

CHAPTER SEVEN: THE ISSUE OF PALESTINE

The issue of Palestine is presented in the Saudi textbooks as the primary issue for Arabs and Muslims. Palestine is said to have been occupied by an aggressive foreign element - the Jews - whose immigration to the country still continues. The story of the conflict is told from the Arab perspective only, though it is admitted that it was the Arabs who started the war in defiance of the UN partition resolution of 1947. According to Saudi textbooks, Palestine's occupation by the Jews constitutes a grave danger to neighboring Arabs and Muslims. Additional elements that are dealt with in this context are the religious conflict - the occupation of the Muslim holy places in Jerusalem - and, to a lesser extent, the refugee problem. The liberation of Palestine, which sometimes assumes the character of purification of the country from the filth of Zionism, is every Muslim's duty, and Saudi Arabia has continuously contributed to this cause.

The Importance of Palestine and of the Palestinian Problem

The importance of Palestine, according to the Saudi textbooks, is mainly religious, but there is at least one reference to its strategic value. The issue of Palestine is the Arabs' and the Muslims' chief issue.

Palestine is part of the greater Arab homeland. Al-Aqsa Mosque... is there, as well as the place whence the Prophet Muhammad was made to ascend to Heaven. It is cherished by the Arabs especially and by the Muslims generally.

History of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Grade 6, (2001) p. 58

What is the importance of Palestine to the Arabs especially and to the Muslims generally?

History of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Grade 6, (2001) p. 65

Palestine is the first Arab country that the Muslims conquered in the reign of Umar Bin al-Khattab, may God be pleased with him, and spread Islam there. Many messengers [of God] were born and sent on a mission in Palestine.

Geography, Grade 6, (1999) p. 42

The issue of Palestine is at the head of [all] issues, because of the position Palestine holds in the hearts of all Muslims. For there is al-Aqsa Mosque - the first qiblah [direction of praying], the third [holy place after those] of the two mosques [in Mecca and Medina] and the Prophet Muhammad's masra [the destination of Muhammad's nightly journey - Isra' - from Mecca according to Islamic belief].

National Education, Grade 6, (2001) p. 27

The Arabs' primary cause [is] the problem of Palestine.

History of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Grade 6, (2001) p. 39

Palestine has become famous for having been the land of the prophets, among them Jesus and Moses - may peace be upon them.

Dictation, Grade 8, pt.1 (2000) p. 24

...Palestine, which gave shelter to Moses, prophet of God, may peace be upon him, and his people, and then to Jesus, the Messiah, may peace be upon him, and those who believed in his mission.

Dictation, Grade 8, pt. 1 (2000) p. 60

Remember:

- The issue of Palestine is the most important Islamic issue.

National Education, Grade 6, (2001) p. 27

3. Mention the importance of Palestine and its position in the eyes of the Muslims.

National Education, Grade 6, (2001) p. 28

Palestine's location is strategically important, for it is situated at the heart of the Muslim world and at the junction of three continents. It is part of the continental corridor between the Arab countries in the continents of Asia and Africa. It has natural harbors and it is located at an important center of air transportation. It is close to the Suez Canal.

Geography of the Muslim World, Grade 8, (1994) p. 44

The Occupation of Palestine and the Jewish Immigration to the Country

The story is obviously told from an Arab perspective. The Jews are presented as a foreign element in the country and as the aggressor. But it is acknowledged that the Arabs are the ones who started the war of 1948, having rejected the UN partition resolution of 1947, which was accepted by the Jews.

The invaders of Syria, and especially Palestine, came one after another in [both] old and modern times. Mention the names of those you know...

Reader and Texts, Grade 7, pt. 2 (2001) p. 55

There is a great similarity between Spain [Andalus] and Palestine. What is this similarity?

Reader and Texts, Grade 7, pt. 2 (2001) p. 118

...In the year 1948 CE, when the Jews occupied Palestine.

