

Water Crisis and the impact of the Israeli measures in water sector in Palestine

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Thanks

- Let me express my deep condolences to the Turkish People for victims of the Earthquakes in the East of your country.
- Thanks for your solidarity with the Palestinian people.
- Thanks for this invitation.

This presentation

- Occupation of Palestine 1967.
- Introduction to Water Resources in Palestine.
- Israeli measures in Water Field after the occupation 1967.
- International LAW.
- How could water crisis affect the establishment of the Palestinian State????
- Possible solutions.

Historical background

- **Population: 3**
Millions in WB, 1, 5
Millions in Gaza
Strip and 1,2 Millions
inside Israel.
- 8 Millions live
outside.
- WB and GAZA
territory is 22% of all
Palestine territory.



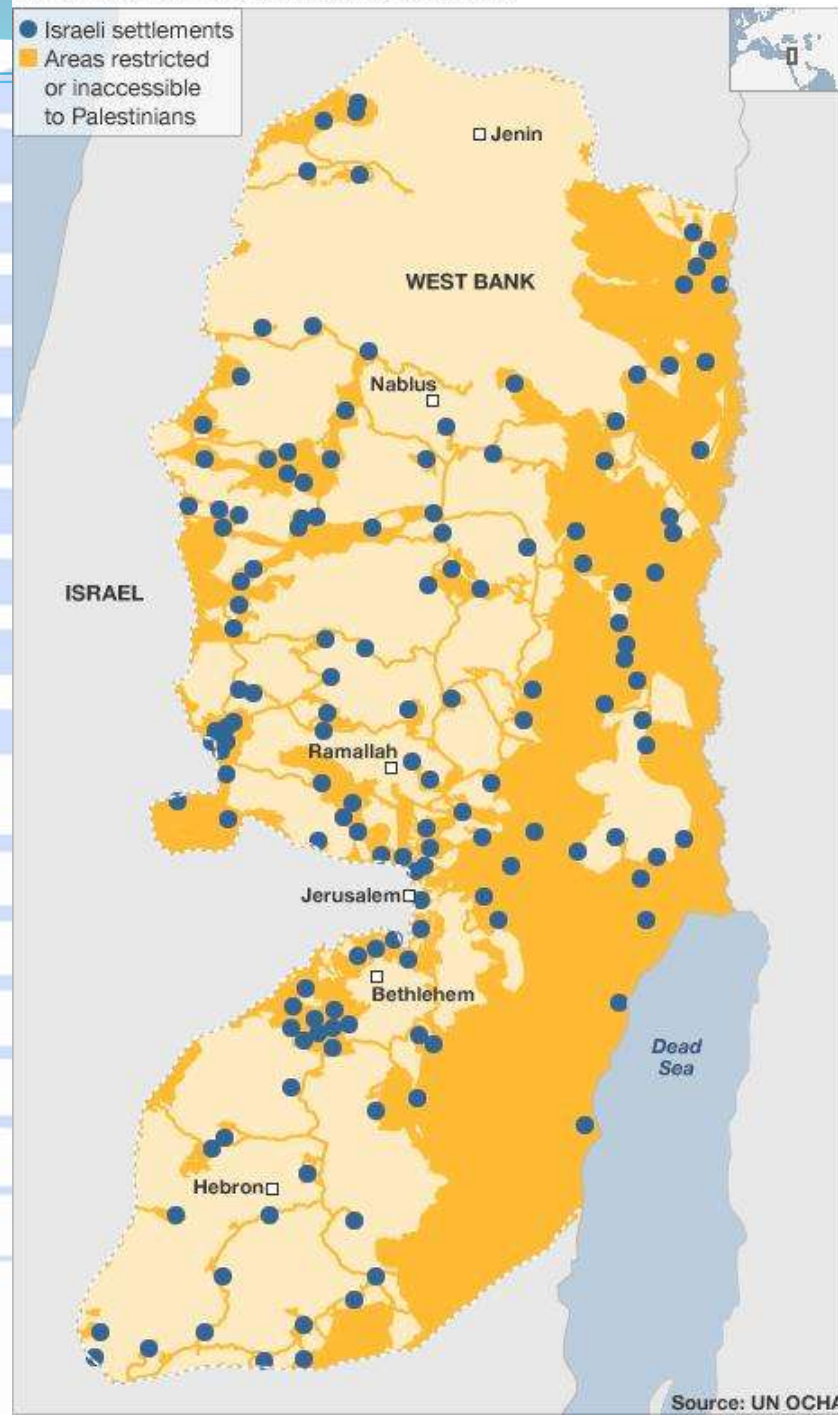
Occupation of Palestine

- In the War 1967 WB and GAZA were occupied.
- WB was a part of the Jordanian Hashemite Kingdom.(united in 1950).
- Gaza Strip was under the Egyptian Administration before 1967.
- Palestine as a State was not existed in 1967.

settlements

