



# REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNISM

Theoretical Review of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency



[www.thecommunists.net](http://www.thecommunists.net)

New Series Issue Nr.66

January 2022

## Zionism and Colonialism in Past and Present

Historical Essays on the Jewish Holocaust,  
Haj Amin and the Oppression of the Palestinians

by Yossi Schwartz

## English-Language Theoretical Review of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), New Series No.66, January 2022

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*Pictures on the cover: Arab protest delegations against British colonial policy in Palestine during 1929 (Source: Wikipedia, [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8d/Palestinian\\_delegation\\_1929.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8d/Palestinian_delegation_1929.jpg))*

*Revolutionary Communism* is the monthly English-language journal published by the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT). The RCIT has sections and activists in Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, South Korea, Pakistan, Kashmir, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Russia, Nigeria, Britain, Germany, and Austria.

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## Zionism, Haj Amin and the Jewish Holocaust

By Yossi Schwartz, Internationalist Socialist League in Israel / Occupied Palestine, 15.11.2021

**D**uring WWII the Zionists in Palestine and North America who did not send a single bullet to the Jews fighting the Nazis, like in the famous rebellion of the Warsaw Ghetto have learned how to manipulate the memory of the Jewish Holocaust for their political aims. The manipulations have various aspects. The first one is to get the UN's and the US's recognition for the creation of a Zionist state in Palestine even when most people in Palestine were native Palestinians. The Zionists of course did not rely only on the fresh memory of the Jewish holocaust.

*"Universal sympathy for the distress and suffering of Europe's displaced persons heightened the emotional appeal of Zionism, although its opponents pointed out that only a portion of them were Jews. They questioned further whether Palestine, or such countries as Brazil, Australia, or the United States, could best provide homes for these refugees. They argued that there was no necessary connection between the humanitarian problem of succoring the displaced persons of Europe and the political problem of creating a new nationalist state in Palestine. Finally, they asked whether it was just to make the Arabs atone for Europe's sins. However, the Zionists were not to be balked in their aims..."* On the eve of the UN decision the Zionists could not get the majority of states to support the creation of a Zionist state: *"By Wednesday, November 26, when the vote was taken in committee, the result was 25 to 13 – one vote gained for partition, three lost to its opponents, and the abstentions increased by two. That was still not enough for the two-thirds majority needed for passage."* [i]

*"So, the Zionists took the fight into their own hands. Rallying*

*a group of influential Americans and selecting their targets with care, they exerted all possible influence—personal suasion, floods of telegrams and letters and political and economic pressure... What happened at the United Nations was a repeat performance of what had already happened in the United States. Using the same methods that had been so successful here and having the United States Government to assist in their use there, the Zionists succeeded in getting what they want"* [ii]

The second aspect is getting the control of the American Jews and getting their political support for Israel.

After WWII most American Jews did not want to deal with the holocaust: *"In the current period – when books and films about the Holocaust abound, and the United States has a memorial museum dedicated to the genocide adjacent to the nation's other venerated monuments – it's difficult to imagine the public's disinterest in the Holocaust during the early postwar years. In his autobiography, for instance, Raul Hilberg recalls how difficult it was to find a publisher for The Destruction of European Jews, his ground-breaking account of the bureaucracy that implemented the Final Solution"* [iii]

*"It's hard, too, to imagine Jewish Americans embracing the Holocaust as a constitutive element of their ethnic identity... A key turning point in this disconcerting view of survivors was the 1961 trial of Adolf Eichmann. Eichmann, the Nazis' leading expert on Jewish affairs and a key architect of the Final Solution, had been apprehended by the Israelis in Argentina and taken to Israel for criminal prosecution. In the minds of Israeli officials, however, the purpose of the trial was not simply to punish Eichmann but to impress upon the rest of the world their moral obligation to support the Jewish state"* [iv]

## Books of the RCIT

### Yossi Schwartz: Palestine and Zionism

The History of Oppression of the Palestinian People.

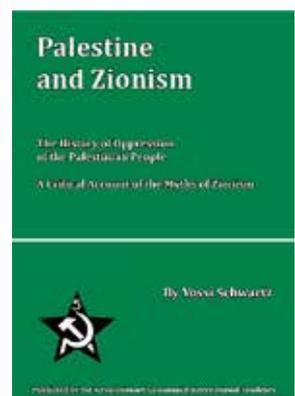
A Critical Account of the Myths of Zionism

In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz provides a critical analysis of numerous Zionist myths about the Jews as well as about the Palestinians. He demonstrates that the Zionist claim that Palestine is the historic homeland of the Jews lacks any serious basis. *Palestine and Zionism* shows that the history of Zionism in the 20th century is a history of colonialism in the service of the Great Powers and directed against the native population – the Arabs. In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz deals with key events – the "Nakba" in 1948, the wars in 1956, 1967 and 1973, more recent events like the Lebanon War, etc. – which were decisive for the expulsion of most Palestinians from their homeland. Yossi Schwartz also shows that the Palestinian people have heroically resisted against the occupation resulting in two Intifadas as well as the successful defense of Gaza against the Israeli aggression in three wars (2008/09, 2012, 2014). The author also analysis the shameful betrayal by the PLO leadership by signing the Oslo Agreement in 1993. In *Palestine and Zionism* Yossi Schwartz defends the right of national self-determination for the Palestinian people and outlines

a socialist perspective. He emphasizes that the only solution is the right of millions of Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland and to replace the Zionist entity with one democratic state from the river to the sea – a *Free Red Palestine* with equal civil rights to the Arabs and the Israeli Jews.

The book contains an introduction and 7 chapters (112 pages) and includes 7 Tables and 3 Maps. The author of the book is Yossi Schwartz, a leading member of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency and its section in Israel / Occupied Palestine..

You can find the contents and download the book for free at <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/palestine-and-zionism/>



*"Increasingly, as Novick (a Jewish historian) suggests, the Holocaust as much as Judaism per se was what gave Jews their sense of common identity, united in the "knowledge that but for the immigration of near or distant ancestors, they would have shared the fate of European Jewry" [v]*

A third aspect is to forge a racist Anti-Arab Islamophobic and in particular Anti-Palestinian consciousness among the Israeli Jews and among Jews everywhere. For this, it has been necessary to blame the Arabs and the Muslims and especially the Palestinians for the Holocaust.

It began with the blood libel in Damascus on February 5, 1840. Father Tommaso, the Franciscan Capuchin monk who headed a monastery in Damascus, Syria, disappeared, along with his servant. This event led to what became known as the Damascus Affair, in which a group of Jews in the city found themselves falsely accused of murdering the priest. Acting on claims from the Capuchins that the priest had been killed by Jews who intended to use his blood for the upcoming Passover holiday, Ratti-Menton began rounding up residents of the Jewish Quarter. One of those arrested implicated eight other Jews under torture; they were arrested and also subjected to terrible physical abuse. Two died and a third converted to Islam, in order to have his life spared. The Egyptian governor of Syria, Sherif Pasha, accepted the French findings and approved of the sentence issued to the Jewish defendants. A local crowd attacked and ravaged a Damascus synagogue. In the meantime, local authorities arrested 63 Jewish children, in an effort to force their parents to reveal where the blood of Tommaso was being stored.

Yet the Zionists are using this event to accuse the protesters against the Zionist state's crimes, of blood libel.

*"Yet accusations of Jews performing ritual murder have not disappeared. It is popular in the Islamic world and we are facing a modern blood libel, especially on college campuses, in false attacks on the Jews of Israel for murdering Palestinian children in a campaign of genocide" [vi]*

From the claim that protesting the Zionist crimes and their supporters are evil anti-Semites who spread blood libel against the Jews to the accusation that the Palestinians are responsible for the holocaust is only a single step. This step has been taken with the accusation of the Mufti Haj Amin for the Holocaust. On November 13 an article by Mark Regev who was a political adviser to former Prime Minister Netanyahu appeared in the Jerusalem Post. We will present his arguments and then deal with the different levels of half-truths and lies used by him to cover up for the crimes of the Zionists against the Palestinians.

### How the Zionists portray the Mufti

The mainline of his argument is the role of the Mufti from 1941 when he escaped to Nazi Germany. The history of the Mufti is of two periods. The first one is between 1920 to 1941 and the second period is from 1941 to his death. Before we deal with Regev's arguments, let's have a few lines about the credibility of the Zionist portraying of the Mufti between 1920 and 1941.

According to the Zionist narrative the Mufti: *"Under the British Mandate in Palestine, due in part to the power and prestige of his family, Hajj Amin al-Husseini served as the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem and president of the Supreme Muslim Council." [vii]*

What the Zionists hide is the fact that the Mufti won this position because the Zionist British high commissioner Herbert Samuel nominated him to this position even though in the elections to this position, he came the fourth. This is because the British assumed that he would serve the British rule. [viii]

The Zionist claims that he first rose to prominence during the annual religious festival of Nabi Musa in April 1920 by successfully inciting violence against Jews, thereby increasing his popularity among the Palestinians. [ix]

This is another lie as the Zionist military historian general Eliepleg writes: *"Indeed he paid the price demanded of him by the British because he needed them."* [x]

Eliepleg does not write that the Mufti was the one behind the clashes in April 1920 and he would not miss such a detail.

The Zionist claim *"that in 1928-9, the Mufti again appealed to Islam in order to oppose Jewish efforts to bring benches and partitions to the Western Wall in Jerusalem. He repeated his accusation that the Jews were trying to destroy the Muslim holy sites, and, as in 1920, his words incited violence against Jews."* [xi]

Eliepleg writes that the Mufti preferred to work with the British and was not behind the clashes. [xii]

According to the Zionist's claim he wanted to kill all the Jews. *"His position would have meant either the expulsion or the slaughter of the majority of the Jews living in Palestine in the late 1930"* [xiii]

As a matter of fact, the Mufti accepted the Jews who lived in Palestine prior to the British occupation of Palestine. According to historian Benny Morris, Husseini *"consistently rejected territorial compromise and espoused a solution to the Palestine problem that posited all of Palestine as an Arab state and allowed for a Jewish minority composed only of those who had lived in the country before 1917"* [xiv]

The Zionists claim that during the Arab Revolt of 1936-9, al-Husseini received German funds and weapons and that Nazi funding enabled him to continue the revolt in Palestine until 1939. [xv] Ellen who wrote 3 chapters on the 1936-9 uprising wrote that the Mufti tried to keep good relations with the British and for this reason he did not call for Jihad and at the same time he tried not to lose his popularity among the rebels. He does not say one word about any support by Nazi Germany and it is impossible that if this allegation was true, he would not mention it. [xvi].

### Regev's arguments

First argument: In 1942 at El Alamein in the North African desert, the German blitzkrieg into the Middle East was halted by the British General Bernard "Montgomery. Had the Axis military advance not been stopped in Egypt, Sinai and Mandatory Palestine would have been next, and there can be little doubt what Nazi occupation would have meant for the half a million Jews living in Palestine.

Had Rommel been victorious at El Alamein there can be little doubt that upon occupying Mandatory Palestine the Germans would have found a collaborationist leadership eager to enlist the local population in the mass killing of the Jews.

