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infiltrated, unlike the myth that presents it as a totally cohesive unit devoid of any contradictions that could be capitalized on in the interest of our cause.

There are two levels of contradictions that pertain to the Zionist society. The first is class contradictions that exist in all capitalist societies. The second is contradictions between the Israeli society as a whole and the Palestinian people and revolution, i.e., the Arab-Zionist contradiction. Here we will discuss the second level.

The contradiction between the Zionist entity, and the Palestinian people and revolution, has generated secondary contradictions in the Israeli society. These are still in their infancy, but they interlink with the first level of contradictions. The secondary contradictions are those generated between the Israeli peace camp and the rest of the Zionist society. The peace camp is a social force that calls for Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and ending the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. This camp is not united, and the positions in it range from supporting autonomy for the Palestinians to advocating an independent Palestinian state. The differences within this camp should be capitalized on to the interest of our struggle.

Despite the fact that the Zionist society is shifting towards the extreme right, we must not overlook the growth of a trend opposing the main tendency. There is a process of polarization going on in the Zionist entity as is clear in the slogans adopted by the various trends in the peace camp. The results of this polarization are neither consistent nor final. How this vacillation develops depends to a great degree on the future development of events. What is important now is knowing how to deepen these contradictions and use them in a way that furthers our cause and a national solution.

Some view that the present activities of the peace camp are not equal to its activities during the 1982 invasion of Lebanon. At that time, there were demonstrations of tens and hundreds of thousands, and many new committees were formed. However, comparing in quantitative terms alone is inaccurate. We must also see if there has been a qualitative change in the nature of the slogans raised then and now. The slogans of 1982 demanded an end to the war and Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. The slogans of today demand withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and accepting the idea of two states. This in itself is a qualitative difference, because it contradicts the essence of Zionist ideology which denies the very existence of the Palestinian people as an independent entity which has the right to a free independent life.

The current that is now developing in the Zionist entity is an extension of the movement that grew up in 1982. The political demands of this current have developed in that they are in contradiction with the basis of the Zionist ideology. This current will expand if Israeli casualties increase, motivated by the desire to protect threatened lives, if not by political convictions. Such expansion is also tied to the clarity of the Palestinian policy. The Palestinian peace initiative, that was approved at the PNC's 19th session, was a suitable condition for the growth of this current.

As stated earlier, due to a set of objective and subjective conditions, the uprising is incapable of changing all the essential

characteristics of the Zionist entity. This does not, however, rule out the possibility of influencing some of them. The uprising has made the Palestinian state a realistic project which can be achieved if there is a proper militant program. Achieving the state would deal a blow to one of the basic characteristics of the Zionist entity - namely, expansionism, because it entails withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. This would also provide conditions for impacting on the other characteristics. But this whole process is contingent on the developments of the coming stage.



The uprising has overturned many concepts which the enemy has tried to entrench over the years. For over 40 years, the Zionist enemy has tried to pose as the victim, living in a hostile environment. To a great degree, it succeeded in spreading this illusion in the western world. The uprising, and the savage repression inflicted on the Palestinian people, have shaken such convictions. World public opinion now views the Zionist enemy as the oppressor, not the victim. The enemy has also tried to emphasize that retaining the land and the occupation guarantees Israeli security and stability in this hostile environment. But the uprising has proved that neither occupying the land, nor annexing Jerusalem, have guaranteed security and stability. Many of the Zionist enemy's allies now think that the best guarantee for Israeli security is withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and a comprehensive solution to the conflict. Even the US secretary of state said: «Lay aside, once and for all, the unrealistic vision of Greater Israel.»