



**PROCLAIMING JUSTICE  
TO THE NATIONS**

# World History Textbooks and Anti-Israel Bias

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Publishing houses produce textbooks which are responsible for guiding young minds and in the long run, for shaping society. Pearson Prentice Hall has dominated the American education scene for decades and has influenced generations of students. That being said, in the areas of world history, geography, and American history, Pearson has made its reputation – at least for some of us – as one of the most dangerous, agenda-based revisionist publishers, whose agenda includes anti-Semitism, anti-Israelism and anti-Americanism.

Pearson Prentice Hall's *World History*, published in 2016, is a toxic text which uses a variety of methods and tools to create and teach a new Israel narrative and indoctrinate anti-Israel bias.

Topic 20, Lesson 4, Conflicts in the Middle East, Text 2, The Difficult Road to Peace.

On page 3, there is a photo with the following caption:

*Here, some Israelis protest the building of housing units in East Jerusalem, which they see as an obstacle to peace between Israelis and Palestinians.*

The question here is not if such a demonstration took place or if there are some Israelis who object to the settlements.

The problem here is that Pearson has included a fallacious photograph, one staged to condemn the Ultra-Orthodox Jews. We know this, but apparently Pearson does not, because the clothing and positions of the demonstrators do not belong to either Ultra-Orthodox or Orthodox Jews. We have here the deliberate use of photographs for historical revisionism.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Peace/settlements.html>

## Topic 20, Lesson 4, Text 2, The Difficult Road to Peace

On page 3, Pearson continues its historic revisionism by omission of four relevant facts.

*One obstacle to peace concerns the Palestinian refugees who fled or were forced off their lands in earlier wars.*

Palestinians were told to leave their homes by Arab leaders who planned to annihilate the Jews. Many Arabs fled because of their admonitions. Others fled when their villages came under attack. The newly established Israeli government under Ben Gurion asked the Arabs to remain in their houses. Many did, as evidenced by the granting of Israeli citizenship to more than 1.5 million Arabs in Israel, while nearly a million Jews were being expelled from Arab nations from 1948 to 1979.<sup>2</sup>

## Topic 20, Lesson 4, Text 2, The Difficult Road to Peace

On page 3, Pearson continues the historical revisionism with the use of half-truths, incorrect terminology and omissions of facts.

*Disagreements about final borders affect negotiations over the future of the West Bank.*

There is no nation of Palestine and thus there can be no borders. Furthermore, the UN referred to this boundary pre-1967 as the “Green Line,” and today the UN refers to the boundaries as “The Wall.” A border would signify that a two

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<sup>2</sup> David Patterson, [A Genealogy of Evil: Anti-Semitism from Nazism to Islamic Jihad](http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/myths3/MFrefugees.html) (Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge University Press, 2011), 102. <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/myths3/MFrefugees.html>

state solution had been solidified, when in fact the negotiations continue after decades.<sup>3</sup>

#### Topic 20, Lesson 4, Text 2, The Difficult Road to Peace

On page 4, Pearson continues the historical revisionism with the use of half-truths and omissions of fact.

*The distribution of water resources impacts negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians concerning the control of the water supply, water consumption, and the costs of investments in water management.*

Israel has doubled the Palestinian water supply and according to World Health Organization the Palestinians consume far more than is necessary. During the interim period of the Oslo talks, Israel made available approximately 70 MCM/year of water to the Palestinians in the West Bank even though the Water Agreement allocates a much smaller quantity of only 23.6 MCM/year.<sup>4</sup>

#### Topic 20: New Nations Emerge (1945-Present), Lesson 3 The Modern Middle East Takes Shape, The Founding of Israel

On pages 1-2, Pearson continues its historical revisionism with the repetition of half-truths and the omission of facts.

*The 1948 Arab-Israeli war created a huge refugee problem. Hundreds of thousands of Palestinian Arabs fled their homes in Israeli territory. The UN housed them in temporary*

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<sup>3</sup> [http://www.un.org/News/dh/mideast/reportE\\_PR.pdf](http://www.un.org/News/dh/mideast/reportE_PR.pdf) <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/myths3/MFboundaries.html>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/water99.html>

*camps in nearby countries, where they remained for decades. At the same time, hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees expelled from Arab lands fled to Israel.*

On the surface these statements appear accurate. However, they are not because of the omission of pertinent facts and/or explanations. Students have no way of knowing that Israel did not create the enormous refugee problem and that the Arabs who fled Israel in 1948-1949 did so largely at the instigation of their own leaders. Students are also not told that those who stayed were not forced out of the places where they lived and that they and their descendants now enjoy the rights and privileges of being free citizens of Israel.

