**­­­­­­­­­Submission sheet**

Individuals, groups and organizations wishing to submit information and documentation to the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel (hereafter the “COI”) are kindly asked to fill in this sheet with any information they are able to provide, and attach it to their submissions.

It is not a requirement to provide all requested information if not available, though particular attention should be given to filling in the section on consent.

Unless indicated otherwise in the form, the COI will consider all materials received to be usable in its reports, but without attribution as to the source

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| **Name of submitting individual/entity** | Joel Margolis |
| **Contact of submitting individual/entity** | Email(s): [insider099@gmail.com](mailto:insider099@gmail.com)  Telephone/WhatsApp/Signal/Other:  Web Address:  Agree to be contacted by the COI: Yes No |
| **Relationship of submitting entity/individual to the alleged victim/s** | N/A |
| **Human rights violation/s or abuses alleged to have occurred** | **See attached letter.** |
| **Violations of the laws and customs of war (international humanitarian law)** | **See attached letter.** |
| **Date/s of incident/time period** | **See attached letter.** |
| **Place of incident** | **See attached letter.** |
| **Name/s of alleged victim/s gender, age** | **See attached letter.** |
| **Identification of those allegedly responsible** | Name of alleged perpetrator if known:  State or non-state entity with which perpetrator is affiliated, if any:  Any identifying marks of the perpetrator which indicate their affiliation, such as the colour or pattern of their uniform and uniform’s insignia: |
| **Description of the incident(s)/allegations (2000-word limit)** | Detailed description of:   * the incident(s) or alleged violation(s), including dates, specific locations (e.g. street, building) and number and types and name(s) of victim(s) * the context in which they took place * alleged perpetrators * alleged motive   Please also include information on the impact of these violations, as well as age and gender-sensitive considerations (e.g. how these violations affected women and men, girls and boys differently). |
| **Description of the State’s response, (500-word limit)** | Indicate whether the incident was reported to the authorities: Yes NoIf yes, which authorities: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Information on any investigations, judicial processes, decision/judgements and sentences, including reparations, in response to the incident: |
| **Methodology employed in the collection of information** | Please provide a description of the methodology employed in the collection of the information shared- primary, secondary sources, means of verification, etc., along with how informed consent was gained from the information provider. If needed, attach a copy of the relevant standard operating procedures followed. |
| **Consent** | **Please indicate whether you, the person submitting the information, agree to the following use of the information by the COI with or without personally identifiable data:**  **INFORMED CONSENT TO USE THE INFORMATION:**    1. Use internally and publicly (e.g. public report, press release), with without x personally identifiable data.  2. Use internally only (within the COI), with without personally identifiable data.  **INFORMED CONSENT TO SHARE THE INFORMATION:**  1. Raise the case with national authorities, courts or accountability mechanisms that respect international standards (including due process) with without x personally identifiable data.  2. Share info with national human rights institutions, with without x personally identifiable data.  3. Refer to national or international organizations (including UN human rights mechanisms and other UN entities) providing victim assistance (e.g. ICRC, medical, legal), with without x personally identifiable data.  5. Share info with international and regional courts – including the International Criminal Court (ICC) -, or accountability mechanisms of other States that respect international standards (including due process) with without x personally identifiable data.  **Additional Details on Consent:**  Please indicate if consent to provide this information to the CoI has been received from the alleged victims (any consent given must be provided by the victim or by relatives or legal representatives on their behalf, or by a parent/legal guardian in case of a child) Yes No ; consent provided by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_  If necessary, please explain: |
| **Description of any broader issues not related to specific violations (2000-word limit)** | Description should be succinct, highlighting issues of relevance to the mandate of the COI, and include concrete examples whenever possible.  Please also include information on the impact of these violations, as well as age and gender-sensitive considerations (e.g. how these violations affected women and men, girls and boys differently) as relevant. |
| **Any other human rights NGOs to whom you reported the incident** | If appropriate, please provide name and contact information of any other person or organization to whom the incident was reported. |
| **Additional materials (documents, images, videos, etc) relevant to the incident(s)/allegation(s)** | Please indicate, if you are aware of, or in possession of, any additional materials from other sources (including the media and NGOs) in which the above incident(s)/allegations are cited, that are deemed relevant/useful. The COI may follow-up at a later date in order to receive the material(s) indicated.  Date of publication:  Title:  Source (author/organisation):  Web link;  Type of material: Documents (total doc); Images (total images); Videos (total videos); Other (please specify) |

**Letter to Commission of Inquiry**

February 20, 2022

The UN Human Rights Council recently established a Commission of Inquiry (COI) to investigate Israeli war crimes and human rights violations. To that end, the COI invited public submissions to address a series of evidentiary issues. This letter addresses COI Issue No.1:

the underlying root causes of recurrent tensions, instability and protraction of conflict in and between the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel; as well as systematic discrimination and repression based on national, ethnic, racial or religious identity.

The root cause of the above-described conflict boils down to one word: anti-Semitism.