Reader and Texts, Grade 7, pt. 2 (2001) p. 92

In our time the Jews have occupied Palestine...

Reader and [Holy] Texts, Grade 6, pt. 1 (2001) p. 33

Now it [Palestine] is occupied by the Jews, a people of treachery and betrayal, who have gathered there from every place: from Poland, Spain, America and elsewhere. Their end, by God's will, is perdition.

Dictation, Grade 8, pt. 1 (2000) p. 24

The number of Palestine's inhabitants is estimated at approximately 5 million, of whom 2 million are Palestinians and three million are Jews the majority of whom came following the 1948 war from various countries of the world, especially Russia.

Geography of the Muslim World, Grade 8, (1994) p. 46

Explain the following:

...

2. The increase of the number of Jews in Palestine.

Geography of the Muslim World, Grade 8, (1994) p. 47

Palestine is today under occupation by the Jews who control its holy places, its economy and its land. It will be liberated, God willing. The number of Palestine's inhabitants is estimated at approximately 5 million, of whom two million are Palestinians and three million Jews. Jewish immigration to Palestine still continues.

Geography, Grade 6, (1999) p. 40

... The Jews, who managed to occupy Palestine with the help of the enemies of Islam...

Geography, Grade 6, (1999) p. 42

Zionism had started to plan the realization of the Jews' dream to return to the promised land in Palestine since the eleventh century AH [16th -17th centuries CE]. But the conditions of the Jews in eastern Europe and France in the thirteenth century AH [18th -19th century CE] prompted the Jewish journalist [Theodor] Herzl, leader of Zionism, to meet with Sultan Abd al-Hamid II in the year 1314 AH [1896] and ask him for permission for a colony for the Jews near Jerusalem in return for a large

financial support to be paid by the Jews to the Ottoman State. But Sultan Abd al-Hamid vehemently refused the request.

In the year 1315 AH [1897] the Zionists convened the first of their congresses in the city of Basel in Switzerland where they laid down a working plan in which they determined their goals and means for the colonization of Palestine. The Zionists repeated their attempt to convince Sultan Abd al-Hamid to accept their requests in the year 1320 AH [1902]. They offered him this time to pay all the debts of the Ottoman Empire, to build a navy for it at their expense and to provide a large interest-free loan in return for the sultan's permission to establish a colony in Jerusalem. Hence the grudge held by the Zionist Jews against Sultan Abd al-Hamid and their conspiracy against him with the Committee of Union and Progress [the 'Young Turks'] which overthrew him in the year 1327 AH [1909] following a military coup against him. The position of the Jews changed after the deposition of Sultan Abd al-Hamid and their emigration to Palestine began. While their number did not exceed 20,000 in 1298 AH [1880], they numbered 56,000 in 1337 AH [1918].

The Jews managed during WWI to obtain the Balfour Declaration in 1336 AH/1917 CE which stipulated the establishment of a national home for the Jews in Palestine. The Balfour Declaration contradicted the promises made by the English to Sharif Hussein Bin Ali to the effect that Syria, including Palestine, would belong to the Arabs following its liberation from the Ottoman Turks. When Sharif Hussein asked the English about that, they sent to him somebody who reassured him that the settlement of the Jews in Palestine did not contradict the Arabs' independence in that country. The deception was effective on Sharif Hussein.

In the peace conference that was convened in San Remo, Italy, in 1339 AH [1920] Britain was entrusted with the mandate over Palestine, on condition that it would take upon itself to carry out what had been provided for in the Balfour Declaration regarding the establishment of a national home for the Jews in Palestine. [Britain] appointed the Zionist Jew Herbert Samuel as a first British High Commissioner in Palestine. Britain began to change the Arab-Muslim character of Palestine, and the flood of Jewish immigration began to pour into Palestine. That was organized by the Jewish Agency which was established in 1339 AH [1920], and which is the largest Jewish organization in the world today, to take care of their interests. The Jewish Agency was given vast authority and Britain cooperated with it to the highest degree. It operated in Palestine as if it were a state within a state. It established Jewish colonies in Palestine and built there storehouses for weapons and ammunition. Jewish money flowed into these colonies.

