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Facts & Logic About the Middle East

September 4, 2018



Arab nations victimize Palestinians ... yet always escape blame

Dear Friend of FLAME:

Arab nations continue to victimize their Arab Palestinian brethren—and have done so since the creation of the original refugee problem in 1948.

Indeed, not so many years ago, hundreds of thousands of Palestinian Arabs fled for their lives or were expelled from their homes and went into exile. Thousands more were tortured or killed before they could flee.

But these horrible events were not related to Israel's 1948 War of Independence. Rather, they occurred in 1991 in the Arab nation of Kuwait. Between the brief Iraqi occupation of Kuwait as its "19th Province" and the American-led liberation of Kuwait, some 400,000 Palestinian Arabs were forced to leave Kuwait, the Arab nation they had called home for decades.

If you don't remember this horrific episode, in which more than half the number of Palestinian Arabs were displaced, compared to the 1948 "Naqba" of Israel's creation (about 700,000 Palestinian Arab refugees), you can be forgiven. The world's media and its leadership—especially Arab leadership—forgot about it, too.

The UN, Europe and (often) the US State Department also forgot to condemn and call for redress for the 20,000 Palestinian Arabs expelled from Jordan in 1970, the thousands expelled from Libya in 1995 (in response to the Oslo Process!), the 21,000 expelled from Iraq after the overthrow of Saddam Hussein in 2003, and the 31,000 victimized, tortured and expelled by Lebanon in 2007.

None of these cruel victimizations of Palestinian Arabs by their Arab hosts has merited even one Security Council resolution or any action

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YOU DESERVE TO KNOW THE TRUTH...

Peace with Palestinian Dictators?

Governments of the Palestinians' two ruling dictatorships are in shambles—and at war with each other. How can Israel possibly achieve peace with them at this time?

Neither the Palestinian Authority in Judea Samaria (the West Bank) nor the Islamic State group Hamas in Gaza has held elections since 2006, and the two factions are battling one another in a vicious power struggle. How can Israel recognize the Jewish state or accept Israeli offers of peace?

What are the facts?

While Israel, with the United States, made generous land-for-peace offers to the Palestinians in 2001 and 2008—and left the entire Gaza Strip to the Arabs in 2005—neither of the two major Palestinian groups has accepted Israeli offers—or even the right to exist. What's more, both the Palestinian Authority and Hamas governments are in constant, expanding processes of waging a bitter internal war. Until these warring Arab factions reconcile—and accept Israel as their neighbor—it's impossible to imagine a peace agreement among them.

International Palestinian Movements following Israel's rejection of five attacking Arab armies in 1967, Arab is Palestine formed the autonomous Palestine Liberation Organization, under Egyptian Yasser Arafat. Arafat launched the First Intifada, a terrorist guerrilla effort against Israel, which ended with the 1993 Oslo Peace Accords. Under these accords, the Palestinian Authority (PA) would rule over Arab parts of Gaza and Judea Samaria, while Israel would control the remaining parts until the Israeli-Arab conflict was resolved through peace negotiations. After Israel's complete withdrawal from Gaza, terror group Hamas won Palestinian legislative elections in 2006, then seized control of Gaza from the PA. Since 2007, Hamas has ruled Gaza as an Islamic fortress, and the PA and Hamas remain tense enemies to this day.

The Palestinian Authority: Secular Dictatorship. While recognized as Muslim values, the Palestinian Authority has always been secular. Following Arafat's death in 2004, Mahmoud Abbas was elected president of the PA for a five-year term, yet has held the grip of power ever since. Today's Palestinian Authority is rife with corruption, its economy is effectively bankrupt, it suffers from unemployment of 20%, and without foreign subsidies it would collapse.

Despite its charter under the Oslo Agreement to make peace with Israel, the PA has remained dedicated to wresting all of the Holy Land from Jewish control. It has recognized Israel as a Jewish homeland and has demanded that all Arab refugees from Israel's War of Independence in 1948—as well as an extra five million non-Jewish of those refugees—be "returned" to Israel, thus destroying the Jewish state demographically based under the sponsorship of President Bill Clinton in 2001 and George W. Bush in 2002—claim the Palestinians about 90% of Judea Samaria, as well as a significant portion Jerusalem, in return for peace. Yasser Arafat turned down the last offers, and Mahmoud Abbas has refused the second since 2014. Abbas has refused to negotiate with Israel.

