Industry of Lies: Media, Academia, and the Israeli-Arab

Conflict by Ben-Dror Yemini Quotes

As I approached the building, I saw two affable young women, carrying signs protesting the

"genocide" perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinians. I walked up to them and a friendly

conversation ensued. I asked them what seemed to me a straightforward question: How many

Palestinians were killed in the genocide? They looked at each other. One tried her luck, suggesting

that it was "millions." "Millions?," I asked. "Where did you get that number?"...1

For many of the writers making such claims, Israel is not the subject of study, but an enemy, and

they have built an industry of lies to ensure that enemy's defeat. The Israel depicted by these

scholars bears virtually no relation to the actual Israel or its history, intentions, or influence. These

scholars rely, whenever they can, on fabricated or discredited sources, on true facts taken

grotesquely out of context, and on narratives that serve neither truth nor peace. They have built

a web of pseudo-scholarship, a paper trail that allows each writer to cite the works of others in

the circle, sharing a unified purpose that is political rather than scholarly: to discredit a country

and to rally troops to that end.2

You do not have to be ill-intentioned to fall for the lies—you only need to be somewhat lazy and,

for one reason or another, convinced that you do not want to be fully on Israel's side. Once you

find yourself in this position, a whole battery of books and articles and eloquent public figures

cataloguing the great evils of the Jewish state is instantly there to support, enrich, and deepen

your anger.3

Israel has never carried out genocide, neither in intention nor in fact. The number of casualties of

the overall Israeli-Arab conflict, and the specific Israeli-Palestinian conflict, is among the lowest

in the history of such conflicts. Israel has never instituted apartheid, and nothing of the kind ever

existed. "Evidence of apartheid" is primarily the product of the propagation of lies.4

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