Furthermore, students are not told that the Palestinian Arabs who were housed in the UN sponsored refugee camps had no other place to go because the Arab nations closed their doors to them, in compliance with a memorandum that al-Husseini sent them on March 8, 1948 “requesting that they [the Arab nations] refuse to allow Palestinian Arabs to enter their countries.”<sup>5</sup>

#### Topic 20: New Nations Emerge (1945-Present), Lesson 4: Conflicts in the Middle East, The Difficult Road to Peace

On page 2, Pearson covers the Oslo Accords and also the PLO and continues its revisionism through omission of facts.

*In 1993, Yasir Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (rah BEEN) agreed to the Oslo Accords. This plan gave Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank limited self-rule under a Palestinian Authority. The PLO recognized Israel’s right to exist and pledged to stop terrorist attacks on Israel. Arafat led the Palestinian Authority until his death in 2004.*

The PLO may have recognized the right of Israel to exist but it never revoked its charter and it never stopped its acts of terrorism. The PLO’s goal, as stated in Article Fifteen of the PLO Charter, is still to destroy the Jewish state.

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<sup>5</sup> Zvi Elpeleg, The Grand Mufti: Haj Amin al-Husseini, Founder of the Palestinian National Movement, London: Frank Cass, 1993.

Article 15: The liberation of Palestine, from an Arab viewpoint, is a national (qawmi) duty and it attempts to repel the Zionist and imperialist aggression against the Arab homeland, and aims at the elimination of Zionism in Palestine. Absolute responsibility for this falls upon the Arab nation - peoples and governments - with the Arab people of Palestine in the vanguard. Accordingly, the Arab nation must mobilize all its military, human, moral, and spiritual capabilities to participate actively with the Palestinian people in the liberation of Palestine. It must, particularly in the phase of the armed Palestinian revolution, offer and furnish the Palestinian people with all possible help, and material and human support, and make available to them the means and opportunities that will enable them to continue to carry out their leading role in the armed revolution, until they liberate their homeland.”<sup>6</sup>

## Topic 21: The World Today (1980-Present), Lesson 8, Terrorism and International Security

On pages 3 and 4, Pearson continued its agenda of the sanitization of Islam and the revisionism of the history of Israel.

*The PLO officially renounced terrorism in 1988.*

*By the 1980s, Islamic fundamentalism—often referred to as Islamism—was on the rise. This conservative reform movement wanted to revive Islamic values and install governments that strictly followed Islamic law, or Sharia. The Islamist movement was partly a response to the rise of secular governments in many Muslim nations and the impact of Western culture. It was also a backlash against foreign support for Israel and the presence of foreign powers in the Middle East. Islamic fundamentalists made Israel or Western nations scapegoats for their problems.*

The PLO renounced terrorism in word only just as it never changed its Charter which calls for the destruction of Israel.

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<sup>6</sup>[http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th\\_century/plocov.asp#art15](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/plocov.asp#art15)

As concerns Islamic Fundamentalism, while this is true, what has been omitted is the critical fact that for many Muslims, and the Islamists in particular, the world is divided into *Dar al-Islam*, “the House of Submission”, and *Dar al-Harb*, “the House of War”. The *Dar al-Islam* encompasses all those lands in which a Muslim government rules and Islamic *Shari’a* law prevails. Non-Muslims may live there only on Muslim sufferance. *Dar al-Harb*, “the House of War”, is the non-Muslim world which has not yet been subjugated. According to the Qur’an and Islamic *Shari’a* law, a perpetual state of *jihad*, or holy war, exists between *Dar al-Islam* and *Dar al-Harb*. While the Qur’an and *Shari’a* law allow active hostilities in the “permanent state of war” between *Dar al-Islam* and *Dar al-Harb* to be suspended during periods of truce, such truces are only permissible when *Dar al-Islam* is weak. Further, such truces can only be temporary, and must be limited in duration to no more than ten years (although they may be renewed as long as *Dar al-Islam* remains too weak to conquer *Dar al-Harb*). As conceived, any truce will not lead to a peace agreement and Israel will have no possibility of peace.<sup>7</sup>

These examples provide a glimpse into Pearson’s world of anti-Israelism.

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<sup>7</sup> *Qur-an Al-Madinah*, p.1570 (Surah 47:35); al-Misri, *Reliance*, pp.604-605.