

Forty Years....For the Palestinians, Moses has been gone too long

Recently, the commemorative pieces on the occasion of 40th anniversary of the 6-day Israel-Arab war were strewn all over the world - on radio, TV and in newspapers. But what is tragically hilarious is the feigned lamentation in the debates and discussions in the US media over the futile efforts to bring Fatah and Hamas together in a government acceptable both to Palestinians and “to feral outsiders, including the U.S. and Israel”. As if all the media Buddhists in this country have been writing their whimsical columns from Tibetan low-lands all these years, away from radio and TV!

When it comes to remembering the history of creation of Israel in the heart of the Arab land almost 60 years ago, Israeli sympathizers craftily choose the bliss of dementia. The Jewish state was created as a haven for the weak, vulnerable and traumatized survivors of the worst genocide in human history. Ironically, over the years that noble zeal has become the very weapon of annihilation of the weak and vulnerable in that region.

Mere ‘two states’ is not the roadmap to peace, simply because, Israel wants to have it on a ‘one-way-her-way’ street. No state can enjoy peace unless its neighbors also feel secure. To find true peace, Israel ought to accept that it can either hang on to illegal occupation with steadily widening encroachment, or it can have security. It cannot simultaneously have both. The incessant chaos and unrest of past half a century in the region is a testimony of that mutual exclusivity which Israeli leaders, thanks to their hubris, have forgotten. Never mind that in the name of security, Israel sought to, and did, build a 20-ft tall wall to keep Palestinians out of sight, and therefore out of mind. No wall is impregnable - especially the one that is founded and fortified by almost 60-year long deprivation, subjugation and humiliation.

Surprisingly, in their ardor to give prominent coverage to the 1967 victory, the media did not find the mechanistic of the Zionist heavy-handedness of four decades, in the least flabbergasting. The real question to ask is why has Israel drawn and redrawn geopolitical maps according to its own strategic interest - while simultaneously abusing international goodwill and distorting truth in portraying itself as the perpetual victim?

For the peace in the Middle East to prevail, two things must happen: first, the state of Israel must give up its hell-bent ambition of reinventing a historical wheel that was once used on its very people 60 years ago - extermination; second, the US must come out from *behind* Israel and stand *between* her and the Palestinians.

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