SUBSCRIBE TO THE FLAME HOTLINE DONATE TO FLAME

FAME HOTLINE

Facts & Logic About the Middle East

January 22, 2019



Israel: Still the Scrappy Underdog in Today's Middle East

Dear Friend of FLAME:

Israel is portrayed in many Western media as the bully of the Middle East, when exactly the opposite is the case: Israel is the Middle East's <u>ultimate scrappy underdog</u>.

Few countries in the world are more threatened by more belligerent enemies than Israel. Certainly no country is hated as vehemently—not for what it does, but for its <u>very</u> existence.

While Israel is today as beleaguered by enemies as it ever was—in some ways even more so—it used to be respected for its underdog status. Unfortunately, for reasons we'll explore, the Jewish state has undeservedly lost that <u>revered and sympathetic status</u>.

Israel was never more popular in the American mind—and especially the American Jewish mind—than when the nascent nation miraculously defeated <u>three invading Arab armies</u> during the 1967 Six-Day War.

Israel was easy to love in those days—just 19 years from its war of independence in 1948, when it defeated four armies of Arab invaders.

For the man and woman on the street in those days, there were no "Palestinians." Indeed, the Arabs who lived in "Palestine" before the 1948 war were simply Arabs, and after that, following Jordan's forcible seizure and annexation of Judea and Samaria (aka the West Bank), they became Jordanian citizens.

In other words, in the years before Israel's 1948 War of Independence and up to and after the 1967 Six-Day War, the West sympathized with underdog Israel <u>against the attacking</u> Arab hordes.

Today, Israel's dangerous neighborhood has changed its complexion—and Israel has become stronger militarily and economically—but the Jewish state now faces a <u>new set of deadly enemies</u> that still vow and vie to destroy it.

HOME

SUBSCRIBE

DONATE

PR FOR ISRAEL

HOTLINE ARCHIVE

ABOUT

CONTACT US

THIS MONTH'S AD
APPEARED IN
PUBLICATIONS
REACHING 10 MILLION
READERS

YOU DESERVE TO KNOW THE TRUTH

Anti-Zionism Is Racism

Anti-Semitic attacks that kill Jews in a synagogue are fundamentally no different

John Samitim calls for the arealistics of the Joint's peoplewhether that is by morther obsciruction of the Joint's real. These who call for and against or alministing any ethnic group-by either the political right or Johnson goodly of rection.

grago-by either the political right or left-size goldy of well.

What are the facts?

Zonine is the belief that the levelsh people have a right toeff-descriptions—to the fitnes of fixed in their utilization
and description in a few to the state of fixed in their utilization
and describes in a few or fixed and provided it faced in
descriptions of the state of their control of the state of the
fixed of anti-fixed interest in tensor or described in the or

of anti-fixed interest property in tensor or gainst-man

fixed of anti-fixed interest property in tensor or gains - the

fixed of anti-fixed interest property in tensor or gains - the

fixed of anti-fixed property in tensor or gains - the

or anti-fixed interest property in the control of the

order of anti-fixed interest property in the

ore

done of such desiration appears in memorine games media. The displaced and all and a

West Bask). The terroliney controlled by formal body was striked using all the level would or produced, was public and such that the west and or produced, was public and the such as the

Immunitarium rights. While branch state retigion in minor Joshimm—and in the tear fort only Jessish states—it joins other sartium, montly Mexilan, that designate a state religion and including of cross Rain and England. Allower 4d, Tearl and including Gross Rain and England. Allower 4d, Tearl and including the control of the control of the control of Affacid 44 Chinesel in an aparthesid of state. This armognitude dominate level is shallow on its face: level in the control of state in the Mexilance of all rooms, guaden, state in the Mexilance of all rooms, guaden, orbinistics and religious easys speed over lights—more funded on this in most of the world's rations. Archive serve leaves it legislatures, the Kannen, and Supreme Crown. The wide-criticaless the Polaritainess' speeched downsold their all leaves by classics from their section brilliand boundaries for Judes and Sannerics' Dowlet installed?

Archive 19: Jeans are hearthers of a religion, not a rear Yangole, "Whereas Iron always these strength trees under the section of the product of the Sannerics and the section of the section of the Sannerics and the section of the section of the Sannerics and Sa

"Whereas News have always been united by a belief in, the Bibli speaks of der Thorsel-des people of motions litelates who bibl as according nation, as spit, reconsist and incide speaks. News ner also saided by the Eldere whole world should be the Eldere whole world See that News wer a distinct people has the who also share a religion.

faction Lutther King, Nr. cain't be act disamite, For an ethica, Mudiciar or prospon engress unjust radial er ethics has againet euro propia, no on hem kerkein historiechioler. set Kinta acet annabers oppose a Benicht sens better dennish acrites Order Jens, moh as manebror of breicht for the bear or Structura for Particle in Puberline, object his since haved en the flow and disadverse accountion lands in The fact remains that specifically inspetting lever—and confif with anticolour after for New 1- in 8 form of middle

college classrooms or by the Deposit, Directment and Servicion measurement and mattern of places and Servicions. Over Joseph with head the 19th automation of coll region leaders Matter Lottee Erag, 3r. "The whole world must see that break must east and has the right to exist and is one of the great outposts of democracy."

