



Perspectives on the Past and Future of Israel and Palestine Conflict

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Abstract

At present the world is struggling with many socio-political issues. There is a constant situation of conflict and tension in almost every region of the world due to various social or political issues. Situations of tension and conflict between diverse countries are unfavourable for global harmony and peace. Russia-Ukraine dispute, Taliban-Afghanistan dispute, North Korea-South Korea dispute, India-Pakistan dispute, Iran-United States dispute, Israel-Palestine dispute are vivid examples of this. In all these disputes, there has been massive loss of life and property as well as human rights violations at the global level. The Israel-Palestine problem has emerged on the global stage as the most complex socio-political problem of the present time. Both sides are fighting for their rights and sovereignty. In the presented research paper, the current condition of the said problem has been analysed by understanding the background of the Israel-Palestine problem. Along with analysing the problem, various solutions to solve the Israel-Palestine problem have also been suggested. The resolution of the Israel-Palestine problem will prove to be a major step towards global peace.

Key Words: Socio-Political Issues, Global Harmony, Israel-Palestine Dispute, Global Peace

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I. Introduction

The Israel-Palestine problem is new. This problem is basically the problem of the Jewish and now Palestine communities. The ultimate solution of the problem is the declaration made by the British Foreign Minister Arthur Balfour in 1917, which is known in the world as the Balfour Declaration. In this declaration, the then Satta Road British government supported the declaration of granting a place for the Jewish people in the Palestinian territory. This declaration was such an action for the people of Palestine, who were already living in this area, because they did not want to give their homeland to any other race. Did not want to share with the people but this very announcement laid the foundation of unrest in this region. Jewish people from all over the world started coming to Palestine area and started saving it and after the end of British rule, a nation called Israel emerged. In fact, this problem This area is situated between two different religious communities. Now both Palestine and Jewish communities claim it as their homeland. Due to the involvement of other nations and disgruntled elements from both sides, this problem has become even more complicated in the present times. The interference of other countries in the world has only made this problem bigger.

II. Methodology

The research is based on the comprehensive analytical approach. A detailed study has been undertaken of various books, research papers and newspapers. The study adopted the qualitative research method. Secondary method of data collection was used to collect data for the study which includes; journal articles, newspapers, books and internet materials. Content analysis was used to analysis documents with a view of finding logical sequence.

III. Review of Literature

The research topic is very relevant and contemporary according to the research studies. Various multidimensional studies have been undertaken on this topic. Several literatures have discussed extensively on the Israel-Palestine conflict and the failures of several peace process. In 2018, Hizwan Bin Said, Muhammad discussed about the Palestine-Israel conflicts. He explained about the various aspects of Israel-Palestine

conflict. Qonita Sekarasti, in 2022 about the Israel-Palestine conflict in detail. Qonita Sekarasti studied this problem in the reference of Indonesia. In 2020 Mohammed Moyosore, & Ahmad Abdullahi in 2020 discussed in detail about the Israel-Palestine Conflict. He discussed the Implications of the Political Dynamics in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Geoffrey Saxby, in 2021 undertaken a case study of Israel-Palestine Conflict. Adeleke Ogunnoiki, & Innocent Iwediba, & Ifeanyi Ani, in 2021 studied the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict in detail. They studied the solutions of this problems. They discussed that whether one state or two state solution will be suitable for this conflict. Anat Ben-David, in 2014 discussed the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict in the context of social media.

IV. Discussion and Findings

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict begins after the fall of the great Ottoman Empire. Until the First World War, the Ottoman Empire was a vast empire that included vast areas of Eastern Europe, The Middle East and The Mediterranean Sea. Istanbul was the capital of this vast empire. People of Islam, Christianity, Judaism and other religions also lived in this entire empire. In 1249, Osman I declared his independence from the Seljuk Sultan and laid the foundation of the great Ottoman Empire. Its initial capital was Bursa. Gradually Egypt, Serbia, Greece, Bosnia, Iraq and Libya came under the control of this empire. In 1453, Sultan Mehmed II ended the Byzantine Empire's control over Istanbul (Constantinople) and made Istanbul the capital. This empire extended to three continents. In the First World War, the Ottoman Empire participated on behalf of the Central Powers (Germany, Austria, and Hungary) under the leadership of Mehmed V and was defeated in 1918. In 1922, the Ottoman Empire was officially abolished and the title of Ottoman Sultan was also abolished. Turkey was declared a republic on 19 October 1923.