In the year 1365 AH [1946] the Zionists blew up the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, the seat of the English imperialist government in Palestine. The disturbances by the Jews increased and Britain thought it advisable to submit the Palestine question to the General Assembly of the United Nations. In 1366 AH [1947] the General Assembly of the UN adopted by a majority of 33 votes, among them the USA, the former Soviet Union and France, a resolution for partitioning Palestine into two states, Arab and Jewish, with the internationalization of Jerusalem. Thirteen states opposed this resolution, among them the Arab states, Turkey and Pakistan. Britain abstained.

Immediately following the adoption of the partition resolution in the UN, the Jews announced that they accepted it while the Arabs rejected it. Britain announced that it would withdraw from Palestine in 1367 AH [1948]. British Imperialism, which imposed the Jewish immigration on Palestine during the Mandate period, thus enabled them to increase numerically and become a third of the inhabitants of Palestine in 1368 AH [1948] while their proportion did not exceed 1/12 of the Palestinians at the beginning of the Mandate period in 1339 AH [1920].

There were four military confrontations between the Arabs and the Jews since the ending of the British Mandate over Palestine:

The First Confrontation

The war of Palestine was in 1368 AH [1948]. Seven Arab states participated in it, namely Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and Trans-Jordan, in addition to the forces of the Palestinian Jihad fighters and the non-Palestinian Arab and Muslim volunteers. Although the Jews were very competent militarily and had military equipment in great quantities, the Arab armies succeeded in inflicting upon them shocking defeats. The Arab artillery bombarded Tel Aviv and the Arabs' victory appeared to be close at hand. But the great powers resorted to deception and asked, in response to Israel's wish after it had been struck by panic, to conclude a truce two weeks after the fighting had begun. During that truce Israel acquired great quantities of military equipment, especially aircrafts, tanks and heavy artillery, in addition to large numbers of volunteers from western countries. [Then] Israel proceeded to usurp new lands. Nothing was left of Palestine except the Gaza Strip, which came under Egyptian administration, and the West Bank, which was annexed by King Abdullah to Jordan.

The Second Confrontation

It took the form of a treacherous tripartite aggression on Egypt and the Gaza Strip on the part of Israel, France and Britain in 1376 AH [1956]. Thus, the forces of Imperialism, Crusadism and Zionism cooperated in pouring their hidden malice on the Arabs and the Muslims. What irritated [both] the English and French was the nationalization of the Suez Canal in 1376 [1956]. France was [also] irritated by Egypt's help to the Algerian revolt in weapons and by training the [Algerian] Jihad fighters. Israel was angry at Egypt for the latter's closure of the Gulf of Aqaba for vessels making their way to Israel, whatever their type was. England and France resorted to methods of military invasion of the nineteenth century. Planes hit Port Said with bombs while Israel swept through the Sinai Peninsula. The Security Council asked the aggressor states to withdraw. UN emergency forces were deployed on the border of the Gaza Strip, on the Egyptian-Israeli border and along the Gulf of Aqaba.

The Third Confrontation

In the year 1387 AH/1967 CE Israeli planes attacked the Egyptian airfields, and the Egyptian air force was destroyed in a few hours. Then, enemy forces swept through the Gaza Strip and Sinai up to the Suez Canal, and then - through the West Bank down to the River Jordan, occupying Jerusalem. During the other three days the enemy swept also through the Syrian heights (the Golan Heights) and occupied the town of Quneitra. In accordance with the request of Egypt, Syria and Jordan a ceasefire took place. The Suez Canal was closed and shipping there stopped. The Israelis put loudspeakers on the armored cars in the rest of the Palestinian cities and asked the inhabitants to leave the country or else their safety would not be guaranteed. They warned them that their houses would be blown up over their heads. Thus, large numbers of Palestinians departed from their country because of fear and inevitable destruction. The Jews built a defensive line alongside the Suez Canal on the Sinai side and named it Bar-Lev Line so that it would prevent any attack from the direction of Egypt against Israel. They began boasting of it [saying] that it would become a graveyard for anyone who dreamed of its crossing.