Second argument: After the outbreak of the Second World War, The Mufti Amin Husseini helped orchestrate the April 1941 pro-Nazi Rashid Ali coup in Iraq and the

subsequent Farhud massacre of Baghdadi Jews. When the British retook the Iraqi capital, Husseini relocated to Berlin where he remained until the German defeat, becoming Hitler's most outspoken Arab advocate, broadcasting Nazi propaganda to the Middle East while recruiting Bosnian Muslims to the Waffen-SS.

Husseini knew of the "Final Solution" and supported the genocide. From Husseini's perspective, it was better to murder a million and a half Jewish children than to have those children immigrate to Mandatory Palestine.

Third Argument: Even unabashed anti-Zionist Lebanese intellectual Gilbert Achcar (author of *The Arabs and the Holocaust*), who sees political logic in Arab nationalists finding common cause with Britain's axis enemies, regards Husseini's anti-Semitism and enthusiasm for mass murder totally inexcusable.

Fourth argument: Palestinian historical revisionism includes the contention that the Palestinians are themselves Holocaust victims, claiming that they were forced to pay for Europe's crimes, losing their homeland so that the West could atone for its sins against the Jews.

Fifth argument: In 2019, Democratic Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib, herself of Palestinian heritage, seemed to endorse this tortuous argument when she stated that *"it was my ancestors – Palestinians – who lost their land and some lost their lives, their livelihood, their human dignity, their existence... in the name of trying to create a safe haven for Jews,"* conveniently omitting the Palestinian leadership's behavior during those fateful years.

### Our response

As to the first argument: We do not know what the Palestinians would do to the European settler-colonialists who steal their land. One thing is sure the Zionist state would not be created and 700,000-900,000 Palestinians would not be expelled by the ethnic cleansing of 1947-8.

As to the second argument: the Farhud massacre in Iraq 1941. Jews lived in Iraq for 2000 years. During this long period, the Muslims and the Jews had a friendly relationship. British imperialism occupied Iraq during WWI. Their cruel rule created a nationalist Iraqi movement opposing British imperialism. Towns and villages that resisted the imposition of the British super-exploitation found them subjected to brutal punishment, most notably from the most advanced weapons technology of the day: bombs dropped from airplanes. As the rebellion spread, British warplanes carried out further bombing in late May 1920. Thousands, mostly civilians, were slaughtered. One of the RAF (Royal Air Force) squadron leaders in Iraq was Arthur Harris – who in 1942 would lead the bombing of German cities. During the destruction of Hamburg, Dresden, and scores of other German cities around 600,000 Germans, mostly civilians, perished. The rebellion was crushed and in July 1921 the British declared a puppet government of Fayal as king of Iraq. Between 1921 and 1941, there were other rebellions in Iraq. During the rebellion of the Kurds in 1931, the British bombed in February 1931 the villages of Kani Kermanj, Shawazi, and Bagh Anaran on March 28, 1931.

On paper, Iraq won its independence by 1932 but in reality, the British imperialists were the real rulers. In April 1941 a new nationalist movement led by Ali Rashid Gaylani took power. They remained in power from April 3 to

the end of May 1941.

The government of Rashid Ali received arms and political support from Nazi Germany and Italian fascism. However, it was not controlled by the Nazis or Italian fascism. The Mufti of Jerusalem Mohammed Amin al-Husseini escaped from Palestine to Iraq, after the Palestinian rebellion of 1936-9 was crushed with the help of the Zionists who collaborated with the government of Ali Rashid.

There is no question that the government of Ali Rashid was pro-Nazi along the line of *"the enemy of my enemy is my friend"*.

The Jews of Iraq belonged to three different groups. The religious, the middle and lower upper class, and members of the communist party that became a Stalinist party. The middle and upper-class Jews supported the British imperialists. On June 1st and 2nd, a pogrom against the Jews took place in Bagdad. The Zionist lie that the government of Ali Rashid and the Mufti of Jerusalem are responsible for the pogrom is proven by the dates. The pogrom was not the responsibility of the government of Ali Rashid that as matter of fact protected the Jews because the pogrom took place after the government of Ali Rashid was not in power by the end of May.

But what about the fact that the government of Ali Rashid received weapons from Nazi Germany and Italian fascism? Does it not prove they were war criminals?

Trotsky replied to this question long ago:

*"Let us assume that rebellion breaks out tomorrow in the French colony of Algeria under the banner of national independence and that the Italian government, motivated by its own imperialist interests, prepares to send weapons to the rebels. What should the attitude of the Italian workers be in this case? I have purposely taken an example of rebellion against democratic imperialism with intervention on the side of the rebels from a fascist imperialism. Should the Italian workers prevent the shipping of arms to the Algerians? Let any ultra-leftists dare answer this question in the affirmative. Every revolutionist, together with the Italian workers and the rebellious Algerians, would spurn such an answer with indignation. Even if a general maritime strike broke out in fascist Italy at the same time, even in this case the strikers should make an exception in favor of those ships carrying aid to the colonial slaves in revolt; otherwise, they would be no more than wretched trade unionists – not proletarian revolutionists. At the same time, the French maritime workers, even though not faced with any strike whatsoever, would be compelled to exert every effort to block the shipment of ammunition intended for use against the rebels. Only such a policy on the part of the Italian and French workers constitutes the policy of revolutionary internationalism.*

*Does this not signify, however, that the Italian workers moderate their struggle in this case against the fascist regime? Not in the slightest. Fascism renders "aid" to the Algerians only in order to weaken its enemy, France, and to lay its rapacious hand on her colonies. The revolutionary Italian workers do not forget this for a single moment. They call upon the Algerians not to trust their treacherous "ally" and at the same time continue their own irreconcilable struggle against fascism, "the main enemy in their own country". Only in this way can they gain the confidence of the rebels, help the rebellion and strengthen their own revolutionary position". [xvii]*

### Responsibility for the Jewish Holocaust?

The fact that the Mufti opposed the Jewish immigration to Palestine considering the nature of the Zionist settler colonialists does not make him responsible for the Jewish holocaust. Four political factors are responsible for the Jewish holocaust. The first one is all of those forces that fought against the socialist revolution, the only thing that could prevent WWII and save among others the Jews. The second one is the Nazi regime and those who collaborated with the murder of the Jews. The third one is the imperialist countries like the USA, Canada, Australia, and Britannia that closed the gates to the Jews. The fourth one is the Zionists who apply pressure on these countries not to open the gates before the Jewish refugees. For them, a Jew who did not immigrate to Palestine did not matter.

*"In the struggle for Palestine, no matter was too small to receive Ben-Gurion's attention. Yet his response to the greatest threat to Jewish survival was strangely disengaged. "The catastrophe of European Jewry is not directly my responsibility," he said when asked about the work of the Jewish Agency's Rescue Committee, established in 1942. Segev reveals that Ben-Gurion had learned about the extermination of Polish Jews a year earlier, from a Palestinian Christian businessman in the US; he also met a woman from Poland who told him a 'story of horrors and torments that no Dante or Poe could possibly imagine'. But his mission was to save 'the Hebrew nation in its land' rather than to save Jews from destruction. As he told members of Mapai in 1938, "if I knew that it was possible to save all the children in Germany by transporting them to England, but only half by transporting them to Palestine, I would choose the second." [xviii]*

The Israeli historian Esther Meir-Glitzenstein wrote on this question:

*"Three reasons for the outburst of the pogrom are accepted among all researchers: 1. The anti-colonial struggle was led by the national Iraqi movement against the British. Because Jews collaborated with the pro-British regime and opposed the pro-Nazi coup, they were looked upon as traitors and the enemy of the Iraqi people. 2. The Arab-Jewish dispute in Palestine. In October 1939, Haj Amin al Husseini, the Mufti who was expelled from Jerusalem, arrived in Baghdad and since then had a decisive role in organizing the coup and connecting with Nazi Germany for political and military support. It's important to point out that there had been no Zionist movement in Iraq since 1935. 3. The Nazi influence in Iraq. It included the publishing of Mein Kampf in a local newspaper, disseminating anti-Semitic ideas in a propaganda film, and in radio broadcasting. The youth movement 'el fittuwa', similar to the Hitler Jugend in Germany was influenced by Nazi ideology and Fascist values. These groups took an active role in the pogrom " [xix]*

She goes on and says: *"How was Farhud explained in Iraq? 1. The British and Iraqi regime: The British blamed Zionism for the event. The ambassador Kinahan Kornwalis claimed: 'Unavoidably, and even if it's not true, they [Iraqi Jews] were considered Zionists and paid the price, not only in money donations... but also with their blood'. (25.9.1941) Nuri as-Said, the Iraqi politician, told Moshe Shertok in their meeting in Cairo in July 1941: 'For many generations, the Jews of Baghdad lived safe and secured, and if something like that happened, it happened only because of Palestine. It is true that Nazi-Arabs aroused and organized the pogrom, but they could do it only by using the subject of Palestine'. (from Shertok report in Merkas Mapai, 27.7.1941) 2. The Jewish religious leadership According to the traditional Jewish commentary, the Iraqi Jewish rabbis*

*cast the blame on the wide secularization process in the community, claiming it was a punishment for the weakening of the traditional religious practices and customs, and as a lesson, they demanded penitence. (The sins noted by the rabbis were denial of the belief in payment and punishment and in the afterlife, shaving the beard, and also young women not going to the Mikveh. (Mukamal) 3. The leaders of the community It seems that the religious interpretation was not accepted by the secular leadership of the community. They (Ibrahim El Kabir, Yusuf El Kabir, the president Rabbi Sasson Khaduri and others) connected the Farhud to the colonialist system, to the cooperation between the Jews and the British, and to the hostility of the Iraqi national movement" [xx].*

She further says:

*"Thereupon, they blamed the British who had abandoned them as a part of their 'divide and rule policy. One of the Yishuv's 4 soldiers who served in Iraq in the British army, wrote: 'The Jews believe that instead of the Assyrian play ball, this year the English chose the Jews'. Practically, the leaders preferred lobbying among political figures, hoping to maintain their good connections and their ability to influence. This behavior tells us that the leadership did not interpret it as a catastrophe and did not foresee a massacre or general destruction. This conception is described by the community secretary, Shalom Darwish, some year later: 'We have been in Iraq for two thousand years and will continue to be for more two thousand maybes, maybe until the messiah days, so we must live in peace with the Iraqi people. 4. Prof. Elie Kedourie researched British documents in the 1970s. In profound and well-documented research, he concluded that the colonial situation and the cooperation of the Jewish minority with the British were the main reason for the Farhud. 'Baghdadi Jews', he summarized, 'were killed and robbed as British supporters'. (p. 91)*

*Unlike the Jews of Iraq the Zionists in Palestine distorted the real history and: When the first news arrived in Israel, the Zionist leadership connected the event with the anti-Semitism of Iraq's Muslims, the Mufti, and the Nazis, and rejected any accusation that blamed Zionism for the destruction of in Arab-Jewish relations in the Arab countries. In a meeting of Merkaz Mapai on July 9th, 1941, the participants compared the Farhud with the pogrom that took place in Yassi in Rumania at the same time. How was the Farhud perceived by the Zionist-Israeli emissaries in Iraq? During World War II it was perceived mainly as a part of the exile's distresses, in the context of anti-Semitism and the pogroms in Europe. The Farhud memory was aimed to convince Iraqi Jews with the justification and validity of Zionism" [xxi]*

She also says: *"The Holocaust, in the very time of its occurrence, was 'recruited' by the Israeli emissaries, in their struggle for Zionist achievements in Iraqi Jewish society. In these and many other texts, we see some elements connecting Iraqi Jews to the Holocaust."*

She also says: *"The pogrom occurred at the end of an anti-British and pro-Nazi coup and continued for two months, April and May 1941. During these months, the pro-Nazi regime protected the Jews so the pogrom began as soon as the regime collapsed and its leaders fled from Baghdad" [xxii]*

The lie that the Mufti of Jerusalem is responsible for the Jewish holocaust was used by the former Zionist Prime Minister Netanyahu more than once.

