WORLD PUBLIC OPINION

AND

THE CURRENT
AGGRESSION
IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Awhard Hwoon

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FOREWORD

In this booklet, fourth in the Series of «World Public Opinion and The Current Aggression In The Middle East», we present three newspaper articles taken from places as widely apart as Delhi and Lagos. The first two articles «Zionism Cannot Win Final Victory in Palestine» and «Arabs Have Always Helped Jews» were published by the Delhi paper «Radiance» in its issue of May 18, 1969. The third, entitled «The Voice Of The Palestinian Refugees», was carried by the Nigerian «Morning Post» in its issue of May 8, 1969.

As is the rule in this Series, these articles are reproduced in toto.

STATE INFORMATION SERVICE

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Zionism Can't Win Final Victory In Palestine

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Arob Contribution

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Do you find a notter mine in the Medicine sphere than that of Askenna? And he was born more than 1000 years ago. He Sina (that is what was the name of Askenna) was in the period from 980 to 1037.

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Time and space would not give us to write more in the command article, we shall write as first as possible to acquain the reader with the achievement of the Arab men of inters, sitesow and condition. These are a few of the names which can through the pages

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Widespread Culture

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ZIONISM CAN'T WIN FINAL VICTORY IN PALESTINE

VERY revolutionary struggle in the world has produced its own intellectuals, poets, leaders, fighters and martyrs.

The strength of the liberation movement grows daily through the intellectual guidance it gets from its theoreticians and derives inspiration from its fighters.

And, when a whole nation is under subjugation and tyranny the entire populace rises against the tyrant. From times immemorial many names are echoing through the corridors of world's history. And the enemies of the liberation movement have always denounced the freedom-lighters as terrorists and misguided people.

INIMICAL BROADCAST

Palestine movement is not free from getting inimical broadcasts from the imperialist controlled press or radio and television. One, daily hears from the Voice of America and the B.B.C. about the slanderous designations given to the Palestinian resistance fighter. Even the feudal elements of a country under thraldom react very violently when they find their country's fighters slandered by foreign press and radio broadcasts.

Freedom-struggle of a country is not confined to a particular class only, otherwise the world would never have heard the name of Prince Kropotkin of Russia — the leader of the Anarco-Communists in the last and beginning of this century. Likewise we find the following from the pen of a scion of the Hashemite royal family. Prince Hassan Ben Talal was studying in United Kingdom at Harro School and later on at Oxford University during 1964. He writes about his stay in U.K. in the following words:

During my time at school in England, I have become aware of the total lack of understanding with which English students and indeed Englishmen and Europeans of all ages regard my part of the world. This fact is not at all surprising, for the garbled accounts of the popular press which from day to day favours one cause or another in the Arab world, cannot in any way reveal the true nature of the fundamental problems of this part of the world, and what is more important, the history of these problems, without which no one can be expected to verge anywhere near understanding them. I should like hereby to reveal to you a major problem which

has worried my own country — Jordan — for the last sixteen years and despite continued effort as yet appears insoluble. I myself am not a Palestinian, being originally of Central Arabia stock, and can treat this problem in every way objectively. If you consider me biased then the facts may speak for themselves, for this is a matter which concerns every Arab wherever he may be.»

As a man of Press, the writer is so often startled when foreigners ask the question as to why should the Commandos not leave Israel in peace ? They repeat the same cld theme expressed by the Western bourgeois press and television: «Look, Israel wants to live in peace, but look at these Commandos, they would not allow her peace !» After all they say, «Israel is the country of the Israelis.» These people forget history, they forget the fate of the millions of refugees in camps shivering in cold, burning in scorching heat of the desert in summer and suffering indescribable loss in their meagre property and health when the rains overtake them and their tents, full of holes.

The world conscience is sleeping. The moribund imperialism in its last stage of life has been more cruel than ever before, and gloats over the sufferings of the people because they have different colour and creed

than its protagonists. Wonder, if the capitalist have any creed, except that that of making money?

