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From the Mind of Sha'i ben-Tekoa

Transcript

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Shalom laYehudim, Shalom laBnai Noach, Shalom laGoyim. It is the evening of the 4th day, *yud-zion beIyyar, Parashas Bekbukosai, tav-shin-ayin-vav*, the evening of the 3rd day, Tuesday, 24 May 2016, webcasting from the Land of the People of the Book today barraged by anti-Jew words and concepts.

Take, for example, an awards ceremony at Tel-Aviv University on Sunday, the presentation of the Dan David Prizes, 3 million dollars divided between eight winners, though one of the winners boycotted the ceremony and turned down the gift of \$300,000.

This was Dr. Prof. Catherine Hall, whom Wikipedia calls a British feminist historian of Modern British Social and Cultural History at University College London. One of her books was entitled *Gendered Nations: Nationalisms And Gender Order In The Long Nineteenth Century*. She turned down the award because, as she wrote on a Facebook post, she had made an “independent political choice, undertaken after many discussions with those who are deeply involved with the politics of Israel-Palestine, but with different views as to how best to act.”

And there you have it. “Israel-Palestine.” That is a relatively recent addition to the lexicon of antiJew buzzwords and catch phrases. It is evidence of the title of my book: a nationality never heard of in history. Never heard in the Land of Yisrael, possibly the land with the oldest, continuous written history in countless languages, where suddenly a people emerged claiming to be the ancient “Palestinians” in Palestine since the beginning of time, and contemporary antiJews post-Holocaust had now a new, “legitimate” way for hating Jews.

You know before World War II, antisemitic ideas had been around for decades without any notion that Jews were to be physically eliminated. It was a “legitimate” body of ideas that wrestled with the very real problem of the friction in modern European society made by the presence of emancipated Jews. They were officially enfranchised in the Napoleonic Era and literally liberated from ghettos. Many also stopped wearing distinctively Jewish clothes. They cut off their beards, stopped keeping kosher, but even so, many gentiles were uncomfortable in their presence. Anti-Semitism as a word and concept arose to explain why that was.

This was also the age as of the Higher Criticism of the Bible, as it was called, which was basically a declaration of war against the Bible as a phony sacred document.

It was the age of Darwin the naturalist and his theory of evolution, and antisemitism was a kind of crank race theory trying to excuse Jew-hatred after Christians had lost their faith. The first antisemites, as no longer Christians, said nothing of Jews as Christ-killers when they themselves no longer believed in Jesus of Nazareth as God-Messiah.

Antisemitism was a response to the intermingling of Jews among Gentiles who were uncomfortable with that. It was also in response to the flooding of Western Europe with Jews fleeing Czarist oppression. In Vienna, in 1897, the year of the first Zionist Congress in Basle, Switzerland, Karl Luger was elected mayor on the Anti-Semitic Party ticket. Remember, antisemitism was not yet associated with death camps, and his party was responding to this influx of impoverished, Yiddish-speaking refugees. In a way, it was very much like today’s anti-immigrant feelings in Europe opposed to the tidal wave of Muslims flooding the Continent.

But after the Holocaust, after WWII, antisemitism, antisemitic lies and jokes, suddenly became taboo in polite company. The exposure of the death camps, which everyone in the West saw when they went to the cinema, to the movies in 1945, in the newsreels. Auschwitz is where that crackpot theory wound up after being initially non-homicidal. And it was such a disgusting revelation, you couldn’t talk antisemitism any more without triggering in people’s minds the newsreels they had seen. Not a good idea to tell a Jew joke around the dinner table without causing nausea when you want to chow down.

So antisemitism went out the window as a once acceptable use of language, and for two decades after Israel was born, it was spared that kind of talk in the West.

But after the Six-Day War and the real return of the Jews, not just to the Land but Jerusalem and the Temple Mount, this triggered a new way of returning to “legitimate,” kosher, Jew-bashing. It was the invention of the Palestinians that led this feminist historian in London to turn up her nose at a prize in light of the “politics in Israel-Palestine.”

