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Facts & Logic About the Middle East

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Old Palestinian Holocaust Lie Peddled by Rep. Rashida Tlaib

Dear Friend of FLAME:

Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib (D-Michigan) made several assertions in her recent interview on Yahoo's *Skullduggery* podcast that have justifiably been characterized as anti-Semitic. Like her sister-in-arms Congresswoman Ilhan Omar (D-Minnesota), Ms. Tlaib has a vicious history of anti-Semitic comments, alliances and actions.

She has been recently assailed for implying in the podcast that Palestinian Arabs should share the credit for the creation of the Jewish state. She continued that the suffering of her people was due to the world's attempt to atone for the evils of the Holocaust at the expense of the unfortunate Palestinian Arab people.

Commentators have argued about what she was really saying on the subject of Palestinian involvement in Israel's founding. What was clear is that Congresswoman Tlaib trafficked in one of the foundational myths of her Palestinian Arab culture.

Most likely, she honestly believes the historically ignorant nonsense she spouted concerning the founding of the State of Israel and the events of the Holocaust—namely, that Israel's creation was a European guilt-payment for the atrocities of the Shoah. This pernicious myth is foundational to Palestinian grievances and their view of themselves as hapless victims of callous European colonialists—as well as bloodthirsty Jews, of course.

The truth, however, is that the Palestinian Arabs are victims of themselves, their terrorist leadership, and their treacherous Arab brethren throughout the Middle East.

When the newborn State of Israel emerged in 1948 despite a genocidal pan-Arab war to exterminate it (and its Jewish populace), the Arabs of Palestine

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YOU DESERVE TO KNOW THE TRUTH...

What Does BDS Really Want?

Media often report that the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement is a "protest against Israeli occupation of the West Bank"—but facts prove otherwise.

Some mainstream press and politicians throughout the BDS process represented an aggressive criticism of Israel's policy toward Palestinians. The truth is, BDS stands openly against the very essence of Jewish and democratic values.

What are the facts?

The U.S. Senate recently passed a landmark bill—the Combating BDS Act—striking the rights of voters to provide a companion that characterizes economically against Israel. While the ACLU, five Israeli and several presidential candidates opposed this Act, saying it violates free speech rights, the bill also denies the fundamental nature of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement.

In fact, BDS has nothing to do with political speech and everything to do with commercial discrimination against a religious and ethnic group—never before targeted by Jewish national self-determination. Imagine those media and politicians speaking in an act of Congress meant to protect the existence of a religiously Muslim or racially black country that is opposed by its citizens solely for religious or racial reasons.

Yes, an Israel does not single people out for discrimination—this is precisely the intention of the BDS movement.

BDS doesn't just criticize Israel policy, it opposes the state of Israel. BDS doesn't simply oppose Israel's "occupation" of its Jewish biblical homeland, Judea-Samaria (the "West Bank"). Rather, BDS opposes Israel's occupation of the entire Holy Land. The BDS agenda says it will "pressure" Israel to free from the Israeli army its the West Bank, Gaza, and Golan Heights.

Indeed, BDS founder, Omer Barghouti admits, "If the occupation ends, we would not support the BDS 'No, it would be...no.' Why do the media reject this damning fact? BDS doesn't criticize any other nation for its treatment of Palestinians. While BDS attacks Israel exclusively for its defensive position in the disputed territories and Gaza, the movement does not criticize any other nation or ethnic group. It punishes the struggle of Palestinians in Syria. It votes no objection to brutal discrimination against Palestinians in Arab-Egyptian where for 70 years Palestinians have been prohibited from leaving their religious country, practicing its own professions and even owning land. This double standard process that BDS is in a Palestinian support group—and it is an anti-Semitic, anti-Israel group, bent on the destruction of the only Jewish state. Why do journalists fail to reveal that BDS doesn't criticize Hamas or the PLO for their cruel oppression of Palestinians. Israeli-Palestinian

enjoy full equality under law and more civil liberties and economic opportunity than do the anywhere in the Middle East. By contrast, Palestinians living under the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in Judea-Samaria suffer under rampant corruption and the repression of the Palestinian Authority. Palestinians under the Hamas are living in a virtual police state, where teenage resistance are crushed on an ongoing basis.

Political criticism is legal. Commercial-based racial discrimination is not. Like any democracy, Israel welcomes valid criticism—especially since the country, at just 70 years old, is a shining, dynamic work in progress.

Israel's legal system has robust judicial review and a national court of appeal. BDS doesn't seek policy changes—it seeks the end of the only Jewish state.

But the BDS movement does not seek policy changes. As the BDS website, Israel and public opinion make clear, BDS doesn't seek policy changes—it seeks the end of the only Jewish state.

The entire agenda is dedicated to ending the world's only Jewish state into the 21st century majority nation. While the U.S. constitution protects free speech, it also prohibits discrimination against ethnic, religious and racial groups. For this reason, the Combating BDS Act is legal, ethical and politically appropriate, especially since Israel is by the United States' strongest ally.

The United States already has hundreds of laws that prevent economic discrimination based on ethnic, religious and racial identity. Indeed, this objection appears to have more than a 100-year-old history. It is not a Jewish state.