After the end of the First World War, the widespread influence of nationalism was being seen throughout the Europe. The wave of nationalism was uniting the country which was divided into small pieces. Italy and Germany were reuniting in the name of nationalism. Its impact was also visible on the Jews spread across Europe. The feeling of nationalism was also awakened in them and there was a desire to go and settle in their holy land, Jerusalem. From here Zionism emerged. It is a Hebrew word that indicates Jerusalem. It was a religious and political ideology that brought Jews from all over the world to their ancient Holy Land. The main objective of this movement was to establish Israel as the centre of Jewish identity. Jewish journalist, activist Theodore Herzl is considered the father of Zionism. He believed that if the Jews did not have a homeland, their chances of survival would be minimal. For this, he made efforts to establish a Jewish homeland in the political area known as Palestine. Jews were being persecuted all over Europe. As a result, Jews from all over the world started migrating to Palestine. Due to this, the conflict between the Arab people and Jews of Palestine started increasing. It was from here that the background for the beginning of the Israel-Palestine conflict was created.

In 1917, during the end of the First World War, the Ottoman Empire was on the verge of collapse. At this time Britain's Foreign Minister Arthur Balfour issued a declaration. Which is known as Balfour Declaration. This declaration, dated 2 November 1917, stated that the British Government supported the establishment of a homeland for the Jews in the Palestinian territories (formerly part of the Ottoman Empire). This letter was written by the then Foreign Minister Arthur Balfour to Lord Rothschild (a leader of the Anglo-Jewish community). It was also written that nothing would be done which would adversely affect the political and religious rights of the citizens of the non-Jewish community present in Palestine. This declaration mandated the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine. This declaration is considered the father of Israel. Arab countries acknowledged that the Balfour Declaration not only gave rise to the Arab-Israeli conflict but also had a broader impact on the Middle East and the rest of the world.

On the other hand, during the First World War, Britain signed the Sykes-Picot Agreement with France and Russia in which it kept Palestine for itself. Whereas collectively it was said that we will give Palestine to the Jews. It is clear that the then British government was not in favour of the stability of Palestine. The British Mandate in Palestine begins after the end of World War I. After the Balfour Declaration, the exodus of Jews to Palestine began on a large scale. Due to which conflict arose between Arab-Palestine and Jews. The migrating Jews started buying land here. The Jews started driving out the Arab Palestinians. As a result, Arab-Palestinians revolted in 1936. To suppress it, the British Army took the help of Jews. Hitler brutally tortured the Jews during World War II. This made it ingrained in the minds of the Jews that there is no safer place for the Jews than Palestine.

After the Second World War, the conflict between Arabs and Jews increased significantly. During this time, the United Nations came into existence in 1945. Now it was no longer in Britain's power to resolve the Jewish issue. Britain was proving unsuccessful in this. Therefore, Britain handed over this issue to the United Nations in 1947. In the year 1947, a proposal for a partition plan was prepared in the United Nations. In this it was proposed to divide Palestine into two separate states. Three points were kept in this plan. 1. The majority Jewish area would be recognized as Israel. 2. Where Arabs are in majority they will be recognized as Palestine. 3. There were extreme differences of opinion regarding Jerusalem because half of the population there was

Hindu and half was Muslim. Therefore, regarding this, the United Nations said that it will be given the status of an international city and international control will be imposed on it. This decision was taken through voting in the United Nations. In this voting, the then Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru was against partition. Therefore, India voted against the formation of Israel in the United Nations in 1948. However, on 17 September 1950, India officially recognized Israel as a sovereign nation. The day of May 14, 1948 was written in golden letters in the history of Israel. While Israel declared its independence. Israel's conflict with the state began soon after the announcement.

Arab Israeli War

Arab Israeli War 1948–49

The conflict in this region started with the announcement of Israel becoming an independent country. Immediately Israel's neighbouring countries, including Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Jordan, attacked Israel. After the end of the war the West Bank came under Jordanian control. On the other hand, Egypt gained control over Gaza Strip. Israel took control of the remaining land. After this conflict, the existence of Palestine in the region became negligible. 7 lakh Palestinians had to leave the country as refugees.

