



# PALESTINE AND **FREEDOM FLOTILLA**

NARRATIVE INFOGRAPHICS

Kadriye Sınmaz



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## NARRATIVE INFOGRAPHICS

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İHH HUMANITARIAN AND SOCIAL RESEARCH CENTER  
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# WHERE IS GAZA?



While most of the Palestinian territories came under Israeli occupation in 1948, the Gaza Strip was previously controlled by Egypt, while East Jerusalem (al-Quds) and West Bank were under Jordan's control. Thus the Palestinian territories were divided into three parts.

And all the Palestinian Territories have been occupied by Israel since 1967.



TOTAL AREA:

**365 km<sup>2</sup>**

TOTAL POPULATION:

**2 MILLIONS**

NUMBER OF REFUGEE:

**1.4 MILLION**

OR 70% OF THE TOTAL  
POPULATION

In 2005, Israel withdrew from the Gaza Strip.

Hamas won the parliamentary election in 2006.

However following tension between Fatah and Hamas, the Palestinian territories were divided into two different administrations.

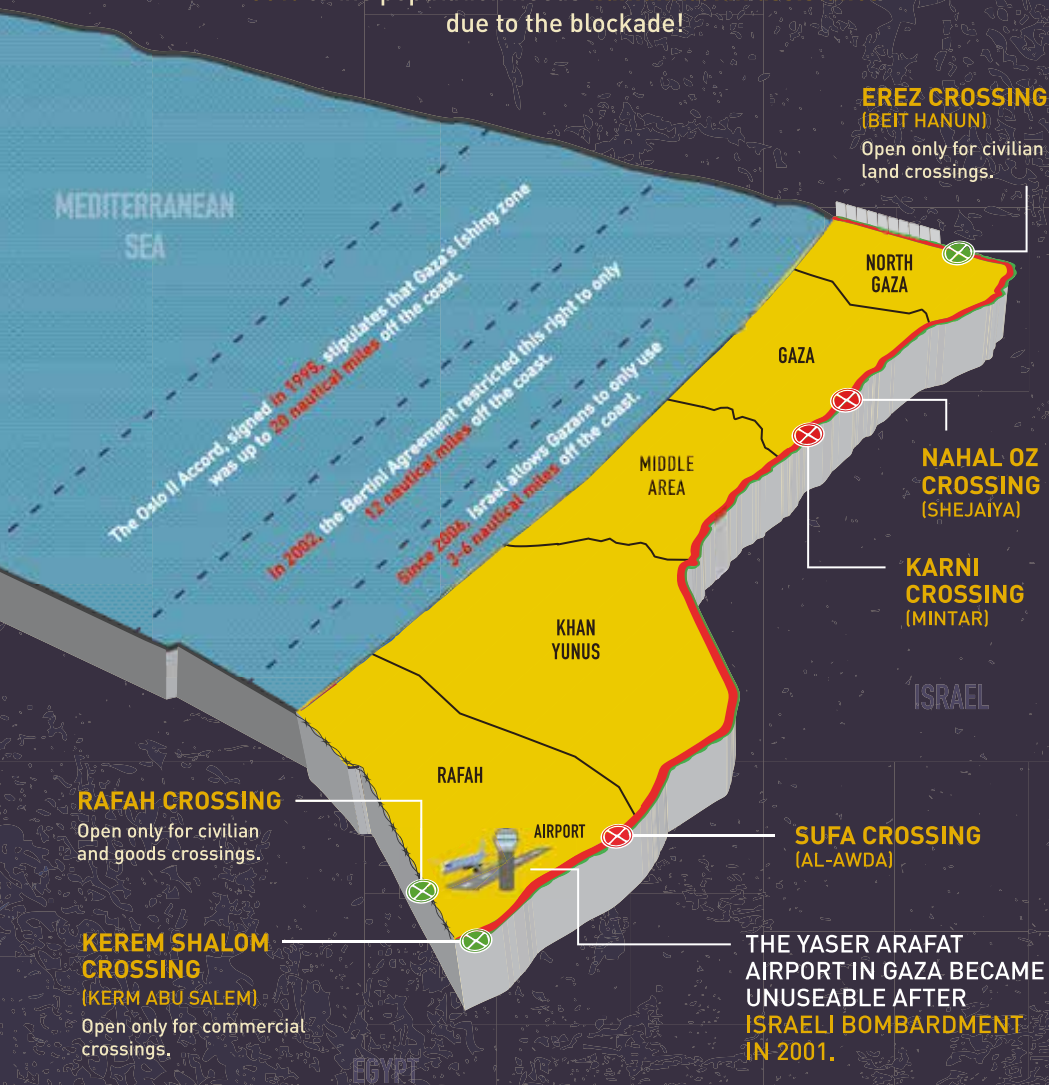
Today the West Bank is controlled by Fatah, while the Gaza Strip falls under the control of Hamas.



