

Bates # ISE-SW 1B64/0000377-0000383

In the name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Islamic Action for Palestine

- An internal memo -

October - 1992

One: Introduction:

Islam entered Palestine as it entered other parts of the earth. Palestine was honored by it and it lived under its shadow a while in time. To it, the best of the creation, God's prophet, peace be upon him, was journeyed and in it, the best of the humans led God's prophets, peace be upon them, in a prayer and a submission to the God of heavens and earth. And from it, he was taken to celestial galaxy where the Capable God is. Palestine is the blessed land whose dust was trodden by the horses of the Muslim conquerors and which was blessed by the arrival of Caliph Omar to receive the keys of Jerusalem. Palestine is the land which was protected and preserved by Muslims in the Rashidian, the Ommiades and then the Abbasi Dynasties. Palestine is the one whose land leader hero Saladin cleansed from the defilement of the Crusaders and on whose land the triumphant leader Qotoz conquered the invaders.

Palestine is a land which God the Almighty has honored with the blood of the Companions which watered its soil, chartering a path on which all great heros such as al-Qassam, al-Husseini, al-Zeer, Jamjoum and al-Sa'adi and other Muslim grand men marched. Palestine is the land which moved from one honor to another by the arrival of representatives of the 20th century innovator, martyr Imam Hassan al-Banna, and they transferred to it the Muslim Brotherhood Movement and branches for the Ikhwan were formed in the cities of Palestine in the early 40's. Palestine is the one for which Muslim Brotherhood prepared armies - made up from the children of Islam in the Arab and Islamic nations - to liberate its land from the abomination and the defilement of the children of the Jews and they watered its pure soil with their honorable blood which sprouted into a Jihad that is continuing until the Day of Resurrection and provided a zeal without relenting making the slogan of its children "It is a Jihad for victory or martyrdom".

The Muslim Brotherhood Movement has cared for all the issues of Muslims considering that they are all one nation. And he who did not care about the issues of Muslims is not one of them as the chosen one said, God's prayers are upon him.

Yet, we noticed the concern of the Movement for the cause of Palestine from its early beginnings and it enjoyed a special care from Guide Hassan al-Banna, may God rest his soul. This special care is founded upon two main characteristics which the Palestinian cause enjoy separate from other Muslims' issues:

The 1st characteristic: is the fact that Palestine is a cause with a special Islamic status as it has Al-Aqsa mosque, third among the mosques which are to be visited. And it has the honorable Rock. It is the land of the Night Journey and the Ascension. It is the land of the great crowd and it is a holy and a blessed land according to the text of Noble Quran. Its land was watered with the blood of the martyrs from the Companions, the Followers and others along the ages. It has also graduated genius scholars such as al-Shafei, al-Nabolosi, al-Ajlouni and others.

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The 2nd characteristic: comes from the fact that the struggle is with the Jews who do not constitute a danger to Palestine alone, but a danger to Arabs and Muslims in their homelands, resources, religion, traditions, influence and political entity. Due to the Jewish influence in different global nations specially America and Europe, the struggle in Palestine has a degree of entanglement and complexity, or junctions and contradictions between international politics like no other cause in the world. Due to this entanglement and complexity, no Arab or Muslim nation or a nation with an impact on international politics has not been affected by this struggle either negatively or positively.

These two characteristics make the cause of Palestine a unique cause which requires a unique method and means to manage the struggle as well. This is what the Islamic Movement - the Muslim Brotherhood - has realized. Therefore, it paid a special attention to the cause of Palestine and established a special apparatus for it which requires support and assistance from all the Brotherhood's movements.

Two: The Foundation of Islamic Action for Palestine:

The "worry for Palestine" and the liberation of the homeland and the worshipers in it has not been a passing worry in the soul, mind and programs of the Islamic Movement, but it has been a true and a sincere worry even if it took on several shapes and went through different stages.

Years after their march of building and educating the desired Muslim generation, and after about four decades, The Muslim Brotherhood in Palestine have realized that there is no escape the unity merger between the two branches of the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan and Palestine and this was in the beginning of 1978 after the leadership of the Movement then realized that action for Palestine requires the unity of the Muslim nation and that this unity must be preceded by the unity of Islamic action. Thus, came the first initiative which was the foundation of the Muslim Brotherhood in the Shamm Countries. The Brotherhood action for Palestine through the Shamm countries went through several stages with positives and negatives in every stage.

A- The Palestine Section:

At the end of the seventies, the Shamm Countries Movement opened a new section which was called "The Palestine Section" to oversee the affairs of the Ikhwan inside the Occupied Territories. It was considered the liaison between the followers of the Movement inside and outside.

In the beginning of the eighties, the Islamic action for Palestine experienced distinguished leaps. At the inside level, groups and apparatuses were formed to confront the Zionist enemy and they carried different names then such as "The Palestinian Mujahedeen" and other names. At the outside level, a number of associations, Islamic youths and students unions were formed to ally

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the masses in order to render the Palestinian cause victorious. Therefore, the Islamic Association for Palestine's Students in Kuwait, the Islamic Association for Palestinian Youths in Britain, the Islamic Association for Palestine in North America and Muslim Palestinian Youths Association in Germany and others were founded.