WESTERN CONSCIENCE

A small incident affecting the Israel is repeated with sympathy on the Western chain of broadcasts. But when hundreds of young school girls are injured during the Israeli Police and Military attacking the demonstrations of the school girls, no voice in protest is heard from the West. Not even several demonstrators die by the Israeli bullets — girls, boys, young children and old men and women. How bleak is the Western conscience????

From Ben Gurion to Golda Meir and Eshkol, from Abba Eban to the lowest Zionist everyone has been citing the example of colonisation of the American Continent, and refuses to define the boundaries of an Israeli State. All these people have been pinning their faith on the extermination of the Arabs and have, since 1948, taken gradual steps to frighten and drive the Palestinians into deserts while taking over their fertile lands, homes and properties.

Nobody disputes an historic truth that superior civilisations had conquered and exterminated the people with no code of life or no able to reduce the Red Indian population of the Americas to zero. The Aryans came to India and drove away the aborigines to hills and mountains and into the dense jungles. But these very Aryans could not reduce the Dravidians of South India to any lower strata than of their own. The reason was that the Dravidian civilisation was no inferior to those of the Aryan invaders from the north.

Granted, there are no original inhabitants in Australia and if they are, may be they are in negligent number, but the Arabs are neither aborigines nor people inferior to any known civilisation of the world.

As a matter of fact the Arab contribution to the world civilisation in general and to the European one in particular is immense.

ARAB CONTRIBUTION

You turn to any chapter of human knowledge and lo; you find an Arab name leading. No branch of social science was left undeveloped by the Arabs. Take Chemistry, Geography, Geology, Medicine, Botany or Mathematics, you find the Arab in the foremost list of the contributors.

Do you find a better name in the Medicine sphere than that of Avicenna? And he was born more than 1000 years ago. Ibn Sina (that is what was the name of Avicenna) was in the period from 980 to 1037.

But before this greatest healer existed another Arab by the name of Al Razi (better known in Europe as Rhazes, who lived from 844 to 926). His works were translated into Latin. It was as long ago as 1395 that the Faculty of Medicine of Paris prized his works.

Time and space would not allow us to write more in this small article, we shall write as brief as possible to acquaint the reader with the achievements of the Arab men of letters, science and medicine. These are a few of the names which run through the pages of Medical History and their contribution is grand:

Ibn-ul-Jazzar: his book translated into Latin as Viaticum died in 1009. This book was very popular with the physicians of the medieval era. And Ali Ibn Al-Abbas's book on medicine entitled *Maleki* was translated into Latin in 1127, and long after, in 1523, was printed in Lyons (France).

Surgery too had been developed by the Arabs to an extent that when modern methods of surgery were adopted Abulcasis name and method was not ignored. His book At-Tasrif was translated into Latin and was known by its Latin name of Medical Vade Mecum. This was in the period of 10th and 11th century.

Arab talent was recognised everywhere in Asia and Europe but in the middle of the thirteenth century a new civilisation began to develop in western Europe. It was based on some sort of industrial development though not as ripe as the industrial revolution that came later on in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. And with pride, the Europe of the after years of thirteenth century began to take pride on everything European, and starting shunning and minimising all that was Oriental.

It is in this connection that one John Draper writes the following, deprecating a new abnormal and anti-Arab tendency in the West: In his book Intellectual Development Of Europe, he says: «I have to deplore the systematic manner in which the literature Europe has contrived to put out of sight our scientific obligation to the Arabs. . . Surely they can no longer be hidden ... What should the modern astronomer say when, remembering the contemporary barbarism of Europe he finds the Arab Abul Hassan speaking of tubes, to the extremities of which ocular and object diopters, perhaps sights, were attached? What when he reads of the attempts of Abderahman Sufi at improving the photometry of the stars? Are the astronomical tables of Ibn Junis (A.D. 1008), or the measurements of time by pendulum oscillations, and the methods of correcting astronomical tables by systematic observations — are such things worthless indications of the mental State? The Arab has left his intellectual impress on Europe; he has indelibly written it on heavens, as any one may see who reads the names of the stars on a common celestial globe.»

