

The Wall

**NO SEPARATION
NO SECURITY
JUST A LAND GRAB**



At the moment, 500 bulldozers and earthmovers are carrying out the largest national project in Israel. An immense complex - walls, patrol routes, trenches, electronic fences and sensors – is erected deep within the Palestinian territories. The Separation Wall is being built with no serious public debate on its real purpose or possible consequences.

A government that invests 2 Million Dollars in every km of a wall is building for posterity. The Sharon Government is trying to redraw the border permanently, far away from the public eye.

1967 – 2000

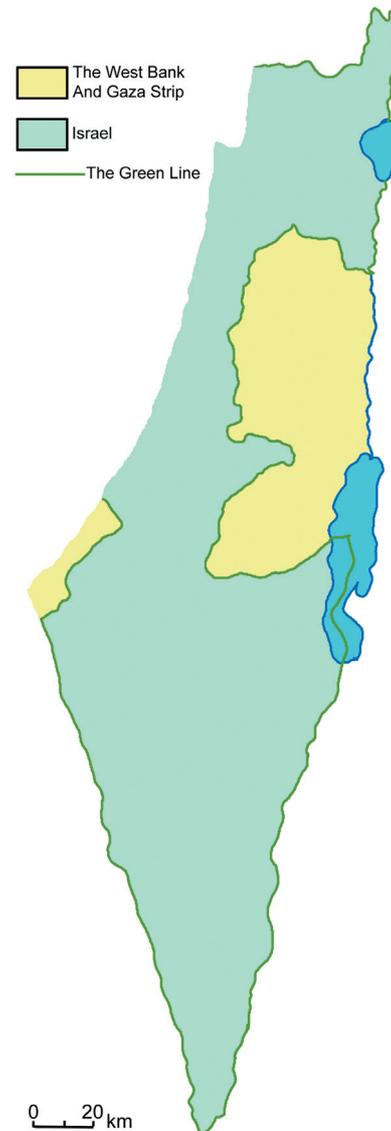
The Green Line – erased and reborn

Immediately after the 1967 war, the Israeli government launched a rapid effort to erase the pre-war border which was known as the “Green Line”.

The “Green Line” was not only erased physically, but also from all maps printed since that time. Since 1967, more than a million acres of Palestinian land were confiscated in the Israeli colonization process. The Palestinian unarmed popular uprising of 1987 managed to draw world attention to the Palestinian plight, but was not able to stop the colonization. The popular uprising (Intifada) ended with 1200 Palestinians and 30 Israelis killed, and a growing Palestinian frustration.



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The Green Line marks the territories of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip which were conquered from Jordan and Egypt, respectively, during the 1967 war. These territories comprise **22%** of pre-1948 Palestine. In 1988, the Palestinian people made a historical choice, by agreeing to settle for these territories, and accept Israel within the Green Line borders, thus giving up **78%** of the former land of Palestine.

3

The Intifada revived the Green Line Within the Israeli discourse.

In September 2000, following the failure of the Camp David Summit and Sharon's visit to the Temple Mount, spontaneous and violent demonstrations erupted in the occupied territories.

The Israeli army used snipers against the demonstrators. Within several weeks, hundreds of Palestinians were killed.

In November, the first suicide bomber blew himself up in Jerusalem.

The situation deteriorated rapidly. Attacks and counter attacks, assassinations, tank assaults and missiles in Palestinian towns and suicide bombings in Israeli towns. More and more Israelis demanded complete physical separation from the Palestinians.

The government could not oppose the intense demand, and the separation project was launched.

The Israeli public assumed that the separation wall would follow the Green Line and become the border between two states.

In July 2002, the first bulldozers started biting into the lands of the village of Salem, close to Jenin. For the first few kilometers, the wall's path closely followed the Green Line, but progress was slowed by the furious opposition of right wing ministers, who fought to change its course to include as many settlements as possible.

When the extreme right wing government was elected in January 2003, the entire political map of Israel changed. With it changed the path of the wall, away from the public eye.

The settlers, who had been violently opposed to the wall, became its strongest supporters when they were shown the new maps. Actually, they were actively involved in designing the new path.



4



In the early stages of construction, way before any separation has been achieved, the wall is causing immense damage.

210,000 Palestinians are barred in enclaves, in severe violation of their rights under international law.

67 villages are separated from their means of livelihood.

2,800 acres of Palestinian land were confiscated.

83,000 olive trees were uprooted.

30 water wells, producing 4 million m³ per year were confiscated.

35,000 meters of water infrastructure were destroyed by the bulldozers.



5



The Purpose of Sharon and the settlers:

A wall that will annex the maximum of Palestinian land, leaving the Palestinians on the far side.

While the Israeli public continues to believe that the wall is a security project, located on the Green Line, reality on the ground is quite different. Sharon and the settlers are pushing the wall far to the east, deep into Palestinian territory. Every settlement is campaigning to be by joined to Israel the wall.

