

Structural Violence and Human Security under Siege: Mixed-Methods Evidence from the Gaza Strip (2023–2025)

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Presentation Outline

A comprehensive overview of the research on structural violence in Gaza

Research Agenda

- Introduction to structural violence and human security in Gaza
- Methodology using mixed-methods concurrent triangulation design
- Results documenting quantitative patterns and qualitative narratives of deprivation
- Conclusion discussing systematic patterns and institutional mechanisms

Research Context & Background

- **Problem Domain:** Severe humanitarian crisis in Gaza Strip (2023-2025) characterized by bombardment, blockade, and mass displacement
- **Current State:** UN documents 63,746 fatalities and 161,245 injuries during study period (ocha2025update319)
- Systematic deprivation of essential resources (food, healthcare, fuel) constitutes structural violence (galtung1969violence)
- **Research Gap:** Limited integrated analysis of how institutional constraints transform survival systems into instruments of control

Motivation & Research Objectives

1

Critical Humanitarian Crisis

Address systematic deprivation of essential resources (food, healthcare, fuel) affecting 1.98 million people

2

Examine Structural Violence

Investigate how institutional constraints and geopolitical factors transform survival systems into control instruments

3

Document Measurable Impacts

Quantify effects on civilian populations through integrated mixed-methods analysis

4

International Legal Context

Situate findings within Genocide Convention and International Court of Justice proceedings (icj2024southafrica)

Related Work & Literature Review

Previous Approaches

- Galtung's structural violence theory (1969) - foundational framework
- Human security paradigm (Paris, 2001) - broad security conceptualization
- UN agency reports - descriptive statistics on humanitarian conditions
- Legal analyses - focus on international law violations

Limitations & Our Contribution

- Limited integration of quantitative and qualitative evidence
- Insufficient analysis of institutional mechanisms enabling structural violence
- Our work: Concurrent triangulation design combining statistical patterns with narrative accounts
- Our work: Documents how infrastructural domination transforms survival systems

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Research Methodology

*Mixed-methods concurrent triangulation design
integrating quantitative and qualitative analysis*

Research Design & Approach

- **Research Approach:** Mixed-methods concurrent triangulation design
- **Data Collection:** Integration of UN agency data (OCHA, UNRWA, WHO) with humanitarian testimonies
- **Time Frame:** October 2023 to September 2025 (24 monthly observations)
- **Tools:** Statistical analysis (R/Python), qualitative coding (NVivo), correlation analysis
- **Validation:** Cross-verification across multiple data sources to address single-source bias

Data Sources & Constraints

- **Primary Data:** United Nations agency reports on mortality, malnutrition, humanitarian access
- **Secondary Data:** Institutional communications, field testimonies, legal documents
- **Constraint:** UN data limited by access restrictions and reporting challenges
- **Constraint:** Humanitarian agencies operate under severe constraints including attacks on aid workers
- **Constraint:** Complexity from intersecting historical, social, and international dimensions

Analytical Framework Process



Implementation & Analysis Methods

- **Quantitative Methods:** Trend analysis, Pearson correlation, descriptive statistics
- **Qualitative Methods:** Thematic coding of testimonies, discourse analysis of institutional communications
- **Integration Strategy:** Concurrent analysis with iterative verification between datasets
- **Quality Assurance:** Inter-coder reliability checks, data source triangulation, sensitivity analysis
- **Benchmarking:** Comparative analysis relative to other contemporary humanitarian crises

