

Author: Noura Erakat

Book: Justice For Some

Overview:

I didn't feel confident that I would be able to read through a book based on international law (this was my first one). This book is perfect to understand how "legal work" can shape the meaning of law in the history of Palestine and Israel. How Israel gets away with illegally being an apartheid state, illegally having a military occupation over the Palestinians, illegally keeping Palestinians from their right to self-determination. It is a powerful and deeply researched book that examines the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through the lens of international law, focusing on how the law has been selectively applied to favor Israeli interests while undermining Palestinian rights. She also examines the failures of the United Nations and other international bodies in holding Israel accountable, how law can oppress. Erakat challenges the assumption that law is inherently just or neutral. She shows how law has been manipulated by Israel and its allies to justify occupation, settlement expansion, and military aggression.

Notes:

South Africa was suspended from the UN, not expelled. This suspension occurred due to South Africa's apartheid laws, which were considered a violation of international norms. While the UN had no legal mechanism for expulsion, the suspension had a similar effect, as the UN effectively prevented South Africa from participating in UN activities.

South Africa was suspended from participating in the work of the UN General Assembly on November 12, 1974, due to its apartheid policies. The suspension did not exclude South Africa from UN membership but rather restricted its rights and privileges for the current session. South Africa was re-admitted to the UN in 1994 after transitioning to a democratic government.

The use of *sui generis* to sway international law to favor Israel.