

The Reflections of the Palestinian Issue on the Muslim Ummah with Special Reference to Malaysia

The Muslim *Ummah* is now passing through a critical phase of history.¹⁸ Obviously, Palestinian issue is one of the most critical and unresolved problems in the Islamic world. Indeed, this issue occupies much of the concern of the Islamists' political thought, being one of the most pressing of the many political problems.

Therefore, there is no need to overemphasize the legitimacy of the Palestinian cause, and their campaign to restore their rights. There are a number of crystal-clear facts. The Palestinian issue occupies the major concern of Muslims everywhere due to a number of reasons. Firstly, it was due to the nature of the land itself i.e. Palestine. Significantly, Palestine is a blessed and sacred land for the Muslims as mentioned in the Quran and Hadith. It is the land of the Prophets and *Isra'*, and in which are located Al-Quds and Al-Aqsa mosques. Secondly, the nature of the enemy also aroused deep resentment and enmity in the Muslim hearts. Moreover, the Quran and Hadith frequently highlight the historical enmity between the Jews and Muslims, thus made the latter highly sensitive and fully aware of this issue. Thirdly, the offending nature of Zionist-Western program in Palestine, articulated in the London Conference of 1905, and the Zionist policies of expulsion and expansionism had made the Palestinian issue the most sensitive and together to create among the Muslims an uncompromising admiration and support to the Palestinian struggle, and motivated them to encounter the challenge of the Jews.

Throughout the past decades, the Islamists have been looking at the Palestinian question through an Islamic perspective. The Palestinian problem is definitely Islam's problem not merely the Palestinians'. The Shari'ah opposes aggression and usurpation of other peoples' lands, and made it a religious duty on every Muslim in any part of the world to stand in the face of invaders, atheists, usurpers and aggressors. Moreover,

18. Mozammel Haque, The Muslim Ummah in Crisis, *The Muslim World League Journal*, March 1995, pp. 25-27.