# Israel, The Palestinians, and the War on Terror: A Complex and Controversial Conflict



Between the Lines: Israel, the Palestinians, and the U.S.

War on Terror by José Enrique Ruiz-Domènec

****	5 out of 5
Language	: English
File size	: 3710 KB
Text-to-Speech	1: Enabled
Screen Reade	r: Supported
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 418 pages

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The conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is one of the most complex and controversial in the world. It has been going on for decades, and there is no easy solution. This article provides a brief overview of the conflict, its history, and the current situation.

#### **History of the Conflict**

The conflict between Israel and the Palestinians has its roots in the 19th century, when European Jews began to settle in Palestine. At the time, Palestine was part of the Ottoman Empire. In 1917, the British government issued the Balfour Declaration, which promised to support the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. This declaration led to an increase in Jewish immigration to Palestine, and tensions between Jews and Arabs grew.

In 1947, the United Nations General Assembly voted to partition Palestine into two states, one for Jews and one for Arabs. The Jewish state was to be called Israel, and the Arab state was to be called Palestine. The Arabs rejected the partition plan, and war broke out between Jews and Arabs. The war ended in 1949 with Israel's victory. As a result of the war, Israel gained control of most of Palestine, while Jordan and Egypt occupied the West Bank and Gaza Strip, respectively.

In 1967, Israel launched a preemptive strike against Egypt, Jordan, and Syria, which began the Six-Day War. Israel won the war and occupied the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Sinai Peninsula, and Golan Heights. The Six-Day War had a profound impact on the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians. The Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip led to a new wave of Palestinian nationalism and the rise of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The PLO launched a series of terrorist attacks against Israel, which led to Israeli reprisals. The conflict between Israel and the Palestinians has continued ever since.

#### **The Current Situation**

The current situation between Israel and the Palestinians is complex and volatile. Israel continues to occupy the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and there is no peace agreement between the two sides. The Palestinians are divided between those who support a two-state solution to the conflict and those who support a one-state solution. Israel is facing increasing international pressure to end the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, but it is unclear whether Israel is willing to do so.

The War on Terror has had a significant impact on the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians. The United States has provided Israel with billions of dollars in aid to fight terrorism, and Israel has used this aid to build a sophisticated military. Israel has also used the War on Terror to justify its targeted killings of Palestinian militants and its collective punishment of the Palestinian people.

The War on Terror has also made it more difficult for the Palestinians to resist Israeli occupation. The United States has designated the PLO as a terrorist organization, and it has made it difficult for the Palestinians to receive international aid. The War on Terror has also led to an increase in Islamophobia, which has made it more difficult for Palestinians to live in peace and security.

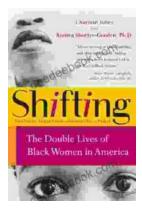
The conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is one of the most complex and controversial in the world. It has been going on for decades, and there is no easy solution. The War on Terror has had a significant impact on the conflict, and it has made it more difficult for the Palestinians to resist Israeli occupation. The future of the conflict is uncertain, but it is clear that it will continue to be a source of tension and conflict in the Middle East.



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