

Social and economic justice as everyday citizens' resistance to end the Israeli occupation

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The construction of separation wall 2004



The Wall and settlements = Expropriate more land



Successful nonviolence resistance for social economic rights

- Break from dependent power
- Identifying and undermining ‘pillars’ of power/support
- Raise the costs of regime policies
- Collective civilian resistance.
- “Shame the power”

Types of popular resistance

- *Offensive resistance*: Protest and confrontations against the wall and the spread of settlements
- *Defensive resistance*: documentation and monitoring of rights abuses, advocacy, accompaniment of people whose way of life threatened by settlers and soldiers, use of the legal system.
- **Constructive resistance** – Supporting people in their struggle to maintain their communities and resist the Israeli attempts of ethnic cleansing.
Agency of the community.

Limited impact in OPT

No longer socio-political basis for mass resistance

Socio-political fragmentation

- The political fracture between Fatah and Hamas.
- The geo-political fracturing of the West Bank into separate cantons – 60% of OPT area C. Gaza and West Bank
- The corruption and cronyism of the PA.
- Vested interest of the elite in the status quo.
- Widespread economic impoverishment and a growing divide between the “haves and the have-nots”.

Social Economic

- Oslo increased social, economic, geographical and political divisions and undermined social solidarity. So is this peace or pacification?
- Economic impoverishment – meant prioritising basic needs NOT resistance
- *The deepening of vertical and horizontal social and economic divisions. 'haves' and the 'have-nots'.*
- Liberal peace and economy- loans and consumerism.

- **Every day resistance:**
- First Intifada led to self reliance
- Reclaim and cultivate land
- Legal work and accompany farmers (EAs)
- Work the land in the buffer zone in Gaza Strip
- Bedouin cultural social economic rights
- Conclusion