In 2015 the former Prime Minister Netanyahu: claimed that Hitler did not want to kill the Jews but the Mufti of Jerusalem Haj Amin after he arrived in Berlin convinced him to kill the Jews: *"In a speech before the World Zionist*

*Congress in Jerusalem, Netanyahu described a meeting between Husseini and Hitler in November 1941: "Hitler didn't want to exterminate the Jews at the time, he wanted to expel the Jew. And Haj Amin al-Husseini went to Hitler and said, 'If you expel them, they'll all come here (to Palestine).' According to Netanyahu, Hitler then asked: "What should I do with them?" and the mufti replied: "Burn them."*

*Netanyahu made a similar claim during a Knesset speech in 2012, where he described the Husseini as "one of the leading architects" of the final solution Netanyahu was not the only Zionist to spread the vile line that the Palestinians are responsible for the Jewish holocaust. In a book by Barry Rubin and Wolfgang G. Schwanz, "Nazis, Islamists, and the Making of the Modern Middle East." the authors, like Netanyahu, draw a straight line between the mufti's support of Hitler and the policy of the Palestinian Liberation Organization under Yasser Arafat." [xxiii]*

This lie was exposed as the Mufti of Jerusalem arrived in Berlin after Hitler began the mass killing of the Jews.

*"Netanyahu's lie was exposed by historians who pointed out that the Nazis began the mass killing of the Jews before Haj Amin arrived in Berlin Tom Segev, a leading Israeli historian who has conducted extensive research on the Holocaust, told The Times of Israel Wednesday that the notion that Hitler needed to be convinced to exterminate the Jews was "entirely absurd." He stressed that "one can surely say that [Husseini] was a war criminal, but one cannot say Hitler needed his advice."*

*Segev, born in Jerusalem to parents who escaped Nazi Germany in 1933, further stressed that by the time Husseini and Hitler met in 1941, the annihilation of the Jews had already begun. In fact, hundreds of thousands of Jews had been killed by the Nazis and their collaborators by the time of the meeting." [xxiv]*

The Mufti however by organizing Muslims to fight under the control of imperialist Germany crossed the line between the legitimate struggle for national liberation and subordination to imperialism and for this he should be condemned.

At the same time, the Zionists who served British imperialism and oppressed the Palestinians are worse than the Mufti and are the last ones with the moral right to present the Mufti as a war criminal.

### **Zionists serving British imperialism**

Were the Zionists only making the transfer deal with Nazi Germany for saving the Jews it could be considered a reasonable deal? However, they went further in their rotten politics and helped to destroy the boycott on Nazi Germany. They persecuted the volunteers who went to Spain to fight Franco and the Nazis. While the volunteers went to Spain, the Zionists were busy together with the British army in terrorizing the Palestinians fighting for their national liberation.

Since the Allies won the war against the Axis powers the winners were considered the good guys and the Axis the war criminals. In reality, the USA and British imperialism committed war crimes as did the German, the Italian, and the Japanese imperialists. Was the bombing of German cities different from the German bombing of British cities? Was the dropping of atomic bombs on Japanese cities not a war crime? Was not the starving to death millions of Indians in the Bengal famine of 1942/3 by Churchill war crime? 100 million people, mostly civilians, were killed for a war over markets and colonies, is that not a huge war crime?

The Zionists love to call the Palestinians terrorists to justify their crimes against the Palestinians. However, even before the establishment of the Zionist state the Zionists settler colonialists together with the British army in Palestine committed many terrorist actions.

In 1938 the British army officer Orde Wingate, a Christian Zionist fanatical supporter of a Jewish state formed a special terrorist unit Special Night Squads (SNSs) and filled it with Zionists soldiers training for a future war against the local Palestinians. The Special Night Squads (SNSs) were created to defeat the Palestinian Arab revolt, 1936–39. This unit brutally targeted civilians and villages. Committing atrocities is the nature of such war crimes, when an imperial power collaborated with loyalist colonialist settlers against the native Palestinians. This terrorist unit included many future Zionists generals such as Yigal Alon and Moshe Dayan.

British SNS brutality prompted Jewish soldiers, taught them how to deal with insurgency within a colonial legal framework of collective punishment and punitive action that normalized draconian actions.

For example, after a Palestinian guerrilla carried a sabotage action against the Iraq Petroleum Company oil pipeline "the SNAs threw grenades into the houses of the peasants. The SNSs in their five-month operational life under Wingate from June to October 1938, and then under Bredin, carried out a set of outrages at Kfar Hittin, Nin, Kufur Masr Danna, Silat al-Dahr (, Beisan (in Hebrew Beit She'an and in and around Dabburiyya, alongside cumulative acts of extra-judicial brutality in unnamed villages. These all occurred in lower Galilee in the Jezreel Valley or near Tiberias." [xxv]

*"Such actions are reminiscent of the disposal of bodies by the French army during the Algerian insurgency in the 1950s or by Latin American armies later on. At times, dead Arabs were just 'villagers who got in the way', caught in indiscriminate shooting by squads entering villagers suspected of harboring rebel fighters." [xxvi]*

*"The terror inflicted by the SNSs was of classical proportions: one favored method used by British and Jewish soldiers alike in Galilee was that of the Roman legions—decimation, with variations on the proportion to be killed, and aimed at intelligence gathering, rifle gathering or simply to instill fear into local villagers. The Jews executed every eighth male villager in Kufur Masr (or Kafr Misr) to get them to hand over illegally held rifles. They were not forthcoming with the rifles, and the next time every eighth man." [xxvii]*

This was the training school the Zionists used in 1947-8 for the ethnic cleansing of the Palestinians when they committed between 30 and 40 massacres.

As to the third argument of Regev: It is clear that the Mufti was anti-Zionist and he became an anti-British imperialist. It is not at all sure that he became Anti-Semite. In 1937 he accepted that Jews who lived in Palestine prior to the arrival of the British would be citizens of the Palestinian state. He opposed those who came to Palestine with the aim of colonizing it. When he was in Iraq, he was a supporter of Ali Rashid who used his government's power to protect the Jews. While he was in Berlin, he opposed Zionist immigration to Palestine. He was not opposed to the idea that they will be allowed to go to other countries. The argument that because he prevented the Jews from Bulgaria from immigrating to Palestine, he and the Palestinians are responsible for the death of these Jews is a false

argument. It is a typical Zionist argument that the only place Jews should go to save their lives in Palestine, and no other country. In Iraq during the pro-Nazi government of Ali Rashid protected the Jews. However, by organizing Muslim soldiers under the command of the Nazis he crossed the lines separating between getting support from one imperialist against another to subordinating to one imperialist, Nazi Germany. The Mufti was asked about his political sympathy to Nazi Germany he replied that he never accepted the Zionist ideology but Germany did not kill Arabs and the enemy of my enemy is my friend.

In Israel, one of the Prime ministers was Shamir who belonged during the British Mandate to Lehi. The Jerusalem Post broke a national taboo by the writing of a 1941 link between Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Stern Gang guerrillas and Nazi Germany.

*"The episode, known to historians, is almost never mentioned in a country that reveres the memory of 6 million European Jews, including Shamir's entire family, killed by the Nazis during World War II. The respected English-language daily, which bitterly opposes Shamir, broke the silence in an editorial blasting "obscene attacks" by the premier and other right-wingers on the Peace Now movement's contacts with Palestinians..." it is disturbing memory (of the Stern Gang) . . . which, with the Final Solution already underway in all but name, sought out German cooperation in the setting up here of a Jewish state on a national and totalitarian basis." The Nazis rejected the plan because it clashed with their bid for support from Arab nationalists. With the exception of a hostile statement by concentration camp survivors against Shamir when he first took power in 1983, the Israeli press virtually never mentions the episode."* [xxviii]

As to the fourth argument, it is a typical Zionist argument to silence the opposition to the Zionist crimes against the Palestinians and other Arabs.

Yes, the Mufti who was a reactionary served at first the British and then the German imperialists. The same is true for the Zionists who served the British and the German imperialists. The difference is that the Mufti was a Palestinian leader of an oppressed nation fighting against the British and the Zionist settler colonialists, while the Zionists are the oppressors who stole Palestine and expelled most of the native population. That they have been doing what they say the Mufti would do. To justify their crimes the Zionists are demonizing the Mufti of Jerusalem and rewriting history.

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## How the Zionists help the Holocaust Deniers?

By Yossi Schwartz, ISL the section of the RCIT in Israel/Occupied Palestine, 3.12.2021

The Zionist propaganda that claims that the Jews from the Arab and Muslim states suffered from the holocaust is based on the technique of the big lie. The Times of Israel for example writes:

*"The expulsion of 850,000 mostly Mizrahi (Middle Eastern) and Sephardic Jews from Arab and Muslim countries took place before, during, and after the Holocaust. As nationalist Arab leaders aligned with Nazi Germany in the name of oil and expelling the British, Jewish communities were targeted for pauperization, expulsion, and murder... By all accounts, the infiltration of Nazi leaders and policies into the Middle East was a tipping point in the history of the region's Jews. Beginning with Iraq's notorious Farhud pogrom on June 1–2, 1941, Jews in Iraq and elsewhere faced intensified persecution akin to what took place in pre-Holocaust Nazi Germany as leaders such as Iraqi Prime Minister Rashid Ali al-Gaylani sought to emulate Hitler's tactics". [i]*

Blaming Rashid Ali al-Gaylani as a person who sought to kill the Jews is a fraud as we showed in another article. The Farhud pogrom took place after al-Gaylani and the Mufti of Jerusalem escaped from Iraq to Germany. There is no question that the Nazis killed millions of Jews. However, the Zionists in their propaganda since the middle 1970's have expanded their definition of the Holocaust to include the emigration of the Jews from Arab and Muslim countries after 1948. What they hide among other things is the Zionist role in the uprooting of these Jews from their countries. Not only that, but by the manipulation of the memory of the Holocaust to include the uprooting of the Arab Jews in the Holocaust in Europe they give ammunition to the Holocaust deniers who can say that if what happened to the Arab Jews is a Holocaust the Jews lie when they speak of millions of Jews who were killed by the Nazis.