The Fourth Confrontation

In the war of the tenth of Ramadan 1393 AH (sixth of October 1973) the Egyptian and Syrian forces surprised the Israeli enemy with a violent offensive, which brought about God's victory for the Egyptians who crossed the Suez Canal, crushed the Bar-Lev Line and the legend of Israeli superiority, while the Syrians managed to advance on the Golan Heights. The UN intervened and asked the warring parties to stop fighting after the Egyptians had advanced in the Sinai Peninsula. Following the negotiations conducted by the US in order to end the 'problem of the Middle East' the Syrians got back Quneitra from Israel while the Israeli forces withdrew from Sinai to the international border. Israel still occupies the Gaza Strip, the [West] Bank and the Golan Heights in Syria and has not yet recognized the Palestinian people's right of self determination on its land and soil. Biography of the Prophet and History of the Muslim State, Grade 10, (2001) pp. 113-118.

6. What are the most important results of each of the third and fourth confrontations between the Arabs and Israel?

Biography of the Prophet and History of the Muslim State, Grade 10, (2001) p. 122

When Britain withdrew from Palestine in the year 1376 AH (1948 CE) the Jews declared the establishment of a state of their own there and named it the State of Israel. In order to fulfill [their] duty, the Arab states decided to intervene militarily to save the Palestinians. But the situation of the Arabs and external circumstances did not let the Arabs gain victory over the Jews. Most parts of Palestine came to be under Zionist rule. Later, the Zionists took control over the rest of Palestine, including Jerusalem, as a result of the 1387 AH war [1967].

History of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Grade 6, (2001) p. 60

The Palestinians suffer today under Jewish rule from [various] types of oppression, and those who live in the refugee camps outside Palestine suffer from much more injustice and hardship.

History of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Grade 6, (2001) p. 60

Our beloved Palestine fell victim to greedy ambitions and malice.

[Literary] Study, Grade 10, (2001) p. 107

The Palestinians suffer from Jewish occupation and its continuous harassment, and their conditions have become very bad.

Geography of the Muslim World, Grade 8, (1994) p. 46

The Significance of the Occupation of Palestine

The loss of Palestine involves further grave implications for Arabs and Muslims, as indicated by Saudi textbooks. First, occupied Palestine has become a base for Imperialism's designs against the Muslim world. Secondly, it has become a stepping-stone for further conquests by the Jews, or, at least, for widening their sphere of influence in the Middle East. Thirdly, the loss of Palestine, and later - of the Muslim holy places there (in 1967) - has caused the loss of Arab and Muslim dignity.

Palestine has remained Muslim since it was conquered by the Muslims. But Imperialism has created within the Arab nation's body an alien element - the Jews, who managed to occupy Palestine with the help of the enemies of Islam - so that element would be a source of harassment and worry, [a cause] of the elimination of the Muslim world's economies, as well as [a cause] of the fragmentation of its unity.

Geography, Grade 6, (1999) p. 42

The cause of Palestine does not need any more shouting and statements... It is much bigger than that. It is the beginning of an alarm call to all the countries of the Arab world. It is not a secret anymore that the Jews' leaders aspire to spread their influence over all of the Arab countries. That is what the Jewish leader Ben Hecht wrote in the New York Times in April 1948, saying: 'There is no way [for us] to have mutual understanding with the Arabs, unless we prepare a Jewish expeditionary force which will occupy Medina and do so and so, and then the Arabs will hurry toward us humble and humiliated, asking for mutual understanding with us' .

