

Call for Papers: Settler Colonialism in Palestine

We invite contributions for a guest-edited special issue of *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies* on the topic of “Settler Colonialism in Palestine.” Papers should be between 6000 and 8000 words and should be submitted to settlercolonialismconference@exeter.ac.uk by 15 June 2016. The special issue is based on a [Conference on Settler Colonialism in Palestine and Workshop on the Naqab Bedouin](#), held at the University of Exeter on 2-4 October 2015.

Our efforts will be oriented towards the examination of the validity and applicability of the settler colonial paradigm to the context of Palestine (West Bank, Gaza, East Jerusalem, as well as to contemporary Israel). We understand the employment of this paradigm as a powerful means to challenge and disarticulate established historiographies and narratives.

Scholarly awareness of settler colonialism as an historical, geographical and political formation is relatively recent, but is attracting the attention of more and more scholars. Wolfe (1999, 2006) argued that settler colonialism is an ongoing structure whose primary aim is the elimination of the native to secure settler control over the land. As such settler colonialism differs from other forms of colonial rule which tend to control the indigenous population through racialized labour exploitation.

Over the last decade or so, critical and revisionist scholarship has increasingly adopted the settler colonial paradigm to analyse Israeli rule over Palestine and Palestinians (Piterberg 2008, Shafir 1996, Veracini 2010, Wolfe 1999, 2006, Falah 2005, Yiftachel 2006, 2008, Nsasra et.al. 2014, Settler Colonial Studies, 2012, Vol. 1). This scholarship has argued that settler-colonisation in Palestine is not a one-off event, but rather an ongoing project aimed at indigenous displacement, removal and depopulation in order to inhabit the land with the settler population. It has also pointed to the ways in which settler colonialism in Palestine intersects in complex ways with other social, economic and political power structures and dynamics, such as nation-state building, neoliberalism, imperialism, race, ethnicity, and gender.

Importantly, and despite the fact that Israeli settler-colonial policies aim to render the colonised powerless, Palestinians continue to find ways to enact their agency and resist this complex matrix of control. Additionally to interrogating the paradigm of settler colonialism at a conceptual level, we also hope with this special issue to shed light on the various forms of subaltern politics that can develop in complex settler colonial contexts such as Palestine. We invite contributions that analyse both historical and contemporary political practices and discourses as enacted and articulated by Palestinians in different locations. Our aim is not only to better understand how these subaltern politics and discourses work, but also how Israeli settler-colonial power structures and policies have changed over time. Following up on some of the fundamental aspects of the debate that emerged in the context of the conference upon which this issue will be based, we would like contributions to address critiques of the settler colonialism paradigm, and, indeed, examinations of differences and contestations that exist within the field of settler colonial studies.

While focused on Palestine, we invite contributions that adopt interdisciplinary and comparative approaches, so as to build bridges between settler colonial studies and other disciplines, as well as to challenge Israel's alleged exceptionality.

We encourage prospective contributors to engage with the following questions:

- How accurately does the settler colonial paradigm describe the different and uneven, past and present colonial practices of dispossession, displacement, violence and elimination in Palestine?
- What is the nature of Israel's colonisation of Palestine? How does it manifest itself in different political, economic, social, as well as material and ideational arenas?
- How do settler colonial structures affect different forms of resistance and agency as enacted by the colonised?
- How are settler colonial narratives and discourses articulated (and disarticulated), and what counter-representations are possible for the colonised?
- How does Israel's settler colonial project impact upon Palestine's social, demographic, political and economic landscapes?
- How does settler colonialism intersect with global processes such as neoliberalism, imperialism, multiculturalism and war, but also with other variables such as gender, generation, class, ethnicity, sexuality or race?
- How does Israeli settler-colonialism relate to the Israeli nation-state building project?
- How does resistance against the settler colonial regime by the indigenous Palestinian population relate to and articulate itself within/vis-à-vis the Palestinian national struggle?
- How can the settler colonial paradigm be critiqued, *in toto* and in parts by those who may be sympathetic to its overarching optic?

Articles should be submitted to the guest editors at settlercolonialismconference@exeter.ac.uk by **15 June 2016** (not through the journal's online submission system). Please see the journal's [submission guidelines](#), and follow its [reference style guide](#).

If you would like to discuss your article before submission, please contact the guest editors at settlercolonialismconference@exeter.ac.uk.

The special issue is guest-edited by the Conference Organizing Committee:

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