

Some points regarding the Al Aqsa Flood and its aftermath

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Comrades,

To begin with, I want to introduce our platform. Friends of Palestine Against Imperialism and Zionism was founded in 2018, as an initiative of DIP, The Revolutionary workers Party of Turkey. It also has participants from other organisations as well. Its main aim is to fight imperialism and Zionism in Turkiye.

In my speech, I wish to summarise our points regarding the latest developments in Palestine in seven, unfortunately very brief titles.

Firstly, we must admit that the problem did not begin in October the 7th. It's a result of the Zionist occupation in Palestine, which has a long history: the development of the Zionist movement, it's alliance with imperialism, the Balfour declaration of 1917, the Zionist terror in Palestine in 20's and 30's, the Nakbah and the ongoing Zionist massacres, ethnic cleansing, since then. Israel is clearly an illegitimate entity aiming to annihilate Palestine and expel Palestinians from their historical land. Israel had killed more than 200 Palestinians in the West Bank this year, when the Al Aqsa Flood operation was done. So, the Al Aqsa Flood did not occur in a vacuum. It was a response to all of these.

Secondly, we must also admit that the Al Aqsa Flood operation is a rebellion

against perishment. It followed 16 years of Gaza blockade, the rise of Israeli apartheid, ongoing ethnic cleansing, increasing humiliation, US's decision to accept Al Quds as the capital of Israel, the Abraham accords, and Netanyahu's map that he has shown in the United Nations, which does not include a Palestine on it! Palestinians thought they will suffocate very soon, and they got into action!

Thirdly, like all the Palestinian factions, Hamas is right and legitimate in its fight against Zionism. We, revolutionary Marxists, do support the communists of Palestine in their struggle to win the leadership of the Palestinians. For other Palestinian factions, we do not give any political support to them. They lack the political programme that will give Palestinians a prosperous life with equal rights at the end. But they are right in their fight against the coloniser. That's why we give them only a conditional support. This is also what Palestinian socialists do in their alliances with those factions, including Hamas.

Fourthly, we must emphasise, that the civil death toll in October the 7th, is in the responsibility of Israel. We, revolutionary Marxists, do not want any civilian death of course. But as we see previously in many instances, the accumulated outrage can unfortunately channel to civilians. Algeria is an example. Also, unlike Palestinian forces, Israel openly aims to kill civilians, in a systematic way. Moreover, Israel had to admit that its army had killed its own civilians. So Israel is directly responsible for many civilian deaths even if they are Jews. We must also say that the Israeli death toll is unreliable, as we saw in the example of 40 beheaded babies lie. Lastly and most importantly, the responsibility of civilian loses belongs to the guilty part in a war, which is Israel in this case.

Fifthly, we must clearly understand, that if Palestinians win, working masses around the world also win. A victory of Palestinians against the Zionist entity will also be a victory against imperialism, which is the most advanced power we face in our fight against capitalism. If imperialism receives a wound, there will be occasions for the exploited masses around the world. Also, even now the rise in the struggle of Palestinians is leading to some positive developments. For example: Egyptians taking it to the Tahrir Square after 10 years, huge demonstrations shake the imperialist centers and peoples of the West Asia, including Turkey, now clearly see the relations of their governments and bourgeois classes with Israel.

Sixthly, we see that Palestine is fighting against many powers. Zionists are at the top of the list of course, imperialists follow them. You know, Biden says aid to Israel is "a smart investment". European imperialism left its own rhetoric of human rights when it came to Gaza. Reactionary Arab regimes, follow the example of Jordanian king who attacked Palestinian guerrillas in 1970, and Anwar Sadat, who spoke at the Knesset. They now have the Abraham accords, which are nothing but a dirty shame! In Turkiye, Erdogan, the so-called protector of Palestine did nothing, absolutely nothing, in defence of Palestine. Moreover, his despotic regime was planning a new normalisation with Israel, in an attempt to take part in the stealing of Palestinian natural resources. Neither the Islamist, nor the secular-westernist bourgeois camps stopped trade relations with Israel during its assault against Gaza. Lastly, Palestinians' own "government" which is an offspring of Oslo accords, is still helping the Zionists to control West Bank. We won't forget the murder of Basil

Araj or other Palestinian fighters killed by Zionists with the help of the Palestinian Authority. It is some sort of a collaborator, fed with the imperialist funds.

So, for the freedom of Palestine, for the emancipation of Palestinians, for the defeat of Zionism and imperialism, we must mobilise the international working class and all the oppressed against the destruction of Gaza, stop especially the shipping of military products to Israel, with an organisation of trade unions and working-class organisations, call for an effective boycott of Israel, and sanctions to it, fight for the unity of Palestinian Arabs and Jews, fight for a free, independent, secular, socialist Palestine, from the river to the sea, which will be a part in a socialist federation of the West Asia.

And of course, also for the emancipation of Palestinians, we must work hard to build the vanguard of the international working class and the oppressed, following the internationalism of comrade Lenin.

Comrades,

Time is up for this special session. But not me, someone else will conclude this very conference: Ghassan Kanafani is one of the founders of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. His analysis on the Palestinian struggle of 1930s guided the Palestinian socialists in their fight against Zionism. He was an uncompromising internationalist. Now I quote him: “*Imperialism has laid its body over the world, the head in Eastern Asia, the heart in the Middle East, its arteries reaching Africa and Latin America. Wherever you strike it, you damage it, and you serve the world revolution.*” And another one: “*The Palestinian cause is not a cause for Palestinians only, but a cause for every revolutionary... as a cause of the exploited and oppressed masses in our era*”

Thank you comrades. I hope to meet in struggles that we shake imperialists and Zionists under the guidance of comrade Lenin!