

The real image of the operation Al-Aqsa flood

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Abstract---This paper examines Operation al-Aqsa Flood as a turning point in the Palestinian struggle and in the wider confrontation with Zionism. It argues that the operation should be understood within the long history of occupation, blockade, displacement, and repeated Israeli military assaults on Gaza. The study discusses the humanitarian, political, and legal dimensions of the events that followed 7 October 2023, with particular focus on civilian casualties, forced displacement, destruction of infrastructure, and the targeting of humanitarian organizations, especially UNRWA. It also analyzes the Israeli narratives used to justify military actions and questions their legal and moral validity. The paper highlights international reactions, solidarity movements, and legal efforts that have emerged in response to the war on Gaza. It concludes that Operation al-Aqsa Flood exposed the depth of the Palestinian issue and revealed the limits of international neutrality toward Israeli practices.

Keywords---Operation al-Aqsa Flood, Palestine, Zionism, Gaza, UNRWA.

Introduction

This paper tackles the main points in Operation al-Aqsa Flood, including the strategic transformations that oppose Zionism, and tries to understand the Israeli rationale for committing massacres and fighting all the humanitarian organizations, mainly UNRWA, which defends and internationalizes the Palestinian issue. Besides, the paper denies all the Israeli narratives promoted for by the media and sets Operation al-Aqsa Flood in its real context far from the Zionist and US lies and defamation.

First: Operation al-Aqsa Flood and the philosophy of global coexistence:

Operation al-Aqsa Flood revealed that the Palestinian issue exceeds the conventional concept of an Arab-Israeli conflict to an international struggle for liberation. In addition, it showed that the Palestinian struggle is the issue of all noble people and parties all over the world against the Zionist dominance and imperialism. In this regard, the world witnessed heroic attitudes in the Western world,

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including USA, as some just people launched protests and showed support to Palestine, what was faced with arrests, intimidations, and assassination threats. Before Operation al-Aqsa Flood, Gaza witnessed many Israeli attacks. Therefore, many international commissions were sent to investigate the issue, as was the case of 2014 attacks, when the Human Rights Council sent a commission made up of William Schabas from Canada and McGowan Davis from USA to identify the parties in charge of the attacks. Nevertheless, in February 2015, Schabas resigned after facing assassination threats from known parties. Thus, he was substituted by McGowan who was supposed to submit the report on 29 June 2015. The report stated that the Israeli aggressive attacks in 2014 reflected a new pattern that is based on attacking the houses, leading to the murder of whole families and the increase of the civilians' death toll. Besides, the Israeli attacks destroyed whole urban neighborhoods and caused unprecedented damages¹.

The report found out that some parties, in this world, like William Schabas and Marry McGowan, are not afraid of Zionism and provide objective reports against the Zionists. Regarding the Israeli attacks in 2006, several reports stated that doctors Madman Guilt and Eric Foss transported 15 Palestinians, who were severely injured, outside Gaza through Rafah Crossing Border after their convoys were fired by Israel. The doctors who were part of the Norwegian non-governmental organization "NORWAC", and who had been working in Gaza since 20 years confirmed that, after consulting the patients in al-Shifa Hospital, the Israeli forces had used new weapons against the civilians and that some experiments on rats revealed that particles of the explosives remain in the bodies of the victims and cause cancer. Moreover, they questioned if Gaza was a laboratory for death manufacturers and whether it was allowed in the 21st century to besiege 1.5 million people and bombard them under the pretext of being "terrorists"². The massacres and genocide since the 07 October 2023 show there are massive international academic, political, scientific, and sport movements calling for liberating Palestine, promoting for the slogan "Free Palestine".

In this context, the US aircraft soldier, Aaron Bushnell, burned himself in front of the Israeli Embassy in Washington and said before the act that he would not accept anymore to be part of the genocide in Gaza and shouted "Free Palestine". Furthermore, the British Sociopolitics professor, David Miller, was suspended from teaching at university under accusations of anti-Semitism, and was harassed by the Jewish Lobby in Britain. The professor declared to the Palestinian News and Information Agency that what Israel and the international organizations did was a terrorist work, and that the international society had to seriously face the genocide in Palestine. Moreover, the Brazilian president, Lola Da Silva, stated in his discourse on Gaza that what Israel did was genocide, not war, because it killed women and children, not soldiers. Then, he asked what genocide was if that was not it. In addition, the Columbian President cut relations with Israel and declared that what happened in Gaza was the outcome of the Israeli government decision to destroy a whole people through continuous bombarding of the civilians who had no shelter, and through killing children, women, and innocent people. He added that that was genocide, not war, and criticized Netanyahu on X saying that throwing bombs on women, old adults, and innocents does not make him a hero, and stated that history would remember him as a genocider.