In the former article on this subject, we dealt with the reasons Jews left Yemen and Iraq. In this article, we deal with Morocco and Algeria.

### Morocco

In 1948 when Morocco was under French rule while the Zionists massacred and expelled the Palestinians. Two violent anti-Jewish riots broke out in Oujda and Djerada, leading to the deaths of 44 Jews. The internet site "Jewish Virtual Library" that spreads the Zionist propaganda writes:

*"Jews have been living in Morocco since the time of Antiquity. Prior to World War II, the Jewish population of Morocco reached 225,000. Morocco's King Mohammed V met with representatives from Nazi Germany and Vichy France during the Holocaust to discuss the issue of Jews in Morocco. The Moroccan King famously stated at the meeting that in his country, there are no Jewish citizens, there are no Muslim citizens, and they are all Moroccans. The Jews of Morocco were not sent away to concentration camps and were not subject to the full brunt of Nazi evil. Although Jews were not deported during the war, they did suffer humiliation under the Vichy government. Following the U.S. landing in 1943, a few pogroms did occur. In June 1948, bloody riots in Oujda and Djerada killed 44 Jews and wounded scores more. That same year, an unofficial economic boycott was*

*instigated against Moroccan Jews". [ii]*

This site does not mention any other event in which Jews were killed in Morocco and if there were similar events it would tell them in detail. Haaretz writes on this event: *"June 8, 1948, was the second and final day of anti-Jewish rioting in the northeastern Moroccan towns of Oujda and Jerada, in which 44 people were killed and some 60 wounded. The massacres, whose circumstances have never been definitively determined, came weeks after Israel's declaration of statehood and contributed to a dramatic upsurge in the departure of Jews from Morocco, most of them to Israel". [iii]*

Haaretz does not dare to tell the reasons for this event as the reasons are known.

*"In 1948, when the riots broke off, Oujda was under French sovereignty and Jerada (60 kilometers away from Oujda) was home to more than 120 Moroccan Jews. According to the same source, rioters descended on Oujda's Jewish quarter and killed four of its Jewish residents, as well as a Frenchman, and wounded 30. On the same day 37 Jews were killed including the town's rabbi, Moshe Cohen, and four family members, Haaretz stated. The police arrived later assessing the material damage that hit the two towns. The pasha of Oujda, Mohammed Hajoui as stated by Haaretz condemned the violence and even visited the homes of all its victims, consequently, he was attacked on the 11th of June in a mosque. Responding to the deadly attacks, the French, and most precisely René Brunel who was the French commissioner of Oujda, blamed the Moroccan Jews for the events. He insisted that their passage through Oujda on their way to Israel, and their supposed sympathies with the Zionist movement unleashed the anger of the population". [iv]*

### Algeria

Most of Algeria's Jews had been entitled to French citizenship since 1870. In 1870, the Crémieux decree separated the Jews from the rest of the Algerian population and turned them into French citizens in their own country. In 1940, the Vichy government revoked this decree and French citizenship along with it. After WWII the Jews once again became citizens of France. During the Algerian War, most Algerian Jews took the side of France, against the indigenous independence movement.

*"The Algerian War from 1954 to 1962, looms large over every text ... Algerian Jews were forced to choose between the multiple aspects of their identities. In the Algerian War, most Jews chose France over independent Algeria. For many, that experience was one of rupture leading to an exile" [v]*

They opposed France's proposed independence for Algeria. Some Jews did join the FLN fighting for independence, but a larger group supported the OAS, secret paramilitary terrorist group [vi], and the Zionists agents from Israel armed young Jews to fight against the FLN.

*"In 1955, the Mossad established a special force in the Maghrib known as the Misgeret [Framework]. The Misgeret was active in Algeria in the three central departments [regions] of Constantinos, Oranie, and Algeria. In the Constantinos, it consisted of about one hundred young members whose unit commanders underwent training in France or Israel. Possessing French citizenship, as the overwhelming majority of Algerian Jewry, they*

were reservists in the French army stationed in Algeria and thus experienced in the handling of weapons. The Misgeret created weapons caches, and only its Algerian unit commanders could have access to the Israeli emissaries in charge. Between May 1956 and the end of 1961" [vii]

In 1961, six months before the conclusion of the Evian accords promised independence for Algeria, riots broke out in the city of Oran. The aggressors were overwhelmingly Jews, while those injured or killed were largely Muslims. The events in Palestine caused tension between Jews and Muslims in Algeria, in addition to the support of Israel and many Jews for French colonialism. [viii]

Israel had close relations with France and it supported it during the Algerian war of independence. In 1956 Israel, British imperialism, and French imperialism attacked Egypt that under Nasser supported the independence of Algeria.

When France left Algeria, many Algerian Jews left with the colonialists. After Algeria gained its independence in 1962, it passed the Nationality Code in 1963, depriving non-Muslims of citizenship. This law extended citizenship only to those individuals whose fathers and paternal grandfathers were Muslim. 140,000 Jewish left after the passage of the law.

We find in the Jerusalem post: "Following the end of World War II and the establishment of the State of Israel, Moroccan Jews were encouraged to move to Israel by Zionist groups and organizations. With French rule remaining over Morocco, Jews were allowed to immigrate legally, and many young Moroccan Jews left to help fight during the War of Independence... With the ascension of Hassan II to the throne in 1961, an agreement was made that he would accept a large per-capita bounty from the international Jewish community for each Jew who emigrated from Morocco, and under this agreement Jews were allowed the freedom to leave. By the eve of the Six-Day War, some 120,000 emigrated during these six years alone". [vix]

Thus like in other Arab states the Jews of North Africa were not refugees but emigrants uprooted from their

home countries because of the imperialist's policy of divide and rule, the collaboration of most Jews with the colonial rule, because of the ethnic cleansing of the Palestinians by the Zionists in 1947-8, because the Zionists intervention in North Africa on the side of French imperialism, because of the agreement of Israel with the king of Morocco and because of the reactionary attitude that did not differentiate between Judaism and Zionism. To claim that the Jews from the Arab countries were refugees and to include them in the Jewish holocaust is to deny the real tragedy of the Jews in Europe.

*Down with the Zionists' lies!*

*Down with the Zionist apartheid state!*

*Down with the reactionary rulers of the Arab states, servants of imperialism!*

*For a Palestine red and free from the river to the sea!*

*For a socialist federation of the Middle East!*

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# Books of the RCIT

## Yossi Schwartz: The Zionist Wars

### A History of the Zionist Movement and Imperialist Wars

In *The Zionist Wars* Yossi Schwartz gives an overview about the process of Zionist colonialization of Palestine as well as the resistance of the indigenous Arab population. He deals in detail with the popular struggles of the Palestinians against their expulsion by the Zionists. *The Zionist Wars* elaborates in detail the character of Israel's military campaigns in 1948 and the following decades which resulted in the expulsion of large parts of the Palestinian population. These wars were also crucial to implement the imperialist subjugation of the Arab countries.

However, as Yossi Schwartz elaborates, the Zionist state has passed its peak already some time ago which has been demonstrated by its failed military campaigns in Lebanon as well as in Gaza.

In *The Zionist Wars* the author also discusses in much detail the program of the communist movement on the Palestinian question. He shows the adaptation and finally capitulation of Stalinism to the Zionist project – culminating in massive arms shipments for the Israeli forces during the War of 1948.

In this book Yossi Schwartz elaborates the analyses and conclusions of Leon Trotsky and the Fourth International for the libera-

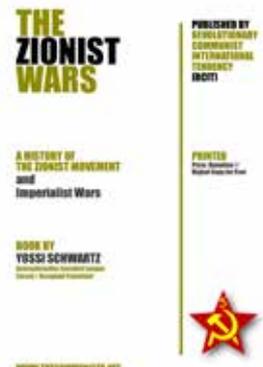
tion of Palestine. He also discusses the strength and weakness of his successors in dealing with the Zionist state and the Arab liberation struggle against it.

In *The Zionist Wars* Yossi Schwartz defends the national liberation struggle of the Palestinian people and outlines a socialist perspective.

The book contains an introduction and 20 chapters (136 pages) and includes 2 Tables and 4 Maps.

The author of the book is Yossi Schwartz, a leading member of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency and its section in Israel / Occupied Palestine..

You can find the contents and download the book for free at <https://www.thecommunists.net/theory/the-zionist-wars/>



## The false equation between the Palestinian Refugees and the Arab Jews as Refugees

By Yossi Schwartz, ISL the section of the RCIT in Israel/Occupied Palestine, 30.11.2021

### The lie about the agreement of the Zionist to have a Palestinian state

Yesterday, the 29 of November, Israeli Ambassador to the UN Gilad Erdan called the decision to hold an event in the General Assembly aimed at strengthening the Palestinian "right of return" on this day "outrageous." He also said: *"The Palestinians and the Arab countries not only attacked Israel, the Jewish state, they also persecuted, massacred, and ultimately expelled the Jewish communities in their own countries,"* he added, *accusing the international community of ignoring those events and only focusing on the Palestinians"* [i]

He only forgot to claim that the UN supports a new Jewish holocaust.

The Zionist propaganda is that if the Palestinians had accepted the partition a Palestinian state would be formed. This is a lie. On the eve of the war, the Zionists offered King Abdulla of Jordan to annex the West Bank. *"Just days before Israel will declare its independence, Golda Meir, and then Head of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency travels to Amman to meet with King Abdullah of Transjordan. This is the second meeting between the two, with the first occurring in early November 1947 at Naharayim on the banks of the Jordan River. Underlying Abdullah's contacts and interest in cooperating with Zionist leadership is his desire for an expanded Arab state in the region. His "Greater Syria" plan envisages a unitary Arab state, under his leadership, which encompasses Transjordan, Syria, and Palestine. Abdullah agrees to a meeting in Amman. Meir is accompanied by Ezra Danin, a Haganah intelligence expert who has familial relationships with the King.*

*Meir and Danin disguise themselves as an Arab couple and travel through enemy lines to Transjordan. She confronts Abdullah about breaking the promise he made to her in November 1947. The King explains that he is no longer able to act independently, that he is now "one of five," referring to Syria, Egypt, Lebanon, and Iraq. He urges the Zionist leadership to postpone their planned declaration of statehood as the only way to prevent war. Reiterating his desire for expanded territory, he tells Meir, "But why don't you wait a few years? Drop your demands for free immigration. I will take over the whole country and you will be represented in my parliament. I will treat you very well, and there will be no war."* [ii]

Ben Gurion the chief Zionist leader already in 1937 when the first partition plan was offered wrote to his son Amos: *"Does the establishment of a Jewish state [in only part of Palestine] advance or retard the conversion of this country into a Jewish country? My assumption (which is why I am a fervent proponent of a state, even though it is now linked to partition) is that a Jewish state on only part of the land is not the end but the beginning.... This is because this increase in possession is of consequence not only in itself, but because through it we increase our strength, and every increase in strength helps in the possession of the land as a whole. The establishment of a state, even if only on a portion of the land, is the maximal reinforcement of our strength at the present time and a powerful boost to our historical endeavors to liberate the entire country"* [iii]

### The second lie is that the Jews from the Arab and Muslim states are refugees.

In the real world, the Jews who arrived to the Zionist state from Arab and Muslim countries were not refugees but immigrants that the Zionist state wanted to use to replace the Arab cheap labor and as soldiers. Iraqi Jews left their country because of the conflict in Palestine. The deteriorating relations between Jews and Arabs in Palestine, the terrorist activities of the state of Israel in Iraq, the British imperialists' policies, and the inability of Iraqi ultranationalists to distinguish between Judaism and Zionism are the key reasons for their migration. Even after a wave of urban rioting in 1941, the Farhud, in which more than 150 Jews were killed and many more wounded, only a few Jews had left Iraq. Thus, no love for Zionist racist nationalism was behind the emigration of the Iraqi Jews to the Zionist state.

