

## Question No. 4

How do you see the ongoing Hamas-Israel war? Analyze its possible implications on regional and global power politics:

### 1. Introduction:

The Hamas-Israel war is an armed conflict waged between Palestine armed group and Israel since the Hamas' attack on Israeli soil on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023. What is said to be "the worst attack on Israeli soil in decades" since the 1973 Yom Kippur, the Israeli military campaign that followed opened the "Deadliest period in Palestine's history" Hamas killed around 1200 people and took 250 others as hostages to Gaza. In the name of "self-defence", Israeli aggression has killed more than 26000 Palestinians with thousands injured according to "The Guardian". Termed as "Israel's 9/11", the ongoing Hamas-Israel war has far reaching security impacts on Gaza, Lebanon, Yemen and Iraq in the Middle East. Saudi-Israel rapprochement process has halted and Iran has announced support of Hamas. The west hypocrisy is also evident with US, UK and Canada showing complete and unconditional support to Israeli agenda of 'genocide'. This is a moral dilemma for Israel as it loses the victimhood narrative.



## 2. Ongoing Hamas-Israel War:

This war is unprecedented. On October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Hamas targeted Israeli nationals. With 1200 people dead in the attack, Hamas took 250 hostages. Hamas operates through tunnels therefore they've been able to counter Israeli strikes so far. Israel cut off food, water and fuel supplies to pressure Hamas which led to 'Humanitarian catastrophe' in Gaza Strip. Multiple strikes on hospitals rendered ~~access~~ a paralyzed healthcare.

### ① Israeli War Crimes:

Israel is conducting a "Genocide" According to UN Chief Antonio Guterres.

"The people of Gaza die in the midst of an epic humanitarian catastrophe before the eyes of the world"

Israel's objective for targeting innocent civilians, infrastructure etc is to eradicate Hamas entirely from the region. But the indiscriminate bombing is not only wiping out entire families but also targeting journalists. According to RSF report about 70 journalists



have died in the conflict so far. Israel's attacks on hospitals, schools and refugee camps in the name of self defence are a clear indication of Genocide.

### (ii) Israel losing the war of narrative:

Despite being a clandestine nuclear power with top tier technology and military personnel, Israel could not defeat the 2 million defenceless, poverty stricken and oppressed Palestinians. The social media's access has facilitated unveiling Israeli atrocities and west hypocrisy in supporting violence in Gaza.

### (iii) United Nation's role in the crisis and the 'Genocide case' in International court of Justice:

Several resolutions were passed to call for a 'ceasefire' in Palestine-Israel conflict - But owing to the most "Anachronistic and controversial Veto provision", UN has proved to be toothless yet again. According to Maulana Wahid:

"UN reflects power dynamics of bygone era -"

Although ICJ failed to end the genocidal attempts of Israel, the case filed by South Africa has proved to be a huge blow to Israel's International Status.



### 3. Implications on Regional power dynamics:

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Egypt  
Jordan  
Lebanon  
Syria  
Iraq