Forzing-Architecture Organization unveiled the Israeli plans to commit genocide in Gaza and produced a film showing that the genocide was deliberate, not a "military necessity" to face the geography terrorism, as the Israeli Army declared. These were some examples of noble people and parties who oppose Zionism and Israel. There are still other examples of thousands of protests in London, Paris, and Berlin calling for freeing Gaza. Besides, some European states, including Spain, Norway, and Ireland recognized Palestine as a sovereign state while others, such as Columbia, Venezuela, and South Africa boycott Israel. In this context, South Africa submitted a whole file about the Israeli crimes to the

¹ Arezki Saadia & Laaredj Samir, how to prosecute the Israeli war criminals, journal of international policy, University of Boumerdes, Algeria, Vol. 07, issue 02, 2023, p. 134.

² Si Ali Ahmed, the international penal liability for the crimes resulting from attacks on Gaza, journal of the thinker, issue 05, University of Mohamed Khider in Biskra, Algeria, 2010, p. 269.

International Court of Justice. Thus, Operation al-Aqsa Flood unveiled heroic stances and showed refusal of the Israeli genocide in Gaza.

Second: Operation al-Aqsa Flood: a station to root out the Palestinian people from its land:

The massacres and massive destructions in Gaza after Operation al-Aqsa Flood are an extension to an old project that was established with the birth of the Zionist entity and before the Jews coming to Palestine. They aimed at rooting out the Palestinian people from its land under the slogan “a people with no land for a land with no people”. The discourses of David Ben Gurion show that ethnic cleansing was a key point in the Zionist project. In 1938, he declared support to the coercive deportation and that he saw no immorality in it. Later in 1947, he stated that ethnic cleansing was a noble tool to establish a purely Jewish state. In the end of 1947, he showed how to deal with the division decision issued by the UN, which stated that there were 40% of non Jews in the regions devoted for the Jewish state, calling the Jews to accept the new reality with all its cruelty, and that the state with about 80% of Jews would be stable and good for life³.

Denying the existence of the Palestinian people is the core of the Zionist thought. To invent a new people like the Jews, it was necessary to deny another people. Therefore, the plan to transfer the Palestinians started in 1948 and went on⁴. In his book “the Jewish State”, Herzl wrote that when he wanted to build a new house in an old place, he had to destroy and, then, build. He added that he would respect that logical order. This quote is the key point in the relation between Zionism and colonialism, and reflects the colonial discourse in the Zionist thought. In this context, building the Zionist state requires destroying the existing Palestinian cities and villages and deporting the Palestinians to establish a new Western colonial state. In 1948, the Zionist gangs destroyed more than 350 Arab villages and districts and deported more than 800 Palestinians. Besides, they committed tens of massacres in Deir Yassin, Tantura, and al Lad. Then on, the Hebrew state kept its discourse and practices, including war, destruction, and deportation. Besides, the hysterical calls reflected the Israeli preoccupation with the Arab Palestinians, who were an existentialist nightmare that threatens the Zionist project. Therefore, the Israelis had to eradicate the other⁵.

The Israeli author, Naomi Ragen, wrote that many Israelis, probably most of them, declared that the Palestinians and Lebanese are the enemy, as they threatened the Israeli and Jewish existence. She added that each person the army kills and each house it destroys is a legitimate military target because, as she believes, the Palestinians and Lebanese are terrorists and must be faced with force⁶. Each Israeli attack on Gaza targets two main goals:

1. Killing as many Palestinians as possible due to the “military necessity” whenever possible, or creating pretexts for doing so.
2. Creating a non-livable environment so that the Palestinians feel that life in Palestine is an unaffordable hell because the war implies psychological aspects. This is due to the demographic terror, as discussed in the intellectual, military, and political departments in Israel.

Israel launched alerts about the demographic risk that threatens its Zionist project that aims at rooting out the Palestinians. Since the emergence of this ideology, the Zionist leaders have been worried about the Palestinian demographic growth. The concept of “transfer” is a Zionist invention to refer to the term “deportation” that implies negative unethical meanings and to the ethnic cleansing⁷. In 1940,

³ Salah Akil, the transfer: the ongoing Israeli policy against Palestine, journal of legal and political studies, University of Mohamed Lamine Debbaghine in Setif, Vol. 03, issue 03, 2011, p. 88.