Until the 1970s the official version of Israel was that these Jews came to Israel because of their love for the Jewish state and were "Olim" (Those who step up to Israel). Only in the 1970s, this narrative was changed and the Zionists began to claim that the Arab Jews were refugees like the Palestinians.

The Israeli Iraqi sociologist Yehuda Shenhav Wrote: *"In 1942 (after Ben Gurion understood that he cannot rely on European Jews to establish a viable state Y.S)) Ben Gurion presented to experts and to leaders of the Yishuv (pre-1948 Jewish community in Palestine) his 'Plan for Mass Immigration' (Tochnit ha Million) which aimed to bring a million Jews to Palestine. The plan to bring Jews from Arab countries was not implemented until after Israel's establishment. In Israel, the Mizrahim (Jews from Arab countries) were subjected to a process of de-Arabization. As Ben Gurion put it, "We do not want the Israelis to be Arabs. It is our duty to fight against the spirit of the Levant that ruins individuals and societies" (Shohat 1988:6). In 1941 a two-day pogrom (known as the Farhud) was perpetrated in Baghdad. It was the only pogrom in the history of Iraqi Jews and it did not spread to other cities: it was confined to Baghdad alone. Historians agree that this was an exceptional event in the history of Jewish-Muslim relations in Iraq (see Cohen 1996). It occurred a few hours before the British entered Baghdad during the world war after the pro-Nazi Prime Minister Rashid Ali al Kilani had fled the country, leaving a state of political anarchy in Baghdad. The British themselves delayed their entry into the city by 48 hours. It is possible that the British wanted passions to boil over in the city and actually had an interest in a clash between Jews and Muslims. Within the realms of memory of Zionist historiography, the Farhud is a site that ratifies the "from the Holocaust to the revival" Despite the minor misgivings, it was generally accepted that WOJAC (The World Organization of Jews from Arab Countries) functioned for approximately 25 years (1975-1999) had been established as a tool to assist the State of Israel and the Israeli Foreign Ministry in the national arena. (Meeting of the WOJAC Actions Committee, 11/3/76, p.13) Upon the establishment of WOJAC, Ben-Porat posited that the State of Israel had not made effective use of the past of Jews from Arab countries, and argued that this past was instrumental in the po-*

litical arena in which Israel was active. The organization's Executive formulated three major political assertions, all of which were intended to offset the main three claims of the Palestinian national movement; One that of the historic nature of a Jewish national and religious presence in the Middle East (the Primordiality thesis). Two, that the Middle East had witnessed a de-facto mutual population exchange of Arab refugees and Jewish refugees (the Population Exchange thesis); and three, that the property of these Arabs and Jews could be counterbalanced due to the population exchange (the Property Exchange thesis).

These three positions, which were formulated in the mid-1970s, gained additional validity after the peace treaty with Egypt and the beginning of the debate regarding the Palestinian refugees. According to the members of WOJAC's Executive, these assertions would enable Israel to argue for the legitimate rights of the Jews in the Land of Israel, against the legitimacy of a Palestinian right of return, and for the denial of Palestinian demands for compensation for property that had been confiscated by Custodian of Absentee Property. Members of the organization's Executive established a direct linkage between the establishment of WOJAC and activities of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). Years later, Dr. Jaques Barnes declared: "We are the Jewish answer to the PLO...to the right of return...that is why we exist." (4th National Convention, Tel Aviv, 16/12/93, p.48) [iv]

According to the Israeli historian Ester Meir -Glitzenstein in 1948 around one million Jews were living in the Arab and Muslim countries half of them in North Africa (Algeria 130,000, Morocco 250,000 Tunisia 85,000 Libya 40,000. The others in Iraq 135,000, Yemen, and Aden 50,000 Syria and Lebanon 30,000 Iran 90,000 and Turkey 80,000). Jews lived in these countries for hundreds and thousands of years. After the establishment of Israel, 350,000 Jews from these countries arrived to Israel. Various forces caused the uprooting of the Jews from their countries: Imperialism, Zionism, the reaction to the ethnic cleansing of the Palestinians, and the reactionary policies of the local rulers of these countries.

Most of these Jews prior to 1948 were not Zionists. The imperialists that controlled these countries used the old tactic of divide and rule and granted the Jews citizenship and other privileges. A large number of Jews worked in the administration of the imperialists. This forms a negative feeling among the Muslims who saw the Jews as collaborators with the imperialists. The Zionist state-initiated provocations including terrorist acts and later on agreements with the local Arab rulers to allow the Jews to immigrate to Israel. The history of Jewish immigration from these countries is well researched in Yemen and in Iraq.

### Yemen

In 1948 there were 40,000 Jews in Yemen and most of them left for Israel. Yemen was a very poor country and the Yemen Jews were aware of the fact that in Israel the level of living was much higher. In addition, most Yemenite Jews were encouraged to believe that the establishment of Israel is a step in the return of the Messiah.

Between December 1948 and March 1949 Israel airlifted 10,000 Jews from Aden most of them Yemenites. In April 1949 the Yemenite Imam Ahmad permitted the Jews to leave on condition they sell all their property. The British granted them entry to Aden. An agreement was reached between the Zionist state, the American Joint Distribution

Committee, the British rulers of Aden, and the Imam to transfer the Jews. The Jews of Yemen, many of whom had properties like lands, arrived in Aden very poor. In July 1949, the British decided that Israel would accept 20,000 Yemenite Jews within two months. The Jews were pushed into a transit camp (Hashed) in Aden where they lived in harsh conditions. Hundreds of them died. The Zionist state brought the remaining Jews in the camp to Israel.

### Iraq

In 1948 out of the 135,000 Jews of Iraq 90,000 lived in Baghdad. Iraq was a British colony and many Jews collaborated and worked for British rule. This led to resentment of the Jews by the Moslems. With the war of 1948, Iraq declared Zionism in Iraq a crime. Thousands of Jews lost their jobs and hundreds were jailed. All the Jews were wrongly perceived as Zionists. In 1950 the Iraqi government had passed a law allowing the Jews to leave Iraq and to immigrate to Israel.

The Iraqi government intended to get rid of a few thousand young Jews perceived as troublemakers but the entire community emigrated especially under the influence of the upper-class Jews those who lost their privileged position under the British. In January 1951, to push the Iraqi Jews to immigrate to Israel Zionist agents threw a grenade on Mas'uda Synagogue in Bagdad killing 3 Jews and wounding 20. Jews who left Iraq lost their Citizenship and their property. They received from the government a laissez passer document that allowed them to immigrate only to Israel. [v]

The Zionists government itself says: "Between 1950-1951 some 125,000 Iraqi Jews were airlifted to Israel by an American airline company and with the special permission of the Iraqi government. This wide-ranging operation was named "Operation Ezra and Nehemiah" after the two leaders of the return from Babylon (the forerunner of modern-day Iraq) at the beginning of the Second Temple Period."

In 1948, following the declaration of the establishment of the State, thousands of Iraqi Jews were arrested and imprisoned and the Zionist organizations were declared illegal. Jews who requested to make Aliyah (emigration to Israel) faced the death penalty. Various additional restrictions were imposed upon Iraqi Jews; among them the prohibition against moving from one location to another within Iraq, restrictions preventing attendance at schools and hospitals, and other harsh measures. A much-awaited change came in 1950 when the Iraqi government permitted the Jews to immigrate on condition that they renounce their Iraqi citizenship, relinquish their property, and forfeit the right to ever return in the future.

The aliyah of each community was managed via shalichim (messengers from Israel) of the Jewish Agency and the Joint Distribution Committee. American planes began to fly directly to Lod airport." [vi]

In another article, Shenav wrote that in January 1952, "two Zionist activists, Yosef Basri and Shalom Salah, were hanged in Baghdad. They had been charged with possession of explosive materials and throwing bombs in the city center. A classified document from Moshe Sasson, of the Foreign Ministry's Middle East Division, to then Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett maintained that many Iraqi immigrants, residents of the transit camps, greeted the hanging with the attitude: "That is God's revenge on the movement that brought us to such depths. It sug-

gests that a good number of them did not view their immigration as the joyous return to Zion depicted by the community's Zionist activists. Rather, in addition to blaming the Iraqi government, they blamed the Zionist movement for bringing them to Israel for reasons that did not include the best interests of the immigrants themselves.

Shortly after his government assumed power, in January 1949, Nuri Sa'id toyed with the idea of deporting the Iraqi Jews to Israel. However, the British ambassador in Palestine warned him that such an act could have serious unanticipated repercussions. Israel, the ambassador explained, would welcome the arrival of cheap Jewish labor and would demand that in return the Arab states resettle Palestinian refugees." (Tsimhoni, 1991).

The Jews in Iraq expressed a primeval, albeit abstract, yearning for Zion. Still, they were as remote from political Zionism as the east is from the west. The majority refused to view themselves as Zionists and opposed the Zionist movement, which began to penetrate Iraq beginning in the 1930s for its own social, economic, and political purposes.

In July 1949, the British, fearing the decline of their influence in the Middle East, put forward a proposal for a population transfer, and tried to persuade Nuri Sa'id to settle 100,000 Palestinian refugees in Iraq. A letter sent by the British Foreign Office to its legations in the Middle East spoke of an "arrangement whereby Iraqi Jews moved into Israel, received compensation for their property from the Israeli government, while the Arab refugees were installed with the property in Iraq." (Shiblak, 1986: 83)

The Zionist Foreign Ministry maintained that only if Iraq agreed to absorb 300,000 to 400,000 Arab refugees in return for the Iraqi Jews could Israel contemplate accepting the transfer agreement. This transfer plan faded with the enactment of the Iraqi naturalization law that enabled Jews to leave Iraq after renouncing their citizenship. Pressure for the law's enactment was exerted by Prime Minister Tawfiq al-Suwaidi, a graduate of the French-Jewish Alliance network of schools. His many Jewish friends included the leader of the community, Yeskail Shemtob, and the Zionist emissary Mordechai Ben-Porat, who was also instrumental in getting the law passed. [vii]

Thus, clearly the emigration of the Iraqi Jews was based on a deal between the Zionist state and the reactionary government of Iraq.

