

## Why call it the “Apartheid” Wall?

The following points will help you as you educate others about the wall:

- The wall will not be on the 1967 border (the Green Line). It will annex 10% of some of the most fertile land in the West Bank. This is part of Israel’s systematic attempt to seize land, along with water and other natural resources, and integrate it into Israel while displacing the Palestinians already living on it.
- This wall is yet another form of apartheid, the Afrikaans word for “separation.” The Israeli government’s ongoing policy of settlement building along with the construction of this massive physical barrier is reminiscent of the White South African government’s creation of “Bantustans” to isolate Black South Africans.
- The wall will further disconnect parts of the West Bank from each other, depriving Palestinians of their livelihood by separating them from their agricultural lands. The wall is enclosing Palestinians into ghettos based upon their ethnicity.
- The wall’s construction only affects Palestinians. Israeli settlers living in the occupied territories are not bound by the wall and will still be able to use the “Jewish-only” roads connecting the settlements with Israel.
- **“Jordan is Palestine. Us Here. Them There.”** This terrifying Israeli slogan echoes throughout Israel today. The implications of this statement are genocidal. It threatens massive expulsions from Israel and the occupied territories based upon ethnicity and religion. It denies the existence of Palestinians as a unique national group and rejects the possibility of a Palestinian state. The wall is a part of Israel’s increasingly violent denial of the Palestinians’ rights to self-determination and to exist on their land.
- The wall will not provide security for Israel nor give any autonomy to the Palestinians. Israel also

used this argument to justify Israeli-only bypass roads, but the roads did not meet Israel’s security needs nor reduce Israel’s brutal military presence in the territories. Neither will the wall.

## What You Can Do

- Start or join a divestment campaign on your campus or in your community. Petition your school, city, or pension fund to divest from companies doing business with Israel and to boycott Israeli government bonds: [www.divest-from-israel-campaign.org](http://www.divest-from-israel-campaign.org) and [www.globalexchange.org/campaigns/palestine/divestment.html](http://www.globalexchange.org/campaigns/palestine/divestment.html)
- Organize a consumer boycott of Israeli products: [www.boycottisraeligoods.org](http://www.boycottisraeligoods.org)
- Join a tour of the wall in the northern West Bank. Contact PENGON at [outreach@pengon.org](mailto:outreach@pengon.org)
- Call on President Bush to demand that Israel dismantle the Apartheid Wall and abide by *all* UN Security Council resolutions.  
President Bush: [president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)  
Ph: 202-456-1111, Fax: 202-456-2461
- Meet with, call, and write to your Congress-persons to demand that they publicly warn the Israeli government against expulsions of Palestinians under the cover of war with Iraq: [www.congress.org](http://www.congress.org)

## Resources

PENGON—The Palestinian Environmental NGOs Network: [www.pengon.org](http://www.pengon.org)

Stop the Wall Campaign: [www.stophthewall.org](http://www.stophthewall.org)

LAW—The Palestinian Society for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment: [www.lawsociety.org](http://www.lawsociety.org)

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## Israel’s Apartheid Wall



## Dimensions of The Wall

- 216 miles long
- 25 feet tall
- 95-315 feet of buffer zone with electric fences, trenches, cameras, and security patrols
- Three times as long and twice as high as the Berlin Wall

## The Berlin Wall: 1961-1990



GLOBAL  EXCHANGE

*building people-to-people ties*

## The Story of the Wall

On June 23, 2002 the Israeli government set forth a new plan to entrench itself in the occupied Palestinian territories, imprison and displace hundreds of thousands of Palestinian civilians, and permanently annex 10% of the West Bank into Israel.

Soon after, Israel set the plan in motion and began construction on a massive concrete wall that will encircle the West Bank and forever separate it from Israel.

The wall is both symbolically and literally devastating to the Palestinian people. It is a physical manifestation of the apartheid division Israel has created between Palestinian and Israeli, Jew and non-Jew. It represents the unequal rights of Jews and Palestinians, both in Israel and the occupied territories, living under Israeli rule. But the wall has ruined the lives of Palestinians in very tangible ways as well.

Contrary to popular belief, the wall is not being constructed along the “Green Line,” the 1967 border. The wall will actually cut into Palestinian territory and arbitrarily annex 2% of the West Bank in the first phase alone. Another 7% of the land, and 276,000 Palestinians, will be annexed into Israel in the second phase of construction in the Jerusalem area.

108,918 Palestinians in 17 villages will be hemmed in by the wall in the north. Caught between the wall and Israel’s border, these people will be imprisoned in a “closed military zone.” They will need permits to enter the rest of the West Bank and to pass through military checkpoints located every nine miles within the zone. Although effectively becoming part of Israel, they will not be granted Israeli citizenship.

Israel’s “Security Wall”: Another Land Grab



Map of The First Phase: The North

In the north, Qalqilya and several nearby towns (total population 47,992) will be completely surrounded by the wall, with only one exit. Qalqilya will lose 15% of its municipal lands and 50% of its farmland. Israel will also annex the aquifer underneath Qalqilya, which contains 51% of the West Bank’s water resources.

Building the wall is a blatant attempt by Israel to unilaterally draw a permanent border within the occupied territories, seize water resources and agricultural land, and incorporate dozens of Israeli settlements into Israel proper. This wall will forever scar the landscape of Palestine and continue to bring the chilling policy of ethnic apartheid into the Palestinian reality.

## Bethlehem:

### Victim of the Apartheid Wall

Hanna Nasser, mayor of Bethlehem, was born in a large stone house on Bethlehem’s main road in 1936. The home and its adjacent acre of olive groves have been in Nasser’s family since 1910. Now, though, the family homestead will be separated from the rest of Bethlehem by Israel’s new wall. Nasser will now have to obtain a permit to make the short trip between his house across town and the old family home. And this is the city in which he was born and raised and that he now governs!

Israel insists that the wall is needed to protect Jewish pilgrims making their way to Rachel’s Tomb, a site holy for Christians, Muslims, and Jews alike. Although no one has been hurt while visiting the tomb, Israel claims that the Palestinians have failed to safeguard the site. Israel seized the tomb and its access road in 2000 and will maintain control with the wall. While once a popular tourist destination, the tomb now has only a few Jewish visitors; Israel has unilaterally banned Muslim and Christian visitors.

The wall will also uproot 400 olive trees, demolish several Palestinian businesses and over a dozen homes, and seize an Islamic cemetery and property belonging to the Armenian Church. Bethlehem will be changed forever.

Bethlehem’s residents are already feeling the effects of Israel’s tightening grip. Businesses are failing and the once vibrant downtown is now quiet. When construction on the wall is finished, Bethlehem will be a divided and crippled city.

“This is the entrance to the city where Jesus was born,” Mayor Nasser reminds us. “These walls will never make for good neighbors. This is a mad project.”

Find out more—get involved  
[www.globalexchange.org/campaigns/palestine](http://www.globalexchange.org/campaigns/palestine)