⁴ Ibid., p. 86.

⁵ Kamil Abu Hanich, the problematic of the other in the Zionist thought, journal of the Arab future, Lebanon, issue 485, p. 52.

⁶ Ruwa Sara, Israel: a non-emotional people, journal of the Arab future, issue 339, 2007, p. 53.

⁷ Quwidri al Chadli, the Palestinian issue and the search for a solution, Vol. 34, issue 01, annals of the University of Algiers 01, 2020, p. 589.

Yusuf Fabtes, the head of the Jewish National Fund, wrote that the two peoples could not live in one state and that there was no other way save deporting all the Arabs from all the villages and tribes to the neighboring states. Fabtes was one of the counselors close to Ben Gurion who had been assigned with destroying hundreds of Arab villages and deporting their people since the Setback of 1948⁸. In Operation Cast Lead in 2008, Israel killed more than 1450 Palestinians, 70% of them were women and children, injured more than 5000 citizens, destroyed around 20000 houses and 800 schools and industrial units, and targeted hospitals, ambulances, chapels, UN buildings, news agencies, 60 police headquarters, and thousands of agricultural lands⁹.

The destruction and crimes after Operation al-Aqsa Flood were beyond expectations. CNN Arabic declared on 20 January 2024, i.e., 03 months after the operation, that a UN report showed that 70% of the victims were women and children, 951490 women left their houses, 1.9 million turned refugees, 01 million women looked for shelters in risky places, and no safe place was found in Gaza. The UN estimates show that more than 3000 women lost their husbands and needed protection and food, and more than 10.000 children lost their parents. On 06 November 2024, the Palestinian Health Ministry pointed that the Israeli army killed more than 43391 people and wounded 102347. Moreover, the Lebanese Health Ministry declared 3050 martyrs and 13685 wounded. If this is not genocide, what is it then? The focus on targeting children and women is planned and deliberate to leave no future for Palestine and stop the continuity of life because women give birth to children who are the future leaders who threaten the Israeli project.

Third: Did Operation al-Aqsa Flood come from void?

France, Britain, USA, and Western allies justified the Israeli military attacks on Gaza as “the Israeli right for self-defense”. However, the question that arises here is “did the people of Gaza live a normal and decent life before the Operation?” The Israeli forces had launched attacks on Gaza during the last 15 years; 04 were wide range military attacks in 2008-09, 2012, 2014, and 2021, in addition to tens of airstrikes, such as Operation Guardian of the Walls in 2021, which started on 10 May 2021 and ended on 21 May. This attack witnessed air and cannon strikes on the infrastructure, mainly the streets, the wells, the public facilities, and the economic and productive units, and caused wide material losses. Besides, it caused the death of 254 people (including 66 children, 39 women, and 17 old adults) and injury to 1948 others, according to the Palestinian Health Ministry, and 2212 injuries based on field survey of the Euro-Mediterranean Monitor¹⁰. This shows that people of Gaza had lived a horrible Israeli military pressure before 07 October.

A report by ONCAD in November 2020 showed that the economic cost of the Israeli colonization of Gaza during the last decade was estimated at 16.7 billion USD, i.e., losses of 9000 USD per capita due to the long-term shutdown and the military operations. Besides, unemployment in Gaza is very high, as it was estimated at 47% in 2022 compared to 23.6% in 2005. Such economic crises decreased the GDP per capita and increased poverty from 40% in 2005 to 61.6% in 2021¹¹. Regarding agriculture, the Israeli forces sprayed pesticides all along the security fence of 40 Km East Gaza to kill the trees and leave the space open and visible for security considerations. The spraying process caused losses of hundreds of thousands USD in 2022. In addition, the rainwater conduits East Gaza were destroyed and their waters drained about 300 agricultural donam, causing big damages for the farmers. In general, the losses after the Israeli blockade and the deliberate military attacks since 2006 had caused losses of more than 13 billion USD with no compensations, save 30%.

⁸ Kamil Abu Hanich, *Ibid.*, p. 52.

⁹ Arezki Saadia, *op. cit.*, p. 131.

¹⁰ The Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor, a generation under besiege: the repercussions of the Israeli siege of Gaza, 2023, p. 07.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 16.