For over a millennium after the 7th Century, when Arab Muslims from Arabia invaded and colonized the territory known to the indigenous Jewish population as the Land of Israel, the Muslim rulers imprisoned Christians and Jews in a theologically invented second-class status called the “dhimma.” <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-treatment-of-jews-in-arab-islamic-countries>. Dhimmis were politically helpless persons segregated in ghettos, a practice known today as apartheid. They were also prohibited from building new churches and synagogues. They were assessed a discriminatory “jizya” tax. They were forced to wear yellow badges to publicize their subjugation, a precursor of the yellow Star of David worn by Jews in Nazi Germany. And they were subjected to bouts of mob violence, which sometimes erupted into mass slaughter. This regime of Muslim supremacy collapsed in World War I with the demise of the Ottoman Empire.

Following the war, the League of Nations ushered the former Ottoman colonies to independence. This legally prescribed “mandate” system produced the sovereign states of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, and Israel. In the case of Israel, the preparatory “Mandatory Palestine” ensured that after centuries of oppression, the Jewish people could exercise self-determination in their ancestral homeland. The plan also safeguarded the civil and religious rights of the local non-Jewish communities. <https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/balfour.asp>. Israel consistently respected those rights.

Middle East Muslims accepted the new national borders of all four Arab states but not Israel, the one Jewish state. When condemning the “Jewish National Home,” Arab Muslims amplified their Islamic anti-Semitism with European anti-Semitism, an ideology based on dehumanizing racism and the libel of the international Jewish conspiracy. <https://theamericanscholar.org/the-new-anti-semitism/>. Arab Muslim gangs throughout the region mobilized to expel their Jewish neighbors. The extremists resorted to killing sprees, war, forced relocations during and after the war, property theft, and economic boycotts. Their methods of ethnic cleansing resembled those of the German Third Reich.

Meanwhile, Arabs in Mandatory Palestine defied the world’s approval of Jewish Palestinian nationalism (Zionism) by crafting an Arab Palestinian nationalism. Hajj Amin al-Husseini, the religious leader of Arabs in Mandatory Palestine, founded the group’s national movement in the 1920’s. al-Husseini rallied opposition to Jewish statehood, blocked efforts to form a two-state solution for Arabs and Jews in the mandatory district, incited massacres of Jewish Palestinians, collaborated with the Nazis during World War II, and lobbied Adoph Hitler to extend his Final Solution to the Middle East. In 1964, the self-styled Arab nationalists created the Palestine Liberation Organization (the PLO), a terrorist organization whose charter advocated an armed “holy war” to make the former Mandatory Palestine “an inseparable part of the Arab Nation.” <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-original-palestine-national-charter-1964>. The charter expressly disclaimed sovereign rights to the Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem, and the West Bank because those enclaves were occupied by their allies Egypt, Jordan, and Syria. Only after Israel took control of the three territories in the 1967 war did area Palestinians begin complaining they were occupied. In 1988 another Palestinian terrorist group called the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) emerged with a covenant vowing to exterminate the Jews and replace Israel with a caliphate.

To this day, Palestinians feed on the same toxic blend of Islamism and Naziism. Palestinian clerics preach that Jews evolved from apes and pigs. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/256439>; <https://palwatch.org/page/18579>. They call Israel “Muslim” land. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/between-martyr-and-murderer-abbass-top-cleric-takes-on-a-most-emotive-term/>. Palestinian militants and their comrades frequently time their attacks to ruin Jewish holidays. Examples include the 1973 Yom Kippur War, the 2002 Passover Massacre in Natanya, Israel, and the 2015 Knife Intifada, launched on Rosh Hashana. On January 12, 2009, Sheikh Ysuf al-Qaradawi, considered by Hamas as the highest religious authority, proclaimed that Muslims should punish Jews just as Hitler did, and “kill them down to the very last one.” <https://jcpa.org/article/parallels-between-nazi-and-islamist-anti-semitism/>. The speeches of Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas similarly promote Nazi themes. For example, his remarks at the Palestinian National Council meeting of April 30, 2018 contended that Europeans persecuted Jews due to their banking and money lending activities. <https://www.terrorism-info.org.il/app/uploads/2021/10/E_154_21.pdf>.

In 2013 the Palestinian town of Beit Umar twice hoisted a Nazi flag over the community. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/174532>. At the Palestinian Al-Quds University, a video of a November 5, 2013 performance featured rows of students uniformly brandishing imitation assault rifles and gesturing with Nazi salutes while their fellow students cheered. Palestinian grammar schools radicalize children by teaching that a country called “Palestine” exits from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea and that their “return” to Palestine requires them to destroy Israel. <https://palwatch.org/page/29534>. A Palestinian government “pay for slay” program pays bounties to Palestinians who murder Jews, and the amount of each reward scales up with the death toll. <https://www.newsweek.com/palestinian-authority-still-paying-terrorists-opinion-1563138>. If any of these terrorists dies during an attack, Palestinian society glorifies the person as a “shahid” (martyr). <https://www.ict.org.il/Article/1042/the-palestinian-shahid-model-21st-century-islamic-terrorist#gsc.tab=0>.

The root cause of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is an age-old dhimma tradition emboldened by a Nazi vision of genocide. If Palestinians could overcome this history of anti-Semitism, if they could tolerate a world with many Muslim states and just one Jewish state, they could readily negotiate terms of peace with Israel. The starting point is a recognition of basic human rights.