# GAZA WAS TURNED INTO AN OPEN-AIR PRISON!

Since 2006, Israel has been imposing an air, land and sea blockade on Gaza!

80% of the population needs humanitarian assistance due to the blockade!



OPEN BORDER CROSSING



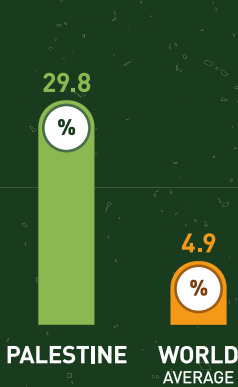
CLOSED BORDER CROSSING



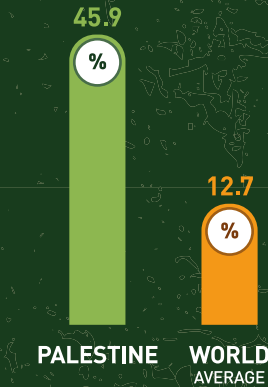
AIRPORT

# PALESTINIAN ECONOMICAL INDICATORS IS ALARMING!

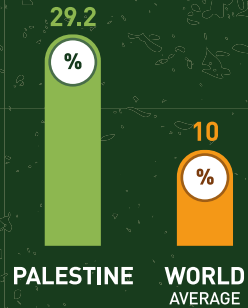
GDP Per Capita  
(US Dollars)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



POVERTY RATE

## TODAY, THE SITUATION IN GAZA IS EVEN WORSE!

Gazans are **25%** poorer today than the period of the Oslo Accords.



Unemployment rate in Gaza is **52%.**



Unemployment rate among the Gazan Youth is **69%.**



Poverty rate in Gaza is **53%.**



GDP PER  
CAPITA IN GAZA: \$ 343



WORLD  
AVERAGE: \$ 16,108



! The economic crisis in Gaza deepened after Donald Trump decided to stop the US funding to UNRWA.

# STOLEN FUTURE BY THE BLOCKADE: **PALESTINIAN CHILDREN**

The biggest victims of the blockade and attacks on Palestine are children, as **38%** of the population is under the age of 15.



In the last 10 years,  
**912**  
children died and  
at least  
**12,000**  
children wounded  
by Israeli attacks.



The  
number of  
Palestinian  
children  
held in  
Israeli  
prisons is  
**180**



**18,600**  
children are  
disabled.  
**38%** of  
which cannot  
receive  
education.



At  
least  
**22,000**  
children  
are  
orphan.



**25%** of  
children in  
Gaza (290,000  
children) need  
permanent  
psychological  
support.

## BLOCKADE ON EDUCATION



**25%** of 15  
year-old boys are  
compelled to stop  
attending school and  
work in order and  
earn a living for the  
family.



**Two  
thirds** of  
schools in Gaza  
provide education  
two to three  
times a day due  
to the lack of  
infrastructure.



**Half a  
million** of  
children are  
dependent on  
humanitarian  
assistance to  
continue their  
education.



Israeli  
attacks have  
led to the  
destruction of  
**259**  
schools in  
Gaza.

# PALESTINIAN HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE IS ABOUT TO COLLAPSE!

Palestine's healthcare indicators are significantly low compared to that of Israel due to the Israel's **blockade and restrictions!**

## AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY



## MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIO



## INFANT MORTALITY RATIO



## CHILD MORTALITY RATIO



## NUMBER OF HOSPITAL BEDS



## THE SITUATION IN GAZA IS FAR WORSE!

### NO FOOD SECURITY!

Food insecurity in Palestine affects **68%** of the population (1.3 million people)



**10.8%** of Gazan children suffer from development disorder due to malnutrition.

### WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION ARE INADEQUATE!

**96%** of the existing water sources are inconsumable.



Over **108,000** cubic meters of untreated sewage flow daily into the sea.