The Myth of security:

“The wall will prevent suicide attacks”

Reality:

History shows that a country can never achieve security or peace by confining an entire people behind a wall. The imprisonment of a desperate people is a certain recipe for violence and hatred.

But security is not the aim of Sharon. If that were the case, the wall would not have been built deep inside Palestinian territories. A wall on the Green Line would be less than half the length, reducing the risk of breakthroughs, military deployment and initial cost. In the opinion of the National Council for Peace and Security, a group of high ranking retired officers: **“The path of the wall was planned for political and not for security reasons.”**



The next planned phase of the wall penetrates, at some points, 20 km into Palestinian territory. If this phase is completed, 400,000 Palestinians will find themselves west of the wall, cut off from the Palestinian towns around which their lives revolve. At this point, the Palestinians will lose **25%** of their land. But percentages do not tell the whole story: This **25%** contains nearly **80%** of their fertile land And **65%** of the Palestinian water resources. For an agricultural society like this, that represents a mortal blow.

Closing the enclave

One of the major elements of Sharon's plan is the "Eastern Barrier"

This part of the wall is meant to ensure that all Palestinian contacts with the outside world are controlled by Israel, which will control all entries and exits, and also the aerial and electromagnetic space.

1.5 million people in the largest prison on earth.

"(1) Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others.

(2) No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property."

Universal declaration of human rights – article 17

"Private property cannot be confiscated."

Fourth Hague convention concerning the laws and customs of war on land - article 46(2)



The Eastern wall is the last phase of the main wall. Upon completion, the project will be 700 Kilometers long. More than double the length of the Green Line.

Some **500,000** Palestinians will be trapped between the wall and the Green Line.

Approximately **55%** of the West Bank will be de facto annexed to Israel.

The wall will not separate Israelis from Palestinians But Palestinians from their land.

The Ghetto revived

“(1) Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state.
(2) Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.”

Universal declaration of human rights – article 13

“Everyone lawfully within the territory of a State shall, within that territory, have the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose his residence”

The international convention of civil and political rights – article 12(1)

The planned and suggested path of the wall will cut off some 500,000 people from their towns and provinces.

In order to prevent them from moving freely outside the wall, a sub-system of smaller enclaves is designed outside

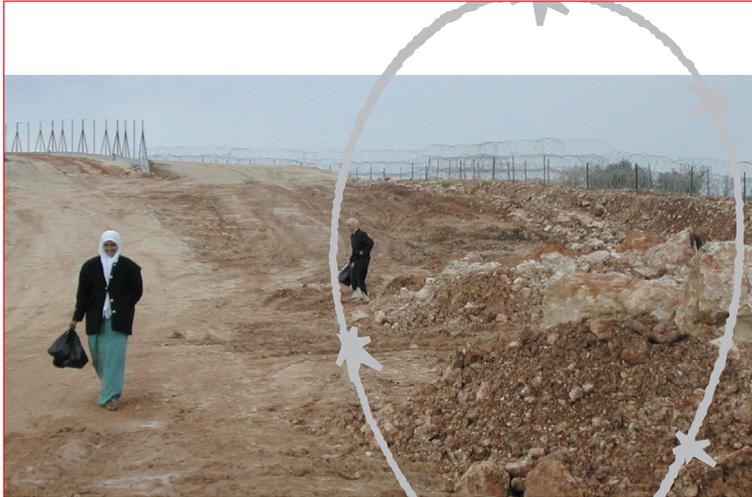
the main wall. Palestinians who are meant to live in these small enclaves, will be allowed in or out of them only according to the will and instructions of the Israeli army.



This is the final image of the separation wall. It will impose upon the region one of the cruellest Apartheid systems ever created. The Israeli government says it is only a temporary security measure. This cannot be true. No one spends 1.5 Billion Dollars on “temporary security measures”

The wall will prevent the establishment of a free, viable, sovereign state of Palestine

It will deny the Palestinians their fundamental rights. It will not bring security to the Israeli people. It will cause violence and suffering, perhaps for decades.
The separation wall must be stopped.



Apartheid

The word 'Apartheid' in Afrikaans means separation. In international legal language, 'Apartheid' is defined as

“...a system of institutionalized racial segregation and discrimination for the purpose of establishing and maintaining domination by one racial group ... over another ... and systematically oppressing them...”

Apartheid is recognized by several International treaties as a crime against humanity.

The 1973 International Convention on Apartheid specifies several acts which are used for systematic control and oppression. Amongst these are:

- Creating ghettos.
- Land confiscation.
- Prohibition of freedom of movement.
- Any means, legal or other, that prevents the development of the oppressed group.

Sources:

Btselem - The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories

Land Research Centre.

The Palestinian Hydrological Group.

PENGON– Palestinian Environmental NGOs Network.

The Israeli government has never issued a complete map of the wall. The planned path was compiled, therefore, from various sources, including the confiscation orders received by the Palestinians.

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