

***Bayan Harakatuna [Our Manifesto]. The Palestinian National Liberation Movement (Fateh), 1959. Translated by The Palestinian Revolution, 2016.<sup>1</sup>***

*My brother son of Palestine...  
We trust in you and in your patriotism...*

We depend on your love and devotion for precious Palestine, and your burning desire to avenge and liberate the land and save yourself from your horrific bloody reality. That is why we are presenting you with these pages and entrusting you with every word in them.

My brother son of the Nakba...

If this talk of ours appeals to you, then welcome to the ranks of those working towards the battle for liberation. And if you hesitate- and we hope you will not- then we have full faith in your true conscience. We trust that you will guard what you have learnt from us, and keep all what you have known a secret. We trust that you will not mention it or hint at it in any setting.

Brother, regardless of who you are, and no matter where you are...

The revolutionary mass of your people is moving forward with determination, rising above in the march of genuine struggle to detonate revolution against the invaders in our occupied Arab land. The loud call of duty and national conscience compels you, my brother and fellow son of Palestine, to participate in carrying out the responsibility of working towards liberating your stolen homeland, regardless of who you might be, and where you might be.

Hasten to take your place amongst the ranks of the revolutionary vanguard that has vowed to sacrifice and offer itself for the birth of our people's revolution to liberate its lands and avenge its dignity.

Do not hesitate, do not falter, and do not shy away from the procession that is charting its path through the darkness of tragedy towards its rendezvous with dawn.

*The dawn of dignity...  
The dawn of revolution...  
The dawn of Palestine, free and Arab*

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*Forward... Until Victory*

Fateh

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## *Historical Overview*

Palestine was subjected to the ugliest schemes on the Arab and international levels... Disaster struck and the Arab peoples everywhere were living the harsh reality of tyranny under the rulers and the colonialists, the Arab governments being a willing tool in the hands of colonialism and Zionism.

Disaster struck while the Arab nation was asleep, but the sons of Palestine were never unaware of their cause. They were awake, for they fought the British mandate and international Zionism, and they were steadfast for thirty years, during which they stood alone in the battlefield, facing all forms of colonialist oppression, and giving thousands of heroic martyrs and innocent victims during their many revolts and long days of struggle.

When the Arab states, under the orders of the colonialists, took the initiative out of the hands of the Palestinian people, they opened the doors for colonialism and Zionism, transforming the Palestinian people into a herd of miserable refugees. Afterwards, all of the Arab states, also under the orders of colonialism and Zionism, prevented the Arab people of Palestine from gathering and mobilizing towards preparing themselves to reclaim their homeland... Not only was our people lost, but the Zionist and colonialist leaderships and those circling in their orbit worked towards tarnishing the patriotic legacy of the Palestinian people with accusations of selling lands, treason, and other claims.

Instead of preparing our people for battling Zionism and reclaiming its usurped homeland, the Arab governments shoved Palestinians into narrow conflicts that serve their opportunistic aims... Our people were thus forcibly fragmented, targeted, and chased in a barbaric manner... And the Arab rulers then masked the reality of the cause in front of their citizens with illusory battles and numbing cries that prolonged the reality of the Nakba throughout these long years, and the cause was almost buried, had it not been for the faith that remained in the good souls of the sons of our people...

Our people remained faithful and solid in its defense of its rights. It did not succumb to the whiplashes of the colonialists and their agents, and it

remained stronger than them across the Arab region. And the Arab people remained, carrying the slogans that were coined by the people of Palestine in 1948, and these slogans remained as the most accurate measure of patriotism and revolutionary orientation, despite all the falsehood and distortion.

## *Developments Affecting the Cause*

Since the Nakba, the cause of Palestine has not been addressed in a manner that corresponds to its importance... The Arab governments did not develop any steady national policy that accords with the hopes of the Palestinian people... Our cause remained almost frozen, accumulating dust, and history was smuggling itself into its script, erasing its lines one by one... This erasure would have continued had it not been for the rise of a vanguard from amongst the ranks of our Arab Palestinian people that has taken the reigns of the cause, and initiated a firm policy and a thoughtful plan that has raised the cause from the gutters of opportunism, sorcery, and quackery, lifting it to the realm of constructive revolutionary patriotism.

## *The Inevitable Birth of the Movement*

Whatever the reasons that lay behind the loss of Palestine, they do not change the reality that our people are living under at the moment. Our people are living the reality of national defeat, suffering the bitter Nakba from its earliest beginnings. If only the Arab governments would allow our people to gather, unite its ranks, and plan a revolutionary course for regaining its homeland... Instead, our people has been suffocated with the stench of despair and treason, the smell of wretchedness and disease, the smell of bitter loss, and painful misery. The disagreements amongst Arab countries only grew, and their eyes turned away from the battlefield. The majority of Arab governments exploited the Palestinian people and the cause of its country. And if any of them had remained true to our cause, the dominant currents made sure that their devotion was rendered luckless.

And so the Nakba grew in age, and its years passed by without hope... In this context, many lost trust in themselves and then denied it to everyone else; all efforts were splintered, and the pulpits became overcrowded while the fields of action remained vacant. Our Arab Palestinian people was fettered with the chains of steel and fire everywhere...

However, the preparations for a revolution to liberate our usurped lands has restored serenity to the harrowed spirits, and calmed the pains of our people,

and the hearts of our people were once again filled with confidence at its ability to liberate its homeland from the Zionist invaders.

All those that have tried to address our cause have failed, because they kept us away from it. That is why our people was in dire need of a vanguard that could mobilise it in an organized movement that could lead it to the path of revolution, the only correct path for resolving its cause and removing its Nakba.

#### *Our Movement*

Our movement is a national revolutionary movement that is born out of the heart of the will of the Arab Palestinian people and the depths of its conscience.

Our movement calls for the national unity of the Palestinian people.

Our movement calls for molding the Arab Palestinian character within the Arab international presence.

Our movement is far from parochial regionalism and believes that Palestine is an inseparable part of the greater Arab homeland...