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CURRENT AFFAIRS

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Q: Critically evaluate how Gaza Israel launched terror on Gaza has become a classical example of war crimes. How do you see the decision of ICJ and response of US government to it? How it would impact it relations with Arab world?

ANS:INTRODUCTION:

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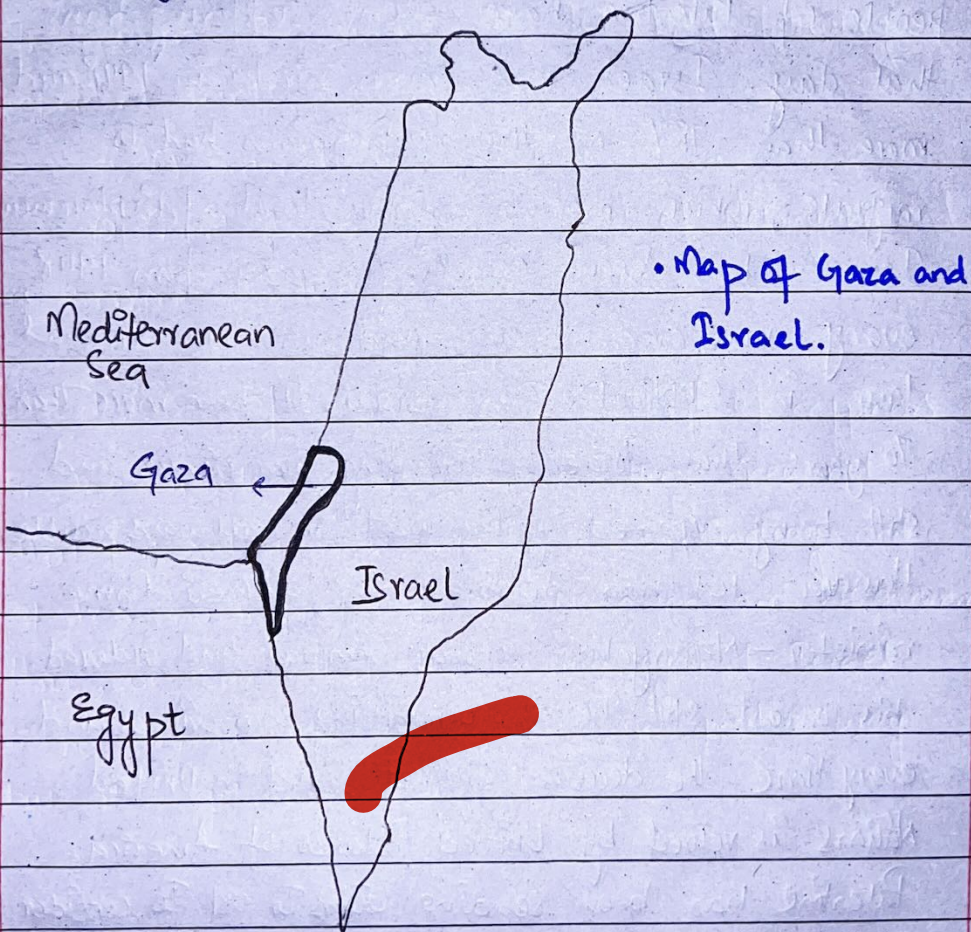
Since first world war, when Jews were kicked out by Hitler and migrated to Palestine for shelter, which led to the partition of Palestine, the people of Palestine have been suffering from that day. Israel was given birth in 1948 and more than 78% of the Palestinians had to migrate, which was a massive level of displacement. Israel has been attacking Gaza from 1948 every now and then and no international law is applicable on Israel. It's been more than 70 years that Israel is committing war crimes and still being supported by the west in all ways possible. However, ICJ has declared the Israeli Prime minister - Netanyahu - a war criminal and ordered his arrest, still he is committing war crimes and every time the decision against Israel in United Nations is vetoed by United States of America. Palestine has been sending letters to UN to consider Palestine as a permanent member of UN, the decision is favoured twelve countries and vetoed by America. People of Palestine have been suffering the in-humane

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attacks of Israel - backed by US.

ISRAEL TERROR ATTACKS ON GAZA:

Gaza, holding a population of around 2.3 million people is called the "world's biggest open air jail". The mediterranean sea is controlled by Israel and USA, a sealed border with Egypt - only one crossing is open - and the remaining is with Israel which is sealed and is a concrete border with three crossings.



According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health the death in ~~total~~ toll in Gaza has reached almost 46000 and more than

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11000 are missing.
 According to the United Nations office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, World Health Organization and the Palestinian Government, the attacks of Israel - as of December 18, 2024 - have damaged the following, in Gaza;

- More than half of homes
- 80% of commercial facilities
- 88% of school buildings
- Healthcare facilities
- 68% of road network
- 68% of cropland
- More than 150 journalists killed since Oct, 7, 2023.

Other than the direct attacks, Israel has also blocked the access of Gaza population to the Mediterranean sea and also no humanitarian aid can be accessed to the people of Gaza.

Since October 7, 2023, Israel has issued more than ~~65~~ 65 evacuation orders (Source → Al-Jazeera). Now 80% of the Gaza strip is under active evacuation orders.

These facts and figures show how Israel has been attacking Gaza from long ago and Israel can be considered as a great example of war crimes and not answerable to anyone just because it is backed by US. As we know that;

"Israel is the spoiled child of United States of America."

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DECISION OF ICJ:

The International Court of Justice in January gave ruling regarding the case of genocide against Israel brought by South Africa in ICJ. South Africa filed the case and put forward following conditions for Israel; and ICJ;

① Cease the war in Gaza

② Initiate war crime cases against Benjamin Netanyahu and his government.

