

On Account of Zionism

Tracing the history from colonization to catastrophe

written two years into genocide, October 2025 / Julia N.

It began as a story, a hypothetical question,
that soon swelled into a country-sized claim.
Selling the State as salvation,
a ‘homeland,’ for those
denying the existence of those with homes
already populating the land.

Palestine,
the “old land” in the same breadth, said to be “new”
selected for this manifest destiny reimagined.¹

With Congress and Colonial Trust
Herzl, Nordau, and the like
transformed their musings from the page
into political aspirations,
and then, strategic settling.

Using persecution and precedent
as the base permission for theft.
Another settler colonial state.

The project *Times* stamped:
1899: “CONFERENCE OF ZIONISTS; Elect Delegates at Their Meeting in Baltimore. WILL
COLONIZE PALESTINE”²

¹ Herzl, Theodor. 2007. Old New Land = Altneuland. [Place of publication not identified]: Filiquarian. Accessed October 9, 2025. https://archive.org/details/oldnewlandaltneu0000herz_h9i7

² Clifford, Clark M. (Clark McAdams), 1906–1998. Draft Memorandum, The Position of the United States with Respect to Palestine. 1948-02-17. Retrieved from the Digital Public Library of America, <http://catalog.archives.gov/id/313080832>. (Accessed October 14, 2025.)

1906: "American Zionists' Convention Will Urge Colonization There...*Among the delegates there is a marked feeling in favor of an immediate invasion of Palestine*"³

1912: "URGES JEWS HERE TO SETTLE IN PALESTINE...*Addressing the Federation of American Zionists at Cooper Union last night...a hearty invitation to all Jews to settle in Palestine*"⁴

It took only a few decades
for this impulse, first deemed a problem,
to fit well into Allied schemes.

Those grey haired men in suits
wearing pins of red, white, and blue
found it easy once more,
to continue their royal or honorable work:
how to colonize in a manner most rhetorically sound.

Their authority was self-prescribed.
They, the saviors, the chosen, the civilized.

Questions of agency, ethics, morality,
the validity of their own conquest,
irrelevant, unless challenged.
They would anyway name God,
the cartographer.

Thus imperialists issued Declaration in favor,
aspirations signed with a pen,
the first signature of sanctioned violence,
a brand yet to burn flesh.

³ "Jews Favor Palestine; American Zionists' Convention Will Urge." New York Times, July 1, 1906.

<https://www.nytimes.com/1906/07/01/archives/jews-favor-palestine-american-zionists-convention-will-urge.html>

⁴ "Urge Jews Here to Settle in Palestine; Rabbi Magnes Says 'Marvelous'" New York Times, May 19, 1912.

<https://www.nytimes.com/1912/05/19/archives/urges-jews-here-to-settle-in-palestine-rabbi-magnes-says-marvelous.htm>

When those native –

the villagers, the statesman, the artisans, the fisherman, the farmers, the scholars, the religious leaders, the poets –

saw the words and knew they had been “*handed over to an oppression*”

these once “*friendly people*,” were said to turn “*hostile*.”

“*Peverted*,” towards their despotic tormentors.⁵

Could they not understand the necessity of their subjugation?

Might they recognize themselves pawns?

While the white men – these European and American officeholders –

the King, the Queen, the Rooks, the Knights

the Bishops?

“*It is too much to expect a people who consider they are about to be sacrificed to appreciate at its true value?*”⁶

Another two decades of strife followed.

Patterns of encroachment & revolt.

Commissions, hearings,

never including the voices of those they only considered to be
the inopportune majority.

“*We claim that Palestine, with its geographical position…*

We could make of it a very important industrial

and commercial country,”⁷

“*The main “natural riches” of a country are the men,
their ability to mobilise capital either individually or publicly.*”

Those willing to plainly state their intent

do not struggle to carve up the living.

