

Gaza Fact Sheet

While the media report Israeli violence as retaliatory, the fact is that in every cycle of violence

Palestinians are killed first and in far greater numbers. In the uprising that began in fall of 2000, 140 Palestinians were killed before a single Israeli was killed in Israel; 82 Palestinian children were killed before a single Israeli child was killed.

Palestinian resistance groups only began launching their mostly small, home-made rockets after many years of Israeli invasions. The recent truce was broken by Israel on Nov. 4 with the killing of 6 Gazans, at which time Palestinian rocket fire resumed. To date Palestinian rockets have killed a total of 18 Israelis. In 2008, Israelis killed over 850 Palestinians and Palestinians killed 35 Israelis.

Palestinians are indigenous to the land; Israel was created in Palestine 60 years ago through the violent expulsion of over 750,000 Christians and Muslims in a colonial enterprise to create a Jewish state

A Cease-Fire in Gaza, but Crisis Continues

Israeli troops remain • 100,000 refugees • food shortages • hospitals damaged

Like shooting fish in an over-crowded barrel, in the 22 days starting 12/27/08 Israel killed 431 children and injured 5,300 men, women, and children, using U.S. supplied F-16 fighter jets, Apache helicopters, naval gunboats, and tanks against a mostly unarmed population. American taxpayers give Israel \$7 million per day.

On January 18th a cease-fire was declared, but crisis continues. Many homes, schools, mosques, cemeteries, and schools have been damaged or destroyed. Over 50% of Gaza's hospitals sustained damage

from shelling. Palestinians injured in the onslaught continue to die from their wounds, while others face severe disabilities. The World Health Organization is concerned that Palestinians with chronic diseases

may face 'excess mortality' and complications as a result of the conflict. There are also risks of water-borne and food-borne diseases as a result of the lack of access to clean water and sanitation.

The lives of the 1.5 million Palestinians of Gaza are still subject to Israel's whims. Israel controls all entrances and exits to Gaza, creating what is effectively an open-air prison. It has routinely prevented food and

medicines from entering Gaza. Israel has the 4th most powerful military on earth and continues to attack Gaza. Already, two Palestinian farmer were killed – the first within hours after the cease-fire was declared.