

**WHY *DID***  
**THE UNITED NATIONS**  
**RESOLVE THAT**  
**ZIONISM**  
**IS A FORM OF**  
**RACISM?**

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION  
NO. 3379 (XXX) OF 10 NOVEMBER 1975

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 1904 (XVIII) of 20 November 1963, proclaiming the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and in particular its affirmation that "any doctrine of racial differentiation or superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable (and) socially unjust and dangerous" and its expression of alarm at "the manifestations of racial discrimination still in evidence in some areas in the world, some of which are imposed by certain Governments by means of legislative, administrative or other measures,"

Recalling also that, in its resolution 3151 (XXXVIII) of 14 December 1973, the General Assembly condemned *inter alia* the unholy alliance between South African racism and zionism,

*Taking* note of the Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women and their Contribution to Development and Peace proclaimed by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held at Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975, which promulgated the principle that "international cooperation and peace require the achievement of national liberation and independence, the elimination of colonialism and neo-colonialism, foreign

occupation, zionism, *apartheid*, and racial discrimination in all its forms as well as the recognition of the dignity of peoples and their rights to self-determination."

*Taking* note also of resolution 77 (XII) adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity held in Kampala from 28 July to 1 August 1975 which considered "that the racist regime in occupied Palestine and racist regimes in Zimbabwe and South Africa have a common imperialist origin, forming a whole and having the same racist structure and being organically linked in their policy aimed at repression of the dignity and integrity of the human being,"

*Taking* note also of the Political Declaration and Strategy to strengthen International Peace and Security and to intensify Solidarity and Mutual Assistance among Non-Aligned Countries, adopted at the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries held in Lima, Peru, from 25 to 30 August 1975, which most severely condemned zionism as a threat to world peace and security and called upon all countries to oppose this racist and imperialist ideology,

1. Determines that zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination.

In 1965 the United Nations, supported by the United States and Israel, passed Resolution 2106 defining racial discrimination as "any distinction, exclusion, restriction, or preference based on race, color, descent or national or ethnic origin."

Ten years later, on November 10, 1975, the United Nations applied this definition to Zionism [Resolution 3379] and concluded that Zionism is "a form of racism and racial discrimination."

On December 10, 1989 U.S. Vice President Danforth Quayle told an audience at Yeshiva University in New York that he was launching a campaign to repeal Resolution 3379.

A repeal, however, means reexamining the reasons why, back in 1975, most of the world regarded Zionism as a form of racism and racial discrimination. Some of those reasons are noted in the list that follows, together with events subsequent to the U.N. Resolution that relate directly to the question of racism.

**1895.** Theodor Herzl, founder of the World Zionist Organization, notes in his diary that the removal of Arabs bodily from Palestine is part of the Zionist plan to "spirit the penniless population across the frontier by denying it employment ... Both the process of expropriation and the removal of the poor must be carried out discreetly and circumspectly." Herzl's **Complete Diaries**, June 12, 1895 entry.

**1919.** Dr. Chaim Weizmann [first president of Israel] is reported by British Foreign Minister Lord Curzon to want "a Jewish State, a Jewish nation, a subordinate population of Arabs etc. ruled by Jews; the Jews in possession of the fat of the land, and directing the administration." D. Ingrams, **Palestine Papers, 1917-1922**, p. 58.

**1940.** Joseph Weitz, director of the Jewish National Fund, the Zionist agency charged with acquiring Palestinian land, insists, "The only solution is Eretz Israel [Greater Israel], or at least Western Eretz Israel [all land west of the Jordan River], without Arabs. There is no room for compromise on this point... We must not leave a single village, not a single tribe." Machover, **Israca**, January 5, 1973, p. 2.

**1946.** David Ben Gurion [Israel's first Prime Minister] tells an Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, "When we say 'Jewish independence' or a 'Jewish State', we mean Jewish country, Jewish soil, we mean Jewish labor, we mean Jewish

economy, Jewish agriculture, Jewish industry, Jewish sea." **The Jewish Case: Before the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry for Palestine as Presented by the Jewish Agency for Palestine**, p. 66.