⁵ Palin Commission Report. (1920, July 1). <https://www.palquest.org/en/historictext/6709/palin-commission-report>

⁶ Palin Commission Report. (1920, July 1). <https://www.palquest.org/en/historictext/6709/palin-commission-report>

⁷ Palin Commission Report. (1920, July 1). <https://www.palquest.org/en/historictext/6709/palin-commission-report>

The mechanics of expansion – routine.

Land, always a rag to be rung.

Entire peoples, weeds to be pulled,
or at best, cattle to be corralled
for the natural riches of a country.

*“What is decisive in our submission,
especially for an industrial and commercial people as we are,
is the quality of the coloniser,”*
said the UK Ambassador”⁸

...said the map-makers,
debaters,
flatteners
of families, futures, sovereignty, existence –
of a living history.⁹

Years later, in the aftermath of horror upon horror,
millions intentionally murdered,
millions more starved,
atomic bombs dropped,
the logic of eradicating remained very alive.

And the logic of this potential State
claiming the pathway to Jewish safety—
already a mandate—
proved low hanging fruit.

Churchill sanctioned, enthused.

⁸ Palestine Royal Commission. *Minutes of Evidence Heard at Public Sessions, with Index: Notes of Evidence Taken in London on Thursday, 11th February, 1937*. London: His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1937.

https://www.infocenters.co.il/jabo/jabo_multimedia/Books/%D7%96%2030.pdf

Truman approved.

The council moved forward.

Their ideal: dictate the supposed new world order.

If locals would not turn over their lands
better they send bombs and battalions
to prop up their victor.

Though their taking, their claiming, they recognized,
illegal.

Resistance, inevitable.¹⁰

Their frankness evocative of their intent:
disregard lives, disavow liberty,
prioritize what they might call strategy.

And so they concluded:

- a) the land of the Arabs was rich with oil
- b) Left unchecked, it could come under USSR control –
the justification of crimes at the time being:
protect our country with young boys' bodies.
murder, to defeat the greatest threat to humanity: communism.
- c) Nazism, White supremacy, would endure – that poison inevitable.
Whereas the sovereignty and human rights of those indigenous to a place,
were concepts better worth challenging. The thing they hoped to denigrate.

Even as anthems of liberation were sung
by peoples tasting new freedoms
the empires shrunk by revolution,
in debt from their wars,
were undergoing their own kind of reconstruction.

¹⁰ Clifford, Clark M. (Clark McAdams), 1906–1998. Draft Memorandum, The Position of the United States with Respect to Palestine. 1948-02-17. Retrieved from the Digital Public Library of America, <http://catalog.archives.gov/id/313080832>. (Accessed October 14, 2025.)

Crafting markets called humanitarian aid,
reworking contracts as resolutions,
and dividing new lines of equity.
treating Palestine as a piece of prime real estate.

They severed societies as they had done several times over –
*#181: providing for the partition of Palestine.*¹¹
Bloodied hands not concern,
they were never near the killing fields.

All those partitioned,
whether by sea, desert, or high mountains,
were not met with the dignity of regard –
neither mourned as victim nor named as enemy,
but rather considered an inconvenient, unrelenting truth
by these imperialists and colonizers.

Not until their blueprints were realized
could the lives they shattered be far enough removed
to be recast as memory,
made into memorials.

Till then, they were only to manufacture ideas
into decrees
and then: tanks and gunpowder.
Only with weapons could the unjust promise turned policy,
become real.

¹¹ United Nations General Assembly. (1947, November 29). Resolution 181: Future government of Palestine. In The Avalon Project. Yale Law School. Retrieved from https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/res181.asp

They knew the founding story —
“*A land without a people for a people without a land*” —
for which their project rested upon
could make documents and directives,
but could not erase faces,
decimate groves and gardens,
burn libraries,
flatten mosques and churches and monuments.¹²

No, the lie could deny
but could not erase
Palestine.

And so catastrophe, *the Nakba*,
they said with straight face:
a necessary pathway to peace.

