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**THE
PALESTINE CONFLICT.
CAUSES AND REMEDIES,**

AS SET FORTH

TO

H. E. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF PALESTINE.

BY

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Your Excellency,

I have the honour to set forth my views to Your Excellency on the Palestine Conflict with absolute frankness, for truth should be spoken without bias or reservation.

The Palestine Problem is one of the most difficult problems in the political world and history has not recorded one like it. There has been no righteous precedent where a conquering power has forced a defeated people to hand over their country to another. The usual course has been rather for such a power to send in a few of its people to administer the country and to develop its resources without infringing on the status of the people. Although Palestine was not a country of defeated people, since the Arabs did not fight the Allies but were their allies, it suffered worse treatment than did any conquered nation for it was promised to another people who wrongly claim historic rights to it. The international principles do not admit such rights as the Jews claim in this country, namely that a people who lived in a country thousands of years ago has the right of getting it back and evicting its present population. If so, then it is only right that the Americans should be evicted in favour of the Red Indians. In any case a country so dealt with is either empty of population or inhabited by people who, not knowing the value of independence will agree to be under the flag of those who came to settle the country anew. The case of Palestine is not like this, for its inhabitants are a part of the great Arab Nation. This nation fought the Turks for independence and today have autonomous governments which prove that the whole people are worthy of freedom. The Arabs of Palestine, who prize independence, have fought for it and will fight for it to the last breath. They will not accept the Judaizing of

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their country. The Arab autonomous governments will rise to aid their brothers when the pressure on the Arabs of Palestine increases and will not accept the bondage of a part of their people. Therefore Palestine will never be an easy mouthful that can be swallowed by the Zionists. If the British Government determines to enforce the fantastic Balfour Declaration, it will store up an historic enmity between the British and the Arab nations, and Palestine may then become, another Alsace-Lorraine. Moreover it will permanently antagonize the Moslems on whom depend the British interests in the East.

The successive riots in Palestine, where riots were unknown before, are a sufficient warning to the British Government that the experiment in Palestine is not only fruitless but also contrary to natural law. Eighteen years of this experiment have passed and the situation has grown more and more critical each year. There has been no real tranquillity. It is ridiculous to think of enclosing a lion and a bear in one cage. If there is no desire to bring on a catastrophe that will shame the honour of the British Nation, this ineffectual experiment should be done away with. Palestine should not be taken as a field for political experiments for the sake of Jewish money.

Sensible Jews and among them Mr. Morgenthau, one time American Ambassador to Turkey, have warned the Zionists of the bitter results of this experiment. Mr. Morgenthau, let it be remembered, is one of the most eminent statesmen of the world. It has only been British bayonets which have kept the Jews intact up to now, and had it not been so, no foreign Jew would have been left in Palestine to speak of a National Home. Even if the number of the Jews in the country became twice the number of the Arabs, the Arabs would be able to clear



them out, if the British would only wash their hands of this vexatious problem. The plain fact is that the stand of the British Government does not differ from that of a mercenary army such as European nations used to hire to take the field instead of themselves. This indeed does no honour to the British Government.

People who know the value of independence can not have their country usurped by force. Although the Kurds do not exceed two millions in number, neither Turkey nor Iran nor Iraq has been able to crush them up to now. Turkey likewise with all its military strength could not prevent the Bulgarians, the Serbs, and the Greeks, from getting their independence.

If Britain finds it permissible to break her promises to the Arabs and not permissible to break her promises to the Jews, we will concur with her on condition that she withdraw from Palestine and leave us to settle our problem with the Jews alone, with the result that the country be left to them by right of conquest or to us by right of nationality.

There is absolutely no doubt that the Arab nation is intent on preserving Palestine as an Arab country and on dying for this cause. So if the British are determined to carry this policy to the end, they have no course but to uproot the Arab nation from Palestine and to do what Italy has been doing in annihilating the natives of Tripoli. Does the conscience of the British nation agree to this, and is it to the interest of Great Britain to annoy a great nation like that of the Arabs and to stir up four hundred million Moslems for the sake of fifteen million Jews?