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desperately sought a victimization model for themselves. Since hatred of colonialist Europe was so widespread, it was to Europe that Palestinian Arabs looked for an external cause of the Palestinians' self-inflicted devastation in Israel's victory.

The three principal world powers involved with Israel's founding were Great Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union. It was they who facilitated the United Nations vote to partition Britain's Mandate in Palestine in November, 1947.

But the Palestine Partition Plan was not the result of moist-eyed guilt feelings on the part of those powers—which is not to say that they shouldn't have had those emotions. Each of them had full knowledge of the Holocaust, and each—for its own reasons—had sat back and allowed the liquidation of most of Europe's Jews.

In fact, Great Britain had been a direct contributor to the catastrophe, as it issued its immigration-restrictive White Paper in 1939, effectively eliminating the only potential haven for Europe's persecuted Jewish population: Palestine. They did this to favor the cause of Palestinian Arabs, despite their League of Nations/United Nations Palestine Mandate obligation to create "a Jewish national home."

America certainly didn't open its Golden Door to the Jews trapped by the Third Reich. Its strict immigration quotas were largely kept in place. Ships loaded with desperate Jews were returned to the killing fields of Europe—including the Saint Louis with its 937 Jewish refugees, which was turned back from Miami.

The Soviet Union—where millions of Jews resided—had seen anti-Semitic purges by its leader, Josef Stalin, throughout the 1930s. (Those purges would resume as soon as World War II ended, and could continue until Stalin's death brightened the world.)

Yet Great Britain, America and the Soviets voted for the Palestine Partition Plan in the UN's General Assembly, opening the door for the May, 1948 creation of the Jewish state of Israel. Why would they do that, if not because of guilt for their horrific conduct/inaction in the matter of the Holocaust?

Guilt had nothing to do with it. Great Britain was effectively bankrupted by World War II, and could no longer afford its colonial empire. In particular, Arab violence in Palestine required a massive British expense in terms of both pounds-sterling and people. Great Britain wanted to exert no further efforts or resources to manage the chaos in Palestine.

They just wanted to get out, and their governmental communications show clearly that their leaders fully expected the Jewish Palestinians to be slaughtered in widespread Arab pogroms. Their closest thing to "concern" for the Jews was to capture post-War European Jews risking their lives to reach Palestine and dump them in concentration camps in Cyprus, as was shown in the film *Exodus*. This, British FM Bevin believed, might spare them the coming sequel to the

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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Holocaust in Palestine.

As for Russia, First Secretary Stalin had his eye on the bigger post-War picture. To further his dreams, anything that would harm Great Britain and create potential Soviet allies anywhere was very desirable. He looked at the leaders of the potential Jewish state, and their left-wing ideology of collectivist *kibbutzim* and radical commitment to the State, and decided that a Zionist state seemed like potential future Soviet ally. A Jewish state in Palestine could offer Mother Russia Mediterranean ports and be a Soviet outpost in the oil-rich Middle East.

As for America, we must always be grateful to President Truman for overruling his own State Department and backing the Palestine Partition Plan—and, six months later, recognizing the State of Israel. But he too was desirous of having a post-War American outpost in the Middle East as the United States became the next great hyper-power. In addition, courting the Jewish vote in New York for the upcoming presidential election of 1948 was part of his calculation.

The world has never been ashamed of its anti-Semitism, and it certainly wasn't in 1947-1948. The final proof of this is that when seven Arab armies—including Ms. Tlaib's Palestinian Arab ancestors—viciously attacked the newborn Jewish state before the ink on its Declaration of Independence was dry, all of the European powers (and America) sat back yet again to watch the slaughter of the residue of world Jewry.

No European or American armies intervened in the bloodbath-to-be. All of these countries maintained their arms embargoes on the Israelis, and passively observed what was expected to be the second chapter of the Holocaust.

Instead, miraculously, Israel survived—to the utter surprise of everyone. As for the Palestinian Arabs, their "brethren" stole the parts of the Palestine Partition Plan that should have become an Arab State of Palestine. Egypt stole Gaza. The Kingdom of Trans-Jordan stole Judea and Samaria, which it renamed the West Bank of the Kingdom of Jordan.

Holocaust guilt and European chicanery against the Arabs had nothing to do with it, Congresswoman Tlaib. The miracle of Israel happened because of totally unromantic great-power calculations, and because the historically supine Jews of Palestine refused to lose again to murderous barbarians.

This false model of Palestinian Arab suffering and its resultant finger-pointing at Europe is one of the most widespread myths about the Middle East. Even President Obama voiced it in his famous Cairo speech of 2009. It wasn't true then or ever.

In talking with friends, family and colleagues, I urge you to clarify the adversarial Arab role in Israel's birth and the self-inflicted causes of the Palestinian Arabs' situation. They should understand that Israel's creation is not due to European Holocaust guilt, but rather to the long-term, valiant struggle of the Jewish people for the restoration of its national rights in its ancestral home: Palestine. Emphasize that true solutions can never be built on foundational lies.

I hope you'll also quickly visit FLAME's lively new [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,

Ken Cohen

Editor, 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, 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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