Arab Israel War 1967

This war is also known as Six Day War. After the war of 1948-49, Egypt, Syria and Jordan again plan to attack Israel. As soon as Israel got wind of this plan, it launched a fierce attack on these three countries. The above three countries suffered huge losses due to the war. Israel snatched Gaza Strip and Silai Peninsula from Egypt, West Bank from Jordan and Golan Heights from Syria. After the end of the war, Israel got the whole of Palestine except the Sinai Peninsula (which it had to give back to Egypt).

Oslo Accord Agreement 1993

After 1967, Israel had complete control over Palestine. Palestinian citizens living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip started raising their voice against the atrocities. He was against Israeli militarization and repressive policies in the region. It is during this time that Yasser Arafat emerges as an influential leader in Palestine. He founded an organization Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). Through this organization, incidents like bombing of Israeli targets, hijacking of aircraft, attacks on Israeli embassies abroad were carried out. This was a period of violence and unrest. As a result, the Oslo Accord was signed in 1993 with the aim of establishing peace between the two countries. Yasser Arafat attempted to negotiate with Israel. He emphasized on adopting the path of reconciliation instead of conflict. After several meetings between the PLO and Israel, an agreement was reached to improve relations. On September 13, 1993, the historic Oslo Accord was signed at the White House in the presence of Bill Clinton. In which Israel considered PLO as the official representative of Palestine and PLO also recognized Israel.

For this, in 1994 Yasser Arafat was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Right-wing Israelis and Palestinian organizations like Hamas and Islamic Jihad did not like this agreement. Hamas said that this agreement will give Palestinians the right to return to their ancient original land forever. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated in 1995, just two years after the agreement. As a result, this agreement remained in limbo.

The Oslo Accord agreement was for 5 years. In the year 2000, both the countries again came together at Camp David. No specific consensus was reached in this meeting. As a result, this agreement broke down and till date no consensus and peace has been reached between the two parties. The period of conflict started again from 2000 to 2005. The reason for this was Israeli President Ehud Barak going to Temple Mount with 1000 soldiers. As a result, violent ejaculation started and this incident continued till 2005.

Rise of Hamas

Israeli military control over the Gaza Strip and the West Bank increased. The Gaza Strip's borders in particular were completely blocked by Israeli forces. Meanwhile, another terrorist organization 'Hamas' emerges due to the dissatisfaction arising in Gaza Strip. The PLO-affiliated party 'Fatah' refuses to accept Hamas into the government. This sparked discontent among Hamas. In the 2006 elections, Hamas won a landslide victory in the Palestine legislative elections. In 2007, Fatah had to leave Gazapatti. And Hamas took control of Gaza Strip by force. Fatah remained in control of the test bank. Israel imposed a complete military blockade of the Gaza Strip to prevent weapons smuggling and attacks. Due to which huge dissatisfaction has arisen among the citizens of Gajapatti. With the arrival of Hamas, there has been a doubling in the politics of Palestine. The ideologies of Fatah and Hamas are completely different. Hamas supports extreme nationalism. Whereas Fatah follows the principles of Yasser Arafat.

Frequent Conflict Bodies Cease Fire

There is a situation of frequent conflict between Israel and the Palestinian organization Hamas. These conflicts include Operation Cost Lead (2008–09), Operation Pillar of Defence (2012) and Operation Protective Edge (2014). In the current Israeli-Hamas conflict, there is a continuous conflict between the two sides regarding land sovereignty and security. The current conflict started on October 7, 2023. In this conflict, Hamas suddenly launched airstrikes and its armed militants entered the Israeli border and took many Israeli citizens hostage, as a result, hundreds of thousands of people have been killed due to the resumption of conflict between the two sides. People have been injured.

Major Disputed Sites

There are various disputed sites in this region between Israel and Palestine over which there is a constant conflict between the two.

