

letters

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their land back" which does not mean that the Jews have to leave! But one should realize that Judaism is a religion and not a nationality.

You may not know that the "strict" Jews refuse to accept today's State of Israel, because to them it is not yet the will of God. They believe that only when Messiah will come and all the Jewish people of the world will come to the Holy Land, only then will the Jews receive their own state.

I wanted to help the people understand the OASN's concern over the Arabs' world peace. I realize that it is difficult to understand happenings outside the USA. Now more than ever, I feel it is imperative that people of the world establish a mutual understanding and working relationship.

Maybe instead of dismissing the Arabs as "those foreigners" we should listen to them instead of being too quick to criticize.

Any human being does not deserve to be ignored!

Bettina Stoll

Real Situation in Palestine

The letter signed by Raphael Zariski under "Elimination of Israel" (*Daily Nebraskan*, Dec. 7) reflects the fact that the writer is supporting Israel against the Palestinians, whom the Israelis forced to flee Palestine in 1948 at gun point.

Our ultimate objective is not the "elimination of Israel" but to change this fascist and racist state into a democratic state for all religions in the area. The name Palestine should be used instead of Israel because it was the name used before 1948. Besides, the name Israel which was taken from the Bible supports the idea that this state was established exclusively for the people of the Jewish faith. That is why Israel tried and is trying to evacuate the occupied areas of its Arab inhabitants just as they did in 1949.

In his letter, he implied that we will kill some of Israel's inhabitants in our struggle to establish the "Free Democratic Arab Palestinian State." We assure you, Mr. Zariski, we do not want to take revenge on the peaceful inhabitants of Israel when we liberate Palestine. Our goal is to liberate Palestine, not to kill people of the Jewish faith.

You have called our final goal the establishment of a "State for Moslems, Jews and Christians whereby they live together in peace and harmony" as a "racist domination by one ethnic group: The Arabs." Then, in fact, you are admitting that in

Israel, the people of the Jewish faith are dominating the country while the Palestinians Arabs (a minority) are treated as third degree citizens, the first being European Jews, the second being eastern Jews or Arabs of Jewish Faith.

We are astounded to discover that you have such an ability to twist facts: The lie is that Arabs never forced any "Israeli Jews" out of any Arab country in the 40s and 50s. These Arab Jews you are referring to left of their own free will because they were misled by the Zionist movement. Also they were brainwashed into leaving their original homelands in the Arab countries in the hope that they will kill more and more Palestinians. Now, some of them are returning to the Arab world especially to Morocco and Iraq. You have mentioned that they have interesting stories to tell. We will be much interested to read those alleged stories in the *Daily Nebraskan*.

The fact is, as the whole world knows by now, that the majority of the Palestinian Arabs were forced to leave their homelands in 1948 because otherwise they would have been killed. We hope that this fact will find a place in your apparently prejudiced mind.

The Palestinians have tried hard and peacefully to return to their homelands prior to 1967. Thank you for showing us that Israel will not accept back the Palestinian refugees unless they fight for it.

Mr. Zariski further claims that we have a commitment to violence. In 1965, the late Golda Meir said, "There is no such thing as Palestinians." On another occasion she said, "I cannot sleep at night when I hear that an Arab child is born." (She was referring to the Arabs living in Israel.) We did not have any commitment to violence before 1967, but Israel left us no choice as an examination of the facts reveal.

In the last paragraph of your letter, you describe the "Democratic Non-Sectarian Palestine" as a cheap slogan. I thought you, as a student, would be learned and intellectual enough not to describe unjustifiably the goals of 4.5 million Palestinians as a cheap slogan. You are simply insulting the whole Arab race by your pernicious description.

A final note: There are more than 10,000 Palestinian Arabs imprisoned and systematically tortured in Israeli prisons. I wonder if you have ever heard of that. I wonder also why people who claim to defend human rights choose to ignore this fact.

In the end, I hope you will be more informed about the real situation in the Middle East before you make any ignorant judgments.

Organization of Arab Students
Nebraska

Sentence correction is made

In Joseph P. Bernt's letter in the Monday issue of the *Daily Nebraskan* the word "not" was omitted from a sentence and in another sentence two words were omitted. The sentences should have read "By its current actions, however, the university indicates that teaching effectiveness in reality constitutes its last priority." And, "The proposed changes included the

following language: The rank of professor is among the highest honors the university can bestow on a faculty member, and should be granted only to faculty who have earned national and international reputation for their respective disciplines.

The *Daily Nebraskan* regrets the error.

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