The Iraqi Journalist Jew Naeim Giladi wrote: "in 1998 about 125,000 Jews left Iraq for Israel in the late 1940s and into 1952, most because they had been lied to and put into a panic by what I came to learn were Zionist bombs. Britain's pro-Zionist attitude in Palestine, however, triggered a growing anti-Zionist backlash in Iraq, as it did in all Arab countries. Writing at the end of 1934, Sir Francis Humphreys, Britain's Ambassador in Baghdad, noted that, while before WWII Iraqi Jews had enjoyed a more favorable position than any other minority in the country, since then "Zionism has sown dissension between Jews and Arabs, and bitterness has grown up between the two peoples which did not previously exist. The first bomb thrown directly at Jews occurred on April 8, 1950, at 9:15 p.m. A car with three young passengers hurled the grenade at Baghdad's El-Dar El-Bida Café, where Jews were celebrating Passover. Four people were seriously injured. That night leaflets were distributed calling on Jews to leave Iraq immediately. On June 3, 1950, another grenade was tossed from a speeding car in the El-Batawin area of Baghdad where most rich Jews and middle-class Iraqis lived. No one was hurt, but following the explosion Zionist activists sent telegrams to Israel requesting that the quota for immigration

from Iraq be increased.

On June 5, at 2:30 a.m., a bomb exploded next to the Jewish-owned Stanley Shashua building on El-Rashid Street, resulting in property damage but no casualties. On January 14, 1951, at 7 p.m., a grenade was thrown at a group of Jews outside the Masouda Shem-Tov Synagogue. The explosive struck a high-voltage cable, electrocuting three Jews, one a young boy, Itzhak Elmacher, and wounding over 30 others. Following the attack, the exodus of Jews jumped to between 600-700 per day. Zionist propagandists still maintain that the bombs in Iraq were set off by anti-Jewish Iraqis who wanted Jews out of their country. The terrible truth is that the grenades that killed and maimed Iraqi Jews and damaged their property were thrown by Zionist Jews the next day, many Jews, most of them poor with nothing to lose, jammed emigration offices to renounce their citizenship and to apply for permission to leave for Israel." [viii]

For the Zionists to equate the forced ethnic cleansing of the Palestinians and the 30-40 massacres with the emigration of the Iraqi Jews as a result of a deal between the Zionists and the reactionary government of Iraq and by using terror against the Iraqi Jews is like usual a gross distortion of history.

The Zionists themselves were very active in uprooting of the Iraqi Jews and should be blamed for it together with British imperialism and the reactionary government of Iraq that collaborated with the Zionist state.

*For the return of the Palestinian refugees!*

*Down with the Zionist apartheid from the river to the sea!*

*For a Palestine red and free from the river to the sea!*

#### Endnotes:

[i] <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-protests-as-un-marks-partition-plan-with-palestinian-solidarity-event/>

[ii] <https://israeled.org/golda-meir-secret-meeting-king-abdullah-amman/>

[iii] Letter as translated by the Journal of Palestine Studies

[iv] Yehouda Shenhav, Jews from Arab Countries and the Palestinian Right for Return: An Ethnic Community in Realms of National Memory the British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies, 29(1): 27-56, 2002. <http://prn.mcgill.ca/research/papers/shenhav.htm>

[v] Ester Meir-Glitzstein, Zionist or Refugees: The Historical aspect of the Uprooting of the Jews and their immigration to Israel <https://in.bgu.ac.il/en/bgi/Site%20Assets/Pages/esther-meir-glitzstein/Zionists%20or%20Refugees%20-%20Justice.pdf>

[vi] Operation Ezra and Nehemiah – the Aliyah of Iraqi Jewry (1950-1951)

23.11.2020 [https://www.gov.il/en/departments/general/aliyah\\_iraq](https://www.gov.il/en/departments/general/aliyah_iraq)

[vii] Yehuda Shenav, What do Palestinians and Arab-Jews Have in Common? Nationalism and Ethnicity Examined Through the Compensation Question <https://people.socsci.tau.ac.il/mu/yshenhav/files/2013/07/What-do-Palestinians-and-Arab-Jews-Have-in-Common1.pdf>

[viii] Naeim Giladi, The Jews of Iraq The Link, Volume 31, Issue 2, April-May 1998 <http://www.inminds.com/jews-of-iraq.html>

## The Hypocrisy of the Zionist Imperialist Settler-Colonialist State and its Imperialist Friends

By Yossi Schwartz, ISL the section of the RCIT in Israel/Occupied Palestine, 08.12.2021

Day after day we are bombarded with news about Iran's developing nuclear weapons and how it is blackmailing the USA to first agree to the removal of its sanctions on Iran before Iran will sign an accord to stop the development of its atomic energy. Day after day we hear the Zionist's state declarations that it will attack Iran if the negotiations fail. We are told that Iran should be prevented from developing nuclear weapons for the sake of peace on earth.

Trotsky wrote on this pacifism: *"The inherited failing of pacifism, however, was the fundamental evil which characterizes bourgeois democracy. Its criticism touches only the surface of social phenomena; it has not the courage to cut deeper into the underlying economic facts. Capitalist realism, however, handles the idea of perpetual peace based on the harmony of reason, perhaps more pitilessly than the idea of liberty, equality, and fraternity. Capitalism, which developed techniques on a rational basis, failed to regulate conditions rationally. It prepared weapons for mutual extermination which would never have occurred to the dreams of the "barbarians" of medieval times."* [i]

Lenin wrote on this subject: *"our peace program must explain that the imperialist Powers and the imperialist bourgeoisie cannot grant a democratic peace. Such peace must be sought and fought for, not in the past, not in a reactionary utopia of non-imperialist capitalism, nor in a league of equal nations under capitalism, but in the future, in the socialist revolution of the proletariat. Not a single fundamental democratic demand can be achieved to any considerable extent, or any degree of permanency, in the advanced imperialist states, except by revolutionary battles under the banner of socialism."* [ii]

While Iran has the right to develop nuclear weapons to avoid major imperialist attacks on it as happened to Iraq, it is not clear at all that Iran is developing nuclear energy for

nuclear weapons as we wrote in another article. Today no other than the chief of the CIA has confirmed that opinion.

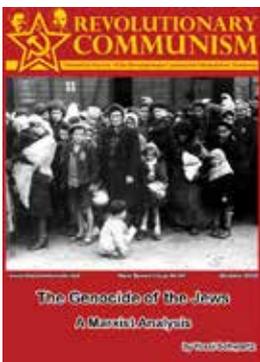
*"Central Intelligence Agency Director William Burns on Monday said that the U.S. has not seen any evidence that Iran has made a decision to pursue obtaining a nuclear weapon. Addressing the Wall Street Journal's CEO Council, Burns said that the CIA "doesn't see any evidence that Iran's Supreme Leader has made a decision to move to weaponries. Addressing the Wall Street Journal's CEO Council, Burns said that the CIA "doesn't see any evidence that Iran's Supreme Leader has made a decision to move to weaponries" [iii]*

Yet this mass media controlled by the capitalists hardly mention that Israel is the only country in the Middle East that possess nuclear weapons nor that the USA is the only state that has used atomic bombs, on Japan at the end of WWII.

Today we are informed that Israel was the only country to oppose the United Nations General Assembly call for a Middle East Nuclear Free Zone. The resolution was approved, with a 178-1 vote with two abstentions; the United States and Cameroon. Iran on the other hand supported the resolution. The text of the resolutions states:

*"Not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices. Place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards." It also called for Middle East countries to adhere to the Treaty for the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons" [iv]*

Israel built the atomic reactor with France's help: *"...the disclosure in the book by historian Michael Bar-Zohar sheds new light on the depth of France's involvement in Israel's nuclear program. Bar-Zohar told Reuters his information came from*



### Publications of the RCIT

## The Genocide of the Jews A Marxist Analysis

By Yossi Schwartz

**Introduction \* The Conditions of the Jews on the Eve of World War II \* The Pseudo-Scientific Racist Theory of Social Darwinism \* Anti-Semitism as a Branch of Social Darwinism \* The Nazi Labor-Death Camps \* Zionist Ideology as a Branch of Social Darwinism \* The Genocide of the Palestinians \* Who Are the Guilty Parties for the Genocide of the Jews? \* The Uniqueness of the Genocide of the Jews \* The Use of the Holocaust \* So What Is Unique About the Genocide of the Jews? \* Conclusions \* Footnotes**

*A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format*

recently released documents from Israeli and French government archives. The book divulges details of how Peres served as a behind-the-scenes architect of Israel's military might, securing weapons secretly and buying an atomic reactor from France... Experts believe Israel has used the Dimona reactor it built with French help in the 1960s to produce as many as 200 nuclear warheads." [v]

Israel has developed a plan called the "Samson option" for using such a weapon of mass death. We find on the site Modern wars institute:

"In any serious strategic calculus, the "Samson Option" refers not just to a last-resort spasm of pure national vengeance, but to a purposeful set of specific operational threats. When examined together with Israel's still intentionally ambiguous nuclear strategy (a doctrine most commonly referred to as Israel's "bomb in the basement"), it becomes evident that these carefully fashioned threat postures are designed to enhance Israeli nuclear deterrence" [vi]

Israel has used chemical weapons already in 1948. We find in Haaretz:

"There is a gaping gulf between Assad, his murderous father, and former Israeli Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, but it is vital to remember that in May 1948, ahead of the declaration of the establishment of the state and the expected invasion of the Arab armies, Ben-Gurion ordered the military industries and intelligence corps to prepare chlorine shells. With a forgiving view, it is one of the items described as dangerous substances for tear-gas devices and dispersing demonstrations; with a firmer view, it is a chemical warfare substance that blows with the

wind.... The experts promised Ben-Gurion – but, lacking experience, they did not know for sure – that the "chemicals," which harm the skin as well as the breathing passages, would cause the enemy temporary blindness and silence him without destroying him. Ben-Gurion expressed amazement in his war diary that half a gram of a certain compound of chlorine gas could "drive people away." Ernst David Bergman, who would later head the Israel Atomic Energy Commission and Ephraim Katzir, reported to Ben-Gurion some five months later that 700 kilograms had been prepared. One of them said 100 kilos a day would be required, without saying in what scenario. Biological weapons were also prepared. Ben-Gurion, according to his diary, did not object when Yigal Yadin reported to him about a telegram from Gaza that "two Jews had been caught with malaria germs, and orders were given not to drink water." [vii]

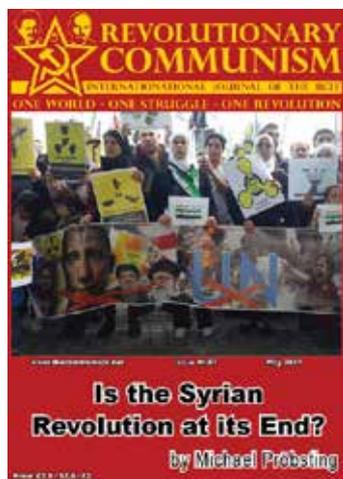
We cannot expect the imperialists to disarm Israel of its weapons for mass destruction only the world socialist revolution will end the wars by the imperialists and their servants!

