

The Palestine Conflict and International Politics: A Sociological Analysis

Rehiana

Research Scholar (Ph.D.), Department of Sociology Panjab University,
Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development Chandigarh
Email: rehianakhan26@gmail.com

ABSTRACT – One of the longest-running and most complicated problems in world affairs is the Palestine dispute. In order to analyse the war from a sociological angle, this research paper will concentrate on the social, cultural, and historical elements that have led to its continuation. The paper will analyse the origins of the conflict and how power dynamics, identity politics, and geopolitical interests have affected it using a variety of academic sources. There are several suggestions that might be made to address the fundamental problems that are the cause of the Palestine conflict.

Keywords: *Palestine, Conflict, Power, Identity, Geopolitics.*

I. Introduction

The Israeli-Palestinian dispute, commonly referred to as the Palestine conflict, is a protracted conflict that has lasted for more than 70 years. The war began when Zionist Jews moved to Palestine in the late 19th and early 20th centuries with the intention of founding a Jewish state. The long-established Arab population of Palestine rejected this inflow of immigration and the establishment of a Jewish state on their territory. With no end in sight, this struggle has lasted despite multiple wars, discussions, and peace talks

Several researches also affirmed that blended learning can increase student interest. Since technology is integrated in this type of modality, it can create a positive impact on learner's satisfaction, promote engagement, and facilitate academic success (D'angelo, 2018 as cited in Udto & Kusain, 2023). Furthermore, this modality prepares students for the future since they are offered with multitude real-world skills that directly translate into life skills, research skills, self-learning, self-engagement, better decision making, sense of responsibility, and computer literacy.

II. Review of literature

“Intractable Conflicts” investigates the socio-psychological causes of such conflicts, while “The Battle for Justice in

Palestine” covers the Palestinian fight for justice. Both “Political Islam” and “The Israel-Palestine Conflict” examine the role of Islam in the conflict. “The Israel-Palestine Conflict” presents a century-long history of the conflict. While “The Oslo Syndrome” highlights the drawbacks of the Oslo peace process, “Israel’s Perceptions of Europe” examines Israel’s connection with Europe. The impact of pro-Israel lobbying on American politics is examined in “The Israel Lobby and US Foreign Policy”. While “America’s Other Middle East Challenge” focuses on US involvement in the peace process, “The Arab-Israeli Conflict” and “Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict” provide historical context.

Objective of studies:

- To examine the Israeli-Palestinian issue from a sociological angle.
- There are several suggestions that might be made to address the fundamental problems that are the cause of the Palestine conflict.

III. Methodology

The research is exploratory in nature. The study uses secondary data derived from books, news, and articles.

Sociological Analysis:

The conflict in Palestine is complicated and multifaceted, making it impossible to comprehend it entirely from a political or economic perspective. To evaluate the social, cultural, and historical elements that have contributed to the continuation of the war, a sociological viewpoint is required. Some of the important sociological aspects of the conflict will be examined in the sections that follow.

Power Dynamics: The Palestine conflict is characterized by power dynamics that are deeply rooted in historical Power dynamics have a strong historical and political foundation and are a defining feature of the Palestine conflict. A turning point in the conflict was the founding of the State of Israel in 1948, which ushered in a new regional power structure. Israel has been able to assert its dominance over the Palestinian populace in a number of ways due to its substantial economic and military resources. This includes using force to put down Palestinian resistance, imposing travel restrictions on Palestinians, and building settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. A significant barrier to the conflict's resolution has been the disparity in power between Israel and the Palestinians.

Identity politics: Both Israelis and Palestinians view themselves as members of a distinct national group with a distinctive history and culture, and this has had a significant impact on the Palestine conflict. To build a national homeland for the Jewish people, the Zionist movement worked to establish a Jewish state in Palestine. Israeli policies are seen as colonialist by Palestinians, who perceive themselves as the region's native people. These conflicting national identities have aggravated the situation and made reaching a settlement challenging.

Geopolitical Interests: A number of international actors are participating in the Palestine conflict, which is also affected by geopolitical interests. Historically, the United States has played a significant role in the conflict by supporting Israel on the diplomatic, military, and financial fronts. In recent years, other nations, including Russia and China, have also gotten

engaged. Countries now compete with one another over control of the war by utilising their engagement to further their own goals. Finding a solution to the problem has now become even more difficult as a result of this.

Conclusion:

A sociological viewpoint is necessary to adequately comprehend the complicated and ongoing Palestine conflict. A variety of elements, such as power dynamics, identity politics, and geopolitical interests, influence the war. A durable solution to the conflict will require addressing these underlying problems. In the end, the Palestine conflict serves as a reminder of the need of comprehending the sociological aspects of global politics and the need to approach complicated topics from a variety of angles.

