

## HISTORICAL PARALLELS: THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT/THE VENEZUELA-GUYANA CONTROVERSY/THE JAMAT AL MUSLIMEEN ATTEMPTED COUP IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GOVERNMENT

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**Abstract.** Parallel boundary disputes between states are a complex and sensitive topic. The disputes can arise due to various reasons such as historical, political, economic, or social factors and can be resolved through diplomatic negotiations, legal proceedings, or other peaceful means. This paper looks at three disputes, two of which are currently ongoing (The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict and The Venezuela-Guyana Controversy) and the other which took place in 1990 (The Jamat Al Muslimeen-attempted coup in Trinidad and Tobago). In this case the disputed land area was just about 15 acres of land on which the Jamat-al-Muslimeen (JAM) lived in a place just outside the capital city of Port of Spain known as Mucurapo. The purpose of the paper is to identify similarities and differences in all three conflicts and examine the success or otherwise of the existing boundary resolution mechanisms and its effects on the national security of the respective countries and their neighbours.

Data for this qualitative research was obtained from both primary and secondary sources. In the cases of the Guyana-Venezuela dispute and the dispute in Trinidad and Tobago, the primary data was collected directly through interviews, observations, forum discussions. Secondary data used for all three disputes included government publications, websites, books, journal articles, and internal records.

**Keywords:** disputes, the ICJ, Hamas, sovereignty, Jamat-al-Muslimmen, diplomatic negotiations, security, controversy

### Introduction

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the Venezuela-Guyana controversy are two of the most significant geopolitical conflicts in modern history. The former is a long-standing struggle between Israelis and Palestinians over the land between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea, while the latter is a territorial dispute between Venezuela and Guyana over the Essequibo region. Both conflicts have deep historical roots and have been shaped by statehood claims from various international agendas and activities over time.

The Jamaat al Muslimeen (JAM) attempted coup in Trinidad in 1990 was a failed coup attempt by the Jamaat al Muslimeen, a radical Islamic group, to overthrow the government of Trinidad and Tobago. The coup attempt lasted for six days and resulted in the deaths of 24 people and the destruction of large parts of the capital city, Port of Spain. The coup attempt was eventually suppressed by the Trinidad and Tobago Defense Force, and the leaders and members of the Jamaat al Muslimeen were arrested and charged with treason. All 114 of them were later released. It is important to note that while these conflicts share some similarities, they are also unique in their own ways and should be understood in their specific contexts.

### **Methods**

The article uses general scientific methods. The analysis, as one of the main general logical methods, was used to identify historical parallels between the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and disagreements between Venezuela and Guyana. The materials of the news blocks made up the next level of methodological approaches. The study uses quantitative and qualitative methods. Comparative analysis was used to identify common characteristics and differences of these conflicts. Approaches such as the descriptive method reveals the applied nature of the research. The synthesis method made it possible to collect various aspects of the issue under study into a single whole and to obtain research results and formulate conclusions.

### **Results. Understanding the events**

On October 7, 2023, the US-designated Palestinian terrorist group known as Hamas launched a surprise attack on Israel from the Gaza Strip. The scale of this attack (which included mass murder and hostage-taking) is considered extraordinary, as the nature of the violence shocked the global community. In an attempt to recover the hostages, Israel decided to declare war on Hamas and cut the supply of all food, water, and electricity to Gaza.

This event is also known as the 2023 Hamas-led attack on Israel. The attack lasted for two days and resulted in the deaths of 859 Israeli civilians, 283 Israeli soldiers, and 57 Israeli policemen. The attack also resulted in the capture of 247 Israeli civilians and soldiers and the kidnapping of 100-200 Israeli civilians and soldiers. The attack was condemned by 44 nations as terrorism, while many Arab and Muslim countries blamed the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories as the root cause of the attack. The day is considered the bloodiest in Israel's history and the deadliest for Jews since the Holocaust (1).

Israel's failure to prevent the October 7<sup>th</sup> assault has become a subject of analysis for international security experts around the world, with some even comparing it to Al Qaeda's attacks on the World Trade Center in September 2001 (2). Moreover, although the Caribbean region has never experienced a terrorist attack of this magnitude, the origins of this event have remarkable similarities to the Muslim insurrection that occurred in Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) in July 1990.

