

THE ON ASSAULT JUDAISM

**THE EXISTENTIAL THREAT IS
COMING FROM THE WEST**

G O L K A L E V



THE ASSAULT ON JUDAISM

channels”—from the UN to media, through social media. Ethnic cleansing is a slogan that worked well in leveraging the Hamas missile attack on Israel in the last go-round. So why not use it again?

As Israel was about to enter Gaza and fight Hamas, the Israeli army called on the Palestinian population in northern Gaza to evacuate. The Israeli Defense Forces (“IDF”) created safe passageways and dropped leaflets with evacuation directions. Hamas was not happy. It needed the people to stay as human shields. After all, Hamas fires its rockets and launches its terrorist attacks from the midst of civilian populations. It operates in tunnels built below neighborhoods with tunnel entry points in mosques, apartment buildings, and hospitals. Hamas needs civilians to stay where they are.

Fighting Hamas is certainly not conventional warfare, and Israel was faced with a set of unattractive options. One, which was certainly not an option, was not to do anything and let Hamas continue to fire rockets, hold its hostages, and launch another October 7th from Gaza.

The second option was to go in, leave the civilians there, and fight Hamas on its terms. This would no doubt result in an enormous amount of civilian casualties and would make the fighting significantly less effective since Israeli forces would be constrained.

The third option was the obvious one, which was to comply with the laws of war, logic, and Israel’s values and ask the civilians to leave the war zone for their own safety. This option no doubt, had a significant operational price, since Hamas terrorists were among those civilians as well as hostages, but it was an obvious choice since it allowed for the safety of the uninvolved. Indeed, Hamas tried to stop civilians from leaving, including by firing

at them. Hamas once again found a de facto ally in the West: The Israel-bashing community who enthusiastically jumped on this opportunity.

Within weeks, the talking point of “Gaza was under occupation” was joined by “Israel is committing ethnic cleansing.”

And so the ideological assault on Judaism was escalating. The global mindset, indoctrinated for centuries with stories of Jews’ horrific doings, was now indoctrinated with new material about the Jewish state’s horrific doings. Those days in late October 2023 proved that the ideological assault on Judaism cannot be defeated with logic.

It was as if the Jewish state was given an option: Choose the war crime charges you want to face. Is it the extrajudicial killing of innocent civilians or ethnic cleansing? The war crimes arraignment had been prepared long before October 7th. All that was needed was to check the box “Ethnic Cleansing” or “Extrajudicial Killing”? No worries, the “Crimes Against Humanity” box had already been checked automatically. As instilled by opera composer Richard Wagner, Jews commit a crime against humanity merely by their existence.

Either way, by the end of October, it was clear that the Jewish state was under a dual assault. The physical attack by Hamas from Gaza and the ideological assault coming from the West were independent and uncoordinated, yet interdependent.

HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

The displaced people who left the battlefield as Israel was ready to fight Hamas gave the Israel-bashers their third “bullet” in their assault on Judaism: humanitarian crisis. Indeed, the combination of displaced people, Hamas shooting at them, and Hamas stealing the aid that was intended for them *did* create a humanitarian

THE ASSAULT ON JUDAISM

crisis—a crisis that could be duly leveraged in the ideological assault on Judaism.

It is fair to say that neither the Israel-bashers in the West nor Hamas cares much about the people of Gaza. Still, let us not forget that nearly two decades of Hamas rule in Gaza, with full control of the school system, media, mosques, and messaging, has naturally created a population that supports Hamas and its ideology. One can debate to what degree the interests of Hamas are correlated with the interests of the people of Gaza, but experts, as well as surveys, show that support for Hamas is widespread.

Still, Israel made it clear that its fight was not with the people of Gaza, but with Hamas. Western pro-Israel advocates even tried to paint the people of Gaza as being under occupation by Hamas and should welcome Israel liberating them. The United States government echoed similar messages. (Though even if one accepts this argument, one must take into consideration the effects of “Stockholm Syndrome.”)

While it is debatable how much Hamas, which launched the physical assault on Judaism, cares about the people of Gaza, there is no debate about how much Israel-bashers in the West, who launched the ideological assault on Judaism, feel about the people of Gaza. Indeed, for them, the people of Gaza are merely tools in the ideological attack on Judaism.

