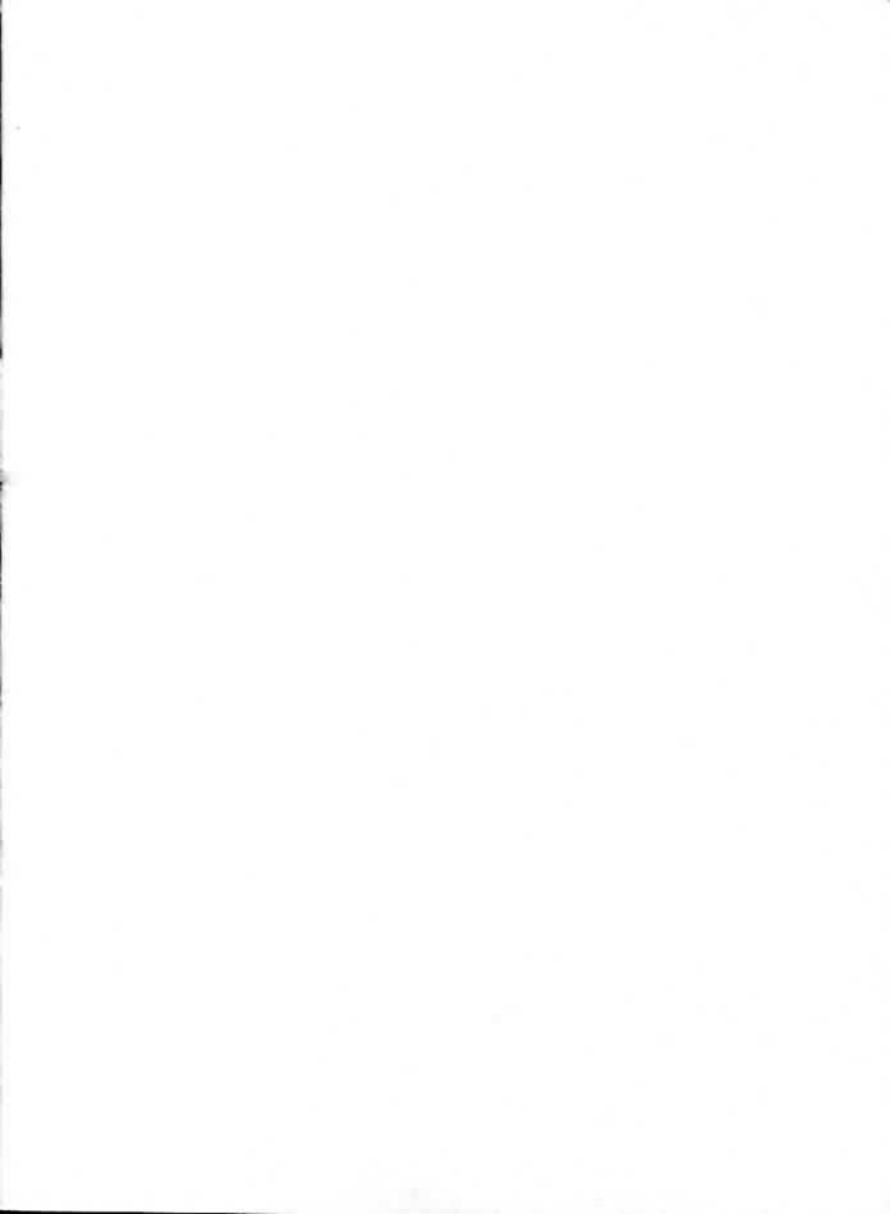


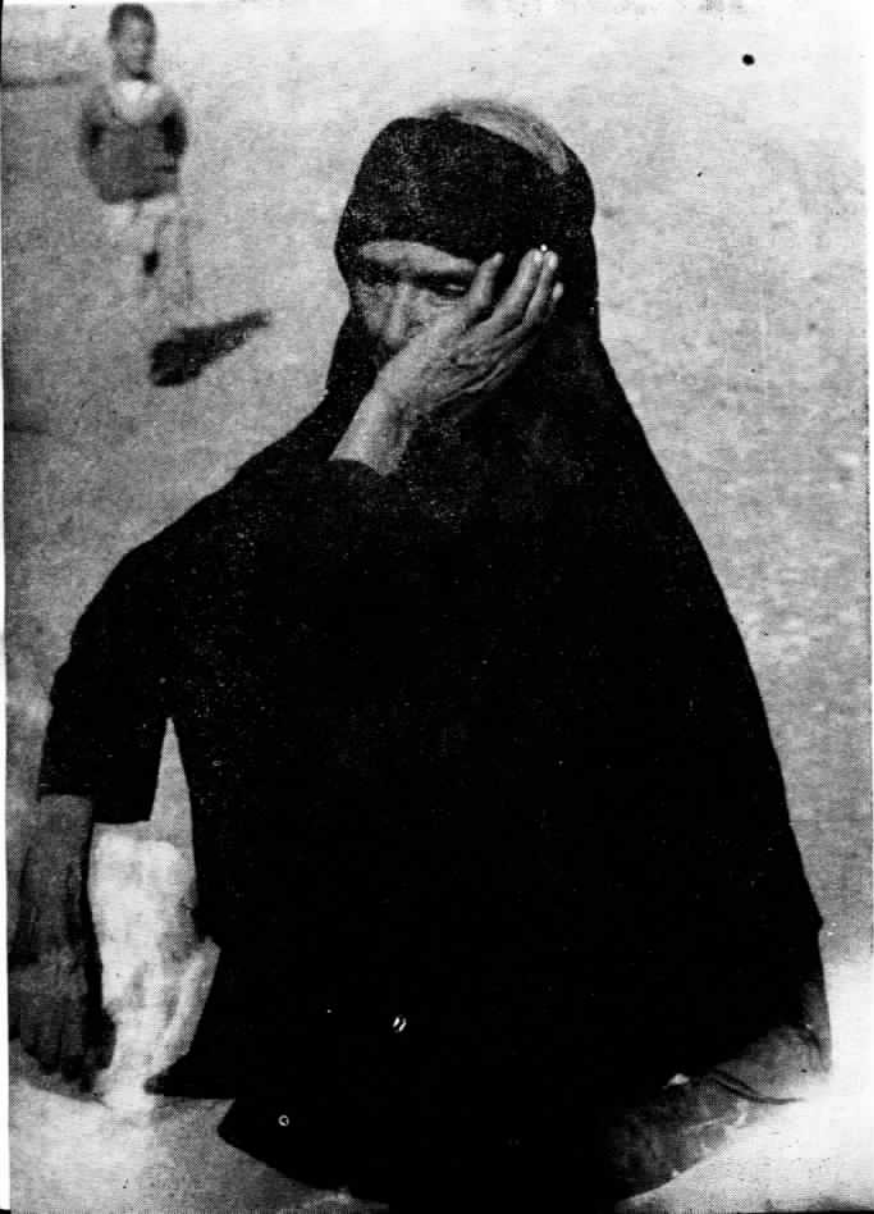
**TRAGEDY
OF
THE PALESTINE
ARAB REFUGEES**



Michael
Hannon

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The tragedy of the Palestine Arab refugees is an example of the victory of might over right, of the disregard of justic and human dignity and of the undermining by some Big Powers of the principles of international law and the Rights of Man.

On United Nations Day (October 24, 1966) the world organization plans to exert special efforts in connection with the subject of refugees generally and to urge the peoples and governments of the world to find a solution for their problem which accords with the dictates of human conscience. The United Nations, being the world organization most eminently responsible for the establishment of peace and the defence of justice, is called upon to advert special attention to finding a solution for the problem of the Palestine Arab refugees, which is one of the major refugee tragedies in the world and which has persisted for eighteen years.

