

# 12 ESSENTIAL FACTS FOR UNDERSTANDING THE CURRENT ISRAEL-GAZA VIOLENCE



**12 facts along with citations, sources, video,  
and tons more information at [iakn.org/12GazaFacts](https://iakn.org/12GazaFacts)**



IfAmericansKnew.org

- 1** Israel and Gaza are not separate countries. Gaza is a small territory mostly surrounded by Israel and whose borders Israel controls (directly or in the case of one crossing, indirectly).
- 2** Gaza is often called an “open-air prison” -- for good reason.
- 3** Muslim, Christian, and Jewish Palestinian Arabs peacefully shared the land for centuries before Israel was created.
- 4** Israel was founded in 1948 by forcing non-Jewish Palestinians off the land.
- 5** Israel has been taking over more Palestinian land ever since...
- 6** The two “sides” are not evenly matched.
- 7** Palestinians are killed at massively higher rates than Israelis, and this has always been true.
- 8** Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank have often tried nonviolent resistance.
- 9** Numerous respected organizations have documented Israel’s systemic human rights abuses and violations of international law.
- 10** Israel relies on funding and diplomatic cover from the U.S. Its actions often harm the United States
- 11** On Oct. 7, hundreds broke out of Gaza, attacked Israeli soldiers & civilians, and some took hostages. Israel disseminated atrocity claims about the attack, many of them found to be without evidence and untrue.
- 12** Israel immediately began indiscriminately shelling Gaza, killing and maiming massive numbers of men, women, and children.

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