

Evil legacy of the past: Anti-Semitism

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OPINION | 7

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Harun Yahya
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Anti-Semitism is an ancient disease. Surely, it is evil and poisonous, but also odd in the way that it doesn't subside and continues down throughout the ages regardless of the changing circumstances.

Unsurprisingly, like other similar hateful views, it is irrational, divorced from the facts. It promotes an unconditional, ubiquitous hatred of Jews, asserting that every Jew in the world, including children and the elderly, are inherently evil. It demonizes Jews for being poor, for being rich, for being communists, for being capitalists, for keeping to themselves, for infiltrating everywhere and so on. In other words, the so-called reasons are self-contradictory, baseless but relentless.

This inhumane hatred and blind prejudice is very old and dates back to the Pharaohs who enslaved the Hebrews. Fearing that they might

get too powerful, Pharaoh famously commanded every newborn Hebrew boy be thrown into the Nile. This brutal repression ultimately led to the mass departure of Israelites, described in the Hebrew Bible as the Exodus.

The pattern of fear leading to oppression continued throughout antiquity, at the hands of the Assyrians, the Babylonians and the Romans, who massacred and exiled Jews and destroyed their temples and cities.

In medieval times, Jews were once again targeted and subjected to persecutions and expulsions throughout Europe. Throughout the Dark Ages, they were accused of a myriad of crimes, including the Black Death that wiped out half the European population, and the mythical 'blood libel'.

Usually cast out from the rest of society, they were forced to live in the most miserable parts of the cities. For instance, in Venice, they had to live in the so-called *gettos*, which became the word we so easily

recognize today, "ghettos". The subsequent Spanish Inquisition served as a stark reminder to the world that the scourge would not end any time soon.

But the most notorious and bloody anti-Semitic attack was no doubt the Nazi atrocities of World War II in which 6 million Jews across Europe were brutally massacred.

The disturbing trend continues today. European countries, seemingly opposed to anti-Semitism, are teaming with practices that dangerously echo the deeds of their disgraceful past. In the year 2016, the streets of Europe can still ring with the appalling words; *sale Juif* — "dirty Jew".

Harassment in public areas, offensive remarks and discriminatory behavior in social life and more appallingly, brutal assaults, are not unfamiliar sights in so-called civilized Europe. People often hear about the deadly anti-Semitic attacks in Toulouse, Brussels, Paris and Copenhagen, but little they know that when it is not that vio-

lent yet still pretty bad for the Jews. Such incidents don't even make the news most of the time.

The hateful narrative reveals itself online as well. The reports show that there are more than 3,000 anti-Semitic websites (Manfred Gerstenfeld, 2003).

Such anti-Semitic sentiment is no doubt very common across the Islamic world, as well. Hostility, persecution and discrimination is a palpable reality in the region. For instance, a rabbi cannot even imagine walking around wearing his kippah in Egypt.

Even in Turkey, which can be considered the most welcoming Muslim country to Jews, anti-Semitism sometimes rears its ugly head. Just like some people use Christianity as false grounds for their anti-Semitism, gross misinterpretations of Islam combined with the venomous effect of the fabricated hadiths and narratives, made the situation even more difficult for the Jewish people in the Middle East.

And let's not forget how nearly

1 million Jews that had been living in various Arab countries, were unfairly persecuted and driven out of their homes after the foundation of the state of Israel, as yet another outcome of anti-Semitism.

Racism, or dislike towards a certain group of people, assuming that every member of that group is inherently evil is no doubt, immoral and quite bluntly, psychotic. Every human being is valuable and worthy of love no matter how different they might be from each other. There can be no reason whatsoever to feel aversion to a person merely for the reason of belonging to a specific ethnicity.

As to those who claim their anti-Semitism stems from the crimes of Israel, I would like to remind them of the concept of "individual criminal responsibility". Needless to say, there are wrongdoers in every society but their individual actions cannot be attributed to the groups they belong to. That would be unfair and unacceptable.

It is possible to list a multitude

of reasons that contribute to anti-Semitism. False interpretations of religion, propaganda, deep-running prejudices, indoctrination and false education are only some of those factors. However, they all remain secondary to the real problem: Loss of love and compassion.

Love, compassion, respect are the most profound notions that make us human and are indispensable building blocks of any healthy society. Regrettably, a majority of people seems to have forgotten this very important fact. It is against our nature that today our world is a scene of constant warfare and struggle.

As God explains in the Quran, we are created as different nations and tribes so that we can meet and know each other (Quran 13:49). We are created with our differences to bring color and richness to our world and we are meant to compete in goodness.

The writer is the author of the best-seller *Islam Denounces Terrorism*.

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[\[1\]](#) Manfred Gerstenfeld, interview with Rabbi Abraham Cooper, "Anti-Semitism and Terrorism on the Internet: New Threats," *Post-Holocaust and Anti-Semitism*, No. 9, 1 June 2003.

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/12/23/evil-legacy-past-anti-semitism.html>

<http://newsrescue.com/evil-legacy-past-anti-semitism/>

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How climate action can make America great again

Vicent Thomas

PROJECT DIRECTOR, NEWS RESCUE

Climate change is the single most important environmental challenge of our time. The world's second-largest greenhouse gas emitter is the United States. It is not only the world's largest economy, but also the world's most powerful nation. It is the only nation in the world that has the capability to lead the world in addressing climate change.

In the situation does not look promising. Despite the administration's denial, there is no evidence that it has any intention to take any action to address climate change. The only action it has taken is to announce that it will not join the Paris climate agreement. This is a clear signal that the administration is not serious about addressing climate change.

There are many reasons why the United States should take action on climate change. First, climate change is a global threat that affects everyone. Second, the United States has the technology and resources to lead the world in addressing climate change. Third, taking action on climate change will create jobs and stimulate economic growth.

It is time for the United States to take action on climate change. The administration's denial is a disservice to the American people. It is time to take action to protect our planet and our future. Climate change is a global threat that affects everyone. The United States has the technology and resources to lead the world in addressing climate change.



Will a new Russo-Turkish war break out?

Frans P. Ferdinand Wiersma

Editor

The world has been shocked by the announcement of Russian President Vladimir Putin's decision to send troops to Syria. This move has raised questions about the stability of the region and the potential for a new Russo-Turkish conflict.

There are several factors that could lead to a new Russo-Turkish conflict. First, the Russian intervention in Syria has created a power vacuum in the region. Second, Turkey's military operations in Syria have led to tensions with Russia. Third, the ongoing conflict in Syria has created a humanitarian crisis that has attracted international attention.

It is important to monitor the situation in Syria and the relationship between Russia and Turkey. A new Russo-Turkish conflict could have significant implications for the stability of the region and the world.

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Anti-Semitism is an ancient hatred that has existed since the time of the Bible. It is a hatred that is based on religious and racial prejudice. The Jews have been the primary target of anti-Semitism throughout history. This hatred has led to many atrocities, including the Holocaust.

The roots of anti-Semitism can be traced back to the Bible. The Jews were often portrayed as a people who were disobedient and unfaithful. This led to a deep-seated hatred among other nations. The Holocaust was the most extreme expression of anti-Semitism in modern history.

Anti-Semitism is a dangerous and hateful ideology that has caused countless lives to be lost. It is a legacy of the past that we must not allow to be repeated. We must work to eliminate anti-Semitism and promote tolerance and understanding between all people.

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EVIL LEGACY OF THE PAST: ANTI-SEMITISM

MIDDLE EAST OPED

BY HARUN YAHYA | DECEMBER 31, 2018



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