

The Apartheid Wall: This is discussed in depth in another pamphlet and essentially is a concrete barrier separating Palestinians from Jews that have illegally settled in the Occupied Territories. The wall is made up of either an 8 meter-high (25 feet) concrete barrier or it takes the form of a barbed wire wall and is 655 km long. It is one of the most apparent and atrocious examples of how there is a true separation between those of different races. It has effectively annexed more of the Palestinian state, bars movement, literally physically isolates villages (even Palestinian ones from Palestinians) and is a major obstruction to the freedom of movement, in the name of protecting its illegal settlement activities.

What CAN we do to put an end to this?

- Recognize that what Israel is doing within its own borders and against Palestinians in the Occupied Territories IS Apartheid.
- We should not be intimidated to use this term. Israelis in Israel, ranging from peace activists to academics to right-wing military strategists, ALL use the term HaFrada, signifying a policy of separation or apartheid.
- Undoubtedly, the crime of apartheid is a serious crime, illegal under international law, and carrying serious repercussions in an international court. We should not use it lightly, but seriously. Israel IS an apartheid state and its policies in the Occupied Palestinian Territories cannot be classified as anything else
- We should encourage Israelis to take the initiative and begin steps towards altering the criminal and unjust policies of their government. Criticism of Israel is not anti-Semitic nor simply ideological, it is a human responsibility!
- It is important to divest and boycott all produce, sponsors, and facilitators of Israeli apartheid and its occupation of Palestine.
- Most importantly perhaps, it is essential that we all educate ourselves on WHAT apartheid is, HOW Israel applies apartheid policies in Palestine, and the IMPLICATIONS under International Humanitarian Law of Israeli apartheid. Many resources, publications, human rights reports, and statements exist attesting to the apartheid policies of the State of Israel.

"To wash one's hands of the conflict between the powerful and the powerless is not to be neutral, it is to side with the powerful"
 -Paolo Freire

"Travelling into Palestine's West Bank and Gaza Strip, which I visited recently, is like a surreal trip back into an apartheid state of emergency [in South Africa]. ... It is shocking to discover that certain roads are barred to Palestinians and reserved for Jewish settlers. I try in vain to recall anything quite as obscene in apartheid South Africa."

Ronnie Kasrils, highest serving Jewish South African, former Minister of Intelligence. Leader of the struggle against South African Apartheid.



WHAT IS THE LEGALLY ACCEPTED DEFINITION OF APARTHEID? As defined by the United Nations, in the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of *Apartheid*, *the crime of apartheid is described as: "similar policies and practices of racial segregation and discrimination as practised in southern Africa, shall apply to the following inhuman acts committed for the purpose of establishing and maintaining domination by one racial group of persons over any other racial group of persons and systematically oppressing them"*. It specifies such practices to include: "Any legislative measures and other measures calculated to prevent a racial group or groups from participation in the political, social, economic and cultural life of the country and the deliberate creation of conditions preventing the full development of such a group or groups, in particular by denying to members of a racial group or groups basic human rights and freedoms, including the right to work, the right to form recognized trade unions, the right to education, the right to leave and to return to their country, the right to a nationality, the right to freedom of movement and residence, the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association"

"Any measures including legislative measures, designed to divide the population along racial lines by the creation of separate reserves and ghettos for the members of a racial group or groups, the prohibition of mixed marriages among members of various racial groups, the expropriation of landed property belonging to a racial group or groups or to members thereof".