Such are their feelings and goals. They should reach every heart and every ear, so that the sons of Islam will know the essence of this unexpected danger that lies in wait for them... I imagine it to be an unexpected danger and a potential aggression which is not limited to one Arab nation [only]. I consider every Muslim in the Arab countries responsible for his role and lot in this general duty. [Literary] Study, Grade 10, (2001) pp. 108-109

This [the problem of Palestine] is a difficult problem that has lived in the Arabs' minds and nerves and occupied the minds of the intelligent people and the politicians. But it is still like a deep seated wound that bleeds and causes pain.

[Literary] Study, Grade 10, (2001) p.108

Questions

- The author has quoted the statement of a Jewish leader in one of the American papers. What is the name of this Jew? What did he say? And what does his statement indicate?
- The Jews' greedy ambitions do not stop at the limit of military control but rather go beyond [that] to other types of control, such as economic, and moral. Talk about this idea, warning of those greedy ambitions...
- 'The problem of Palestine is like a deep seated wound.' This phrase includes a metaphor. Clarify it and explain its influence on the meaning.

[Literary] Study, Grade 10, (2001) p. 110

Stimulation by Umar Abu Risha [extracts]

The occasion: The Arabs in Palestine rushed into battle against the Israeli occupation in the year 1367/1948 and suffered a grave set-back. The poet then recited this poem describing his nation's situation and stimulating its zeal:

My nation, do you have among the nations
a rostrum for the sword or pen?

* Ben Hecht (1894-1964), a Jewish American journalist, novelist, playwright, screenwriter, director and producer, was a Zionist activist involved with the right-wing Irgun organization during the 1940's. A search in the New York Times index of 1948 did not provide any reference to an article by Ben Hecht with the name "Medina" in it.

... Is it for Israel that a flag will be hoisted
in the sanctuary of the Nativity and in the shadow of the Haram?!
How [could] you be lenient with humiliation and not
shake off the dust of accusations?!
Were you not - when injustice assailed -
a wave of flame or blood?...
Reader and Texts, Grade 9, pt. 2 (2002) p. 79

The poet asks himself bitterly if there has been left for his nation among the [other] nations room for [showing its] courage and eloquence. He feels sorry for its shining past which inspired his poems with the notions of glory and pride, then lost its way for a while, and later vanished as in a trice. He speaks with grief about his nation's painful present, as Israel occupies the holy places in Palestine. He is amazed at his nation: how [could] it keep silent in the face of the humiliating defeat and occupation. He praises its brave attitude in the past when attacked by an aggressor. The cry for help by the orphan girls in Palestine, because of the brutal Israeli aggression, reminds him of the cry for help [uttered] by the Muslim woman to Caliph al-Mu'tasim who responded to her call and saved her, while the orphan girls in Palestine have not found a savior. The poet praises the Muslim soldier and speaks highly of his courage, his undertaking to sacrifice his soul in the cause of God.
Reader and Texts, Grade 9, pt. 2 (2002) p. 81

Discussion

1. Whom does the poet mean by his nation?
2. Why does the poet chide his nation?
3. Define the verses in which the poet takes pride in his nation's glories.
4. Compare your nation's condition in the past and at present.
5. How did the Muslim nation face aggression in the past?
6. Why did the poet praise the Muslim soldier?
7. Enumerate some of the acts of aggression committed by the Jews in Palestine.
8. Mention some of the wars waged by the Arabs in Palestine.
9. With what will the Muslims get Palestine back?
10. Choose from the poem two verses you admire and explain them in your own style.

Reader and Texts, Grade 9, pt. 2 (2002) p. 81

Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Mosque

The religious aspect of the Palestine issue, embodied in al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, is emphasized in the Saudi textbooks. A recurring theme in this context is that the holy places have been defiled by the Jews and should be purified of their presence.