Concerning fishing, due to the periodical attacks and bans on importing the necessary fishing tools, the workers of the field decreased from 10000 in 2005 to 4000 in 2020. These fishers provide for 40000 Palestinians. Thus, pushing fishers to unemployment threatens lives of tens of thousands of people in Gaza¹². As for healthcare, the ongoing harassment of the medical teams during the past 17 years decreased the healthcare services in Gaza with a rate of 66%, the emergency services with a rate of 23%, dialysis with a rate of 42%, cardiac catheterization and open heart surgeries with a rate of 696%, and general surgeries with a rate of 13%¹³. Besides, Israel commits environmental crimes, as the sewage waters of its colonies, which it built on the tops of mountains, drain the neighboring Palestinian low regions, and are then recycled to be drunk and supply some cities, such as Ramallah. In addition, Israel destroys the sewage water nets, pollutes the agricultural lands and water with chemical waste, and throws the toxic waste of factories in the nature¹⁴.

The UN and most of the states see that the colonies are illegal according to the international law. However, since the Israeli colonization of the Palestinian lands after the war of 1967, the number of the Jewish colonies kept increasing. The UN estimates show that about 700000 Jewish people were living in colonies in 2012¹⁵. In addition, Israel wanted to annex the Western Bank without Jerusalem and the colonies to Jordan, and to submit the people of Gaza to Egypt to control them and end their existence in Palestine. This aimed at having full control on the region and introducing Israel as a strategic ally to the Arab states, mainly against the Iranian risk. Based on what was said, we confirm that Hamas had a clear vision of what the Zionists want from the Deal of the Century, as Operation al-Aqsa Flood revealed the Israeli and US objectives behind Operation Swords of Iron; i.e., deporting the people of Gaza to Sinai, which was refused by Egypt and most of the world states. Thus, Operation al-Aqsa Flood hindered the Deal of the Century¹⁶.

The general leader of al Qassam Brigades, Mohamed al Daif, declared in a voice tape that Operation al-Aqsa Flood started by hitting the enemy positions and forts with more than 5000 missiles and bombs in response to hundreds of massacres committed against the civilians. He added that they had warned the Israelis, who neglected the warnings and attacked al-Aqsa Mosque, violated the freedoms and rights of citizens, and stole their properties in the Bank and Jerusalem¹⁷. In the meeting of the International Security Council, the UN General Secretary, Antonio Gutierrez, stated that the Palestinian people had been undergoing a suffocating colonization since 56 years, adding that Hamas attacks did not come from void¹⁸.

Fourth: The philosophy of massacres in the Zionist mindset:

Abd al Wahad al Massiri distinguished between two types of colonization. The first aims at exploiting the land and people relying on racism, such as the case of South Africa. For instance, USA was one of the colonizers who practiced this colonization. The second aims at exploiting the land, not the people. Thus, the colonizer perpetuates genocide and deports the native people to substitute them with his people, such as the case of the Palestinians who are being eradicated by the Israelis. The latter committed genocide and slavery, pushing the Palestinians towards immigration. The Zionists are aware about the colonialist nature of their project under the slogan “a people with no land for a land with no

¹² Ibid., p. 18.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Friha Mohamed Hichem, the policy of Israel and the international society's inability to achieve the international legitimacy, the Algerian journal for legal and political sciences, University of Mohamed Boudiaf, Msila, Vol. 58, issue 03, 2021.

¹⁵ Badr Dine Nabil Mohcin, the repercussions of al-Aqsa Flood on the Palestinian issue, journal of Queen Arwa University, 2023, p. 06.

¹⁶ Ibid., p 07.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Gueroui Said, the Zionist culture: the problematic of concept and genesis according to Mohamed Abd al Wahad al Massiri, p. 113.

people”. The project aims at eradicating the Arab Palestinians by bombs, jailing and hanging them, and deporting them to other states.

According to the Zionist version, Palestine cannot embrace two people, i.e. Arabs and Zionists, because Zionism aims at locating the European Jews in Palestine. Therefore, it must first deport the Arabs to neighboring states¹⁹. The Zionist colonization aims at denying the Palestinian existence, which it sees as an Arab lie. All the founders of Zionism, including Jabotinski, Herzl, and Ben Gurion believe the word “Palestine” is an Arab invention with no roots in history. Therefore, the Israeli leaders commit humanitarian crimes, hunger, blockade, and genocide against the Palestinians to eradicate them and achieve a “pure state”. In this regard, its strategy is based on using wars and conditions to get rid of the indigenous people²⁰. Famine is a war crime that deprives the victims from necessary life materials, as stated by the Preparatory Commission of the International Penal Court. Besides, the commissioner of famine exercises such crime in international conflicts. This principle was included in the context of identifying genocide, which implies deliberate material damages.

