

## **Peace in the Middle East – One hand clapping**

Stanley Dubinsky, *University of South Carolina*

Cramerton Middle School, 28 January 2005

### **Some peacemaking groups (Jewish and Israeli)**

Jews Against the Occupation

Jews for Racial and Economic Justice

Bat Shalom (is a feminist peace organization of Israeli women)

B'Tselem (acts primarily to change Israeli policy in the Occupied Territories)

Gush Shalom

Jewish Friends of Palestine

Jewish Unity for a Just Peace

Jewish Voices Against Israel's Occupation

Jewish Voice for Peace

Not In My Name

Oz Veshalom\_Netivot Shalom (founded for alternative expression of religious Zionism)

Shalom Achshav [Peace Now] and Americans for Peace Now [APN]

Rabbis For Human Rights

Re'ut\_Sadaka (Friendship) Jewish\_Arab Youth Movement for Coexistence and Peace in Israel

<http://www.bkluth.de/reut/MAIN.html>

The "Friendship Village" is an International Center for educating young people

<http://friendvill2.homestead.com/FriendshipvillageinBrief.html>

Nisan's programs develop the leadership potential of Jewish and Arab Israeli young women.

<http://www.nisan.org/>

Seeds of Peace <http://www.seedsofpeace.org/>

Middle East Peace Dialogue Network to support dialogue activities throughout the Middle East

<http://mpdn.org/>

Abraham Fund for Co\_Existence

Givat Haviva (brings together Israeli Arab and Israeli Jewish teenagers)

Hand in Hand

ICCI (Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel) Education Center

Interns for Peace

Middle East Children's Association (MECA)

Neve Shalom!Wahat al\_Salam is Hebrew and Arabic for "Oasis of Peace"

Peace camp in tatters as Israeli election nears By Gwen Ackerman [23 Jan 2003 02:04]

The violence has shifted Israeli public opinion to the right, left the peace camp high and dry, and Labour trailing in opinion polls. "The Palestinians hate us," Hillel\_Shloimo said. "We are sick of talking about peace while they kill us."

## Obstacles to peace — Lies and Murder

### *Antisemitic lies about the Jewish people:*

Based on Koranic Verses, Interpretations, and Traditions, Muslim Clerics State:  
The Jews Are The Descendants of Apes, Pigs, And Other Animals  
<http://memri.org/bin/articles.cgi?Page=archives&Area=sr&ID=SR01102>

A NEW ANTISEMITIC MYTH IN THE MIDDLE EAST MEDIA:  
The September 11 Attacks Were Perpetrated by the Jews  
Foreword by Congressman Tom Lantos  
<http://memri.org/bin/articles.cgi?Page=archives&Area=sr&ID=SR00802>

Muslim Anti-Semitism: A Clear and Present Danger, by Robert S. Wistrich  
<http://www.ajc.org/inthedia/Publications.asp?did=503>

Out in full sight in newspaper articles, television broadcasts, and speeches of government officials - is a virulent strain of anti-Semitism that the author of this report, “has taken root in the body politic of Islam to an unprecedented degree.” While drawing upon negative stereotypes of Jews that have their origins in the Koran, and fueled by the political dynamics of the Arab-Israeli conflict, this “present tidal wave of anti-Semitism” blurs any distinctions between “Zionists” and “Jews.” It is global in scope, rearing its head in literature distributed around the world and most recently at the misnamed UN-sponsored Durban Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. What is particularly spine-chilling about the new Muslim anti-Semitism is that it appropriates symbols and motifs from classic European anti-Jewish bigotry and from Nazi propaganda. Thus, in illustrations reproduced in this volume one sees images of Jews with hook noses or as devil figures, Israelis with swastikas or as drinkers of the blood of children. Hate literature, such as the notorious nineteenth century forgery, The Protocols of the Elders of Zion, has been resurrected and published in numerous editions throughout the Arab world. The blood libel - the calumny that Jews require the blood of non-Jews for ritual purposes - resurfaced from the mouth of the Syrian defense minister, Mustafa Tlas, and most recently from a medical professor in an article in the mainstream Saudi newspaper Al-Riyadh. Arabic editions of Mein Kampf are selling briskly in, among other places, London and the Palestinian Authority-controlled areas.

