



Dome of the Rock

Al-Aqsa



Al-Aqsa Mosque

Quarterly

Newsletter 6

October 2000

Massacre in Al Quds

The massacre in al Quds which has been sparked of as a direct result of Sharon's visit to Masjidul Al Aqsa has already claimed more than 70 martyrs, many of whom are children and some as young as 18 months old and over 1,000 injured.

Sharon the head of Likud Party with Ehud Barak's, approval entered the Al Aqsa compound while over 1,000 Israeli soldiers armed to their teeth with weapons of destruction closed all the main entrances into the Masjid compound. Fortunately for the Ummah the few Palestinian brothers who were inside formed a human chain on the main door to al Marwan quarters of Al Aqsa where Sharon and his gang where trying to enter.

In the skirmishes that followed two Palestinians were made Shaheed. The news of Sharon's violation of our Holy site spread and an uprising began. Israelis as is their fashion brought down their wrath of helicopters, anti tank missiles and live ammunition upon the defenceless people of Palestine.

With a shoot-to-kill policy over 60 per cent of the injuries are reported by doctors to be on the top half of the body. The St John's Eye Hospital in Jerusalem is treating 18 Palestinians shot directly in the eye. A surgeon in Gaza's al Shifa Hospital said, 'he has not seen anything like this' where most of the injuries are to the head and stomach.

While the wounds of the Palestinians is a testimony to the Israeli brutal tactics, the murder of Muhammad al Dura, the 12 year old, lying helpless in his father arms informs us that we are not dealing with a humane race. Israelis without mercy, or compassion are carrying out their acts of savagery and brutality as they have been doing over the past fifty-two years.

Israel with its sustained policies of ethnic cleansing or Judaisation of Jerusalem has systematically destroyed the Palestinian people, desecrated Christian and

Muslim holy sites and are an arm's length of robbing us of our first Qibla, the second house of Allah on earth and the third Haram – the Al Aqsa Haram Sharif.

It has been the Israeli policy to deliberately provoke the Umaah by carrying out acts of terrorism and attrition. Since the Zionist set their foot on our blessed land of al Quds they have rained terror and mayhem. In 1948 they destroyed the whole village of Deir Yassin murdering over 240 Palestinian Brothers, Sisters and Children. In 1990 the terrorist army of Israel murdered 22 Palestinians in Al Aqsa Haram Sharif and in 1994 in Ibrahimi Mosque a Jew with the help of Israeli army massacred 29 Palestinians while in Sujud of Fajr Salaah during the month of Ramadhan. More recently over 70 became martyred in 1996 after the Israeli opened a tunnel under the Al Aqsa and the Palestinians who once again came to the defence of the Al Aqsa Haram Sharif.

It is clear that the Israeli policy is to exterminate the Palestinians, which are carried out slowly throughout the year with periods of mass murder.

If the Umaah does not become pro-active throughout the year and abandons to safeguard the Al Aqsa at all times then the consequences are before us today. Friends of Al Aqsa calls upon the Umaah to work persistently in safeguarding Al Aqsa, even after the headlines have disappeared from our media. Because the Israelis do not stop their plans nor their ambitions when media stops reporting, they are constantly evaluating their plans on how to destroy the Al Aqsa Haram Sharif.

Therefore we have proposed few short term and long term measures which we hope you will assist us with and insh'Allah through these means we will reach a position wherein it becomes possible for us to regain the full control of our Holy City of al Quds and Masjidul Al Aqsa Haram Sharif.

ONE

Al Aqsa Haram Sharif Needs You Now!

We appeal to all Muslims who have the means, capacity and a valid passport to immediately embark on a journey to our occupied land of Al Quds. We call upon the Umaah to celebrate their Al Isra al Mehraj [approx 25th Oct 00] in the blessed Haram Sharif of al Aqsa, our first Qibla and the second house of Allah on planet earth [Sahih Muslim] and the third holiest site on earth.

Our Palestinian Brothers and Al Aqsa's greatest need at this moment is the warmth, compassion and the human presence of their fellow brothers who are the rightful heirs of al Quds.

We urge the young, professional and experienced from all over the globe to converge in al Quds. Give your shoulder for the oppressed, tortured and tormented. Provide al Quds with the presence of the best in the Creation. Al Aqsa weeps for your presence. Who is brave and sincere to meet the challenge?

There is a great need for your professional, labour and emotional services in al Quds! The time to help is now.