### PROLONGED ELECTRICITY CUTS!

There is electricity cuts around **13 hours** a day.



All **health facilities and devices** are at risk due to power cuts.

### MEDICAL EQUIPMENT IS LACKING!

Only **50%** of required essential drugs



**27%** of required medical supplies

**ARE AVAILABLE!**

### ATTACKS ON HEALTHCARE WORKERS AND HOSPITALS CONTINUE

In 2019, **363** recorded incidents were recorded against health workers and facilities;



**3** health workers were killed and **570** injured, while **3** health facilities were damaged, **84** ambulances and **5** transport vehicles shot.

### BORDERS ARE RESTRICTED OR PATIENT AND MEDICAL SUPPLY CROSSING.

**4** out of **10** patients were not allowed to go out of Gaza to access healthcare.

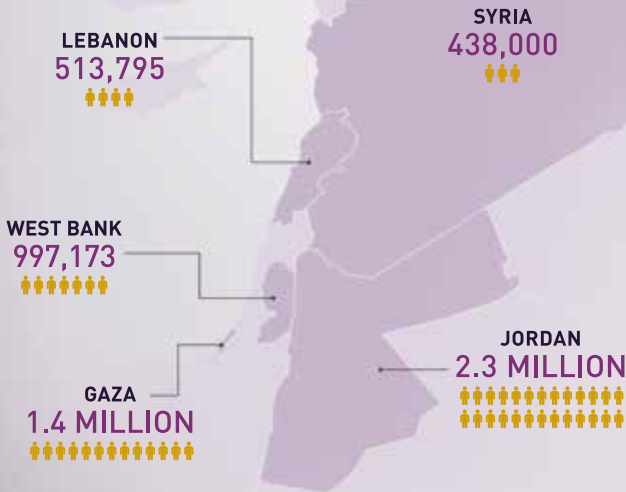


**22%** of the patients demanding to go abroad are those in need of cancer treatments.



**7** THERE ARE ABOUT  
**MILLION**

# PALESTINIAN REFUGEES WORLDWIDE!



AND THE REST OF MORE  
THAN 1 MILLION  
**PALESTINIAN**  
**REFUGEES**  
ARE CATTERED AROUND  
THE WORLD!



- In 1948 and 1967, Israel had **forcibly displaced** more than **1 million Palestinians** from their homes.
- Today, almost **half of Palestinians** are registered **refugees**.
- Despite the fact that refugees' **right to return** is recognized by **UN resolution 194**, Israel is **violently** suppressing **Palestinians'** requests for return.





# THE ZIONIST ISRAELI REGIME KILLING PALESTINIAN CHILDREN FOR YEARS!

## NUMBER OF DEATHS



### OPERATION "CAST LEAD"

(DECEMBER 27, 2008 - JANUARY 18, 2009)

**1,436 PEOPLE DIED**



**5,400 people injured**

**4,100 houses demolished**

**1,700 houses damaged**

### OPERATION "PILLAR OF DEFENSE"

(NOVEMBER 14-21, 2012)

**162 PEOPLE DIED**



**1,300 people injured**

**200 houses demolished**

**1,500 houses damaged**

### OPERATION "CAST LEAD"

(JANUARY 18-2009)

**1,436 PEOPLE DIED**



**5,400 people injured**

**4,100 houses demolished**

**1,700 houses damaged**

# E HAS BEEN CIVILIANS



## "THE GREAT MARCH OF RETURN" CAUSALITIES

Palestinians launched **The Great March of Return** campaign on **March 30, 2018**, demanding an end of the **blockade on Gaza** and the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland. Israel intervened these **peaceful** demonstrations with **live ammunition**.



