

Elements of the Zionist Colonization

The Zionist movement, initiated by Theodore Herzl's book "The Jewish State", published in 1896, is resolutely colonialist. The founder of Zionism had one essential aim, to create a Jewish State. In the first Zionist Congress, which was held in Basle, Switzerland in 1897, they came out in favour of Palestine. The objective declared by this Congress was the creation in Palestine of Jewish homeland guaranteed by public law. The major proposed means to achieve this purpose was the rational colonization of Palestine by the settlement of Jewish farmers, artisan and industrialists, while others included organizing and associating all Jews through the agency of local associations and general federations, which is necessary for the achievement of the aim of Zionism.¹⁴ Ismail Raji al-Faruqi in his work "Islam and the Problem of Israel" asserts that;

The problem of Israel that is confronting the Muslim world today has neither precedent nor parallel in Islamic history. The Muslim world has tended to regard it as another instance of modern colonialism, or, at best, as a repetition of the crusade¹⁵

Obviously, the occupation with domination, the constant violation of the individual and collective rights of the Palestinian people, and the displacement of the Arabs demonstrate that the Israeli phenomenon is indeed a colonial phenomenon.¹⁶ Among the remarkable features of the Zionist colonization are the building on Jewish societies, policy on expulsion and displacement on Arabs, institutionalizing on violence and injustice control on the economy.¹⁷

14. John Norton Moore, op. cit., pg. 275

15. Ismail Raji Al-Faruqi, op. cit., pg. 1

16. John Norton Moore, op. cit., pg. 275

17. For further details see Gershon Shafir, "Zionism and Colonialism: A Comparative Approach", in Ilan Pappé, (ed.), *The Israel/Palestine Question*, London and New York: Routledge, 1999, pg.81-96. Also see Ilan Halevi, "The Violation of the Human and National Rights of the Palestinian People", *Islamic Herald*, Vol.10, No.6, 1986, pg. 12; Amer Obeid, Zionism Savagery in Palestine, *The Muslim World League Journal*, August-September 1994, pp. 38-39., Amer Obeid, The West Bank Economy: Geared to Serve Israel, *Islamic Herald*, Vol.10, No.4, 1986, pp. 20-22. Grace Halsell, "US Financing West Bank Colonization", *Islamic Herald*, Vol.8, No. 5&6, pp. 33-36