- Israel built more than 200 settlements in the WB and East Jerusalem.
- Number of settlers exceeds 450,000 in these settlement.
- Mostly settlements are built on mountains.
- Sharon said:::::will follow

Israeli settlements in the West Bank



settlements



Water resources in Palestine

Aquifers	Storage capacity MCM\Y
Western	362
Eastern	172
North Eastern	145
Coastal	150
Jordan	250





Israeli measures against water in PALESTINE before 1967

- **In 1953 Israel initiated the National carrier.**
- Israel pulled water from the upper aquifer of Jordan Valley to Tel-Aviv in the center of Israel and from there to NAQAB Desert in the South.
- To provide water to the center and to the Desert.

Israel's National Water Carrier



Israeli measures against water in PALESTINE

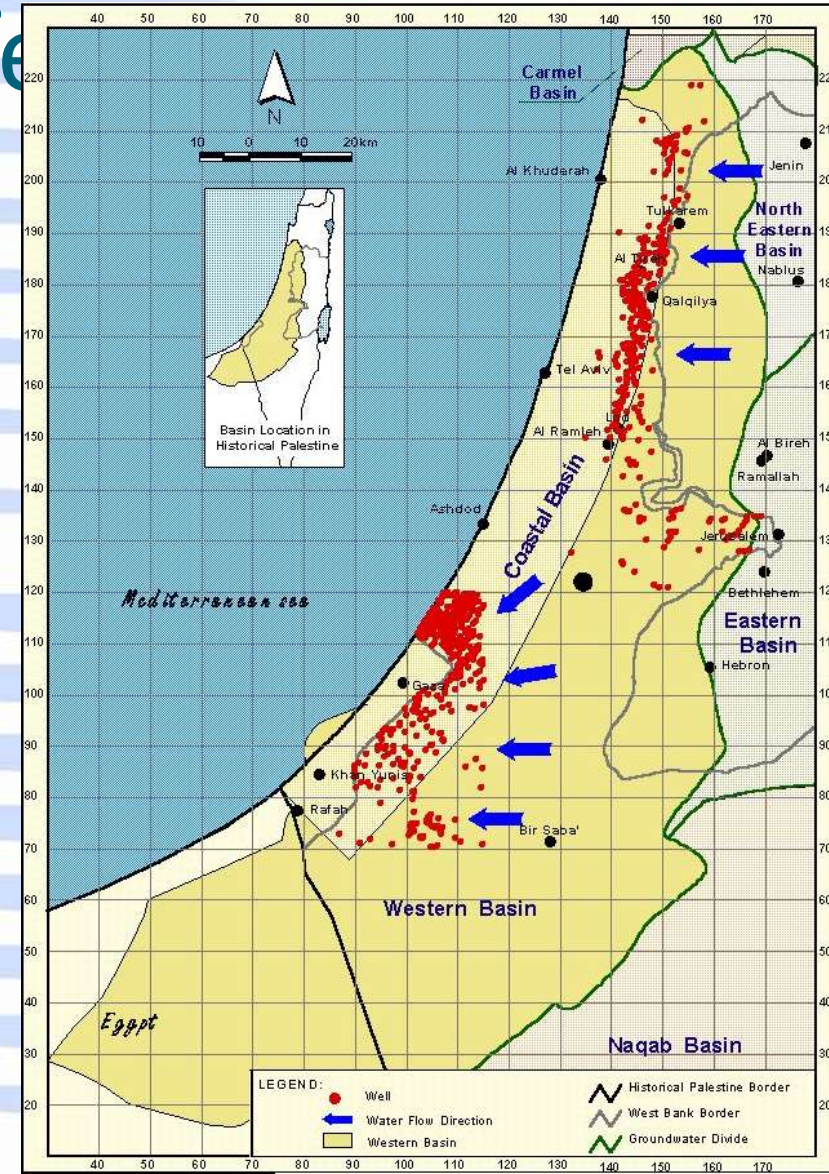
- **After the occupation in 1967.**
- **1967 War, Golan Heights,** WB and GAZA were occupied. 100% of historical Palestine is occupied.
- **Legislation steps:**
- Israel issues 4 Military orders signed related to water.
- Water resources will be under the Israeli military Commander.
- No installation or rehabilitating of water network