Inventing the “Palestinians” also meant inventing Palestine as if in history there had been such a country inhabited by people who called themselves Palestinians and were called that by others. This from this woman who, I presume, is a tenured professor of history, this feminist who writes of gender and its connection to colonialism. She has swallowed

like a communion wafer the “Palestinian Narrative” according to which the land that the Jews call the Land of Israel, the Palestinians have called Palestine and they have an equal claim on the land of Palestine, don’t you think? I mean, the mind, like a computer, knows that, for example, France belongs to the French, China to the Chinese and Turkey to the Turks so Palestine must belong to the Palestinians, and since the Jews are not Palestinians, they are in occupation of “Palestinian” land. This is the Orwellian rape and mutilation of known history that this feminist historian is a party to.

This business of “Israel-Palestine” is hyphenated evidence of what I am talking about. Locked in embrace, Israel and Palestine are equally valid names for the same territory, and both peoples have the same of right of ownership to it.

My book makes abundantly clear that the Arab-Muslim response to the League of Nations Mandate for Palestine, i.e. establishing a Jewish homeland in Palestine, was to deny there was such a country as Palestine. The Muslim, Turkish map of the region showed no such country with that name. The Arab-Muslim response, Haj Amin al-Husseini’s response, was to establish a newspaper in Jerusalem called “Southern Syria,” whose name was the paper’s *raison d’etre*, which was to resist the creation of a map called “Palestine.” And that was his and the Arabs’ position until the 1960s.

The invention of the “Palestinians,” this murder of history, was also behind the news this week of Bernie Sanders, the Communist of Jewish descent, wants to see in the Democratic Party platform changes that “better reflect the Palestinians’ aspirations for statehood.”

This is the language of antisemitism in our time “Palestinians aspirations for statehood.” No longer do we hear Christ-killer, or Jews are capitalist pigs. Today the Jews are the guilty party who prevent the “Palestinians” from realizing their “aspirations to statehood.”

Bernie Sanders of course opposes settlement expansion and most prominently judged Israel’s military behavior in 2014 to have been “disproportionate,” meaning, more than was necessary and likely due to, what (?) Israel’s cruel desire for revenge. Every time Israel responds, men like Bernie Sanders will say it was “disproportionate.”

And now Bernie said last week he wants to see a platform more supporting of the “Palestinians aspirations for statehood,” three words, three nasty distortions. The first, “Palestinian” is the core lie of our time for there is nothing Palestinian about these Palestinians. The second word here, “aspirations,” is etymologically related to the word for “spirit.” An aspiration is never for something mundane but elevated, noble, even divine. And more than a state, they want statehood, which is a state of being of equality in the world alongside the Jews who won’t let them have their state that they have aspired to from time immemorial. Oh, how they aspire to Palestinian statehood.

This narrative is this generation's successor to the deicide charge. For thousands of years Jews were slaughtered for being guilty, every one of them, for the death of Jesus, a monstrous lie finally jettisoned by Rome in 1965.

But in its place has come the tale of the crucified Palestinians, who are as much the victims of the Jews as Jesus was.

And today, in the wake of Bernie's plea for the crucified Palestinians, the Democratic Party's platform committee invited three veteran anti-Jews, Cornell West, a race hustler like Obama; James Zogby, a mouthpiece for the PLO Jew-killers for years" and Michigan Congressman Keith Ellison, the ignorant of Black history politician under Islam who converted to that nasty religion.

West has said that "the crimes of Hamas pale in the face of the US-supported Israeli slaughters of innocent civilians."

"The slaughter of the innocents." That episode is right there almost at the very beginning of the New Testament.

* * (Musical Interlude) * *

Yes, it is words that construct our reality, which makes sense. The Torah MiSinai begins with speech. And G-d said, "Let there be light...and G-d said, "Let there be..." this and let there be that. Creation is the product of speech.

And that has been the process over the last half-century: the creation of a vocabulary to discuss Israel that is tendentiously weighted against Israel, starting with the word "Palestinians," a people about which nothing is known – not its language, its culture, its history, its wars, its heroes, its kings – nothing is known except that it is very old and had its entire country stolen by the Jews.

