

How the Zionists Take Undue Advantage of the Name of Prophet Ibrahim (AS) in International and Interreligious Relations

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Religious Zionism is a false mystical about Palestine being the land of Jewish people. Derived from Jewish beliefs, Zionism believes that Jews are God's chosen people. Among the reasons that Jews have always considered themselves privileged and relied on, is their so-called lineage. They consider themselves to be the descendants of Jacob, the son of Isaac, and by this means, they trace their lineage to Ibrahim (AS), an Ulu l-'Azm (lit. those of the Perseverance and Strong Will) messenger of God Almighty and boast about it and consider other ethnic groups to be lower than them and, therefore, have no respect for them.

However, in His Holy Qur'an God Almighty condemns this racist attitude and considers the criterion of closeness and superiority not in lineage but in divine obedience. In the words of the Holy Qur'an: "مَا كَانَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ يَهُودِيًّا وَلَا نَصْرَانِيًّا وَلَكِنْ كَانَ حَنِيفًا مُّسْلِمًا وَمَا كَانَ مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ" (Abraham was neither a Jew nor a Christian. Rather, he was a Hanif (upright) Muslim, and he was not one of the polytheists.) "إِنَّ أَوْلَى النَّاسِ بِإِبْرَاهِيمَ لَلَّذِينَ اتَّبَعُوهُ وَهَذَا النَّبِيُّ وَالَّذِينَ" (Indeed the nearest of all people to Abraham are those who follow him and this prophet and those who have faith, and Allah is the guardian of the faithful.)

Jews and Christians used to get into arguments and always tried to enumerate their imaginary honors and privileges. Both groups attributed themselves to God's prophets and Prophet Ibrahim (AS) and boasted about it. The Holy Qur'an has condemned them in this regard and forbade them from vain arguments (See Surah Aal-e Imran, Verses 65 and 66; Surah Al-Baqarah, Verse 140).

From what has been depicted in the Holy Qur'an the following points can be perceived with regard to the arguments between Jews and Christians:

1. Most of their talks were not face-to-face and direct, rather their talks were of propagandist essence in which they negated and regarded each other's claims as baseless.
2. These talks and claims were mostly without any solid reasons and were just meant to boast to the other side.
3. Seeking superiority and pride about the heritage of the past, being wealthy, and an unparalleled closeness to God had been the main axes of their talks, some of which are mentioned below:

The exclusivity of heaven

Both Jews and Christians have claimed to have exclusive rights over heaven. “And they say, ‘No one will enter paradise except one who is a Jew or Christian.’ Those are their (false) hopes! Say, ‘Produce your evidence, should you be truthful.’” (Surah Al-Baqarah, 111).

Guidance is Exclusive to Jews/Christians

Another strange claim of these two was that they only considered themselves guided, and they believed that felicity and guidance depend on following their faith. “They say, ‘Be either Jews or Christians, that you may be (rightly) guided.’” (Ibid., Verse 135)

Children and Friends of God

Jews and Christians took pride in being children and friends of God (Surah Al-Ma'idah, 18)

Historical Claims of Zionism on Palestine

Having these views, the leaders of the Zionist movement tried to justify their invasion of other people's lands by taking undue advantage of some statements in the Torah and to align the people of other countries and governments with the crimes they commit.

Among these claims, mention can be made of the Promised Land, the validity of which can be evaluated by a critical examination of the reasons and documents produced by Zionists.

A: Divine Promise

In the Zionist Congress held in Switzerland in 1897, the historical right of the Jewish nation to Palestine and the fulfillment of God's promise for the return of the Jews to the promised land were emphasized. In 1882, in a celebration held in the former Soviet Union, Jews from all over the world were encouraged to unite for the fulfillment of the divine promise and return to their fatherland and strive to achieve the goal of fulfilling the divine promise in Jerusalem (Palestine). In proving that based on the divine promise the land of Palestine belongs to the Jewish people, they refer to several Torah verses addressed to Abraham and Jacob.

