



PLO DELEGATION

TO THE UNITED STATES

Monthly Report on Israeli Incitement

January 2016 Issue

In order to facilitate an environment that is conducive for peace and security, it is important to mitigate factors that contribute to keeping both Palestinians and Israelis from achieving progress. Incitement is one of those factors.

In this respect, the Palestinian Authority has undertaken initiatives that curb and diminish incitement against Israel; By 2006, the Palestinian Ministry of Education revised textbooks to ensure the removal of incitement. Additionally, President Abbas has repeatedly called for the activation of the trilateral incitement monitoring committee that was stipulated in the Wye River Memorandum of 1998.

In an effort to urge the Israeli government to condemn and redress incitement against Palestinians¹, this report highlights major incidents of Israeli incitement in public, media, and governmental spheres that occurred in **January 2016**.

In addition, this report traces Israeli actions and policies, even if not verbal, that amount to incitement. In fact, Israeli incitement, whether from official bodies or the public, happens mostly through wrong-doing rather than bad-mouthing. Finally, incitement is a symptom and a consequence of Israel's prolonged military occupation and therefore, to eradicate incitement, it is vital to address its root cause: the occupation.

Each story is followed by a brief assessment of how and why a particular incident amounts to Israeli incitement against Palestinians, titled *Inciting Elements*.

¹ Note: This report relies on Western, Israeli, and Arabic news sources reporting directly from Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories. Preference is given to news stories in English, but in the event that a story is only available in Arabic, the headline of the original story is translated and posted in this report. In the event that a link becomes inactive or dysfunctional, please contact the PLO Delegation in Washington, DC, and an alternative link will be provided.

Monthly Report:

January 11, 2016

Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Israel Uri Ariel: Annex Area C

Agriculture Minister Uri Ariel called on the government to annex Area C of the West Bank during a tour of Judea and Samaria led by the Knesset Land for Israel Caucus. Ariel has long been a vocal proponent of building in E1 and of unilaterally extending Israeli law to include Area C where all the settlements are located. Areas A and B of the West Bank, where the bulk of the Palestinians live, are under the civil control of the Palestinian Authority. "We should tell the prime minister, the government and the Knesset that the time has come to annex Area C," Ariel said. "If someone asks about Areas A and B, than their time will come. When, we will see. For now, let's agree on Area C. There is more than 60% of the [West Bank] territory, with 50,000 Arabs. They do not pose a problem to the state of Israel," he said. "I am suggesting that we unite around this call," he said.

[Read Article](#), **The Jerusalem Post**

Inciting Elements:

Ariel's view that Area C belongs to Israel is a disregard to previous peace agreements and the lives and homes of Palestinians living in the area. His belief that all three areas will eventually be part of Israel disregards and undermines Palestinians' right to a sovereign state and is an example of the widespread notion that Palestinians do not have to the right to self-determination.

January 18, 2016

Education Minister and Diaspora Affairs Minister Naftali Bennett

Bennett noted that soon, we will be celebrating the 50th year since the liberation of Israel's biblical heartland in 1967. "From a desolate countryside, we turned the magical tracts of Hevron, Yehuda, Samaria, Binyamin, Jerusalem and the Golan into areas teeming with 500,000 Jews who have returned to their homeland," he said, and promised: "We will be 700,000, then we will reach 900 thousand, and celebrate the million, and then we will reach two million Jews in Samaria, Hevron, the Etzion Bloc, Jerusalem, the Bik'a and Yehuda. We shall continue. And we shall win through life."

[Read Article](#), **Israel National News**

Inciting Elements:

In this speech, Bennett looks forward to a future that does not include a Palestinian state and the continuous growth of illegal Israeli settlements across Palestinian land. The minister is disregarding international laws, United Nations resolutions, and peace agreements that his government has signed that state that the West Bank belongs to Palestinians. He is also implying that the Jews who have illegally settled in the occupied West Bank are "returning," despite most settlers migrating from North America, Europe, and Russia, not the Middle East.

January 19, 2016

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu: We will remain in Israel forever

The Knesset celebrated its 67 years of establishment as well as the jubilee year of its Givat Ram building with an "Open House" for the general public all day Tuesday. Netanyahu also addressed the gathering, stressing that despite ongoing incitement from Palestinian leadership, the Jewish people

will not be uprooted from their land. "This is not a territorial dispute over territories or settlements; something like that we might be able to solve. The root of the conflict is the very existence of Israel and the desire to wipe us off the face of the earth. This is, of course, a false hope, because we will remain here forever," Netanyahu stressed. "No one is displacing us from our land and we will continue to build and protect it."

