



Canadians for Justice and Peace
in the Middle East



Canadian Policy and Israeli Wall of Shame

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Unimaginable Suffering

<p>House Demolition</p> <p>7321 houses destroyed 9/2000 to 9/2004</p>	<p>Colonization</p> <p>400,000 colonists ("settlers") steal land, water, right-of-way</p>	<p>Malnutrition</p> <p>Hundreds of thousands of children suffer malnutrition</p>
<p>Mass Closure</p> <p>Millions impacted in repeated closures. Everything stops</p>	<p>Curfews</p> <p>Millions frequently placed under house arrest with curfews</p>	<p>Impoverishment</p> <p>Hundreds of thousands depend on outside food aid</p>
<p>Confiscation of Land</p> <p>208 km. sq. confiscated 9/2000 to 9/2004</p>	<p>Extra-judicial Killings</p> <p>Dozens of "alleged" military and their neighbors killed</p>	<p>Domestic Hardship</p> <p>Families and communities struggle under stress of siege</p>
<p>Psychological Terror</p> <p>Millions of Palestinians live in fear of incursions, harassment</p>	<p>Checkpoints</p> <p>About 700 checkpoints eliminate freedom of movement</p>	<p>Unemployment</p> <p>Hundreds of thousands of jobs eliminated with occupation</p>
<p>Wounded</p> <p>27,248 Palestinians wounded from 9/2000 to 9/2004</p>	<p>Torture of Prisoners</p> <p>Thousands tortured in detention and prison</p>	<p>No Passage</p> <p>Jewish-only roads discriminate, and create obstacles to travel</p>
<p>Deaths</p> <p>3614 Palestinians killed in conflict from 9/2000 to 9/2004</p>	<p>Mass Detention</p> <p>Thousands rounded up in mass arrests; detained arbitrarily</p>	<p>Razed Land</p> <p>72 km. sq destroyed by Israelis between 9/2000 and 9/2004</p>

Palestinians Under Attack and Siege

<p>Psychological Terror</p> <p>Millions live in fear of the next suicide bomber</p>
<p>Wounded</p> <p>9000 Israelis wounded in the conflict from 9/2000 to 9/2004</p>
<p>Deaths</p> <p>965 Israelis killed in the conflict from 9/2000 to 9/2004</p>

Israelis Under Attack

The New Monstrosity of the Conflict

Since June 2002, Israel has been building a 700 km. Wall

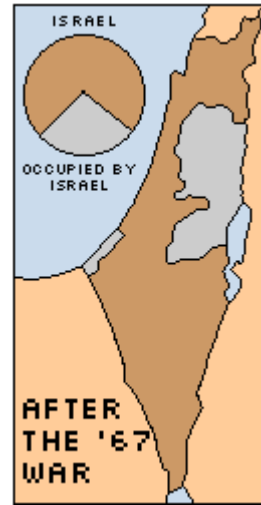
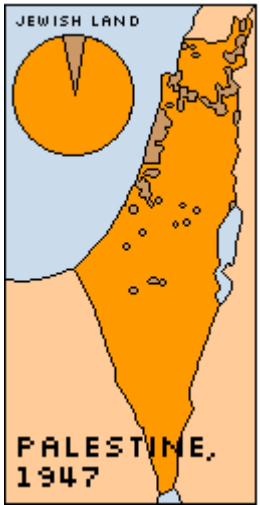
- A Concrete Wall, 8 m. high, with patrol road, razor wire and sniper towers
- Fence, 3 m. high, electrified, with patrol road, trenches, razor wire, and cameras
- Regardless of the name (“Wall,” “Barrier,” “Fence”), the impact is the same (on health, education, communities, jobs, freedom of movement, commerce, etc.)



Historic Palestine: The Story of the Land

Regardless of how you turn it, the Palestinians are the ones who are dispossessed

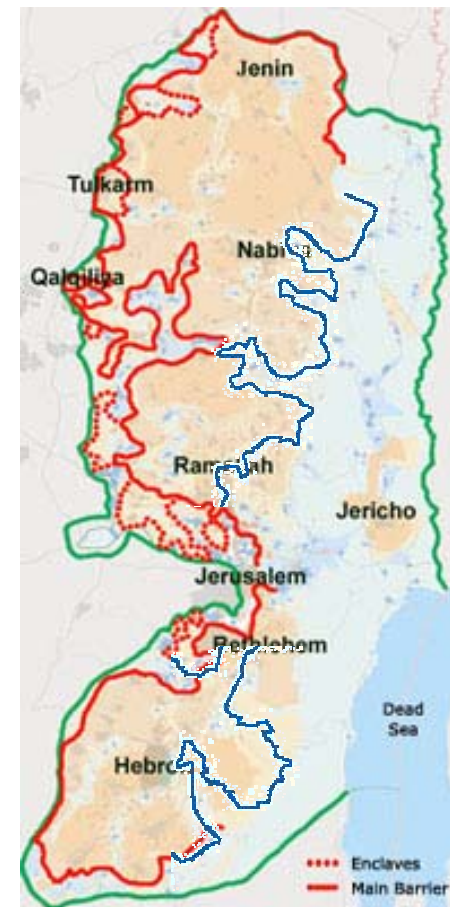
- In 1947, the UN allocated 47 percent of the land to Palestinians
- In 1948, the war left Palestinians with only 23 percent of the land
- In 1967, the Palestinians had an occupation, and no land
- In 1968, Israel annexed East Jerusalem
- Starting in 2002, imprisonment within the Wall began