WIDESPREAD CULTURE

We leave this topic at that, and wish to add only much that the Arab heritage is too rich to be hidden and his culture too widespread to be denied or ignored. A people with such a past and such an influence on world civilisation can neither be exterminated nor obliterated by any order that modern capitalism can boast of. Thus, Zionism's dream of driving the Arabs to wilderness and building up an Empire spreading from Euphrates to Nile is foredoomed to failure. Flushed by a transitory victory Zionism is today boasting too much. World remembers very well how flushed by their victories the Nazis had boasted of capturing Moscow and bringing Stalin and Moscow leaders dragging by chains with rings in their noses. «He who laughs the last laughs the best». This is a very common English saying.

With all the might that Zionism commands resting on Anglo-American imperialism, it cannot and will not be able to crush the liberation forces now active in Palestine and in the areas surrounding it from the Atlantic Ocean to the Arab Gulf. (Commonly known as the Persian Gulf). And the western Europe to which Mr. John Draper has alluded to in the foregoing lines, is once more awakening to realities and realises that, with all its support, the Zionism cannot win the final victory.

HE Jows had been in the wilderness for hundreds of years Once they had seen driven out of Palestine (that happened many years before Islam). they were left adrift in wide world. They did never get a homeland They became the civilised gipsics of the world. perpetually migrating from one part of the globe to another.

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Variety Of Complexes

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Arabs Have Always Helped The Jews

without which no people on earth conceives of itself worthy of the name. The Israellies were already obsessed with the idea of a 'promised' land for a 'chosen' people, as they thought themselves to be, des-pite all their discomfitures. So they pusionately hugged the objective and ideal of a "home-land" for themselves. and" for themselves. This tine of the mountain, gion, where from they had been rooted out about two thrusand years back. They dreamed to years back. They decamed a going back to this promise land. They oriented all thei endeavours towards this targe and obscentrated all thei

resources on achieving it. Uroader Perspective

Now the perspective takes another turn. This premised land of Paleatine happened to be la the pencesson of the Mussim Arabs. They had been living here for about fourteen hundred years. The Muslims, in Palestho, at Jerusalem, took the leys of power from the Chiairan in the time of the second Caliph, Huzzat On ar (may Ged be pleased with him). This trans-ier of power took place with fer of power took place with an honourable treaty between the Minlims and the Chris-tians, signed by the Calph of Islam and the Pripe of Chris-tendors. Right from the period opto the modern age, the Moslim Arals had been the Moslim Arals had been inhalfiting and ruling over Palestine and administrating the Holy City of Jerusalem.

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ARABS HAVE ALWAYS HELPED THE JEWS

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Although they spread all over the world, but largely they were scattered thoughout Europe. After the christianising of the Roman Empire (much before Islam) the Jews were made the target of all sorts of persecutions and tribulations. Insults and injuries were heaped upon them. They were virtually turned into the «shudras» (untouchables) of the Christian society. Then they were frequently massacred in, and exiled from, on a mass scale, almost all the countries of Europe in turns. This happened in England, France, Russia, Italy, Germany etc., in some of which more than once.

VARIETY OF COMPLEXES

This perpetual persecution went a very long way, in course of time, to pervert the genius of this suppressed and oppressed people. They, psychologically, developed a variety of complexes. They grew very malicious and miserly, self-centred and secretive. These and many other unhealthy traits kept developing in the community of the Jews for hundreds of years. The cumulative effect of these centuries-old characteristics ultimately made the Jews into a notorious, though pitiable type. The English dramatist Shakespeare, eternalised their type into the famous character of Shylock in his drama entitled The Merchant of Venice.

