

The Second Palestinian Intifada

A Chronicle of a People's Struggle

RAMZY BAROUD (2006)

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Ramzy Baroud is a veteran journalist and former producer for Al-Jazeera TV. This is his comprehensive account of the momentous events of the last five years which shaped the political landscape not only of Palestine and Israel but of the entire Middle East.

Addressing the most controversial issues, including the alarming escalation in suicide bombings and the construction of the Separation Wall, he reports on the huge rate of unemployment and hunger in the Occupied Territories - statistics so critical that NGOs compare their magnitude to African nations such as the Congo.

From the brutality of the Israeli army to the Palestinian elections, few are spared Baroud's thoughtful critique. The book is clear and concise, with one chapter dedicated to the major events of each year, and includes a comprehensive timeline.

Ramzy Baroud is a widely-respected journalist and Editor-in-Chief of the *Palestine Chronicle*. His writing has been published in newspapers worldwide from the *Washington Post* to the *Japan Times*. He teaches Mass Communication at Australia's Curtin University of Technology in Malaysia.

"Masterful prose. ... (A) scathing but heartfelt portrait."

Norman G Finkelstein

"Few are spared [Baroud's] perceptive eye, and only the morally callous will fail to respond to his pleas to remedy the injustice that he exposes."

Noam Chomsky

"A compelling narrative of Palestinian victimization [presented! with candor and uncompromising integrity]."

Dr Hanan Ashwari

"[Baroud] enables readers to see through the distorted image provided by a biased Western media."

Ilam Pappé

The intifadas were two Palestinian uprisings against Israel, the first in the late 1980s and the second in the early 2000s. The intifadas had a dramatic effect on Israeli-Palestinian relations; the second, in particular, is widely seen as marking the end of the 1990s era negotiating process and ushering in a new, darker era in Israeli-Palestinian relations. The first intifada was a largely spontaneous series of Palestinian demonstrations, nonviolent actions like mass boycotts and Palestinians refusing to work jobs in Israel, and attacks (using rocks, Molotov cocktails, and occasionally firearms) the second intifada. In the Palestinian case, we contend that explaining suicide terrorism sheds significant light on the tactic's adoption. Though dominant accounts of suicide bombings' theories of retaliatory terror, of terror to outbid domestic rivals, and of strategic terror for territorial liberation offer valuable insights, we are puzzled by their common inability to explain a crucial fact of political violence. The second intifada. In the domestic sphere, competition arises primarily among anti-occupation factions and between these and administrative elites. Resistance factions limited to a narrow range of violent tactics must defend and expand coercive capacities. A major threat to the growth and preservation of confrontational capacity arises from domestic.

1 The Intifada Takes Off (2000-01). (pp. 16-35). DOI: 10.2307/j.ctt18fs5q8.7. Some would argue that the birth of the Second Palestinian Uprising was actually rooted in the south of Lebanon. After the long and cruel uprising from 1987-93, empty promises, meaningless summits, and equally barren accords had left Palestinians in a numbing impasse. Rumors circulated and were eventually confirmed when Israeli officials formally disclosed that weapons build-up was taking place within the settlements plaguing the Occupied Territories. Palestinians realized that perilous designs were being crafted in the second Intifada had been sparked with its first casualties. More than 1,100 Israelis and 5,500 Palestinians were been killed in the conflagration. The appellation Intifada "which means resurgence in Arabic" was almost universally applied to the violence that erupted in the year 2000 as if it were a continuation of the Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip from 1988 until 1992. But the second Intifada rapidly took on the characteristics of armed combat between Israeli and Palestinian forces "with the Palestinian civilian demonstrators caught in the middle of the deadly cross-fire. The discrepancies between Israeli and Palestinian casualties, however, only served to fuel further Palestinian anger and desire to continue the fight.