## OPERATION "PROTECTIVE EDGE"

JUNE 8-AUGUST 26, 2014)

**2,147 PEOPLE DIED**

**0,870** people injured.  
**65** houses demolished.  
**658** houses damaged.

## AMPUTATED PEOPLE:

**148 PEOPLE PRIMARILY**

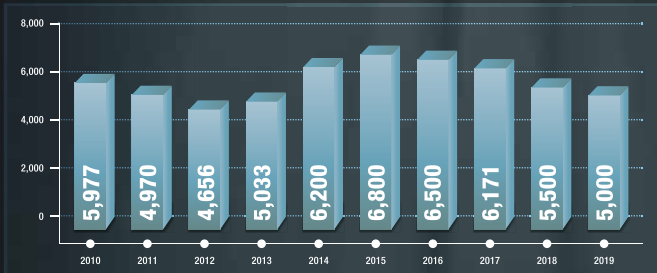
**108 PEOPLE SECONDARILY**

According to the **UN**, the treatment period of **1,200 people** who have been severely injured in their limbs ranges from **six to three years**, and each treatment requires up to **\$ 40,000**.

# TORTURE IS A ROUTINE PRACTICE IN ISRAELI PRISONS!

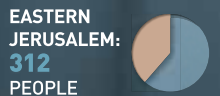
Palestinian detainees are subject to **ill treatment** and often **torture, solitary confinement, deliberate medical neglect** and excessive restrictions on **family visits** by the **Zionist Israeli regime**.

## NUMBER OF PALESTINIANS IMPRISONED IN THE LAST 10 YEARS



ISRAEL HAS DETAINED  
**1 MILLION**  
PALESTINIANS  
SINCE 1967,  
**16,000 OF**  
THEM WOMEN

## NUMBER OF PRISONERS PER REGION (2020)



**541** prisoners have been  
**SENTENCED FOR LIFE**

**180 CHILD PRISONERS**  
(26 of them under 16)

**461** prisoners are in  
**ADMINISTRATIVE  
DETENTION\***

**41 WOMEN**  
prisoners

\*Administrative detention is a procedure that allows the Israeli military to detain a person (from 6 months to 5 years under the order of security provisions specifically in the West Bank) on the grounds that he or she plans to break the law in the future.