As the human cost of Israeli-Palestinian friction continues to rise at an alarming rate, many analysts have been continuously debating the roots of this internecine conflict. Despite the multiplicity of interpretations on its genesis, the

main common denominator is that it all started as a struggle over land between Muslims (Palestinians) and Jews (Israelis) in the 1920s. The Jewish claims to this “holy land” are predicated on biblical prophecies and the need for Jews to find a haven from European anti-Semitism. The Palestinians have consistently rejected the notion that biblical scripture should form the basis of any lawful claim to the Gaza Strip and its environs. Furthermore, they believe that their entitlement to the land is based on their continuous residence in the country for hundreds of years and the fact that they represented the demographic majority until 1948.

After the Jews declared the state of Israel in 1948, these struggles became worse and culminated in the 1987 and 2000 *intifadas* (3) (Palestinian uprisings) against the Jews over the highly coveted Gaza Strip. Since these uprisings, several peace agreements have been brokered by the United Nations (UN), the US, and other countries to secure long-term peace in the Middle East. However, these policy decisions were just Band-Aids on an already gangrenous and highly toxic relationship. More importantly, in the years leading up to the first *intifada*, Hamas emerged in Gaza and established itself as an alternative to Yasser Arafat’s secular Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Before this *intifada*, the Israeli government had given material support to groups like Hamas as a way to divide and conquer the PLO in the occupied territories. But as these groups gained political and paramilitary momentum, Israel came to regret this approach. However, it was too late to reverse their policy decision, and in the January 2006 general election, Hamas replaced the PLO as the new de facto government authority in Gaza. Since the rise of Hamas as a political force, clashes between Israelis and Palestinians have worsened over the years and have resulted in crisis-level economic and humanitarian conditions. This is mainly because Hamas seized Gaza by force in 2007 and Israel responded by steadily seizing small pieces of land and imposing restrictions on the transit of people and goods in the disputed area. These are the precursor conditions for the October 7<sup>th</sup> attack on Israel.

Around the time of the first Palestinian *intifada*, a militant Muslim group in T&T known as the Jamaat Al Muslimeen (JAM) established a religious commune on state-owned land located at Mucurapo Road, Port-of-Spain. Although the JAM’s leader, Yasin Abu Bakr was cautioned on several occasions, his blatant disregard for the building authorities prompted the state to initiate legal action to reclaim the land and demolish the constructions. After several failed attempts by Law Enforcement to execute court orders for eviction/demolition, Abu Bakr was arrested for contempt of court. Despite these challenges, Abu Bakr and his followers continued to use the commune as a base for religious gatherings, community outreach activities, and other types of “missionary” work. Religious messages were centred around a fundamentalist interpretation of the Quran and included verbal attacks against apparent government corruption, economic disparity, and political persecution. Enthused by religious fervour, they indoctrinated many delinquent youths, provided military-style combat training, and amassed large caches of illegal arms and ammunition.

As a result, the JAM was now publicly perceived as a paramilitary criminal organisation that was being allowed by the state to operate with impunity. Amid these developments, the JAM's legal battle with the state over the Mucurapo Road property continued to brew; with the Minister of National Security deciding to have the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force (TTDF) occupy the JAM's compound in April 1990. Although Abu Bakr legally challenged the Minister's decision, on July 25, 1990, the court ruled against the JAM. Within only forty-eight hours of the ruling, T&T experienced its formulation of an "intifada", when the JAM responded with a violent attempt to overthrow the government. The insurrection lasted 6 days and was openly described as an act of terrorism. After being prosecuted on charges of treason and sedition, Abu Bakr and his cohorts were released in 1992 based on an amnesty agreement with the government.