In return the ruling of ICJ, held following important points;

① ICJ ordered to cease the war.

② Court issued arrest warrant of Netanyahu and everyone involved in the attacks.

The decision of ICJ brought a flood of happiness in the Muslim world, however they knew not that the ruling made by ICJ is non-binding and it has no impact on Netanyahu and his government. Hence, we saw that the ruling against Israel did not impact the war crimes in positive way but it got worsened.

STANCE OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION:

The Biden administration in US has been supporting Israel openly since the start of the war.

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The House of Representatives in the America passed a legislative package of finances on 20 April, 2024, for Israel, Ukraine and Taiwan. The Foreign Aid package was of \$95 billion among which \$26.38 billion was for Israel.

Funds Allocation:

- \$15.2 billion for expansion of missiles and defense system.
- \$3.5 billion for advancement of weapons
- \$4.4 billion for other supplies and services to Israel
- \$9.2 billion for humanitarian aid.

Source → Council on Foreign Relations.

These facts show how US under Biden's Administration, has been supporting Israel unconditionally.

TRUMP'S STANCE:

However, Trump does not support wars or war like situation, his focus is on diplomatic talks, but he is also against the Two state solution. According to Trump, there should be one state which is Israel and Muslims should get equal rights in that state. Which is against the stance of Pakistan-support two state solution, Hamas, Iran and other Islamic states.

The west bloc does not want the control of Muslims in the middle east for personal gains, hence, no

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law is applicable of US and its allies, Israel.

RELATIONS WITH ARAB WORLD:

The relations of Israel are worsening with the Arab states. Gaza being Muslim majority area has immense support of the Arab world and against Israel. Iran is now coming more closer to the Arab states especially after the killing of Iran's President "Ibrahim Raisi", in a plane crash. There is a chance of situation worsening in the middle east and Arab world standing against Israel in the favour of Gaza.

CONCLUSION:

The Israel's in-humane attacks in Gaza along with other states in middle east are probably going to worsen and increase tensions in the middle east and global power politics. The Ideological Expansionist Nationalism of Israel's Prime Minister focusing on "Greater Israel", will further increase tensions with the support of west bloc.

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Q2: Critically evaluate the chances of continuation and expansion of Hamas - Israel war across the region.

Ans:

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INTRODUCTION:

Hamas - A Jihadist Organization in Iran - always retaliates and fights against the terror attacks of Israel in different areas of middle east. The only and major set back in the way of Israel is Hamas which has been protecting the Palestinians from Israel in all the ways possible. Hamas conducted unprecedented attacks in Israel on October 7, 2023, which further ~~also~~ worsened the situation and since then Israel is attacking different Muslim states along with Palestine in the ~~in~~ Middle East. Israel has occupied the land of Palestine illegally since first world war, and is denying to give the land of Palestinians back to them. The ongoing tensions in the middle East do not seem to minimize any time soon. The latest development of fall of Damascus has also weakened the position of Hamas in the region against Israel as Hamas was using the ~~Syrian~~ land for the transport of weaponry from Iran to Hamas and the linkage has been now out of control. Hence, the situation is seen to be tilting in the favour of Israel, but, next is yet to be explored.

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RECENT PAST ATTACKS:

October 7, 2023, Hamas launched an unprecedented attack on Israel, which is also known as 9/11 of Israel. The attack was divided into two parts, i.e.;

① Aerial Attacks:

Hamas attacked ~~and~~ with around 3000 rockets and along with that also used mortars and drones. The ~~at~~ magnitude of these attacks was more than 2500.

② On-Ground Attacks:

More than 2000 fighters of Hamas crossed the borders by demolishing borders and some through paragliding.

Hamas attacks targeted more than ten cities along with Tel Aviv and killed more than 1400 Jews, and 240 Israelis made hostage in Gaza.

Stance of Hamas on the attacks:

"It is a retaliation for 16 years of Gaza blockade. It is the reaction of Israeli intrusion. It is the response to the violence done by illegal settlers of Israel."

Hamas named this operation as "Operation Al-Aqsa".

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Demands of HAMAS:

Hamas put forward their demands from Israel to end the war. The demands were:

- ① Independent Palestine
- ② End of Israeli Occupation in west bank, Jerusalem and Gaza Strip.
- ③ Make Jerusalem the capital of Palestine.

REACTION OF ISRAEL:

Israel did not accept the demands and counter attacked Hamas, killing the major brains of Hamas and continuous attacks in Gaza.

Israel has been attacking the Muslim population with unconditional support of US, who always vetoes the decisions against Israel and the ones in favour of Palestine.

USA, the so-called leader of fundamental rights who blames Vladimir Putin for war crimes is supporting Israel and standing behind Benjamin Netanyahu like a father.

After the death of Hassan Nasrullah, there are chances of far reaching impacts of this war. Israel is most likely to go in full-fledge war against Hamas, just like they did in 2007. The expansion of the war will further increase tensions and obstacles in the middle east.

FALL OF DAMASCUS IMPACT ON WAR:

The recent development of fall of Bashar-ul-Assad's long held regime of 54 years, ~~has~~ ~~gone to an end~~ The has weakened the situation of Hamas in the war. As Hamas got the military support from Iran through Syrian route which was supported by Assad and he is no more in control.

TRUMP AND WAR:

Analysing the historical events, the conclusion shows that Trump has always been against war and supports diplomatic talks. This time, there is also a hope of ~~cease~~ ceasefire in the middle east, which should be practiced by all the actors involved in war. ~~The~~

CONCLUSION:

The long held wars must end now. The recent developments show that the war might come to an end now. But it is still to be explored about what decisions are made for a ceasefire which should end last. According to Trump, "All wars must end", his focus is on economic war. Hence there is a chance of war to be stopped.

