

Original Article



Role of Iran in Israel-Palestine Conflict

Maria Fatima¹, Sabeen Azam², Dr. Anum Naz³

1. Bachelors, International Relations, National University of Modern Languages, Karachi, Pakistan.

2. Lecturer, International Relations, National University of Modern Languages, Karachi, Pakistan; sabeen.azam@numl@edu.pk

3. Assistant Professor, Dept of Mass Communication, National University of Modern Languages, Karachi, Pakistan.



Citation: Fatima, M. , Azam, S., & Naz, A. . (2025). The Role of Iran in Israel-Palestine Conflict. *Insights: Journal of Humanities and Media Studies Review*, 2(1). <https://doi.org/10.63290/jhmsr.v2.i1.31>

Received: 03, Sept 2025

Revised: 11, Oct 2025

Accepted: 29, Nov 2025

Published: 30, Dec 2025

Academic Editors: Masroor Khanum



Copyright: © 2025 by the authors. Licensee Unity Research, Karachi, Pakistan. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>)

Publisher:

Unity Research SMC Pvt. Ltd

Abstract: The role of the Iranian state in the Israeli-Palestinian war, that engages numerous facets, is analyzed with a critical twist in the paper that derives ideological, geopolitical, and strategic outcomes of such a positioning. The conflict became an outlet after the Islamic Revolution, in 1979, whereby anti-Zionism in the form promoted by them had to be emphasized as a way of countering already dominant forces of the west in the Middle East. The Iranian strong backing of the Palestinian groups, Hamas and Islamic Jihad in particulars, had thus been a key point of the policy as it was expressed in its extensive financial aid, military education, and logistic aid to the groups. The alliance has strengthened the ideological dedication of Iran towards Israel and geopolitical interests in the attempts to frustrate the supremacy of Israel in the region and alliances which may arise through such an alliance. The Iranian conflict postures itself as the Islamic world leader in general and tends to cross-sectarian boundaries to involve the Sunni and Shia affiliations. This has opposed Iran to Sunni states especially Saudi Arabia, raised the regional tension and added more complexity to every effort made to achieve peace, and the Iranian nuclear ambitions and its support of militant proxies. It employs a qualitative approach in which secondary sources are used to discuss the ways in which the policy of Iran demonstrates the ideological prioritization, which is at the same time tied to the strategic pragmatism the booth was supposed to be used to strengthen the position that Iran holds in the Middle East. Although the actions of Iran contribute to strengthening the Palestinian resistance, it also cultivates the situation of political unrest in the region and burdens the hope of peaceful resolution of the conflict. These facts demonstrate that the Iranian intervention into the Israel-Palestine conflict is not the demonstration of the ideological loyalty but the thought-through process of the regional power development, overcoming Western domination, and formation of the dominant position in the Islamic world.

Keywords: Palestine, western domination, pragmatism, peaceful resolution, Iran.

Introduction:

One of the longest geopolitical conflicts in modern history is the Israeli-Palestine war that involved a number of regional powers. One of such actors is Iran whose contribution has gained a lot of relevance in recent decades. The ideological, religious, and strategic interests of this country that have led to Iranian intervention

in the conflict and have radically changed the nature of the conflict by enlisting the support of the Palestinian forces such as the Hamas and Islamic Jihad where the large geopolitical rivalry of this country with Israel is closely correlated with the aspiration of Iran to become the leader of the Islamic world. These militant groups primarily receive financial and military support from Tehran, and such aid forms a major structure of the strategy pursued by Tehran as a means to counter the dominance exerted by Israel and further expand its influence within the region (Parsi 2007)

Although framed in religious and ideological overtones, Iran's support of the Palestinians is seen by analysts such as Hooman Majd to allow Teheran to pragmatically balance the power of Israel by propping up its regional set of alliances (Majd, 2025).

Background of Iran's Role in the Israel-Palestine Conflict:

The Middle East conflict concerning Israel and Palestine has always been critical, as the conflict began in the early 20th century. Although this role of Iran in this conflict could not have been so at the front threshold at the beginning, it has developed over the years especially since its Revolution in 1979. Under the Shah before the revolution, Iran enjoyed healthy ties with Israel to the extent that it recognized the State in 1950 a rare position for countries of the Middle East then (Parsi 2007). The Shah considers Israel as an offsetting instrument to Arab nationalism and as strategic partner in the area with regards to shared enemies like Iraq (Berman 2005). The turn of foreign policy of Iran came with the Iranian revolution of 1979; although that marked the time when Iranian foreign policy shifted entirely. A new Islamic Republic under Ayatollah Khomeini took a loudly anti-Israel stand pledging to free Palestine. Iran under Khomeini started to provide active support to these Palestinian groups, to every antigovernment group across the region in general, including Hezbollah in Lebanon, with funding, training, and arms (Berman 2005). The involvement of Iran in the Israel-Palestine conflict is part of the larger regional politics to expand its influence and counterbalance the hegemony of Israel in the region (Parsi 2007).

