

SELF INFLICTED DISASTERS AND DELUSIONS

Michael Kuttner May 19, 2016

Every year at this time our cheer leaders mourn the re

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ce partners” and their of the Jewish State.

Referred to as the “nakba” catastrophe and has become the fact that Israel exists and that Jews have succeeded in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds to create a technologically advanced democratic society.

means disaster or cing slogan for lamenting

One would have thought after sixty eight years they might have received the message that their current plight is entirely one of their own making. If we were dealing with normal societies where logic and common sense prevail that would be the case. However given the dysfunctional state of Arab countries today, the symptoms of self inflicted disasters and delusions have reached unprecedented levels. Instead of helping them to recognize reality, past and present, the international community prefers to support and promote policies which not only deny reality but also guarantee future disappointments.

This year and next year provide glorious opportunities for deniers of Israel’s legitimacy to blame everyone else but themselves for the mess in which they are now mired.

It is one hundred years since the signing of the Sykes Picot Agreement in which Britain and France divided up the collapsing Ottoman Empire amongst themselves. It was obvious that with the imminent defeat of Turkey those countries which had been subjected to oppressive Moslem Ottoman rule were going to find themselves under the control of the victorious Allied powers. This arrangement was subsequently legalized by the League of Nations and that is how Palestine found itself as a mandated territory controlled by Britain. Bear in mind that those who today call themselves Palestinians did not exist then. They insisted, quite correctly, that they were instead Arabs and an integral part of the Arab national movement in the Middle East. Therefore when one hears current revisionist complaints

blaming the colonial powers (and their Jewish co-conspirators) being responsible for today's "Palestinian Nakba" one can dismiss this as yet another long litany of lies which blames anyone and everyone but themselves for the miseries the Arabs find themselves in today.

Next year marks one hundred years since the issuing of the Balfour Declaration and already the delegitimization drums are beating a rising crescendo of blame and hate. This document which recognized the right of Jews to re-establish a Jewish homeland in their historic territory is seen by all those who want to deny the Jewish People the same rights as other ethnic groups as the beginning of all calamities which subsequently occurred. The plain and incontrovertible truth is of course that had the Arabs of the area at that time accepted the premise of Balfour to live in peace, harmony and co-operation with Jewish inhabitants of Palestine all concerned would have been able to reap the fruits of transforming the arid wastelands and malarial swamps into productive green oases beneficial to all.

The rejection of any sort of such harmonious relationship accompanied by the assassination of any Arab leader willing to contemplate such co-existence laid the foundation for every disaster and catastrophe which subsequently occurred. From that time until the present day the same failed jihad of hate, murder and mayhem has been promoted. Any dispassionate student of history can testify to the many missed opportunities by Arab society since 1917.

When the perfidious British reneged on fulfilling the territorial pledge of the Balfour Declaration and detached the east bank of the Jordan River territory in order to create what is in effect the Palestinian Arab State they laid the groundwork for future conflict. It ignited and fanned the flames of Jew hatred because it demonstrated to those who wished to eradicate any Jewish presence in the territory allocated for the Jews that terror and murder could be a successful tool. As soon as the international community wavered and watered down its commitment to Jewish statehood those advocating violence became emboldened. The San Remo International Agreement adopted in 1920 which guaranteed Jewish sovereignty from the Mediterranean to the Jordan River still remains a valid legal document.

Today's revisionists maintain that the Arab-Israel conflict began in 1948. In actual fact it goes back to at least 1916 if not before under Ottoman despotic rule. There have been countless opportunities to resolve this conflict. The fact that it is no nearer being resolved is entirely the result of one side refusing to acknowledge the legal, historical and moral right of Jews to their Land. This refusal is aided and abetted by a hypocritical international community which applies double standards, ignores existing valid agreements and prefers instead to take the path of appeasing terror and terror supporting States and groups. No wonder that those who call themselves "Palestinians" today have no incentive to compromise, negotiate and recognize anything other than jihadist Islamic demands. Why sit down and talk directly when you can get others to pressure and twist Israel's arms?

As a result of generations of hate education, the inculcation of the wildest conspiracy theories and incitement not seen since the days of the Third Reich those who are now reaping the bitter fruits of past and current policies find it easy to blame all and sundry instead of themselves. I came across these lyrics of a song sung by Katy Perry, an American singer, which encapsulates this ethos of self inflicted misery.

***"I can't stop don't care if I lose
Baby you are the weapon I choose
These wounds are self inflicted
I'm going down in flames for you
Baby you are the weapon I choose
These wounds are self inflicted
One more thing I'm addicted to"***

One cannot sum up the meaning of Nakba any better.

This affliction is usually accompanied by self delusion. The Oxford Dictionary defines this condition as a failure to recognize reality. Our much touted "peace partners" as well as countless others have suffered from this malady for many years and it seems that there is no possible cure in sight.

The clearest example of how self delusion has become an accepted feature of international diplomacy was provided recently by none other than the present incumbent of the White House.

At a trade fair in Hanover, Germany, recently, Barak Obama stated that “this is the most peaceful and prosperous era in human history.” According to him there has never been a better time for the world and if someone had to choose a time in history to be born, it would be today. It shows how devalued the Nobel Peace Prize has become when someone who has been awarded this accolade can actually make such preposterous statements. I am sure that millions in Syria, Iraq, Yemen, parts of Europe and Africa will be scratching their heads and wondering where this Garden of Eden actually exists.

The trouble with self delusionists is their conviction that they are right and everyone else is wrong. It brings to mind a quote I read the other day:

“The earth revolves around the sun. This might upset a few out there who still think the world revolves around them.”