



Democratic Palestine is an English language magazine published by the PFLP with the following aims:

- conveying the political line of the PFLP and other progressive Palestinian and Arab forces;
- providing current information and analysis pertinent to the Palestinian liberation struggle, as well as developments on the Arab and international levels;
- serving as forum for building relations of mutual solidarity between the Palestinian revolution and progressive organizations, parties, national liberation movements and countries around the world.

You can support these aims by subscribing to *Democratic Palestine*. Furthermore, we hope that you will encourage friends and comrades to read and subscribe to *Democratic Palestine*. We also urge you to send us comments, criticisms and proposals concerning the magazine's contents.

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The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine is a Marxist-Leninist organization and an integral component of the Palestine Liberation Organization. A primary motive for establishing the PFLP was to inject a clear class perspective in the Palestinian national liberation struggle. Experience shows that the most oppressed classes—the workers, peasants, sectors of the petit bourgeoisie, the camp Palestinians—are those most in contradiction with imperialism, Zionism and Arab reaction. It is they who carve history with determination that can persevere in a protracted war against the enemy alliance.

The PFLP is deeply committed to the unity and independent, national decision-making of the Palestinian people and their sole legitimate representative, the PLO. To this end, we work for strengthening the role of the Palestinian left, thereby accentuating the PLO's anti-imperialist line in common struggle with the Arab national liberation movement.

The process of liberating Palestine relies on radical, national democratic change or development in one or more of the surrounding Arab countries. This will provide the PLO with a strong base for liberating Palestine. Thus the struggle for a democratic Palestine is linked to the creation of a united, democratic, and ultimately socialist, Arab society. This will provide the objective basis for eradicating the poverty, exploitation, oppression and the problem of minorities, from which the people of the area suffer.

As a cornerstone in this process, the establishment of a democratic, secular state in Palestine will provide a democratic solution for the Jewish question in this area, while simultaneously restoring the national rights of the Palestinian people. After liberation, Jews in Palestine, like all citizens, will enjoy equal rights and duties. The decision of the PLO to establish an independent Palestinian state on any liberated part of the national soil is a step in this direction. It is the sincere hope of all Palestinian revolutionaries that more and more Israelis will recognize that they, too, have become victims of Zionism's racism, expansionism, exploitation and militarism, and will join us in the struggle for a democratic Palestine.

Editor's Note

We apologize for the long delay in reaching you with *Democratic Palestine*. Most of you never received issue no.8 because its distribution was held up due to reasons beyond our control. We are sending you this issue from Cyprus, but our correspondence address remains the same. Because of the long gap in our information, we devote this column to an update on the internal Palestinian situation.

Prelude to the PNSF

The Amman accord signed by Arafat and King Hussein in mid-February brought new urgency to the democratic struggle to remove the Palestinian right wing from the leadership of the PLO. In the PFLP's view, it necessitated the immediate formation of a broad national front, to fight deviation and return the PLO to its national, anti-imperialist line. The point of departure for such a front would be unity on this aim between all Palestinian organizations and nationalist personalities; this encompassed the organizations of both the Democratic Alliance and the National Alliance.

The Aden agreement of March 1984, between the four organizations of the Democratic Alliance, included the concept of forming a broad national front. So naturally, after the Amman accord, the PFLP turned first to its allies in the Democratic Alliance for consultation. Though there was agreement on the imperative of confronting the Amman accord, there were differences on the organizational means for doing so. Moreover, there was divergence as to the degree of stress on the necessity of removing Arafat from the chairmanship of the PLO. The DFLP preferred that the Democratic Alliance alone serve as the framework for confronting the Amman accord, in conjunction with the mass organizations in occupied Palestine. Also, the Palestinian Communist Party was unprepared to take new organizational steps. Instead it proposed calling for popular congresses among the various Palestinian communities, to decide how to confront the agreement. Since then the DFLP and the Palestinian Communist Party have continued their work in the framework of the Democratic Alliance, issuing a call for popular congresses.

The PFLP, however, remained convinced that broad unity and an organizational framework was necessary for confronting the Amman accord, and that it was equally necessary to remove the deviationists from leadership if the PLO was to return to its anti-imperialist line. In view of the Palestinian right wing's quick successive steps into involvement in the US plans, there was no time to waste. Accordingly, the PFLP and also the Palestinian Liberation Front entered into discussions with the National Alliance organizations on the formation of a broad national front opposed to deviation. A political program was quickly agreed upon. After agreement on the organizational program, the Palestine National Salvation Front was formed and announced on March 15th.