In this context, the Islamic Republic's ideological commitment to the Palestinian cause has never been disassociated from its geopolitical interests (Takeyh 2009). Iran sees its support for the Palestinian groups as a moral duty and also as a way of gaining leverage in the region. The result has been a hostile relation between Iran and Israel, with both states viewing each other as existential threats. As a result, Iran has been a consistent and vocal opponent of Israel's policies towards the Palestinians, playing a significant role in shaping the dynamics of the broader Middle East conflict.

Objective of Research

1. To analyze the diplomatic efforts of Iran towards Palestine-Israel conflict
2. To examine the Role of Iran in Israel-Palestine Conflict
3. To explore the Iran bilateral relations with Palestine
4. To assess the historical base of the Palestine conflict
5. To evaluate the Iran relations with Israel

Research Question

1. What are the diplomatic efforts of Iran towards Palestine-Israel conflict?
2. What is the role of Iran in Israel-Palestine Conflict?
3. How are the Iran bilateral relations with Palestine?
4. What are the historical bases of the Palestine conflict?
5. How are the Iran relations with Israel

Significance of Study

The major significance is, many countries, like the United States and some Arab states, have good and peaceful relations with Israel. Iran wants to counter the influence of these countries because it will damage regional security. Another major significance of Iran's involvement in the Israel-Palestine conflict is

to promote its leadership in the entire Muslim world by ending any religious differences. Iran uses Palestine as a bridge to remove these differences.

Scope of Study:

This research helps to understand the politics, ideology, military, and economic dimension of Iran's role in the Israel-Palestine conflict. This study looks at how Iran is facing issues due to its role in the Israel-Palestine conflict. Iran supports Palestine despite religious differences. This research also explains how Iran's foreign policy is being affected economically and politically due to the Israel-Palestine conflict. The scope also includes how Iranian media shapes public opinion on the Israel-Palestinian conflict in all over the Muslim world, which results in reducing Israel's influence.

Research Methodology:

The study is a qualitative one which utilizes historical methodology that looks at the chronological trends of the Russian ideologies. The secondary sources that are used to obtain data such as academic literature, journals and books, historical archives and records are purposively sampled to identify the most appropriate documents and observation sites that suit the objectives and research question. The most frequently used research instruments are documents, journals, and ethnographic materials whereas ethical issues are observed with the help of appropriate citation, analysis, and referencing. The data analysis is performed using thematic analysis in order to interpret documents, extract themes and measure their relevance. Time and distance could not permit surveys and interviews, and the research is restricted to political ideologies and their effects, without considering the socioeconomic factor and primary sources.

Literature Review:

Through analysis of the contemporary politics of the Palestine-Israel conflict and role of the major powers, the article by Dr. Sadia Mehmood Falki reveals the historical, political, and religious aspects of the longstanding conflict, and the role of the international powers (Falki & Asrar, 2024). Iran according to the research is at the heart of supporting the Palestinian groups, especially the Hamas, in its effort to make an anti-U.S. influence and Israel domination effort in the region. Iran gives military and financial support and at the same time also demands multilateral dialogue and respect to international law as the only way to a sustainable solution. Likewise, as Ahmed Alalaq (2023) describes, Iran also justifies its support to Palestine as a religious and ideological obligation, in addition to the strategic policy consideration. As it has been highlighted in his work, the discourse of Iran has always anchored its legitimacy on the defence of the Palestinian rights, by use of speeches, documents and framing of its religious views. This stance has also increased bad blood with the Sunni Arab states especially Saudi Arabia. Nevertheless, the recent Saudi-Iran rapprochement, during which the two countries have declared their support to Palestine, might aid in minimising rivalries and establish new administrative grounds of regional glasses (Falki & Asrar, 2024; Alalaq, 2023). As demonstrated by such scholars as Aref Bijan and Ehsan Ejazi (2023), in the post-Arab Spring period, the dependency of Iran on proxy organizations such as Hamas and Hezbollah was more acute since these groups were used to project power as well as serve the Palestinian cause. According to their analysis, the policy of proxy involvement by Iran has made the formation of regional relations, especially among Saudi Arabia and other Sunni Arab nations heavily dependent, since the competition with Tehran is fierce. According to Gawdat Bahgat (2005) and Trita Parsi (2006) this ideological devotion to the Palestinian cause, and this Arab outreach was reactionary, as Iran responded to the presence of Israel in the region. Similarly, according to Michael Levitt (2019), the material and logistical assistance provided by Iran to Hamas is now a critical facilitator of the activism of the organization. Ray Takeyh (2006) goes on to opine that the Iranian policy has been playing the anti-Israel rhetoric in conjunction with the larger geopolitical objectives which they tend to use the Palestinian issue to propagate influence in the Arab world. However, more recently, the writing of authors like Farhad Rezaei (2016) and Fardad Roomi (2023) suggests that policy of the Iranian government on the cases of Israel and Palestine can be explained through the prism of its nuclear intentions and ultra-ideological conceptualization of the politics of the region. In the meantime, the Wilson Center (2023), as well, emphasizes that Iran continues to maintain connections with Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad as examples of its dedication to its proxy connections in spite of international pressure. Taken,