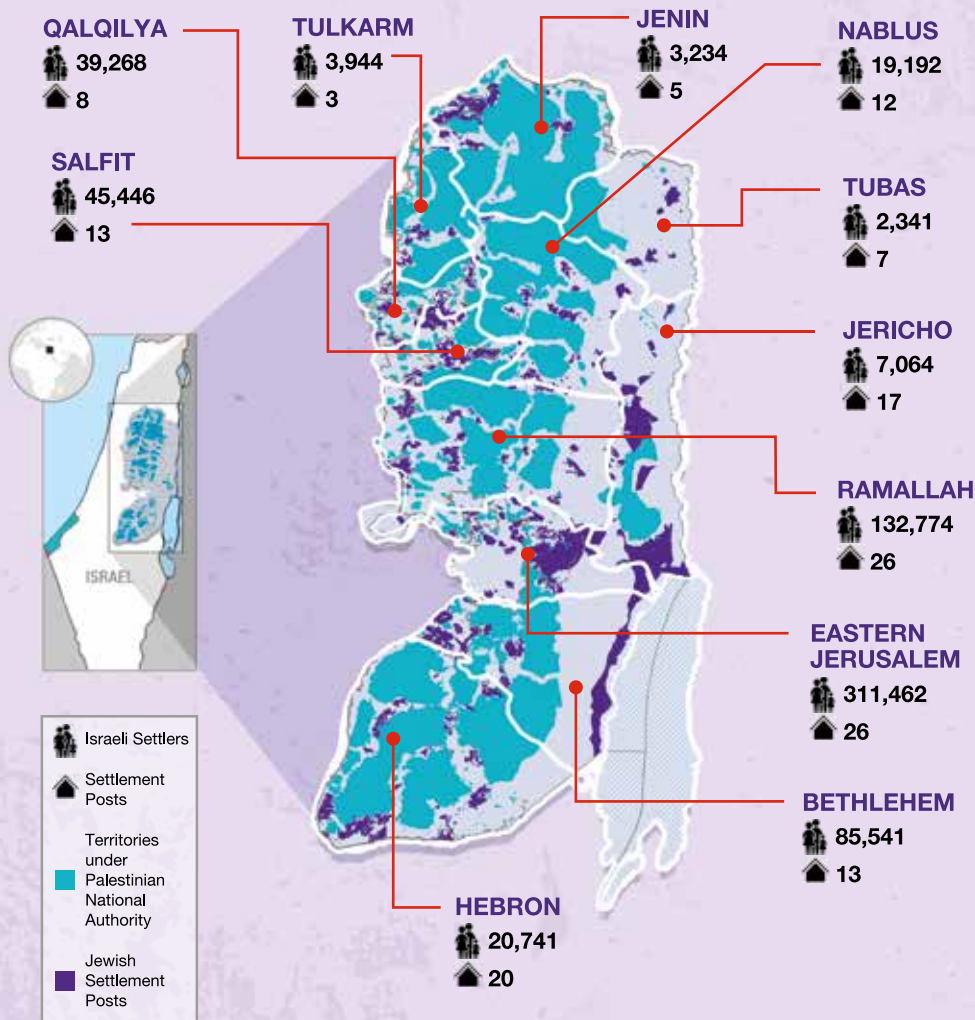
## TORTURE

**95%** of **Palestinians** are subject to torture under detention.  
Israel uses **200 different methods of torture** according to the **UN**.  
At least **200 Palestinians died under torture** in Israeli prisons.

**66%** of prisoners are subject to sleep deprivation, **31%** to physical violence, **61%** to threats, and **40%** to prolonged shackling and stressed positions, **27%** to sexual violence and humiliation.

# ILLEGAL SETTLEMENTS IN PALESTINE

The number of illegal **Israeli settlers invading** occupied Palestinian territories is on the rise.

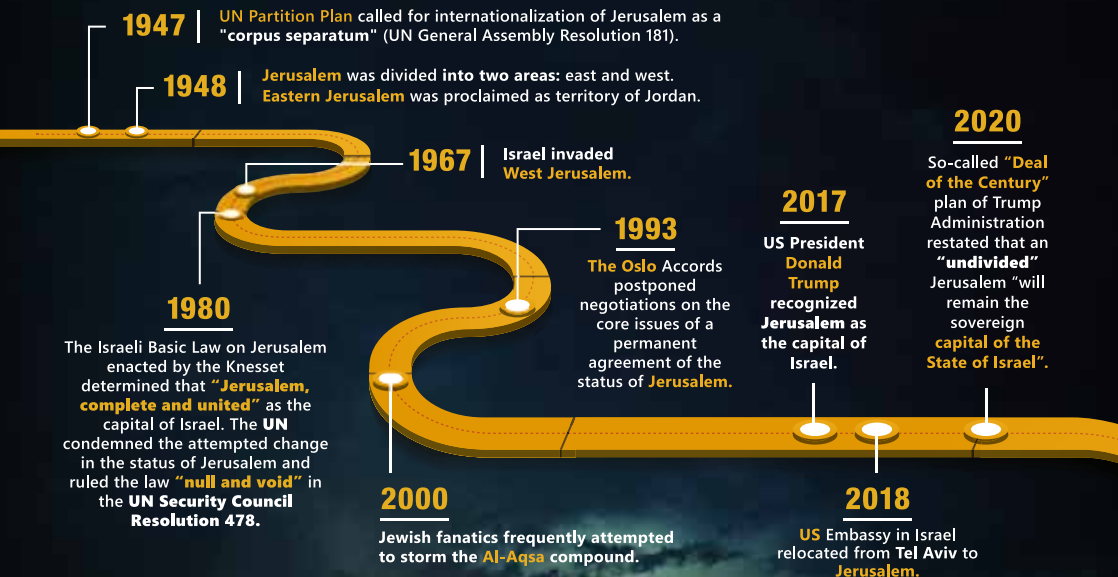


**Israel's settlement** activity has been a flagrant violation of the **Fourth Geneva Convention** and UN Security Council Resolutions. Numerous UN Security Council Resolutions such as **Resolution 446 adopted** in 1976, **Resolution 904 adopted** in 1994, **Resolution 61/118 adopted** in 2006, **Resolution 2334 adopted** in 2016, and many other resolutions condemned Israeli settlements reaffirming that **they had no legal validity**.



# JERUSALEM UNDER THREAT

One of the biggest aims of the **Zionist regime** in Palestinian territories is to drive out the entire Palestinian population in Jerusalem and turning it into a **Jewish city**.



## VIOLATIONS

### AGAINST PALESTINIANS' RIGHTS TO PROPERTY

- **Sale of property** between Palestinians is subjected to discriminatory restrictions.
- Palestinians' homes have been **subject to demolition or confiscation**.
- Palestinians are deprived of their rights to **inheritance**.

