

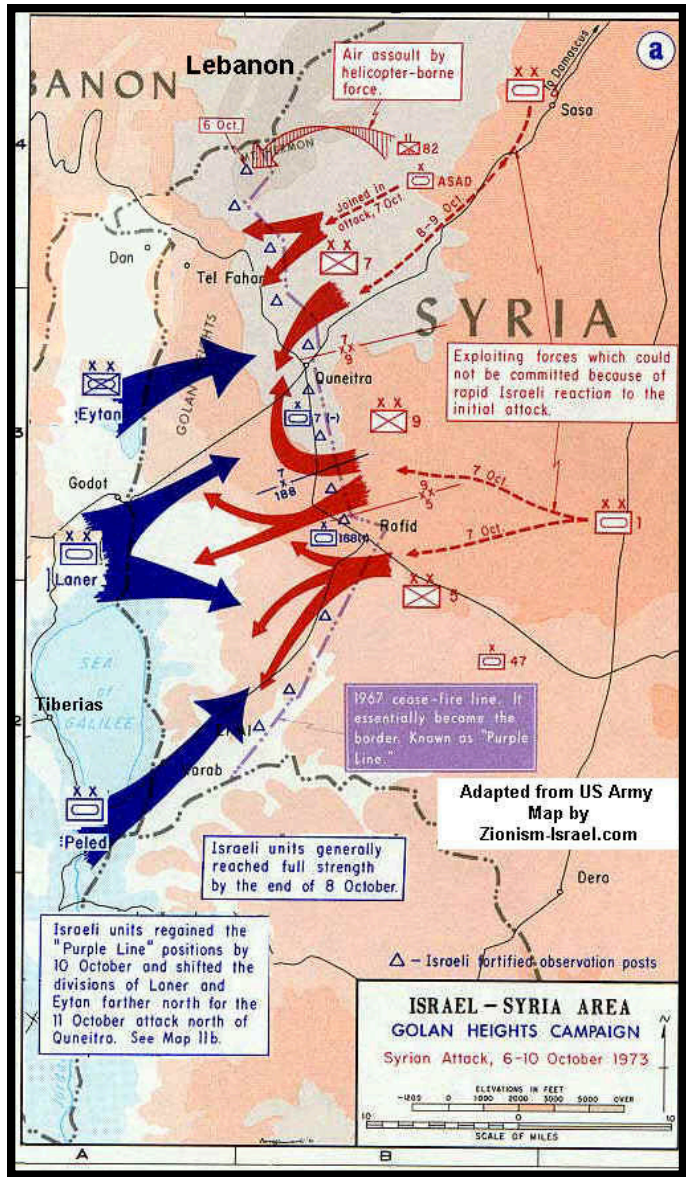
# The Impact of the 1973 Oil Embargo on Jamaica

Rui Ramsay | Mentor: Dr Charles Swift

CUNY Research Scholar Program 2024 Spring Cohort



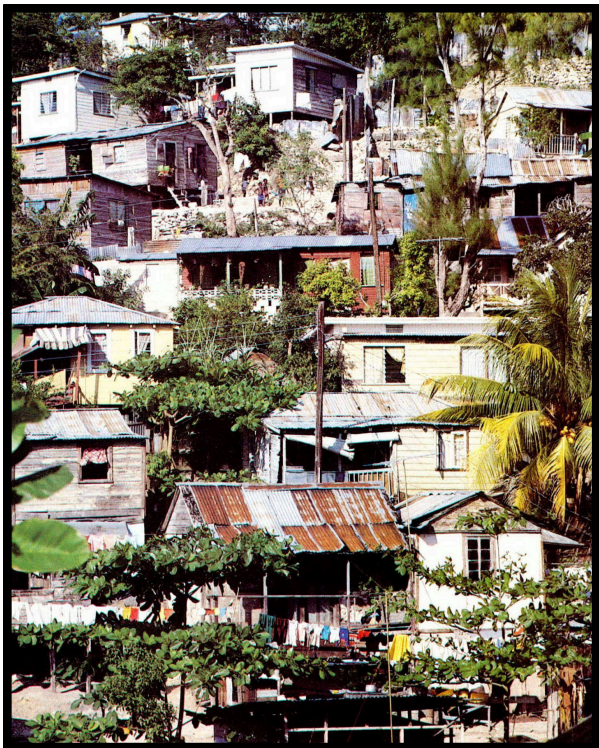
## Historical Context



The 1973 oil embargo was imposed by the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) in response to the support of the United States and other Western countries for Israel during the Yom Kippur War. The picture to the left shows how this sociopolitical event that affected America also impacted many other countries worldwide.

