

Israeli Apartheid will fall!

Palestinians will win in their struggle against Israeli Apartheid and its U.S. imperialist backer

1

By Ben Seattle – November 25, 2023 – (d23.9am) – posted at: <http://communism.org/Ben>

Inside this leaflet

- ▶ **Apartheid has no right to exist**
- ▶ **One state vs. Two states (reality vs. fraud)**
- ▶ **Rely on Hamas or the working class?**
- ▶ **What is Apartheid? (Partition and segregation)**
- ▶ **From Ukraine to Palestine, Occupation is a crime**
- ▶ **What is imperialism? (A concise history)**
- ▶ **FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)**
- ▶ **Social media and information war**

Hi folks, This leaflet is not quite finished, but I wanted to comment on new developments for the November 25 protest here in Seattle. So here is what I have so far. **You can help me write a better leaflet** by letting me know what questions that you would like to see me address--or any errors I made.

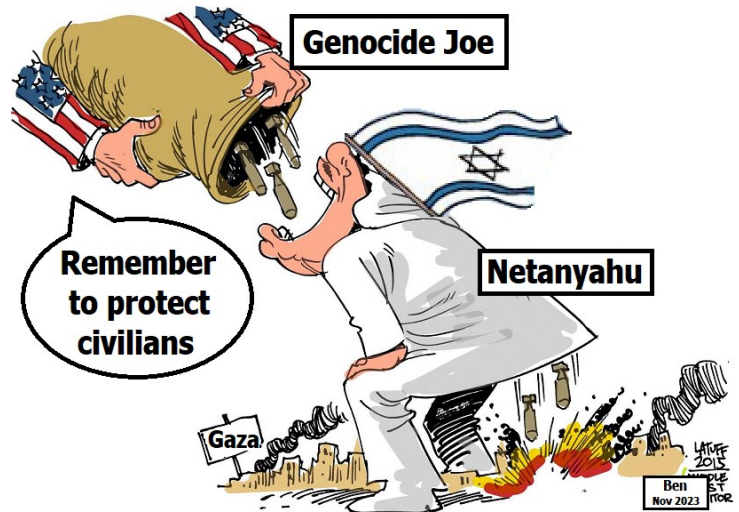
Email me at:
box401@WeaponOfTransparency.com

In the meantime, I will lead with my article from October 12, followed by more material on the fraud of the so-called two-state solution—which is being promoted by imperialist politicians everywhere—from China's Xi to "our" own Bernie Sanders.

Apartheid has no right to exist

- ▶ **For a secular and democratic state with equal rights for all**
- ▶ **Palestinians must have the right of return**

The Israeli state and occupied territories are based on a system of apartheid segregation. Roughly half of the 15 million people there are Jewish, and the other half are Palestinians. The Palestinians are, at best, 2nd class citizens. The Jewish half of the population gets about 90 percent of the land, 90 percent of the fresh water, and more than 90 percent of the economic development. The native Palestinians have been left with no place to go,



existing in crowded refugee camps for 75 years, on the edge of survival, with no future and no rights other than to suffer and die.

The Palestinians are a problem in the narrative of Western media, because they are difficult to explain. Supposedly, they are terrorists, hate Jews, or are simply evil.

The Western media often justifies this apartheid segregation as resulting from decisions made by god (or colonial Britain) at a time when colonial powers had the ability to carve up and plunder the world as they wished. We are also told that this was all (supposedly) settled because Israel had more modern military technology and won a series of wars in which the defeated Palestinians--who had lived there for thousands of years--were massacred, ethnically cleansed and herded into crowded ghettos--including the largest open-air prison in the world--the Gaza strip, home to more than 2 million people--and currently being deprived of food, water and electricity.