Israeli measures against water in PALESTINE

- Destroying all water wells located near Jordan valley, forcing the farmers to leave their lands.
- From 52 Communities, we have now 7 com.
- No water well was drilled in the Western Aquifer.
- Many Israeli wells were drilled to serve Israeli army and settlements.
- Western Aquifer is a closed area for Palestinians.
- Now Israel on the Western Bank of Jordan Valley.
- ***WADI GAZA...***

Mining and stealing the water of the West Bank aquifer

- Over-pumping will cause a decline in the water levels, which will cause wells and springs to go dry.
- The Israeli networks of wells around the Palestinian borders are causing severe quantity and quality problems to the Palestinian water resources.





Israeli measures against water in PALESTINE

- **After Oslo Accords 1994.**
- Formed from Palestinian and Israeli experts.
- **JWC** Discusses water issues in the **WB only**.
Western Aquifers.
- **Drilling water wells for Palestinians.**
- Israel has the right to **VETO** while Palestinian side has not the same right.
- **YES** here is not applicable.
- 118 Mcubic meters ,,,, now we have only 80MCM

The result: Thirsty people

- **In WB.**
- In many communities in WB each person has **30 l/day** of water.
- While each settler consumes **10** times more than any Palestinian.
- **In GAZA**
- **1,5 million** population.
- **95%** of the water aquifer is polluted.
- **After 20** years population will be doubled.

Water: Israel - Palestine



Israeli measures against water in PALESTINE

- Apartheid wall built near the Green line.
- Destroyed and isolated 39 water wells.
- 6 Million cubic water were lost.
- More control to the Western Aquifer.

Apartheid Wall



Is it possible today to concede control of the hill aquifer, which supplies a third of our water? ... You know, it's not by accident that the settlements are located where they are ..."

Ariel Sharon, April 2001



3 1:11 PM



International law and occupation

- When occupied in 1967, Palestine was not a State.
- Israel considers WB and GAZA as Israeli and not “**occupied**”
BUT LAND OF DESPUTE.
- The world says: this is **Belligerent Occupation.**

INTERNATIONAL LAW and Agreements

- Civilians and their BELONGINGS under occupation should stay under international Law.
- *Israel population and Settlements must not use natural resources (water).*
- Helsinki Rules(6th): "Optimal and Sustainable Use".
- UN Assembly decision No:(1803) in 1962 talked about the sovereignty of the people under occupation over their water resources.
- MILITARY orders are against that.

