bn to Israel per year. Similarly, it has also provided modern, with high-tech air fighter planes and assisted in making Iron dome, an anti-missile system. Further, if US doesn't vetoed many resolutions for stopping the war in UNSC,



the war may have stopped long time before. As Arundhati Roy said "If US stopped Israel's backing, the Gaza war would ~~soon~~ end immediately."

Source:- EOS, the wound that is Palestine, Norway

3.6) Domestic problems faced by Israel's premier favours to continue the war.

Israel's premier, Benjamin Netanyahu, a convicted war criminal declared by ICC, has been facing with corruption charges and row with judiciary. If the war ends now, it would again put them in public scrutiny and would cast their government.



#### 4) Chances of expansion

##### 4.1) Ceasefire in Lebanon, a strategic reset or otherwise

Soon after the war broke out between the Hamas and Israel, the conflict of Israel with Lebanon-based Hezbollah broke out. The 14-month conflict culminated on Nov 27, 2024 ceasefire agreements. However, it may be a strategy of Israel to shift its complete focus towards other threats, as they got success in mortaring Hezbollah's top leaders.

##### 4.2) Israel's continuous bombardment in Syria

Since the toppling of



Assad regime on Dec 10, 2024, Israel taking the advantage of situation has attacked with around 600 air strikes in Syria.

4.3) Continuous attacks from Yemen-based Houthis

Houthis, who are pro-Iran and are part of the group "Axis of resistance" has been continuously hurting Israel from its own territories

4.4) Israel would want to expand the war to inflict <sup>maximum</sup> loss to Iran.

Israel, in the current turmoil, strategically desire to harm further to the interests of Iran. It would like to



replicate its model of Lebanon's  
destruction in the Yemen, and Iraq  
and others. It wants to  
attack the "axis of resistance"  
to have upper hand in  
the regional dynamics.

4.5) Gains accrued from Assad's  
fall will convince Israel  
further to expand war

By engaging Iran  
and Lebanon into own  
domestic security problems happened  
in the backdrop of Gaza's  
war Israel would further  
replicate such ~~a~~ thing in  
the region which would  
invoke ~~the~~ Iran and its  
proxies to engage with Israel in  
war



## ANS 3

### 1) Introduction:-

Despite the fact that there are multiple international countries that are backing for having a ~~continuous~~ two-state solution for the ongoing Palestine conflict. UNGA passed a resolution, in past also. However, the chance of two state solution seem weak due to the Israel's continuous destruction of Gaza, and rapidly erection of settlements in the West bank.

### 2) Understanding two state resolution and UN resolution



Pakistan, like the other muslim countries are in view that two-state solution is the only viable solution to Palestine conflict, which means that there should be two independent states: Israel and Palestine.

It is based on the demarcations that exists prior to 1967 war. (six-day war) By virtue of this solution, Palestine would comprise of the areas of West bank and Gaza strip.

Resolution #476

asks for end to the occupation of Jerusalem

Resolution #242

asks for going back to 1967 borders

UN resolutions

Resolution #2334

end for illegal settlements

Israel's supreme court also asks West Bank settlements as illegal (2004)



### 3) \* Chances for two state solution

(a) Israel has not adopted to any UN resolutions to full extent  
For example:- Resolution # 242, 338 & 2334

(b) Israel has no problems with the verdicts of international organizations  
For example: ICC & ICJ verdicts

(c) Weakened OIC & muslim rulers cannot help in this regard.

(d) Arab leaders does normalization with Israel by ignoring <sup>their</sup> a two-state solution stance

(e) Continuous expansion of illegal destruction of settlements of in West bank

(f) Israel bent on complete destruction

3.1) Reasons why to believe pessimistically for two state solution



### 3.4) Optimistic approach:

Following are the reasons believing why two state solution can be possible

#### a) Public demonstrations

Widespread public demonstrations due to atrocities of Israel in Gaza has created a more support among public for having the resolution of Palestinian conflict

#### b) European countries & other asking for it.

UN resolution, ICC & ICJ verdict & three Nordic countries asking for two-state solution can put a pressure on Israel.

#### c) Better <sup>trade</sup> relations can yield the conflict's resolution aspect

It was speculated that Saudi Arabia on some concessions to conflict can normalize its relation with Israel. Results of Abraham Accord can help in this regard

#### d) Dialogue is the only way forward

Israel has settled its previous issues with states only through dialogue & negotiations. For example Camp David accord



## 5) Augmenting the synthesis

5.a) Only possible through the joint pressure of Islamic countries

The implementation of two-state solution and OIC effectiveness is sine qua non for each other

5.b) US Support is crucial

The Oslo Accords (1993) and the Camp David Accords (1979) only resulted with the active support of US. Again it needed for implementing UNGA resolutions

5.c) Stopping the Israel from committing genocide & erecting illegal settlements



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

There remain no  
purpose of two state  
solution when one  
area of Palestine, Gaza  
is going to be completely  
destroyed and other like  
Gaza bank is fully  
populated with the Israel's  
illegal settlements

## 6) CONCLUSION

Thus, in the  
nutshell one may say  
that at the current  
moment of time, given the  
US unabated support to  
Israel without any conditions  
and fractured Muslim Ummah,  
it is very low  
prospects of two state



solution and Israel would  
continue to destroy Gaza  
and populate Israeli's  
in West Bank.

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