The city of Jerusalem is very important to the Muslims, because al-Aqsa Mosque is there... and [because] thence our Prophet Muhammad was made to ascend to Heaven. Jerusalem has become a focus of our enemies' desires since early times. The Crusaders occupied Jerusalem for almost 90 years and the hero Salah al-Din al-Ayyubi [Saladin] liberated it... Jerusalem has fallen now under Zionist occupation. The Muslims aspire today to its return from the [hands of the] usurping Zionists who have wrought havoc there, set fire to al-Aqsa Mosque and humiliated its Muslim inhabitants. The Muslims

* The Haram [Sanctuary] is the official Muslim name for the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, where both al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock are located. It should be noted that both holy places, as well as the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, remained in Jordanian hands until 1967, which makes the verses of this 1948-poem somewhat premature.
** It was a mentally-ill, Australian Christian tourist who set fire to al-Aqsa Mosque in 1969, not an Israeli or a Jew. Whatever the Muslims' feelings regarding the current situation in Jerusalem, it should be noted that the Temple Mount - where both al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock are located - is exclusively administered by the Muslim endowment authorities [Waqf], without the interference of Israeli authorities. The latter intervene only in cases of a disturbance on the Mount which endangers the safety of Jewish worshippers at the Wailing Wall below.

will be able - with God's power - to liberate Jerusalem and purify it - God willing - from the foreigners and occupiers.

History of the Muslim State, Grade 5, (2001) p. 67

Jerusalem is the capital of Palestine... The Jews seized control of it in 1967 CE as part of their brutal aggressions against the Muslim countries. God willing, it will return soon.

Geography of the Muslim World, Grade 8, (1994) p. 46

All Muslims stand together for the realization of their common goals, such as [the following]:

1. Purification of Jerusalem from the filth of Zionism, and the liberation of Palestine.

Geography of the Muslim World, Grade 8, (1994) p. 37

Exercise 4: Put in the blank spaces within the following phrases the proper signs from among the following ones: ' ' ' ? ' () ' !'

1. O God ' ' Liberate Jerusalem from the oppressing usurpers ' ' .

Dictation, Grade 6, pt. 2 (1999) p. 55

In our time the Jews have occupied Palestine... They have taken possession of al-Aqsa Mosque and have defiled its holiness...

Reader and [Holy] Texts, Grade 6, pt. 1 (2001) p. 33

What should the Muslim do in order to liberate al-Aqsa Mosque?

Reader and [Holy] Texts, Grade 6, pt. 1 (2001) p. 34

The hand of Jewish aggression is extended today to al-Aqsa Mosque. The Muslims in all parts of the earth are entrusted with the duty of defense and Jihad which will ensure the Muslims' glory and dignity and the purification of the Islamic holy places.

Geography, Grade 6, (1999) p. 43

Al-Aqsa Mosque will be saved from the harm [done] by the Jews.

Geography of the Muslim World, Grade 8, (1994) p. 46

Stimulation by Umar Abu Risha [extracts]

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a rostrum for the sword or pen?

... Is it for Israel that a flag will be hoisted

in the sanctuary of the Nativity and in the shadow of the Haram?!

How [could] you be lenient with humiliation and not

shake off the dust of accusations?!

Were you not - when injustice assailed -

a wave of flame or blood?...

Reader and Texts, Grade 9, pt. 2 (2002) p. 79

The Refugees

The problem of the Palestinian refugees is not dwelt upon to any great extent. The blame for their distress is put exclusively on the Jews' shoulders. No connection is made between the refugee problem

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and the Palestinian and Arab attack against the Jews in 1947-8, in defiance of the UN resolution regarding the partition of the country and the establishment of two independent states there, one Jewish and one Arab, which the Jews had accepted.

As a result of the Zionist gangs' terror against the Palestinian inhabitants - many of them have emigrated to the neighboring Arab countries.