So the Jewish genius hatched a grand conspiracy, against the whole of non-Israeli world, called Zionism. This clandestine movement prepared a clandestine «protocol». The most suggestive thing about this protocol is that it is known to all and sundry, of course by hearsay, but has been seen by few. It has been going regularly through edition after edition, but hardly any non-Israeli can claim to be possessing, or to have possessed a copy of it.

CHARTER OF EVIL

However, the few knowledgeable persons have disclosed that the Zionist protocol constitutes, in fact, a grand scheme for the world domination of the Jews and, then, avenging all the wrongs done to them. It is meant against

all the non-Israeli people of the world. If this version of the Zionist protocol by fairly authentic scholars be believed, it would seem, all the cataclysms and disasters imperilling mankind in modern times, in the spheres of thought and action, have originated from this very protocol, which may, as such, be called the Charter of Evils against mankind.

However, the Zionist protocol laid down a strategy for the Jews of Europe. They schemed to subvert the States and the peoples by whom they had been long persecuted and against whom they had harboured a national grudge. As such they penetrated all the spheres of power and tried to gain the levers of Government throughout the States in which they had been living. For this, they laid the greatest emphasis on monopolising the sources of capital.

GRIP OF THE ZIONISTS

As usury had been their national characteristic down the ages, so they really monopolised, so to say, the commercial concerns of Europe, chiefly through the banking system, that has come to be the handmaid of the canny Jews. Consequently, now at least, the western Europe, as a whole, is conclusively in the grip of the Zionists. They are holding and twisting the very backbone of the capitalist society. Their CURRENCY reigns over the lands of John Bull and Uncle Sam.

The modern concept of humanity, envolved and propagated by the West, made «Nationalism» the be-all and end-all of all the peoples of the world. Now, a Nation is supposed to be based upon a homeland, without which no people on earth conceives of itself worthy of the name. The Israelites were already obsessed with the idea of a 'promised' land for a 'chosen' people, as hey thought themselves to be, despite all their discomfitures. So they passionately hugged the objective and ideal of a shomelands for themselves. This homeland they fixed as Palestine of the mountain. Zion, where from they had been rooted out about two thousand years back. They dreamed of going back to this promised land. They oriented all their endeavours towards this target, and concentrated all their resources on achieving it.

BROADER PERSPECTIVE

Now the perspective takes another turn. This promised land of Palestine happened to be in the possession of the Muslim Arabs. They had been living here for about fourteen hundred years. The Muslims, in Palestine, at Jerusalem, took the keys of power from the Christians in the time of the second Caliph, Hazrat Omar (may God be pleased with him). This transfer of power took place with an honourable treaty between the Muslims and the Christians, signed by the Caliph of Islam and

the Pope of Christendom. Right from that period up to the modern age, the Muslim Arabs had been inhabiting and ruling over Palestine and administering the Holy City of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is sacred to all the three religions — Islam, Christianity and Judaism. The Muslims, as against the other two religionists, believe, as an article of their faith, in the Gospels and the prophets of these two religions (as of all the religions of world). So they were, morally, the best suited to administer Jerusalem, as also to rule over Palestine. Then the Muslims, throughout the thousand and a half years, really proved themselves to be worthy of the trust which they had taken up.

Of course, there was an interregnum of some years, during the Crusades, in which the Muslims kept losing the control of Palestine off and on. All the Christian States of the world combined their mights, under one banner, to fight the Muslims out of Palestine. At that time, just as today, the Muslim Arabs were divided and weak. So the Christians did achieve momentary and partial victories, and ruthlessly massacred and exiled the rightful owners from their home and hearth. But, ultimately, there rose the legendary Salahuddin, who cleared the sacred land from the unnatural growth and restored its pristine glory.

MUSLIMS AND JEWS

Throughout all these ages, the Jews enjoyed the unfailing hospitality of the Muslims, especially the Arabs of the Middle East. During all their predicaments and persecutions in the Christendom, the Muslim States and peoples provided the safest refuge and shelter to the poor Jews. They were generously accorded all the facilities and amenities of a peaceful and honourable civil life. They were even guaranteed certain concessions and privileges. So, normally, there should not have been any ill-will to be avenged, or any national account to be settled, between the Jews and the Muslims. Even in the original point of the religious evolution, it was from the Christians, and not from the Jews, that the Muslims had taken charge.

