

3. Palestinians on Palestine

What did the Arabs say?

“We hear about the aid only through the media or the internet, but for us ordinary people, we never see any of it”.

Unnamed Palestinian (<http://israelunwired>, 9/5/2019)

“There is no such country. Palestine is a term the Zionists invented! There is no Palestine in the Bible. Our country was for centuries part of Syria. “Palestine” is alien to us; it is the Zionists who introduced it.”

Arab leader, Auni Bey Abdel-Hadi, 1937, to the Peel Commission in Jerusalem.

“There is no such thing as 'Palestine' in history, absolutely not.”

Prof. Philip K. Hitti, distinguished Arab historian, author of the authoritative book "The Arabs", testifying at the 1946 Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry.

“Such a creature as Palestine does not exist at all. This land is nothing but the southern portion of Greater Syria. It is common knowledge that Palestine is nothing but southern Syria”.

Ahmad Shukeiri, the first chairman of the PLO and one of its founders, addressing the UN Security Council in 1956 in his capacity as the Arab League’s ambassador to the UN .

“A state named ‘Palestine’ has never existed.”

Hafez al-Assad, Syrian President, at a conference in Amman in 1987

What do the Arabs say now?

“Palestine is Arab in history and identity”.

Palestinian TV (Fatah) 2007 – 2009

“Palestine in its entirety is Islamic Waqf land, which cannot be relinquished”.

Mahmoud Al-Zahar, Hamas Foreign Minister, TV interview, 29/7/2011 (memri)

“Palestine is the [Mediterranean] sea and the [Jordan] river. All of Palestine is ours”.

Palestinian TV (Fatah) 2/3/2012