One need not go far, just ask the simple question: What do the people of Gaza want? Many of them want to get out.

When there is war, people flee war zones. It is human nature. This is what happened in the Syrian war, which led to an estimated five million Syrians leaving Syria. This is also what happened in the Iraq war, the war in Afghanistan, the war in Libya, the war in Ukraine, and indeed, the war in northern and southern Israel; refugees from southern Israel have fled, and refugees

from northern Israel have fled too. Hamas and Hezbollah pride themselves on having already won the war. They achieved the ethnic cleansing of the Jews from northern and southern Israel. Those areas became de facto conquests of the Muslim organizations, since they are now, just like Gaza was after the 2005 disengagement, without Jewish residents.

When civilians are at war they want to flee, and luckily there are places to go. Europe welcomed over twenty million refugees from wars in recent years, according to some estimates. It remains a heavily debated issue in European politics: How many refugees can a continent of seven hundred and fifty million people and a declining birth rate take?

Refugees' labor is reportedly sought in Middle Eastern countries, from Dubai to Saudi Arabia. A severe labor shortage can deliver a devastating blow to otherwise successful economies, and in some cases taking in refugees as well as other immigrants is a win-win situation.

Israeli refugees found a warm welcome in central Israel. While displacement for all refugees is tragic, the Israeli society's ability to welcome them, house them in luxury hotels, and integrate them into local communities, schools, and social structure, made the trauma a bit easier.

Refugees wishing to flee is a human reality and a basic human right. Making the process as easy as possible for them is a basic expression of humanity. Unless, apparently, those refugees are from Gaza.

Who Is Creating the Humanitarian Crisis?

All refugees around the world are allowed to escape a war zone, except one group—the Gazans. Why is that? Why are Gazans

THE ASSAULT ON JUDAISM

denied the choice to stay or go? What is it about the Gazan refugees that singles them out from all other refugees?

Israel-bashers can provide the answer with a smug smile. They are needed in Gaza for the ideological assault on Judaism!

After all, how can Israel be accused of a humanitarian crisis, when the humans who wish to flee are no longer there? How can there be stories of starvation and famine in the refugee camps near the Egyptian border, if the refugee camps are no longer there and those refugees have long since crossed the border to Egypt?

Who is stopping the Gazans from leaving? The answer provided by the West, from U.S. government officials to journalists covering the war: Egypt. The Western narrative is that yes, the Gazans who wish to leave should be allowed to do so. Yes, it is a basic human right to have the choice to flee. But it is not the fault of Western governments, western organizations, the UN, and certainly not the United States—it is Egypt's fault. It is Egypt who shuts the only way Gazans can get out, and therefore it is Egypt who denies the Gazans the right to choose whether to flee a war zone or stay. This is a childish argument.

Indeed, Egypt does not want to be flooded by hundreds of thousands of Gazan refugees—that is understandable. Beyond the obvious economic and social considerations of a mass inflow of refugees, Egypt should indeed be concerned that amongst the refugees there may be Hamas terrorists. Let us not forget that for nearly twenty years, the people of Gaza have been indoctrinated with Hamas and Muslim Brotherhood ideology—in schools, media, and youth movements. The current Egyptian regime is the archrival of the Muslim Brotherhood. The regime came about via a 2013 coup against the Muslim Brotherhood government, which was then in power in Egypt. Why should Egypt agree to let in forces that would destabilize the county,

promote its nemesis, and potentially commit terrorist attacks in Egypt? They should not.

But Gazan refugees are not planning to flee to Egypt, just like Syrian refugees were not planning to flee to Turkey. Turkey was the only available border. Syrian refugees fled through Turkey, not to Turkey. This is the case with Gaza's refugees: they wish to flee through Egypt, not to Egypt. The United States could have worked with Egypt to craft safe passage routes for Gazan refugees who wish to flee, as has been done in other wars.