The Commission stated that the conditions of this crime include imposing specific living conditions by the commissioner on the victims, belonging to a given ethnic or religious group, and intending to eradicate the other group. According to the Commission, the expression “living conditions” implies deprivation from necessary materials, such as food, medical services, and housing²¹. On the other hand, a report by al Jazeera on the international organizations and the humanitarian circumstances in Gaza in the start of the Israeli aggression after Operation al-Aqsa Flood warned of a big humanitarian crisis.

1. FAO warned that 250000 citizens in Gaza face death because of hunger.
2. UNICEF confirmed that 90% of children suffer severe malnutrition and that 03% suffer emaciation.
3. The organization “Save the Children” confirmed that the food aids were refused by Israel, and Oxfam Organization stated that there was a methodological campaign to cause hunger in Gaza by banning aids and causing inflation.
4. UNRWA warned of famine in North Gaza after shutting down Rafah Crossing Border while other humanitarian organizations warned, in a collective statement, of famine in Gaza, pointing that 01 out of 04 families (i.e., more than 500000 people) face catastrophic conditions with no food or shelter. These practices are against all the international human laws.
5. UN pointed that more than 25% of the citizens suffer acute hunger.

As for the water crisis, the destruction of 12 wells after bombardment actions led to an unprecedented sharp shortage of water. These wells used to supply the citizens with 02 million and 200000 cups of water. According to the Palestinian water authorities, the ongoing Israeli military attacks destroyed the water infrastructure, including 65% of the wells in the city and North of Gaza. The crisis goes on with the imposition of severe restrictions on humanitarian aids to Gaza, mainly the North. These restrictions hinder the access to energy to run the water facilities and provide sanitation services, according to the Euro-Mediterranean Monitor.

In this regard, one may ask, “What is the relation between famine and thirst in Gaza with the absolute victory against Hamas Movement?” The Israeli Minister of Defense, Netanyahu, declared cutting water, food, and electricity supplies. In this regard, victory against Hamas may mean “the eradication of all what is Palestinian”, a campaign that started with Haganah project. The military operations of the Israeli army are an extension to Dalet Plan that was supposed to be implemented on 10 March 1948 and took 06 months. After the implementation, more than 800000 Palestinians were deprived from their houses, 531 villages were destroyed, and 11 urban neighborhoods were emptied of inhabitants. These statistics

¹⁹ Ibid., p. 109.

²⁰ Quidri al Chadli, op. cit., p. 593.

²¹ Sedki Mahmoud, the Arab journal for political sciences, issue 22, Beirut, Lebanon, p. 83

are good examples of the ethnic cleansing. The official name of the plan is “Yahushua” after Yahushua Gliberman who is one of Haganah leaders who died in one of the battles in 1947²².

Fifth: Why does Israel attempt to end UNRWA?

Israel did not limit its attacks to the Palestinian people; rather, it attacked any source of life, including UNRWA, which was seen by Israel as an outlaw and terrorist organization. This aggression against Palestine and the supporting organizations did not start after Operation al-Aqsa Flood; rather, Israel had previously enacted laws that condemn such organizations. On 19 October 2021, the Israeli Ministry of Defense issued a military order declaring 06 civil society organizations in Palestine as terrorist groups, shutdown their offices, seized their assets, arrested their employees, and banned their work. Such acts were widely condemned, mainly by Amnesty International²³. After Operation al-Aqsa Flood, Israel reaccused UNRWA with terrorism and involving 12 members of Hamas, and stated that UNRWA allows the Palestinians to use schools, hospitals, and mosques to attack the Israeli army. Such false accusations aim at suspending the organization, which argues for the right of refugees to come back to their homes in the UN sessions.