Experimental Setup & Metrics

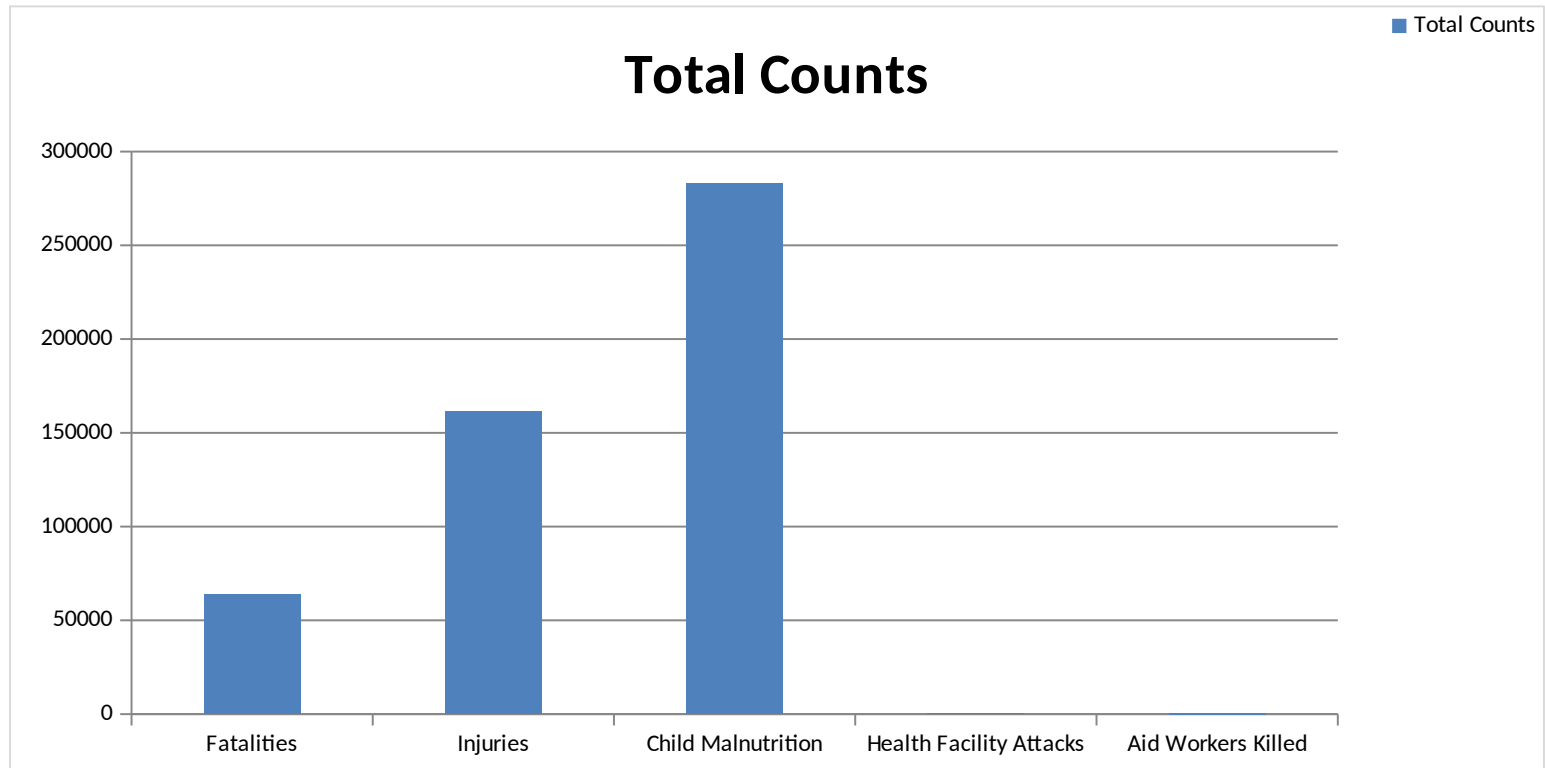
Metric Category	Specific Indicators	Data Source	Measurement Period
Mortality	Fatalities, Injuries, Demographic breakdown	OCHA reports	Monthly (Oct 2023-Sep 2025)
Nutrition	Child malnutrition rates, IPC classifications	WHO, IPC reports	Quarterly assessments
Healthcare	Health facility attacks, Health worker casualties	WHO, UNRWA	Incident-based reporting
Humanitarian Access	Aid worker fatalities, Fuel shortages	UNRWA, OCHA	Weekly situation reports
Displacement	IDP numbers, Shelter conditions	UNRWA, IOM	Monthly updates

