The Impact of the Deir Yassin Massacre on the Arab-Israel Conflict

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ABSTRACT. The Deir Yassin Massacre was the most symbolic massacre of Palestinian Arabs by the Jews before the establishment of Israel, which had a complex and far-reaching impact on the Arab-Israel conflict. The massacre spread panic and precipitated the Arab exodus of 1948, which indirectly expanded Jewish territory and provided much of the land for the creation of Israel; as the first cooperation between the Jewish official forces and the underground forces, it promoted the change of the Jewish official policy from defending to attacking, and kick off the expulsion of the Palestinian Arabs by the Jews with extreme violence; it aroused the anger of Arab countries, and the Arab-Israel conflict rose from the civil struggle to the national level, which directly led to the outbreak of the First Middle East War; It was the focus of the Arabs' bitter memories and thus became the rallying cry for for Arabs to restore their homeland and to engage in national struggle. As a landmark event in the series of Palestinian massacres in 1948, the Deir Yassin Massacre has triggered a profound reflection on the international community. Commemorating the Deir Yassin Massacre has become a breakthrough in the reconciliation between contemporary Jews and the Arabs.

KEYWORDS: Deir yassin massacre; Arab-israel conflict; Irgun; First middle east war

1. Introduction

In the early morning of April 9, 1948, Hagaran, a Jewish regular armed group, joined forces with the Jewish extremist group Ilgun and Stern Gang to attack the small Arab village of Deir Yassin. The assailants (132 members of Ilgun, 60 members of Stern and 20 members of Parmacher) launched an onslaught with armored vehicles and mortars. After fierce house-to-house competition, they finally occupied the village. Jewish militants fully demonstrated their brutality: they killed, robbed, bombed buildings and even raped women. The famous Israel scholar Benny Morris documented the atrocities of the Jewish attackers: “They ransacked unscrupulously, stole money and jewels from the survivors, and burned the bodies. Even dismemberment and rape occurred.” [1] (P113) a Hagana intelligence official described: “Dissidents Ilgun and Lich robbed and stole everything in the village: chickens, radios, sugar, money, gold, etc. Each A dissident was walking around the village with dirty blood, proud of the number of people killed. “[1] (P238) This attack killed at least 100-120 Arabs, including several Ten women and children. [2] Dozens of other villagers were taken to the streets of West Jerusalem to show them to the public. However, they were most likely to be killed as well. There are mixed statements about the number of Arabs killed. Initially, the commander of the Ilgun in Jerusalem area boasted that 240 people were killed in a press conference; the New York Times reported on April 13 that 254 Arabs were killed. In a personal memoir published in 1950, Jacques de Reynier, president of the International Committee of the Palestine Red Cross who had visited Deir Yassin, stated: “A total of more than 200 people have died, men, women and children. The corpses rot, and about 150 corpses were not preserved in the village, but were ... placed in a huge trough. “The more recognized number proposed by historians is between 100-120 people. For example, the famous Israeli historian Benny Morris believes that there are 107-120, and Alif Al-Arif, the former mayor of East Jerusalem, is counted as 117 victims. The exact number of Arabs killed may never be known, as some villagers were captured in West Jerusalem to show their way to the streets, and then they were most likely killed as well. Women and children were the main victims, and the deputy of the senior chief executive of Jerusalem told reporters that the dead in the village of Deir Yassin included 25 pregnant women, 52 mothers of babies and 60 girls. The Jewish armed slaughter of the Arabs has been recorded in history as the infamous “Deir Yassin massacre”. The massacre has been widely condemned by the international community; although the Stern Gang and Ilgun have denied the existence of organized massacres, Jewish authorities, Hagana, Rabbi of Jewish institutions and David Ben-Gurion both condemned the attack and confirmed the allegations of the massacre. [3] (P317)

The Deir Yassin Massacre massacre was a major and crucial event in the Arab-Jewish conflict, which opened the prelude to the Jewish expulsion of Palestinian Arabs by extreme violence, which had a profound impact on
the subsequent Arab-Israel conflict. The Chinese academia community has paid less attention to this major event. So far, no scholars have specifically studied it. Even if it is mentioned occasionally in some papers and works, it is basically an introductory nature.

We believe that the Deir Yassin Massacre massacre, as a major event in the Israel-Palestinian conflict, has had a complex, multifaceted and far-reaching impact on the Arab-Israel conflict, the Israel-Palestinian conflict and the Palestinian cause.

2. Prompted the Great Escape of the Arabs and Provided a Large Territory for the Founding of the Jews

The Deir Yassin Massacre contributed to the Arab exodus in 1948 and thus the turning point in the 1948 Palestinian conflict.

In terms of the number of casualties, the Del Yassin massacre was not the largest massacre in 1948, but because the parties (including the British government, Hagana, Ilgun, the Stern Gang and the governments of the Arab countries) purpose. Both actively promoted the cruelty and bloodyness of the Del Yassin massacre, and the Palestinian Arabs began to believe in the various rumor horrors that Ilgun had committed the Holocaust in Dar Yassin. Large “[4] (P209). At the same time, the clamor of “Dale Yasin! Dale Yasin!” Constantly issued by the Zionist army during the offensive was both a “good intention” reminder and a practical reminder of the still besieged Arabs. Threat. Thousands of Arabs in panic began to flee, and the war went in favor of the Jews. It can be said that the massacre of Dar Yassin and its legends became weapons of the Jewish army, and a large number of Arabs were forced or actively fled their homes because of panic, deportation and massacres.