together, these works can reveal facts that the Iranian backing of Palestinian organizations is not merely reactive but rather an element of an old ideological and geopolitical approach. This kind of support empowers Tehran to the extent of enhancing its role as a regional power however, at the same time it creates tensions between them and the Sunni Arab nations and consequently peace negotiations are unlikely to be made. Meanwhile, current changes in Saudi-Iran relations and the wider multilateral processes can create the opportunities of dialogue and conflict resolution. The policy of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini also shifted the path of Iran towards Israel, although he was in exile (14 years since 1964), his policy towards Israel was no longer based on merely a political opponent but it was more of a religious opponent representing the western imperialism and oppression of the Muslims in the Middle East. This representation enabled Iran to sell itself as a guardian of the Palestinians as well as be identified with the interests of the Hezbollah and the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) (Menashri, 2007). David Menashri points out how the Iranian ideology has always been anti-Israel and incorporates the Palestinian struggle into its revolutionary texts including backing of other organizations, such as Hamas and Hezbollah, which are hostile to the movement of Western influence in the region (Menashri, 2007).

On the same note, Rida (2012) points out that the construction of the foreign policy of Iran was based on the principles of revolution that emphasize the Palestinian cause as an ideological position held against western hegemony. Ahmed Alalaq (2016) also emphasises that Iran has been supporting Hamas and Hezbollah as a way of achieving a wider anti-imperialist agenda, which elongated the authority of Iran through the Muslim world through assisting Palestinian forces and upgrading its dominance in the area.

As explained by Seyed Ali Alavid (2019), the financial, military, and diplomatic assistance Iran provides to Hamas and the army with the support of Islamic Jihad proves that this country is ideologically dedicated to the Palestinian cause. Similarly, Al Madani and Muttaqien (2017) reveal that Iran was able to support Hamas between 2010 and 2015 as this strengthened the Palestinian resistance and reinforced the status of Iran, as a conclusion-maker against Israeli policies, in terms of gaining control over the region.

Farhad Rezaei (2018) argues that Iran presents itself as Israel and a Zionist foe, a religious and ideological opponent, and it stands as a protector of the Muslim rights against Israeli and American power. Ray Takeyh (2009) also notes Tehran has an ulterior strategic interest in weakening Israel and U.S. influence in the Middle East hence its backing of anti-Israel organizations which makes efforts of bringing peace difficult. In underlining the strategy used in Iran, Romi (2020) emphasizes that Iran has been ideologically oriented towards Palestine, which goes beyond strategy into anti-imperialist mission.

Trita Parsi (2007) examines the way, post-1979 Iran tried to utilize the Arab allies by offering Palestine its support by weakening the U.S. Israel axis. On the same note, Ashraf and Baqi (2021) observe that the constant backing of organizations such as Hamas by the Iranian government alongside the Islamic Jihad goes to indicate that the country has both ideological and strategic interests, as it seeks to dominate the region in the process of intensifying the war. In *Iranian Views of the Arab-Israeli Conflict* by Eric Hooglund, (1982), the attitude of Iran towards Israel discussed after 1979 is both ideological and strategic.

Since the Revolution, Iran has habitually criticized Israel as a non-recognized and repressive state to Palestinians, and helped insurgent groups, like Hamas and Islamic Jihad, by funding, equipping and even diplomatically aiding governments (which Tehran usually claims to be a sort of moral or humanitarian assistance). Iran also advocates isolation of Israel in world forums by colluding with other states of the Muslims.

According to Hooglund (1982) this diplomacy leaves the Palestinian cause as a pillar of the Iranian foreign policy, a cry against the hegemony of the West. In *Iran: Confronting Terrorism*, Gary Sick (1989) underscores the fact that the diplomacy of Iran has been highly interwoven with its ideological devotion to the resistance to include the Hamas and Hezbollah groups.

In contrast to the Western or moderate Arab nations, which promote the negotiation approach, Tehran prefers to maintain militancy against Israel by endorsing militant groups by providing them with financial and logi-support. This is a policy, Sick (1989) believes, which signifies the interests of Tehran in general of combating Israeli and Western strengths in the area.

In The Gaza War and Irano-Israeli Fight in Middle East, the author A.D. Abrosimov (2015) discusses the role of Tehran in the war and reveals that the constant aggression of Iran towards Israel can be explained by its ideological identity. Iran uses arms, funding and proxy forces like the Hezbollah to keep the region, and strengthen its rejectionist position based on strategic patience and proxy confrontation.