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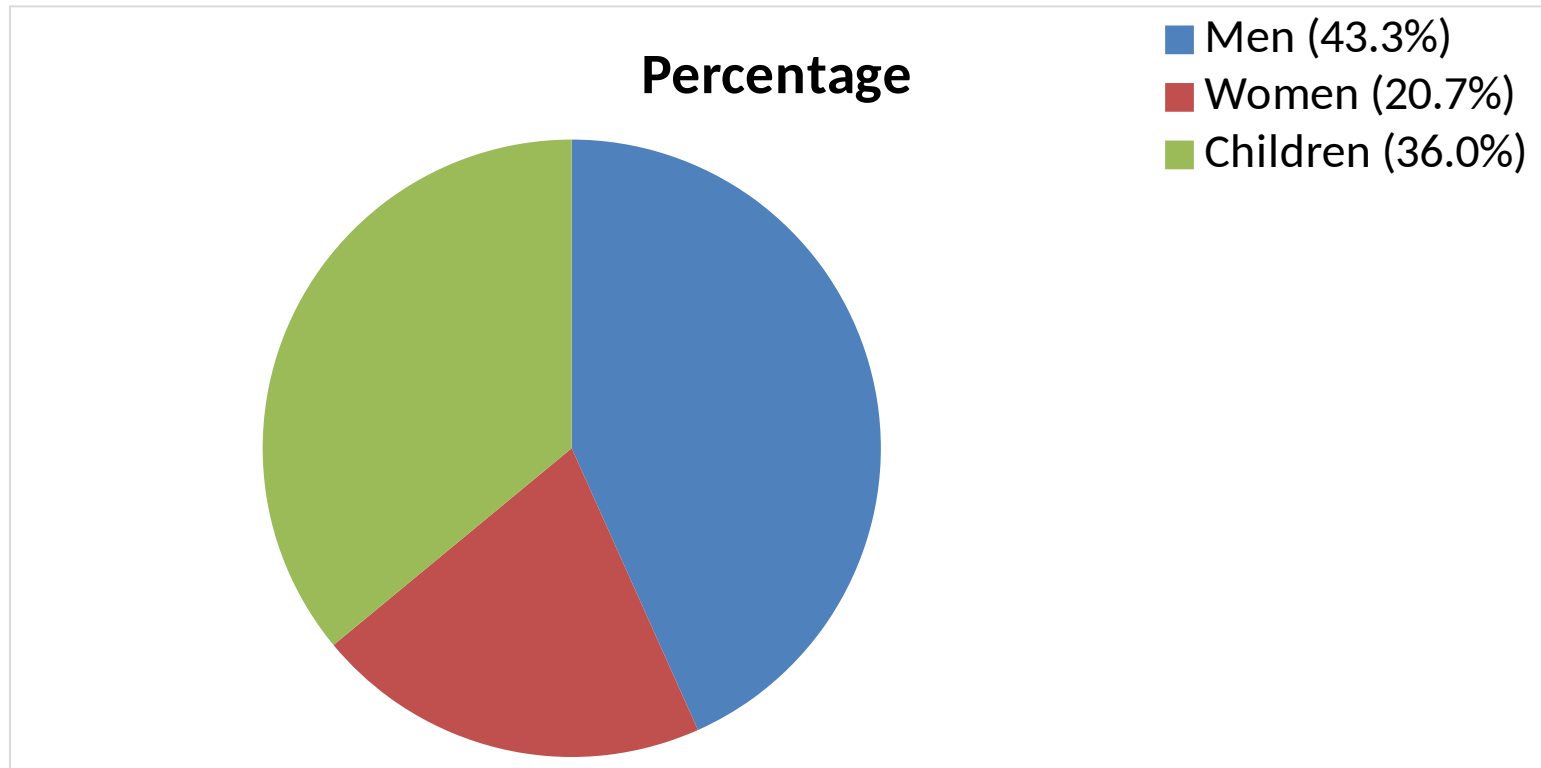
Research Findings