The aim of this pamphlet is not to attempt a full treatment of the historical and legal aspects of the problem of the Palestine Arab refugees. Nor will it attempt to place before world public opinion evidence establishing the support of the imperialist powers for World Zionism, which is the party responsible for the uprooting of the Arab people of Palestine from their homes and their country. Its aim is to give authentic information on the sufferings of these refugees and the injustice done to them, so as to move the conscience of the peoples of the world and to appeal to them to require their governments and those responsible for the maintenance of world peace and justice to support the just cause of the repatriation of these refugees to their usurped homes and country.



The tragedy of the Palestine Arab refugees followed upon the invasion by World Zionism of the Arab land of Palestine, the uprooting and dispossession of its lawful inhabitants ... the Arab people of Palestine . . . from their ancestral homeland and their reduction to the status of refugees.

The tragedy began in 1948. Some well-known historical facts, however, throw light on its origin.

Before World War I, the Arab people of Palestine were endeavouring to win their national independence from the Ottoman Empire. In the course of the fighting (1914.. 1918) Britain promised to « recognize and support » the independence of the Arabs in a region which include Palestine (October, 1915).

At the end of World War I the Arabs were shocked to discover that Britain had broken her pledged promises and had concluded with her allies secret agreements involving the dismemberment of the Arab countries and their subjection to British and French mandates. They were more bitterly shocked to find out that Britain had furthermore promised World



Zionism, in the infamous Balfour Declaration of 1917, to establish a «national home» for the Jews in Palstine. Britain had no right to make this promise and to dispose of Palestine against the wishes of its inhabitants and in direct violation of their right to self-determination.

In 1918 and for many centuries before that year, the Arabs (Moslems and Christians) constituted 93% of the inhabitants of Palestine and the Jews were no more than 7%. Arab land holdings in Palestine were 97% of the area of the country and Jewish land holdings were a little over 2%.

What is the position today?

1. The Zionists occupy more than 75 percent of the land of Palestine.
2. The Arabs of Palestine, the lawful inhabitants of the country have been expelled, through brutal force and terror, from their homeland, and their lands and possessions have been usurped and confiscated. Of a total of 1.25 million displaced Arabs, about half a million have been dispersed all over the world and 750,000 lead a life of destitution in refugee tents and camps, fully exposed to dangers of sickness and hunger. Meantime their homes, lands and farms have been given to alien invaders who have no unifying link - not even that of a common language - and who have been brought to Palestine from all parts of the world to fulfill the political aspirations of Zionism.



3. The independence of Palestine and the right of its people to enjoy sovereignty over their homeland, and to live a decent life in it, have been destroyed by a ruthless Zionist aggression, in no way less brutal than the aggressions committed by the Fascist enemies of humanity.
4. Over 2 million Jews have been illegally brought to Palestine, with the connivance of the United Nations and in violation of the Rights of Man, which have been approved of the United Nations and which guarantee, above all other things, the right of all men to live in safety and peace in their homes and their countries.

The tragedy of the Palestine Arab refugees was thus the result of a carefully-planned Zionist-colonial conspiracy hatched 30 years before the actual uprooting of the refugees. The original aim of this conspiracy had nothing to do with helping the Jewish victims of Nazi

persecution in Europe. Indeed between 1920 and 1930, there were no Fascist or Nazi regimes in Europe and no persecution of the Jews. But even if there had been such persecution the principles of law, justice and human conscience cannot endorse the relief of persecution through persecution and the remedying of injustice by a worse injustice.

The colonial role of Britain in Arab Palestine began in 1918. Britain and World Zionism cooperated in carrying out the Zionist invasion of Palestine and the building up of a Zionist existence in the Holy Land. The British



authorities permitted unrestricted Jewish immigration into Palestine. The number of the Jewish inhabitants of the country rose, by 1947, to 600,000 and Jewish land holdings increased to 7.5%. In the joint Zionist-colonial conspiracy, the aim of World Zionism was to establish a Jewish state in the Holy Land, and that of British colonialism to destroy Arab rights in Palestine and to hand the country over to World Zionism.

Violence, the killing of peaceful Arabs in their own homeland, operations of Zionist subversion . . are all facts with which world public opinion should be acquainted in order to appreciate the true nature of the tragedy of Palestine Arab refugees.