That land-altering wave of atrocity upon atrocity,
said in service to “security interests.”
for a “Security Council”
repudiating the rights of the indigenous
on that same altar stating its intent:
the codification of rights.
Dismantling a nation
for the *United Nations*.

The people of the land took their keys,
carried their belongings on their backs,
their will to return in their hearts.
Forced to walk their own trail of tears.

¹² Myth: A land without a people for a people without a land.” Decolonize Palestine. Available at: <https://decolonizepalestine.com/myth/a-land-without-a-people-for-a-people-without-a-land/>

Some remained, but most had no choice but to flee –
a relief works agency required
for the entire new population of refugees.

That a “solution”
a million wounds to fulfill what began
a man’s imagination.
Now UN Decalartion.

And in the wake
another flag was raised
anointing conquest,
naming occupation divine.

Smothering the trauma of the diaspora beneath a new banner.
For a place, never new,
ancient, ancestral lands:
Palestine.

Renamed: Israel.

The myth had now materialized,
but for decades more,
it required investment.

The income of the working class,
the security of the poor,
to displace and dismember,
form settlements,
build walls,
construct checkpoints.

Always expanding,
bulldozing.
Trading in permits of propaganda.

That which declared itself holy, ordained, righteous
to steal, to empty, to obliterate,
could not find its divine right
until aligned with the States,
armed by the States.

Over time, the whole would become chopped into parts:
the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, the Old City, Jerusalem,
the Negev, Galilee, the coastal towns and plains –
all divided, occupied.
Illegal settlements normalized.
Brutal campaigns, standardized.

Though the lives of Palestinians, were never two-dimensional,
and their humanity, their dreams, their will,
not subject to fragmentation.
Generations never naturalize to apartheid.

So what was first known as
“inevitable resistance”
in those Presidential and Prime Minister wires
did not cease.¹³

And if the ideology was to metastasize in the minds of its funders,
the resistance of the oppressed had to be renamed:

¹³ Clifford, Clark M. (Clark McAdams), 1906–1998. Draft Memorandum, The Position of the United States with Respect to Palestine. 1948-02-17.

Terror.

Radical Islam.

Extremist violence unique to “Moslems” and “the Arabs” —¹⁴

Their sacrifice, their defense, their offense,

Immoral.

While ruthless delusion, Almighty.

Holy war.

Against those stolen from,

kidnapped,

denied their autonomy,

denied democracy.

Those that fight back,

for their land,

of their land,

their land.

The dangerous ones.

Their organization to systematic erasure: violent.

Inherently vile.

Yes, even those kids throwing stones at tanks.

Instead, they ought to appeal.

Perfect Victims

those that might submit or subscribe

to their own subjugation,

their loved one’s slaughter.¹⁵

¹⁴ Clifford, Clark M. (Clark McAdams), 1906–1998. Draft Memorandum, The Position of the United States with Respect to Palestine. 1948–02–17.

¹⁵ El-Kurd, M. (2025). *Perfect Victims: And the Politics of Appeal*. Haymarket Books. <https://libcat.arlingtonva.us/Record/366202>

While those who detest and/or reject their oppressor —
not a flattened, defenseless, apolitical thing—
too brutish,
killed righteously,
imprisoned without trial, scrupulously,
their stories, not worthy to be told
(unless perhaps if reduced to a headline about religious conflict or how a twelve-year old man threw a molotov cocktail).

If only to appear somewhat sane, sympathetic—
the threshold for justification already, evidently, so low—
the State, its followers, & its backers might on the rare occasion affirm:
Palestinians are people too.
Yes, people with pain.

But the conditions for personhood clear and narrow.
The mentioned, not necessarily mourned,
must be: benevolent, unarmed, unassuming, forgiving, docile, unaffiliated, resigned,
solely a suffering civilian.

Then the killers might say, how unfortunate that this has happened to you.
Somehow, befell you.