In the years that followed, the JAM expanded its operations at Mucurapo and became implicated in numerous criminal activities including extortion, murder, kidnapping for ransom, and drugs and arms smuggling. The 2011 Commission of Enquiry (COE) (4) into the 1990 insurrection revealed that crime escalated in T&T immediately after the attempted coup and then became progressively worse after the release of the JAM members in 1992. According to the COE, both major political parties (PNM & UNC) have been accused of indirectly funding the JAM and its gang affiliates through government social programs. Accordingly, these 'social programs' enriched Abu Bakr, perpetuated gang 'turf-wars', and triggered an exponential proliferation of gangs and gang-related murders. In exchange, Abu Bakr provided private security and logistical support during general election campaigns. By 1994, Abu Bakr became emboldened enough to create a political arm within the JAM (similar to Hamas) by establishing the New National Vision (NNV) party under the banner of social equality and justice for all. Although the NNV has continued to contest various seats in subsequent general elections, it has never secured any political foothold in T&T.

## **Discussion**

In the case of the Guyana-Venezuela border dispute, Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro carried out a referendum in Venezuela on December 3, 2023 seeking to annex the region of Essequibo in Guyana (5). He announced on December 5, 2023 that foreign companies working in the disputed Guyanese county of Essequibo would have to withdraw within three months, asserting his right to do so after Venezuelan voters backed their nation's control of the territory in a referendum Sunday [1].

Although Guyana has insisted that the Essequibo is within its borders, and the matter is currently in front of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), Maduro has said he does not recognize its jurisdiction. "I propose a special law to prohibit all companies that work under Guyana concessions from any transaction," Maduro said. "They have three months to withdraw" once his proposal is approved, he said [2]. While he has not yet dispatched any military forces to enforce his demands, he has signalled his intention to create a military unit for the disputed territory but stated that it would be based in a neighboring Venezuelan state.

Maduro has also announced a set of actions to be taken by the Government to implement the result of the December 3 referendum. These include:

1. The headquarters for a number of administrative activities would, however, be located in Tumeremo in Venezuela, about 101 kilometres (63 miles) west of the Guyana border. Notably, Tumeremo is located within the internationally recognised boundary of Venezuela and not in Essequibo which it is claiming.

2. The pro-government Telesur reported Tuesday night that the following are the seven actions for the new phase in the defense of Guyana Essequibo:

3. Creation of a new High Commission for the Defense of Guyana Essequibo, coordinated by Vice President Delcy Rodríguez.

4. Immediately activate the debate in the National Assembly for the approval of the Organic Law for the defense of the Essequibo Guyana.

5. Create the Zone of Integral Defense of the Guayana Essequibo with 3 areas and 28 sectors of integral development, to be located in Tumeremo.

6. Designate MG Alexis Rodríguez Cabello as Sole Authority of the Guayana Essequibo whose political and administrative headquarters will be located in Tumeremo.

7. Create the divisions of PDVSA Esequibo (State Oil and Gas Company) and CVG Esequibo (Venezuelan Corporation of Guyana) for the exploration and exploitation of gas, oil and mining.

8. Publish and disseminate in schools, high schools and universities of the country the new Map of Venezuela that includes the Guayana Essequibo.

9. Activate an Integral Social Attention Plan for the entire population of Guayana Essequibo that includes a Census and the opening of an Administrative Service for Identification, Migration and Immigration (SAIME) office for the delivery of identification cards to the population based in Tumeremo.

These actions of course have been seen as a direct threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana and has provoked widespread responses in Guyana in the form of protests, marches and several intellectual and academic discussions.

Although these events took place in different parts of the world, their striking parallels transcend time and space. Today, the Israeli, T&T and Guyanese governments are still feeling the ripple effects of historical land disputes and political alliances with the “enemy”. After the first Palestinian *intifada* and the rise of Hamas, consistent violent clashes in the Gaza Strip have now reached a boiling point which may change the geopolitical/security situation in the Middle East forever. In the same way, the political and security landscape of T&T gradually changed following the release of the JAM members in 1992. The political, environmental and security landscape of Guyana is being challenged currently. Fast forward to the present day as well, the phenomenon of rising gang-related murders, turf wars, and the proliferation of illegal firearms is deeply rooted in the events following the attempted coup in Trinidad and Tobago.

As indicated at the beginning of this paper there are several parallels in these three conflicts discussed in this paper. These are highlighted in the table below.

