



International Humanitarian Law and "Wars on Terror": A Comparative Analysis of Israeli and American Doctrines and Policies

by *Lisa Hajjar*

The second intifada and the U.S. "global war on terror," though quite different, both involve asymmetrical warfare that pits powerful states against non-state organizations. This article focuses on international humanitarian law (IHL) to assess and compare how Israeli and American doctrines and policies for waging "wars on terror" have departed from international consensus on norms and rules for military engagement in occupied territories and the treatment of enemy prisoners. Neither Israel nor the United States ignores IHL; rather, they seek to reinterpret it in a manner that permits the pursuit (militarized or otherwise) of political agendas, even while claiming the reinterpretation to be legally valid.

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Vacation from History: Ethnic Cleansing as the Club Med Experience by *Peter Lagerquist*

When Club Med arrived in Israel in 1961, it found on the country's northern coast a golden beach with picturesque ruins and no people—the kind of place where a weary European could “feel so far away, yet be so near.” Palestinians who once lived in the coastal village of al-Zib feel the same way. Driven from their homes in 1948, some returned to the vicinity of their destroyed village after the war, to resettle on the margins of Israel's conscience and the globalized fantasies of leisure that have since been enacted on the ruins of their homes.

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Hizballah through the Fog of the Lebanon War
by *Augustus Richard Norton*

AUGUSTUS RICHARD NORTON is professor of anthropology and international relations at Boston University. He is presently on a senior Fulbright fellowship in Egypt, Bangladesh, and Kuwait for 2006–2007. His new book on Hizballah will be published by Princeton University Press in 2007. He was interviewed in Boston, Massachusetts, by Linda Butler for JPS on 7 September 2006.

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"Prisoners for Freedom": The Prisoners Issue Before and After Oslo
by *Um Jabr Wishah*

This is the third and final installment of Um Jabr's "life story," earlier segments of which—on village life in pre-1948 Palestine and on the 1948 war and its aftermath—were published in JPS 138 (winter 2006) and JPS 140 (summer 2006). The current excerpts focus on Um Jabr's intense involvement in the prisoner issue that began when two of her sons were in Israeli jails. In particular, her activism took the form of organizing other women to visit prisoners from Arab countries who had no one to visit them on the twice monthly visits allowed. Um Jabr's 36,000-word "life story" was one of seven collected as part of an oral history project, as yet unpublished, carried out by Barbara Bill, an Australian who since 1996 has worked with the Women's Empowerment Project of the Gaza Community Mental Health Program, and Ghada Ageel, a refugee from al-Bureij camp now earning her Ph.D. at the University of Exeter in England. The women who participated in the project were interviewed a number of times during the first half of 2001; after the tapes were transcribed, the memories were set down exactly as they were told, the only "editing" being the integration of material from the various interviews into one "life story." Um Jabr, who was in her early 70s at the time of the interviews, still lives in al-Bureij camp, where she has since 1950.

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