But the problem, for the theocratic racist settler state of Israel, and its U.S. imperialist sponsor, is that the Palestinians still exist. In spite of being defeated,

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Want to piss off BOTH of our imperialist parties? Use this slogan:

**From the river to the sea,
Palestine will be free!**



One State vs. Two States

Worldwide public outrage may force Israel and its US imperialist backer to implement the two-state solution that was promised 30 years ago. But this would still be nothing but a thinly disguised form of apartheid. Nothing short of an end to apartheid and a secular and democratic state (with one-man-one-vote) will bring peace and justice to Palestinians

► they refuse to behave like a defeated people and insist they have the right to resist. And, furthermore, the Palestinians enjoy broad sympathy and support from millions of Arabs, Muslims and progressive peoples in the region and the world.

A theocratic state based on a religious identity was supposedly necessary to protect Jews after the horror of the holocaust. But the inability of this state to recognize the native inhabitants of the land as human beings is steadily making it clear that a different solution is needed: a common democratic and secular state where ever person has equal rights.

"Two-state solution" was always a fraud

For decades the Western press has talked of the "two-state solution" to the "Palestinian problem", in which an Arab and Jewish state would each exist, side-by-side. The reality of this fraud is what we see today: the Israeli government, with U.S. help, has created Palestinian mini-states: Gaza is run by Hamas, while the **puppet "Palestinian Authority"** runs the West Bank. Both Hamas and the PA ruthlessly suppress independent and democratic Palestinian unions and political organizations in their respective territories. On top of this, the Israeli military helps settler militias carry out KKK-like pogroms against Palestinians in the West Bank, and periodically carries out random (supposedly targeted) bombings in Gaza, killing thousands in a process it calls "mowing the lawn".

Eventually, the Palestinian and Jewish working classes will find ways to combine their struggles against the many reactionary forces arrayed against them, and create a common democratic and secular state. Such a state will be called whatever its inhabitants decide, but they are unlikely to call it "Israel", given Israel's many crimes and founding purpose as an outpost of imperialism in the heart of the oil-rich Arab world. Rather, they are likely to call it by its original name: "Palestine". Keep this in mind the next time you hear about Israel's supposedly sacred "right to exist".

The apartheid state of Israel was created in 1948 as a US/European fortress in the Arab world. Palestinian resistance eventually led to the Oslo agreements of 1993, in which the US and Israel agreed to the creation of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza. In exchange for this empty promise, the main Palestinian organization, the PLO, agreed to recognize the apartheid state and end all resistance. Following this betrayal, Hamas, a resistance movement organized around the Islamic religion, became popular and took control of Gaza in 2007 after winning an election and a civil war.

Public outrage over the ongoing slaughter in Gaza is threatening to destabilise the Arab allies of US imperialism and disrupt the budding alliance between Israel and the reactionary kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The two-state solution was always aimed at creating a **powerless Palestinian mini-state controlled by Israel with the help of obedient Palestinian puppets**. Over the years, Israel's continued bombing of Gaza and the expansion of settlements in the West Bank have led to the two-state solution **losing all credibility** and the re-emergence of the idea of a one-state solution—with equal rights for all. This would mean an end to apartheid.

For this reason imperialist politicians and experts from across the political spectrum have been discussing ways of **restoring the credibility** of a two-state solution. Some reforms might include a halt to settlement expansion and the murderous settler rampages in the West Bank, allowing travel between Gaza and the West Bank, and some additional territory for Palestinians in the Negev desert. But such proposals all have a problem: **there is only so much lipstick you can put on a pig**. For example, imperialist mouthpiece Thomas Friedman [NYT, Nov 14] explains that the U.S. and its Arab allies would need to purge the education system of the Palestinian state of all "anti-Israel" material. A two-state solution still represent a thinly disguised form of Apartheid.