3. Promoted Official Jewish Policy to Switch from Defensive to Offensive, Violence and Terror Become the Norm

The Deir Yassin Massacre was the first cooperation between the official Jewish military force Hagana and the underground armed forces, and the first active attack by the underground Jewish armed forces against the Arabs with the support of the Jewish officials. It signifies that the Jewish officials have abandoned the long-held “restraint policy” and instead pursued a retaliatory or even provocative offensive policy. Violence and terror have become the norm in Jewish policy since then.

The expulsion of the Arabs allowed the Zionists to win more land and facilitated the migration of the Jewish population, it also ensured that the Jewish state was established on the larger Palestinian territory.

4. The Escalation of the Arab-Israel Conflict Has Become the Fuse of the First Middle East War.

The Deir Yassin Massacre is an official operation supported by Haganah. It has raised the Arab-Israel conflict from the civilian level to the national level and caused Arab governments to intervene in the Palestinian issue, and triggered the first Middle East war.

The Deir Yassin Massacre was the turning point in the Arab-Israel conflict from civil struggle to official armed force confrontation, which opened the prelude to the first Middle East war; it sparked the anger in the Arab world and opened the Arab and Jewish leaders. The prelude to horrific hatred for more than half a century.

5. Intensified the Suffering of the Arabs and Turned into a Loud Slogan of the National Struggle Against Israel

Due to its high publicity, the Deir Yassin Massacre has become the focus of the Arabs' cataclysmic memory. The Jews'resumption of the country in an extreme way of expulsion and massacre has deeply stimulated the Arabs and made “the Deir Yassin!” become a slogan for Palestinian Arabs to restore their homes and engage in national struggles.

It can be said that the Deir Yassin Massacre is crucial in the history of modern Middle East, as the Israel historian Tom Segev commented: “the Deir Yassin Massacre is a milestone in the chronicle of the Israel-Arab conflict, it is a symbol of war and terror. “[5] (P25) To this day, Deir Yassin Massacre is still remembered in the hearts of Palestinians and even Arabs. “On September 30, 2015, Palestinian President HE Mr. Mahmoud Abbas said during the debate at the 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly,” We still remember the Deir Yassin Massacre and all crimes against our people, These crimes have been thrown without punishment. “[6] It can be said that the shadow of the Deir Yassin Massacre has promoted the growth of Arab national and religious.
extremism, and terrorist attacks by extremist organizations have further complicated the Palestinian issue, and make peace talks between Palestine-Israel and Arab-Israel more difficult.

6. Conclusion

Deir Yassin Massacre, the place where the tragedy happened, is also the place where hope is born.

Terrorism is a tumor of human society. It arises from pain and causes pain to others, and the pain result in revenge and a vicious circle form. The story of Deir Yassin is the same, because it tells the story of two peoples inseparable-one victim and one victim's victim. The Jews were victims of the Nazi Holocaust and deserve sympathy and protection; but if this victim harms others because of his victimization, it is like a rampage for the tigers and becomes a tumor of social development.

According to the Buddhist scriptures, “Vengeance has a way of rebounding upon oneself “, “be lenient wherever it is possible “. We cannot judge the right and wrong of the two sides of the Arab-Israel conflict objectively, but we know that “transpositional thinking” can ease tension and “reconciliation” can “turn hostility into friendship”. The basis of transpositional thinking is to understand each other and yourself. The Israel Holocaust Memorial (Vad Yashem) helps Jews and Arabs understand the suffering of Jews; but what we lack is a way to understand the suffering of Palestinian Arabs. Deir Yassin Massacre is the best way for Jews and Arabs to understand the suffering of Arabs. First, the Deir Yassin Massacre was a symbol of the massacre of Arabs by Jews and a slogan of extreme violence by the Palestinian National Liberation Movement. Secondly, the village of Deir Yasin is located directly opposite the Israel Holocaust Memorial, which helps to understand the pain of both sides at the same time and to think in other places. Third, remembering that the Deir Yassin led us to reflect on “Is the method of extreme violence the best way to solve the problem?” Or even “Can the method of extreme violence really solve the problem besides triggering further violence?”

Remembering the past history is to create a better future, and remembering the sufferings of Deir Yassin Massacre helps the two nations shake hands and make peace. It is also appropriate to recognize and commemorate the suffering of the Palestinians in a fair and reconciling spirit. Based on this, in 1995, a group of Jews and non-Jews made a major effort to launch a “Deir Yassin Remembered” project. Daniel McGowan, one of the founders of the project, The preface of his book Remembering Deir Yassin reads: The goal of the project is “to rebuild ... an important part of Palestinian history , and aimed at creating a future in which israelis and palestinians can live together in a just and equitable way” In response, Palestinian Jordanian writer and critic Rami Khouri believes that (“Deir Yassin Remembered”) is part of the process of re-humanizing each other, sublimes from the cycle of mutual denial (the other person is qualified) to “a more morally responsible, more historically constructive cycle that recognizes the past, understands, sympathizes, and ultimately forgives and reconciles.”

As a major event in the history of the Arab-Israel conflict, the Deir Yassin Massacre symbolizes the sins of the Jews and the suffering of the Arabs. It has planted the seeds of the Palestinian-Israel conflict and even the Arab-Israel conflict. On the other hand, remembering that the Deir Yassin Massacre was remorse for Israel Jews, and was also a shame for Arabs. A re-examination of this incident will help better understanding between the Jews and the Arabs, and the reconstruction and promotion of the Deir Yassin Massacre will help mankind avoid repeating the same mistakes. The spirit of understanding and reconciliation is of great significance for the peaceful settlement of the Palestinian issue.

References