

ISRAEL: THE MISSING TRUTH

April 29 marks the 61st anniversary of Israel's rebirth as a nation

In 1948, the UN proposed two states for two peoples from the British Mandate of Palestine. The division was along demographic lines, with the Jewish portion (most of which was the Negev desert) containing a Jewish majority and the Arab portion an Arab majority. The Jews accepted the partition, the Arabs did not.

[Our Arab neighbors] have much to give us, they are blessed by what we lack. Great territories, ample for themselves & their children. We do not covet their expanses... But if this region is to expand to the full, there must be reciprocity, there can be mutual aid — economic, political & cultural between Jew & Arab. — David Ben Gurion, 1st PM of Israel 1947

We still call upon the Arab inhabitants of the State of Israel to return to the ways of peace... We offer peace & neighborliness to all the neighboring states and their peoples. — Israel Declaration of Independence 1948

I enter negotiations with Chairman Arafat, the leader and representative of the Palestinian people, with the purpose of having coexistence between our two entities, Israel as a Jewish state, and a Palestinian state, next to us, living in peace. — Yitzhak Rabin, Israeli PM 1993

The end of Israeli control & responsibility for the Gaza Strip allows the Palestinians, if they so wish, to develop their economy and build a peace seeking society... The most important test the Palestinian leadership will face is in fulfilling their commitment to put an end to terror and its infrastructure... — Ariel Sharon, Israeli PM 2005

Peace is a common and enduring goal for all Israelis and Israeli Governments, mine included — Binyamin Netanyahu, current PM of Israel 2009

Arabs, arise as one man and fight for your sacred rights. Kill Jews wherever you find them. This pleases God, history, and religion. — Amin al-Husayni, Arab Higher Committee Chairman 1944?

[We intend] to resist by force the implementation of these proposals, and to drown in blood any attempt to create a Zionist entity on a single inch of Palestinian soil. — Arab League 1947

[Our goal is] complete liberation of Palestine and eradication of Zionist economic, political, military and cultural existence — this struggle will not cease unless the Zionist state is demolished. — PLO Charter 1964

[Israel] is the hated enemy that must be fought... Our struggle will end only when this entity is obliterated — Programme of Hezbollah 1985

Liberation of Palestine is an individual duty for every Muslim wherever he may be. — Hamas Charter 1988

Peace for us means the destruction of Israel... We plan to eliminate the State of Israel and establish a purely Palestinian state... We Palestinians will take over everything, including all of Jerusalem — Yasser Arafat, 1994, 1996

We are prepared to accept a Palestinian state in the 1967 boundaries only as a temporary solution, without recognizing the Zionist occupation of any inch of our homeland. — Taher a-Nunu, Hamas spokesman 2009

Citations available on request.

What followed was 61 years of terror, tribulation and tears for all concerned. Perhaps one day the hand of friendship offered by Israel will be grasped and a new era of peace, mutual respect and co-operation will be established for the benefit of all citizens in the region:

Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas telephoned Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu on Sunday morning and wished him a happy Passover; Netanyahu reminded Abbas that the two men had cooperated in the past and said he was planning to do so again toward the goal of peace between Israelis and Palestinians.
— Jerusalem Post April 13, 2009

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