*Quantitative patterns and qualitative narratives
documenting structural violence manifestations*

Quantitative Patterns of Deprivation



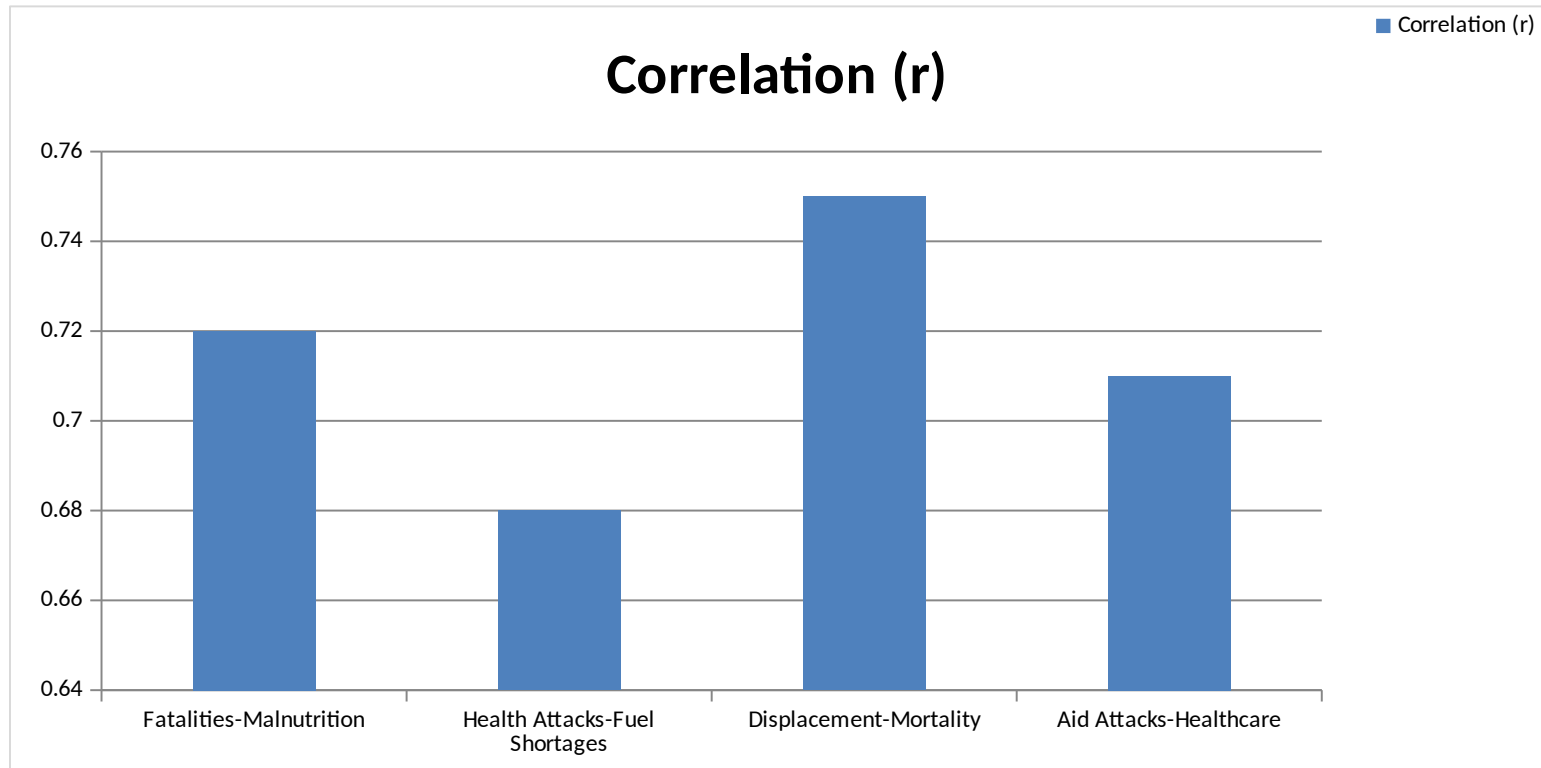
Demographic Impact Analysis



Food Security Crisis

IPC Phase	Classification	Population Affected	Percentage
Phase 3+	Crisis or worse	1,980,000	100%
Phase 4	Emergency	708,000	35.8%
Phase 5	Catastrophe/Famine	495,000	25.0%

Correlation Analysis of Deprivation Indicators



Institutional Violence Patterns

- **Health Facility Attacks:** 376 attacks resulting in 286 health worker deaths and 591 injuries