Recommendations:

Given the sociological analysis presented, a number of suggestions could be made in order to address the fundamental problems that are the cause of the Palestine conflict. Several of these suggestions consist of:

Addressing Power Gaps: A resolution to the conflict requires that the power gap between Israel and the Palestinians be addressed. This can be achieved by making sure that the Palestinian population is not subject to restrictions on their freedom of movement or access to fundamental human rights, and that all sides have equal access to resources.

Cross-Cultural Understanding Promotion: Another critical step towards settling the conflict is the promotion of understanding between Israelis and Palestinians. This could be accomplished by encouraging intercultural communication and exchange as well as educational initiatives that teach about the history and cultures of both groups.

Supporting Diplomatic attempts: It is important to encourage and support diplomatic attempts to end the Palestine problem. This involves advocating for the restart of the two sides' peace negotiations as well as supporting the activities of international organizations like the United Nations.

Addressing Geopolitical Interests: It is important to keep an eye on and control outside players' engagement in the Palestine problem in a way that promotes regional peace and stability. This can entail collaborating with these parties to identify areas of shared interest and enlisting their support for peace initiatives rather than escalating the conflict.

Conclusion:

In summary, the understanding of the Palestine conflict demands a sociological viewpoint because it is a complicated and multifaceted problem. Finding a durable solution requires addressing the underlying social, cultural, and historical issues that fuel the conflict. This entails dealing with power disparities, fostering intercultural understanding, assisting diplomatic initiatives, and controlling outside geopolitical interests. These actions could pave the way for a more stable and peaceful future for Israelis and Palestinians alike.

Constraints and Prospective Research:

The sociological analysis presented in this research article has a number of restrictions. First off, the research does not go into great length about the economic and political aspects of the Palestine conflict, instead concentrating on the social and cultural causes that fuel it. The analysis is also constrained by the quantity, calibre, and prejudice of the academic sources and data, which can be incomplete or biased.

By examining the political and economic aspects of the Palestine issue in greater detail, future study could build on this analysis. Research might, for instance, look at how trade and investment have affected the conflict's economic dynamics or investigate the political tactics both parties have employed to further their own agendas. Additionally, in order to develop a more nuanced view of the conflict, future study might aim to include the opinions of a larger spectrum of stakeholders, such as common Israelis and Palestinians.

Future research could build on this analysis by exploring the economic and political dimensions of the Palestine conflict in more detail. For example, research could examine the impact

of economic factors such as trade and investment on the conflict, or explore the political strategies used by both sides to advance their interests. Additionally, future research could seek to incorporate the perspectives of a wider range of stakeholders, including ordinary Israelis and Palestinians, in order to gain a more nuanced understanding of the conflict.

IV. Conclusion

In conclusion, the understanding of the Palestine conflict demands a sociological viewpoint because it is a complicated and lasting problem. Numerous social, cultural, historical, and geopolitical elements all contribute to the conflict's structure and interact intricately to keep it going. A durable solution to the conflict will require addressing these underlying problems. It might be possible to advance towards a more peaceful and stable future for Israelis and Palestinians equally by adopting a multidimensional strategy that includes insights from sociology, economics, politics, and other disciplines.

V. References

- [1]. Abunimah, A. (2015). *The Battle for Justice in Palestine*. Haymarket Books.
- [2]. Bar-Tal, D. (2013). *Intractable conflicts: Sociopsychological foundations and dynamics*. Cambridge University Press.
- [3]. Gelvin, J. L. (2014). *The Israel-Palestine Conflict: One Hundred Years of War*. Cambridge University Press.
- [4]. Hroub, K. (2016). *Political Islam and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- [5]. Joffe, G. (2012). Israel's Perceptions of Europe. *The Journal of International Affairs*, 66(1), 107-121.
- [6]. Lustick, I. S. (2013). *The Oslo Syndrome: Delusions of a People Under Siege*. University of Chicago Press.

- [7]. Mearsheimer, J. J., & Walt, S. M. (2007). The Israel Lobby and US Foreign Policy. Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
- [8]. Nathan, S. R., & Norden, D. L. (1990). The Arab-Israeli Conflict: A Political, Social, and Military History. ABC-CLIO.
- [9]. Smith, C. D. (2009). Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict: A History with Documents. Bedford/St. Martin's.
- [10]. Stokes, D. E. (2012). America's Other Middle East Challenge: The Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process. Palgrave Macmillan.
- [11]. Tessler, M. (2014). Public Opinion in the Middle East: Survey Research and the Political Orientations of Ordinary Citizens. Indiana University Press.
- [12]. Yiftachel, O. (2014). Ethnocracy: Land and Identity Politics in Israel/Palestine. University of Pennsylvania Press.