**Table 1. Commonalities and Differences in these 3 conflicts**

<b>Conflict</b>	<b>Israel-Hamas Conflict</b>	<b>Trinidad and Tobago-Jamat al-Muslimeen Conflict</b>	<b>Guyana-Venezuela Conflict</b>
Initiator	Present conflict initiated by HAMAS,an Islamic inspired terrorist organization on December	Conflict in 1990 initiated by JAM ,an Islamic inspired terrorist organization	Conflict initiated by President Nicholas Maduro Of the governing United Socialist Party of Venezuela
Main Contention	The main contention of the war was the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which has been ongoing since the mid-20th century. The conflict is rooted in the competing claims of Israelis and Palestinians to the same land, which they both regard as their ancestral homeland	The main contention of the dispute was a parcel of land in Mucurapo, which the JAM has been occupying since the early 1970s.	The main contention of the dispute is the Essequibo Region between Guyana and Venezuela which both states claim as their own.
Death Toll	Lives lost so far in this conflict is more than 10,000 so far.	24 persons were killed in the attempted coup.	Although there is no physical violence at this time, four Guyanese soldiers were killed in a helicopter crash on December 6,2023
Resolution attempts	Attempts made by the UN through the ICJ to resolve this conflict has not met with success	Conflict squashed by the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force.	Attempts made by the UN to resolve this conflict has not met with success. Maduro has rejected rulings from the ICJ
Dates of Conflict	Conflict emerged in 1920	Conflict emerged in 1990	Conflict emerged in 1899
Partners	Israel supported by the USA and other western nations. Hamas supported by most Arab nations	Trinidad and Tobago supported by the US. The Jamat –al-Muslimeen supported by Libya	Guyana supported by the US and other Western nations. Venezuela supported by Nicaragua
Crises	A humanitarian crisis in Gaza is rapidly spiraling amid warnings that people are at risk of starvation as Israel tightens its	Crises averted by the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force	Possible food and energy crises if the dispute escalates into a physical war

	chokehold on the territory.		
Human Rights	Human rights groups have warned of possible war crimes being committed by Israel in Gaza. Amnesty International on Friday urged Israel to “immediately” lift its blockade on the enclave, saying the “collective punishment” of civilians for Hamas’ terrorist atrocities amounts to a war crime.	Hostages including Members of parliament experienced human rights abuses for 5 days, including torture and violence against them.	Venezuela has been warned on infringing the human rights of the population, especially indigenous peoples in the Essequibo region
Could this lead to a wider regional conflict?	Israel says Iran supports Hamas to the tune of some \$100 million dollars a year. The US State Department in 2021 said that the group receives funding, weapons, and training from Iran, as well as some funds that are raised in Gulf Arab countries. Israel may also face the threat of new fronts opening in the war. Of its immediate neighbors, it is only at peace with Jordan and Egypt, and is officially in a state of war with Lebanon and Syria. Israel has said it is ready in case there are attacks from those two countries.	Conflict contained before it could spread.	Possibility of countries such as Russia and China supporting Venezuela. If this happens the likelihood of warfare in the Latin American/Caribbean region becomes real.
Availability of natural resources	Gaza's natural resources include arable land and natural gas. According to a recent UNCTAD study, the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) lies above	Trinidad and Tobago has had substantial reserves of oil and natural gas. The JAM claimed as well that the wealth derived from these resources	The Essequibo region is known to be resource-rich and is home to copper, gold, oil, gas, and mines

	<p>sizeable reservoirs of oil and natural gas wealth, in Area C of the West Bank and the Mediterranean coast off the Gaza Strip.</p> <p>Learn more:</p>	<p>were never distributed equally.</p>	
<p>Military hardware</p>	<p>Israel's military features a large number of tanks and armoured vehicles. In terms of air power the Israeli military uses its own Kfir fighter jets - multirole warplanes based on the French-made Mirage aircraft. The air force also has a number of advanced F-35 Lightning II jets obtained from the US. The Israeli military in general is high-tech and very innovative, and also makes frequent use of drone technology.</p> <p>The Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades</p> <p>Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades, which makes up Hamas' armed wing, has an estimated 30,000–40,000 fighters. The Brigades, which has existed since 1991, initially relied in part upon suicide bombing campaigns. It now has a military arsenal that is believed to include thousands of rockets, including long-range missiles and drones. Hamas officials have said their fighters also possess a range of bombs and mortars.</p> <p>The Oct. 7 attack involved everything</p>	<p>Both the military and the JAM had AK 47 and other machine guns, including dynamite. The TTDF also had rockets.</p>	<p>The National Bolivarian Armed Forces of Venezuela (FANB) is the military force of Venezuela, which includes the army, navy, air force, national guard, and national militia. The FANB is controlled by the Commander-in-Chief (the President) and the Minister of Defense. As of 2020, the FANB had 109,000 active personnel and 8,000 reserve personnel. The FANB has a budget of \$741 million, which is 0.35% of the country's GDP.</p> <p>According to <a href="http://globalsecurity.org">globalsecurity.org</a>, Venezuela had 165,000 military personnel and 25,000 in reserve in 2017, in addition to thousands of members of the civilian militia.</p> <p>In relation to Guyana, as of 2016, the GDF had 3,400 active personnel and 670 reserve personnel. The GDF's budget is not publicly available.</p>