Helsinki Rules

Article 4 from Helsinki rules 1966, mainly referred to the need to protect the life of populationin any arrangement related to water distribution or redistribution among the beneficiaries..

Helsinki Rules

- **Article 6 and 7** indicate clearly that:: no one have the right to use or utilize shared water resource for his own purposes without taking into his consideration the right of the other beneficiaries.

Israeli position

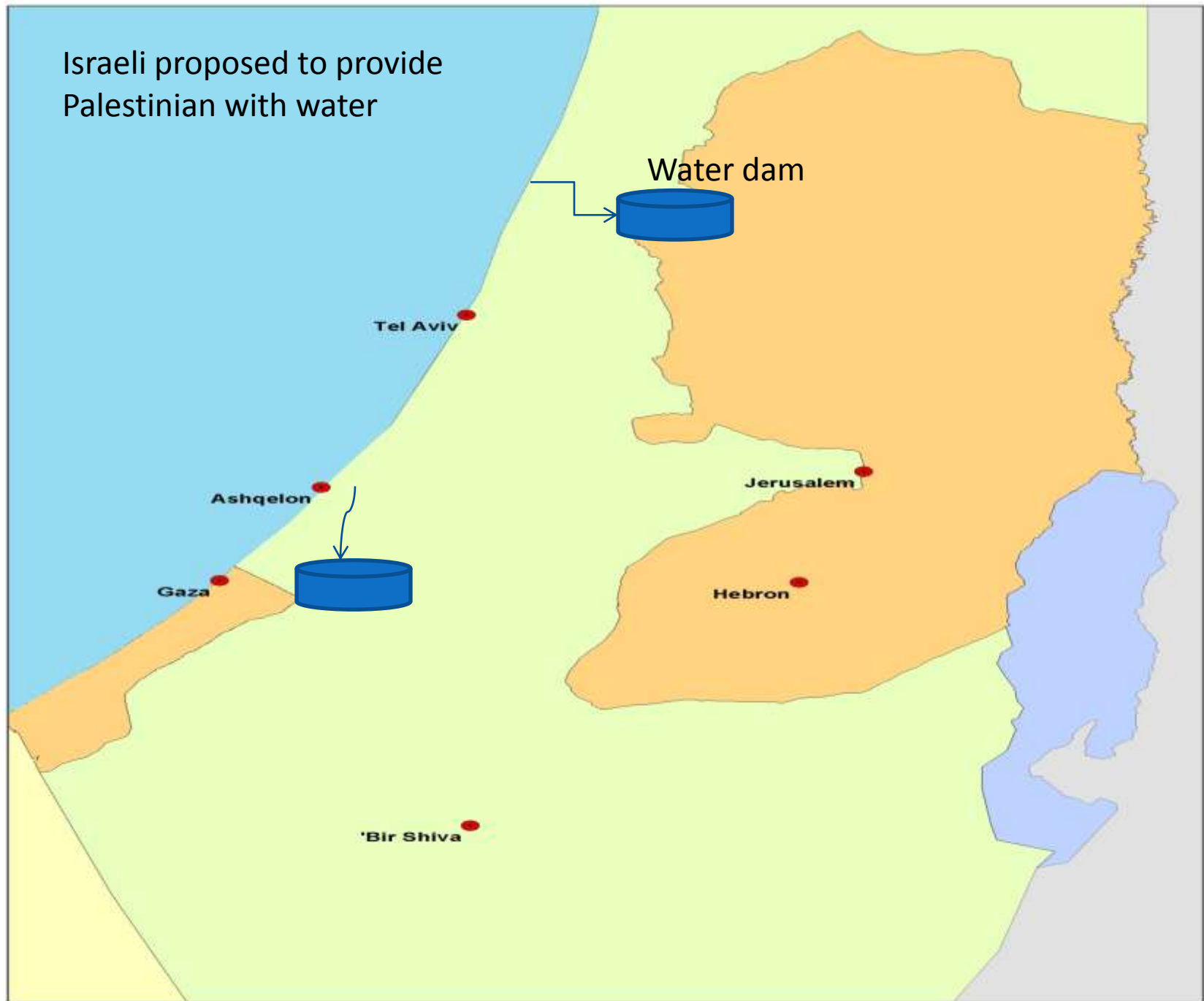
- Regarding the Palestinian water right according to the principles of international law. Stated
- “ it is not applicable on the Palestinian case, they are out from these laws and rules, for the simple reason that they are not sovereign state “.