Garrett, one of the Israeli officials, sees that the refugees should not be allowed back in Palestine and that they must be relocated in the Arab states and compensated for their properties. Regarding the final situation negotiations, Garrett sees that Israel must call for some points, including the issuance of a statement that declares abandoning the right to homecoming, suspending the actions of UNRWA in Gaza and the Western Bank, and ending the special situation of the refugees²⁴. Criminalizing UNRWA is an Israeli and US policy to end the Palestinian issue, push the Palestinians to surrender, and exercise pressure on them by recognizing Jerusalem as capital of Israel, shutting down the office of the Palestinian Liberation Organization in Washington, banning aids and UNRWA, and convincing Arab states to establish ties with Israel²⁵.

The Israeli accusations against UNRWA pushed the UN to establish an independent commission based on the request of its General Secretary, Antonio Gutierrez, chaired by the previous French Foreign Affairs Minister, Catherine Colonna. The commission included 03 neutral organizations, namely Raoul Wallenberg Institute in Sweden, Station Institute for Human Rights in Norway, and the Danish Institute for Human Rights. The final report showed that the Israeli government provided no evidence of Hamas members being part of UNRWA, and stated that Israel had expressed no worries regarding the list of employees since 2011. In addition, UNRWA had limited mechanisms and procedures to ensure the humanitarian principle and neutrality, as the head of the commission confirmed that UNRWA had a more sophisticated system than other UN agencies.

Phillippe Lazzarini, the head of UNRWA, declared that the organization witnesses the biggest losses since its establishment, as 200 of its members had died with their families since the start of the war due to Israeli attacks. Besides, he called for holding accountable any party that caused death of its employees. Israel fights UNRWA because it reminds it of the Setback and is one of the help providers to the refugees who left Palestine in 1948. USA and Israel aim at eradicating the Palestinians while UNRWA aims at giving the Palestinians the right to life and homecoming, and at defending the Palestinian issue in the international courts. Israel destroys the schools, hospitals, mosques, and churches, kills a whole people, bans food and electricity, and blatantly calls for genocide and terrorism.

²² Salah Akil, *op. cit.*, p. 89.

²³ Jaradat Wassim Abd al Karim, a reading in the Israeli massacres in Palestine according to the human international law, journal of the constitutional law and the political institutions, Vol. 07, issue 01, University of Mhamed Bougara, Boumerdes, Algeria, 2023, p. 318.

²⁴ Muqaddam Rachid, UNRWA and the problem of refugees in the world: the Palestinian refugees as a model, journal of the researcher for social and human sciences, Vol. 12, issue 02, June 2020, University of Kasdi Merbah in Ouergla, Algeria, p. 69.

²⁵ Azem Ahmed, building ties and post-Trump: reconfiguration or change of rules, Palestinian issues, issue 281, 2020, p. 06, the researches center, Palestinian Liberation Organization, Palestine.

On the other hand, it accuses the parties that want to reduce the damages of being terrorists; is not this shame?

Sixth: Al-Aqsa Flood and the Israeli narratives:

Israel and some Western governments justified the Israeli attacks on Gaza. In this context, Biden declared that Israel has the right to defend itself; is this narrative true? According to the UN, the Israeli colonization of the Western Bank, East Gaza, and Gaza is illegal and an act of aggression that must end. In addition, peoples have the right to fight for their freedom and lands using all means, including weapons. Such declaration allows the Palestinian and Lebanese forces to fight for the freedom of their lands. Mrs. Francesca Albaniz, the UN independent examiner in charge of the human rights in Palestine, declared that Israel cannot claim the right to defend itself against any threat from a land it colonizes.

The narrative that Israel has the right to defend itself is similar to the idea of the (Israeli) thief who enters a house to steal jewelry and tells the house owner (the Palestinian) “let me rub you or I will defend myself”. In addition, the narrative that al Qassam Brigades slaughtered children and raped women is used to mislead the public opinion and demonize the resistance because Israel did not show any images and evidence. In this regard, Sky News journalist, Dominique Waghon, said that the story of beheaded children in Kfar Aza relied on reports of one Israeli correspondent, and was not confirmed by any official party. Unfortunately, it was reported by expert journalists as a fact. Besides, the Israeli army did not show any images of beheaded children or raped women.

Contrarily, an Israeli colonist narrates how al Qassam soldiers treated her and her children when breaking into her house during Operation al-Aqsa Flood saying the Palestinian soldiers told her not to panic because they were peaceful. She confessed that that surprised her and reassured her at the same time. She added that she sat with her children on chairs they had brought from the kitchen. One of the soldiers saw a banana in the kitchen and asked if he could eat it. When the journalist asked her how long they had stayed, she answered “two hours”. Here, we ask why they did not kill her children while they had enough time, why they did not rape her, and why a soldier asked for permission to eat a banana. In this regard, no Israeli female captive declared being raped by Hamas soldiers. Can the soldiers think about raping women when committing a suicidal attack in Operation al-Aqsa Flood instead of raping the captives? Thus, we find out the Israeli propaganda that aims at demonizing Hamas and convincing the world that it is a terrorist group.