**May 14, 1948.** Ben Gurion declares establishment of the State of Israel. In the fighting that follows 725,000 Palestinian refugees lose their homes, with 394 out of 475 Palestinian villages eradicated, leading Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan later to declare, "There is not a single Jewish village in this country that has not been built on the site of an Arab village." **Ha'aretz**, April 4, 1967. **[A list of all 394 towns and villages is available upon request from A.M.E.U.]**

**December 4, 1948.** Albert Einstein, Hannah Arendt and other prominent Jewish Americans, writing in *The New York Times*, protest the visit to America of Menachem Begin: "Among the most disturbing political phenomena of our time is the emergence in the newly created state of Israel of the Freedom Party (Herut), a political party closely akin in its organization, methods, political philosophy, and social appeal to the Nazi and Fascist parties." [Begin later becomes Prime Minister, and Herut member, Yitzhak Shamir, is Israel's current Prime Minister.]

**1950.** Israel enacts Law of Return, granting all Jews anywhere in the world, and only Jews, the right to immigrate to Israel, on the grounds that they are returning to their own state. Subsequent Israeli governments must swear to uphold this Basic Law.

**1950.** Israel enacts the Development Authority Law, granting the Jewish National Fund authority over 92% of the land. By means of a "Land Covenant", all this property, most of it expropriated from Palestinians, now becomes the "inalienable property" of the Jewish people worldwide, meaning non-Jews can never buy any of it, never rent any of it, nor even be employed on any of it.

**1952.** Israel enacts the Citizenship/Jewish Nationality Law, granting every Jew *in the world*, and only Jews, the status both of Israeli citizenship *and* Jewish nationality as soon as they step foot on Israeli soil. This distinction between citizenship and nationality, unique to the Zionist state, becomes the legal basis for state sanctioned discrimination, whereby *only* Jewish nationals are eligible for many of the privileges and services provided by the state or by its semi-governmental Zionist organizations.

**1952.** Israel enacts the World Zionist Organization/Jewish Agency (Status) Law, empowering the Organization/Agency with "the development and settlement of the country, the absorption of (Jewish) immigrants from the Diaspora and the co-ordination of the activities in Israel of Jewish institutions and organizations active in those fields." This makes hundreds of thousands of Israeli citizens of non-Jewish nationality, most of whom are native Palestinians, ineligible by law for "nationality" benefits, meaning they cannot work on "national" land, and cannot participate in "national" housing, educational, or agricultural benefits.

**1958.** Jewish philosopher Martin Buber tells a New York audience, "When we [followers of prophetic Judaism] returned to Palestine ... the majority of Jewish people preferred to learn from Hitler rather than from us." **Jewish Newsletter**, June 2, 1958.

**June 1967.** Israel invades and occupies West Bank, Sinai, and Golan Heights. By December 245,000 Palestinians flee the West Bank, 11,000 more flee Gaza, and 116,000 Syrians flee the Golan Heights.

**1967.** Israel places newly occupied territories under military rule, making native Palestinians, but not Jews who begin settling there, subject to arbitrary arrest and imprisonment, deportation and collective punishment. Commenting on the military's Emergency Regulations, Dr. Israel Shahak, Chairperson of the Israeli League for Human and Civil Rights, and a survivor of the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, observes: "Hitler's legal power was based upon the 'Enabling Act', which was passed quite legally by the Reichstag and which allowed the Fuehrer and his representatives, in plain language, to do what they wanted, or in legal language, to issue regulations having the force of law. Exactly the same type of act was passed by the Knesset [Israel's Parliament] immediately after the 1967 conquest granting the Israeli governor and his representatives the powers of Hitler, which they use in a Hitlerian manner." **Palestine**, vol. 12, December 1983.