The Daughter of an Arab Warrior Tells Her Tale, By Nonie Darwish  
FrontPageMagazine.com | December 30, 2002  
<http://www.frontpagemag.com/Articles/ReadArticle.asp?ID=5301>

I hope that my story will shed light on the truth in the Middle East to every American, especially to those who subscribe to the erroneous idea that US policy in that region must have caused Islamic and Arab hatred of the West. ...

I remember going to a Palestinian preschool and kindergarten and the word “Jew” instilled terror and dread into the core of my very being. A Jewish person was portrayed like less than human, a dog, an evil alien from outer space who was about to destroy the world. Jews, they said, had no home because they were cursed by God and the main mission of Islam was to get rid of Jews.

*Lies by the media about the conflict:*

It is possible in the current anti-Israeli media frenzy, for an American Jew to be beaten by an Arab mob in Jerusalem, and then have the AP and the Arab media present his bloodied image as an example of Israeli brutality against Arabs. The URL:

[http://64.29.194.160/articles/reports/The\\_Photo\\_that\\_Started\\_it\\_All.asp](http://64.29.194.160/articles/reports/The_Photo_that_Started_it_All.asp)

Israel: CNN, CBS, ABC Abet Terrorism? Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2002

<http://www.newsmax.com/scripts/showinside.pl?a=2002/12/31/170903>

“An Israeli official charges that CNN, CBS, ABC and other members of Big Media are conspiring with terrorists to promote the Palestinian cause. The director of Israel’s Government Press Office, Daniel Seaman, accuses the Associated Press, Reuters (the ailing British company notorious for refusing to identify terrorists as terrorists), BBC (infamous for its anti-U.S. and anti-Israeli biases) and the above-mentioned networks of hiring directors and producers appointed by the Palestinian Authority who conspired with a prominent Palestinian terrorist to spin - and even fabricate - reports in favor of the Arabs. “Three senior producers” working for foreign networks, Seaman charged, were “coordinat[ing] with [terrorist] Marwan Barghouti” to make up news stories. According to Seaman, Barghouti would call these producers and tell them where his gunmen were going to stage an attack on Israelis so that the cameras would record the Israeli response but not the Palestinian provocation, making Israel look like the attacker. Seaman’s charge implies that journalists advised Barghouti on how to stage these attacks and even chose to let Israelis die for the sake of a photo opportunity.”

Agence France Presse Coverage of the Intifada

By Clément Weill-Raynal, Journalist

[http://watch.windsofchange.net/themes\\_33.htm](http://watch.windsofchange.net/themes_33.htm)

In a well-written and thoroughly researched article, the author concludes that the Agence France Press (AFP) deliberately sought to conceal Palestinian responsibility and emphasize Israeli responsibility for the outbreak of violence 29 September 2000.

Dishonest Reporting ‘Award’ for 2002:

Our annual award for the most skewed and biased reporting.

ASSOCIATED PRESS HEADLINE WRITERS: In January 2002, two separate incidents occurred on the same day: 1) A Palestinian terrorist sprayed machine-gun fire on shoppers in downtown Jerusalem, and 2) Israel uncovered a bomb factory in the West Bank, subsequently killing the 4 Hamas terrorists who operated it. In a vile case of “moral equivalency,” the Associated Press ran the following headline: “ISRAEL KILLS 4, PALESTINIAN WOUNDS 8”.

