

# THE ONGOING NAKBA



## What is the Nakba?

Known as the Nakba, or the “catastrophe”, between 1947 and 1949 Zionist militias and settlers forcibly displaced around 750,000 Palestinians, almost half the total Palestinian population at the time, in order to create the state of Israel. Around 15,000 Palestinians were killed, including over 70 massacres, and around 530 villages and cities were ethnically cleansed and destroyed.

The establishment of the state of Israel in 1948 marked a rupture in the history of the Palestinian people. Marking the high point of a process of colonisation and displacement that had already been taking place at a lower intensity for decades, this moment continues to reverberate to this day as we observe escalating Israeli attacks.

Since October 2023 we have witnessed the most deadly escalation of violence that Palestinians have faced in their history. This is a stark reminder that the colonial violence waged against the Palestinian people is an ongoing process.

This is how the ongoing Nakba is being played out across Palestine:

## GAZA STRIP

- Mass internal displacement
- Systematic destruction of Gaza’s capacity to sustain human life
- Using starvation as a weapon of war
- Creating a coercive environment that aims to push people out of Gaza

## WEST BANK

- Mass arrests
- State-backed settler violence
- Home demolitions and new plans for settlement expansion
- Low-level clashes between Israeli occupation forces and Palestinian armed groups
- The depopulation of entire Palestinian villages
- The largest displacement of Palestinian Bedouins since 1972

## HISTORIC PALESTINE

- Racism of Israeli society has been emboldened
- Palestinian university students have been suspended and expelled
- Workplaces have made announcements threatening to fire or people who speak out
- Surveillance of social media, with some Palestinians being arrested for what they post
- Increased rate of imprisonment under administrative detention