

TERRORISM AS A POLITICAL TOOL IN ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS

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Received: 14 May 2019

Accepted: 21 May 2019

Published: 31 May 2019

ABSTRACT

This paper tried to examine the effects of Palestinian-Israeli conflict that rampage the region for decades. History has availed us with the picture of the Middle East as a region infested with the “longest lasting struggles” of Political Terrorism between the Zionist on one hand and the Palestinians on the other over Land, Security, and Dignity. Since the beginning of the crisis, it has been warred upon wars without final and finite victor or a vanquished. Each regards itself as a victim and drew from that self-image a solipsistic self-righteousness that is used to justify ruthless means. On May 14, 1948, the Zionist, led by David Ben Gurion, proclaimed the state of Israel, and ever since, Israel has been bulldozing Arab villages, killing people with helicopter gun-ships, armored cars, and rockets. Occupation, sending into exile and discrimination of the occupied by the occupier became the norm. These maltreatments on the Palestinians spilled into what the Israelis term as extremism. Many militant groups from Palestine and other areas of the Middle East have therefore sprung up in recent years as well as past decades, engaging in acts such as suicide bombings, sniper shootings, and car or bus bombing - the West and Israel, and their propaganda media described as terrorism. The groups justify their actions as freedom fighting. This gory relationship spiraled into consequences, which tragic effect impinged on the Israelis, Palestinians as well as the Arab politics. It affected regional stability, inter-religious dealings, and the moral standing of Islam and global Jewry. The study relied on secondary data: published and unpublished works of scholars sourced from resource institutions. Data collected was qualitatively analyzed using content analysis. To capture the essence of the study, a correlation was conclusively drawn between the crisis, its immutability to solutions and political terrorism.

KEYWORDS: *Political Terrorism, Negotiations, Security, Conflict, and Dignity*