

**AN APPEAL
TO THE MOSLIM WORLD**

**FROM
THE EGYPTIAN SUPREME COMMITTEE**

**FOR
THE DEFENCE OF PALESTINE**

**CAIRO
IMPRIMERIE MISR, S.A.E.
1938**

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TO OUR MOSLIM BRETHERN

It is with deep distress and great anxiety that we hasten to forward to you this appeal, in the name of Allah, the Prophet, and Moslim Brotherhood, for immediate help and assistance for our Palestinian brethren. Those custodians of the Holy Land and servants of the Moslim Sacred Shrines are suffering calamities and miseries unprecedented in the history of any Islamic country. Not only are they being subjected to the worst kind of oppression and persecution at the hands of the British Authorities, but have recently become the target for the vilest armed assaults and attacks by the Jews. The latter, by secret intrigues, heavily armed by the British Government, have let loose, against the innocent Arab population, their instinctive and traditional hatred of Islam, of society, and of humanity.

In Haifa

Since the beginning of this month (July 1938), the Jews have been leading merciless and brutal armed attacks against the Arabs, with rifles, revolvers, bombs, and other weapons of destruction. The cities of Jerusalem, Jaffa, and Haifa have been chosen by the Jews as the centres for the commission of their crimes. Those Jewish attacks have culminated in more than 150 Arabs killed (*including old men, women, children, and babies*

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at the breast) and 300 wounded — all within a short twenty one days! The worst incidents took place in Haifa. On the evening of July 6th. 1938, the Jews threw amidst a peaceful Arab crowd in the vegetable market, two bombs of high calibre (containing, inter alia, inflammatory and poisonous material). The explosion, which was terrific, was followed by a volley of shots from the rifles and revolvers of the Jewish young men and supernumerary constables, with the terrible result that within thirty minutes only, 32 Arabs were killed and 119 wounded. A similar dastardly incident occurred on July 20th., at the same spot, and resulted in 60 Arabs killed and 110 wounded!

In Jerusalem

But perhaps still worse and of more importance and significance, was the terrible incident which took place in Jerusalem on Friday July 15th., 1938. At 1 p.m. on that day, hundreds of devout Moslims were leaving Al-Aqsa Mosque after having attended the mid-day prayers. On their reaching a crowded street in the vicinity of Al-Haram Ash-Sharif, a bomb of high calibre was thrown at the crowds, killing twenty one persons (including five women and three children), and wounding fifty others. The effect of the explosion was terrible. The bodies of the dead Moslims were torn to pieces, and thrown all over the place, in a manner that made it impossible to identify the bodies of the martyrs. One cannot describe this tragedy that befell the Moslims outside their Holy Shrine.

The Attitude of the Authorities

The above, and many other cases of Jewish attacks against the Arabs, take place under the very eyes of the British Authorities; yet the Authorities have done nothing to check the crimes or punish the Jews. The Authorities fail to apply against the Jews any of the many stringent measures or emergency laws which appear to have been promulgated solely for application against the Arabs. Such an attitude on the part of the Authorities naturally encourages the Jews to continue their attacks against the Arabs, and has no other explanation but that the British Authorities desire to see the Arabs of Palestine exterminated.

Government Terrorism and Punitive Measures

In the meantime the British Authorities appear to have no other task in Palestine but that of terrorising, oppressing, and persecuting the Arabs, with a view to force them to acquiesce in the partition of their country and the establishment of a Jewish state therein. The following cases, which are only examples of what is happening in Palestine, bear out the truth of our statement:—

- a) — There are at present over 2500 Arabs in the Palestine prisons and concentration camps. They have been imprisoned arbitrarily, and without any of the legal proceedings rightfully due to any human being. The prisoners and internees, (including many religious dignitaries), are subjected to the worst kind of treatment.

- b) — Hundreds of Arab houses have been blown up by dynamite. In one village alone (Baqa Al-Gharbiyya), forty houses were demolished.
- c) — Thirty seven Arabs have been hanged for possession of arms or ammunitions.
- d) — Thirty thousand pounds of collective fines and cost-of-maintenance-of-police in Arab towns and villages have been levied on the Arab people.
- e) — The inhabitants are subjected to the worst kind of treatment by the troops and the police. The atrocities committed by the army against the Arabs are reminiscent of those of the Dark Ages.

The British Government and press deny the above-mentioned well-established accusations. We, therefore, challenge the British Authorities to convene immediately a joint British-Moslim Commission of Investigation. The failure of the Authorities to accept this challenge will necessarily mean that the accusations are well-founded.

Islam Awake !

In one word, our Moslim and Arab brethren in Palestine are labouring under unbearable conditions, and are living in an everlasting state of distress, anxiety and terror. They are being mercilessly sacrificed on the altar of British Imperialism and Jewish aggression. It is now high time for Islam to awaken to the fate of its brethren in Palestine and to the

ultimate destiny of its Sacred Shrines in that Holy Land. The Moslims should hasten to undertake to put an immediate end to the Palestine tragedy.

The Arabs of Palestine, owing to their long struggle for freedom and to the existing policy, have been reduced to poverty.

Hundreds of families, victims, and refugees, are in a serious state of need for assistance and help.

The Arabs of Palestine are defending the inheritance of Islam and Arabism. We feel sincerely that it is the duty of every Moslim and Arab to help and to assist them in their crusade.

We therefore strongly appeal to our brethren, throughout the world, to send immediately to Cairo their contributions to the "Committee for the Aid of the Palestine Victims".

DR. ABDUL HAMEED SAID

*President, Committee for the Aid of the Palestine Victims,
of the Supreme Committee for the Defence of Palestine
and of the Young Men Moslim Associations.*

Cairo, 30 Gamadi Al Oula 1357.

July 28th., 1938,