



British soldiers surround Palestinian demonstration against Zionist immigration in 1933.

STRATEGIC ZIONIST GOALS ACHIEVED

Already forty years have passed since the establishment of this entity, and for more than half of this time the modern Palestinian revolution has existed... In the same period, six wars took place (1948, 1956, 1967, 1973, 1978, 1982), and there were constant skirmishes and military operations. The outcome of this continuous conflict has been, generally speaking, in favor of the enemy. The Zionist movement has attained a series of strategic objectives including:

1. Establishing a state larger than what was envisaged in the Partition Plan, as a result of the 1948 war.
2. Expanding the state to include Palestine as a whole, as well as parts of Syria and Egypt, through the 1967 war; and the expansion of its direct military involvement in Lebanon, due to the 1978 and 1982 wars.
3. Consolidating the state's internal structure at the socioeconomic and military levels, in accordance with a strategic plan.
4. Gaining increased acceptance by the states of the region, whether officially or unofficially, on the basis of shared interests, especially in the decade following the Camp David accords.
5. Monopolizing the initiative due to the balance of power being clearly in its favor.

What 'Israel' has achieved over the last forty years has promoted it from the category of a «haven for Jews» or «national homeland» to that of a great regional power which has emerged as a serious menace not only to the Palestinian and Arab people, but also to regional and international security.

The success achieved by the enemy is, in fact, much bigger than it appears when viewed in the light of certain considerations, two in particular: First, the thrust of the Palestinian-Arab side is in accordance with the forward motion of history, while the Zionist process is against it; and secondly, the potential resources of the Arab side are incomparably greater than those at the disposal of the enemy. Yet the outcome of the conflict has been in favor of the side which is weaker both in terms of resources and of fitting into the historical process.

Failure or success that has lasted for such a long period of time and been so big cannot but be qualified as strategic. We should always remember this bitter fact; there is no excuse for ignoring the facts and processes of the Arab-Zionist conflict. No matter how painful the facts are, the first precondition for making our confrontation effective is exact, scientific understanding of the character of the conflict, as well as of the nature, goals, and objective and subjective conditions of the parties involved.

There is no need to emphasize that the defeat suffered by the Arab side in this conflict was never due to lack of readiness on the part of the masses and their vanguard forces to commit themselves and to sacrifice. The best proof is that this ill-fated fortieth anniversary of the state of 'Israel' is marked by intense struggle between the people of Palestine and this entity planted on their land. The blessed uprising in our occupied homeland has entered its sixth month without interruption, in a uniquely heroic popular confrontation. Still, the question of why we have failed till now to defeat the imperialist-supported Zionist attack remains unanswered. Why have successive generations been incapable of stopping this scheme which has enacted a fresh leap of expansion every few years? This fact obliges us, the Palestinian and Arab revolutionary, progressive and patriotic forces, to make a self-critical review of this long experience. We must look for the reason behind the Arabs' strategic failure, because identifying the root of the problem constitutes the point of departure for qualitatively new action. We must not be afraid of making such a comprehensive critical revision; we must be free of political reactions and neurosis which lead to escaping from reality, in order to make the accumulated experience an avenue to deep and systematic understanding of its lessons.

'Israel' has launched its aggressive wars against the Arabs in the context of a clearly defined, comprehensive strategy. The general lines and invariables were laid down over nine decades ago. Within the framework of such a strategy, 'Israel' has fought the battle of building its socioeconomic, scientific, technological and military base. Its developed military base is