Friends of Al Aqsa cannot emphasise any stronger the need for all those who can travel to al Quds to embark on such a journey. We also recommend you take your next holiday to Al Aqsa and in travelling for Umrah or Haj this year then YOU MUST GO VIA al Aqsa. The Prophet of Allah [saas] is reported to have said whoever puts his ahram in Al Aqsa and thereafter proceeds for Haj/Umrah then all his/her sins will be forgiven. And also remember to pray in Al Aqsa brings 1,000 more reward than anywhere else [besides Makkah & Medina].

Allah [swt] will protect and aid those who strive in His path. – Ameen

We have for the time being arranged the following trips, each with a group of 50 people:

1. 21st Oct to 28th Oct. 2. 22nd Oct to 29th Oct. 3. 23rd Oct to 30th Oct. 4. 24th Oct to 31st Oct.

Cost of flight £230 per person. Accommodation & Food for 7 days approx £200.

For more details on this, please ring: Muhammad 07850 763838 or Ibrahim 07930 392056

TWO

Lobbying

Lobbying is a tool of persuasion that needs to be exploited for the benefit of the Umaah. We need to differentiate between asking the Kuffar to help Us [which is highly unlikely] and the need to make them see commonsense and for humanities sake intervene. The political system in the UK is such that the MP's carer is directly dependent on the public who choose to put him in Parliament. We urge Islamic institutes to call their local MP's and find out their stance on this issue. Friends of Al Aqsa are available to join any of these meetings if needed. We also need to express our dismay to the leaders of this country and unfortunately the Arab States, which have diplomatic relations with the terrorist state of Israel. We include two sample letters PLEASE, PLEASE get your pen and write to these people and inform them of your views.

SAMPLE LETTERS

Your Name & Addressee

[Letter to]

1. The Rt Hon Mr Tony Blair, 10 Downing Street, London. SW1A 1AA
2. The Rt Hon Mr Robin Cook, Foreign & Commonwealth Secretary, London. SW1A 2AH
3. Your Local MP's Name, House of Commons, London. SW1A 0AA

Dear

Since Thursday, September 28th, 2000 after Sharon's visit to the Holy Mosque of Al Aqsa, until the writing of this letter, the Israeli forces continue their aggressive actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. They have opened fire against defenceless Palestinian civilians in one of our holiest site, the al Aqsa Haram al-Sharif and in other parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. As a result many [already over 60] Palestinians have been killed and thousands more have been injured. Many of the injured and killed were under the age of 18 and one as young as 18 months old baby. The majority of the injuries (over 60 %) were to the upper parts of the body. The Israelis are using anti-tank missiles, dumb dumb bullets and helicopter gunships, all illegal under international convention, against a civilian population.

We call upon you:

1. To publicly condemn the Israeli actions for having started the massacre and for the use of lethal weapons against a civilian population.
2. To work towards bringing the perpetrators of these inhumane crimes in front of an International Criminal Court for War Criminals.
3. To do all in your power to stop Britain and the European Union supply Arms to Israel.

I hope for humanities sake you act swiftly and help bring these 'barbaric' actions by Israel to an end.

We look forward to your support. As has been our loyalty to your Party over the years.

I look forward to hear from you soon.

Yours truly,

SAMPLE LETTER

Your Name & Addressee

[Letters to]

1. King Abdullah ibn al Hussien, c/o Jordanian Embassy, 6 Upper Phillimore Gardens, London W8
2. Hosni Mubarak, The President, c/o Embassy of Egypt, 12 Curzon St, London. W1
3. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al Thani, The Emir, c/o Embassy of Qatar, 1 South Audley St, London. W1Y 5DG.
4. Zeni el Abiden Ben Ali, The President, c/o Embassy of Tunisia, 29 Princes Gate, London. SW7 1QG.
5. King Mohammed VI, c/o Embassy of Morocco, 49 Queens Gate Gardens, London, SW7 5NE.

Dear

I as a Muslim living in Britain am dismayed at the virtual silence from your government after the massacre of over 60 Palestinians and over 1, 000 injured many under the age of 18 and one as young as 18 months old.

The Muslims of Palestine are in need of our support and I, reflecting the views of the majority of Muslims in the UK call upon you to:

1. Immediately stop all diplomatic relations with Israel.
2. Immediately enforce an embargo on Israeli goods.
3. Rise to the call of the Palestinians and help protect the Holy Mosque of Al Aqsa Haram Sharif.
4. Provide Aid & Assistance to the injured & bereaved Palestinians.
5. Work towards bringing Israel to the International Criminal Court for War Crimes.