History of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Grade 6, (2001) p. 60

The Israelis put loudspeakers on the armored cars in the rest of the Palestinian cities [following the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza in 1967] and asked the inhabitants to leave the country or else their safety would not be guaranteed. They warned them that their houses would be blown up over their heads. Thus, large numbers of Palestinians departed from their country because of fear and inevitable destruction.

Biography of the Prophet and History of the Muslim State, Grade 10, (2001) p. 117

... Those who live in the refugee camps outside Palestine suffer from much more injustice and hardship.

History of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Grade 6, (2001) p. 60

It should be remembered that the Jewish immigration to Palestine continues, especially from the states of eastern Europe, while many of the Palestinians, the original inhabitants, have left to become refugees in the Arab countries.

Geography of the Muslim World, Grade 8, (1994) p. 46

The Obligation to Liberate Palestine

This is the only solution seen for the Palestinian issue. According to the Saudi textbooks, all Muslims are obliged to liberate Palestine and, with God's help, they will be successful as they were against the Crusaders and the Mongols. Liberation further assumes a character of purification of the country, and the holy places especially, from the filth of Zionism. Liberation is also a means of assuring the Muslims' glory and dignity.

In our time the Jews have occupied Palestine with the help of Crusadism [i.e., modern Western Imperialism] - which harbors malice towards Islam. They have taken possession of al-Aqsa Mosque and have defiled its holiness. But the Muslims will not sit idly in the face of this injustice, and will not put up with this occupation. With the help of God they will drive away those usurpers, no matter how long it will take. On that day the believers will rejoice at God's victory.

Reader and [Holy] Texts, Grade 6, pt. 1 (2001) p. 33

Read the following phrase and then write it once in a Naskhi [ordinary] script and then - in a Ruq'ah [cursive] script:

The Muslims will drive away - with God's help - the Jewish usurpers and on that day the believers will rejoice at God's victory.

Reader and [Holy] Texts, Grade 6, pt. 1 (2001) p. 36

But God... guarantees victory to those who cleave to Him, and as the Muslims in the past succeeded - having become united and devoted to Him - in driving away the Crusader Christians from Palestine, so the Arabs and Muslims will be victorious - God willing - over the Jews and their helpers as soon as they become united and fight for God the Jihad He deserves.

History of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Grade 6, (2001) p. 61

The hand of Jewish aggression is extended today to al-Aqsa Mosque. The Muslims in all parts of the land are entrusted with the duty of defense and Jihad, which will ensure the Muslims' glory and dignity and the purification of the Islamic holy places.

Geography, Grade 6, (1999) p. 43

It has become an obligation of the Arab states to get rid of this nightmare [the Zionist entity] that crouches on their land, as they got rid of the invasion of the Tatars, the Crusaders and of European Imperialism.

Geography of the Muslim World, Grade 8, (1994) p. 21

All Muslims stand together for the realization of their common goals, like [the following]:

1. Purification of Jerusalem from the filth of Zionism, and the liberation of Palestine.

Geography of the Muslim World, Grade 8, (1994) p. 37

Questions:

2. What is the ideal solution for the liberation of Palestine from the Jews?

Geography, Grade 6, (1999) p. 43

What is the lesson we could draw from the defeat of the Mongols for [the purpose of] our confrontation with the Jews today?

Reader and Texts, Grade 7, pt. 2 (2001) p. 55

It [the Negev region] will be liberated by God's power, with all of Palestine, to become [again] a pure Muslim land, and al-Aqsa Mosque will be saved from the harm [done] by the Jews.

Geography of the Muslim World, Grade 8, (1994) p. 46

Lesson 11: How will we get Palestine back?

What can I say about Palestine? Has experience proved the value of words in recovering stolen rights and ruined dignity? Has history ever told us, since people started to write it down and learn it, of freedom given to the usurper by the usurper? Or of an unjust aggressor giving a right to those to whom it belongs? Nothing like this has happened. Freedom and dignity has to be wrested [by force]. For the nations to obtain their stolen rights, throngs shall fall [in battle] and martyrs' blood shall flow over the plains, after they have sacrificed their souls and blood generously in the cause of protecting their faith and homeland. This is an established fact which never changes...