- **Humanitarian Targeting:** 543 aid workers killed, including 370 UNRWA staff members (unrwa2025sitrep187)
- **Systematic Pattern:** Attacks represent obstruction of life-saving assistance and medical care
- **Infrastructural Domination:** Survival systems transformed into instruments of control (hagerdal2020starvation)
- **Integrated System:** Strong correlations indicate structural violence operates as coordinated system

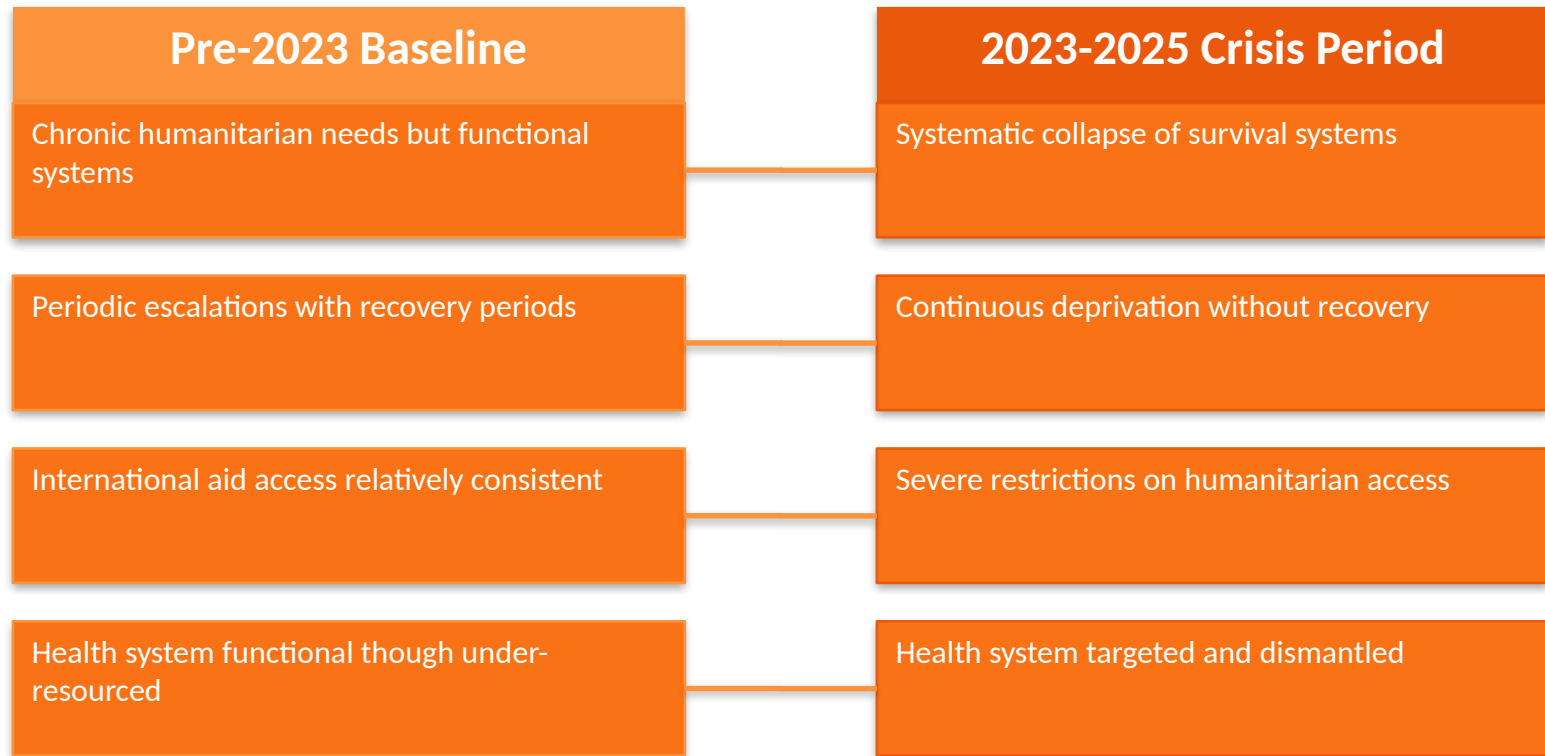
Qualitative Analysis: Narrative Accounts