As for the universal and perpetual generosity of the Muslims, as a community, towards other communities, it is the measure of their bonafides that even in the modern times, in the course of the hot as well as cold wars between the Muslim Arabs and the Israelis, none ever heard that a single Jew, as a Jew, was murdered or looted or arrested or proceeded against in the Muslim States, including those of the Middle East.

But the ways of the world are strange. When the British power rose in the world and the Jews started a search for their homeland and two sworn enemies colluded together, of course to exploit one another, against a third, innocent and unsuspecting party — the Muslims of the Middle East. Undoubtedly, both the Jews and the Christians had their own historical and ancestral scores to be settled against the Muslims.

(To be concluded)

The voice of the Palest

I N this 15th year of war - we have been at war since November 2, 1917 and titat Is half a contury - we think it would be good to know that things are as clear to you as they are to obnicives. You must not be sur-priled if from the rules of our homes, from our wounds arrawated by the care of the West, out of our cracked skim, from all the hatred gather-

this hope up to the

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THE VOICE OF THE PALESTINE REFUGEES

(by a correspondent)

In this 15th year of war — we have been at war since November 2, 1917 and that is half a century — we think it would be good to know that things are as clear to you as they are to ourselves. You must not be surprised if from the ruins of our homes, from our wounds aggravated by the care of the West, out of our cracked skins, from all the hatred gathered against us like a wall of darkness, from the dead bodies even of our murdered children if out of all these there still springs a glimmer of hope.

And if we had to descend even deeper, for another thousand steps, if it came to be that we lay at the very bottom, we would still lift our misery on the palm of our hands, holding this hope up to the daylight.

Don't be surprised that we are so obstinate in refusing the FAIT ACCOMPLI, that whenever we lift our eyes what stands in front of us is the image of our lost country.

Just go to Afula on an evening in spring-

time, stand there at the window of our house for a chat and in the beauty of the sinking day, with the wind awakening under our stars of Afula. You will understand what it means to a people to live in the midst, and the harmony, of their land.

Our farms are razed to the ground but do not the ashes hold the seed? Our roots are cut but those who prune the trees do they know that each mutilation will bring about a multiple result? We are in the desert, exiled, but does not springtime come to the desert also?

Sometimes we dream that, shadows ourselves, we watch our shadows pass by. We have no more depth, no more shape. Our skins we fold like colourless cloaks. Then we unfold them to hang them on nails driven into grizzly walls or in the cloth of a tent. Nobody else will drive nails into a tent-cloth, no one else will be on such close terms with the dust.

But if our flesh is crumbling away and no longer held together by its carcass, there are hope and anger to hold it. An anger that drives us to dig out our country, even if we have to go against all the laws.

In the desert and the crowd, whether we are thirsty or at rest, amidst all our ugliness and pain, what will remain shining and refreshing is the memory of the life of which we have been robbed. To forget it for a period of ten days just means to find it again on the 11th day, and with even harsher agony.

Almost every night we sit to sew together once more our refugee bedies and souls, in order to regain our skins of free men because, you see, we do not grow older — just in the same measure as we can't forget. We will die without having become old. A dreaming man is a man of no age. The heart breaks, the children change, the clothes fall to rags.

«Near her, oh Khayyam, how you were alone! Now she is gone, it is with her that you can take your refuge.»

And what are we to do with that tenderness which we feel for our country and for nothing else?

In disregard of God and man we were driven from our homes. The children of Abraham, the true and without doubt the only heirs of Moses, Isaac and Jacob, the first companions and apostles of Christ, we are renounced and chased away by those who like to derive their authority from the Testament.

