Israel’s Hydro Hegemony

1900-1967
1967-1993
1993-2000
2000-2005

21-22 May, London
Negotiations Support Unit
Dr. Shaddad Attili
Period 1900-1967
Hegemony over the Jordan River Basin

- British Mandate
- Partition of Palestine
- Johnston Plan
- 1967 War
Period 1900-1967
Hegemony over all water resources

- British mandate
- Independence and Nakbah
- Jordan River hegemony
  - Johnston plan
  - NWC
British Mandate commences

- Change of the northern borders of Palestine, through which the Zionist movement was given potential access to the Jordan River headwaters
- Agreement reached between the Zionists and the British Authority regarding water resources
- 70 year concession to the Rutenberg Co. to exploit the Jordan and Yarmouk Rivers and generate electricity
- Concessions to Jewish companies to exploit the inland rivers of Palestine and drain Lake Huleh
1953

The Tennessee Valley Authority drafted the "Unified Development of the Water Resources of the Jordan Valley Region".

1954

Drainage of Huleh Lake

1955

Proposed construction of two dams on the Banias and Dan Rivers

1956

Proposed construction of a diversion dam near Addasiya

1956

Proposed dam construction at the outlet of Lake Tiberias to increase storage

1964

The Arab leaders gathered in Cairo to issue a final communique. The National Water Carrier was considered an aggressive plan to divert the course of the River Jordan, endangering the riparian rights of the Arab nations. The Israelis completed the project.

1967

June 1967 War; UN Security Council Resolution 242
Period 1967-1995 Water Resources- Hegemony over all water resources

- Over control of water resources of WB & GS
  - Military Orders
- Israel Envision to Lebanon
- Syria & Jordan cooperation
  - DOP
  - Jordan Israel Treaty
- Oslo Agreement and article 40
ORDER CONCERNING JURISDICTION OVER WATER REGULATIONS

ORDER CONCERNING AMENDMENT TO SUPERVISION OF WATER LAW

ORDER CONCERNING SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES OVER LAND AND WATER
Israel Hydrogemony

Estimates of the total and per capita annual water consumption in the occupied Palestinian territory and Israel, mid-1980s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>WEST BANK</th>
<th>GAZA STRIP</th>
<th>ISRAEL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Palestinians</td>
<td>Settlers</td>
<td>Palestinians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ANNUAL WATER CONSUMPTION (million cu m)</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irrigation</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>1,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PER CAPITA WATER CONSUMPTION (cu m)</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>1,143</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irrigation</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Israeli wells are deep while Palestinian wells are shallow

The overall pumping of the Palestinian wells in the western basin is about 27 MCM/yr in 1986/1989.

Figure 4.4: Comparison of Total Drilling Depth between Selected Israeli and Palestinian Wells in the West Bank
Mining, trapping, diverting ....
Period 1995-2005 Water Resources- Hegemony over all water resources

- Oslo Agreement and article 40
  - Article 40 Status que +
  - Per Capita consumption
  - Final Status Negotiation
    - Road Map
    - Wall
    - RSDSC
Israel’s Control & Water Rights

- Israel’s control over 85% of all available water resources leaves Palestinians with four times less water *per capita* than Israel.

- Palestinians are denied all access to the Jordan River to the east, and to most productive zones in the Western Aquifer Basin to the west.

- In Gaza, the quality of water is disastrously low and must be addressed.
Article 40, The Interim Allocation and the Additional Quantity—West Bank

Palestinian “Oslo II allocation” from the aquifers in the West Bank and actual Palestinian use.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oslo II Article 40</th>
<th>Eastern Aquifer</th>
<th>North-eastern Aquifer</th>
<th>Western Aquifer</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All data as MCM/yr.</td>
<td>64 (+ 78)*</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>128 (+78)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Eastern Aquifer or other agreed resources

• Only one third of the additional amount has been made available during the interim period by drilling new wells.
• Palestinians have not been allowed to drill in the Western Aquifer Basin.
• Most wastewater projects have been denied approval.
• Palestinians have been accused of polluting the aquifers.
• No comprehensive dispute mechanism exist in the JWC.
• Donors are aware of the PWA efforts and obstacles faced, and are providing important role of assistance.
Institutionalized the occupation!

Source: modified after PWA
The Interim Agreement: Before and After:
…Further deterioration of Palestine’s position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter/Type of Use</th>
<th>Palestine: Mid-1980s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (millions)</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Allocations</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data for the mid-1980s are from the United Nations report of 1992, entitled Water Resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory
Camp David

Camp David Preserved the Unequal Water Allocation (December 2000)

Key Points wrt Palestinian State:
• 3 Separated Cantons
• Network of Access Roads Inside Each Canton
• Eastern Border is West of Jordan River
  • i.e., Israeli Security Zone

Implications wrt to Water:
• Israel Maintains its Downstream Riparian Claim on 80% the Mountain Aquifer’s recharge
• But … the Security Zone Preempts Equivalent Palestinian Downstream Claim on Upper Jordan Water Resources

Source: The Orient House, Jerusalem
http://MondeDiplo.com/maps/IMG/arto2076.jpg
The Wall
10% of West Bank outside the Wall

242,000 Palestinians (10%) isolated outside the Wall.

28% in the Jordan Valley

284,000 Palestinians (12%) separated from their lands.

Total Length of the Wall 570 km. 210 km Built and 360 km Planned.

54% of West Bank remaining for the Palestinians
Conclusion