And if not a victim, the recognized might be a token:
a dove extending an olive branch.

Then the killers might gesture and say, *notice how we all want peace,*
now let us continue with our campaign.
and without waiting for a reply, the campaign will continue.

On rare occasion when images went worldwide, go worldwide –
such as terrorized father and son –
the impact registered still does not sunder the apparatus of offense:
media smokescreens,
disinformation,
passive language,
crafted platitudes.
All set to suppress
shock and empathy.
All set to manufacture
consent.
Optics the concern, never conscience.

The lie is always readied
for rising.

A lie that is born of seeing and saying,
We are convinced we can unmake what is,
is well adept to take aim.
Fire.
Rain white phosphorus.
Actively silence,
anyone.

What is a child to a man who says it is not there?
It does not even need to be said it is born “*of darkness*.¹⁶”
What is a woman or a man to the self-imposed neighbor –
the violent intruder –
who insists history can be rewritten? who asserts the afflicted the agitator?

¹⁶ Netanyahu, B. (2023, October 16). *Excerpt from PM Netanyahu's remarks at the opening of the Knesset's winter assembly*. Gov.il. <https://www.gov.il/en/pages/excerpt-from-pm-netanyahu-s-remarks-at-the-opening-of-the-knesset-s-winter-assembly-16-oct-2023>

Truth becomes intangible.

Displacement becomes merciful.

Resistance becomes a monstrous riot, unprovoked.

The adherents are anyways, always working in the name of God,
even while pillaging,
and thieving,
and claiming and renaming what is stolen,
and kidnapping,
and imprisoning,
and torturing,
and humiliating,
and defaming,
and raping,
and assaulting,
and decapitating,
and starving people to death.

They say of all of these,

sacred acts.

They say of all of these,

defense.

As a structure it would stand:

a pillar of denial,

a pillar of deception,

a pillar of dehumanization,

a pillar of hatred.

Materials made of combusting collective trauma,

designed to spark and metabolize

endless fear.

The believers kill,
The supporters kill,
It kills,
and it kills relentlessly,
and says of itself: I live.
Hail the State.
It is not real.

This lie had proven itself from the start
to spawn a structural rot,
a cacophony of anguish,
inflicting horror and injustice upon
men, women, and children.

But it never ceases to affirm its delirium as dignity
yields a double standard so enshrined,
cut of iron, sharpened as a blade.
It continues to yield thousands of cuts a day,
blasting shrapnel across skin.

Such that still, as its devotees displace
2 million,
destroy without discretion,
disable and make orphans of children en masse,
commit every crime against humanity,
their anti-logic so intent,
so insistent on their righteousness
they will call themselves a victim.
The State, victim.

It's not real,
the self-proclaimed shield,
but with the lie it is still

forging walls and filling prisons,
poisoning air, soils, and water,
crushing hospitals,
abducting civilians,
executing infants.

It says it will cease fire only when it may occupy.
Indefinitely.

And again, when despite it all, there remains uproar,
when the people said to be faceless, made stateless, disappeared,
fight back,
march again,
live at all,
and know friend or family in solidarity,
it will again cite its original antilogic:
protection from hatred.

The trap has already been set,
conflate an entire people with political aspiration,
take their name to form the regime.

That is part of the architecture.
Render dissent indistinguishable from bigotry,
immunize the State from accountability,
criminalize the critic,
turn the honest into antisemite,
turn justice on its head.

For its financiers,
It will add an appendix:
We are your closest ally.

The one good democracy in a “bad neighborhood.”¹⁷

Consider the dystopia its neighbors might impose —
complete and total destruction,
sadistic violence perpetrated against a majority civilian population?
propelling us closer to nuclear armageddon?!
One can imagine.

It spawns too, from the seedlings of rage,
and histories just as perverse,
waiting for those easily swept by the notion of the ‘dangerous Other’
to feed it.

