

'Quds Day', viewpoint of Imam Khomeini^(RA)

The Islamic Revolution of Iran has set a long-term strategy in a bid to launch justice-based peace in the region and reclaim the rights of the oppressed Palestinian nation. The strategy aims at countering almost a century-long Zionist plot that has shattered the lives of Palestinians. The proposed peace strategic plan predicts the delivery of justice to the Palestinians and maintains peace in their predecessors' land. This would apparently uphold security in the Middle East region and its inhabitants would benefit from significant stability. As a result, the people in the region would undertake serious efforts in order to implement the ideals of Imam Khomeini, who led a great revolution that intended to bring about a truthful liberated life through fighting any eastern or western pressure.

Given that fact, an announcement by the

Founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeini, to mark the International "Quds Day" could be viewed as his comprehensive strategy aimed at confronting the conspiracies of the Zionists which were aimed at the destruction of the Palestinians and eradication of the Islamic symbols from the holy land. The Zionists' unjust schemes are not restricted to this land, but they have also been pursuing an expansion policy for other Muslim lands as well. The Zionists' greedy policies have posed serious challenges to regional and global security. The declaration of the last Friday of the holy month of Ramadan as the "International Quds Day" served the greater interests of the Muslim community and Palestinians instead of serving limited national or ethnic interests.

The announcement of the International 'Quds Day' by Imam Khomeini was a good measure to revive the Palestinian efforts. A brief look at the Imam's message will highlight the importance of issue regarding the topic.

In the Name of Allah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful
I call on the world Muslims and Islamic governments to join the Palestinians in order to isolate the Zionist regime and its supporters.

A Quds Day Letter

from Lauren Booth to her Brother-in-Law, Tony Blair

Palestine in harmony with their Arab neighbours before 1948? Do you really not know that even today tens of thousands of Jews reside contentedly in Iran?

I've sat with Muslim families, those whose children have been burned by Israeli/US phosphorous bombs. Those who are still suffering hunger due to the Israeli siege of Gaza. Those who have lived through the early days of sanctions against Iran when they needed food vouchers just to live. And every single Muslim in these suffering families has the same message; 'We don't hate anyone for their race or their religion.'

We cannot hate Jews they are in our holy book it is against the teachings of the Qur'an.' But Tony let me ask you this. Why should any people, Muslim or otherwise, be expected to put up with this kind of constant threats from you and your bosses in Tel Aviv and

Washington? Do you have any understanding of what it is like to live in Gaza? Under siege, attacked with chemical weapons, your children's schools razed to the ground by Israeli missiles, your hospitals shelled, your electricity limited, your water undrinkable? Actually Tony I think you are a sympathetic person. I actually think that you do feel twinges of pain at the hardships suffered by millions in the Middle East as a direct result of your support for Israel.

Then you put that feeling to one side, because on a fundamental level - you think 'they' deserve it don't you? In your book you say you knew full well how many Beirut homes were flattened, how many civilians died in Lebanon in 2006.

Yet, you dismiss Lebanese rage about Israeli occupation of 'Shebas Farm' as being irrelevant, about a 'tiny' amount of land. You cannot see it as part of



I declare the last Friday of the holy month of Ramadan as the "International Quds day", and invite Muslims around the globe to hold rallies to show solidarity with the Palestinian people and support their legal rights on that day. I hope that the holy day, which coincides from a religious perspective with the "decree days" could determine the destiny of Palestinians as well. *Sahifeh Imam, Vol.9, P.267*

In fact, the efforts against Zionism, which is a movement based on racial discrimination, is considered an essential pillar of the Imam's thoughts. One of the significant points in this regard is that the Imam insisted on paying attention to international intellectuals from all the lifestyles that hold common views on this issue. This aspect places the issue beyond national and religious bindings, which would provide a suitable ground for all humans to contemplate on the Palestinian issue and prompt unity in the Islamic society and peace among the international community. The Imam emphasized that 'Quds Day' was an international day which would not be specifically limited to only the Quds issue. *Sahifeh Imam, Vol.9, PP. 276-279*

the constant pressure on Lebanese society as a whole by their heavily armed aggressive Israeli neighbour. You see it as: 'Israel is attacked. Israel strikes back.' As if Israel lives in placid peace, being kindly to all around it in between these massacres.

As other world leaders came out to demand Israel to immediately cease its 2006 bombing raids on Lebanese cities, you stayed silent. 'If I had condemned Israel' you say in your book 'I would have been more than dishonest. It would have undermined my world view.'

Your world view is that Muslims are mad, bad, dangerous to know. A contagion to be contained. Your final chapter is a must read here in the Middle East Tony, congratulations! For it lays out the 'them' and 'us' agenda of your friends in Washington and Tel Aviv.

In the final chapter you say; 'we need a religious counter attack' against Islam. And by 'Islam' you mean the Al Quds rallies, the Palestinian intifada (based on an anti Apartheid struggle Tony, NOT religious bigotry), against every Arab who fails to put their arms in the air as the F16 missiles rain on their homes and refugee camps and sing a rousing chorus of 'Imagine all the people...'

When you say 'extremism' must be 'controlled and beaten' you mean that you and your kind of morally bankrupt (but filthy rich) world leader wants control over the rising solidarity spreading through the Ummah and being joined by activist of all creeds on the streets of Paris, London, Bradford, Rome. 'Not only extremism must be defeated' you have written but 'the narrative' has to be assailed.'

Iran is indeed the place where Islamic tradition meets political action.

They are highly aware of the history of this region, the wrongs perpetrated by Israel against Palestine and the political machinations of the US and the UK governments to isolate them..

All thing considered and nice as the people have been during my stay. I wouldn't recommend coming over on a book tour though...

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Courtesy: Al-Haqq Newsletter: