

with Israel in the invasion. However, with the United States' intervention, the three aggressors were forced to withdraw.

Indeed, the Suez invasion and its failure signaled the end of Britain's role as the dominant imperialist power in the Middle East. This also weakened its allies in the area i.e. Iraq and Jordan and left them more vulnerable to Naseer's propaganda. The resultant vacuum in the Middle East was filled by the United States who embarked on a policy of direct intervention in Arab regional politics, especially Israeli affairs. In the post 1948 war, the Arab Palestinians who remained in their land under Israeli government fought to preserve their national identity and rights. Finally this led to the establishment of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) in 1964.

Consequently, by the spring of 1967, the Israeli and the Arabs were once again involved in a major crisis known as Six Days War of 1967. On 5 June 1967, under the false pretence of an Egyptian aggression, Israel attacked Egypt, Syria, and Jordan, and seized the Old City of Jerusalem, the West bank, the Gaza Strip, the remaining of Palestine as well as some of the territories of Egypt (Sinai) and Syria (the Golan Height).¹³ Indeed, the humiliating defeat in 1967 war was very painful to the Islamic *Ummah*, and in particular clearly signified the impotence of Arab nationalism as advocated by Naseer. On the other hand, the Jews became more determined to establish the 'Greater Israel'.

The defeat of Pan-Arabians sustained in 1967 had motivated the Palestinians to initiate their own revolution without any vigorous hope for Arab support. The disaster had also paved the way for the revival of the Islamic trend, which maintains that only all encompassing, accommodating and principled Islam is the mean for resolving the Palestinian issue. Consequently, a new phase occurred in the Palestinian struggle in which the Palestinians initiated their own revolution, and depended on their own energy.

13. See Charles D. Smith, *Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict*, New York: St. Martin's Press, 1992; Sydney D. Bailey, *Four Arab-Israeli Wars and the Peace Process*, London: Macmillan, 1990.