

have made little social, cultural, political or economic contribution to the region or the world. They, including the Palestinians, are steeped in petty tribalism and corrupt dictatorships, stagnant, unproductive economies and ineradicable misogyny and homophobia. Their primary value-add over the past century has been a pernicious brand of jihadi terrorism characterized by suicide bombing.

Yet mystifyingly this group is favored by the left over Israel.

While the narrative we read in the *New York Times* and hear from "progressive Jews" speaks disapprovingly of Israel's "occupation" of Palestinian land, in fact, no Arab nation—let alone a group calling itself Palestinian—has ever legitimately possessed the Jewish homeland from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea. (The only exception being Jordan, which illegally captured Judea and Samaria in a war of aggression in 1948 and lost it back to Israel in 1967.)

In sum, there's no such thing as public "Palestinian land," except in Arab dreams and propaganda of the progressive left.

In truth Israel, with U.N. approval, has occupied the state of Israel since 1948. It occupies its Biblical homelands of Judea and Samaria—which includes 2.7 million unaffiliated Arabs—since its defeat in 1967 of six invading Arab armies attempting to destroy the Jewish state and drive its Jewish inhabitants from the land entirely.

Let us now correct the prevailing narrative in mainstream media and progressive circles: Israel occupies land it is legally entitled to occupy—the State of Israel—and according to international law, legally occupies Judea and Samaria until a peace with the Arab inhabitants is forged.

As part of the anti-Zionist narrative, the *New York Times* and its leftist followers consistently place the burden of such a peace—and establishment of a Palestinian *state* as well—solely at Israel's door. They also usually neglect to mention that Israel has in recent years made several generous offers to the Palestinian Arabs of both peace and land for a state, which the Arabs have spurned every time.

As false and unfair as this anti-Zionist narrative is, we pro-Israel advocates soldier on. Fortunately, you might say (and grimly), we are used to it. As we often remind ourselves in Yiddish: *Es ist schwer zu sein a Yid*—it's hard to be a Jew. Our history of being treated unfairly is long and well known. But it's precisely our ability to survive—and ultimately, thrive—in the face of injustice that characterizes a key aspect of Jewish greatness.

How else to explain the extraordinary achievement of Israel—the heroic birth of the Jewish state from ashes and its meteoric rise in just 70 years to become one of the world's most vibrant democracies, an economic miracle and a top-20 global military power?

One critical thing we've learned—or should have learned—about surviving this unrelenting injustice is, you don't take it lying down. *You fight back.* You tell the truth insistently to all who will listen.

One additional truth that supporters of Israel must strive to tell is this: Israel's stunning accomplishments don't make it an oppressor, any more than the failure of Arab political, social, cultural and economic structures make Palestinians a victim. Indeed, Israel's

FLAME is the only organization that defends Israel with paid 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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success should make us—and even the progressive left—admire and support the Jewish state all the more.

If the facts are known, respected and considered rationally—independent of false sentimentality and false attribution of victimhood—there's little question about the righteousness of Israel's cause.

In talking with friends, family and colleagues, I urge you to condemn the new anti-Zionism rising among the progressive left. Clarify the undeniable historical truth that Arabs have opposed and tried to destroy Jewish settlement in the Holy Land for more than a century. Emphasize that the Palestinians have rejected every offer of peace and still refuse to accept the Jewish state.

I hope you'll also quickly visit FLAME's lively new Facebook page and review the P.S. immediately below. It describes FLAME's most recent hasbarah campaign—on whitewashing misrepresentations made by the media and, alarmingly, by some politicians, about the insidious Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement.

Best regards,

Jim Sinkinson

President, Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME)

P.S. While the Combating BDS Act overwhelmingly passed the Senate (by a vote of 77-23) in February—*without support from any Democratic Senator running for President*—some media and politicians, as well as the ACLU, opposed the bill based on its alleged infringement on free speech. Yet this representation is a lie, since BDS does not merely criticize Israel's policies toward Palestinians, but rather opposes Israel's very existence. This is not a free speech issue, but a thinly veiled hate speech issue. That's why FLAME has created a new *hasbarah* message called "[What Does BDS Really Want?](#)" I hope you'll review this hard-hitting paid editorial, which began running this month. It exposes the true motives of BDS supporters and explains why they are anti-Semitic at heart. It will also be sent to all members of Congress, Vice President Pence and President Trump. 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 Israel's critical role in protecting U.S. interests in the region—as well as protecting itself.

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Facts and Logic

About the Middle East

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