1. **Al-Aqsa Mosque:** This site is part of the Old City of Jerusalem. This place is sacred for both Christians, Jews and Muslims. Christians believe that Jesus Christ was crucified at this very place. Jews mark this place as holy as the Temple Mount. Similarly, it is the most sacred place of Islamic faith which Muslims address as Haram Al Sharif.
2. **Sheikh Jarrah:** It is located north of the old city of Jerusalem. After the establishment of Israel, 28 families of displaced Palestinians came and settled here.
3. **West Bank:** This is a landlocked area. This area is located between Israel and Jordan. It was occupied by Jordan in the 1948 Arab-Israeli war. Israel established complete control over it in the 1967 war.
4. **Gaza Patti:** This area is currently the most popular. It was captured by Israel during the 1967 war, but according to the Oslo Accord, Israel withdrew its administrative control over it. In 2005, Israel also removed the Jewish settlements from here. But its borders have been blocked by the Israeli army. Israel's argument is that neighbouring countries Egypt, Jordan, Syria etc. provide arms and other assistance to Gajapati to create stability in the region.
5. **Golan heights:** This is a plateau area important from strategic point of view. It was won by Israel from Syria in 1967. In 2017, Jerusalem and Golden Heights were recognized by the USA as part of Israel.

Main Demands of Both Sides

Both Israel and Palestine want to keep Jerusalem as their capital, as the land is of sacred and religious importance to both sides. Palestine wants to establish an independent and sovereign state in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem. Palestine favours a complete end to the Israeli military blockade of the Gaza Strip. On the other hand, Israel wants to maintain its existence as an independent and sovereign nation. He also wants Palestine to accept his rights and sovereignty. It is clear that both sides do not want any compromise on their sovereignty. Both sides want to keep the holy land of Jerusalem as their capital.

India's side

Historical Background

Even after India recognized Israel as a state, there have been no political relations between India and Israel. The main reason for this is that India had close relations with Palestine from the beginning. India has stood with Palestine in the United Nations on many occasions. During the India-China war of 1962 and the India-Pakistan war of 1965 and 1971, when the Arab countries did not support India, Israel provided necessary equipment to India. However, even after this entire incident, diplomatic relations did not develop between India and Israel. History is witness that whenever a dispute related to the said conflict has arisen in the United Nations, it has voted in favour of Palestine. Before 1962, India did not have diplomatic relations with Israel. Narasimha Rao was the first Prime Minister to initiate full political relations with Israel. In 2003, during the NDA government, Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh went to Israel. After this, President Pranab Mukherjee became the first Indian President to visit Israel. In 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Israel. He was the first Indian Prime Minister to do so. India currently depends on Israel for the supply of state-of-the-art military equipment. Similarly, India and Israel are cooperating extensively with each other in the agriculture sector and India is also providing various technologies to Israel, so that it can become self-reliant in food production. Under the 'Link West Policy', India has adopted a separate approach to its relations with Israel and Palestine so that mutual and special relations can be developed with both the countries. At present, India not only wants to maintain its image of moral support towards an independent-sovereign Palestinian state, it is also trying to engage in military, economic and political relations with Israel.

Geopolitical Analysis of the Israel-Palestine Problem

Before geopolitical analysis of the Israel-Palestine problem, it is necessary to completely know the geographical situation of this region. Israel is a small country in the world. Lebanon is situated in its north and Egypt in its south. In its eastern part there are countries called Jordan and Syria. The Mediterranean Sea is

situated to its west. The countries that Israel is surrounded by are all Arab Muslim countries. Israel has had many conflicts with all the above-mentioned countries. Israel, being a Jewish country, is constantly the target of those countries. Both Palestine and Israel want to establish their dominance in this region. In past conflicts, Israel has taken control of almost all parts of this region from the above countries. The basic conflict in this region is Jews versus Arab Muslims. All the European countries and USA are in favor of Israel while all the Arab countries together support Palestine. The theory of geopolitics considers the state like an organism and makes it clear that its expansion is necessary to maintain the existence of this organism. The conflict between both the parties is about the expansion of their own existence.

Global Perspective on Conflict

It is clear from geopolitical analysis that the entire world is divided into two sides on the Israel-Palestine problem. On one side there is the United States and European countries and on the other side there are Arab-Muslim countries. The United States has always been in favour of Israel's existence in the region. He believes that Israel has every right to defend itself. Under this right, even if it takes military action against another country, it cannot be considered unfair from any point of view. One reason behind this is that the percentage of Jews in the population of the United States is much higher than the Jews living in Israel. Jews living in the United States make an important contribution to the economy and technology there. In the conflict between these two countries, Arab-Muslim countries Syria, Jordan, Iran, Pakistan, Turkey, Egypt have openly supported Palestine. He said that Palestine's claim on this area should be fundamentally strengthened. Arab countries and the Muslim international organization 'Organization of Islamic Cooperation' have also accepted Palestine's claim as correct and have made continuous efforts at the global level to implement it. In short, the whole world is divided into two ideologies on the said problem.