FLAME

10. Sex 3460, Sentency CA44/188 senses Direction, President Seasoto Julio (1), Founder and President Emerical LAME is a Succession, respect Streets operation, he purpose season and publisher of both reperting development in the Season

o receive free FLAME updates, visit our website: www.factsandlogic.org



DONATE NOW

IF YOU SUPPORT
PUBLISHING FLAME'S
BOLD PR MESSAGES,

Primary among these foes, of course, is the Middle East powerhouse, nuclear aspirant and global sponsor of terror Iran, which threatens Israel on virtually a daily basis and makes belligerent military gestures on Israel's borders through its sponsorship of Syria and the terror groups Hezbollah and Hamas.

While Jordan and Egypt have over the decades signed peace treaties with Israel and maintain a cool peace, Turkey under Recep Tayyip Erdogan has stepped into the breach, fiercely threatening Israel diplomatically and even violently few years ago with an armed flotilla attempting to challenge Israel's defensive blockade of Gaza.

Despite the massive military forces aligned against Israel by Iran and Turkey, as well as hundreds of thousands of missiles aimed at Israel from her borders by Hezbollah and Hamas, Western media <u>only thinly report</u> the story of Israel's daily struggle with these major existential threats.

Rather, the media overwhelmingly prefer to focus on Israel's attempts to manage its conflict with two groups of Palestinians—those living in Judea-Samaria (the West Bank) and their arch enemies, the Palestinians living in Gaza under Hamas. Like Iran, Syria and Hezbollah, both these groups also are sworn to Israel's destruction.

Indeed, the media embrace Israel's struggle with the Palestinians, because Israel is clearly better funded and armed than these groups. <u>Israel is portrayed by the media</u> as the mighty Goliath in this narrative, seeking to crush the poor, helpless Palestinian David.

So, we see that in this <u>fake</u>, <u>sentimental story</u>, Israel is no longer the underdog of decades past, but has become the oppressor.

Of course, the media ignore the facts of this conflict—granting the Palestinians land they never owned, as well as accusing Israel of "occupying" its own ancient homeland and preventing local Arabs from attaining the statehood they have themselves refused to accept for some 70 years.

Typically, this Sunday's *New York Times* features a propaganda piece packed with <u>unsubstantiated accusations</u> of Israel's occupation of "Palestinian territory," "violations of international law," and refusal to allow Palestinian refugees a "right" to return to homes they left 70 years ago and for which they have no legal rights.

In short, the media have no interest in portraying Israel as the only <u>rule-of-law democracy</u> and Western ally in the Middle East, struggling to defend itself against a deadly array of Islamist forces—including Iran, Syria, Turkey, Hezbollah and the Palestinians—all of whom are attempting to destroy the Jewish state. No.

Rather the media—chief among them the *New York Times*—focus on a perverse, unsubstantiated (and patently untrue) <u>micro-story of Palestinian suffering</u> at the hands of Israel.

In truth, Israel is no less an underdog today than it was in 1948. It struggles under a constant international diplomatic barrage at the U.N., daily attempts to violate its borders via land and sea by designated terror groups, murderous attacks against its civilians, and bellicose threats from an imperialist nation with one of the world's largest armies—and is

PLEASE HELP US!!

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.

DONATE NOW »



SUBSCRIBE FREE

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.

SUBSCRIBE NOW »

on the threshold of acquiring nuclear arms.

For pro-Israel activists, our mission is clear: We must help shift the narrative. <u>Israel is the underdog</u>—the David of this story—standing up against the most determined, hate-filled and fiercely armed collection of enemies in the world. The Palestinians are not victims—they are part of this evil axis.

Please forward this FLAME Hotline to your friends, family and fellow congregants, so they, too, can help us tell the true story of Israel's struggle <u>against the Islamist Goliath</u>.

I hope you'll also quickly visit FLAME's lively <u>new Facebook page</u> and review the P.S. immediately below, which describes FLAME's recent *hasbarah* campaign asserting the near-impossibility of <u>distinguishing anti-Zionism from classic</u>, racist anti-Semitism.

Best regards,

Jim Sinkinson

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

P.S. We may never defeat anti-Semitism or its equally twisted twin, anti-Zionism but we have an obligation to fight them with every ounce of our being. That's why FLAME has created a new hasbarah message called "Anti-Zionism is Racism." I hope you'll review this hard-hitting paid editorial, which began running this month—for the first time in the New York Times. It exposes slander of Israel and opposition to Israel's existence by BDS activists, members of Students for Justice in Palestine and even a few politicians as racist calumnies. These lies need to be called out, and FLAME's new position paper does it boldly. In addition to running in mainstream media, this editorial will be sent to every member of the U.S. Congress 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. 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.

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



Facts and Logic
About the Middle East
PO Box 3460
Berkeley, CA 94703

Copyright 2019 FLAME. All rights reserved.