*Down with the imperialist warmongers!  
Imperialists hands of Iran!*

#### Endnotes:

[i] Leon Trotsky: Pacifism as The Servant of Imperialism <https://www.marxists.org/archive/trotsky/1917/xx/pacifism.htm>

[ii] V. I. Lenin: The Peace Programme <https://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1916/mar/25.htm> [iii] <https://www.haaretz.com/us-news/.premium-cia-chief-no-evidence-iran-has-made-decision-to-weaponize-nuclear-program-1.10447274>



## Publications of the RCIT

# Is the Syrian Revolution at its End? Is Third Camp Abstentionism Justified?

By Michael Pröbsting, April 2017

*An essay on the organs of popular power in the liberated area of Syria, on the character of the different sectors of the Syrian rebels, and on the failure of those leftists who deserted the Syrian Revolution*

**Introduction \* The Nature of the Local Coordination Councils in Syria \* The Contradictory Nature of the Petty-Bourgeois Rebel Factions \* A note on the adjectival juxtaposition of "progressive" to liberal democrats versus "reactionary" to Islamists \* Hayyat Tahrir al-Sham and Other Islamist Militias \* The Role of Religion in Democratic and National Liberation Struggles \* Some Arguments on the Ongoing Progressive Character of the Syrian Revolution \* Have the Rebels Become Agents of US Imperialism and Regional Powers? \* On Foreign Powers' Support for Liberation Movements p\* Lenin and Trotsky on Liberation Struggles and Imperialist Interference \* What Did Lenin and Trotsky Say about Getting Support from Imperialists? \* Imagining Two Different Scenarios of the Revolution's Success & Failure \* A Period of Defeats and Retreats: What Are the Reasons? \* Some Thoughts on the Future Prospects of the Arab Revolution \* The Urgent Need for a Revolutionary Party \* Footnotes**

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## Down with the Zionist warmongering in Syria!

*A statement by the ISL, the section of the RCIT in Israel/Occupied Palestine, 20.12.2021*

The Zionist state is escalating its attacks on Syria. There have been many attacks in the form of missiles – as well as assassinations and air raids carried by Israel since the civil war in Syria began in 2011. Israel attacked the Syrian army when stray fire – whether by the Syrian army or by rebels – fell within the Israeli-occupied Syrian Heights in 1967, when arms convoys delivering to Hezbollah passed near the border, and also launched attacks on Iran-backed fighters when they launched rocket fire. Israel acknowledged carrying out hundreds of strikes in Syria during the 10-year civil war between the revolutionary forces and the butchering regime, to end what it calls Iran’s “military entrenchment” and to stop shipments of Iranian weapons to Lebanon’s Hezbollah movement and other Shia militias. Many attacks took place in the southwest of Syria, where Iranian forces and Shia militias have bases, but also in the central cities of Homs and Hama, the northern city of Aleppo, and the town of Albu Kamal on the eastern border with Iraq. On 24 November, Syrian state media reported that two civilians were killed in an Israeli strike in Homs province. The SOHR put the death toll at four, including two who it said lost their lives when a Syrian surface-to-air missile fell to the earth. [I]

According to Al Jazeera, three Syrian pro-government fighters in Quneitra, near the Golan Heights were killed by Israel. On April 23, 2017. Israel attacked a weapons supply hub operated by Hezbollah near Damascus airport On April 27, 2017. Israel bombed a Syrian government facility depot thought to be associated with the country’s chemical weapons production. On September 7, 2017, Israel killed several Hezbollah fighters, including Jihad Mughniyeh, son of a slain military leader, in an air raid on Quneitra. On January 19, 2015, Israel Assassinated Hezbollah’s Samir Kuntar on the outskirts of Damascus. [II]

On June 8, Israeli warplanes attacked Syria’s northern frontier. The Zionist air force fired missiles at three military targets near the cities of Damascus and Homs, killing seven soldiers, including a colonel.

*“The Israel Defense Forces, following standard practice, declined to comment on the incursion into Syrian airspace. But intelligence analysts in Western capitals quickly observed a distinction in the operation: While previous Israeli attacks in Syria nearly always targeted Iranian proxy forces and arms shipments, the June 8 strike was aimed at Syrian military facilities – all with links to the country’s former chemical weapons program” [III]*

On December 7 Israel attacked Syria’s main port of Latakia, destroying shipping containers. Video footage and photographs published by Sana showed a large fire burning inside an area where dozens of containers were stacked. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) monitoring group based in Britain said the target was an Iranian weapons shipment. Israel has claimed already in July that Iran is shipping weapons to the Beirut port. According to the SOHR, Israel attacked Syrian targets 27 times this year. Imperialist Russia, the real ruler of Syria, plays a contradictory role. On one hand, it does not prevent Assad or Iran from sending arms to Hezbollah and on the other allows Zionist attacks.

All of these actions are acts of war forbidden by bourgeois’ international law. An airstrike, like any other attack on a state, requires a mandate from the UN Security Council. According to the UN Charter, all five great international powers must, as permanent members, approve of a military attack. Or in exceptional cases – if there is no UN mandate – a case must be made for self-defense. Nevertheless, Israel is not punished by the UN because it is protected by other imperialist states like the USA and Britain. Israel that buys American weapons all the time cannot claim that its attacks on Syria are acts of self-defense when other parties like Hezbollah gets weapons from Iran. The UN Security Council is simply a council of thieves and robbers.

We the RCIT have stood all the time with the Syrian revolution against Assad the Butcher backed by Russian imperialism. However, when it comes to the Zionist attacks On Syria and on the Pro- Iranian militias in Syria, we condemn the Zionists and want to see their defeat.

No doubt there will be reformists and centrists who will say how can you oppose Assad and defend Syria and pro-Iranian forces?

The question of taking a side in military confrontations is always determined by the concrete nature of the sides. For example, we opposed the Argentinian Junta that took power in a military coup in 1976 and supported a revolution of the working class against the Junta. But then came the Malvinas war. Unlike the right centrists of the IMT led by woods that supported British imperialism, we took the position that because Argentina is a semi-colony the worst enemy is British imperialism and that the interest of the international working class is the revolutionary defeat of Britain.

The British SWP has not written one word on Israel attacks in Syria. In their analysis explaining why the revolution in Syria failed, they wrote:

*“For others on the left, the flipside of supporting Assad was to support some form of intervention such as arming the rebels or the Kurds.” [IV]*

Trotsky wrote on this question of arming the rebels:

*“Let us assume that rebellion breaks out tomorrow in the French colony of Algeria under the banner of national independence and that the Italian government, motivated by its own imperialist interests, prepares to send weapons to the rebels. What should the attitude of the Italian workers be in this case? I have purposely taken an example of rebellion against a democratic imperialism with intervention on the side of the rebels from a fascist imperialism. Should the Italian workers prevent the shipping of arms to the Algerians? Let any ultra-leftists dare answer this question in the affirmative. Every revolutionist, together with the Italian workers and the rebellious Algerians, would spurn such an answer with indignation. Even if a general maritime strike broke out in fascist Italy at the same time, even in this case the strikers should make an exception in favor of those ships carrying aid to the colonial slaves in revolt; otherwise they would be no more than wretched trade unionists – not proletarian revolutionists. At the same time, the French maritime workers, even though not faced with any strike whatsoever, would be compelled to exert every effort to block the shipment of ammunition intended for*

use against the rebels. Only such a policy on the part of the Italian and French workers constitutes the policy of revolutionary internationalism." [v]

Trotsky also wrote:

"In my declaration to the bourgeois press, I said that the duty of all the workers' organizations of China was to participate actively and in the front lines of the present war against Japan, without abandoning, for a single moment, their own program and independent activity. But that is "social patriotism!" the Eiffelites cry. It is a capitulation to Chiang Kai-shek! It is the abandonment of the principle of the class struggle! Bolshevism preached revolutionary defeatism in the imperialist war.

We do not and never have put all wars on the same plane. Marx and Engels supported the revolutionary struggle of the Irish against Great Britain, of the Poles against the tsar, even though in these two nationalist wars the leaders were, for the most part, members of the bourgeoisie and even at times of the feudal aristocracy ... at all events, Catholic reactionaries. When Abdel-Krim rose up against France, the democrats and Social Democrats spoke with hate of the struggle of a "savagely tyrant" against the "democracy." The party of Leon Blum supported this point of view. But we, Marxists and Bolsheviks, considered the struggle of the Rifians against imperialist domination as a progressive war. Lenin wrote hundreds of pages demonstrating the primary necessity of distinguishing between imperialist nations and the colonial and semi-colonial nations which comprise the great majority of humanity. To speak of "revolutionary defeatism" in general, without distinguishing between exploiter and exploited countries, is to make a miserable caricature of Bolshevism and to put that caricature at the service of the imperialists.

In the Far East, we have a classic example. China is a semi-colonial country which Japan is transforming, under our very eyes, into a colonial country. Japan's struggle is imperialist and reactionary. China's struggle is emancipatory and progressive

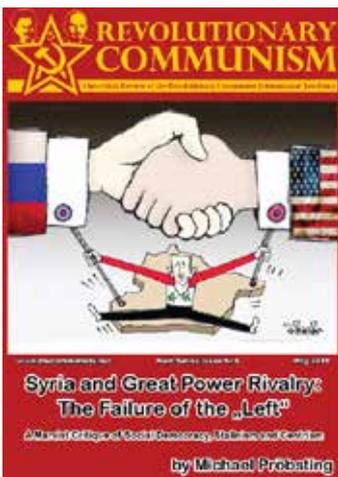
But Chiang Kai-shek? We need have no illusions about Chiang Kai-shek, his party, or the whole ruling class of China, just as

Marx and Engels had no illusions about the ruling classes of Ireland and Poland. Chiang Kai-shek is the executioner of the Chinese workers and peasants. But today he is forced, despite himself, to struggle against Japan for the remainder of the independence of China. Tomorrow he may again betray. It is possible. It is probable. It is even inevitable. But today he is struggling. Only cowards, scoundrels, or complete imbeciles can refuse to participate in that struggle.

Let us use the example of a strike to clarify the question. We do not support all strikes. If, for example, a strike is called for the exclusion of Negro, Chinese, or Japanese workers from a factory, we are opposed to that strike. But if a strike aims at bettering—insofar as it can—the conditions of the workers, we are the first to participate in it, whatever the leadership. In the vast majority of strikes, the leaders are reformists, traitors by profession, and agents of capital. They oppose every strike. But from time to time the pressure of the masses or of the objective situation forces them into the path of struggle.

Let us imagine, for an instant, a worker saying to himself: "I do not want to participate in the strike because the leaders are agents of capital." This doctrine of this ultraleft imbecile would serve to brand him by his real name: a strike-breaker. The case of the Sino-Japanese War is from this point of view, entirely analogous.