For the complete definition, visit <http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/11.htm>

BUT HOW CAN THIS BE APPLIED TO ISRAEL, "THE ONLY DEMOCRACY IN THE MIDDLE EAST", ALLY OF THE US & CANADA AND MEMBER OF THE UN? Israel is a "Jewish democracy" that is also occupying the Palestinian Territories. Although those living within Israel's legal borders can vote, there numerous diverse mechanism in place which systematically discriminate against this minority. Furthermore, in the Occupied West Bank, apartheid can clearly be seen in the physical divisions between the privileged class of Jewish settlers and the oppressed, indigenous Palestinian population; this separation/apartheid/haFrada is embodied in the existence of a massive concrete barrier between the illegal Jewish settlements and the Palestinian communities. Not only is this a division based on racial lines, the illegally occupied West Bank that has been transformed into a collection of bantustans, surrounded by Israeli soldiers, hostile and violent Jewish settlers, checkpoints, and concrete walls. For more information on the Apartheid Wall, please see our other pamphlets.

IS THIS SYSTEMATICALLY PUT INTO LEGISLATION? The simple answer is YES. What follows are the laws in Israel that are discriminatory and which promote apartheid policies. Clearly, based on UN definitions of apartheid, and the universal human rights of ALL people enshrined in the UNCHR, the methods and means which Israel employs to assert its control and dominate the indigenous people of Palestine cannot be classified as anything but apartheid.

lands has been annexed into Israel directly (East Jerusalem and Syrian Golan) in direct violation of international law.

Isolation of Palestinian Communities: The land confiscated is chosen strategically so that Palestinian communities are largely surrounded by Israeli controlled lands, and the resources of the region fall under direct Israeli control (especially water and rich farmlands (Jordan Valley)). Then the roads between the communities are bisected by Israeli military checkpoints where Palestinian commerce are harassed to the point of significantly hurting the Palestinian economy (both in terms of movement of goods, and in terms of civilians being able to get to their jobs). This is a severe violation of Palestinian inalienable right of self-determination - a violation of international humanitarian law.

Two-Tier Legal System: A major use of Palestinian confiscated lands is for Israeli settlements (which is illegal as per international law). The settlements are given a different legal system than the Palestinian communities. The settlements are linked legally and economically to Israel's democracy with lots of economic benefits for the settlers and companies that operate there.

Selective Allocation of Resources: Israel controls and diverts up to 88% of the water resources in the West Bank and channels it to illegal Jewish settlements and to Israel proper. Land confiscation, denial of Palestinian access to farmland, and choking off water supplies to Palestinians are all part of Israel's West Bank apartheid policy in which Jews are favoured over non-Jews

Apartheid Roads: Several Jews-only roads exist in the Occupied Palestinian Territories which are off-limits to Palestinians. These roads dissect Palestinian communities and make the likelihood of the establishment of a viable, contiguous state almost impossible.

Land Confiscation and House Demolitions: Israel systematically and frequently confiscates Palestinian land, demolishes thousands of homes, including in Occupied East Jerusalem in order to "Judaize" certain regions or to pave the way for future settlements. Jewish settlements are not subject to land confiscation or house demolitions; rather, they are allowed to expand and thrive by the Israeli government despite their very existence being a contravention of Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention

Security: Settlers are allowed to rampage at will, injuring and even killing many Palestinians, destroying thousands of olive trees, and killing innocent animals, such as sheep, goats, and donkeys. Any Palestinian act of defence, including defending one's own against settlers, however, is met with excessive and even lethal force by the Israeli army. According to Israel, only Jewish settlers are entitled to security, while Palestinians, by virtue of being non-Jews, are not entitled to this right

Law of Return (1950): This law grants every Jew (defined as those who convert or have their mother as a Jew) the right to immigrate to Israel automatically. On the other hand, Palestinians who fled in fear during 1948 and 1967 have not been granted the right to return as mandated by the UN. This is systematic discrimination based on race.

Identity Card (Possession and Presentation) Law (1982): Residents must carry identity cards at all times and present them to "senior police officers, to the heads of local authorities, or to police officers or soldiers on duty when requested to do so." Furthermore, their nationalities must be printed on these, including whether being Jewish, Palestinian, Druze etc. This provides the means to systematically discriminate based on race.