## Sociocultural Ramifications

- Increase in crime Social unrest
- Increase in the population of urban ghettos
- Uprise in dancehall music due to the poor conditions

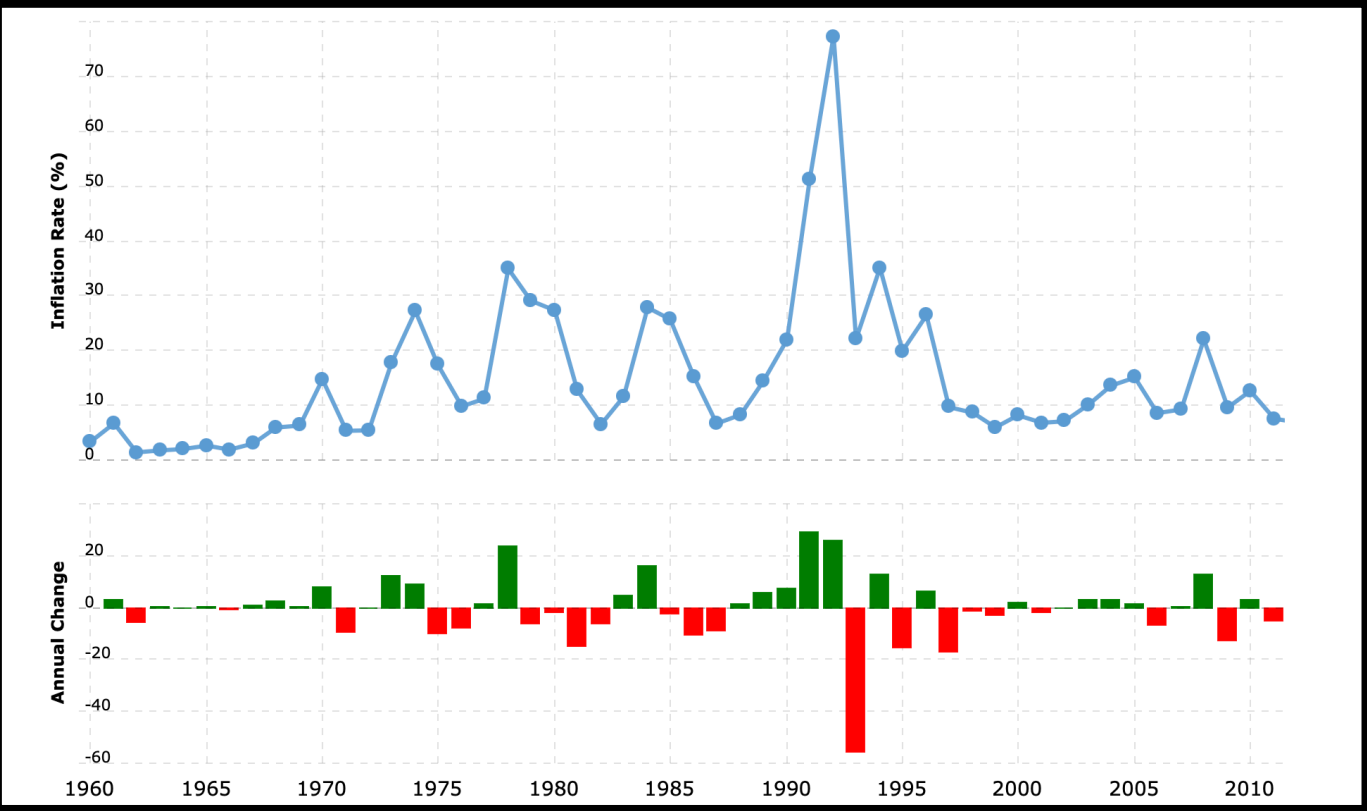


The pictures above show the contrast between the living conditions between the 1950s to around the early 2010s

## Global Impact

The oil embargo had a significant global impact, leading to a sharp increase in oil prices and causing disruptions in energy supplies. This led to widespread inflation, unemployment, and social unrest worldwide.

The graph below shows year-by-year statistics for inflation.



The above graph shows economic instability from the 1970s to the 1990s. This was the case for many other countries. Several of these islands recently gained independence and the opportunity to export and import. Oil is a necessary resource for most countries as well for commerce and employment.