According to the Report of the Anglo-American Committee on Palestine, the secret Zionist military organizations that were active in Palestine during the period of the British mandate included :



1. The Hagana and the Palmach :
a military organization consisting of :
 - 40,00 men and women of the Jewish inhabitants of towns and cities.
 - 16,000 men constituting a field force and mainly recruited from the local Jewish police guards.
 - The Palmach striking force, with efficient means of trans-





port and a membership of 2,000 well-trained men, in peace time, and 6,000 in time of war.

2. The Irgun Zvai Leumi : A national military force established in 1935 in which 3,000 - 5,000 Jewish terrorists were organized.
3. The Stern Group : 200 - 300 Zionist fanatics addicted to ruthless terrorism.



These terrorist organizations, directed by the Jewish Agency of World Zionism, spread terror in Palestine between 1935 and 1947. Among the acts perpetrated by them were :

- .. Attacks on railways, police boats and the oil refinery in Haifa.
- .. Attacks on airports and radar stations.
- .. Attacks on seaports and railway workshops.
- .. Organizing attacks against the peaceful Arab inhabitants, in the course which Arab villages and homes were subjected to ruthless terror and men and women were killed and mutilated.

These acts of terror were launched against the Arabs of Palestine before 1948, the year in which they were uprooted from their homeland and reduced to the status of refugees.

Examples of the more ruthless Fascist acts of terror perpetrated by the Zionist gangs in Palestine against the Arab inhabitants of the country, included the massacres of Deir Yasseen, Kibya and Kafr Kassem:

1. Deir Yasseen Massacre (April 9. 1948). A Zionist force of 500 men armed with machine guns and automatic weapons attacked the village of Deir Yasseen in the suburbs of Jerusalem. Having looted everything in the village, the Zionists next turned their attention to their human booty, slaughtering men, women and children without mercy. On this occasion, about 250 Arabs were butchered. Among these were pregnant women whose bodies were deliberately ripped open with bayonets - with the Zionist terrorists betting on the sex of the foetus. The bodies of the victims, bleeding and mutilated, were left unburied, while their sadist murderers watched the hideous sight.

Commenting on this horrible massacre, Winston Churchill simply described it as a criminal aggression and another criminal



act to be added to a long Zionist record.

2. Kibya (October 14, 1953) : This massacre was committed by the Zionists in the Jordanian border village of Kibya. The official report of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization described it in the following terms:

The evening of October 14 was an ordinary one for the 1500 peaceful inhabitants of the

village of Kibya until 9.30 p.m. Then suddenly it was doomsday in the village, which was subjected to an attack in which machine guns, rifles and explosives were used. After the village had been partially destroyed and a large number of its inhabitants had been buried under the debris of their homes, Israeli regular troops moved in and surrounded the village to prevent the surviving inhabitants from escaping. A terrible massacre followed in which men, women and children were murdered in cold blood. The crime was unbelievable, were it not for the evidence of neutral witnesses.

3. Kafr Kassem (October 29,1956). More horrible than the massacre of Kibya. Kafr Kassem is an Arab village in the part of Palestine occupied by the Israel « Government», which consequently shoulders the responsibility for the safety of the inhabitants.

In this terrible massacre 51 Arab villagers were killed by Jewish police machine gun fire. The villagers were returning home from their fields. The excuse for the massacre was the victims failure to observe a curfew which had never been declared. Its real cause was Zionist thirst for Arab blood. Among the victims were 12 women, ten children aged 14-17 years and seven others 2-13 years. Thirteen other children were seriously wounded.

Relying on massacres, murders and acts of terror, the Zionists aimed at ousting the legal inhabitants of Palestine to make room for Zionist immigrants.

The Zionist acts of terror moved the U.N. Security Council to interfere. In April 1948,



while the U. N. General Assembly was considering a plan for placing Palestine under U.N. trusteeship and while the Security Council was calling for the stopping of acts of violence and destruction, the Zionist leaders leaded to launch an all-out military invasion of the chief cities and villages of Palestine with the aim of forcing the Arabs out of the country.