The Path of the Wall

Israel's right to build a wall is not disputed; it's the placement of the Wall that's the issue

- **Twice the length of the Green Line:** At about 700 km., the Wall is almost twice the length of the Green Line (~350 km.)?
- **Life made Impossible:** The dispossession of communities in the Wall's path
- **Getting a permit to live in your own home:** The debacle of the "Seam Zone"
- **Totally Cut Off:** The calamity of the more than 15 different "walled enclaves"
- **Dividing a City:** The catastrophe of the Wall in Jerusalem
- **The Biggest Fear:** The possible theft of the Jordan Valley in the east



The Wall and Health and Education

- Sample text

The Wall and Palestinian Communities

- Sample text

The Wall and Jobs and Impoverishment

- Sample text

The Wall and International Treaties

The Wall violates a litany of treaties, resolutions and conventions that speak directly to the conflict

- Charter of the United Nations
- Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation
- UN General Assembly Resolution 181
- UN Security Council Resolution 242
- 4th Geneva Convention
- The Oslo Accords

The Wall and the 4th Geneva Conventions

The construction of Israel's Wall is in direct violation of the 4th Geneva Convention - an instrument of international law governing behavior in times of occupation:

- Prohibition on annexation of occupied territory (Article 47)
- Prohibition of confiscation of private property (Article 53)
- Prohibition of mass forcible transfers of the population of the occupied territory (Article 49)
- Prohibition of destruction of private property (Article 53)
- Obstruction of the education of children, and obstruction of the occupied population to access to food supplies and health care (Articles 50 & 55)



Is the Wall an Appropriate Measure?

Regardless of international humanitarian and human rights law, the Wall as constructed is an immoral and unimaginably excessive form of collective punishment:

*"I acknowledge Israel's right to protect its people... However, that duty should **not** be carried out in a way which is in contradiction to international law that could damage the longer-term prospects for peace... or that increases suffering among the Palestinian people."*

- Koffi Annan

*Secretary General of the UN
November 24, 2003*

Decision of the International Court of Justice concerning the Wall

What will Canada do about the ICJ decision (rendered July 9, 2004):

- "The court concludes not only that **it has jurisdiction** to give an opinion on the question put to it by the General Assembly, but also that there is no compelling reason for it to use its discretionary power not to give that opinion." para. 65
- "The fact remains that Israel has to face numerous indiscriminate and deadly acts of violence against its civilian population. It has the right, and indeed the duty, to respond in order to protect the life of its citizens. **The measures taken are bound nonetheless to remain in conformity with applicable international law.**" para. 141
- "The wall, along the route chosen, and its associated regime gravely infringe a number of rights of Palestinians residing in the territory occupied by Israel, and **the infringements resulting from that route cannot be justified by military exigencies** or by the requirements of national security or public order." para. 137
- "The Court ... finds that the construction of **the wall, and its associated regime, are contrary to international law.**" para. 142
- "It is also for **all States**, while respecting the United Nations Charter and international law, to see to it that any impediment, resulting from the construction of the wall, to the exercise by the Palestinian people of its **right to self determination is brought to an end.**" para. 159
- "Moreover, given that the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory has, inter alia, entailed the requisition and destruction of homes, businesses and agricultural holdings, the Court finds further that Israel has the obligation to **make reparation for the damage** caused to all the natural or legal persons concerned." para. 152

Canada's Obligation with respect to the Wall

Canada has not lived up to its commitments under international law and the rule of law

- As a High Contracting Party to the Geneva Conventions, Canada is bound to "respect and **ensure respect for the present convention** in all circumstances." (Article 1, Fourth Geneva Convention)
- As a participant in the Conference of High Contracting Parties on Dec. 5, 2001, where "the **applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the Occupied Palestinian Territory**," was reaffirmed, Canada is unambiguously obliged to take concrete steps to pressure Israel economically and diplomatically.
- Canada voted for UN General Assembly Resolution ES-10/13 demanding that Israel "**stop and reverse**" construction of the Wall.
- Canada **abstained** in a July 20th UN GA vote demanding that 1) Israel "comply with its legal obligations as mentioned in the [ICJ] advisory opinion," and 2) that the state parties to the 4th Geneva Convention "ensure respect by Israel for the convention." (UN vote: 150-6, 10 abstentions)

Canada's Position: Remain neutral and uninvolved

- Are both Palestinians and Israeli's equally incapable of reigning in the escalating violence?
- What is Canada doing to ensure both parties truly work toward peace?
- What is Canada doing to ensure that Israel has reason to come to the bargaining table?

"Canada believes that it is the responsibility of the international community, including this [UN] Assembly, to help create conditions favourable to the peaceful resolution of the conflict, in the context of the Quartet's Road Map. However, we do not believe that this resolution [A/ES-10/L.18/Rev.1]... will advance the cause of peace."