	<p>from rockets and paragliders to bulldozers, pickup trucks and motorbikes.</p> <p> Hamas relies on a labyrinthian network of tunnels under the Gaza Strip to store weapons and supplies and train and barrack fighters outside the view of Israel's advanced intelligence services and beyond the reach of its air force.</p> <p> Hamas also uses underground facilities to assemble and store parts of its large arsenal of rockets and launch platforms.</p> <p> The tunnels could allow Hamas to stage ambushes and avoid detection if Israel follows through with plans for a major ground operation.</p>		
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### **Attempts at resolving these conflicts**

**The Israel-Hamas** war has been a long-standing conflict in the region, with many attempts made to resolve it. One such attempt was made by SIS professor and Abdul Aziz Said Chair in International Peace and Conflict Resolution Mohammed Abu-Nimer. In an interview with American University, he spoke about how to begin a discussion on peace in the Israel-Hamas war. He stated that militarization and wars cannot be the solution for conflicts related to a request of freedom and dignity and security for people involved in this conflict. He also mentioned that every time the parties use military and weapons to settle these differences and conflict, it results in further destruction, further victimhood, and feeds into the notion of primordial existence and threats to primordial existence. He suggested that the starting point for peacebuilding and conflict resolution is usually by acknowledging that militarization and wars cannot be the solution for conflicts related to a request of freedom and dignity and security for people involved in this conflict.

The United Nations has also been involved in the conflict, drafting resolutions to address the situation. However, the UN Security Council has failed to address the Israeli-Hamas war in Gaza, rejecting rival United States and Russian resolutions

Recently, negotiators worked out the final details of a four-day truce between Israel and Hamas after seven weeks of conflict . Al Jazeera, the media network has provided a look at the primary points and criticisms behind the UN resolutions on Israel and Gaza.

**The Guyana-Venezuela** border dispute has been a long-standing issue between the two countries. Recently, Venezuelans voted in a referendum to decide whether the country should create its own state within a large swath of its oil-rich neighbour Guyana. The area in question, the densely forested Essequibo region, amounts to about two-thirds of Guyana's national territory and is roughly the size of Florida. Venezuela has long claimed the land, which it argues was within its borders during the Spanish colonial period. It dismisses an 1899 ruling by international arbitrators that set the current boundaries when Guyana was still a British colony. The recent discovery of vast offshore oil fields in the region has heightened the stakes of the dispute.

The U.S. State Department has said that it supports a peaceful resolution of the dispute and that the issue could not be solved by a referendum. After years of fruitless mediation, Guyana went to the world court in 2018, asking judges to rule that the 1899 border decision is valid and binding. Venezuela argues that a 1966 agreement to resolve the dispute effectively nullified the original arbitration. The case is still before the ICJ. In the meanwhile it is expected that both leaders of Venezuela and Guyana will meet on December 14, 2023 in St. Vincent, a small CARICOM State to see what best can be done to rectify the situation and ensure peace and stability in the region.

In the case of Trinidad and Tobago, the disputed lands conflict has been put on the back-burner. Several of the original members of JAM from 1990 have either died or have migrated while the organization itself has scaled down to one involved in criminal activities and gang activities.