By May 1948 about 400,000 Arabs were forced by Zionist terror to leave the country and were prevented by the British and Zionist forces from taking with them any of their possessions.

On May 15, 1948 the United Nations failed to meet the challenge of World Zionism. The Zionists declared the establissment of a Jewish state in Palestine. Zionist terror increased. 500,000 more Arabs were expelled from their homeland. The Palestine Arab refugees problem came into being. Today there are over 1.25 million Palestine refugees who, for eighteen years, have been leading a wretched life in miserable camps and tents while their farms, villages and cities which had been built up through centuries of work were usurped by the Zionists. It is almost incredible that the United



States, Britain and all the imperialist powers not only connived at this human tragedy but also contributed to its creation.

In the face of the Zionist disregard of principles of human rights and dignity. The United Nations adopted a number of resolutions requiring the repatriation of the Palestine Arab refugees.

The mere offering of relief to the Palestine refugees has not solved, and cannot provide a solution to, this human tragedy :

The Palestine Arab refugees who have suffered greatly and for long are determined





to return to their homeland. No rule of law or justice can deprive them of this sacred right.

The Palestine Arab refugees reject resettlement in the host countries and are determined to regain their usurped land and country.

In December 1948, the United Nations adopted a resolution (No. 194 - III) which stated :

« The refugees wishing to return to their homes and to live at peace with their neighbours should be permitted to do so at the earliest practicable date, and compensation should be paid for the property of those choosing not to return and for loss of or damage to property.»

Other U.N. resolution followed. More than 70 U.N. resolutions have so far been adopted clearly referring to the right of the Palestine Arab refugees to repatriation. Notwithstanding this, Israel which has been set up by World Zionism has ignored and flouted these resolutions.

Two aspects of Israel and World Zionism are revealed by this attitude: defiance of the authority of the United Nations of which Israel is now a member and their reliance on terror

and ruthless force in fulfilling Zionist aspirations in Palestine.

Those who filled the world with protests against Zionist persecution have become the adept disciples of the Nazis and continue to commit terrible crimes against the Arab people of Palestine. World War II put an end to Fascist mentality and behaviour, but Zionism has kept alive this mentality and behaviour.

No U.N. member state, or any country in the world, has been condemned by the United Nations for violations of principles of U.N. Charter, and of human rights and dignity.

The numerous U.N. resolutions calling upon Israel to repatriate the Palestine Arab



refugees is a human document condemning Israel and the imperialist powers that support Israel.

For how long will brute force decide the relations of peoples? The United Nations, which is appealing to governments and peoples of the world to support the cause of refugees and the restoration to them of their rights, should also seek the means for establishing justice, ending usurpation and punishing those flouting the right of man to a decent life in his own homeland.

The tragedy of the Palestine Arab refugees is not only a regional problem. It concerns all peoples desiring to live in safety and peace in their own homelands. The Arab people are not alone responsible to seek a solution for the problem of the Palestine Arab refugees. The Zionist aggression against the Arabs of Palestine is also an aggression against principles of humanity. Consequently, it is the duty of world public opinion and of all the peace-loving peoples of the world to cooperate in ending injustice and restoring the rights of the refugees.

Regardless of the number of the Palestine Arab refugees - whether one million or only one



thousand - those responsible for expelling them from their homeland should be punished and they should be repatriated, so that the wronged will not lose faith in justice and human ideals.

The Palestine Arab refugees are living a life of misery and deprivation.. They endure this life not because they have learnt to adapt themselves to it. No people willingly accept poverty and humiliation. They endure it for the time being because they are determined to regain their lands, homes and country and the heritage of their forefathers.

The Palestine Arab refugees expect world public opinion to support their just cause.

No force can make them renounce their claim to their land and their country. Their eyes are turned to their homeland. Neither time and poverty, nor the imperialist-Zionist conspiracies will ever make usurpation rightful or legal.



