

Anti-Semitism in the Egyptian Media

February 2001 – February 2002

Anti-Semitism continues to thrive in the Egyptian media. Derogatory statements and harsh accusations against Jews in the Egyptian media have persevered through bad and good times - periods of tension and periods of calm in the over 20 years since the 1979 declaration of peace between Israel and Egypt. Comparisons of Israel with the Nazis, denial of the Holocaust and traditional libels are common manifestations of anti-Semitism in the Egyptian media. It is ironic that while the Egyptian media frequently engages in denial of the Holocaust, it continues to demonstrate the “evil” of the Israeli government by comparing Israel and Israeli leadership to the Nazis. While anti-Semitic articles can be found in opposition newspapers, many are printed in the government backed press, including the largest Egyptian dailies, *Al-Ahram*, *Al-Akbar* and *Al-Gumburiya*.

Classic Anti-Semitic Stereotypes:

- “A great danger threatens the United States of America. This great danger is the Jew...For more than 1,700 years they have lamented their sorrowful state, namely that they have been driven out of their motherland, but, gentlemen, if the civilized world today should give them back Palestine, and their property, they would immediately find pressing reasons why they could not return there. Why? Because they are vampires, and vampires cannot live on other vampires... They must live among Christians and others who do not belong to their race.” “If they are not excluded from the United States by the Constitution, within at least 100 years, they shall stream into this country in such numbers that they shall rule and destroy us and change our form of government for which we Americans shed our blood and sacrificed our lives, property, and personal freedom.” “If the Jews are not excluded within 200 years, our children will be working in the fields to feed the Jews while they remain in the counting houses, gleefully rubbing their hands...”



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— From an article in the government weekly, *Akher Sa'a*, on January 9, 2002. The article by Salah Al-Din Hilmi, entitled “The Jews are Bloodsuckers and Will Yet Conquer America,” included excerpts and a photocopy of a forged document that Hilmi claimed is kept at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. The forged document is actually the invention of William Dudley Pelley, an American Nazi sympathizer, who published an account of the “speech” in 1934. It alleges that Benjamin Franklin made comments against Jewish immigration to the United States during a recess in the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1789 [the convention was actually held two years earlier]. The so-called “Franklin Prophecy” has long been entrenched in the lore of American and European Jew-hatred and has in recent years appeared in the Arab and Muslim world. **

- “What exactly do the Jews want?! Read what the Ninth Protocol of “The Protocols of the Elders of Zion” says: ‘We have limitless ambitions, inexhaustible greed, merciless vengeance, and hatred beyond imagination. We are a secret army whose plans are impossible to understand by using

“The issue is very complicated, there seems to be no solution. The Palestinians are insisting on the end of occupation.”

Al-Gumburiya
November 11, 2001



honest methods. Cunning is our approach, mystery is our way. [The way] of the 'Free Masons,' in which we believe, can not be understood by those among the gentiles who are stupid pigs..."

"The ultimate goal of the 'Free Masons' is to destroy the world and to build it anew according to the Zionist policy so that the Jews can control the world... and destroy the [world's] religions. Their goal is that there won't be



any other religion but the religion of Moses, no other law but that of Moses, and no other book except for the Torah..."

"For them, all people are beasts and cattle created for them to ride and govern. These are the gentiles, a riffraff which God has created for them [the Jews] so they could lead them, exploit them, and suck their blood."

"The destruction of the Church, the destruction of the Papacy, the destruction of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, the destruction of the Dome of the Rock, the destruction of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, are all [a part of] their goals and dreams. The Jewish Karl Marx using his Communism and Marxism...actually destroyed the Church in Eastern Europe."

"Israel is the real problem, she is the radical, she is racism, and she is the religious blindness. Israel is the plague of our time...and a terrorist state."

– *Al-Ahram*, government daily, June 23, 2001 by columnist Mustafa Mahmud titled "Israel - the Plague of Our Time and a Terrorist State." **

- "Lies and deceit are not foreign to Jews. The best evidence that Jews go back on their word is their denial of the principles on which they signed in the Oslo Accords and the Madrid and Sharon agreements. For this reason, Allah changed their shape and made them into monkeys and pigs."
– *Al-Akhbar Internet*, government sponsored newspaper, May 5, 2001 *

Holocaust Denial:

- "But all of Hitler's crimes and infractions were forgotten by the world, except for one crime that was exaggerated

and blown completely out of proportion, thanks to the insistence of world Zionism to continue to stoke the fire. The reason for this was the emotional need of the Sons of Jacob to extort Germany and to eat away its resources. It is hard to believe that the Europeans and Americans, who are entitled to thinking, confirming or denying anything - including the [existence of] the prophets and God himself - cannot address the 'Jewish Question,' or more precisely, the false Holocaust, whose numbers and scope they have exaggerated until it has reached the level of the merciless destruction of six million Jews, only because Hitler saw them as an inferior race unworthy of living next to the Germanic race, which must rule the world."