[http://www.honestreporting.com/articles/critiques/Dishonest\\_Reporting\\_Award\\_for\\_2002.asp](http://www.honestreporting.com/articles/critiques/Dishonest_Reporting_Award_for_2002.asp)

CAMERA reports documenting the biases in NPR reporting on the Middle East can be found at:

<http://world.std.com/~camera/docs/npr.html>

***Lies by the Palestinians about their intentions:***

“Yasir Arafat has never been less than clear about his goals—at least not in Arabic. On the very day that he signed the Oslo accords in 1993—in which he promised to renounce terrorism and recognize Israel—he addressed the Palestinian people on Jordanian television and declared that he had taken the first step “in the 1974 plan.” This was a thinly-veiled reference to the “phased plan,” according to which any territorial gain was acceptable as a means toward the ultimate goal of Israel’s destruction. The recently deceased Faisal al-Husseini, a leading Palestinian spokesman, made the same point in 2001 when he declared that the West Bank and Gaza represented only “22 percent of Palestine” and that the Oslo process was a “Trojan horse.” He explained, “When we are asking all the Palestinian forces and factions to look at the Oslo Agreement and at other agreements as ‘temporary’ procedures, or phased goals, this means that we are ambushing the Israelis and cheating them.” The goal, he continued, was “the liberation of Palestine from the river to the sea,” i.e., the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea—all of Israel.”

Twenty Facts about Israel and the Middle East

Bill Bennett, Jack Kemp, and Jeane Kirkpatrick (Jewish World Review May 21, 2002)

***Lies about the history and the law (ex. the “illegally occupied” territories):***

DISPUTED TERRITORIES: Forgotten Facts About the West Bank and Gaza Strip

“UN Security Council Resolution 242 ... does not call for unilateral withdrawal from the territories, ... [and does] not require Israel to withdraw from all the territories gained as a result of the 1967 war.”

<http://www.mfa.gov.il/mfa/go.asp?MFAH0n1m0>

Diplomatic and Legal Aspects of the Settlement Issue, Jeffrey Helmreich

“One may legitimately support or challenge Israeli settlements in the disputed territories, but they are not illegal, and they have neither the size, the population, nor the placement to seriously impact upon the future status of the disputed territories and their Palestinian population centers.”

Institute for Contemporary Affairs founded jointly with the Wechsler Family Foundation

JERUSALEM ISSUE BRIEF Vol. 2, No. 16, 19 January 2003

[http://www.jcpa.org/brief/brief2\\_16.htm](http://www.jcpa.org/brief/brief2_16.htm)

### *Murder “retzach” (as opposed to killing “hereg”)*

Hizballah’s Secretary General Nasrallah revealed the truth in an interview: “We have discovered how to hit the Jews where they are the most vulnerable. The Jews love life, so that is what we shall take away from them. We are going to win, because they love life and we love death.”

<http://focusonjerusalem.com/alltheythathatemelovedeath.html>

“Allah willing, this unjust state will be erased \_ Israel will be erased; this unjust state, the United States, will be erased; this unjust state, Britain, will be erased” ... “Blessings to whoever waged Jihad for the sake of Allah; blessings to whoever raided for the sake of Allah; blessings to whoever put a belt of explosives on his body or on his sons’ and plunged into the midst of the Jews, crying ‘Allahu Akbar, praise to Allah ...”

Sermons on *Palestinian Authority TV* keep calling for suicide bombings

<http://www.likud.nl/extr115.html>

“The Prophet, Allah bless him and grant him salvation, has said: “The Day of Judgement will not come about until Moslems fight the Jews (killing the Jews), when the Jew will hide behind stones and trees. The stones and trees will say O Moslems, O Abdulla, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him.”

“There is no solution for the Palestinian question except through Jihad.”

*Hamas Covenant 1988: The Covenant of the Islamic Resistance Movement*

<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/mideast/hamas.htm>

“Over three-quarters of Palestinians approve of suicide bombings—an appalling statistic but, in light of the above facts, an unsurprising one.”