But can Chiang Kai-shek assure victory? I do not believe so. It is he, however, who began the war and who today directs it. To be able to replace him it is necessary to gain decisive influence among the proletariat and in the army, and to do this it is necessary not to remain suspended in the air but to place oneself in the midst of the struggle. We must win influence and prestige in the military struggle against the foreign invasion and in the political struggle against the weaknesses, the deficiencies, and the internal betrayal. At a certain point, which we cannot fix in advance, this political opposition can and must be transformed into armed conflict, since the civil war, like war generally, is nothing more than the continuation of the political struggle. It is



## Publications of the RCIT

### Syria and Great Power Rivalry: The Failure of the „Left“

By Michael Pröbsting, April 2018

*The bleeding Syrian Revolution and the recent Escalation  
of Inter-Imperialist Rivalry between the US and Russia –  
A Marxist Critique of Social Democracy, Stalinism and Centrism*

**Introduction \* The liberation struggle of the Syrian people against Assad retains its just character \* Against all imperialist aggressors! \* Old and new Great Powers \* The Ex-Stalinist turned social democrats: "God save the United Nations" \* The Stalinists (and some caricatures in Trotskyist camouflage): social-imperialist servants of Assad and Putin \* The Morenoite LIT, UIT and FLTI: the heart on the right place but not their brains \* CWI and FT: failure to understand the imperialist nature of China and Russia \* CWI / SWP(UK) / FT: refusing to support the Syrian Revolution \* Conclusion \* Footnotes**

*A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format*

necessary, however, to know when and how to transform political opposition into armed insurrection." [VI]

In our analysis of 1948 in Palestine, we wrote that Russian Stalinists and their subordinated parties in the Middle East supported the Zionists and provided them with weapons used to butcher and drive out 700,000-900,000 Palestinians. The speech of Gromyko who was appointed to the position of Permanent Representative of the Russian Stalinists to the United Nations (UN) in April 1946 in support of the partition can be easily found. [VII]

The Fourth International that was in the process of degeneration took the position of revolutionary defeat for both sides. It declared:

*"The two camps today mobilize the masses under the mask of "self-defense." "We have been attacked, let us defend ourselves!" – say the Zionists. "Let us ward off the danger of a Jewish conquest!" – declares the Arab Higher Committee. Where does the truth lie? War is the continuation of politics by other means. The war led by the Arab feudalists is but the continuation of their reactionary war on the worker and the fellah who are striving to shake off oppression and exploitation. For the feudal effendis "Salvation of Palestine" means safeguarding their revenues at the expense of the fellahin, maintaining their autocratic rule in town and country, smashing the proletarian organizations and international class solidarity. The war waged by the Zionists is the continuation of their expansionist policy based on discrimination between the two peoples: they defend kibbush avoda (ousting of Arab labor), kibbush adama (ousting of the fellah), boycott of Arab goods, "Hebrew rule." The military conflict is a direct result of the policy of the Zionist conquerors. This war can on either side be said to bear a progressive character. The war does not release progressive forces or do away with social and economic obstacles in the path of development of the two nations.*

*Quite the opposite is true. It is apt to obscure the class antagonism and to open the gate for nationalist excesses. It weakens the proletariat and strengthens imperialism in both camps".*

No doubt the local rulers of the Arab states were reactionaries and the Mufti of Jerusalem was a nationalist. The Arab rulers did not want to fight the Zionists but they had to fight because of the pressure of the Arab masses that were aware of what the Zionists did to the Palestinians. In that situation, the only correct revolutionary Marxist position was a revolutionary defeat for the Zionists and military victory for the Palestinians and the Arab states without giving them any political support. Why? Because the Zionists were settler colonialists oppressing the native Palestinians.

The ISA right wing centrists that do not bother to write on Israel attacks on Syria, take a semi-Zionist position on Palestine and they follow Kautsky's position on peace under imperialist order:

*"There's no peace without struggle against occupation, poverty, inequality, against corrupt elites and for healthcare, livelihoods and welfare for all. Yes to protests of Palestinians and Israelis, no to attacks on civilians. Only peace and equality will bring personal security for all – end all attacks and collective punishment on 2 million residents of Gaza. Solidarity with residents from both national communities in Israel that cope with indiscriminate rocket fire. End the occupation, no more denying the right for self-determination and national oppression of the Palestinians. For an independent socialist Palestine with its capital in East Jerusalem, for a socialist change in Israel and in the whole region." [VIII]*

First, they equate Israel war actions with Hamas shootings.

*"Solidarity with residents from both national communities in*

## Books of the RCIT

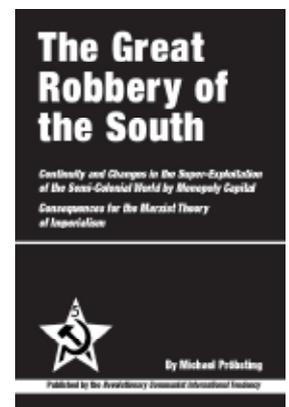
### Michael Pröbsting: The Great Robbery of the South Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a book called *THE GREAT ROBBERY OF THE SOUTH*. The book's subtitle is: *Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital*. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism. The book is in English-language. It has 15 chapters, 448 pages and includes 139 Tables and Figures. The author of the book is Michael Pröbsting who is the International Secretary of the RCIT.

In *The Great Robbery of the South* Michael Pröbsting analyses the super-exploitation and oppression of the semi-colonial world (often referred to as the "Third World") by the imperialist powers and monopolies. He shows that the relationship between the small minority of rich capitalist countries and the huge majority of mankind living in the semi-colonial world forms one of the most important elements of the imperialist world system we are living in. The Great Robbery of the South shows that the past decades have been a complete confirmation of the validity of Lenin's theory of imperialism and its programmatic conclusions. *The Great Robbery of the South* demonstrates the important changes in the relationship between the imperialist and the semi-colonial countries. Using comprehensive material (including 139 Tables and Figures), Michael Pröbsting elaborates that never before

has such a big share of the world capitalist value been produced in the South. Never before have the imperialist monopolies been so dependent on the super-exploitation of the semi-colonial world. Never before has migrant labor from the semi-colonial world played such a significant role for the capitalist value production in the imperialist countries. Never before has the huge majority of the world working class lived in the South – outside of the old imperialist metropolises.

In *The Great Robbery of the South* Michael Pröbsting argues that a correct understanding of the nature of imperialism as well as of the program of permanent revolution which includes the tactics of consistent anti-imperialism is essential for anyone who wants to change the world and bring about a socialist future. Order your copy NOW! \$20 / £13 / €15 plus p+p (21\$ for US and international, £9 for UK, €10 for Europe)



Israel that cope with indiscriminate rocket fire“

Secondly, they call for two states solution: “For an independent socialist Palestine with its capital in East Jerusalem, for a socialist change in Israel“

Thirdly they claim that the end of the occupation of 1967 will bring peace to the Middle East.

Lenin replied to this position:

“This does not apply to Kautsky alone. Substantially the same policy is pursued by Axelrod, Martov and Chkheidze in Russia; by Longuet and Pressemane in France, Treves in Italy, etc. Objectively, this policy means fostering bourgeois lies among the working class; it means inculcating bourgeois ideas into the minds of the proletariat. That both Sudekum and Plekhanov merely repeat the bourgeois lies of the capitalists of “their” respective nations is obvious; but it is not so obvious that Kautsky sanctifies these lies and elevates them to the sphere of the “highest truth” of a “unanimous” International. That the workers should regard the Sudekums and Plekhanovs as authoritative and unanimous “Socialists” who have temporarily fallen out is exactly what the bourgeoisie wants. The very thing the bourgeoisie wants is that the workers should be diverted from the revolutionary struggle in wartime by means of hypocritical, idle and noncommittal phrases about peace; that they should be lulled and soothed by hopes of peace without annexations, a democratic peace, etc., etc. Huysmans has merely popularized Kautsky’s peace programme and has added: courts of arbitration, democratization of foreign politics, etc. But the first and fundamental point of a Socialist peace programme must be to unmask the hypocrisy of the Kautsky!” [IX]

Lenin also wrote: “Finally, “Our “peace programme” must explain that the imperialist Powers and the imperialist bourgeoisie cannot grant a democratic peace. Such a peace must be sought

and fought for, not in the past, not in a reactionary utopia of a non-imperialist capitalism, nor in a league of equal nations under capitalism, but in the future, in the socialist revolution of the proletariat. Not a single fundamental democratic demand can be achieved to any considerable extent or any degree of permanency, in the advanced imperialist states, except by revolutionary battles under the banner of socialism” [X]

Down with the Zionist apartheid state!

No peace without a world socialist revolution!

For a Palestine red and free from the river to the sea!

For revolutionary defeat for Israel in any war against the Palestinians, Hezbollah Iran, or Syria!

For a socialist federation of the Middle East!

For a world revolution!

#### Endnotes:

[I] <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-59561148>

[II] <https://www.aljazeera.com/features/2017/10/23/why-does-israel-keep-attacking-syria>

[III] [https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/israel-syria-chemical-weapons/2021/12/13/8ed0b02c-59ea-11ec-a808-3197a22b19fa\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/israel-syria-chemical-weapons/2021/12/13/8ed0b02c-59ea-11ec-a808-3197a22b19fa_story.html)

[IV] <https://socialistworker.co.uk/art/51566/How+the+Syrian+revolution+was+lost>

[V] <https://www.marxists.org/archive/trotsky/1938/05/think.htm>

[VI] Leon Trotsky On the Sino-Japanese War (September 1937)

[VII] <https://israeled.org/resources/documents/remarks-by-soviet-foreign-minister-andrei-gromyko/>

[VIII] <https://internationalsocialist.net/en/2021/05/israel-and-palestine>

[IX] <https://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1916/mar/25.htm>

[X] Ibid

## Books of the RCIT

### Michael Pröbsting: Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry

The Factors behind the Accelerating Rivalry between the U.S., China, Russia, EU and Japan.  
A Critique of the Left’s Analysis and an Outline of the Marxist Perspective

In *Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry* Michael Pröbsting analyses the accelerating rivalry between the imperialist Great Powers – the U.S., China, EU, Russia, and Japan. He shows that the diplomatic rows, sanctions, trade wars, and military tensions between these Great Powers are not accidental or caused by a mad man in the White House. They are rather rooted in the fundamental contradictions of the capitalist system. This rivalry is a key feature of the current historic period and could, ultimately, result in major wars between these Great Powers.

*Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry* demonstrates the validity of the Marxist analysis of modern imperialism. Using comprehensive material (including 61 Tables and Figures), Michael Pröbsting elaborates that a correct understanding of the rise of China and Russia as new Great Powers is crucial for assessing the character of the current inter-imperialist rivalry.

In *Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry* Michael Pröbsting critically discusses the analysis of modern imperialism by a number of left-wing parties (left social democrats, Stalinists, Trotskyists and others). He demon-

strates that most of these organizations fail to understand the nature of the Great Power rivalry and, consequently, are not able to take an internationalist and revolutionary stance.

The author elaborates the approach of leading Marxist figures like Lenin, Trotsky and Luxemburg to the problems of Great Power rivalry and imperialist aggression against oppressed peoples. He outlines a Marxist program for the current period which is essential for anyone who wants to change the world and bring about a socialist future.

The book contains an introduction and 29 chapters plus an appendix (412 pages) and includes 61 figures and tables. The author of the book is Michael Pröbsting who serves as the International Secretary of the RCIT.

#### Anti-Imperialism in the Age of Great Power Rivalry

The Factors behind the Accelerating Rivalry  
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Published by the Revolutionary Communist International