### **The Way Forward**

As of December 11, 2023, the Israel-Hamas war has caused unmatched suffering in Gaza, with the death toll surpassing 18,000 people. The United Nations has pleaded for a new cease-fire and more aid to alleviate the suffering of the children in Gaza. The situation is complex and requires a nuanced approach. It is important to understand the root causes of the conflict and the grievances of both sides. The international community must work towards a peaceful resolution that addresses the concerns of both Israelis and Palestinians.

In the meantime, it is crucial to provide humanitarian aid to the people affected by the conflict. The UN has called for an immediate end to the violence and for the delivery of essential supplies to Gaza. It is also important to hold those responsible for war crimes accountable. The use of white phosphorus by Israeli forces in Lebanon is a possible war crime and should be investigated. The path to peace is long and difficult, but it is essential that all parties work towards a peaceful resolution that respects the rights and dignity of all people involved.

According to Professor Mohammed Abu Nimer, "Our starting point [in] peacebuilding and conflict resolution is usually by saying that and acknowledging that militarization and wars and violence cannot really be the solution for conflicts

related to a request of freedom and dignity and security for people involved in this conflict. In the case of Israel and Palestine, they have tried, or we have tried as well, this type of approach with Hamas for the past 16 years and with the Palestinian people for the past 75 years, if not more. Every time we engage, the parties - Israel as a government and military, as well as the Palestinian people with the PLO in the '80s and '90s or Hamas now in the 2000s and on - every time we use military and weapons to settle these differences and conflict, it results in further destruction, further victimhood.

But even more importantly, it feeds into the notion of primordial existence and threats to primordial existence. People begin thinking in terms of dehumanizing the other and not seeing the humanity on the other side. It's very painful to see civilians killed on the Israeli side, but in Gaza, and so many statements made by the Israeli political and military leaders were dehumanizing Hamas, dehumanizing Gaza, dehumanizing Palestinians. That I think [has] an even more severe negative impact on the future relations between Israelis and Palestinians.

I am thinking of the future generation. What are we now leaving this young generation after? Thousands of Palestinian children were killed, and tens of thousands of Palestinians were injured. What are we leaving after this battle? Definitely not peace-making and definitely not a resolution that responds to the dignity and the freedom of the Palestinians or even security for the Israelis” [3].

The territorial dispute between Venezuela and Guyana over the Essequibo region has been ongoing for almost two centuries. The International Court of Justice (ICJ) has been involved in the dispute since 2018, when Guyana filed an application instituting proceedings against Venezuela. In December 2020, the ICJ ruled that it had jurisdiction to consider the case.

In November 2023, Venezuela held a referendum on the fate of the disputed region, despite the ICJ's order to refrain from taking any action that would alter the situation on the ground. The way forward for the dispute is through peaceful negotiations between the two countries. The international community can play a crucial role in facilitating these negotiations. The UN Secretary-General has called for a peaceful resolution to the conflict and has urged both sides to engage in constructive dialogue. The UN has also offered to provide technical assistance to both countries to help resolve the dispute.

It is important that both Venezuela and Guyana respect the rule of law and the decisions of the ICJ. The ICJ's ruling on the case is binding and should be respected by both parties. The international community should continue to support the ICJ in its efforts to resolve the dispute peacefully. In a statement by OAS General Secretariat on Recent Events Regarding the Guyana-Venezuela Dispute, he reiterated, that Venezuela and Guyana share the responsibility of resolving their dispute in the spirit of good neighborliness and in accordance with international law and the Geneva Agreement to seek peaceful solutions to the territorial dispute.

Furthermore, the OAS General Secretariat continues to support the Co-operative Republic of Guyana's sovereign right to practice its franchise on its established and appurtenant maritime area, in accordance with international law and the principles of the United Nations. The OAS General Secretariat objects to

Venezuela's encroachment on Guyana's sovereignty and territorial rights through intimidatory and unfounded statements that fail to respect international conventions and the 1899 Arbitral Award, for which the latter is presently under judicial review at the International Court of Justice [4].

### **Conclusion**

In the case of Trinidad and Tobago the government has to be vigilant and the security forces need to be attentive to the rise of Islamic fundamentalist groups. Coming out of the 1990 event was a total disrespect for law and order and this has manifested itself in a serious crime scourge. The country has one of the highest crime rates in the Caribbean, with violent crime being the most prevalent. The government has implemented several strategies to combat crime, including legalizing Ganja to end the Ganja wars, and addressing the backlog of cases at the Forensic Science Centre via a multiplicity of interventions and measures applied. Community policing and crime prevention programs are also potential solutions to the crime problem in Trinidad and Tobago.