Twenty Facts about Israel and the Middle East

Bill Bennett, Jack Kemp, and Jeane Kirkpatrick (Jewish World Review May 21, 2002)

“The Hamas held a mass rally, authorized by the Palestinian Authority, in Gaza on 27 Dec. 2002, ... Fifty-thousand people took part in the rally, whose main themes were the continuation of terrorism, and the destruction of the state of Israel. ... Sheik Ahmed Yassin, leader of the Hamas movement ... publicly vowed that the suicide bombings against Israel would continue until its destruction in the first quarter of the 21st century.”

Hamas rally in Gaza: “Suicide bombings will continue”

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/myths/mf25.html#Violence>

TROUBLE IN THE HOLY LAND Palestinian children ‘dream of martyrdom’:

Arab psychologist says more than half want to strap on bombs

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/news.php3?id=38353> Wednesday, February 5, 2003

A Palestinian psychologist claims that more than half of Palestinian children aged 6 to 11 dream of becoming suicide bombers, according to a video presentation produced by Israel’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs. ... In the film titled “Seeds of Hate,” the narrator says: “In a society in which the legitimization of child murderers becomes a part of its ideology, then normative human morality no longer exists. Which moral rules shall these children pass onto their children when they in turn become parents?”

## Hope for the Future

TO END THE VIOLENCE By DANIEL PIPES

<http://www.danielpipes.org/article/994>

Mahmoud Abbas, the No. 2 Palestinian leader after Yasser Arafat, concedes “it was a mistake to use arms . . . and to carry out attacks inside Israel.” Abdel Razzak al-Yahya, the so-called interior minister, denounces suicide bombings against Israel as “murders for no reason,” demands an end to “all forms of Palestinian violence” and wants it replaced it with civil resistance. Bethlehem Mayor Hanna Nasser finds that the use of arms did no good and insists that the Palestinian struggle “has to be a peaceful one.”

Regretting missed diplomatic opportunities: “Didn’t we dance for joy at the failure of Camp David?” asks Nabil Amer, formerly one of Arafat’s chief aides. “After two years of bloodshed, we are now calling for what we rejected.”

Less support for terrorism: Asked by a Palestinian pollster if the Palestinian Authority should, once it reaches an agreement with Israel, arrest those setting off to engage in violence within Israel, 86 percent of Palestinians said “No” in December 2001. The number fell to 76 percent in May 2002, then to 40 percent in November 2002 \_ still very high, but the trend is clear.

After storm of 9/11, change beginning in Arab world

By THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN, New York Times

Two weeks ago, Egypt’s most influential newspaper, Al-Ahram, ran a thoughtful series by President Hosni Mubarak’s most important political adviser, Osama el-Baz, cautioning Egyptians against buying into European anti-Semitic conspiracy theories and Holocaust denial. His articles were triggered by intense criticism of Egypt for broadcasting, on its state-run TV, a docudrama, “Horseman Without a Horse,” that drew on the fraudulent anti-Semitic tract “The Protocols of the Elders of Zion.”

Jewish Bulletin Online, May 23, 2003

Peace and Arafat not on same page, says Israeli editor, by Joe Eskenazi

<http://www.jewishsf.com/bk030523/sf05.shtml>

““If there's a shift on the Palestinian side, everything will change in Israel,” said David Horovitz, editor of the Jerusalem Report magazine. “I’m as ready to compromise as I ever was, I don't think there's any way for Israel to exist as a Jewish country and a democracy without compromise with the Palestinians.”

An Israeli Arab Initiative to Visit Auschwitz, by Aluma Solnick

<http://memri.org/bin/articles.cgi?Page=archives&Area=ia&ID=IA13603>

A group of public figures from the Arab sector will hold a press conference in Jerusalem Monday morning to announce a trip to the Auschwitz concentration camp in May, with the purpose of learning the roots of Jewish pain and fear. “We wish to learn and know the suffering, difficulties, torment, and destruction... to identify with and to express, with all our strength, solidarity with the Jews,” declares a communiqué published by the group.