## VIOLATIONS

### AGAINST FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND FREEDOM TO PRACTICE RELIGION

- **Al-Aqsa Mosque** is in danger of collapsing!
- Jewish fanatics are storming **Al-Aqsa**!
- **Excavation** under the Al-Aqsa compound is ongoing!
- Muslims are **denied** access to **Al-Aqsa**!



# THREATS AGAINST AL-AQSA

Immediately after Israel invaded Eastern Jerusalem, it initiated **excessive excavations** under the **al-Aqsa** compound.

1967

**June 24:** Israeli forces occupied **al-Madrasa al-Tankiziyya** and turned it into a police station.

1969

**August 21:** An Australian Christian fanatic, Denis Michael Rohan, set fire to the **Al-Aqsa Mosque**, burning one third of it.

**Excavations** under **Al-Aqsa** caused large cracks on the walls and buildings in the compound.

1974

During the excavations along the **Western Wall**, the Zionists built a small Jewish temple in a tunnel under the **Al-Aqsa** compound.

1979

The Israeli Central Court ruled that Jews had the **right to pray** inside the **Al-Aqsa Mosque**.

1976

In a bid to accelerate efforts to drive **Muslim population** out of Jerusalem, the Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem initiated the "**Jerusalem 2020 Project**".

1994

A Jewish **terror group** plotted to bomb the **Al-Aqsa mosque**; they were prevented at a short notice.

1984

Some of the **Palestinians' properties** neighboring to the **Al-Aqsa** compound were confiscated and given to **Jewish settlers**.

1982

The Israeli police shot live ammunitions and **killed 20 Palestinians** during a protest against Jewish fanatics from the Temple Mount Faithful who were attempting to make rituals inside the **Al-Aqsa** compound.

1990

On **April 15, 1983**, some 200 items, including rare manuscripts and paintings were stolen from the Jerusalem **Museum for Islamic Art**.

1983

**Ariel Sharon** stormed the **Al-Aqsa Mosque** accompanied by heavy security presence, which triggered the Second (Aqsa) Intifada.

2000

**Palestinians** were forcibly evicted from their houses in **Silwan, Sheikh Jarrah and al-Bustan** neighborhoods.

2008

Muslims are barred from entering the **Al-Aqsa Mosque** through the **Mughrabi Gate**.

2007

**Jews and Muslims** were allowed to perform prayers in **Al-Aqsa** in restricted times everyday.

2010



# GAZA

# FREEDOM FLOTILLA

## PALESTINE OUR ROUTE, HUMANITARIAN AID OUR LOAD!

The Gaza Freedom Flotilla was on its route to **Gaza** with the participation of more than **700 volunteers** from **37** countries when it was attacked on **May 31, 2010**.



### THE AIMS OF THE FLOTILLA:

- Raising attention of global public opinion to the humanitarian situation in Palestine.
- Breaking the unlawful blockade of Israel and establishing a permanent aid corridor to deliver humanitarian aid.
- Providing humanitarian aid to Gaza.



### THE SIX NGO ORGANIZERS OF THE FLOTILLA:

- Free Gaza Movement
- IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation
- Ship to Gaza Greece
- Ship to Gaza Sweden
- The European Campaign to End the Siege on Gaza
- The International Committee to Lift the Siege on Gaza



### THE SEVEN SHIPS PARTICIPATED IN THE FLOTILLA:

Mavi Marmara, Gazze 1, Defne Y, Challenger 1, Sfendoni, Eleftheri Mesogios (Sofia), Rachel Corrie



In the early hours of **May 31, 2010**, **Israeli soldiers** attacked the Flotilla in international waters. As a result, **10 civilian volunteers were martyred** and at least **50 volunteers from different nationalities were wounded** aboard the Mavi Marmara.

