



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

**Dr Marwan Darweish** 

**Centre for Trust Peace and Social Relations** 

**Coventry University** 

m.darweish@coventry.ac.uk

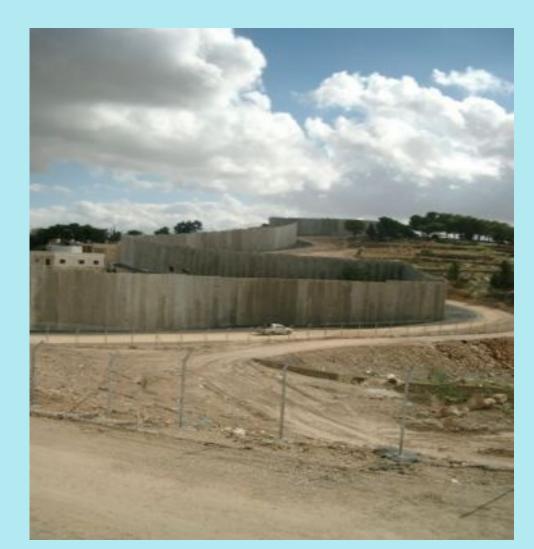
#### POPULAR PROTEST IN PALESTINE

THE UNCERTAIN FUTURE OF UNARHED RESISTANCE DATE AN DARBEISH

## 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.

• <u>Constructive resistance</u> – 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