The finding of the study shows that boundary and land disputes have an enormous impact on the socio-economic activities of the general population of the identified communities, such as loss of lives and properties, government spending huge amounts to cater for internally displaced persons, loss of income and farmland, and reduction of food production. It was therefore recommended that both the government and individuals in such communities should be proactive in handling issues related to such conflict resulting from boundary and land disputes.

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### **ENDNOTES**

- (1) Israel-Hamas War of 2023. December 11, 2023. <https://www.britannica.com/event/Israel-Hamas-War-of-2023>.
- (2) The inability to predict or to have beforehand knowledge of these two events as well as the 1990 coup attempt have been seen by some as serious intelligence failures. Intelligence Failure is when an actor does not collect and analyze information adequately, formulate sound policy based on intelligence, or respond effectively<sup>1</sup>. Intelligence Failure can happen at multiple levels at multiple stages during the entire Intelligence Cycle. Intelligent failures are those that result in useful learning, allowing us to move forward more wisely. Intelligence failures often result from

preventable conditions such as poor understanding of intelligence methods and capabilities, poor coordination between intelligence and operations, and poor dissemination methods.

(3) Intifada is an Arabic word that means “uprising” or “rebellion” . It is a term that is commonly used to refer to the Palestinian uprisings against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip . The First Intifada began in December 1987 and ended in September 1993 with the signing of the first Oslo Accords . The Second Intifada started in September 2000 and ended in February 2005 . The term has also been used to describe other uprisings, such as the Zemla Intifada in Western Sahara.

(4) The Commission of Enquiry into the 1990 Attempted Coup was established to investigate the circumstances surrounding the attempted coup that occurred on Friday, 27 July 1990, in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. The 2011 COE into the attempted coup started in 2011 and the report of the commission was laid as a paper in the House of Representatives by the Honourable Kamla Persad-Bissessar, MP, Prime Minister on Friday March 14, 2014, twenty-four years later.

(5) Many analysts saw the Essequibo referendum as a tactical response by President Maduro to whip up nationalist fervour and distract from the calls for free and fair elections. While the referendum was only consultative in nature - that is, it will not have any legal weight outside of Venezuela - Guyana has condemned it as an aggressive attempt at "annexation".

Venezuelan voters were asked to provide a "Yes" or "No" answer to five questions. The first two basically asked whether Venezuelans supported the country's claim over the Essequibo region based on the Venezuelan arguments - the alleged invalidity of the 1899 arbitral award and the validity of the 1966 Geneva Agreement. The third question asked voters if they agreed with the Maduro government's refusal to accept that the ICJ has jurisdiction in the case.

This was a controversial question, since many Venezuelan opposition leaders and observers said snubbing the ICJ undermines Venezuela's position.

Question four asked if Venezuelans "agree to oppose by all means in accordance with the law" Guyana's "unilateral" use of the sea waters off Essequibo - a reference to Guyana issuing oil licencing for this offshore area. Critics have questioned the use of "by all means" in this question, wondering if this could include military force.

The fifth question asked for approval for "the creation of the Guayana Essequibo state" and its "incorporation into the map of Venezuelan territory", language particularly objected to by Guyana which says these amounts to the effective "annexation" of territory it currently administers. According to the Venezuelan government, more than 95% of Venezuelans who voted selected "yes" on each of the five questions on the ballot. International analysts and media reported that turnout had been remarkably low and that the Venezuelan government had falsified the results.