**August 1967.** Israel enacts the Agricultural Settlement Law banning Israeli citizens of non-Jewish nationality from working on Jewish National Fund lands, thus denying employment to thousands of Palestinians who in the 50's and early 60's had returned to work on their expropriated lands as agricultural hands, lessees or sharecroppers.

**1970.** Israel amends its Law of Return by defining 'Jew' to mean a person born of

a Jewish mother or one who converts to Judaism and is not a member of another religion. Law effectively equates `religion' and `Jewish nationality', clearly bringing it within the definition of racism set forth in U.N. Resolution 2106.

**1970.** Israel amends the Discharged Soldiers Act of 1949 so that the relatively small number of Jewish nationals who are exempt from military service can receive all the benefits tied to military service, such as school, housing, welfare and job entitlements, benefits denied the 98% of Israeli citizens of non-Jewish nationality, most of whom are native Palestinians.

**November 10, 1975.** 72 countries, representing 52% of the earth's population, condemn Zionism as "a form of racism and racial discrimination." [35 countries vote against the Resolution and 32 abstain.]

**June 19, 1977.** A *London Sunday Times* investigation reports the widespread, officially condoned systematic use of torture in the occupied territories, including instances of sexual sadism.

**1978-79.** Three U.S. State Department cables filed by the American Consulate in Jerusalem cite evidence that Israel's torture of Palestinian prisoners is a systematic practice.

**March 1985.** Denis Goldberg, a Jewish South African sentenced to life imprisonment for "conspiring to overthrow the apartheid regime," is released through the intercession of Israeli officials. On arrival in Israel Goldberg says he sees "many similarities in the oppression of blacks in South Africa and of Palestinians," and he calls for a total economic boycott of South Africa, singling out Israel as a major ally of the apartheid regime. Pledging never to stay in Israel, Goldberg moves to London.

**September 1985.** U.S. Congressman George Crockett, after visiting the Israeli West Bank, compares living conditions there with those of South African blacks and concludes that the West Bank is an instance of apartheid that no one in the U.S. is talking about. **Press Release**, September 13, 1985.

**April 1988.** Poll finds that 65% of Americans, including 41% of American Jews, believe that "there is an element of racism involved in the attitude of Israelis towards Arabs." **Los Angeles Times**, April 11, 1988.

**November 1989.** Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu tells students at Bar-Ilan University that "Israel should have exploited the repression of the demonstrations in China, when world attention focused on that country, to carry out mass expulsions among the Arabs of the territories." From the Israeli Journal **Hotam**, November 24, 1989.

**December 25, 1989.** Nobel laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu observes during Christmas visit to Jerusalem: "I am a black South African, and if I were to change the names, a description of what is happening in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank could describe events in South Africa." From Israeli daily **Ha'aretz**, cited in **Palestine Perspectives**, January/February 1990.

**December 25, 1989.** Israel's High Court of Justice rules that a Jew who converts to the Jews for Jesus sect is no longer a Jew, hence no longer eligible for Jewish nationality/citizenship benefits. Ruling confirms Israel's legal discrimination based on the equation of one's nationality with one's religion.

**January 5, 1990.** An Israeli High Court Judge declares that, "The essence of a Jewish state is to give preeminence to Jews as Jews. Anyone who asks, in the name of democracy, for equality to all its citizens--Jews and Arabs--must be rejected as one who negates the existence of the Israeli state as the state of the Jewish people." From Israeli daily **Ha'aretz**, cited in **News From Within**, April 3, 1991.

**February 1990.** The U.S. State Department for the first time in its annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices lists a special category on Israel's "Discrimination Based on Race, Sex, Religion, Language, or Social Status." Over 15 areas of discrimination by Jews against non-Jews are listed. **See 1989 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices.**

**April 25, 1990.** Israel's Minister of Housing, David Levy, admits that his Ministry secretly provided \$1.8 million for Jewish settlers to move into the Christian Quarter of Jerusalem. Jonathan Blass, spokesperson for the settlers, says that Jews should be able to move into the Christian Quarter, but non-Jews should be barred from the Jewish Quarter. The U.S. State Department calls the settlers' move "an insensitive and provocative action" and Israel's financing of it "deeply disturbing." **The New York Times**, April 25, 1990.