We in the UK believe to have relations with Israel, an apartheid state, planning the destruction of Al Aqsa, our first Qibla as unacceptable.

I hope you will immediately severe all relations with the murderers of our Brothers, Sisters, Children and usurpers of our Holy land.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours truly,

THREE

Media Watch

There has been a lot of biased reporting in favour of the Israelis in the British Media, and it is not productive to simply complain to each other. Remembering the media is shaping the minds, hearts and emotions of people. If you hear, see or read anything that is biased then find out the telephone number of the 'media' by dialling 192 and ring immediately to register your complaint. Complaining to each other does not help; we need to get our message to the editors! For anything on the BBC radio or TV the telephone No is 0870 0100 222.

FOUR

Boycott

There are several companies in the UK, which are promoting the apartheid state directly and indirectly. There are three actions to be undertaken:

Companies like Burger King which have opened a branch in occupied territory of West Bank, exclusively for Jews, we need gain permission from the Police & Council to have a small picket every Saturday for a few hours and give out leaflets to all those going in the restaurant on who they are supporting. Those interested in setting up a picket get in touch with us.

Companies like Marks & Spencer, Tesco, Interflora & Sainsbury who sell Israeli products, we need to write to their manager and inform them that we will boycott them until they stop selling goods from a country [Israel] which is employing apartheid policies and killing children, women and defenceless people.

In areas where there are a high density of Muslims and the shops mentioned above a request to see the manager and explain the Israeli policies and the possible boycott by the whole community would also be advisable.

FIVE

Dua

As is our teachings we recommend all the Ulama's who have not yet started to begin the dua of Qunoot a Nazeela.

To make duas for Al Aqsa Haram Haram Sharif in the second part of the Friday Khutba. We request you carry this on until such time Allah [swt] gives us victory over the Israelis and Al Aqsa is liberated.

Unfortunately the Umaah is wounded at almost all front and bleeds from many sites. The issue of al Quds has been with us for more than fifty-two years. To tackle this issue is not only important because it is between a colonialist project fashioned and implemented by the West and Islam, nor because the issue of Palestine has been used to segregate and fragment the Umaah into little insignificant parts but because we are talking of a place that Allah [swt] the Creator Himself refers to it as a place which He has blessed. Al Quds and the land of Palestine is important to us because it is an ayah of the Qur'an to abandon it is to abandon a part of the Qur'an and to abandon a part of the Qur'an is to abandon the religion of truth.

The long suffering of the Palestinians and the threat upon Al Aqsa is due to the Umaah's indifference to the issue. Our emotions, dedication and efforts are directly related to the reporting of the media. Once the media has stopped our minds are distracted to the mundane things in life. We need to fight with the vigour of a lion and the persistence of a wolf throughout the year to have any chance of seeing Haq overpowers Bateel.

The above are only a few recommendations, which we hope you will employ as part of our greater efforts in liberating Al Aqsa Haram Sharif.

SIX

Charity

We have placed this last only because it is the most obvious obligation upon us. The Palestinians are normally economically oppressed and those martyrs who have left this abode in defending Masjidul al Aqsa have also left behind families who need our financial support. We humbly request all to send as much as they can for the orphaned, widowed and injured Palestinian Muslims. May Allah [swt] reward us and take from us the efforts needed to liberate al Quds.

The measures mentioned are merely bandages for the wounds but this I believe is the least we can do. We must remember by attending this demonstration we have not absolved our responsible or done our bit but this must be the beginning for all of us to do what we can in order to bring justice with peace in Palestine and free Masjidual Al Aqsa Haram Sharif.

There is no doubt in my mind that Israel appears to only understand one language and that is the language of force. If Israel pursues this course it will have no option but to not only face the Palestinians but the Muslim Umaah from throughout the world.

If we return home and get absorbed in the mundane duties of the day to day and neglect the Palestinian issue than I am afraid the next atrocity and massacre by the Israeli is not far away.

If we do not want to return in the near future for yet another demonstration against the Israeli atrocities, we must depart from here with the commitment and the will to do all in our power to change the present Zionist oppression upon the Palestinian Muslims and the dangers to the Al Aqsa Haram Sharif.

To only Allah [swt] we invest our hope for our liberation!

Published by Friends of Al Aqsa. For further copies, more information about its projects or contributions, contact:

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