Thematic Patterns from Testimonies Institutional Communication Analysis

- Daily survival strategies under siege conditions
- Intergenerational trauma and psychological impacts
- Gender-specific vulnerabilities in resource access
- Community resilience mechanisms despite systematic deprivation

- UN agency reports constrained by access limitations
- Systematic obstruction of humanitarian operations documented
- Legal frameworks referenced but implementation challenged
- Geopolitical constraints shaping institutional responses

Comparative Analysis: Baseline vs. Crisis Period



Key Contributions Summary

1

Systematic Documentation

Documents systematic patterns of deprivation across human security indicators using UN data

2

Integrated Analysis

Integrates quantitative trend analysis with qualitative coding of humanitarian testimonies

3

Correlation Evidence

Reveals strong correlations between fatalities, malnutrition rates, health facility attacks, and displacement

4

Structural Violence Mechanism

Demonstrates how infrastructural domination is associated with structural violence

Limitations & Methodological Challenges

- **Data Limitations:** Reliance on UN agency data subject to access restrictions and reporting constraints
- **Operational Challenges:** Humanitarian agencies operate under attacks, limiting data collection capacity
- **Complexity:** Intersecting historical, social, and international dimensions may obscure full scale of suffering
- **Temporal Constraints:** Study period may not capture longer-term impacts and recovery trajectories
- **Comparative Benchmarking:** Limited comparable datasets from other contemporary crises for normalization

Future Research Directions

- **Longitudinal Analysis:** Extend timeline to examine recovery or deterioration trajectories beyond 2025
- **Comparative Studies:** Apply mixed-methods framework to other contexts of structural violence
- **Mechanism Analysis:** Deeper investigation of specific institutional mechanisms enabling deprivation
- **Policy Impact:** Study effectiveness of international legal interventions and humanitarian responses
- **Methodological Innovation:** Develop enhanced data collection methods for conflict-constrained environments

Conclusions

- Structural violence in Gaza operates as integrated system with strong inter-indicator correlations ($r \geq 0.68$)
- Infrastructural domination transforms survival systems into instruments of control, producing measurable civilian impacts
- Mixed-methods approach reveals both statistical patterns and human narratives of deprivation under siege
- Institutional constraints and geopolitical factors are systematically associated with human security deterioration
- Findings provide empirical basis for legal accountability and humanitarian response evaluation



Thank You!

For questions: research@gazastudy.edu

Project Archive: archive.org/gaza-structural-violence-2025