[Read Article](#), **Israel National News**

Inciting Elements:

Netanyahu is blatantly being a hypocrite in his statement that Jewish Israelis will not be displaced or uprooted from their new homes because it is the very act of displacing and uprooting Palestinians that took place in order for Jews to have these homes. He is forcing Palestinians into a second or third-class citizen status by saying that Jews cannot be uprooted but Palestinians can. Furthermore, to say that the conflict is not about the illegal settlements or dispute over territory is a false narrative that promulgates the idea that Palestinians have issues with Jews, when in reality it is the state of Israel itself - with its leaders and policies - that Palestinians take issue with.

January 22, 2016

Chief Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu Calls for Execution of Palestinians

Chief Israeli Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu announced Tuesday on Facebook that Palestinians should be executed in order to establish safety in Israel. "Israeli army has to stop arresting Palestinians," he posted on his Facebook wall, "but, it must execute them and leave no one alive." He went on: "We must not allow a Palestinian to survive after he was arrested. If you leave him alive, there is a fear that he will be released and kill other people." He added: "We must eradicate this evil from within our midst."

[Read Article](#), **Palestine News Network**

Inciting Elements:

The rabbi's extremely alarming words not only call for violence, but fear, as well. Hundreds of Palestinians are arrested and detained every year without cause. Not only do they not deserve to be arrested, but they certainly do not deserve to be killed in the process, either. Calling for the death of all Palestinians who are arrested is highly contrary to religious tenets that the rabbi represents and violates the rights of all humans to be safely arrested and given a fair trial. Moreover, Jewish extremists, terrorists, and murderers not held to the same idea that if arrested then they should be murdered qualifies this statement as racist and irresponsible.

January 24, 2016

Education Minister and Diaspora Affairs Minister Naftali Bennett: No Palestinian State Here

Education Minister Naftali Bennett on Sunday said that only when Palestinians accept that they will never have a state in the West Bank will they be able to live side-by-side with Israelis. "Since the dawn of Zionism there's been terror, and the answer was always settlement and attack," Bennett said, according to a report on the Hebrew-language Srugim website. "The terrorists act in the hope

of breaking us. Only when they understand that we are flourishing, only when they understand that there is no expectation of a Palestinian state here, will they be comfortable with our existence.”

[Read Article](#), **Times of Israel**

Inciting Elements:

The hope and push toward a Palestinian state is the most vital aspect of Palestinian nationalism. For Bennett to say that no state will ever exist is contrary to his government’s position that a two-state solution is possible, and is also in violation of United Nations resolutions and peace agreements stating that Palestinians deserve a state. Palestinians are uncomfortable with their position for the exact reason Bennett says is the only way they will be comfortable - the expanding illegal Israeli settlements on Palestinian lands.

January 24, 2016

Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked

At a tree-planting ceremony in the settlement Tekoa outside of Jerusalem, Justice Minister Shaked said: “The spirit of the Jewish people cannot be broken, and from within the great disaster we will continue to plant and to flourish, and to develop the settlement project in the beloved Land of Israel. The Jewish people wants to live in its country in peace and with a feeling of security.”

[Read Article](#), **Times of Israel**

Inciting Elements:

While speaking at an illegal settlement, Shaked called the land “country” in reference to Israel, which is incorrect and contributes to the reason why Palestinians are fighting for their own sovereign state. Palestinians also want to live in peace and security and to deny them that by continually imposing on their land and rights is unfair and violates the rights of all humans to live peacefully and securely.

January 26, 2016

Yesh Atid Leader and Knesset Member Yair Lapid: ‘Maximum Jews, minimum Palestinians’

In an interview with the right-wing newspaper Makor Rishon over the weekend, Lapid said it was clear the Left would not be in power for the next 30 years. “I come from a home with the legacy of the nationalist camp,” he said, noting that his father, former minister Yosef “Tommy” Lapid, was a follower of former prime minister Menachem Begin. “I am enthusiastically in favor of annexing the Golan. My principle says maximum Jews on maximum land with maximum security and with minimum Palestinians.”

[Read Article](#), **The Jerusalem Post**

Inciting Elements:

Although he claims to be a liberal, Lapid is very conservatively seeking the displacement of Palestinians from their homes and land in order for more Jews to illegally live in those areas. This form of nationalism that says that Jews have the right to anything belonging to Palestinians is extremely dangerous and disregards the rights of all humans to live freely on their property. By treating land that has belonged to Palestinians for centuries as something that can simply be

taken places Palestinians in an inferior position as people who don't have rights, or who simply don't exist, which is false.