**September 1990.** Poll conducted in Israel by Guttman Institute show that 60% of young Jews prefer a greater land of Israel to human rights, 61% oppose giving Arabs in the territories equal rights, and 67% support encouraging Palestinians to emigrate. Factors listed by respondents as injurious to Zionism were: returning land for peace, mixed residence of Jews and Arabs, and social contacts between Jews and Arabs. 89% of respondents called themselves Zionists. **American Israeli Civil Liberties Coalition**, Spring 1991.

**November 1990.** Speaking at a Tel Aviv memorial service for former Likud leaders, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir declares: "The past leaders of our movement left us a clear message to keep Eretz Israel from the Sea to the [river] Jordan for future generations, for the mass aliya [immigration], and for the Jewish people, all or most of whom will be gathered into this country." **Jerusalem Domestic Radio Service**, November 18 & 19, 1990, as cited in **Report on Israeli Settlement**, March 1991.

**December 1990.** Israeli newspaper reports: "Nearly 2,500 acres of land in the [West Bank] villages of Husan, Wadi Fukin, and Nahallin have been appropriated or are in the process of being appropriated for the Betar settlement and its access roads ... The villages' legal representatives said that all the [Palestinian] residents' appeals against appropriation are rejected with the argument that it is done for the villages' benefit. **Davar**, December 3, 1990.

**February 5, 1991.** Congressman David R. Obey, Chairman of the House Foreign Operations Sub-committee, declares that when the Gulf war is over, Americans "have a right to demand of Israel one very big thing--a recognition of the right and necessity of the Palestinian people to have their own homeland on a major portion of the land that constitutes the West Bank and Gaza... Recent talk that the West Bank and Gaza can now belong to the Israelis for 50 years is dangerous nonsense and cannot be tolerated by any American government determined to see to it that the blood of its citizens will never again be shed on Middle Eastern battlefields." **Report on Israeli Settlement**, March 1991.

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Over the past 42 years Israel's racial discrimination against non-Jews has penetrated the most everyday aspects of social interaction. These include:



\*Israeli citizens are required to carry ID cards on them at all times which specify whether they are Jewish or non-Jewish.

\*Israeli police are required to display identification numbers which are coded to show if they are Jewish or non-Jewish.

\*Police can tell from a driver's license if the bearer is Jewish or non-Jewish: Jews renews on the 15th of the month, non-Jews on the 1st. N. Dacey, **"Democracy in Israel**, p. 47.

\*Non-Jews cannot buy apartments owned by the Jewish National Fund. When a Palestinian tried to buy one in East Jerusalem, the Chief Rabbi, Mordecai Eliayahu, pronounced: "It is forbidden to sell apartments in the Land of Israel to Gentiles," **Ha'aretz** 17 January 1986.

\*Jews in Israel are forbidden by a religious law, approved by the State, from marrying non-Jews. Tekiner, **Anti-Zionism: Analytical Reflections**, p. 74.

\*All Jewish elementary schools, secular and religious, have changed the plus sign in math books to an inverted 'T', because the plus sign looked too much like the Christian cross. Israel Shahak, **Al Fajr**, October 11-17, 1981.

\*For a Jew to hire a non-Jew to work on Jewish owned land is illegal and punishable by fines.

\*Approximately 50% of the non-Jewish sectors in Israel have no legal existence, which means they are not entitled to a sewage system, electricity, nor connection with the national water carrier, and any building done in these communities is considered illegal and subject to demolition. **The Other Front**, 4 April 1990.

\*Non-Jews in Israel, far more than Jews, have their telephones tapped and their mail "stopped, opened and even destroyed." U.S. **State Department's 1989 Country Reports on Human Rights**.