Israeli position “control”

☐ “ we will not be stinginess with the Palestinian from providing them with the quantities they need in drinking water but they will not get neither one drop more than what they need. **And these quantities has to be bought only from Mekerout**?????????????

Israeli proposed to provide
Palestinian with water

Water dam



Palestinian Position

- **No independent Palestinian State without our control over our water resources.**
- Control over our all water resources:(
 - ❖ aquifers,
 - ❖ Jordan Valley,
 - ❖ rain water,
 - ❖ right to treat our wastewater.
- Cooperation with neighbors on shared water resources.

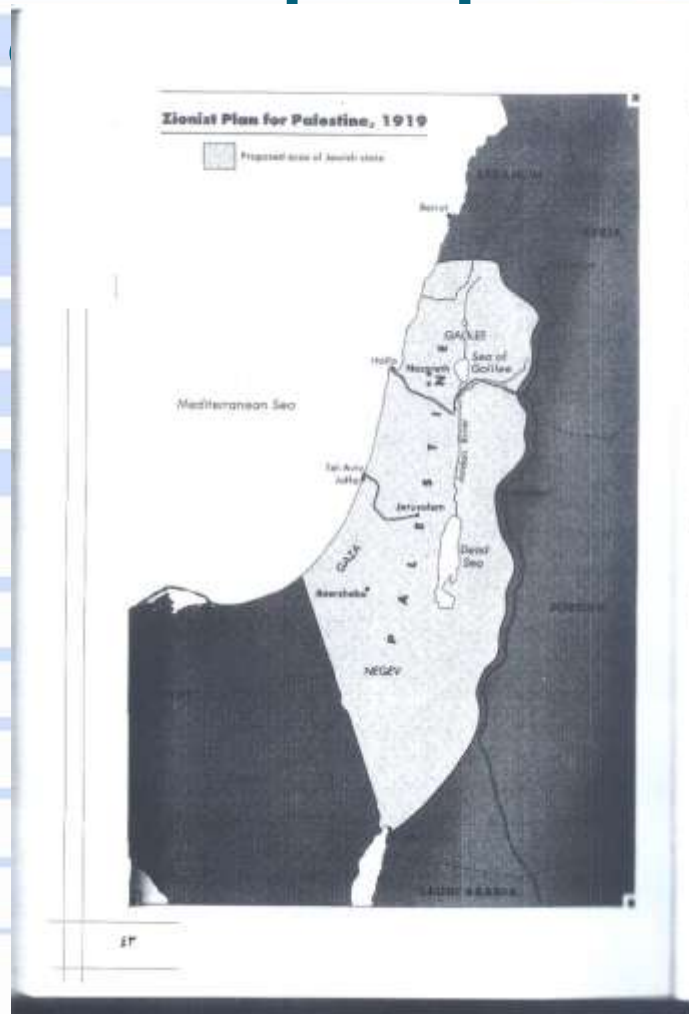
The Palestinian State

- Water was moved to the final negotiations.
- Without WATER how can Palestinians develop:
Agriculture....Industry...Tourism
- How can we secure water to refugees who will be back to Palestine.
- **Control water to prohibit Palestinian** people from establishing their own independent State.

Future options

- Desalination of sea water.
- Import water from Turkey.
- Wastewater treatment.

The Dream of a Jewish State





THANK YOU