### THE MARTYRS:



ALİ HAYDAR  
BENGİ



CENGİZ  
AKYÜZ



CENGİZ  
SONGÜR



CEVDET  
KILIÇLAR



ÇETİN  
TOPÇUOĞLU



FAHRİ  
YILDIZ



FURKAN  
DOĞAN



İBRAHİM  
BILGEN

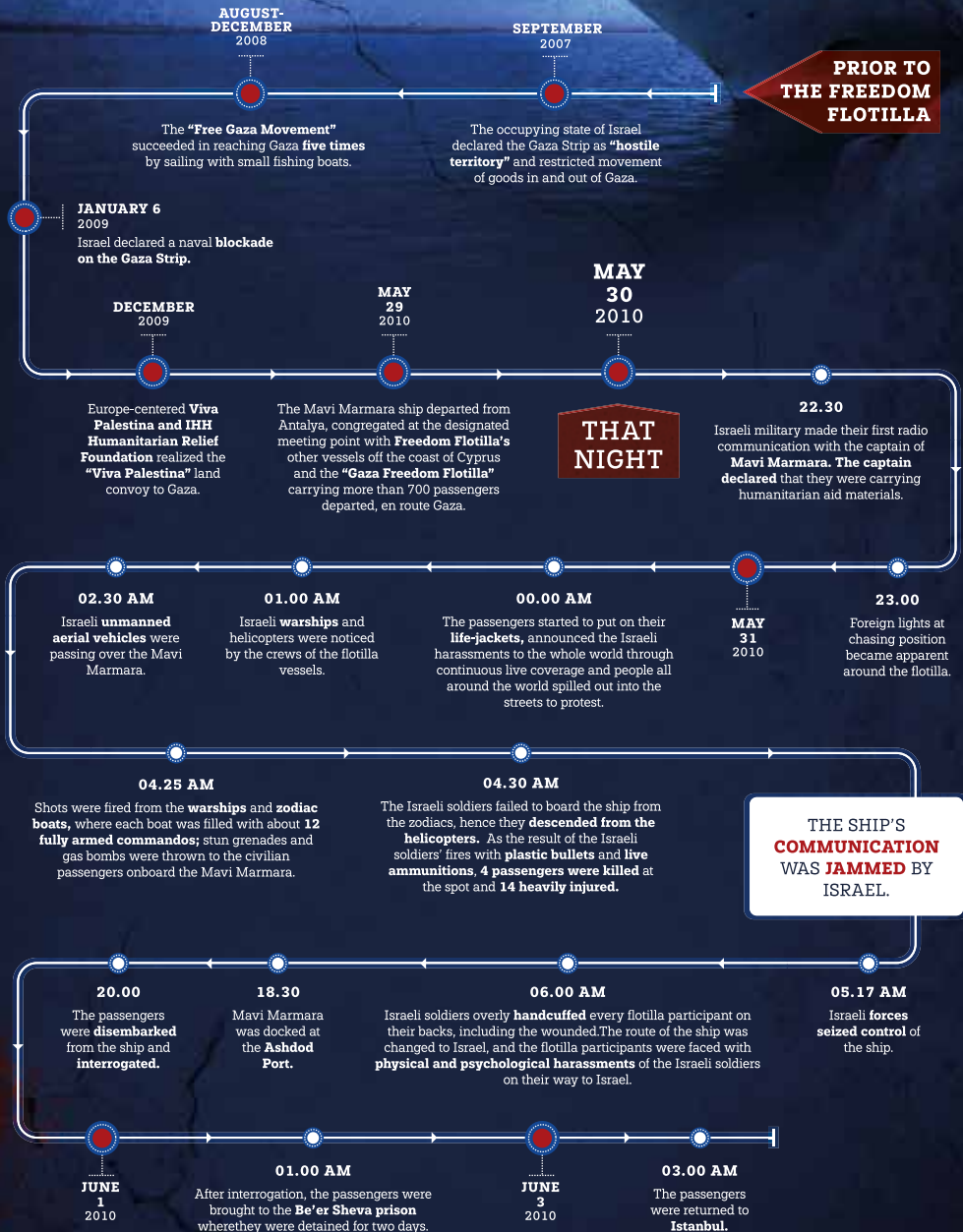


NECDET  
YILDIRIM



UĞUR SÜLEYMAN  
SÖYLEMEZ

# WHAT HAPPENED ON MAVI MARMARA?



# MAVI MARMARA LAWSUITS IN TURKEY AND AROUND THE WORLD



## TURKEY

### CRIMINAL CASE:



The complaints of Mavi Marmara victims were joined together in a lawsuit that **was filed in 2012 against** Israeli officials responsible for the attack. There were **502 plaintiffs** in the case of which **78** were foreign nationals.