Hamas: Islamist Dictatorship. An offshoot of Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood—which also operated in Qatar, Hamas is a fundamentalist Islamic organization. Its charter calls for the conquest of all Palestine—including present-day Israel—and the establishment of an Islamic state. Because of Hamas' brutal use of suicide bombings and rocket attacks on Jewish civilian populations, it has been declared a terrorist organization by the U.S. State Department and the European Union. While Hamas was power after Palestinian parliamentary elections in 2006, it has refused to reject violence, and in fact took violent control of Gaza. Today Hamas rules Gaza harshly, according to strict Sharia law. Hamas has launched three wars against Israel, most recently in 2014. Because of Hamas' intelligence ties to recently ousted president Morsi in Egypt, Israel and the Palestinian Authority. While the PA and Hamas have made some attempts at reconciliation, all have failed, and relations between them remain poisonous. The people of Gaza suffer an unemployment rate of 40%, just five hours of electricity daily and a dysfunctional economy. Hamas routinely invades Israel's territorial support from land and Turkey, much of which is used to sustain the terror group's war against Israel.

In order to bring an Israel-Palestinian peace, all parties must sincerely want it and be capable of carrying out a plan for reconciliation. It's clear that today's Palestinian dictatorships lack the ability to make peace among themselves. Humanity gives their people no chance to peace with Israel. [Please Donate Now for Peace, Palestine Under 100 Days for Israel's Rejection.](#)

FLAME
Facts and Logic About the Middle East
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Gloria Jaffe, Founder and President Emerita
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IF YOU SUPPORT PUBLISHING FLAME'S BOLD PR MESSAGES, PLEASE HELP US!!

FLAME is the only organization that defends Israel with paid

by UN human rights organizations. No official statements were issued by European governments. No sanctions against the cruel victimizers were passionately promoted by human rights organizations worldwide.

Certainly, no Arab states or the Arab League demanded repatriation or reparations for the hundreds upon hundreds of thousands of Palestinian Arabs abused and expelled by their fellow Arabs.

The world, and especially the Arab world, is energetic in condemning Israel for any activity, political or military, that adversely affects the Palestinian Arabs.

But a look at history demonstrates that Palestinian Arabs have, for decades, been primarily the victims of their fellow Arabs and other Arab states, with massive expulsions and the denial of citizenship and work permits in their "host" countries. Jordan is the only partial exception to the rule.

It is apparent that the world only cares about the Palestinian Arabs when it can conjure a Zionist enemy for its accusations. This includes the organs of the UN as well as the "virtuous" leftists who seem incapable of affixing blame and demonstrating against the corrupt and brutal Arab states of the Middle East.

Now, an even greater tragedy for Palestinians has unfolded in the hellhole known as Syria. Again, the world is silent about the victimization of Palestinian Arabs by their Arab "friends."

In this week's featured FLAME Hotline article (see below), Dr. Edy Cohen, a researcher at the BESA Center argues that the horrific displacements and loss of life for Palestinian Arabs—by Arabs—in the Syrian Civil War is again being neglected by world bodies. Meanwhile, not a day goes by without Israel's condemnation from the United Nations and its agencies, its Arab members, and the political left in general.

I hope you'll forward this incisive perspective to friends, family and fellow congregants to help them understand why the avid condemnation and pressure on Israel regarding Palestinian Arabs is, at best, selective indignation by Arab states and, more tellingly, world bodies.

I hope you'll also quickly review the P.S. immediately below, which describes one of FLAME's *hasbarah* campaigns to explore the nature of the Palestinian Arab refugee problem. I hope you agree with and will support this message.

Best regards,

Ken Cohen

editorial hasbarah messages placed in media nationwide every month: The dire threats from Iran, Hamas and Hizbollah, the injustice of BDS, Palestinian anti-Semitism and more. If you support a bold voice that tells the truth about Israel in American media, please donate now.

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**FLAME'S WEEKLY
HOTLINE E-
NEWSLETTER**



FLAME's Hotline e-newsletter keeps you up to date on the most important pro-Israel advocacy issues and features our choice of the week's most informative and thought-provoking article on Israel and the Middle East. If you only subscribe to one pro-Israel news service, make it the FLAME Hotline.