Results of Conflict

The results of any military conflict are always harmful and destructive. There have been many serious consequences of excessive conflict between Israel and Palestine -

1. Political instability in West Asia.
2. Common people are facing problems.
3. Promotion of terrorism and violent activities.
4. Loss of life and property to innocent civilians.
5. Large scale loss to the economy.
6. Violation of human rights on a large scale.
7. Origin of the refugee crisis.
8. Emergence of unemployment, dissatisfaction and social instability.
9. Climate of fear on a global scale.
10. Fear of the world dividing into two groups.

It is clear that the consequences of this conflict are not only negative, but also fatal for global peace and stability.

Conflict Resolution-

"The ultimate goal of every war is peace." The Israel Palestine conflict is having a wide impact globally. A massive diplomatic effort is necessary to quickly end this conflict. Various solutions to this problem have been found by political analysts. Leaving aside the path of conflict, the following solutions to this problem can be found at the diplomatic level:

1. Two State Solution – This is the most widely suggested solution to this problem. Proponents of this view envisage the creation of an independent and sovereign State of Palestine alongside Israel within mutually agreed and internationally recognized borders. The two-state solution also addresses other issues such as Jerusalem refugees, settlements, security and water sharing. This solution has also been supported by many countries of the world. India, America and China are prominent among the supporting countries.

Major challenges before two state solution-

Two-state solution could be a better option, but there is a lack of mutual understanding and political will on this solution between Israel and Palestine. For this, there is considerable difference of opinion between the two sides on the necessary measures and mutual concessions. The violence on both sides and the rise of casteism undermine this solution and the possibility of co-existence. The conflict between groups like Hamas and Fatah in Palestine diminishes the chances that there will be stability in the Palestine region after the two-state solution. The interference of external powers (Iran, Egypt, United States) has diminished the prospects of peace and stability in the region.

2. One State Solution-

This solution is based on the concept of a single two-national state. It supports the establishment of a state based on peace and coexistence in which Israelis and Jews have equal rights. The challenge present in the above measure is to address the concerns of both the communities regarding their respective rights.

3. Confederation Model-

It is based on a federalist ideology. Proponents of this ideology suggest a solution to unify the two nations on a federalist model. He believes that both the nations can exist in a federalist system with shared administration in areas like security, economy and resources.

4. Trusteeship Option-

Under this option, it is proposed that an international coalition or international body or alliance be proposed that can govern the maintenance of this stable zone until a universally accepted and agreed solution is reached. Reaches. For this, full cooperation of the international community will be required.

After critically analysing all the above solutions, it can be concluded that the solution to this entire problem and conflict is the two-state solution, in which separate sovereign states are created for the people of Israel and Palestine within generally accepted boundaries. Go. Along with the creation of separate sovereign states, a universal consensus should be reached between the two sides on disputed issues such as the refugee problem and disputed religious places through mutual dialogue. Only peace, stability and harmony between the two sides can initiate development in the entire region and the entire Central West Asia.

V. Conclusion

The Israel-Palestine conflict is one of the world's most complex problems today. This is not just a local problem but the interests of many countries of the world are linked to this problem. Therefore, it is necessary that the world's superpowers and regional countries understand their responsibility to solve this problem and take meaningful steps so that the human rights of the people of this region can be ensured. Global superpowers should avoid politicizing this problem and parties present in the region should keep in mind that terrorism and violence cannot be a permanent solution. The solution of even the most complex problems is possible only through peace talks. A unilateral solution to any party would be injustice to the other party. India can play an important role in solving this problem because both sides have full confidence in India's role. India should come forward to solve this problem keeping in mind the interests of both the parties, keeping in mind the two-state solution stipulated in the Oslo Peace Accords. The world continues to anticipate a peace deal that will finally put the region at peace, foster mutually beneficial relationships, development and ensure freedoms, rights and justice. The road to peace in the region is a long and arduous. This makes finding a win-win solution that will be mutually acceptable and beneficial to both parties must be treaded carefully to ensure freedoms, rights, fairness, peace and dignity

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