I find the whole business a cosmic puzzlement. Last time, I think, I took note of the endless parade of peace conferences since the 1930s that have never succeeded because they never have faced the truth about this conflict. It is always discussed under a vast camouflage-netting of words.

Yesterday, the prime minister met with French Foreign Minister Manuel Walls who presented France's plan for that June 3rd conclave of 20-plus nations (now down from 30) who believe they are wiser about Israel than Israelis themselves. This gabfest will lead in the fall to a real peace conference in which "Palestinians" and Israelis will participate.

Bibi, of course, repeated that the only talking Israel will do is face-to-face with the PLO.

Emanuel Walls said that on June 3rd, the conferees will "discuss trust building measures to help lay the groundwork for renewed talks."

I read this stuff and wonder: what has this man been smoking? He wants to build trust between us and Abbas whose media every day, print and electronic, pour out these medieval legends and folk tales about Jewish evil.

The current “peace process” is over two decades old now and there has never been an ounce of trust by sober Israelis in these neighbors of ours who over these 23 years of the Oslo peace accords have periodically erupted in murder. They murdered us many times and still do. With these people, we are supposed to build trust?

The Oslo process was delusional from Day One because its architects were among the most foolish Jews in the history of this people. Post-religious mockers of Jewishness, they were self-identified leftists, socialists of some stripe. And in their world, politics is waving the flag of a noble idea and pursuing it no matter how detached from reality it is. In the minds of Jews like these, how nice it would be for the “Palestinians” to have their own state snuggled right up next to our state. And when that happens, they will become wonderful neighbors.

And never mind that pipedream never comes from the water pipes smoked by the Arabs, the Muslims. They have very different aspirations. They share none of this ecumenical kumbaya fantasy.

One can only wonder at people like Emanuel Walls who apparently take seriously the project of “building trust” between us and these intellectual primitives who cannot accept the historical fact that what they call Haram a-Sharif is our Temple Mount. Like Obama who cannot speak expressions like “Islamic terrorism” and “Muslim terrorist,” the Arabs here cannot say, “Haram a-Sharif used to be the Jewish Temple Mount.”

And what is truly astonishing is that until the year 2000, this was rock bottom Islamic teaching. There was no greater proof in the world that Islam is the “correct religion,” the final installment of monotheism, than the capture of the Jews’ Temple Mount and the building on that site of the Dome of the Rock where, Islam teaches, Muhammad himself stood before jumping up into the sky, up to heaven, rising through seven heavens -- an image stolen from the Talmud -- where he met all the previous prophets starting with Adam, Noah and Abraham etc. before descending back down to the Temple Mount where he remounted his flying horse and flew back to Mecca. That was the Muslim narrative since the beginning and until the year 2000. Now, saying that it used to belong to the Jews is heresy.

With people like this, it is unreal to expect us to build trust. They betray their own doctrine with this new nonsense, and with betrayers, one does not put one’s trust.

This French initiative is so bizarre for, among other things, its unreality. What do they expect to accomplish with this June 3rd kaffeeklatch and an even bigger gabfest in the fall?

Are they so incapable of true empathy toward Israel that they are blind to their own suggestion that Israel participate in what would obviously be a kangaroo court that will rule

that the just solution is for the Jews to be expelled from Judea and Samaria and all of it turned over to the Arabs, be they Fatah or Hamas, funded by Iran.

Is this the scenario that Walls and Hollande have in mind? There are rumors that their final solution will also order the Muslims to respect Israel's "security concerns," and maybe even recognize Israel's right to exist, but so what?

These are words and the Arabs have no respect for words, for what is written in the history books. They don't respect what they sign their names to. The so-called Saudi Peace Plan of 2002, delivered to the West by errand boy Thomas L. Friedman, offers normal diplomatic relations with all Arab states once Israel returns the land it stole. This plan appeals only to men like Friedman, these deJudaized types who pine for the Arabs' recognition and friendship, when I say, who needs relations with these countries? And in any case, the Arabs can establish diplomatic relations with Israel on a Monday morning then break them on Tuesday morning. It is an inhuman document for offering to Israel terms no sober nation in the same position would accept.