To fix their target,
aim their bow of resentment,
their hearts hardened,
answers simplified,
dogma fortified,
sanctimonious as they strike
the politician’s scapegoat.

It has already seeped far beyond its ever-expanding borders,
altering minds like toxic fumes,
yelling constructed answers into rooms
inhabited by doubt and ignorance:

DO NOT QUESTION!
DO NOT CHALLENGE!
DO NOT DARE SAY WHAT YOU SEE!

¹⁷ Lerman, R. (2023, October 16). *Israel lives in a dangerous neighborhood, struggles against terrorism, and is engaged in a battle for justice at the United Nations*. Brandeis Center.

<https://brandeiscenter.com/israel-lives-in-a-dangerous-neighborhood-struggles-against-terrorism-and-is-engaged-in-a-battle-for-justice-at-the-united-nations/>

Scared minds follow, repeating the chant.

Logic subdued by slogans;

illogic its intended game.

Paradox its ultimate weapon,

the riddles ready to brand

fact as fiction,

dispossession as benevolence.

And it depends upon

apathy as acceptance.

Disinformation as fuel.

Nevermind the antizionist Jews.

Nevermind the huge swaths of ideologues who are Christians,

awaiting their apocalyptic prophecies.

Its enthusiasts look to history when questioned or contested,

safety by segregation?

affirm protection by exclusion?

legalize apartheid and occupation?

These are all a part of a well-established paradigm.

The instructions are simple:

Repeat: Palestinian terrorist.

Censor: all evidence of reality.

Intimidate or eradicate: those who tell the truth.

But the idea is unmasked.

It was unmasked from the start.

And the lie
needs more lies to survive,
and those lies, once disproven,
start unraveling them all.

This doctrine of supremacy,
which destroys and dismantles and degrades,
and calls itself sanctity,
is not potent enough
against those with the will to see,
those with the wounds to know,
and those with histories that echo.

This billion-upon-billion-dollar project,
has still taken over three quarters of a century
an apparatus of media control, super PACs, legalized censorship,
and even greater amounts of impunity
to actualize its founding implication:
depopulation

And though words fail gravely against this ideology turned arsenal,
this fabrication made into legislation —
it is still undone,
crumbling, collapsing on its own accord.

Too supremacist to contain its vitriol and criminal compulsions.
Too intent on ethnic cleansing.

Those who stand with it, dispel it,
possessed by greed, fear, false pity, a compulsion for power,
they plummet into storytellers of the grotesque.
Pledge fealty to a tower of falsehoods,

construct their dreams out of weapons,
and forge futures in death.

While Palestine, whose history it's followers have tried to rewrite,
Palestine, whose libraries, museums, and scholastic institutions, its adherents target,
Persists.

Its heritage and culture, embodied in its people.

And Palestinians themselves –
who its followers have sought not only to deny but disparage,
to eradicate through genocide,
to proclaim animalistic, less than, or deserving of death –
Live.

Live and reside with the rest of humanity.

And despite every cruel leaflet dropped from the sky
along with explosives.
Palestinians too, are not entirely displaced.

Despite this corrosive, self-inflated, hate-spawning promise
materializing into firearms, fighter jets, missiles, drones, artillery shells, tactile gear, torture chambers,
2000lb bombs
a militarized maiming machine,
Palestinians live.

And the emperors are left bare,
naked in their brutality.

The antidote to this poison is clear.
Seeking the truth.
Telling the truth,
Standing for truth.

Empathy, compassion, justice,
conscience itself
all wait to be revived.

Free Palestine,
we then say, aware.
act upon,
organize to realize,
to neutralize & abolish
this sin against spirit.

To free Palestine
and free humanity
from this doctrine of domination:
from this state-sponsoring, state-sanctioning,
settler colonial,
supremacist,
racist,
genocidal
Godless ideology,
Zionism.

It reveals itself, every time, for exactly what it is.

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