

# Israel And Palestine The Endless Discord

By *BEN UMOLE*



Al\_Ahli Baptist Hospital in Gaza, on the 17th October 2023 and the blockade of Gaza against unhindered delivery of humanitarian and relief materials, deserve the total condemnation from all and sundry. These attacks and counter attacks have brought new dimensions to the crises. There is blatant and flagrant violations of international laws on the respect and sovereignty of each of the state in the conflict. There is the need for the United Nations Organization to urgently call the parties in the conflict to a total halt. Time is running out fast; casualties are piling up daily, massive architectural houses are being erased, families are in disarray, and innumerable or wanton destruction of lives and property are at its apex.

The current imbroglio and debilitating war, between Israel and Palestine, did not just start about three weeks ago. Precisely, 7th October 2023, when the current hostilities broke out again. The two states (Israel and Palestine), have always been arch enemies. If anything, this fracas started as late as 1948, when Israel got independence. The Palestinians who are mainly Arabs have always craved to have their independence. But their efforts have been fruitless and unavailing. Some past US Presidents, like Bill Clinton and Gorge Bush (Jnr), have tried to broker peace and resolve this seemingly endless peace between these two states. The more efforts that is being made to resolve the crises, the more complex or intractable the issue becomes. This article is not about who is right or wrong in the current impasse or war between both states. But the lucid truth that must be established is that if this current crises is not carefully and diplomatically handled by the super power counties and the United Nations Organizations, that should mediate in countries that have sure high volatile issues, then we are all headed for possible 3rd World War. This is not a trifle. As said earlier, stating that this is right or wrong in the current debacle may exacerbate the whole issue. But the HAMAS, ( a jihadist group), voluntary attack on Israel, on Saturday, 7th October, 2023, have left many pundits, wondering what would have caused the attack, which has become most insensitive and has caused this current chaos and anarchy to both states. The massive retaliatory response from Israel has been too catastrophic and irreparable to say the least.

Civilians have died and property in Gaza strip and West Bank have been smothered badly. Seeing private residences, hotels, educational institutions and many other vital assets destroyed at such large and profound scale, leaves soured taste in the mouth.

As at the time of writing this, it is believed that both sides have lost civilians of not less than 10, 000 peoples. This is outrageous, needless and senseless. The recent explosion or bombing of the

The clandestine and furtive support of the war by the superpowers such as the United States and Russia, is another poignant aspect of the war which should be closely looked into. The United States have opened more military bases in Israel. Specifically, in Tel Aviv, and more weapons of war are being dispatched to Israel by the US. The ground troops stationed or positioned by the Israeli Defence forces (IDF), near Gaza strip have been further reinforced by the American troops. This is unfortunate and disheartening.

The HAMAS Jihadists group that are currently domiciled in Russia and soliciting for Arms and Ammunition from Russia to give Israel a good "fight", are only acting childishly and foolishly. President Putin, who has assured the HAMAS that they will be given weapons for further onslaught against the US is only acting intruding. A blood thirsty leader, has he been able to overcome Ukraine, even with all his military dexterity? Enough is enough of this show of bravado, wits, and guts from both sides of the war.

It is germane to remind all parties in the conflict of the spirit of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 of November 1967, which was unanimously and collectively approved by fifteen members of the council at the time. That resolution explicitly called for the withdrawal of Israel troops from all occupied territories and the imperative of the Palestinian side and other Arab states to be fully committed to co-existence with Israel. In this regard, all parties must work meticulously and assiduously towards the objective of achieving peace through a two\_state solution. That is an independent Palestinian state and Israel which must be allowed to live in peace.

All intrusions by foreign powers in the current war, should stop and hands off for the sake of global peace and harmony. Enough is enough of the massive destruction of lives and property.