* * (Musical Interlude) * *

So, let's see, to continue ruminating on our world constructed of words, expressions and phrase, I see where in New York City on Sunday, the Jerusalem Post gathering with its panel of speakers before an audience 1,500 listened to Congressman Ed Royce, Republican of California, Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee who is worried -- in my words -- about the secret agent in the Oval Office stabbing Israel in the back at the UN before he leaves office. Royce e of course expressed that thought more diplomatically. And he said of the French initiative that he doubts a French resolution on Israel before the Security Council would include "a demand for security" for the Jewish state.

And I say. using that language is also camouflage for what is really needed. Not that Ed Royce is even aware of that, this friend of Israel. This expression, Israel's "demand for security," is a result of Israel's misperception of its own situation. Since 1967, the common approach of Israel, from the left and the right, is to hold out returning *some* of the land taken in 1967 because Israel has "security concerns" or "security interests."

But why does Israel have security concerns? And the answer is because the Arabs and the Turks and the Persians, Muslims all, do not respect the right of Jews to live free of Muslim rule in their ancient homeland. So even after creating such a mini-state for the so-called Palestinians, the danger would continue.

What is at stake is not Israel's "security interests." The reason it fears its neighbors who have a bloody record in every year for more than a century of Jewish revival of murdering, retail and wholesale, is that its neighbors don't respect its right to live at all.

The good news is that the prime minister's pre-recorded statement to the JPost gathering in New York referenced the constant flow of antisemitic bile in Arab and Muslim media, especially in children's programming where Jews are described as apes and pigs who have to be destroyed. And I consider this progress for Israel. It has not been Israeli practice to call attention to this low-level, lunatic Jew-hatred, and I am glad to see it finally making a serious appearance.

Speaking of which, we haven't posted a link for a while but the one posted with this webcast is a must-see. It is an authentic antiJew temper tantrum rant by an out-of-control Muslim and it is the face of Jew-hatred for centuries. One gets a taste of it on the talkbacks which are short but this is a couple of minutes of one-sided Jew-hatred, and I think is a splendid example of the hatred of Jews burning in the minds and hearts of some people for centuries.

What Israel and its supporters never say but should say is that today's Arabs, today's Muslims, are at least as crazy about Jews as the most ardent European Nazi enthusiasts were last century, and I believe they are even more far gone in their seething hatred of Jews expressed in the most outlandish fantasies of Jewish conspiracies and plots, like 9-11 as a Mossad operation. And I believe in Egypt already since the latest bombing of yet another Egyptian plane out of the sky a few days ago, the rumors are that the US and/or Israel were behind it.

With such people, Emanuel Walls wants us to develop trust? And I hope Prime Minister Netanyahu continues down this path of shining a light into the dark cellars of the Arab and Muslim mind. I hope he continues to expose what PMW posts every week: the antisemitic poison on a par with anything the Nazis put out about the "evil" Jews.

The world sees the poor poor Palestinians aspiring for their ancient homeland, and I see demented savages whose inner life is as primitive as any drunken Crusader thug a thousand years ago hacking Jews to pieces at random as he made his way to the Holy Land.

* * (Musical Interlude) * *

Last item, more good news from the United Methodist Church in conference in Portland, Oregon. Last week, if your remember, they rejected four BDS resolutions and have now decided to accept a petition calling for an end to their organization's involvement in the US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation. Good for them.

And in a separate step, good for them again. They had a resolution deciding not to renew their 40-year support for Roe v. Wade, the ruling by the degenerate US Supreme Court in the early 1970s approving intrauterine infanticide.

Which reminds me of another miserable corruption of language in a related story. In the Oklahoma legislature, Republicans are also out to criminalize abortion, which was protested by the Center for Reproductive Rights. Spokeswoman Amanda Allen said it is

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unconstitutional to prevent women's access to a vital health care service, and what struck yours truly was the name of her pro-abortion outfit: The Center for Reproductive Rights. Could there be a more dishonest name for her group? They campaign not for the right to reproduce. No woman's right to reproduce is at risk. The issue is not the right to reproduce but the right to kill after having reproduced. It is the right to destroy what was reproduced.

More Orwellian verbal perversion.

Leila tov miEretz Yisrael