Canada's Explanation of Vote

The Cost of Keeping the Status Quo

Inaction on the part of Canada and the rest of the international community has led to the inexorable, and almost complete dispossession of the Palestinians:

"When we fail, people get killed.

We therefore have only two options before us:

either we act all the time - patiently and tirelessly trying to find a way out of this conflict,

or we sit and watch as more people bleed.

The choice is for each of us to make."

- Terje Roed-Larsen

*Special Coordinator for the
Middle East Peace Process*

July 15, 2004

Canada can bring Positive Change

Canada's "hands-off" approach will do two things:

- It will prolong the suffering
- It will play into the hands of the more powerful of the parties

On the other hand, if Canada chooses,

- Canada can help avert additional suffering due to the Wall
- Canada can uphold the international law and instruments that ultimately protect all of us
- Canada can improve the real prospects for peace - influencing both sides, to the benefit of each... and both.

Canada must act on the Wall... Now!

Words and deeds! By doing the following, Israel will know that Canada is really serious about "stopping and reversing" the construction of the Wall:

- The unequivocal condemnation of the ongoing construction of Israel's Wall within the Occupied Palestinian Territories,
- The exclusion of imports from Israeli "settlements" (located in the Occupied Palestinian Territories) from the Canada – Israel Free Trade Agreement,
- The blocking of tax-free donations from Canadian citizens intended for the construction, expansion or enhancement of Israeli infrastructure – including settlements – in the Occupied Palestinian Territories,
- The suspension of funding of, and participation in the Canada-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation



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Thank You



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Backup Slides

Does Israel need to Negotiate in Good Faith?

Canada's foreign policy on the Wall, and the conflict in general, assume that Israel is seeking a negotiated end to the occupation. Is this a good assumption?

	Israel	Palestine
National Annual Income (billions)	120	3
Annual US Financial Aid (billions)	5	0.02
Military Budget (billions)	10	0.3
Military Forces	605,000	30,000
Nuclear Weapons (estimate)	400	none
Tanks	4,500	none
Armored Vehicles	10,000	none
Artillery	1,700	none
Attack Helicopters	130	none
Jet Fighters	500	none
Warships	50	none

Number of years that Israel has flouted the 4th Geneva Conventions in the OPT	37
Number of years that Israel has ignored UN resolutions to stop establishing colonies in the OPT	37
Number of years that Israel has ignored the Security Council demand to reverse the annexation of Jerusalem	36
Number of years that Israel has failed to respect the terms of the 1947 UN partition of Palestine	56
Number of years that Israel has been demolishing the homes of Palestinian civilians, both in Israel and the OPT	56
Number of years that Israel has ignored the UN's demand that Israel "stop and reverse" construction of the Wall	1

Without concrete penalties on Israel, is there any reason to believe that this number won't grow?

How are others responding to Israel's Intransigence?

If Canada backs up its Middle East policy with actions, as well as words, it will not be alone:

- In 2001, the EU implemented measures to ensure that products made in Israel's colonies in the OPT did not enjoy the preferential tariffs normally accorded Israeli products.
- In August, 2004, Switzerland has required importers to pay frontier guarantee payments (i.e. taxes) on Israeli products whose non-colony origin is not proven.
- In August, 2004, the Presbyterian Church (USA) voted to halt investments in Israel, and to discourage contracts with companies that do business in Israel. The PCA is thought to have more than \$7 billion in financial instruments and pension funds.
- In August, 2004, the 115 member states of the Non-Aligned Movement voted to urge all members to impose sanctions both against Israeli settlements, and international companies that participate in settlement activity, including construction of the Wall.

Israel's Alternatives to the Wall

Israel asserts that it had no alternative but to build the Wall.
This is not true.

- Points

Is the Wall preventing Terrorist Attacks?

As the Wall is constructed, various claims about its efficacy are already being made...

- When a Palestinian terrorist attack succeeds, the Israeli apologist says, "This proves that the Wall is needed."

An alternative view would be, "The Wall doesn't work."

- When months pass between attacks, the Israeli apologist says, "See, the Wall is preventing attacks."

Alternatively, it could be that fewer attacks were launched, or that the increasingly oppressive closures and curfews stopped attacks.

- History has shown that human ingenuity will overcome obstacles like the Wall.

A similar Wall between Rafah and Egypt in the southern Gaza strip is unable to stop Palestinians from tunneling under it. Israel has taken further oppressive steps to place a deeper wall, construct a moat, and demolish hundreds of houses in a 200 m. buffer zone.

Achieving Peace and Justice in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

It is unlikely to achieve a peace in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict without some of the following elements:

- A sincere attempt to address and right historic wrongs (compensation for land, refugees, etc.)
- Negotiation in good faith (not imposed, not a “take it or leave it” attitude)
- A sincere attempt to arrive at a just settlement (e.g. with respect to Jerusalem, land, illegal Israeli colonies in the OPT, etc.)
- Mutual respect
- A peace driven by moderates that will not be derailed by the first extremist act

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