MARCO BOTTELLI PHOTOGRAPHER REPORTAGES

WWW.MARCOBOTTELLI.COM INFO@MARCOTTELLI.COM

PROTECTIVE EDGE

On 8 July, 2014, Israel launched the "Protective Edge" operation against Hamas in the Gaza strip. The aim of the Israeli operation was to stop rocket fire from Gaza into Israel which increased after an Israeli crackdown on Hamas in the West Bank was launched following the 12 June kidnapping and murder of three Israeli teenagers in the area around Hebron.

On 17 July, the operation was expanded to an Israeli ground invasion of Gaza with the stated aim of destroying Gaza's tunnel system.

On 26 August, an open-ended ceasefire was announced.

During 50 days of war 73 Israelis and over 2,200 of Gazans were killed. The Gaza strip was heavy bombed by Israeli airstrikes and tank attacks.

More than 100,000 people have lost their homes along the Strip.

















THE ORTHODOXS

The daily life of Ultra-Orthodox Jews revolves around strict adherence to Jewish law, prayer and the study of Jewish texts.

There are different groups with intertwining beliefs, practices and theologies, but in their core beliefs, all movements share the same principles.

They used to dress in black with frock coats (although there are many other clothing styles) with black or furry hats for man and long-sleeved, modest clothing for women. They lead a close and moderate life in which they share everything in their own community.

In Jerusalem it's estimated that are living about 150,000 Ultra-Orthordox Jews out of a population of about 800,000 people.















WE WILL NEVER GIVE UP

The Arab-Israeli conflict has very deep roots, even before the birth of the state of Israelin 1948. But only from 1967, after the Israeli occupation of the West Bank as a result of the Six-Day War, one may talk about the identity of Palestinians as a people.

After more than forty years of occupation, 2 Intifadas and "The Oslo Accords" in 1993 wich brought hope for a possible peace resolution, the daily life of Palestinians is actually marked by conditions hard to bear that often lead to violent protests.

But it's through these acts that Palestinians express their will to never give up, their "resistance" as a movement of people who react to the occupation of their land to defend their own identity.

















NERO PAKISTAN

For the past few years Pakistan is suffering a social and political troubled situation that is making the future of the country unstable. The government is weak, people are poor and still asking for help. Many young people are jobless and without hope for the future. Religious minorities are often targeted by jihadists and suicide attacks are still a major problem for civilians and police.

In the North-West of the country the "war against terrorism" is still going on. Pakistan is more a broken state t han a true nation and Islam is the only thing keeping all these ethnic groups together. Sad examples are the "target killings" in Karachi where two opposite political parties, ANP (pasthun) and MQM (urdu speaking), are still fighting, causing a lot of violence and death.

In every corner of the country there is an atmosphere of uncertainty.

Nobody knows the future and people are just reacting to protect their own existence.

















VICTIMS OF TERRORISM

Since 2001 the conflict in Pakistan has killed and injured thousand of civilians, displaced milions and destroyed countless homes and livelihood.

The attacks are the results of two main reasons: sectarian violence - mainly between Sunni and Shia muslim - and "war on terrorism" between Pakistan Government with Usa and jihad groups banned after 9/11 as Talibans.

Civilian losses are often long-lasting and complex, destabilizing families and entire communities. Without saving, insurance or social safety nets, the shock of death, injury or property damage can dramatically alter families's lives, pushing many into debilitating poverty.

Civilian victims espressed anger at warring parties for their losses. Most Pakistani victims have yet to receive any assistance, compensation or even recognition of the harm they suffered.













SUICIDE FAMILY

During the last year Pakistan has registered an increase of poor families who committed collective suicide. The lack of any support from the government makes daily life of poor people so hard and most of them live with less than two USD per day. Khalida Bibi lives in Rawalpindi with her husband and four children. She lost her business as a fruit vendor after sustaining knee injuries.

Her husband Muhammad Younis Bhatti, a labourer in the Punjab Highway Department, was paralysed after an accident while he has working and now is on bed. He has 28 USD a month as a pension.

Their four children include Kashif, who is not only mentally handicapped but also unable to move his limbs. The disable child is completely dependent on his parents, brother and sisters to have food and other needs.

Khalida has also received a letter from the government mentioning the family should vacate state-owned house in 2 years or state will displace them from the house forcefully. Muhammad Younis tried to commit suicide three to four times.