In addition, Israel relies on the narrative of “the military necessity” in committing its massacres, claiming that al Qassam brigades and Hezbollah use hospitals, shelters, and civilians’ houses to bombard Israel. This claim aims at justifying the Israeli attacks on such buildings. In this regard, Israel claimed there were Hamas members in al-Shifa hospital to bombard it. After that massacre, footage showed scattered bodies in the hospital surroundings with no traces of Qassam soldiers. Then, the Israeli army spokesman declared they had found the shoes of al-Sinwar. However, these were just false allegations to achieve the equation “Gaza is a life cemetery” and continue the transfer project. If bombarding a hospital ended up with finding the shoes of al-Sinwar, how many civilians should Israel murder to get his full costume? Ultimately, al-Sinwar died in the battlefield.

The question to the Israeli leaders and the silent international society that adopts a double standard is “if al-Qassam or Hezbollah soldiers conducted a military operation in a medical group in Haifa or Nahria and flew to a civilian building, would the Israeli army bombard that building or group based on the military necessity? Or, would they declare it a buffer zone and target zero dead or injured civilian using all peaceful methods? Bombarding would be very condemned if there were military targets. However, if there were no military targets, as was the case in Palestine and Lebanon, how can we describe the operation? We can define the breaches of the war laws and customs as the acts committed

by the soldiers with no respect of the war rules. Article 03 of the Statute of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia provided that the Court has the authority to prosecute the parties that breach the war laws and customs, mainly:

- The use of poisonous weapons or weapons calculated to cause unnecessary suffering.
- Wanton destruction of cities, towns, or villages, or devastation not justified by military necessity.
- Attacking or bombarding undefended towns, villages, dwellings, or buildings.
- Seizing, destroying, or willfully damaging institutions dedicated to religion, charity, education, the arts and sciences, historic monuments, and works of art and science.
- Plundering public or private property²⁶.

Who shall prosecute Israel for the explosions of pager phones in Lebanon which aimed at killing 4000 Lebanese citizens? And for destroying 08 populated buildings in the Southern region in Lebanon without prior notice of evacuation to assassinate Hassan Nasrullah? These acts were not based on a military necessity; rather, they were genocide acts according to the international general law and the humanitarian law. According to the Palestinian Governmental Information Office, the Israeli colonization perpetuated 3471 massacres, killed 43000 people, and partially or fully destroyed 452 schools and universities, 821 mosques, 03 churches, 162 health centers, and 131 ambulances. The statistics are daily increasing and show that Israel aims at perpetuating genocide in Gaza and Lebanon. According to the military experts, the Israeli army was murdering, not fighting, and had no strategy to achieve its goals, as it failed in achieving all of them.

As for the Israeli losses, the Ministry of Defense declared 689 dead soldiers and 4284 injuries since the start of the war. In addition, 213 soldiers are still receiving medical treatment. However, real statistics are higher according to the military experts in Gaza and Lebanon because the resistance was fighting and targeting military goals, including tanks, soldiers, and heavy weapons, unlike the colonizer who was brutally killing the Palestinians based on the slogan “the good Arab is the dead Arab”.

Conclusion

In the end, the Israeli claims of being victim of the attacks of al Qassam Brigades in Operation al-Aqsa Flood are mere false allegations because the Operation was a response to the suffocating conditions in Gaza, the long occupation, the blockade, and the Israeli violation of Oslo Agreements, mainly the two-state solution. In this context, Israel still occupies regions in Lebanon, Syria, and the entire Palestine. Operation al-Aqsa Flood reflects a conflict between the project of the New Middle East advocated by Israel and USA, which aims at imposing a full military control on the region with no opposition or resistance, and the project that resists the Israeli terrorism and the silence of the international society (i.e., the pro-Israeli governments) and aims at establishing a new peaceful Middle East.

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²⁶ Ben Haffaf Ismail, definition of war crimes and showing their types in the light of the special International Criminal Tribunals, *journal of laws and human sciences*, University of Ziane Achour in Djelfa, Vol. 04, issue 085, 2011, p. 25.

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