Through their impetuosity and their general course of action, the Jews have sealed the doom of the Balfour Declaration even



before the Arabs have done so. Instead of entering the country as a peaceful people and asking hospitality and good treatment from the inhabitants they did all they could to alienate the Arabs and to widen the breach between them by doing the following:

1. They have refrained from actively mixing with the inhabitants of the country and have held themselves strictly aloof.
2. They have shown hostility to the Arabs and an intention to establish a Jewish State.
3. They have been purchasing lands as though reclaiming them from the Arabs.
4. They have refused to carry on education with the Arabs and have instead maintained their own schools.
5. They have forbidden the sale of land to the Arabs because they considered it reclaimed and therefore not to be sold.
6. They have shown fanaticism about their own race and have not consented to plead in court in any language except Hebrew. This is true of those Jews who know Arabic.
7. They have degraded the Arabic language, the language of the majority, by writing it second to the Hebrew language.
8. They have shown through immigration their intention of becoming the majority in the country.
9. They have called the country "The Land of Israel" and the inhabitants of Palestine their "neighbours" meaning thereby that the Arabs are not Palestinians but are settlers from neighbouring Arab countries.
10. They have boycotted the Arabs secretly in all projects.
11. They have smuggled arms to fight the Palestinian Arabs.
12. They have challenged the Government and have en-

tered the country illegally in tens of thousands that they may all the sooner become the majority.

13. They have also challenged the Government in not making it possible for it to deport those who have entered the country without passports, and have denounced the Government officials who have undertaken to do that. The Government has given in to them and to their audacity.

14. They have encroached, through Jewish labour organizations, upon the position of the Arab labourers who work with Jews and the Government has not been able to prevent their intrusion. Because of this, the Arabs have realized what will happen to them if the Jews become a majority in the country.

15. They have organized troops to undergo military training with the idea of making them the nucleus of a Jewish army to fight the Arabs.

16. They have exercised authority over the British House of Commons through a number of English M.P.'s who, like hired advocates, make it their sole interest to defend the Jews and Zionism.

17. They have so dominated the Public Works Department that most of the roads which have been constructed are roads serving Jewish Colonies.

18. They have so curtailed the authority of the Government over the colonies and Jewish towns, that these have secured a government within a government.

19. They have thwarted all legal demands presented by the Arabs for the better administration of the country, and have blocked all means of securing a Legislative Council, or any kind of self-government, which even Trans-Jordan has attained.

20. They have used all manner of propaganda against



the Arabs and have led Europe to believe that Arabs of Palestine are like uncivilized tribes who live in huts.

21. They have produced distorted films about the Arabs of Palestine to debase them and to make them appear like savages.

22. They have bought Arab lands according to military designs at strategic points to prevent help from coming to the Arabs during riots.

23. They have brought pressure to bear on the Government and have made it enact measures injurious to the Arabs.

24. They have influenced the Government in London and have brought about the removal of noble English officials who have shown sympathy with the Arabs.

25. They have hampered the Palestinian Government when it has undertaken useful work.

26. They have shown the Arabs that they have rejoiced at the misfortunes that have befallen the country and the Arab Governments. Were the Arabs dead to all feeling they would still have been roused against this provocation and would have constantly endeavoured to hasten the day of deliverance from this intruding people who have come to fight against the most cherished aspirations of the inhabitants and to embitter their lives. The Jews want to live in the country as enemies of the Arabs and have done nothing to bring them closer to Arab friendship. Rather they have done all things to stir up the Arabs against them and therefore they reap what they sow. Having learned after eighteen years that the British Government has conspired with the Jews to rob them of their country, the Arabs are intent on making all sacrifices in order to keep their country for themselves. It is for the



British Government and for the Jews, if they really care to have peace in Palestine, to effect a fundamental change in their policies. The moderate among the Arabs will accept a solution of the Palestine Problem if agreement is made to the following:

1. To abrogate the Balfour Declaration and to wipe out every trace of it and to withhold from creating such Politico-economic conditions as insure the development of a National Home for the Jews.

2. To acknowledge that Palestine is a Holy Land and that the three great religions have equal rights there.

3. To stop Jewish immigration outright because the number of those Jews who have already entered has exceeded the absorptive capacity of the country.

4. To form a National Government in Palestine with a Representative Council having one fourth of the seats allotted to the Jews.

5. To unify education in Palestine.

6. To put into the hands of the National Government all lands that were purchased by Zionist societies and companies and which have not yet been distributed. This land is to be allotted by the Government to needy fellahin in return for payments made by instalments.

7. To deport all immigrants who have been smuggled in, all communists, robbers, vagrants and unemployed who have found their way into the country even with passports.

8. To consider as aliens all immigrants who have not resided in the country five years and who should have, therefore, no national rights in the country. The undesirables among them should be deported.



9. To prohibit all propaganda for the Jewish National Home and to consider such propaganda treason.

10. To let the Jews declare in a general conference their agreement to settle in Palestine according to the above mentioned principles, or otherwise to deport all Jews who have entered the country since the War.

Peace can only be maintained through the fulfilment of these ten proposals and through them only can we avoid continual racial wars in Palestine. The British Government should hasten to effect a solution to this problem according to these same proposals lest the opportunity be lost and the situation become more perilous.

19th. May, 1936.

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