In the same fashion, Karsh (1997) in *Islamic Attitudes to Israel*, elaborates that Iran not only perceives Israel as a political enemy, but a religiously unrecognizable nation, and a proxy of the West. Such framing is the reason why Iran has been supporting systematically the Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad based on revolutionary principles of resistance.

Ehud Eilam (2020) discusses the subtle policy of Iran and mentions that Tehran has been empowering such groups as Hamas through military and finances, but does not engage in the large-scale confrontation, but provides them with the means of influence, the low-intensity confrontation. The stance adopted by Iran, then is indicative of balancing between the desire to demonstrate regional strength and the want to prevent it. The Islamic Republic and the Jewish State (Bahgat, 2011) also hold that the support by Iran to Palestine is context-bound, as anti-imperialist resistance that not only provides ideological but also strategic interests. Through support of Hamas and Islamic Jihad, Iran strengthens their perception of other Muslim states and questions the relationships between U.S. and Israel, but due to their unyielding policy, they cannot take part in the wider peace process.

A combination of all these analyses proves that the Iranian policy regarding Palestine-Israel conflict does not aim at resolution but rather at the positioning issue based on ideological issues and strategic dominance. Financial, military, and diplomatic instruments are used by the country to maintain resistance, reinforce regional interaction and depict itself as the champion of Muslim solidarity against western impact and Israel forces.

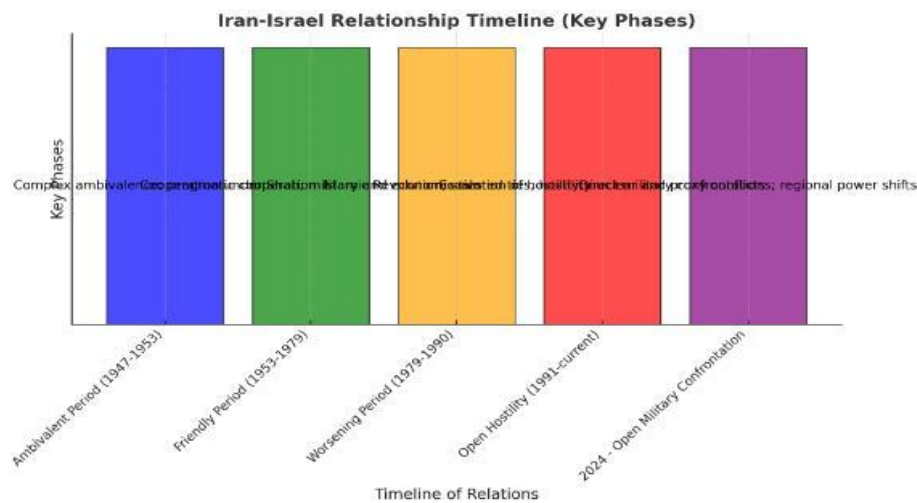
Bilateral Relations of Iran and Palestine

The political and ideological interests of each party have been the most important factors in shaping the bilateral relations between Palestine and Iran, each in light of their mutual hostility toward Israel. Historically speaking, since the Islamic Revolution in 1979, Iran has been the main supporter of the Palestinian resistance movements, especially Hamas and Islamic Jihad, providing political, financial, and military support (Hiro, 2013)

This support correlates with and forms part of the overall Iranian policy of countering Israeli influence in the region while pursuing the spread of Islamist political ideologies. How Tehran has been handling relations with the Palestinian Authority has been a different story. Although the anti-Israeli and Iranian stance are aligned, this Palestinian Authority tend to disagree with Iran on most issues mainly on the controversies surrounding the very establishment of the peace process as well as its relations with other Arab states. However, even with these tensions, the arrangement still has been behaving as a firm supporter of the Palestinian cause: Iran pushed Palestinian rights on all international forums and unilaterally resulted in its pledge of resistance to Israeli occupation (Tayeh, 2019). The broad regional changes, which include the growth of the rivalry with the Sunni Arab countries and the change of the global situation in the Middle East, will also apply to this relationship (Hiro, 2013). This delicateness remains into the character of the relations due to the fact that, although Iranian material and international backing has been accepted at different points in time by the various Palestinian groups, the same groups have also been taught how to avoid all traps that involvement in local antagonisms can present to them e.g., in Syria and Iraq, where Iranian interests do not always coincide with those of the Palestinian groups (Tayeh, 2019). It remains, however, a balancing exercise between the two parties so far as mutual support is established but restrained by latent differences in terms of strategy and regional priorities (Hiro, 2013).