#### ① Palestinians fleeing to neighboring states:

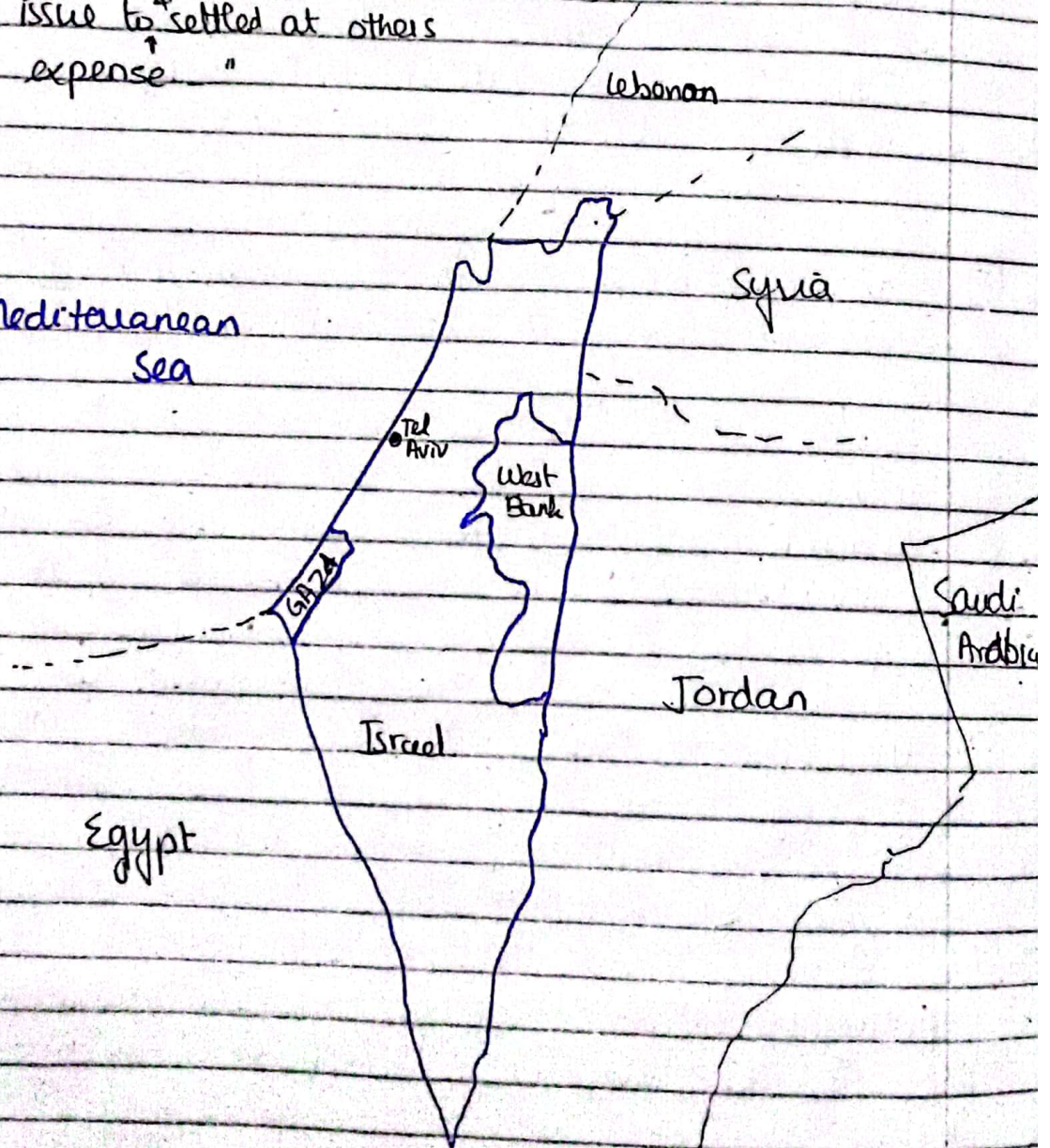
The unfolding humanitarian crisis in Palestine has forced several Palestinians to migrate to neighboring states. Consequently, economically stagnant states like Egypt, Jordan, Syria has seen a refugee influx. Egyptian President Al-Sisi said

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"We will not allow the issue to be settled at others expense."

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## ② - Israel's relations with Egypt and Jordan

Egypt is America's biggest aid receiver - The triangle of relation between Israel, Egypt and Jordan becoming unstable, leads to the regional security threat. However Qatar mediated between Hamas and Israel into releasing hostages.

## ③ - Halt to Israeli-Saudi Rapprochement process

The result of US-backed Israeli-Saudi normalization agreement are seen in vein with the ongoing conflict. The Arab World will reallocate in case Saudi Arabia supports Israel against Palestine, hence Saudi silence on war and distancing narrative is apparent.

## ④ - Role of Hezbollah - Israel "closer to war with Lebanon"

Following Israeli aggressions on Palestinians, Hezbollah declared war on Israel.

The Bab-el-Mandab strait and red sea attacks by Hezbollah on oil trade with Europe is a warning call to stop Israel's growing influence in the region. Similarly, fire exchange on borders between Israel and

Lebanon is common now following Hezbollah's participation in the war.

Despite, Lebanon's population resisting being part of the war, Hezbollah's goal to seize Gaza's has cost them heavily too.



#### 4. Global power politics in the light of Israel-Hamas war.

① Global commodity cycle disturbed - increased commodity prices

Houthi's attack in Red Sea has led to re-routing of major trade passing through Red Sea. This has sent shock waves in commodity market increasing the prices threefold and creating shortage of around 24% in global market.

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② - Oil supply disruption.

Middle Eastern conflict has sent tremors through the global oil market as the crucial energy suppliers and passageways are an element in the ongoing conflict. The increased cost and freight timings has contributed to oil supply disruption.

③ - Threat of global economic recession.

An economy still recovering from COVID-19 side effects, is vulnerable to the war development in Middle East. An oil shock could bring global inflation at 6.7% in 2024 with major economies collapsing following high commodity prices.



④. Political Polarization - Spillover to distant continents :

The participation of West in backing Israel's aggression will disturb the political process in Europe and Americas - with people's growing discontent in the gov't's participation in war / conflict, the powers might shift.

5. Conclusion :