

**From Gaza to Oakland:
An Overview of What's Happening in
Israel & Palestine**

...

Take a look at the words here, which have been all over the news and social media in the past few months.

Zionism

ceasefire

Israel

Islamophobic

Jewish

Palestine

occupation

Muslim

Arab

anti-Semitic

terror

Hamas

Turn & talk:

One thing I know about here is...
One thing I'm wondering about is...
One feeling/concern I have is...

What is Israel? What is Palestine?

Israel & Palestine:

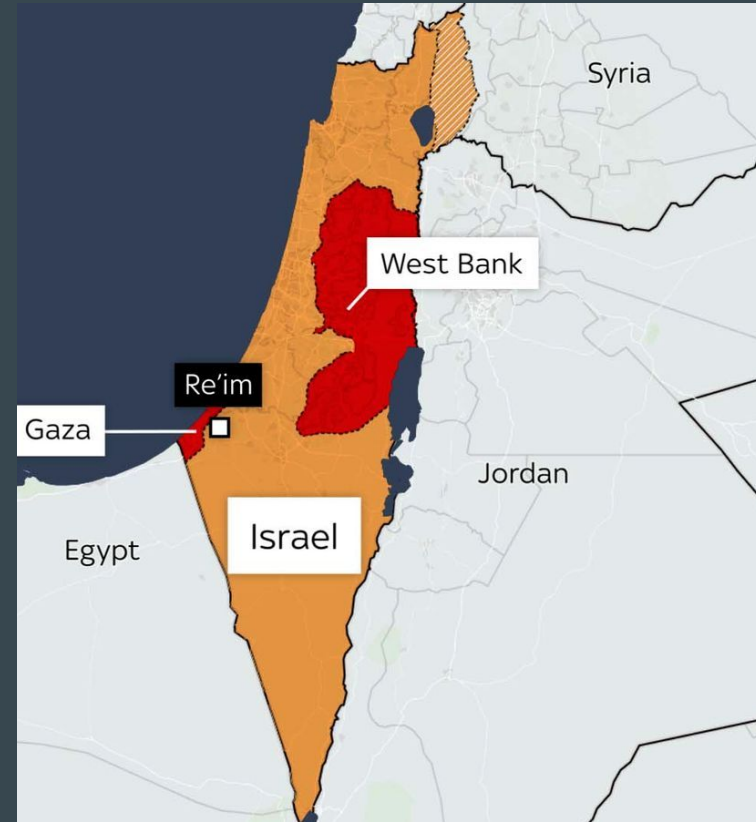
A Very Short Introduction

The conflict between Israel and Palestine has a very long and complex history that we should all continue to study, and involves many of these terms.

As we discuss the current conflict and some of its context, we'll sharpen our understanding of what the terms mean.

What happened October 7, 2023?

- ~5,000 rockets were fired into Israel by Hamas, an armed Palestinian militant group, beginning a 2 day attack known as **Operation Al-Aqsa Flood**
- Around 1,200 Israelis were killed and around 200 captured as hostages
- In response, Israel dropped ~6,000 bombs on Gaza and imposed a total blockade of the Gaza Strip as well as a ground invasion of Gaza
- In addition, Israel ordered Gazans to evacuate northern Gaza due to escalated bombings - leading to 1.7 million Palestinians being displaced
- The Israeli military operation is ongoing today



ISRAEL-GAZA WAR

Latest figures | October 7-November 29, 10:00 GMT

ISRAEL

PALESTINE

GAZA

OCCUPIED WEST BANK

KILLED

ABOUT

1,200*

AT LEAST

15,000**

including 6,150 children

AT LEAST

242

including 57 children

INJURED

AT LEAST

5,600

MORE THAN

36,000**

75% of them
children and women

At least 6,800 missing

AT LEAST

3,000

* Israeli death toll was revised down from 1,405.

** The collapse of Gaza's health system has impeded regular casualty updates by the Health Ministry since November 10.



Source: Al Jazeera, Palestinian Ministry of Health (West Bank), Government media office in Gaza, Israeli army, Palestine Red Crescent Society | November 29, 2023 | 10:00 GMT

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What is Hamas?

- Hamas is an Islamist political group focused on Palestinian liberation
- It was created in 1987 as a response to the perception that other Palestinian parties (PLO and Fatah) were capitulating too much in negotiations with Israel & were receiving nothing - specifically after the Oslo Accords
- Hamas is considered a terrorist group by the USA, the EU, the UK, Canada, Australia, Paraguay and Israel
- Hamas is widely credited with organizing the 2nd Intifada, which resulted in the removal of Israeli settlers and soldiers in Gaza - in response Israel placed a blockade on Gaza



What Hamas Says:

Hamas stated the October 7 attack was a response to the Israeli occupation, the blockade of the Gaza Strip, restrictions on movement of Palestinians, Israeli violence against Palestinians, the and imprisonment of thousands of Palestinians



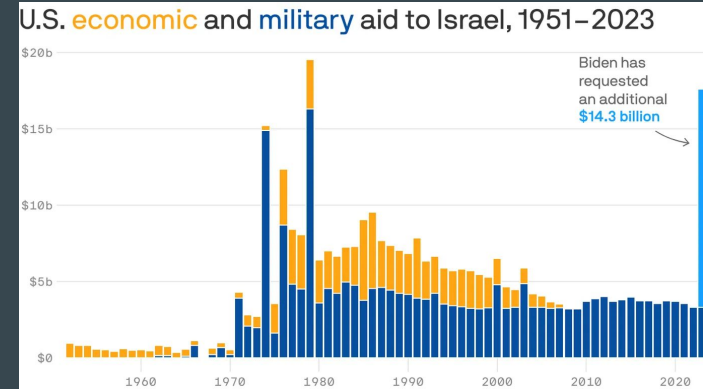
What Israel Says:

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said Hamas launched a 'murderous surprise attack' and ordered to 'clear out the communities that have been infiltrated by terrorists' and ordered a counter 'of a magnitude that the enemy has not known'



What is the US position?

- The United States has been a **major ally of Israel** since Israel became a nation in 1948 and sends more than **\$3 billion** each year to fund the Israel Defense Forces
- In October, the US Senate voted 97-0 to **reaffirm support for Israel**
- US President Biden asked Congress to approve **\$14 billion to Israel** in its war against Hamas. The House of Representatives has approved it, and the Senate will meet this week
- **68% of US Americans** say they agree with the statement “**Israel should call a ceasefire and try to negotiate.**”



What has been happening in the Bay Area related to this?