The sword is a more sincere herald than letters

Its edge is the borderline between seriousness and play.

This is true! The sword is always sincere in its statement, and its words are brief...

If we were thinking of getting the stolen homeland back, let us think - before that - of strengthening our tie with God... After that it should be clear that the round [in the war] of Islam with its enemies is coming, without doubt. For it is stupid for us to expect from our enemies to understand our situation or to defend our causes... Let every Muslim know that it is demanded of him to protect God's religion. Is there any way for a Muslim to get closer to God, after monotheism, other than Jihad in His cause...?!

The Muslims will never get Palestine, or other [regions], back without holy Jihad by which faithful throngs will march and fight, so that God's word shall be the highest. And I do not think there will be among us one who will refrain from answering such a faithful call...

فلن يستعيد المسلمون فلسطين، ولا غيرها، إلا بالجهاد المقدس، تزحف به جموع مؤمنة، تقاتل، لتكون كلمة الله هي العليا. ولا أحسب فينا، من سيخجم عن إجابة مثل هذا النداء المؤمن،

[Literary] Study, Grade 10, (2001) pp. 107, 109

Questions

- What does history say about the return of rights and freedom to whom they belonged?
- What do nations do in order to obtain their stolen rights?
- What is the solution seen by the author for the problem of the Israeli danger?
- Holy Jihad is the Muslims' path to the recovery of Palestine. Clarify that.

[Literary] Study, Grade 10, (2001) p. 110

With what will the Muslims get Palestine back?

Reader and Texts, Grade 9, pt. 2 (2002) p. 81

Saudi Arabia's Role in the Struggle for Palestine

We can say with the utmost pride that our army is at the apex of distinction and capability. Nothing can prove it better than the glorious battles recorded by the men of the [Saudi] armed forces during the [1948] war of Palestine, as they took part in it with acknowledged bravery.

National Education, Grade 9, (2000) p. 32

The Kingdom has [made] honorable efforts to support the Palestinian cause. Among them [are the following]:

1. The efforts made by the late King Abd al-Aziz to convince the heads of the great powers to remove the injustice suffered by the Palestinians.
2. Sending a division of the Saudi army to participate with the [other] Arab armies in the war of 1367 AH [1948] against the Jews and help the Palestinians.
3. The continuous material and the moral support presented by the Kingdom to the Palestinians and to their just cause.

History of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Grade 6, (2001) p. 60

3. What are the efforts that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom has made, and still makes, regarding the Palestinian cause?

History of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Grade 6, (2001) p. 65

King Abd al-Aziz... supported all causes of Arab liberation, to the fore of which [stood] the Arabs' primary cause - the problem of Palestine.

History of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Grade 6, (2001) p. 39

At the fore of the issues that the Kingdom contributed to, and is still contributing - is the Palestine problem...

History of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Grade 6, (2001) p. 58

Since the reign of the late King Abd al-Aziz the Kingdom has stood at the side of the people of Palestine, supporting and assisting it in [its struggle] to achieve its legitimate rights, on the basis of the principles of fraternity in Islam and in defense of the rights of the Muslim people of Palestine.

The Kingdom continues its efforts for the sake of the Palestinian people, and provides it with all types of assistance and support so that it will achieve its usurped right.

National Education, Grade 6, (2001) p. 27

Remember:

...

- The Kingdom supports the cause of Palestine.

National Education, Grade 6, (2001) p. 27

[Assignments:]

1. Write three lines in which you clarify the attitude of the Kingdom toward the Palestinian problem.

2. Put a 'V' next to the correct phrase and an 'X' next to the incorrect phrase:

- The Kingdom helps the Palestinians achieve their rights.
- The Kingdom helps the Palestinian people with money only.

National Education, Grade 6, (2001) p. 28