

Palestinians on Palestinians

Who did they say they were?

“There is no such country [as Palestine]. Palestine is the term the Zionists invented! There is no Palestine in the Bible. Our country was for centuries part of Syria”.

Auni Bey Hada, a local Arab leader, to the Peel Commission, March 1937 (jewishvirtuallibrary)

“There are no differences between Jordanians, Palestinians, Syrians and Lebanese. We are all part of one nation. It is only for political reasons that we carefully underline our Palestinian identity...yes, the existence of a separate Palestinian identity serves only tactical purposes. The founding of a Palestinian state is a new tool in the continuing battle against Israel”.

Zuheir Muhsin, late Military Dept leader of PLO and member of its Executive Council, Dutch daily Trouw, March 1977 (danielpipes.org)

“The Palestinian people does not exist. **The creation of a Palestinian state is only a means for continuing our struggle against the state of Israel for our Arab unity.** In reality, today there is no difference between Jordanians, Palestinians, Syrians and Lebanese. Only for political and tactical reasons do we speak today about the existence of a Palestinian people, since Arab national interests demand that we posit the existence of a distinct "Palestinian people" to oppose Zionism”.

Zuheir Mohsen, leader of the as-Sa'iqa faction of the PLO, 31/3/1977 in an interview with the Dutch newspaper Trouw

"There is no Palestinian nation. It's a colonial invention... When were there any Palestinians? ...until the 19th century Palestine was the south of greater Syria”.

Professor Azmi Bishara, High profile critic of the Israel government, Arab former member of Knesset, Israel's Channel 2 TV (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3n5-yG-6dU>)

“**The Palestinian people have no national identity. I, Yasser Arafat, man of destiny, will give them that identity through conflict with Israel**”.

Alan Hart, 'Arafat, Terrorist or Peace-maker?', Sedgewick Jackson, Ltd, 1984

‘As I lived in Palestine, everyone I knew could trace their heritage back to the original country their grandparents came from....I grew up well knowing that history of today’s Palestinians as being from Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Christians from Greece, Muslim Sherkas from Russia, Muslims from Bosnia, and the Jordanians next door’.

Walid Shoebat, ex-Palestinian, www.peacefaq.com/christians.html

Who do they now say they are?

“We know that some of those who live in our villages are Jews who converted to Islam after the Muslim conquests beginning in the 7th century, and most of us are the descendants of foreign workers who came to British Mandate of Palestine from the various Arab countries in the wake of the Zionist enterprise. By trying to trace our "ancestry" to the Canaanites, we lie to ourselves and demonstrate our silliness and self-deception to the world. And when we try to claim that Jesus was a Palestinian, we make ourselves an international laughing stock”.

Bassam Tawil, 31/10/2015. Gatestoneinstitute.org

“We Palestinians have failed to educate our people on the principles of tolerance and peace. Instead, we condone and applaud terrorism, especially when it is directed against Jews. We want the world to condemn terrorism only when it claims the lives of Palestinians.... The wall-to-wall Israeli condemnation of this crime has left me and other Palestinians not only ashamed, but also embarrassed -- because this is not how we Palestinians have been reacting to terror attacks against Jews -- even the despicable murder of Jewish children”.

Bassam Tawil , www.Gatestoneinstitute.org, 4/8/2015

“I come to speak on behalf of the Palestinian people... It is time for the Palestinian people to gain their freedom and independence”.

Mahmoud Abbas, at UN General Assembly, 23/9/2012

“Allah be praised, we all have Arab roots, and every Palestinian, in Gaza and throughout Palestine, can prove his Arab roots - whether from Saudi Arabia, from Yemen, or anywhere. **Brothers, half of the Palestinians are Egyptians and the other half are Saudis.** Who are the Palestinians? We have many families called Al-Masri, whose roots are Egyptian. Egyptian! They may be from Alexandria, from Cairo, from Dumietta, from the North, from Aswan, from Upper Egypt. We are Egyptians. We are Arabs. We are Muslims. We are a part of you”.

Fathi Hammad, Hamas Minister of the Interior and of National Security, (memri 23/12/2013)

Israel's Bedouin are "Descendants of nomadic tribes who migrated to the region in the 19th and 20th centuries".

Ishmael Khaldi, Bedouin, Counsellor for Civil Society Affairs, Embassy of Israel, London, blog 18/10/2013

"I don't think it would be wrong to say that we were enthusiastic supporters of Germany" [in World War II].

Farouq Qaddoumi, former PLO political bureau head, Russia Today TV, 7/12/2013 (memri)

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Mahmoud Abbas, the man who is on the 12th year of a 4-year mandate as President of the Palestinian Authority, gets away with lies, lies and more lies, and the world's only response is to nod and smile".

Fred Maroun, Canadian writer of Lebanese origin, in a speech to the UN (Jerusalemonline, 25/6/2016)

"A society whose leaders campaign for a convicted terrorist to be given the Nobel Prize, a society that teaches its children hatred and violence as part of its standard curriculum, a society that unabashedly teaches antisemitism through all means available, a society that puts suicide belts on children during political celebrations, a society that honours, glorifies and funds terrorists, a society that uses a hateful version of religion to poison the minds of its children, a society that engages in widespread jubilation when Jews are victims of terrorist attacks, is not a healthy society that can develop peace of any kind....

Teach the Palestinians the values that bring peace (acceptance of differences, religious tolerance, and non-violent conflict resolution) rather

than the lies that bring hate. Stop the anti-Israel incitement and maybe in a generation or two, the Palestinians will be ready for peace. These are the values taught all over the liberal democratic world, including Israel, but somehow, when it comes to Arabs, all expectations of socialized behaviour are thrown out the window".

Fred Maroun, Canadian writer of Lebanese origin, (Gatestone Institute, 30/4/2016)