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Facts & Logic About the Middle East

March 17, 2020



Palestinian Arabs Reveal Their Plan for Peace With Israel: More War

Dear Friend of FLAME:

Palestinian Arabs have expressed, in landslide numbers, that their preferred path forward is “armed struggle” against Israel. They overwhelmingly reject the Trump “Deal of the Century,” and have decided that their rejectionist stance of the past several decades is the course they should maintain.

This persistent Arab sensibility—that Israel is their arch enemy and illegally occupies sacred Muslim territory—has persisted since the Arabs rejected Israel’s declaration of statehood more than 72 years ago. It underscores the futility of peace efforts supported by numerous American administrations, as well as any such overtures in the coming months and, probably, years.

The respected polling organization Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PCPSR) surveyed the Arab populations in Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) and Gaza last month—shortly after America’s formal presentation of its latest peace proposal, the “Deal of the Century.”

That proposal was heartily rejected by President Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority (PA), and his summary dismissal of the plan was supported by 94% of Palestinian Arabs. But their rejection was accompanied by increased support for armed struggle (64%), breaking all security ties with Israel (77%), annulling all Oslo commitments (69%), and increased support for severing all relations with the United States (76%).

Alarming, support for a future “two-state solution” nosedived to under 40%, its lowest popular rating since the Oslo Accords were inked a quarter-century ago.

These facts alone should cast grave doubts on the credibility of diehard American advocates of a two-state solution.

To cap this dismal formula for peace, the PCPSR described its findings as indicating that “an overwhelming majority of 82% believe the plan brings the conflict with Israel to where it originally was: ‘an existential conflict.’”

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 U.S. aid to Israel is really not aid at all. The \$5.8 billion sent annually to Israel is an investment in our own country's security, returning many times its cost.

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Linkage of U.S. aid to Israel with a Palestinian state is misguided.
 American aid to Israel is not a bribe... (text continues with detailed facts and statistics)

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Indeed, perceptive pro-Israel advocates have long defined the Israel-Palestine situation using that precise term—“existential conflict”—to indicate that the issue at stake is not real estate but of the very existence of Israel.

In short, all Palestinian organizations of power—as well as men and women in the street—are committed to uprooting the Zionist entity, and have been since before Israel’s creation. There has never been a Palestinian organization that has advocated a true sharing of the land, much less a mutually supportive pair of states working for the common good of their citizens.

Arab politicians who have seemingly advocated peaceful resolutions to the conflict have taken care to let their Arab constituencies understand that their proposals are just steps in the ongoing process of eradicating Zionism from the Middle East.

On the other hand, Israel has put forward offer after offer that would satisfy any Palestinian state-builders of good faith. No wonder Israel’s leaders (like prime ministers Barak and Olmert) always register surprise that their offers of statehood for Palestinians are rejected or ignored. This is because—thankfully—their offers also include ironclad terms that assure the security of the State of Israel. And the Palestinian leaders cannot accept a permanent solution that guarantees a Zionist state on “their” land.

Obviously, the issue of Israel’s existence is fundamentally non-negotiable for her adversaries. While Israel is seeking peace, Israel’s enemies are seeking a path to her destruction.

This latest PCPSR poll should make clear that the current cold war between Israel and the Palestinian Arabs is hanging by a thread. The competing Palestinian leaderships in Gaza and the West Bank have created two tinderboxes that could erupt at any time.

In discussions with friends, families and colleagues, we encourage you to point out that the two Palestinian entities have revved themselves into even more violence-prone attitudes, leaving Israel to face an increasingly antagonistic—and self-destructive—pair of adversaries.

In addition, I hope you’ll also take a minute, while you have this material front and center, to visit FLAME’s lively new Facebook page and review the P.S. immediately below. It describes FLAME’s new *hasbarah* campaign—outspokenly describing Israel’s critical strategic value to America.

Best regards,

Ken Cohen
Editor, Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME)

P.S. Many uninformed Americans—including some politicians—believe that foreign aid to Israel is a mistake. The anti-Semites believe Jews are extorting money from U.S. taxpayers or that Israel “doesn’t need the money.” These opinions, of course, are mistaken. U.S. aid to Israel is no gift: It’s a wise investment that repays American taxpayers many times over—in fact delivering more benefits than most other U.S. foreign aid. That’s why FLAME has created a new *hasbarah* message

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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called “[Aid to Israel Makes the U.S. Safer](#)” I hope you'll review this convincing, fact-based paid editorial, which will run in coming months in the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*. It lays out the many contributions Israel makes to U.S. security that far exceed their relatively modest cost. This piece 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 realistic policies in relation to Israel, the Palestinians and the entire Middle East.

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