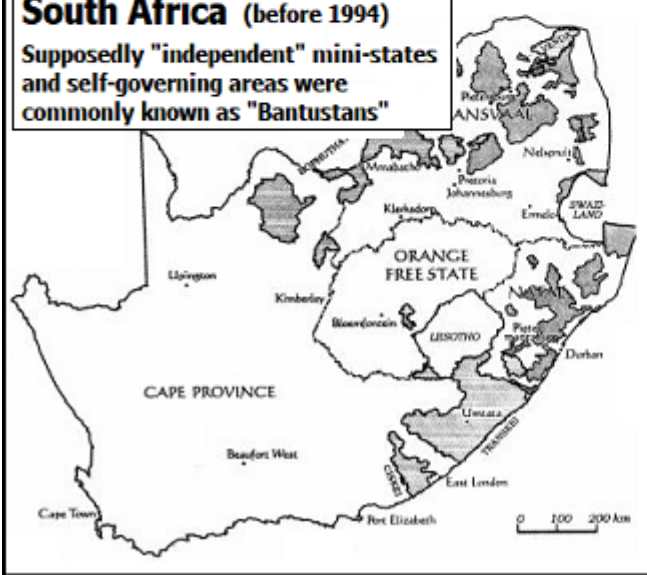
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"Two State Solution" means Apartheid and "Bantustans"

Palestinians in the West Bank are divided into more than 160 disconnected and economically crippled "islands". Travel from one island to another (to go to and from work, shop, or visit friends or relatives) requires waiting in lengthy lines to go through security checkpoints. These checkpoints can be understood as being similar to TSA screening at airports—if while going through TSA, you had guns pointed at you by soldiers who were insulting and humiliating you—and who could shoot you for any sudden movement or other "suspicious" activity. Between these islands is a spiderweb of fast highways on which only Jewish settlers are allowed to drive.

South Africa (before 1994)

Supposedly "independent" mini-states and self-governing areas were commonly known as "Bantustans"



► The path forward for the Palestinian solidarity movement is not the fraud of a two state solution or any disguised form of Apartheid. Rather, it must be based on the lessons of successful struggle against Apartheid in **South Africa**, as well as the national liberation struggles of **Ireland** against Britain, **Algeria** against France, and **Vietnam** against France and then the U.S.

In all of these struggles, a key role was played by the **war for public opinion** in the oppressing country. In the case of Palestine, it is U.S. imperialism and its European allies which are the oppressing countries—as Israel is essentially a U.S. colony. Hence, what activists do here counts—a lot. ■

Rely on Hamas or the working class?

Working class support for the Palestinian cause requires discussion of the elephant in the room

Hamas became popular because it refused to give up resistance to apartheid and other Israeli crimes. But the orientation of Hamas creates problems we cannot ignore. Aside from its inability to see the need for a secular and democratic state with equal rights for all, and its **suppression of democratic political trends** within Gaza, the Hamas tactic that includes the deliberate murder of civilians damages the Palestinian movement in a way that Israeli bombing cannot—and **drives a wedge** between the Palestinian cause and the mass of working people around the world.

Some within the solidarity movement believe that opposing the orientation and tactics of Hamas will weaken the Palestinian movement, either because it would assist imperialism in its **divide-and-conquer tactic**, or because it represents a futile effort to placate

imperialism. But **ignoring** the wrong orientation of Hamas has made it more difficult to **bring clarity to the working class** on the path forward. One reason many people are hesitant to express solidarity with the Palestinian cause is a sense of unease about aligning themselves with a movement that appears (to many) to embrace (or ignore) the deliberate murder of civilian non-combatants. This is not a simple issue, but we cannot ignore it without **weakening** the solidarity movement. Rather, the solidarity movement can **reject both the two-state solution** based on Bantustans supposedly governed by the **puppet PA**, as well as attacks on unarmed civilians. We can support the right of Palestinians to armed self-defence and liberation—while rejecting attacks on civilians. And we can **work to bring down the system of Israeli Apartheid**--and stand in favor of a single democratic state with equal rights for all. ■

What is Apartheid?

The word "apartheid" (ie: "apartness") was the official name of the South African system of racial segregation. Apartheid isn't just a description of what happened in South Africa--it's actually a crime against humanity under international law.