Iran and Israel Relations:

Table 01: Iran-Israel Relationship Timeline (Key Phases)



The Israeli and Iranian relations can be split into four significant stages:

The Ambivalent Period (1947-1953):

The Israeli-Iranian relations had been under a complex ambivalence, between 1947 and 1953, due to regional and international aspects. After the foundation of Israel in the year 1948, Iran, under the rule of the Pahlavi monarch with the prime ministerial ruling of Mohammad Mossadegh, maintained relations with the new state on a cordial basis. Iran was among the first to recognize Israel, but it was not based on any resemblance of thought; this was because of practical reasons (Keddie, 2018). The shared objective between the two countries was assisted by the similarity of interest in fighting the Soviet influence in the Middle East region; in this case, Iran regarded Israel as a friend. And on a different side, the need of Israel in the regional stability and its position as the non-aligned state throughout the times of the Cold War made the partnership with Iran look profitable. This relationship however was not devoid of potential tensions between the two countries, however. As Arab nationalism emerged together with an expanded Arab-Israeli war of interest, particularly following the 1948-Arab-Israeli war, the balancing game has led to the country of Iran in favour of a wise policy. Regardless of the fact that recognition of Israel was given officially, originating Tehran never left out any care in avoiding the alienation of its highly anti-Israeli Arab neighbors. In addition, the political environment shifted as the Iranian oil industry got nationalized with Mossadegh ruling between the years 1951 and 1953 and the resultant conflict with the Western powers (Keddie, 2018). The augmented Iranian aggressiveness in foreign policies as well as the destabilizing native conditions of a 1953 CIA-controlled coup against the Mossadegh complicated the relations with Israel even further. Therefore, although there had been some partial interaction between Iran and Israel over the years, neither full agonistic nor full-fledged, the relations between the two countries were in the gray area between cooperation and precaution.

The Friendly Period under the Era of the Pahlavi Dynasty (1953-1979):

The Pahlavi era is from 1953 to 1979. It is deemed as one of the times when relations between Iran and Israel have been characterized by collaboration and willingness to participate in each other, despite the inexplicit relations at a formal level (Keddie, 2018). The first thing that happened after the CIA-supported coup that resulted in the installation of Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi to power was that Iran emerged as a nation that was desperately in need of government economic and military modernization and hence was allied to the west, including the United States and Israel (Milani, 2019). Both were troubled by the growth of Soviet communism in the Middle East, and they looked at each other as strategic allies (Shlaim 2000). Advanced militarily technologically, with so much intelligence expertise, Israel provided some critical assistance to Iran, especially in areas related to defense and intelligence-sharing (Keddie, 2018). The Shah

also considered Israel a worth relying partner in developing Iranian infrastructure and technology (Milani, 2019). This cooperation was silent since publicly, Iran was still proclaiming support for the Arab world's stance on Palestine, but under the table, the two were collaborating on security matters concerning regional stability (Shlaim 2000). Such relationships were also formalized by the mutual benefits of economic interactions in the field of agriculture, health and most significantly, trade (Keddie, 2018). This however quickly evolved during the Islamic Revolution of 1979 where Ayatollah Khomeini, the new Islamic regime, declined any relations with Israel in a twist of events that ended the amicable relations at the end of that cordial era (Milani, 2019).

The Worsening Period Following the Iranian Revolution (1979-1990)

The situation deteriorated between the Israel and the Iran relations with the Iranian revolution in the year 1979. Iran, prior to that, had been under a very close friendship with Israel in the Middle East and that there had been a joint strategic interest and agreement of cooperation in shared interests within military and intelligence related issues (Milton-Edwards, 2008). However, after the collapse of Shah and the coming to power of the Islamic Republic under Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, a sea change in the foreign policy of Iran took place. The new regime was fiercely aggressive to Israel, after an ideologically aggressive approach where an illegitimate state and a puppet of Western imperialism, Khomeini presented Israel (Milton-Edwards, 2008). In the aftermath of the revolution, the Islamic Republic began to break away from its onetime alliance with Israel by cutting off diplomatic relations and giving strong support to nationalist movements within Palestine—especially the PLO (Katz 2018). During the 1980s, Israel-Iran relations gradually became more hostile, as the former supported Iran's regional enemies, such as Iraq against Iran during the War of 1980-1988, while Iran tried, in turn, to damage major Israeli policy directions, particularly with respect to the Palestinian issue and its alliances within the region (Katz 2018). This initiated a long-lasting hostility between the two states, which is ongoing in their geopolitical relationship to this day (Milton-Edwards, 2008).