\*Israel's non-Jewish press is censored more strictly than its Hebrew language press. U.S. **State Department's 1989 Country Reports on Human Rights**.

\*In occupied Palestine, exclusive of East Jerusalem, automobile license plates issued to non-Jews are different from those issued to Jews; also non-Jewish operated taxis are clearly distinguished from Jewish operated taxis. N. Dacey,

**"Democracy" in Israel, p. 47.**

\*Israeli rabbi Yitzhak Ginsburg declares that Jewish blood and a goy's blood are not the same," inferring that killing isn't murder if the victim is Gentile. **Jerusalem Post**, June 19, 1989.

\*Israeli Housing Ministry, headed by Ariel Sharon, spends 20% of its money on projects in the occupied territories, most of it on the 2% of Israeli settlers who also receive special Government-backed mortgages. **New York Times**, April 24, 1991.

\*Housing Minister Ariel Sharon says he intends to continue building settlements despite pleas by Secretary of State James A. Baker 3rd to halt further expansion. **New York Times**, July 26, 1991.

Israel's discrimination against non-Jews touches all Americans in that Zionism distinguishes among Americans themselves, saying to some, who happen to be Jewish, that it will give them automatic citizenship, along with a host of social benefits, while to all other Americans these rights and benefits are denied *precisely* because they are non-Jews.

Ultimately, as Jewish philosopher Martin Buber warned in 1961, Israel's racism is suicidal:

Only an internal revolution can have the power to heal our people of their murderous sickness of causeless hatred. It is bound to bring complete ruin upon us. Only then will the old and young in our land realize how great was our responsibility to those miserable Arab refugees in whose towns we have settled Jews who were brought from afar; whose homes we have inherited, whose fields we now sow and harvest; the fruit of whose gardens, orchards and vineyards we gather; and in whose cities that we robbed, we put up houses of education, charity, and prayer while we babble and rave about being the "people of the book" and the "light of the nations!" **Thud's Ner**, January-February 1961.

Opponents of racism, who nonetheless call themselves Zionists, can help clarify the U.N. Resolution on Zionism and Racism by stating their own position on the above citation.

For further information on the above items, see:

Abu-Lughod, I., ed., *Transformation of Palestine*, Northwest Univ. Press, 2nd ed., 1987, 335 pp. Includes Eskine Childer's classic research on Palestinian refugees of 1947-48. .

International Organization for Elimination of Racial Discrimination, AJAZ, ed., *Judaism or Zionism: What Difference for the Middle East?* 1986, Zed Books, 285 pp. Twenty-two specialists in theology, politics, law and history examine impact of Zionism on Jews, non-Jews and Middle East politics.

Flapan, S., *The Birth of Israel*, Pantheon Books, 1987, 277 pp. Noted Jewish scholar reconstructs actual events behind official myths of Israel's founding.

Lilienthal, A., *The Zionist Connection II*, North American Press, 1982, 904 pp. Well documented history of Zionism from Herzl to Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Quigley, J., *Palestine and Israel: Challenge to Justice*, Duke University Press, 1990, 337 pp. Author is law professor at Ohio State University.

McDowall, D., *Palestine & Israel: The Uprising and Beyond*, University of California Press, 1989, 322 pp. Measured assessment both of Jewish-Palestinian conflict and of prospects for its settlement.

Shahak, I. (Chairman), Israeli League for Human and Civil Rights *1988-89 Report: Human Rights Violations During the Palestinian Uprising*, Tel Aviv, 1989, 87 pp. Contains eyewitness accounts from the Hebrew press of human rights abuses in occupied Palestine.

Tekiner, *et al*, eds., *Anti-Zionism: Analytical Reflections*, Amana Books, 1988, 358 pp. Includes essays on Christian Zionism in USA and Who Is A Jew? controversy in Israel.

Wright, C. *Facts and Fables: The Arab-Israeli Conflict*, Kegan Paul International, 1989, 239 pp. Handy reference for most often debated questions on Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

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