

Name: Muqaddas Tamil

Batch: 361

Topic:

A Stone Thrown by a
Palestinian Worths More than
Entire Arab Arsenal

Outline:

1) Introduction

Thesis Statement:

The Israeli settlers, supported by Western world, commit severe atrocities in Palestine. Yet the Arab world is not united against this brutality. Not only resilience but also the struggle for self-determination worths more than the Arab support.

2) Understanding the Palestinian cause

(i) Balfour Declaration (1917)

(ii) Palestinian Exodus (1948)

3) Spirit of Palestinian resistance worth more than Arab military support

3a) Palestinian Resilience

(i) Arab-Israel war 1948

(ii) Attack against Israel State

3b) Revolt as Intifadas

- i) First Intifada (1987-1993)
- ii) Second Intifada (2000-2005)

3c) Direct attack against powerful military of Israel.

4Bd) Competing against Nationalist movement.

- i) Religious Dimension
- ii) Decades of violence over Palestine.

3e) Palestinian leadership

- i) Resilience of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh and Yahya Sinwar
- ii) Support by Malakas

4) Why Arab world is not united for Palestinian cause?

4a) Iran-Saudi Tussle

- (i) Shia-Sunni conflict
- (ii) Dominating Muslim world

4b) Strategic Interests

- i) Economic fruits of trading with Israel and US
- (ii) Normalization of Relations with Israel

The Essay

In a world where military might often overshadows the struggle for justice, the phrase "A stone thrown by a Palestinian is worth more than the entire Arab arsenal," encapsulates the essence of resistance against oppression and suppression. This statement raises critical questions: How can such gestures symbolize a broader struggle for identity and rights? What drives individuals to confront powerful adversaries with seemingly insignificant acts.

After the Balfour declaration, United Nations demarcated land for Zionist on Palestinian land despite their being a minority in Arab lands. Palestinian ~~ret~~ courageously fought for their right of self-determination against illegal occupiers. Although they were less powerful ~~com~~ relative to Israelis, they launch several attacks on their occupied territory against Israelis. The Israeli settlers, heavily supported by Western world

mainly United States of America, with military aid, commit brutal atrocities and civil casualties on the land of Palestinians. Despite the fact, of asymmetry of power Arab world is not united for Palestinian cause. In this hour of distress internal integrity and resilience is prudent for their existence.

To begin with, we understand the how Palestinians became suppressed by the Israeli who once served as ruling class in the region. After World War I, when Jewish were under the Ottoman Empire, the League of Nations granted mandate over Palestine. "The 1917 Balfour Declaration" expressed support for a "national home for the Jewish people" in Palestine, exacerbating tensions between Jewish and Arab communities. The UN proposed a plan to

partition Palestine into separate Jewish and Arab states, with Jerusalem under International administration. Jewish leaders accepted the plan, while Arab leaders rejected it, leading to increased violence. This was unjust partition as ~~85~~ eighty-five percent of Palestinian land was given to Israel. It caused great Palestinian Exodus in 1948 during the Palestine war in which seven million Palestinians were displaced. They took refuge in Gaza strip, the West Bank, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan. United Nation Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in 1950 assisted in the settlement of refugees by establishing refugees camps for them.

Moving towards the resilience and determination showed by Palestinians comes the rise of Intifadas

The first Intifada took place in 1987 to 1993 and lasted till 1993. This was grassroots uprising against Israeli occupation. It was characterized by ~~the~~ protests, civil disobedience and violence. It grasped and led to increased international attention and Oslo Awards in 1990s but the conflict remained unresolved. Second Intifada was started in 2000 and lasted in 2005. It was triggered by Ariel Sharon's visit to the Mount Temple in Al-Aqsa compound. It involved even more violent confrontations. During these Intifadas great leadership was born to stand for its rights like Ismail Haniyeh.

Furthermore, Palestinians were not accepting the Israeli State. This is due to the reason that it was unjust division

of land. Majority was
Palestinian even then the
Israelis were given more
land. Palestinians kept on
struggling for their
occupied land against
Israel. Despite being refugees
not having formal structure
they still fought and
attacked Israel. In 1967 there
was Six-Day War in
which Israel launched
a preemptive strikes against
Egypt and Syria, leading
to the capture of
West Bank, East Jerusalem,
Gaza strip, Sinai Peninsula
and Golan Heights.
Egypt and Syria attacked Israel
on Yom Kippur to reclaim
lost territories, marked as
Yom Kippur War in 1973. There
were no significant changes
by this attack but set the
stage for future peace
negotiations.

Moreover, Hamas, a militant
group in Palestine launched
a surprise attack

on Israel on October 7
2023, resulting in the deaths
of over 1163 Israelis
and the capture of
hostages. This prompted a
robust military response
from Israel, which began
extensive airstrikes on Gaza
in result of which Israel
imposed a total blockade
on Gaza, restricting the
flow of essential supplies
which exacerbated the
humanitarian situation. All the
blockade did not stop the
wounded Palestinians to
raise their voices against
these brutalities and
genocide.

In addition to this,
Palestinian coincided with the
growth of Arab Nationalism
among the local population
which feared displacement
and loss of land
with the establishment
of Jewish homeland
in Palestine. They
confronted the rise of

nationalism in Europe.
Mentally traumatized Palestine
people showed resilience
against decade long
war of genocide

Despite these atrocities,
Arab world is not uniting for
supporting the Palestinian.
This comprises of several
reason. Firstly, the Iran-Saudi
'Sunni - Shia' tussle, Iran
wants the dominating
position by fighting for
Palestine and restore their
image as Muslim leader.
Saudi themselves want to
be the leader of
Muslim nation. Secondly,
in six-day war, Israel
occupied the neighboring
territories of Arab
world which caused
major blow to their
economy. Normalization of
relation was conditional
for their better
trade relations with
Israel and US.