Proprietors of our land since times so ancient that no historian would dare assign a date to our first establishment, we, the Philistines, Ammonites, Edomites, Phoenicians, Hebrews and others, the soldiers of David and Solomon, the auxiliaries of the Great Kings, of the Caesars of Rome and the rulers of Byzanffum, having afterwards become Moslems, the contemporaries of the Caliphs and the crusaders, the partners of the Frenchman Jacques Cocur and Dante Alighieri the Toscan.

Having survived so many centuries and enterprises, pillars as we are of the history of the Orient, we nevertheless were expelled in disregard of it all.

We are, however, the desert of the quails and the manna; we are Mount Horeb as well as Mount Sinai, or Hebron, Jericho, Gueshur, Lake Kinnereth. We are the River Jordan of John the Baptist, the Precursor. We are also Jerusalem whose walls were built by our hands.

We are the naked hill of Calvary and the cry which Jesus gave in out own language was heard by us. In like manner we derive ourselves from Omar and Islam, from the Prophet Mohammed who, out of regard for what we were, looked at us from afar.

If there are descendants of Juda, of David, Ruben and Ephraim, who traced themselves back to Sem, these can only be ourselves, together with the children of Elam, Asuur, Arpacshad, Lud and Aram.

And Jesus and Mary alike have the same ancestors and belong to us. And Mohammed, the Prophet, who came as the third enlightener after Moses and Jesus, being heir to Ismail, the brother of Isaac, is our brother as well as our light.

What does Europe know about all this? Do Europeans really ignore it? On what grounds then, do those people who arrive from Europe or from even more distant countries who introduce themselves as ambassadors of the divine justice, on what grounds do they claim to be more Semitic and juster people than we are?

With the Bible in their hands they have slapped the faces of those who wrote the Bible, and we have been rejected by the Christians.

Who knows well? Who will realise that the true history of a country and of an idea as we, the people of Palestine, represent it before the world well may be drowned by the floods of an invader coming from strange cities? If it is true that the visible carries the invisible, that the body is itself the spirit, that the land speaks to God; as it is believed by the Jews a people was chosen by a promise of God or if this promise become incarnate in the Son of David, according to Christian belief, or if, as it has been said by the Prophet, the children of Israel are heirs to the Word—then

it will well be ourselves who are this Word the substance, the way or the witnesses.

For through our blood, through tradition, and through our fidelity to the land of our ancestors, through the drama of the passion which is still alive, we are the children of Israel.

We are ready to concede that Messrs Dayan, Ben Gurion and Rothschild be called heirs to our history — what we do not admit is that they be made the political leaders of our destiny.

We regard them as our brothers in the spirit, not as our masters. And, in any case, we do not see in them our ancestors. Whereas it has been with exactly this claim that they came and drove us from our homes. And this unheard of pretention makes no one laugh!

If, therefore, the confusion is great in the certainties and conclusions of the West, for us everything is very clear. We never had any illusions about the real motives of the strangers who invaded our country «in the name of God».

After the end of World War II the United States took over London's role and launched the combined forces of their hawks and their diplomacy against the brittle edifice of the Arab populations which at that time were not yet under the control of strong States. Aiming at the possession not only of Suez, but of the crossroads and energy resources of the Orient as well, they struck very hard.

It was then that a formular of special utility for the Israeli-American policy was coined which was to become the watch-word, the sesame as well as the catechism of the entire Western Press, the formula of the «Arab guilt».

The guilt of not having surrendered one's house, of having to put up a resistance against «the commands of Jehcvah», the guilt of crying when one being killed.

The strangers who called themselves Jews had a well organised and well trained army whose cadres were formed of combattants of the 1939-45 war; the semi-official Haganah with the Palmach battalions as a shock-troop; the Irgun and Stern terrorists groups. (We have to note that Britain which held mandatory authority until May 15, 1948 had refused to arm the Arabs).