## Jamaica's Most Influential Dancehall Artists



### I-Wayne

who made his biggest hit "Can't Satisfy Her" based on the increase in teenage pregnancies during the late 90s to the early 2000s.



### Vybz Kartel

created tracks like "Politician" and "Ghetto Youth" which provide commentary on political corruption and social inequality.



### Barrington Levy

known for his roots in reggae and dancehall music. His songs like "Under Mi Sensi" and "Here I Come" highlight the struggles of everyday life in Jamaica.



### Buju Banton

also a prominent figure in dancehall and reggae music. Tracks like "Untold Stories" and "Murderer" tackle themes of injustice and inequality.

All these artists made music that could intersect with the broader implications of events like the 1973 embargo based on their content.

## Interconnectedness

- The impact of the 1973 oil embargo on Jamaica highlights the interconnectedness of individual lives and societal structures.
- The embargo's effects continue to shape the country's trajectory.

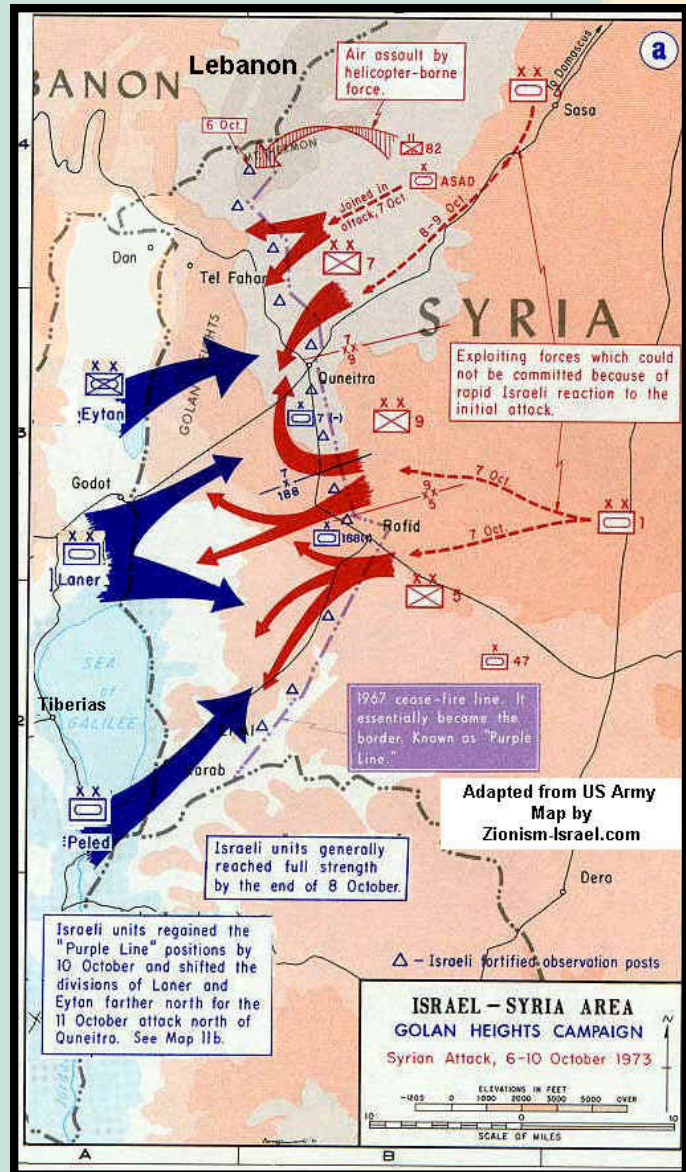




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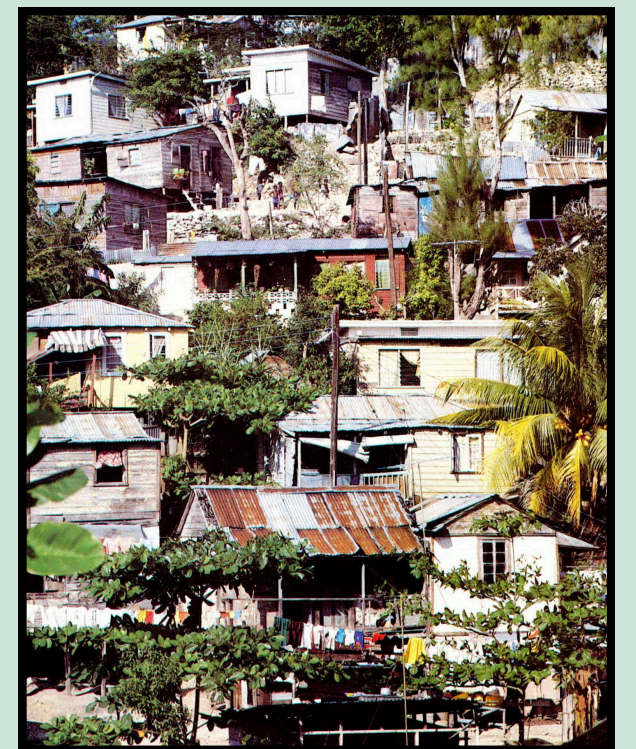
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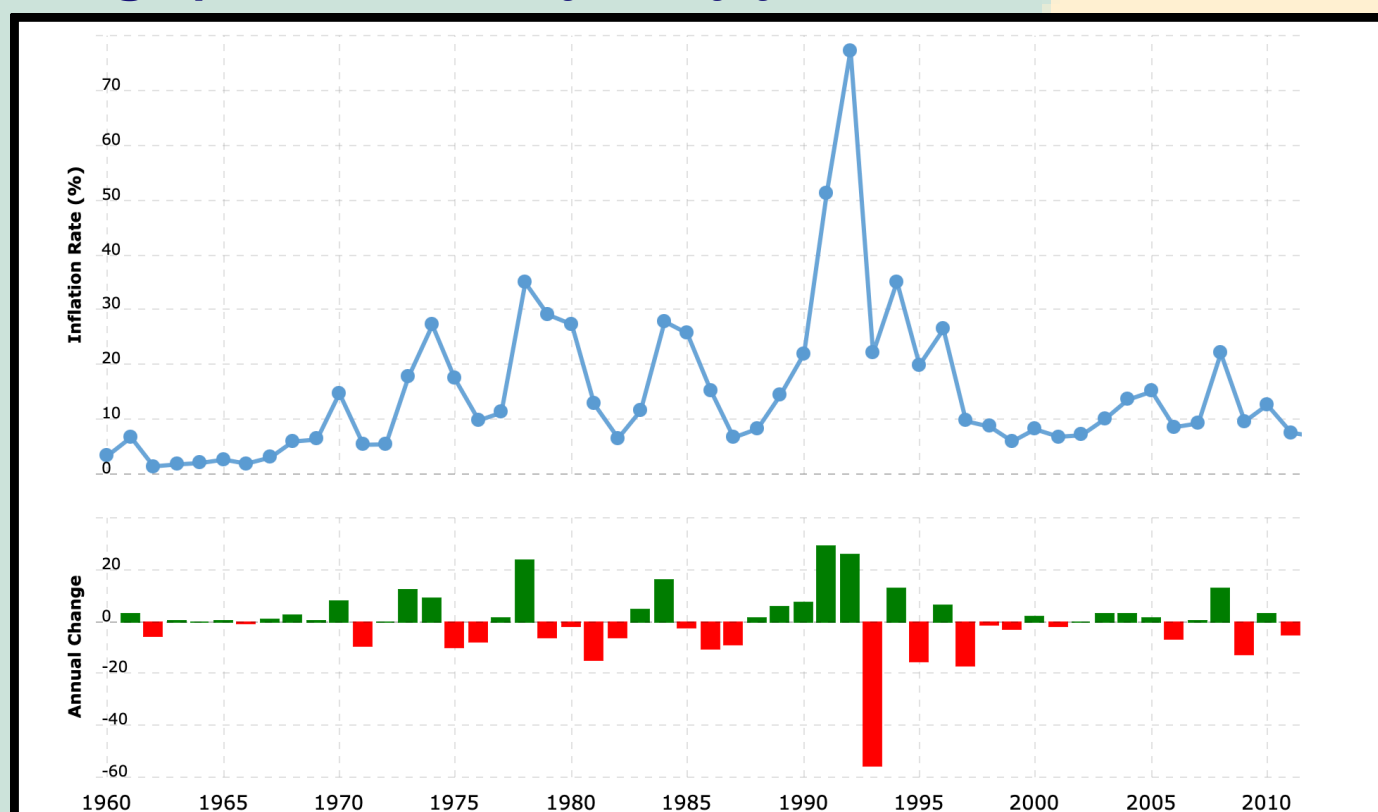


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