Ongoing Period of Open Hostility (1991-current era):

Since the end of the Gulf War in 1991, the relations between Israel and Iran have been openly hostile, with a lot of ideological, political, and regional strategic reasoning (Berman 2005). From the very beginning, after the revolution in Iran in 1979, which saw the rise to power of the Islamic Republic of Iran, decidedly hostile toward the state of Israel, relations between the two states were bad (Parsi 2007). However, in the 1980s, even with ideological disparities, Israel still kept a secret relationship with Iran where Iran remained one of the key providers of oil to Israel and shared intelligence with their mutually hostile foes (Parsi 2007). The end of the Gulf War in 1991, which was marked by the defeat of Iraq's Saddam Hussein, shifted regional dynamics greatly (Berman 2005). The fall of the Soviet Union and the reassertion of U.S. influence in the Middle East gave Iran even more reason to adopt an even more confrontational position vis-à-vis Israel, as Iran tried to enhance its leadership role in the Arab world and its support of Palestinian groups opposed to (Takeyh 2005). It was in the break of this early 2000s era that the nuclear rise issue started to become a critical flashpoint in the relations between Israel and Iran. In this regard, a nuclear-armed Iran started to be an existential threat for Israel. Furthermore, Iran's support of militant groups such as Hezbollah and Hamas further fanned animosity toward Israel because the latter saw these groups as direct threats to its security (Rezaei, 2016). It was increasingly tense, with Iran's rhetoric against Israel, including calls for the elimination of the Jewish state, while Israel conducted covert operations to sabotage Iran's nuclear infrastructure (Takeyh 2005).

The nuclear diplomacy continued unabated in the 2010s, even years after the accord—the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or JCPOA strongly criticized by Israel for its shortages. The U.S. withdrawal under President Donald Trump from the JCPOA in 2018 and continued Israeli military actions in Syria against Iranian interests further entrenched the animosity (Rezaei, 2016). With 2023, direct military confrontation has not happened, but the two nations are still entangled in an explosive, often secretive battle, as Israel continues to strike Iranian forces around the region and Iran supports forces hostile to Israel in the general battle of powers in the Middle East (Rezaei, 2016). By December 2024, the relations between Iran and Israel have turned from a long-standing proxy conflict to open military confrontations.

Direct Military Engagements:

During such an attack, in April of 2024, without warning, Iran had never presented hostilities toward Israel, this with multiple volley bombardment salvo using the burst of over 300 drones with missiles launched from Iran as it came from Lebanon, Syria and Yemen. Israel claimed an approximate engagement greater than 99% of those projectiles which had minor targets- the result of the said senior officials of the IRGC airstrike in the Israeli place against the Iranian Consulate in Damascus, Syria that killed sixteen people. The attack was a response, during one such incident, in April of 2024, it experienced hostilities from Iran wherein these latter fired a burst bombardments volley salvo with launching over 300 drones. Then came a second direct attack from Iran, when some 200 ballistic missiles launched towards Israel on October 1, 2024. International allies again, including the United States, United Kingdom, France, and Jordan, helped Israel to intercept most of these. This attack reportedly came in retaliation for the killing of important Iranian figures such as Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran and Hassan Nasrallah in Beirut.

Regional Dynamics and Proxy Involvement:

The overthrow of the Assad government has changed the Middle East politics by undermining the Iranian influence and leaving a vacuum that Israel and Turkey can use to advance their powers. The military successes of Israel against Hamas, Hezbollah and Syrian forces have further enhanced the position of Israel in the region, with Iran considering other ways of supplying weapons and ammunition to Hezbollah by air delivery to overcome the interrupted overland channels but this will only worsen the hostility. There is still hope of peace despite tensions although a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas in 2025 would bring more stability, and with the diminishing strength of armed groups such as Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Houthis, there have been prospects of a more balanced region.

Iran and Palestine Relationship

Ever, since the Iranian Revolution of 1979, Iran has been actively positioning the Palestinian cause as the key