The Zionist Slogan of ‘Nile to the Euphrates’

The establishment of the great state of Israel from the Nile River to the Euphrates River is one of the most important goals and ideals of Zionists, and they believe that Jews from all over the world should be brought to Palestine in order to actualize this ideal and the Jews who immigrate to Israel will be guaranteed salvation.

To prove their claim, the Zionists resort to “In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates. The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites. And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims. And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites. (Genesis 15: 18 to 21) and consider this to be the divine promise of Nile to Euphrates, although, there are many flaws in this Zionists' claim and the adaptation of these verses to their ideal.

In his book “Jewish History, Jewish Religion (1994)” the anti-Zionism Israel Shahak has written: The most idealistic narrative about the borders of Israel includes all of the Sinai desert, a part of northern Egypt up to the vicinity of Cairo, all of Jordan and a large part of Saudi Arabia, all of Kuwait and a part of the south of the Euphrates in Iraq, all of Lebanon and all of Syria plus a major part of Türkiye upwards (up to Lake Van), and Cyprus.

In order to disprove the exclusive right of the Jews to the land of Palestine, certain points are briefly discussed hereunder:

1) Surely the Jews are not the only descendants of Prophet Abraham with regard to what has been quoted in the Bible.

2) It is clearly mentioned in the Torah that Prophet Ishmael (AS) is also a descendant of Abraham. Since the Arabs living in Palestine are descendants of Ishmael, therefore, referring to the mentioned verses as the exclusive right of the Jews on the land of Palestine is not valid.

3) Authentic historical documents prove that the above promises were announced at the time of Ismail's sacrifice, and this was at the time when Isaac (the ancestor of the Jews) was not yet born, and

therefore, the claim made by Zionists over Palestine cannot be true.

4) Another fundamental point is that, first of all, the Jews present and living in the land of Palestine differ from those supposedly followers of Prophet Moses who came to Palestine from other places at the instigation of the Europeans and cannot definitely be the descendants of Abraham. This means that the above-mentioned Jews are definitely not of Abraham’s lineage.

Jewish Beliefs in the Service of Zionist Policies

The most fundamental pivots of Judaism, cited by the Zionist movement, are:

1- The claim of being “God’s chosen nation”

This theory has created such a false image of the Jewish people as if they are distinct and different from the rest of the people (God’s creation) and consider themselves to be the masters of the world and the rest of the people are just cattle who must serve the Jewish people.

What proves Zionist chauvinist tendency is the words of a famous Jewish thinker who, in his studies conducted about Israel’s identity in the 21st century has said: We Jews have two names: one is Israel and the other is Jew (Yahud), which has been derived from “Judah” (Yahuda) the common relationship between these two names is the relationship with God. While other ethnic groups live without having any connection to God, we Jews - whose other name is Israel - live and struggle for the cause of God and, therefore, it is very difficult for a person to become Jewish; more so if he/she is from another nation.

Analyzing these words, we can arrive at the following conclusions:

- The racist nature of the Zionists is rooted in the belief of being “God’s chosen nation”.
- There is this false Zionist belief that the future of humanity depends on the Jewish people and on what the Jews do for others.
- The Zionists abuse certain names, terms, and religious concepts such as Israel and Judah for promoting their political objectives as if some kind of divine rela-



tionship lies in them.

- The idea of the superiority of Jews over other nations, which is (wrongfully) derived from the theory of the Talmud and the Torah, makes the Jewish people have the right to take ownership of the entire material world.

In his book entitled “[????????????????????](#)” (lit. Zionism is the enemy of Israel) Nathan Winston says: If we completely remove the concepts of “God’s chosen nation” or “promised land” from the dictionary of Judaism, Zionism will surely crumble down.

