

demand that the two leaderships re-establish their bilateral relationship despite all the present obstacles. But, the real hope is the Arab masses. The Lebanese arena is open to us through our alliance with the Lebanese National Movement. Arab history has recorded the best times of this alliance. Here I see the necessity of seriously working to re-establish this alliance as a priority among our tasks and thinking on the Arab level. It is the PLO's responsibility to correct and clarify its position and political line in regards to this alliance, and in regards to the isolationist-Zionist project in Lebanon. This is the first step that will pave the way to re-establishing the strong alliance between the Palestinian and the Lebanese armed struggle. We will join with our comrades in the Lebanese Communist Party, the Lebanese National Movement, Amal and Hizballah in raising the slogan: «All guns against the Zionist enemy.» I say to my comrades in the Lebanese National Movement that the re-establishment of the Palestinian-Lebanese alliance, and directing all nationalist, Islamic, Lebanese and Palestinian guns against 'Israel', would be the most important support we could give the uprising in its second year.

By the way, you heard today about the Israeli attack against Naima (Lebanon) and the heroic fighting there, which caused the death of an Israeli officer and two Israeli soldiers at the hands of the Progressive Socialist Party and the PFLP-General Command. In this battle, Abu Jamil, the hero, was martyred. This heroic resistance is the best present for the uprising on its first anniversary. I have big hopes and confidence that the Palestinian-Lebanese alliance, continuing its daily operations, will have opened new horizons before us by the time we celebrate the second anniversary of the uprising. Changing the balance of forces in the Arab world will depend, to a certain degree, on this arena, Lebanon.

The uprising is a cry to the progressive Arab parties in all the Arab world, saying: «Why aren't you moving?» I say this in a brotherly and loving manner, on the basis of joint thinking and responsibility, and I hope that the coming year will bring a scientific answer to this question.

INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

We must emphasize the importance of the international role, especially in this period. With the help of our true allies, we are faced with the following tasks: Firstly, continuously proposing international supervision over the occupied Palestinian territories, even if the US administration vetoes this ten times over. It is impossible for our masses to remain at the mercy of the occupation authorities, continuing to suffer and be tortured. This is Palestinian land, as the UN Security Council has recognized, and it is also occupied land, just as the Security Council recognized. Thus, it is the responsibility of the UN to protect our masses.

Secondly, in the light of the present Arab reality, we must use all means, first and foremost, the international conference, in spite of our conviction that what was taken by force must be regained by force, and despite all our previous experience. There are those who agreed to UN Security Council Resolution 242, 21 years ago, and some of them practiced flexibility and others were more than flexible, but they have not achieved anything. Yet, we are going to try in order to say to the world, «Look, this is 'Israel' that you created. Look what it did to the area and the Palestinian people.» Then the international community should work to solve the Palestinian problem in all of its aspects at this stage, a comprehensive solution, though I don't say it will be fair or eternal. The international conference

is a weapon in our hands. We should use it; it is a militant slogan for our benefit. But do you think that 'Israel' will accept this? We must work to create the balance of forces which will make 'Israel' accept this and accept that the PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Then comes the struggle to gain recognition of the legitimate national rights of our people. The question is: Will the international conference give us all our natural and national rights in Palestine? No. It will give us the rights that the international legitimacy agrees to. This is something positive and to our benefit, because the establishment of a Palestinian state on part of the Palestinian land means the beginning of the deterioration of the Zionist project.

Thirdly, we must raise our voice loud, asking our friends to give continuous support and solidarity to the Palestinian people. We also ask of them to take severe measures against the Zionist entity and to raise the slogan on the international level: «Our battle against neo-Nazism is the battle of all democratic and progressive forces, as was the battle against Nazism.»

Comrades, the blood of our people that has flowed throughout the occupied territories imposes upon us to think in a serious and responsible manner. It imposes upon us to prepare all our abilities and potentials; to be truthful and faithful in every word we say, and to close every gap between word and deed. Our families and children deserve from us these deep feelings of responsibility.

We salute the children of the stones, those who throw molotovs and who stab the occupation soldiers! We salute our imprisoned comrades who have been on a hunger strike for days! We salute all the martyrs and their mothers and wives. At this particular moment, I cannot but remember the souls of our heroic martyred leaders: Izz Al Din Al Qassam, Abdul Qader Al Hussein, Guevara Gaza, Ghassan Kanafani and Abu Jihad. I remember my brother and comrade, Talat Yacoub (General Secretary of the Palestinian Liberation Front, who died in November 1988). A special salute to the people of the Galilee, Triangle and Naqab (Negev) and all the areas that were occupied in 1948.

We salute the Palestinian-Lebanese Resistance which unfortunately has not received the importance that it deserves on the official or popular levels, and which played an important role in activating the uprising in the occupied territories! We salute the Arab liberation movement! We salute the camp of peace, progress, liberation and socialism, and its vanguard, our friend, the Soviet Union! We salute heroic Cuba and Comrade Fidel Castro whom our people hold in deep respect!

Before I end my speech, and in the light of the psychological warfare of the Zionists, imperialists and Arab reactionaries, I want to say that we will fight for the sake of victory. We do not fight only because it is our duty, and not for the sake of saying we are doing so. Rather we are fighting for a noble and just cause, and we want to win. If the enemy wants to scare us with talk about its long-range missiles, then we will scare them with rocks. They are afraid of the Palestinian birthrate; during the uprising, 25,000 babies have been born in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. We will confront the Zionist enemy with the birthrate, not only in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, but also in the Galilee, Bir Sheba, Lydd and all the cities of Palestine, and in every Palestinian community. We will confront 'Israel' with rocks and grenades and all means, including literature and art, until they end the occupation. Our slogan, and the focus of our struggle, alongside all the Arab progressive forces, will be: *Al Intifada, Al Intifada!*