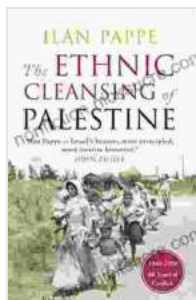


The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine: A History of Dispossession and Displacement

Background: The Land and Its People

Palestine is a historical region in the Middle East, situated at the crossroads of Europe, Asia, and Africa. The land has been home to diverse ethnic and religious groups over centuries, including Arabs, Jews, and Christians.



The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine by Clifford Geertz

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 473 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



In the early 20th century, Palestine was part of the Ottoman Empire. After the collapse of the empire in World War I, Britain took control of Palestine via a League of Nations mandate. The British Mandate period saw a significant increase in Jewish immigration to the region, due in part to the Balfour Declaration of 1917, which promised British support for the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

Partition and the 1948 War

In 1947, the United Nations General Assembly voted to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab states. The plan was accepted by the Jewish Agency for Palestine, but rejected by Arab leaders. When the British Mandate ended in May 1948, the State of Israel was declared, leading to the outbreak of the 1948 Arab-Israeli War.

During the war, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians were displaced from their homes and villages. This event, known as the Nakba (catastrophe in Arabic), marked the beginning of the Palestinian refugee crisis.

Occupation and Settlement Expansion

In the aftermath of the 1948 war, Israel occupied the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem. These territories became home to a large number of Palestinian refugees, who lived in refugee camps and under Israeli military rule.

Over the following decades, Israel expanded its settlements in the occupied territories, in violation of international law. These settlements were established on land expropriated from Palestinians, and often restricted their access to water, land, and other resources.

The continued occupation and settlement expansion has created a system of apartheid in the occupied territories. Palestinians are subjected to a range of discriminatory laws and practices, including restrictions on movement, access to education and healthcare, and the denial of basic human rights.

The Right of Return

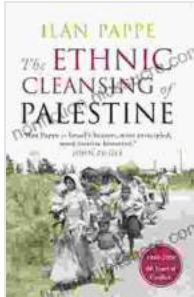
One of the key issues in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is the right of return for Palestinian refugees. The right of return is enshrined in international law, including Resolution 194 of the UN General Assembly.

Israel has consistently denied the right of return for Palestinian refugees, arguing that it would threaten the Jewish character of the state. However, the right of return remains a fundamental demand of the Palestinian people, and is seen as a key element of any just and lasting settlement of the conflict.

The ethnic cleansing of Palestine is an ongoing tragedy that has had a devastating impact on the lives of millions of Palestinians. The international community must pressure Israel to end its occupation, dismantle its settlements, and respect the rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return. Only then can a just and lasting peace be achieved in the region.

Call to Action

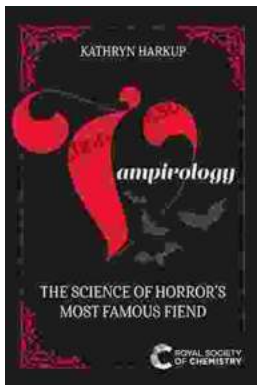
1. Support organizations that are working to end the occupation and promote the rights of Palestinian refugees. 2. Educate yourself and others about the history and ongoing plight of the Palestinian people. 3. Advocate for policies that support a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.



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