The characteristics of God’s true chosen nation from the perspective of the Holy Quran and common sense are as follows:

- 1) This nation must accept and believe in the divine way and method, of course, in the same way that the divine prophets and messengers (AS) received from God and communicated to the people.
- 2) This nation should act in this perfect way and invite others to it in different ways.
- 3) This nation must constantly follow the divine way and method in the stage of faith and belief, as well as in the field of implementation and action.

Now, if we look at the history of Judaism from this



point of view, it will be noticed that the Jews were always in opposition to divine prophets. The famous historian “H.J. Wells” describes the Jews in this way: “The life of the Hebrews (Jews) was always like someone who insisted on staying in the middle of a crowded and busy road and is constantly struck and crushed by buses and trucks.

Someone may ask what is the meaning of this verse of the Qur’an which says:

“فَوَجَدْنَا آلَ إِسْرَائِيلَ فِي دَرَجَاتٍ مِّنْ عِلْمٍ لِّمُوسَىٰ إِذْ قَالَ لِرَبِّهِ أَيُّكَ الْأَلْبَانُ الضَّالِّاتُ أَجْزَىٰ لِمَنْ عَلَّمَهُ قَالَ الْإِنْسَانُ الَّذِي يَضَلُّ أَلْبَانَهُ الضَّالَّاتِ فَهُوَ ضَالٌّ لِّمَنْ عَلَّمَهُ لَئِن لَّمْ يَفْعَلْ لَمَ يَذَّبُوا الْبَقَرَاتُ لَوِ انبَعَثُوا إِلَّا لِيَلْمُوا فَتَلَكُمُ الْيَحْيَىٰ الْمَوْتَىٰ وَأَنْتُمْ قَوْمٌ فَاسِقُونَ”

(Certainly We chose them knowingly above all the nations, and We gave them some signs in which there was a manifest test.)

Islamic exegetes say that the phrase ‘We chose them’ means the Children of Israel were given the responsibility of spreading God’s divine teachings among other communities while God was witness to their actions. Moreover, the term above all nations means that the believers among the Children of Israel were more faithful than their contemporary people and not all people at all times. God Almighty chose the Children of Israel for spreading the teachings of the Torah but they lacked competence and that is the

reason that God has said in the Holy Qur’an that “فَوَجَدْنَا آلَ إِسْرَائِيلَ فِي دَرَجَاتٍ مِّنْ عِلْمٍ لِّمُوسَىٰ إِذْ قَالَ لِرَبِّهِ أَيُّكَ الْأَلْبَانُ الضَّالِّاتُ أَجْزَىٰ لِمَنْ عَلَّمَهُ قَالَ الْإِنْسَانُ الَّذِي يَضَلُّ أَلْبَانَهُ الضَّالَّاتِ فَهُوَ ضَالٌّ لِّمَنْ عَلَّمَهُ لَئِن لَّمْ يَفْعَلْ لَمَ يَذَّبُوا الْبَقَرَاتُ لَوِ انبَعَثُوا إِلَّا لِيَلْمُوا فَتَلَكُمُ الْيَحْيَىٰ الْمَوْتَىٰ وَأَنْتُمْ قَوْمٌ فَاسِقُونَ”.....”(those who were charged with the Torah, then failed to carry it).

2- The Claim about the Promised Land

The ideal of the Promised Land, which has been derived from the distorted texts of the Old Testament (Torah), is a Zionist ideology founded on a false and baseless hypothesis.

It has been narrated in Genesis (Old Testament, 15: 18 to 20) “In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abraham, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates. The Zionists claim that this was addressed by God Almighty to Prophet Ibrahim (AS) and, therefore, the (promised) land of Palestine was given to the Jews of that time who are descendants of Ibrahim (AS). In response to this claim, it must be noted that even if, supposedly, such a covenant had taken place and God Almighty had given the so-called promised Land to Prophet Ibrahim and his descendants, Ibrahim’s (AS) descendants were not exclusively the Children of Israel and rather the Arabs (Children of Prophet Ismail), too, including Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) are Ibrahim’s (AS) descendants.