## Sources for additional information

The Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI) explores the Middle East through the region's media. MEMRI bridges the language gap which exists between the West and the Middle East, providing timely translations of Arabic, Farsi, and Hebrew media, as well as original analysis of political, ideological, intellectual, social, cultural, and religious trends in the Middle East.

<http://www.memri.org/index.html>

“Palestine Is Our Land And The Jews Are Our Dogs” Anti-Semitism, Misinformation, And The Whitewashing Of The Palestinian Leadership By Francisco J. Gil-White [10 January 2003]

[http://emperors\\_clothes.com/gilwhite/Israel.htm](http://emperors_clothes.com/gilwhite/Israel.htm)

The website of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs videos portraying various facets of Israel's struggle against terrorism. The videos can be found at: [http://w3.castup.net/mfa/main\\_menu.htm](http://w3.castup.net/mfa/main_menu.htm)

Especially important (and difficult to watch) are the following: “Seeds of Hatred”, “Surviving Terrorism”, “The Ticking Bomb”, and “Palestinian Violence”. The last has footage of “sermons” inciting Muslims to kill Jews and video of mob attacks against Israelis.

Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America is a media-monitoring, research and membership organization devoted to promoting accurate and balanced coverage of Israel and the Middle East. <http://www.camera.org/index.asp>

HonestReporting was founded to scrutinize the media for examples of anti-Israel bias, and then mobilize subscribers to complain directly to the news agency concerned. <http://www.honestreporting.com/>

Two multimedia web presentations from Conceptwizard (<http://www.conceptwizard.com/info.html>):

[http://www.conceptwizard.com/conen/conflict\\_2.html](http://www.conceptwizard.com/conen/conflict_2.html)

<http://www.conceptwizard.com/nutoo/nutshell3.html>

Two slide shows from Front Page Magazine:

The atrocities committed daily in the Middle East make us all sick. It makes us all want to put a stop to it. How can we do this? Is there a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian problem?

[http://www.frontpagemag.com/media/slideshowimages/slide\\_1.html](http://www.frontpagemag.com/media/slideshowimages/slide_1.html)

When the Palestinians say “End of occupation”, what do they mean?

<http://www.frontpagemag.com/media/slideshowimages/slide1.html>

History of Jerusalem site, from Biblical times to the present:

[http://www.jerusalem\\_archives.org/index1.html](http://www.jerusalem_archives.org/index1.html)

Palestine Facts is dedicated to providing comprehensive and accurate information regarding the historical, military, and political background to the on-going struggle between the State of Israel and the Palestinian Arabs. <http://www.palestinefacts.org/>

## **A final point**

Treatment of Israel strikes an alien note, By Alan M. Dershowitz

[http://www.jewishworldreview.com/1102/alien\\_visit.asp](http://www.jewishworldreview.com/1102/alien_visit.asp)

If a visitor from a far away galaxy were to land at an American or Canadian university and peruse some of the petitions that were circulating around the campus, he would probably come away with the conclusion that the Earth is a peaceful and fair planet with only one villainous nation determined to destroy the peace and to violate human rights. ... There are no comparable petitions seeking any action against other countries that enslave minorities, imprison dissidents, murder political opponents and torture suspected terrorists. Nor are there any comparable efforts to silence speakers from other countries. ... Our visitor would be perplexed to hear the excuses made by university professors and students for why they are prepared to delegitimize Israel while remaining silent about the far worse abuses committed by other countries. If he were to ask a student about the abuses committed by other countries, he would be told (as I have been): "You're changing the subject. We're talking about Israel now." This reminds me of an incident from the 1920s involving then-Harvard president A. Lawrence Lowell. Lowell decided that the number of Jews admitted to Harvard should be reduced because "Jews cheat." When a distinguished alumnus, Judge Learned Hand, pointed out that Protestants also cheat, Lowell responded, "You're changing the subject; we're talking about Jews."