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The Al-Aqsa Flood Operation on 7 October 2023. Why, when, and then? Part One of Two

We founded 1948.Lest.We.Forget in 2006, to seek and document the causes of the Palestinian tragedy and to research, without prejudice, information from reliable & trusted organisations, news outlets, respected historians, UN and World Agencies and Human Rights Groups. This humble attempt at research work is carried out in the hope that any reader, if in disagreement, would rethink, research and report back solid findings to help us adapt to new facts. This work is also carried out in the hope that any reader, if in accord and in agreement with our findings, would spread the word, to inform and to help solve this tragedy at source, in order that we may put an end to it once and for all. And the hope in the end is to re-establish a One Democratic State in Historic Palestine, belonging to all of its people, no matter their race, religion or ethnic background.

We dare to reiterate here and now that racist Zionists and colonial settler groups are not welcome, no more than they would be in any democracy on the planet.

The Al-Aqsa Flood Operation which the Palestinian Group Hamas launched from the Gaza Strip at 6:00AM on the morning of Saturday 7 October did not happen in a vacuum, as the UN General Secretary rightly stated. Nothing does.

We will come back to the immediate reasoning behind the Operation (the straw that broke the Camel's back) in a minute, but we like first to survey the tragic landscape all the way back to the first actual straw that broke the first Camel's back...in 1948. The Nakba Camel.

No living Palestinian today, no matter where she or he lives on this planet, would start narrating his/her Palestinian story without reference to Al-Nakba of 1948. The political intrigue that preceded that ominous year emerged back in 1917 with the Balfour Declaration issued by HM Government soon after WW1. It offered our home, Palestine, as a 'home' to another foreign people who had nothing to do with that 'home' to take it over under their banner of "A land Without a People for a People Without a Land".

That was unfair, unjust and illegal. The Palestinians refused. The invaders, mostly Zionist Terror Groups, accepted the offer. Free of charge.

From November 1947 and through 1948, in the process of causing terror and mayhem, those Zionist Terror Groups, did not only kill British Soldiers whose government offered them Palestine, but went on a rampage, committing more than 150 massacres and destroying more than 500 Palestinian villages and communities in the process. That act, named Plan Dalet, resulted in the expulsion of more than 750,000 indigenous Semitic Palestinians from their homes (mine too) who ended up, not only in refugee camps in neighbouring countries, but ironically, in refugee camps inside Palestine itself.

One of these refugee camps is actually the largest prison camp on the planet and it is called: Gaza. This is so crucial to our narrative because today's residents of this camp are the descendants of those expelled Palestinians of 1948. And all they do day in and day out is look through the high-tech fence surrounding their Strip and built with US Dollars by their prison guards, the Zionists, and survey the landscape beyond of the Occupied West Bank (and - in their imagination – Jerusalem itself including the Al-Aqsa Mosque). In that occupied landscape lurks more than 500,000 of their Palestinian brothers and sisters (including 170 children) without charge. They can also survey the Occupied Palestinian landscape where illegal Jewish-only settlements have been built over their destroyed ancestral homes from which they were forced out in 1948. There is no other view but that view. No other memory but that memory. No other dream but the dream to return. Even for one day.

And RETURN they did, albeit for more than one day. On 7 October 2023, at 06:00 Al-Quds time, 1,500 fighters flooded in through that high-tech fence from Hamas Al-Qassam Brigade, Palestinian Islamic Jihad and other affiliated organised militias and comrades. The largest prison-break ever.

The straw that broke this last Gaza Camel's back actually happened two days earlier on 5 October 2023: Al-Haram Al-Sharif, the 3rd holiest site in Islam, was assaulted by at least 800 extremist Illegal Jewish Settlers, who started beating pilgrims and destroying Palestinian shops, with total impunity and under the watchful eyes of the Israeli security Police. These illegal settlers belong to the more than 700,000 Israelis who inhabit 279 illegal Zionist settlements all over the West Bank in contravention of International Law and which are built on destroyed Palestinian villages and on stolen Palestinian land.

The same landscape that Hamas infiltrated on 7 October 2023 where the present war began.

Part Two of Two...to follow