### DEFENDANTS:



- 1) Former Israeli Chief of Staff Gen. Gavriel Ashkenazi
- 2) Former Navy Commander Eliezer Alfred Maron
- 3) Former Air Force Intelligence officer Avishay Levi
- 4) Former Intelligence Chief Amos Yadlin

• The case was dropped on December 9, 2016 after an agreement reached between Turkey and Israel in August 28, 2016.

• No decision has yet been made on the appeal of the court case.

### LAWSUITS FOR COMPENSATION:



- Families of Mavi Marmara victims filed **85 separate lawsuits** for compensation in Kayseri, Denizli, Diyarbakır, Ankara, Izmir, Istanbul, Konya, Erzurum and Batman cities of Turkey.
- The amount of compensation demanded totaled **23 million TL**.
- The agreement reached between Turkey and Israel means Turkey shall address any demand of compensation if Israel is obliged to pay compensation for any.

## AROUND THE WORLD;

### SPAIN:

An investigation opened following an official complaint by the **Spanish attendants** resulted in an arrest warrant issued for seven senior-level Israeli executives.



### USA:

The family of Furkan Doğan, an American citizen, filed a lawsuit in the USA where the judge ruled that the case be dropped on the grounds of the Turkish-Israeli agreement, however, this lawsuit has yet to be concluded.



### SOUTH AFRICA:

Gadija Davids, a South African journalist who was aboard the Mavi Marmara, also filed a lawsuit at the end of which the names of the Israeli defendants were notified to the border police so that they can be arrested upon entering South Africa.



## INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC)

In 2013, an application was filed with ICC on behalf of the State of the Comoros. Later on, Cambodia and Greece also joined this application.

A decision issued from the Office of the Attorney General on November 6, 2014 labelled Israel as an occupying party in Gaza and classified Israel's attack against the fleet as a "war crime". Israel's claims for "self-defense", on the other hand, were not found worth discussing.

The process for initiating an investigation into Mavi Marmara before the ICC is still ongoing due to procedure-related discussions between the Office of the Attorney General and the Superior Court.





# ILLEGAL SIEGE! ILLEGAL ATTACK!

The Israeli-imposed blockade on the Gaza Strip and its interception of the Freedom Flotilla are blatant cases of violation of the **Fourth Geneva Convention** and **International Humanitarian Law**.

## THE SIEGE ON GAZA IS ILLEGAL!

BECAUSE:

1. The Israeli-imposed blockade on the whole population of the Gaza Strip simply because they elected Hamas, violates the international ban of **"collective punishment"**.
2. The Israeli blockade had resulted in starving the civilian population and depriving them of vital needs. It amounts to the violation of the **principle of proportionality**.
3. Although Israel has no legal basis to intervene ships carrying humanitarian aid, it has carried out a violent attack on the flotilla.

## ISRAELI INTERCEPTION OF THE FREEDOM FLOTILLA IS ILLEGAL!

BECAUSE:

Israeli military's assault on Mavi Marmara in international waters and the excessive use of force against Mavi Marmara is unlawful.

### **SOME OF THE GROSS VIOLATIONS COMMITTED DURING THE FLOTILLA ATTACK:**

#### **1. The right to life**

The civilians onboard were **deliberately** shot dead at close range.

#### **2. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment**

Overly tight handcuffing for extended periods; being subject to various forms of mistreatment onboard and during detention; insult, humiliating treatment; being beaten; being forced to **sign papers in a language** the signatory cannot read etc.

#### **3. The right to liberty and security of person**

The Mavi Marmara passengers were arrested **arbitrarily and unlawfully** under inhumane conditions without being informed.

#### **4. Humane treatment to detained persons and right of respect for human dignity possessed as an innate quality**

The flotilla participants were detained and **deprived from their rights** to an attorney and to access to families and Embassy officials.

#### **5. The right to own property.**

The Israeli authority **confiscated a wide range of personal belongings**, including considerable amount of cash donations to be distributed in Gaza; passports, electronic items such as cell phones, computers, photographic and video recording equipment, where most of these items **were not returned**.

#### **6. Freedom of expression**

During the attack, Israeli forces imposed a total **blackout on the satellite communication** of Mavi Marmara. Furthermore, a journalist was shot **dead at close range**.







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