– *Al-Akhbar*, government sponsored newspaper, May 27, 2001 **

- On April 13, 2001 *Al-Akhbar Internet* published an article in which the author denounced the "insane ceremonies" held in Israel to mark what it called "Holocaust Day." According to the author, "in preparation for the ceremonies held to celebrate this day, the Israeli teacher tells his pupils fictitious stories about the murder of Jews in crematoria and the Israeli media gives detailed descriptions of these crematoria . . . The Zionists invented the matter of the crematoria in order to extort the world, especially Germany . . . Even though the Holocaust is only a myth and historians throughout the world have refused Israeli claims in this regard and have proven that it is a fabricated story and that the Nazi crematoria were actually used to burn the bodies of soldiers." *

Comparison of Nazism/Hitler with Zionism/Israel:

- "Zionist propaganda denies the connections between Hitler and the Zionist movement. It even hides the connection between Hitler and the emigration of Jews from Germany to Palestine . . . Historical facts prove the existence of ties between Nazism and Zionism. Israel denies these facts, however, because it understandably prefers to forget them."
– *Al-Gumbhuriya Internet*, government sponsored newspaper, May 5, 2001 *
- On April 29, 2001 a photograph of Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres dressed as a Nazi was published in the opposition daily *Al-Arabi*. The newspaper superimposed a picture of Peres on that of a Nazi and branded the image with a swastika. The headline read: "The Nazi - the Butcher from Kafr Kana, the Emissary of the Great Criminal Sharon, Arrives in Cairo." *Al-Arabi* reprinted the photograph on July 15, 2001 with the caption: "The return of the Nazi pollutes Egypt's air." The second printing of the photo coincided with Peres' visit to Cairo to meet with Egyptian leadership. *

“Whomever leaves
descendants never
dies!”

Al-Gumhuriya
December 12, 2001



- An April 27, 2001 article in *Akbar Asaa* entitled, “The New Nazism and Sharon’s Concept of Absolute Power,” maintained that there were no essential differences between Sharon and Hitler and that “there were also no essential differences between Nazism and the great harm it caused and the massacres perpetrated by Zionism. Since the feet of those who adopted the principles of Zionism trod on the land of Palestine for the first time - starting with Ben Gurion and ending with Sharon - there has been disaster. The events of recent months indicate Sharon’s Nazi tendencies, tendencies which are not very different from those of Hitler and even worse. The theory of supremacy based on race, deriving from Nazism is essentially identical to the Zionism’s theory of supremacy based on race and religion.” *
- “We confront a new Nazism which seriously threatens humanity. It is therefore our task at this critical moment to destroy the Zionist plan and the Zionist attitude based on legend, since this is the mentality that rejects the other person, accuses the other person of heresy and has disdain for all humane and cultural values. The whole world must unite against Nazi orientation and all over the world groups must rise against the Zionist movement and new Nazism.”
 - interview with philosopher Mahmud Amin Al-Aalem to the opposition newspaper *Al-Ahali*, March 14, 2001 *
 - “Like Nazism, Zionism adopted the racist theories that there are both chosen and inferior races in the world. So it happened, that just as Nazism presented the theory of the superiority of the Aryan race, racist Zionism presented the same false racist theory and invented the idea of the ‘Chosen People.’ These illusions were mixed with other lies which they present and which no one believes, such as the claim that the Jews built pyramids.”
 - column by Kamel Zuheiri, *Al-Gumhuriya*, government sponsored newspaper, March 6, 2001

Praise for Hitler:

- “[Insistently] for the second time, thanks to Hitler, of blessed memory, who on behalf of the Palestinians, revenged in advance, against the most vile criminals on the face of the earth. Although we do have a complaint against him for his revenge of them was not enough.”
 - *Al-Akhbar*, government sponsored newspaper, April 25, 2001 **
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 - *Al-Akhbar*, government sponsored newspaper, April 18, 2001 **

Anti-Semitic Conspiracy Theories:

- “In the summer of 1949, cholera spread throughout Egypt following the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948. Egyptian documents indicate that the disease originated in Israel...”
 - “Also, Jewish tourists infected with AIDS are traveling around Asian and African countries with the aim of spreading the disease.”
 - “It is no coincidence that the U.S. is the only member of the United Nations that has not signed the agreement on punishment for the collective annihilation of people... Israel continues to use germ warfare to destroy the Palestinian people on its occupied land, while it challenges the international community.”
 - excerpts from the November 2001 issue of *Al-’Ilm*, a government sponsored science magazine, by Dr. Husniya Hassan Moussa, lecturer at the National Research Center, article entitled, “The germ war: 52 universities and secret laboratories manufacture deadly microbes in America - Britain has revived smallpox, with unique qualities! - A strange disease causing fever, headaches, and hemorrhage is striking the Afghans - Dr. Janet paid for her satanic experiment with her life.” **
- A thirty-part television series entitled “Horseman Without a Horse,” dramatizing the infamous anti-Semitic forgery “The Protocols of the Elders of Zion,” was expected to be broadcast on Egyptian television stations during the second half of Ramadan this past year. The series reportedly portrays the “Protocols” as historical fact and a guiding principle of Israeli policy. An article appearing in the Egyptian weekly, *Roz Al Youssuf*, on November 17, 2001 commended the writer of the series for “courageously tackling the 24 Protocols of the Elders of Zion, revealing them and clarifying that they are the central line that still, to this very day dom-

inates Israel's policy, political aspirations, and racism.” The weekly also offered quotes from the Protocols that the series addresses: “We will act to establish a state to be a superpower that will rule the world”; “[When we rule the world], we will damage its morality with pornography, prostitution, and drugs, and we will corrupt the world of the Gentiles”; “We must choose someone corrupt [for the presidency of the superpower] and when he resists us - we will expose him.” The series also revealed “advice” reportedly taken from the Protocols, such as: “Feed a dog, [but] not a Muslim or a Christian” and “Kill a Muslim or a Christian and take his house as your house and his lands as your lands.” and raised such questions as, “How can a country like America collaborate with the Jews when it is familiar with the Protocols’ directives against it [America]?” **

- On April 12, 2001, the English language *Egyptian Gazette* stated that the Pokemon children’s game figures are a tool in the hands of the Jews to incite Egyptian youth to licentious behavior. *

Blood Libel:

- On March 25, 2001, the government sponsored newspaper, *Al-Akhbar*, published a blood libel charge in an article coinciding with a meeting of the Arab League in Amman, Jordan. According to the article, by Dr. Mahmoud Al-Said Al-Kurdi, “The Talmud, the second holiest book for the Jews, determines that the ‘matzahs’ of Atonement Day [sic] must be kneaded ‘with blood’ from a non-Jew. The preference is for the blood of youths after raping them!! Rabbi Moshe Abu Al-Afiah revealed this during the investigation of the disappearance of Father Toma in the Jewish quarter of Damascus in 1840 . . .” **

Justification of Anti-Semitism:

- “[Without Israeli casualties,] it would become clear to the world that what happened to the Jews of Germany, Poland, and Russia, was justified. It is not true that all Jews are peaceniks. There is a suicidal sect among them that does not desire to live. [Therefore,] they kindle the people’s hatred and hostility and, as a result, people turn against them. Although there are many intelligent people among them, they use their intellect to devise new ways for people everywhere to hate them and unite against them.”
– *Al-Ahram*, government sponsored newspaper, February 13, 2001 **

Jews/Israel to Blame for September 11 Attacks:

- To many Arabs, the culprit was obvious: the Mossad, Israel’s intelligence service. “Who would be the benefi



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ciary of this?’ asked a columnist in *Al-Arabi* newspaper, mouthpiece of the Nasserist Party. ‘The Mossad, of course.’ This assumption should come as no surprise: after watching Israel’s behavior in the region for many decades, when things blow up, Arabs naturally assume Israeli involvement. The conspiracy theorists adduced plenty of other circumstantial evidence to support their claims. Sharon had a golden opportunity to tarnish the image of the Arabs and Muslims and cause a deep schism in Arab/American relations, they said. Advocates of this theory also pointed out that the Mossad has targeted American interests before, ever since the 1960s.”

– *Al-Ahram Weekly Online*, government sponsored newspaper, September 27 - October 3, 2001 by Omayma Abdel-Latif (story on the family of Muhammad Atta, who is believed to be key organizer of the September 11 attacks)

- “There is no reason to rejoice at the misfortune of the American people, who have not yet understood that **five million Jews are not worth the sacrifice of all these victims...** The US’s position in the Arab-Zionist conflict causes Arabs to rejoice over every disaster visited upon the American government, though not on its people, because that government has gone too far in its oppression.”
– *Al-Ahram*, the Liberal Party Daily, September 17, 2001, by Nasserist writer ‘Adel Aokayl-Gouhari **

Sources:

* The Coordinating Forum for Countering Anti-Semitism, “Anti-Semitic Expressions in the Arab Media,” Collection 02/2001 www.antisemitism.org.il/

** The Middle East Media and Research Institute (MEMRI) Arab Anti-Semitism Documentation Project (www.memri.org)

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