Both Israeli Jews and Palestinians are ruled by one government, with policies based on the idea of advancing the supremacy and domination of one group of people, Jews. In 2021 Human Rights Watch accused Israel of carrying out apartheid on the basis of the 1973 apartheid convention, which says three elements have to occur for the crime of apartheid to apply:

- (1) an intent by one group to dominate the other
- (2) systematic oppression by one group over another,
- (3) one or more inhumane acts. such as: (a) denying people the right to leave or return to their country, (b) expropriation of land and property, and (c) the creation of separate reserves and ghettos.

Israeli is guilty of all of this—in spades. ■

From Ukraine to Palestine, Occupation is a crime

Palestinians are not the only people who are fighting against an illegal occupation. The Ukrainian people are also fighting against an occupying power: Russian imperialism. Unfortunately, many trends on the left fail to express solidarity with the struggle of the Ukrainian people because U.S. imperialism is giving them weapons as part of its competition with its Russian imperialist rival. But we do not need to side with one imperialism against another—we can express international working class solidarity.

More on this can be found here:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2023/11/8/ukrainia-n-letter-of-solidarity-with-the-palestinian>
<https://linktr.ee/ukrainesocialistsolidaritycpgn>
<https://commons.com.ua/en/intervyu-z-danoyu-el-kurd/>
<https://communistvoice.org/00Palestine.html>
<https://communistvoice.org/00Ukraine.html>

A concise history of imperialism

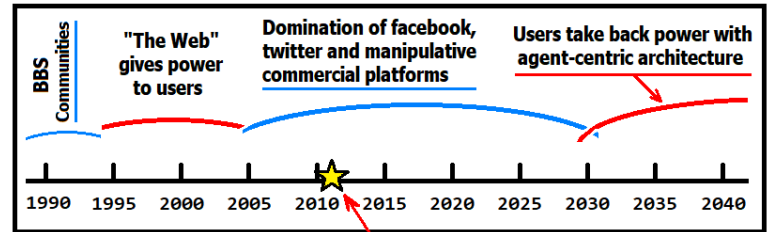
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Frequently asked Questions

(email me your questions . . . to improve this leaflet)

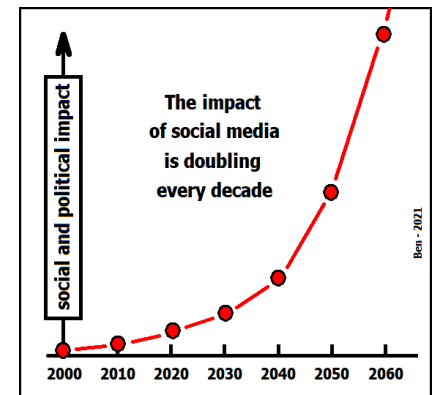
The whole world is watching

Growing support for the Palestinian people on social media shows that a single truth can be more powerful than a hundred lies



In spite of highly manipulative censorship (including post demotion and shadow-banning) from facebook, instagram and twitter/x as well as news describing the deliberate bombing of civilians and cutting off of food and water as a “war” – the Palestinian cause is still winning the information war worldwide and here in the U.S.

Democratic revolts in the Arab world sparked by social media



Social media has emerged as an increasingly powerful factor in world politics. After social media helped spark the Arab democratic revolts of 2011, U.S. imperialism has become nervous that images of the slaughter in Gaza could destabilize its client regimes in Egypt and Jordan—or even Saudi Arabia. Social media is also revealing to millions the true nature of “**democracy**” in countries like the U.S., Israel and its European allies. Eventually, social media will also bring to millions the idea that our society, and the world, needs to be ruled by the **working class** instead of the servants of **capital**.

At present, social media is owned by billionaires, who use **manipulative algorithms** to keep us ignorant and fighting amongst ourselves. However **tech activists** are working today to create a new generation of **democratic social media** that, rather than aiming to make a big pile of money, will not be monetizable, and will be beyond the control of any corporation or government. **Transparency** is relentlessly emerging as a powerful new force in humanity’s century of information war. ■