## **ТАРИХИ ПАРАЛЛЕЛЬДЕР: ИЗРАИЛЬ-ПАЛЕСТИНА ҚАҚТЫҒЫСЫ/ВЕНЕСУЭЛА МЕН ГАЙАНА АРАСЫНДАҒЫ КЕЛІСПЕУШІЛІКТЕР /ТРИНИДАД ПЕН ТОБАГО ҮКІМЕТІНДЕГІ ДЖАМААТ ӘЛ-МУСЛИМИН ТӨҢКЕРІС ӘРЕКЕТТЕРІ**

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**Аңдатпа.** Мемлекеттер арасындағы параллель шекаралар туралы даулар күрделі және маңызды тақырып болып табылады. Даулар тарихи, саяси, экономикалық немесе әлеуметтік факторлар сияқты әртүрлі себептерге байланысты туындауы мүмкін және

дипломатиялық келіссөздер немесе басқа да бейбіт жолдармен шешілуі мүмкін. Бұл мақалада үш дау қарастырылады, олардың екеуі қазіргі уақытта жалғасуда (Израиль-Палестина қақтығысы және Венесуэла мен Гайана арасындағы келіспеушіліктер), ал екіншісі 1990 жылы болды (Джаммат Әл-Муслимин - Тринидад пен Тобагодағы төңкеріс әрекеті). Бұл жағдайда даулы жер учаскесі Испания портының астанасына жақын жерде Джаммат Әл-Муслимин мүшелері тұратын шамамен 15 акр жерді құрады. Бұл жұмыстың мақсаты - барлық үш қақтығыстағы ұқсастықтар мен айырмашылықтарды анықтау және шекара мәселелерін шешудің қолданыстағы тетіктерінің сәттілігін немесе сәтсіздігін және олардың тиісті елдер мен олардың көршілерінің ұлттық қауіпсіздігіне әсерін зерттеу.

Бұл сапалы зерттеудің деректері бастапқы және қайғалама көздерден алынды. Гайана мен Венесуэла арасындағы дау және Тринидад пен Тобагодағы дау жағдайында бастапқы деректер тікелей сұхбат, бақылаулар, форум талқылаулары арқылы жиналды. Барлық үш дау үшін пайдаланылған қосымша мәліметтерге үкіметтік басылымдар, веб-сайттар, кітаптар, журнал мақалалары және ішкі жазбалар кірді.

**Тірек сөздер:** даулар, халықаралық сот, ХАМАС, егемендік, Джаммат-Әл-Муслимин, дипломатиялық келіссөздер, қауіпсіздік, келіспеушіліктер

## **ИСТОРИЧЕСКИЕ ПАРАЛЛЕЛИ: ИЗРАИЛЬСКО-ПАЛЕСТИНСКИЙ КОНФЛИКТ/РАЗНОГЛАСИЯ МЕЖДУ ВЕНЕСУЭЛОЙ И ГАЙАНОЙ /ПОПЫТКА ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОГО ПЕРЕВОРОТА ДЖАМААТ АЛЬ-МУСЛИМИН В ПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕ ТРИНИДАДА И ТОБАГО**

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**Аннотация.** Споры о параллельных границах между государствами являются сложной и деликатной темой. Споры могут возникать по различным причинам, таким как исторические, политические, экономические или социальные факторы, и могут быть разрешены путем дипломатических переговоров, судебного разбирательства или другими мирными средствами. В этой статье рассматриваются три спора, два из которых продолжаются в настоящее время (израильско-палестинский конфликт и разногласия между Венесуэлой и Гайаной), а другой произошел в 1990 году (Джаммат аль-Муслимин - попытка государственного переворота в Тринидаде и Тобаго). В данном случае спорный земельный участок составлял всего около 15 акров земли, на которой проживали члены Джаммат-аль-Муслимин в местечке недалеко от столицы Порт-оф-Спейн. Цель данного исследования состоит в том, чтобы выявить сходства и различия во всех трех конфликтах и изучить успешность или неуспешность существующих механизмов урегулирования пограничных вопросов и их влияние на национальную безопасность соответствующих стран и их соседей.

Данные для этого качественного исследования были получены как из первичных, так и из вторичных источников. В случаях спора между Гайаной и Венесуэлой и спора в Тринидаде и Тобаго первичные данные были собраны непосредственно посредством интервью, наблюдений, обсуждений на форумах. Вторичные данные, использованные для всех трех споров, включали правительственные публикации, веб-сайты, книги, журнальные статьи и внутренние записи.

**Ключевые слова:** споры, Международный суд, ХАМАС, суверенитет, Джаммат-аль-Муслимин, дипломатические переговоры, безопасность, конфликт

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