

The Palestinian Strategic Report 2006



Edited By

Dr. Mohsen M. Saleh



Al-Zaytouna Centre For Studies & Consultations

The Palestinian Strategic Report 2006



**Al-Zaytouna Centre
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The Palestinian Strategic Report 2006

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List of Abbreviations

AEI	American Enterprise Institute
AKP	Justice and Development Party (<i>Adalet ve Kalkinma Partisi</i>)
ARIJ	Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
EU	European Union
Fatah	Palestinian National Liberation Movement
GCC	Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GNI	Gross National Income
GS	Gaza Strip
Hamas	Islamic Resistance Movement
ICG	International Crisis Group
ICJ	International Court of Justice
IDB	Islamic Development Bank
IMF	International Monetary Fund
MOT	Museum of Tolerance
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
OIC	Organization of the Islamic Conference
OCHA	The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
PA	Palestinian Authority
PCBS	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
PICCR	Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights
PLC	Palestinian Legislative Council
PMA	Palestinian Monetary Authority
PNC	Palestinian National Council
PFLP	Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine
PFLP-GC	Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine - General Command
PLO	Palestinian Liberation Organization
TOBB	Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey
QIZ Agreement	Qualified Industrial Zone Agreement
Shabak	Israel Security Agency

UK	United Kingdom
UNHCR	The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNIFIL	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
USA	United States of America
Wafa	Palestine News Agency
WB	West Bank

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The Palestinian
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Introduction

After the success of its first Report of 2005, al-Zaytouna Centre is pleased to issue the Palestinian Strategic Report 2006 (PSR 2006). We are deeply indebted to all our colleagues and writers whose remarks, comments and notes were of the utmost use to us.

This Report monitors and analyzes the internal Palestinian situation, the Israeli scene, the Israeli aggression on land and man, and the peace settlement track. It discusses the Palestinian demographic indicators, the economy in the West Bank (WB) and Gaza Strip (GS). It focuses on the Arab, Islamic and international stances towards the Palestinian issue. This year the Report dedicated a chapter for discussing the Land and the Sanctuaries and another one for the Israeli war on Hizbullah and Lebanon.

Eleven distinguished experts contributed to this Report, besides our consultants who gave their important remarks. All this helped us to elevate and enhance this edition in comparison to that of the previous year.

PSR 2006 traces the major track of 2006 events; it combines the latest up to date detailed information, analysis and forecast. This Report was written according to the basics of scientific research methodology. Sensitive issues were discussed with neutrality and without any preconceived ideas.

We acknowledge with appreciation al-Zaytouna's research assistants; Wa'el Sa'd, Ghina Jamal al-Din, Iqbal 'Omeish and Mona Hourri; who helped in providing the scientific data, editing and reviewing the chapters and in executing required modifications.

In the end, we thank everyone who supported this Report and encouraged its continuation. Undoubtedly, we are always open to advice, suggestion or critique.

**The Editor,
Dr. Mohsen Saleh**

This Report

Al-Zaytouna Centre is glad to present to its readers The Palestinian Strategic Report 2006, the second in an annual series. The Report aims at monitoring the Palestinian issue through an informative and analytical approach. The Report covers the Palestinian internal political situation, issues concerning the Land and the holy sites, the economy, the Palestinian demographic indicators, the Israeli scene and the Israeli-Palestinian relations. It focuses on the Arab, Islamic and international stances towards the Palestinian issue. In addition, it devotes a chapter to discussing the Israeli war on Hizbullah and Lebanon.

This Report is distinct for its updated information till the end of 2006 and for its outstanding team of academics and experts.

Al-Zaytouna team did its best to be professional, scientific and objective. They hope that this Report be a distinguished addition to the Palestinian studies.

The Palestinian Strategic Report 2006



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