

19 December 2004

To
"Haaretz", Letters to the Editor
Via Fax

In his article "Palestinian Territories? Not in Our Schools" ("Haaretz", 8 December 2004) Akiva Eldar once again misleads his readers. Mr. Eldar presents decisive conclusions based on partial facts, while ignoring others that do not subscribe to his theses. This mirrors Eldar's previous surveys of Palestinian textbooks a few months ago (see CMIP's letter, published October 8, 2004).

The present article is based mainly on two studies that researched a total of 19 Israeli textbooks, without, incidentally, indicating the year of publication. It seems as though Eldar chooses to completely overlook two surveys conducted by CMIP (The Center for Monitoring the Impact of Peace). Although CMIP has not conducted a study on Israeli textbooks since 2002, the two surveys which research 465 Israeli textbooks used in schools during 1999-2000 and 2001-2002, point to an attitude towards Israeli Arabs as Palestinian, and regard the conflict with them as a conflict between two legitimate national movements, while the Palestinian position is presented from the Palestinian point of view and standpoint.

We hope "Haaretz" will be willing to publish an article presenting to its readers the main CMIP findings on the Israeli textbooks.

Sincerely,

Dr. Yohanan Manor
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