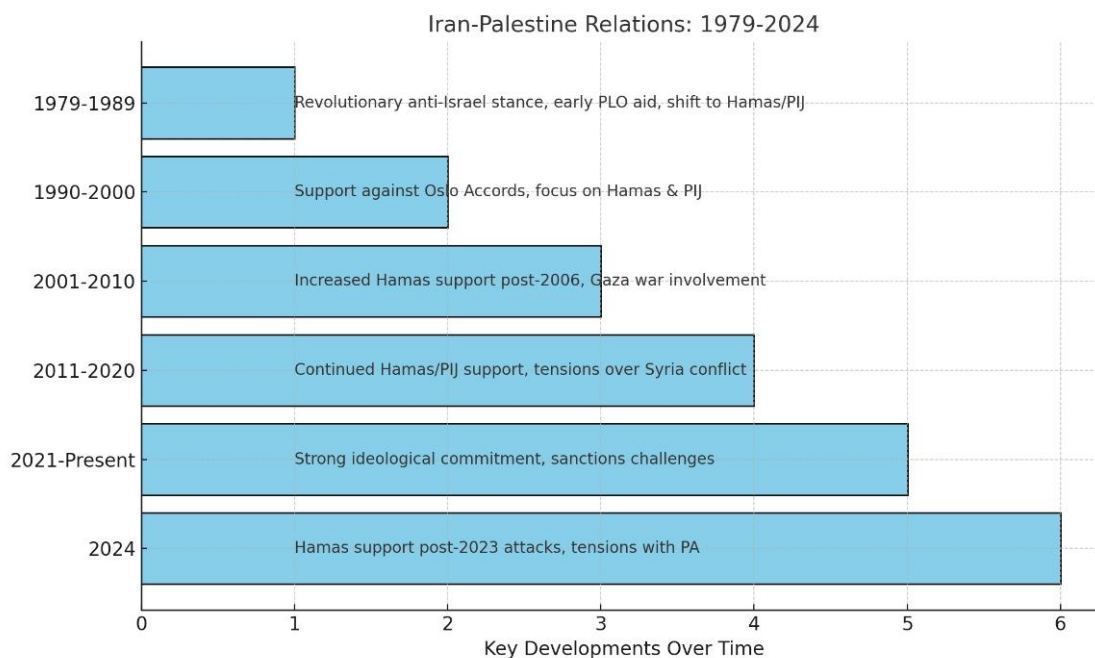


Table 02: Iran and Palestine Relations (1979-2024)

element of its anti-imperialist and Islamic revolutionary agenda, breaking relations with Israel and assisting Palestinian forces as a religious obligation and strategic priority. Throughout the 1980s, Iran supported the PLO but grew to support Islamist movements including Hamas and Islamic Jihad, as well as became

entangled in Lebanon, a relationship which strengthened the relationship between Iran and Hezbollah. The Oslo Accords were also opposed in the 1990s with Tehran strengthening its financial and logistical assistance to Hamas and PIJ and putting itself in opposition to the secular nationalism of the PLO and U.S. led peace efforts. Between 2001 and 2010, Iran strengthened its relationships with Hamas, particularly following its 2006 electoral victory, and its conquest of Gaza, which offered military and financial assistance in strengthening its presence in conflicts, as was the situation with the Gaza War of 2008-2009 despite the reproach over its opponents such as Saudi Arabia. Although there was a tension over the Syrian Civil War, in 2011 to 2020, as a firm believer of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad, Iran continued to support more in the Israeli affairs in Gaza, opposed to the U.S. Deal of the Century, and promoted Palestinian liberation as an ideological pillar. As of 2021, Iran has still affirmed its support to Palestine as part of its axis of overall resistance policy to sustain Hamas and PIJ militarily and financially to balance the needs of Israeli-Palestinian relations and to reshape the regional politics like the Syrian war.

Conclusion

This study, therefore, highlights the significance of the role Iran has in the Israel-Palestine dispute, which is based on the combination of ideological devotion, geopolitical approach, and regional power. This aid has seen Iran maintain its financial, military and political aid to various Palestinian groups including the Hamas and Islamic Jihad groups since this aid is an extension of its anti-Israeli and anti-western stand. Iran declaring itself the champion of the Palestinian cause in the Middle East statement is an act that balances the power of Israel in the region and puts its stamp on the Islamic world leadership. It has also simultaneously triggered war with Israel and backlash even within the Sunni dominated nations, which has complicated the already sensitive diplomatic position of the Iranians. Based on the findings, it is the Iran that is sustaining the Palestinian resistance other than containing the instability in the region and complicating the effort to find amicable solutions to the conflict. That means that the role of Iran is merely the prioritization which is ideological, it is a necessary strategic move, with the assistance of which, Iran, through strategic means, can take up a position on the bulk of the issues of the area-and, therefore, make a monumental impact on the development of the conflict in the long run.

Recommendations

Put Diplomacy First: Lessen the use of proxy gangs; foster self-determination of Palestine within the international law.

Close Sectarian Rift: More of Sunni Shiite unanimity with the restoration of Sunni Shiite Muslim accountability to Palestine.

Multilateral Peace Efforts: This must be carried out by OIC and UN with regard to inclusive peace dialogues.

Regional Cooperation: Put pressure on regional Sunni Arab states to forge an agreement on issues of Israel and U.S hegemony.

Humanitarian Diplomacy: Palmers: Invests in Palestine education, medical care and development to establish Iranian soft power.

Reduce Rhetoric: Reverse the practice of using adamant anti-Zionist rhetoric back to realistic and peace-oriented rhetoric to increase the perception of the world.

References

1. Abrosimov, A. D. (2015). The Gaza war and Irano-Israeli fight in the Middle East. *Journal of Middle Eastern Politics*, 9(2), 113-128.
2. Al Madani, A., & Muttaqien, M. (2017). The relationship between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Palestinian Hamas Movement and its impact on the Palestinian issue, 2010-2015. *International Journal of Political Science*, 5(1), 44-61.
3. Al Madani, A., & Muttaqien, M. (2018). The relationship between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Palestinian Hamas movement and its impact on the Palestinian issue (2010-2015). *ICoCSPA Proceedings*, 325-331.
4. Alalaq, A. (2016). Iran's stance in the Palestine-Israel conflict: Ideology and diplomacy. *Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, 48(3), 211-230.