There is a demand for those refugees in other countries; there is a border and a safe pathway; there is a good relationship between the United States and Egypt, and there is a basket of incentives that could be provided to Egypt, not to mention pressure. After all, the Egyptian economy is in bad shape, especially after the Houthis began attacking ships in the Red Sea, leading to a dramatic decline in Egyptian revenues from the Suez Canal.

Indeed, Egypt's refusal is not the ultimate reason that those Gazan refugees are denied. One needs to look to the United States and the West: Rather than work on safe passage routes, the U.S. spent its energy in the early days of the war, asking for assurances from the Israeli government that they would not encourage Gazans to leave. Secretary Blinken reportedly even came to Israel to secure such assurances. Needless to say, Israel should certainly not encourage Gazans to leave Gaza and should provide for those displaced by war, following the laws of war and of its own moral code.

But whether one likes it or not, many Gazans naturally want to flee. Secretary Blinken underscores that the people of Gaza are just like everybody else, stating in a February 8, 2024 press conference that the families in Gaza "are just like our families" who want to have a normal life. Does this normal life entail living

THE ASSAULT ON JUDAISM

under a Hamas regime? Does this normal life mean living in a war zone? In refugee camps? Very few families would want this. Moreover, they are the ones, like all refugees around the world, who should decide if they want to stay or go.

In robbing them of a choice, the U.S.-led West is seemingly robbing Gazans of their most basic human rights. Indeed, when the dust settles, it is possible that the Biden administration could be accused of partaking in one of the most flagrant human rights violations of our time—failing to craft a safe passageway out for those Gazans wishing to flee, leading to what the U.S. itself describes as a humanitarian crisis at the Egyptian-Gaza border. It is a crisis that could have been averted if the United States had worked with Egypt to let them out, instead of opting to do the opposite, pressuring Israel to force them to stay in.

The Arab world has noticed this. Demonstrations erupted in various Muslim countries to protest that Western countries and Egypt denied Gazans the right to leave. This is natural. If Jews in the north had been denied the choice to leave, Israeli Jews would have been up in arms. No doubt, one can make the argument that it is in Israel's strategic interest for residents of the north to stay at home, and deny Hezbollah the narrative of "Israel surrendered and its citizens fled." But Israelis care about their people. Similarly, many Muslims around the world care about the Gazans. Europe already took over twenty million refugees in recent years. There are only two million people in Gaza, the thinking goes, and not all of them want to leave—why are they being held to a different standard than other refugees escaping war? Indeed, Arabs around the world understood what Westerners who get their information from Western media do not: The humanitarian crisis in Gaza is caused not by Israel, but by the West.

GOL KALEV

Senator Bernie Sanders called Gaza “the world’s largest prison camp.” In fact, he and his colleagues in the Biden administration hold the keys to that prison. To apply his own words: “Fleeing a war zone is not a privilege, it is a basic human right.” And it is a right denied by the West.

Just as Israel-bashers drafted Hamas, they also drafted the people of Gaza to their cause. Gazans staying in Gaza provide fuel for the ideological assault on Judaism—a humanitarian crisis, food shortage for refugees, and inevitably, more death and more suffering. While nobody should encourage Gazans to leave Gaza, nobody should deny Gazans their right to make that choice either.

Western experts believe that if given the choice, many, perhaps the majority of Gazans would flee. This is in part because, for the last seventy-six years, the West has invested an astonishing amount of money in educating the people of Gaza with a core principle: “You do not belong in Gaza!”

Over half of the residents of Gaza are reminded day in and out, that they are not from Gaza, that they are foreigners in Gaza. They are told that they are from Tel Aviv, from Haifa, from Jerusalem, and from various other places “from the river to the sea”—and that one day they will go back. Indeed most Gazans, per the Western narrative imposed on them, are refugees not because of the 2023 war, but because of the 1948 war. To instill this narrative, the west created an entity, which arguably is one of the most profound expressions of white colonialism—UNRWA.

UNRWA

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) is a vital component in the ideological assault on Judaism. It is funded with billions of

THE ASSAULT ON JUDAISM

dollars from Western countries, including the United States. (Trump stopped the funding, but Biden renewed it.)