Cultural Exclusion: Any form of Palestinian expression of national self-determination is fiercely suppressed. The Palestinian flag has been declared illegal under Israeli law, and flying the flag is punishable by a prison sentence

Land: While Israel excludes Palestinians and non-Jews from state land and land belonging to the Jewish National Fund, it does not exclude Jews from the very limited and minimal land remaining under Palestinian ("Arab") ownership. This has been compared to Apartheid South Africa where only 13% of the land could be owned by the native African population, but the difference lies in the fact that South African law guaranteed that 13% as African land, while Israeli law makes no such provisions for what it terms "Arab land"

Absentee Property Law (1950): Classifies the personal property of Palestinians who fled during 1947/48 as "absentee property" and becomes state property, even if they are within the state or making attempts to return to it (conveniently stopped by Israel).

National Planning and Building Law (1965): Creates a system of discriminatory zoning that freezes existing Arab villages while providing for the expansion of Jewish settlements. The law also re-classifies a large number of Arab villages as "non-residential" creating the "unrecognized villages." These villages do not receive basic municipal services such as water and electricity; all buildings are threatened with demolition orders.

Agriculture: Palestinians cultivate 15% of arable land, but only receive 3% of water available for irrigation.

Income, Employment, and Allocation of Government Spending: The Central Bureau of Israeli Statistics indicates that 85% of Palestinians in Israel are in the bottom five deciles of income distribution while 50% of Jews in Israel are in the upper five deciles. Palestinian families earn, on average, less than 65% of the average income of Jewish

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families. IDF service a requirement for employment in many jobs; the vast majority of Palestinians do not serve in the IDF, and thus are excluded from these jobs

The Law of Political Parties (1992): Bars the Registrar of Political Parties from registering a political party if it denies "the existence of the State of Israel as a Jewish and democratic State." In 2002 both Section 7A(1) of the Basic Law: the Knesset and the Law of Political Parties were amended further to bar those whose goals or actions, directly or indirectly, "support armed struggle of an enemy state or of a terror organization, against the State of Israel." These amendments were added expressly to curtail the political participation of Palestinian Arabs within Israel - such as Azmi Bishara - who have expressed solidarity with Palestinians resisting military occupation in the West Bank and Gaza. Despite the right to vote, right to run for office, and the right to hold limited positions on the Israeli legislature, the Knesset, Palestinian political and social activism has been completely suppressed by the Israeli government. The right to organize, protest, and mobilize has been blocked by Israel on numerous occasions; several political parties have also been outlawed, their leaders arrested, and their newspapers banned due to their advocacy for Palestinian human rights within Israel.

Education: There is not a single Arabic-language university in Israel, despite Palestinians making up some 20-30% of the population. Systematic discrimination exists in the Israeli education system with separate schools for Palestinian and Jewish schoolchildren. Selective allocation of funds means Arab schools are usually overcrowded, under-equipped, underperforming, and having less resources relative to Jewish schools. Jewish curriculum is all-round with history, politics, sciences being taught while the curriculum in Arab schools is very heavily censored, with history, politics, and any national material being edited out.

APARTHEID IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES: In the occupied territories, the Israeli government has put the Israeli military in charge of governing the territories. The military makes no pretense at creating a democratic system because it admits that the operation is a military operation. Thus the Israeli military has replaced virtually all government agencies with Israeli military committees and Israeli-controlled civil administrations, and when it has run democratic elections, it has often followed with cancelling the results when it did not like them, and even deporting the elected officials. But the military does employ a body of mostly published, named and numbered laws, which they call Military Orders (or Proclamations or Pamphlets) through which the structures of discrimination, oppression and exploitation by the Israeli government and military can be traced. Increasingly though, these orders are unpublished, unnamed and unnumbered.

Land Laws: military orders that allow confiscation of Palestinian-own lands under various pretenses (because it is unused, to use for the good of the people, for security reasons, for wilderness preserves, etc.) At this point, the Israeli military now controls more than 70% of the West Bank. In addition, large areas of Palestinian and Arab

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