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P.S. FLAME has been publishing messages about the nature of "Palestinian Diaspora" for several years, particularly the world's obsession with it. It's the reason FLAME created the editorial message—"[Who—and How Many—Are the Palestinian Refugees?](#)"—which has run in mainstream magazines and newspapers, including college newspapers, with a combined readership of some 10 million people. In addition, it was sent to every member of the U.S. Congress. If you agree that this kind of public relations effort on Israel's behalf is critical, I urge you to support us. Remember: FLAME's powerful ability to influence public opinion—and U.S. support of Israel—comes from individuals like you, one by one. I hope you'll consider giving a donation now, as you're able—with \$500, \$250, \$100, or even \$18. (Remember, your donation to FLAME is tax deductible.) To donate online, just go to [donate](#) now. Now, more than ever, we need your support to ensure that the American people, the U.S. Congress and President Trump stay focused on the true obstacle to peace, which is the lack of a credible Palestinian peace partner and a world that sees no evil—except in Israel.

As of today, more than 15,000 Israel supporters receive the FLAME Hotline [at no charge](#) every week. If you're not yet a subscriber, won't you join us in receiving these timely updates, so you can more effectively [tell the truth about Israel](#)? Just go to [free subscription](#).

When Palestinian Blood Isn't Equal

by Dr. Edy Cohen, *BESA Center Perspectives*, August 24, 2018

A recently published report by the Action Group for Palestinians in Syria (AGPS), a human rights group, documented 3,840 cases of Palestinians who have been killed since the onset of the Syrian civil war in 2011—nearly four times as many as those killed during the six years of the first intifada (December 1987-September 1993). The causes of death ranged from artillery shelling to shootings to torture in the regime's infamous prisons across the country.

In addition to this report, the Syrian regime released for the first time a list of names that included 548 killed Palestinians. While the regime's report did not note their causes of death, rights groups agree that those Palestinians died as a result of being tortured, starved, and deprived of adequate medical treatment.

The AGPS also said that 1,682 Palestinians are still missing, their fates unknown. According to some assessments, these Palestinians were either killed at some time during the bloody civil war or—"in the best case"—are still in prison. Therefore, at least 5,522 Palestinians have either been killed or have gone missing since 2011.

Along with those killed or missing, tens of thousands of Palestinians in Syria have lost their homes and employment. The Yarmouk refugee camp, which was home to tens of thousands, was utterly demolished over the course of the war. Before the camp was destroyed, the Assad regime laid siege to it. During that time, images of emaciated Palestinians began emerging in Syrian opposition media outlets.

Despite these horrors, not one official in the Palestinian Authority publicly condemned the Assad regime.

This is incredible. Where is the outcry from the PA, Arab and global news outlets, rights groups, Palestinian and Arab politicians? Where is their denunciation of Syrian President Bashar Assad's war crimes against the Palestinians? Why isn't every single Arab lawmaker in Israel excoriating the Syrian dictator?

When a Hamas or Islamic Jihad terrorist from Gaza is killed by IDF soldiers while trying to plant a roadside bomb or trying to breach the border fence, the Arab and Western worlds are apoplectic. The Arab League issues its familiar condemnation; the consistently hostile Kuwait denounces Israel at the UN and tries to convene the Security Council; Mahmoud Abbas requests international protection for the Palestinians; and all these reactions are covered round the clock by the Arab and Western press.

When Palestinians are killed by other Arabs, evidently no one cares—not in the Arab world, and not even among the Palestinians themselves, whether in the PA or Hamas. Everyone is silent. Palestinian blood in the West Bank and Gaza is far more valuable than Palestinian blood in other parts of the globe.

Palestinians who are killed by IDF fire can be used as a tool, whether by Arab countries or the Western world, to undermine and weaken Israel. Human rights groups in the West and in Israel too invest most of their energies and attention to the Palestinian issue in Israel. The equation is plain to see: When Israel or the Jews can't be blamed for killing Arabs, it's not interesting.

Throughout the war in Syria, Abbas's silence on the plight of the Palestinians there has been deafening. He has never repudiated Assad or Iran for killing Palestinians. He seeks the best of all possible worlds: support from both Iran and the Arabs. It appears he

has been successful.

During the atrocities perpetrated in Iraq several years ago, a downtrodden Yazidi woman held a placard that said: "The tragedy of the Yazidi people is that the Jews aren't their enemy."

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