B- Palestine Conference:

In October 1983, the first conference for Palestine at the Shamm countries level was organized. Based on the recommendations of this conference and the feelings of the Ikhwan in the executive office of the importance of paying a special attention to Palestinian action, a decision was made to broaden the powers of the Palestine Section and to reorganize it to be called "The General Apparatus for Palestine" in the fall of 1985.

C- The Central Committee for Associations and Palestinian Students Unions:

In the same year, 1983, the Movement established an organizational frame which encompasses all these Palestinian associations and unions and coordinates between them to serve the same cause. A Shura Council was formed for this frame and an executive committee to oversee its financial, administrative and planning affairs. This was done following an agreement and a blessing from the Muslim Brotherhood in the Shamm Countries and the Guidance Office of the International Movement.

D- Palestine Committees in the countries:

With the growth of the blessed Intifada and the spread of the spirit of Jihad amidst the children of Palestine and the nation, it became incumbent upon the remainder of the Ikhwan branches to play a role in attributing this Intifada and this Islamic action to Palestine. Therefore, a resolution was issued by the Guidance Office and the Shura Council of the International Movement to form "Palestine Committees" in all the Arab, the Islamic and the Western nations whose job is to make the Palestinian cause victorious and to support it with what it needs of media, money, men and all of that. (Refer to the resolution in the supplement).

Three: a- The Islamic Resistance Movement:

With the increase of the Intifada and the advance of the Islamic action inside and outside Palestine, the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), provided through its activities in resisting the Zionist occupation a lot of sacrifices from martyrs, detainees, wounded, injured, fugitives and deportees and it was able to prove that it is an original and an effective movement in leading the Palestinian people. This Movement - which was bred in the bosom of the mother movement, "The Muslim Brotherhood" - restored hope and life to the Muslim nation and the notion that the flare of Jihad has not died out and that the banner of Islamic Jihad is still raised.

But, the law of God the Almighty which does not change or alter willed that the Movement go through harsh consecutive trials which started in 1989 as the leadership of the Movement was arrested and held in prison where it still is, followed by the second and the third leaderships in consecutive months. But, God the Almighty has made available to the blessed Movement generations of leaders who were prepared for such days and such circumstances. Due to the successive strikes and continuous arrests in the ranks of the leaders in particular, the General Apparatus for Palestine became the acting central leadership for the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) in the inside and the outside.

b- The Organizational Structure of the Movement:

The organizational structure consists of two organizations which are:

1- The Consulting Council: It includes 50 members from the inside and the outside, representatives of the International Office of Guidance and Shura and representatives of the executive office and the Shura Council for the Shamm countries in addition to a number of distinguished Brotherhood personalities in the Arab and Muslim nations.

2- The Executive Committee: It includes 11 members who lead the Islamic action for Palestine in the inside and the outside. Many technical and specialized committees in the fields of politics, media, finance are led by them as well as a number of organizations and centers which serve the goals of the general apparatus and the resistance movement in the inside and the outside.

And the Movement (Hamas) is represented in several of the leadership councils which are affiliated with the Guidance Office. They are:

- 1- The Shura Office of the International Movement.
- 2- The Guidance Office.
- 3- The Guidance Office for the Shamm countries.
- 4- The Executive Office for the Shamm countries.

The Movement submits to these entities reports, studies, plans, bylaws and work projects for approval and signature or modifications and guidance. Several resolutions relating to the cause and the Movement have been made which we will mention in the next items, God's willing.

C- The relationship of the Movement and its offices:

With the broadening of the Movement, the increase of the resistance and the political weight the Movement began to experience due to its stands, statements, relationships and projects, it opened several political offices in some of the Arab and Islamic countries. The

Movement has reached a number of dual and collective agreements through its continuous meetings with the Palestinian factions, the Islamic and the nationalistic among them. It still hopes to continue to increase the scope of its relationship with all Arab, Islamic and international sides and fields.

Four: Some of the resolutions reached by the Guidance Office regarding the Palestinian Cause:

To affirm the status of the cause on the agenda of the Ikhwan in the General Guidance Office, they have reached a number of resolutions, most important of which are:

1. Supporting the continuation of the Intifada.
2. The Ikhwan in the countries are to hold fundraising campaigns to support the Intifada.
3. The Guidance Office is to adopt a policy which affirms that the Palestinian cause is the grand central cause to all the Muslim Ikhwan in the world.
4. Notifying the countries that the Palestine Section which is affiliate with the Shamm countries is the one in charge of action for the Palestinian cause. No other entity is to be listened to regarding this cause.
5. The cause of Palestine is the cause of the Movement and is given the proper attention through its organizations considering that the Palestine Section is a part of the Shamm countries movement.
6. Stressing to the countries the need to form special committees for Palestine in each country.
7. Notifying the countries to provide the following according to the vision of the general apparatus for Palestine, according to their ability and in coordination with the apparatus while documenting it with the countries:
a- Media support b- Political support c- Financial support.
8. Organizational support to facilitate communication with the Ikhwan of the Shamm countries in their organizations and to pass the programs for internal mobilization to the remainder of the Ikhwan.
9. Benefitting from the Ikhwan's relationships in all fields with the various factions in the countries.
10. The completion of formation of Palestine committees in all the countries and giving attention to holding conferences relating to Palestine while publicizing and focusing on the savagery of the Jews.
11. Asking the countries to contact the international organizations and boards to denounce the crimes of the Jews in Palestine.
12. Forming an international Islamic front for the cause of Palestine.
13. Developing the work of Palestine committees in all the countries and forming committees for Palestine in the countries where they are not formed yet.
14. Calling upon all the Ikhwan to increase financial support from them and from others so that the brothers in charge of the Palestine action can fulfill the work requirements.

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15. Holding conferences to make Al-Aqsa and Palestine victorious and to fight surrendering solutions.
16. Reviving the Palestinian cause with the public opinion by issuing edicts and giving speeches and lectures.
17. Asking the countries to increase the financial and the moral support for Hamas.

Five: Islamic Action for the Palestinian Cause in North America:

Like other Western, Arab and Islamic arenas, the American arena has seen a move for action for the Palestinian cause by the grace of God and due to the presence of the Islamic Movement and its pioneer the Muslim Brotherhood Movement. The first organizational frame for Islamic action for Palestine came in the beginning of the eighties when the leadership of the Movement decided to establish "The Islamic Association for Palestine in North America". The Association was and still is the general field through which the Movement expresses its view and positions regarding the Palestinian cause. When work developed, the Intifada started and the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) was formed and the general apparatus for Palestine developed, and in light of the resolutions of the Guidance Office and the Shura Council of the International Movement to form Palestine committees in all the countries, the General Director of the apparatus came and met with the leadership of the Movement in America in 1988. After discussions and agreement, a "Palestine Committee" was formed under the supervision of the executive office. The Committee was then tasked with supervising all the organizations which serve the plan of the Movement domestically and internationally in addition to the Palestinian cause. Among these organizations were "The Islamic Association", "the Occupied Land Fund" and "The United Association". Like other directors of the Movement's committees and sections, the director of Palestine Committee is to submit periodical reports and adheres to the directions and the guidance of the leadership of the Group.

The president of the Islamic Association for Palestine is considered a member in the youths organizations section which is affiliated with the executive office and is treated like other organizations (such as the Association, the Students' Society and the Malaysian Students' Society...). The Association presents its plan and budget (which includes opening new branches for The Association, holding festivals, conferences and such things) like other organizations to the section to approve it and then implement it.

Six: The essence and the needed role:

After the previous presentation about the historical status of Palestine and the importance of liberating the blessed land, the land of the Night Journey and the Ascension, the first prayer niche and the third holiest site, after the presentation about the developments of Islamic action for this cause, the role of the Islamic Movement and - and on top of it, the Muslim Brotherhood - with all pride and cherish, and after mentioning some of the resolutions reached by the highest organizational authority within the Muslim Brotherhood Movement represented by

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the Shura Council and the Guidance Office of the International Movement, after all this presentations, a reader might pose a question: Why this memo? And why now?

*** As for why this memo?**

It is in order to tell our brothers and our beloved, the children of this blessed call, that their cause, Palestine, has not been forgotten and that it is always the number one item on the meeting agenda of the Guidance Office and the International Shura Council, and in order to tell our Palestinian brothers in particular that we are with them as their cause and the duty to serve it is not for them alone, but that we compete with them in it hoping for the reward and the recompense, and hoping to receive martyrdom on the soil of the holy land and in the shadows of Al-Aqsa mosque.

Also, to tell our brothers and beloved ones, the children of this great call from the different nationalities, that our dealing with the Palestinian cause is not from a national or regional prospective - far be it from us - but it is mandated by Islam and the creed in order to move, exert effort and are not meager.

*** As for why now?**

It is order to confirm to all, Palestinians and other nationalities (which we never believed in or recognized them as they are just mere geographical divisions and nothing more) that unity and cohesion of one Islamic-Ikhwani wall in face of the conspiracy to sell Palestine and to hand over Jerusalem to God's enemy and our enemy, all of which in exchange for a submissive, fragile administrative self-rule, is needed today more than any past day.

The Palestinian cause - or say the Islam's cause in Palestine - needs today an effective and a distinguished role for the grand Islamic Movement as one fortified wall behind its leadership represented by the Shura Council and a strong support for their tool and striking wing, the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas).

To conclude this memo, we stress to our brothers the need to stand behind this blessed Islamic action so that God the Almighty make it, or make available to us through it, a field for Jihad in which we teach the enemies of God the lessons of prophets and Mujahedeen in triumphing over them or martyring for the sake of God.

And God is provider of success.