In the 1940s there were nearly one hundred million refugees around the world. There were refugees in Europe displaced from World War II, Muslims displaced from India, Hindus from today's Pakistan, refugees in Asia, in Africa. and throughout the world. There were also about seven hundred thousand Palestinian refugees and eight hundred thousand Jewish refugees displaced by the 1948 war; Israel's War of Independence.

The UN created an agency to address the misery of nearly one hundred million refugees around the world, and through the good work of the UN and the international community over the years, nearly all of those refugees found a new home and built a new life. Indeed, their grandchildren today have all but forgotten about the 1940s. But the UN decided to carve out the Palestinian issue and created a separate entity for Palestinian refugees: UNRWA. Unlike the efforts made for other refugees to alleviate and end their suffering, UNRWA's de facto objective was to perpetuate and extenuate the Palestinian's status as refugees.

To the tune of over \$1.5 billion per year, UNRWA has made sure that the Palestinians remain in 1948, that they never forget 1948, and that regardless of where they live now, they should fight for their right to return to 1948.

Jewish refugees of the 1948 war were brutally ethnically cleansed from Syria, Iraq, and other countries in the Middle East where they lived for centuries, developed good relationships with the local Arabs, built businesses, and contributed to society. Within days, the property of those Jewish families was vandalized, assets were robbed, many of them murdered, and nearly all of them were forced to leave their homes. The story of the ethnic cleansing of the Jews of the Middle East in 1948 is one of great

tragedy and human suffering. And yet, the descendants of those refugees are today among the world's top scientists, high-tech entrepreneurs, doctors, professors, and thinkers.

Sadly, this is not the case for the seven hundred thousand Palestinian refugees. Back then, forces opposing Judaism identified a golden opportunity to use them as a mechanism to bash Israel, and later, for the Western effort to eradicate Judaism. And so a monstrous organization was created that is financially incentivized to count more and more people as Palestinian refugees. Today it counts under its auspices millions of refugees, including the majority of Gaza's population of two million people.

While some UNRWA employees participated in the October 7th massacre, and Hamas launched missiles from UNRWA schools and facilities, it is important to note that most Westerners working in UNRWA are well-meaning. Some of them explain to me that their working in UNRWA as teachers or as relief workers is not an endorsement of the creation of UNRWA, or even of its mandate, but an opportunity to improve a given situation. This might be true, but it also allows the organization to prosper and to be used by Israel-bashers in their effort to assault Judaism.

For seventy-six years Gazans were told that they do not belong in Gaza. Now, that they want to leave Gaza, they are told that they do belong in Gaza. What exactly is the West telling its Gazan "subjects"? Go back to northern Gaza and forget what we told you for seventy-six years—that you do not belong there? Go back to Tel Aviv? That is certainly not an option. If the people flee Gaza, UNRWA will lose its clients, revenues, power, and its thirty thousand patronage job corps.

And so, the people of Gaza are blocked by the West from leaving. The Biden administration fortified this in early 2024, when it proclaimed that the proper response to October 7th was

THE ASSAULT ON JUDAISM

the call for the establishment of the State of Palestine. For the State of Palestine to exist, it needs Palestinians. It needs those refugees to stay right there in Gaza.

The pro-Palestinian movement in the West needs Gazans to stay, and moreover, to stay miserable. How can you blame Israel for a humanitarian crisis in Gaza if the humans left? Mostly, the Israel-bashers wishing to eradicate Judaism need the Gazans in Gaza. Therefore, unlike any other humans around the world, the choice of whether to stay or go is denied to them. They are drafted for the noble cause—the Assault on Judaism!

THE ROAD IS PAVED

And so in the days and weeks following October 7th, an ideological assault on the Jewish state was forming around three main talking points: The attack did not happen in vacuum—Israeli has been abusing the people of Gaza for years; Israel engages in ethnic cleansing; and Israel has caused a humanitarian crisis in Gaza. By instilling these fables, the road was paved for charging the Jewish nation once again with committing crimes against humanity, and via this road forging the contemporary path to eradicate Judaism.

As stated, war crimes need a war. Hamas provided the war; the rest can be left to the imaginative human mind and the propaganda machines. Nowhere was that more visible than in the Western media.