Our resistance to the invader dates from the November of 1917 and from the spring of 1920 when we stood up against the colonials established by the Britons. It was, however, from December 18, 1947 onwards that the enemy decided to exterminate us by every available means. From that day on our life became hell. Let us quote the edifying confession made in all tranquillity by a Zionist intellectual; «The world was not a desert and nothing authorised the Zionists to infringe upon other people's territory. Why must innocent people suffer and pay for aims which are foreign to them and even contrary to their interest? Neither the historian nor the moralist will be able to answer this question». (J.T. Talmon, Destin d'Israël, Paris 1967).

The chapter of horror opened on the night of April 9, 1948 in the small village of Deir Yassin. The Irgun massacred the population, took photos of the mutilated bodies and distributed thousands of them in all the villages together with the threatening text: «Get out if you do not want this to happen to you, too ».

The Jewish Agency pretended to know nothing about the affair. But we possess the testimony of Mr. Jacques de Reynier, the Representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, one of the most depressing documents of modern oriental history: «There were 400 persons in the village: about fifty fled, three are still alive, all the rest have been massacred... I hear something like a moan, I look everywhere, move everyone of the bodies, and in the end I find a small foot which is still warm. It is a little girl of ten years, injured by a shell and in a terrible state but still alive.

«As I move to carry her away an officer tries to hinder me, standing in the door to block my way. I push him aside and get out with my precious burden». A few years before a British officer who had expressed to a Jewish official his apprehension about the trouble which might be caused by the Arabs if a Jewish State were established, was given the following information: «Oh, no, we shall provide for that. A few well planned massacres will rid us of them quickly». (Glubb Pasha, A soldier with the Arabs).

FLED THE COUNTRY

By hundreds of thousands we have left our country to flee eastward, and this went on for years. There were the massacres of Beit El Khoury of May 5, 1948, of Wadi Araba of May 31, 1950 where 120 persons were left in the desert at the Gulf of Aqaba, those of Bethlehem of January 6, 1952 of Koubaya, Beit Lakiah, Gaza and others; a tiring and unending enumeration.

The wars of 1956 and 1967 have added

another 400,000 refugees to the million and more who are already there. And the exodus from the occupied territories is still continuing. The villages are razed to the ground: Qualkilya, Emmaus, Jiftillk, Kafr Kassim, the suburbs of Gaza. The inhabitants have been expelled, deported from desert to desert, from right to left, the shops have been pillaged by the occupant. There is no more work for us. The coins have left our handkerchiefs.

Ever since they adopted Resolution No. 194 of November 11, 1948 acknowledging the right of the refugees either to be repatriated or to receive compensation, the United Nations have obstinately repeated this request again and again. Israel never took the trouble to comply.

This is why we remain a burden to mankind, to those who maintained us with their pennies whereas at the same time they spend millions of dollars to help maintain the prosperity of the occupant. The Nations pay to help us to remain beggars, they also pay to help our conquerors to remain rich.

For years now we have been listening to the voices from the West.

UNHAPPY PEOPLE

One of these voices says: Draw a little closer to make room for these unhappy people whose relatives we, the Europeans, have killed. They have better rights than you to return to Palestine because they are at home there. Just compare their intelligence to your stupidity, their science to your ignorance and you shall see that you will only profit by accepting them as your masters.

Another voice says: It is above all you yourselves who are responsible as they have refused to give you a place at their sides. You are the rebels. It pains me to see how foolish you are. You are the victims of the fanaticism of your leaders.

We also had to suffer the ironical interest of those who stand for the rights of man. As they had not intervened for Deir Yassin or for Suez or for our children burnt alive on the banks of the River Jordan and shot in their backs in a Jerusalem street, we were curious to hear what they had to say. They asked the victors to forgive us

To us, they offered the advice to betray our leaders and our soldiers and to ask the occupant to do an even better job in expelling us. They told us this staggering thing: although we were human beings, we had none of the rights of other human beings to live in their own country; that we had the extraordinary luck to cede our places, which anyway we had occupied to no profitable end, to a species of supermen who would change the desert, which had remained useless because we were there, into a garden.



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