5. Alalaq, A. (2023). Iran and the developments of the Palestinian cause \[Working paper]. SSRN. <https://ssrn.com/abstract=4516153>
6. Alavi, S. A. (2019). Iran and Palestine: Past, present, future. *Middle East Policy*, 26(2), 56–72.
7. Ashraf, M., & Baqi, A. (2021). Iran and the Palestine-Israel conflict: Regional dynamics and ideological commitments. *Journal of Contemporary Middle Eastern Affairs*, 9(1), 77–95.
8. Bahgat, G. (2005). The Islamic Republic and the Jewish state. *Israel Affairs*, 11(3), 517–534. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13537120500122628>
9. Bahgat, G. (2011). The Islamic Republic and the Jewish State. *Middle East Policy*, 18(3), 122–134.
10. Berman, E. (2024). The Middle East Tragedy: Between Utopia and Dystopia. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*, 1–12.
11. Eilam, E. (2020). Iran’s strategy in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: Resistance and regional power projection. *Strategic Analysis*, 44(6), 497–510.
12. Falki, S. M., & Asrar, S. (2024). Analysis of the contemporary politics of Palestine-Israel conflict and role of major powers. *Journal of Development and Social Sciences*, 5(2), 123–131. [[https://doi.org/10.47205/jdss.2024\(5-II-S\)13](https://doi.org/10.47205/jdss.2024(5-II-S)13)](<https://doi.org/10.47205/jdss.2024%285-II-S%2913>)
13. Hiro, D. (2013). *Iran under the Ayatollahs (Routledge Revivals)*. Routledge.
14. Hooglund, E. (1982). Iranian views of the Arab-Israeli conflict. *Middle East Journal*, 36(1), 27–44.
15. Karsh, E. (1997). Islamic attitudes to Israel. *Journal of Palestine Studies*, 26(2), 84–97.
16. Keddie, A. (2018). *Revelations of ideology: apocalyptic class politics in early Roman Palestine* (Vol. 189). Brill.
17. Koolaee, E., Bijan, A., & Ejazi, E. (2023). The role of Iran and Russia as regional powers in the Middle East (2011–2020). *Geopolitics Quarterly*, 19(4), 151–172.
18. Levitt, M. (2019). How Iran fuels Hamas terrorism. The Washington Institute for Near East Policy. <https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/how-iran-fuels-hamas-terrorism>
19. Majd, O. W. D. A. (2025). The Legal Role of the Palestinian Government in Combating the COVID-19 Pandemic. □□□□□□ 243–233), 1(3, □□□□□□□□ □□□□□□ □□□□□□.
20. Menashri, D. (2007). Iran, Israel and the Middle East. *Middle Eastern Studies*, 43(5), 675–692.
21. Milani, T., Levon, E., & Glocer, R. (2019). Crossing boundaries. *Sociolinguistic Studies*, 13(1), 37–56.
22. Milton-Edwards, B. (2008). *The Israeli-Palestinian conflict: A people's war*. Routledge.
23. Parsi, T. (2007). Israel and the origins of Iran’s Arab option: Dissection of a strategy misunderstood. *Middle East Journal*, 61(3), 364–387.
24. Rezaei, F. (2016). Iran’s nuclear program: A study in proliferation and rollback. Palgrave Macmillan.
25. Rezaei, F. (2018). Iran and Israel: Confronting the “Zionist enemy”. *Comparative Strategy*, 37(4), 308–325.
26. Rida, H. (2012). Origins of the Islamic Republic’s strategic approaches to power and regional politics. *Journal of Islamic Studies*, 23(2), 145–163.
27. Romi, F. (2020). The Iran-Israel conflict: An ultra-ideological explanation. *Journal of Political Ideologies*, 25(3), 289–306.
28. Roomi, F. (2023). The Iran–Israel conflict: An ultra-ideological explanation. *Middle East Policy*, 30(2), 94–109.
29. Shlaim, A. (2020). *Israel and Palestine: Reappraisals, revisions, refutations*. Verso Books.
30. Sick, G. (1989). Iran: Confronting terrorism. *Foreign Affairs*, 67(2), 20–37.
31. Takeyh, R. (2006). Iran, Israel and the politics of terrorism. *Survival*, 48(4), 83–96. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00396330601062691>
32. Takeyh, R. (2009). Iran, Israel and the politics of terrorism. *Middle East Policy*, 16(4), 23–36.
33. Takeyh, R. (2009). *Guardians of the Revolution: Iran and the World in the Age of the Ayatollahs*. Oxford University Press.
34. Tayeh, B. A., Durdyev, S., Abuzuhri, I. O., Hosseini, M. R., & Thurnell, D. (2019). Contractors' attitudes towards the factors affecting sustainability performance: Evidence from Palestine. *Business Strategy & Development*, 2(3), 173–179.
35. Wilson Center. (2023). Iran, Hamas & Palestinian Islamic Jihad. <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/article/iran-hamas-palestinian-islamic-jihad>