



## Anti-Semitism in the Egyptian Media



At a time when President Obama has traveled to Cairo and delivered a historic speech offering reconciliation and partnership between the U.S. and the Muslim world and between Israel and her Arab neighbors, at a time when Egypt is seen as being able to play a critical role in bringing about the goals the President laid out in his speech, a culture of permissiveness persists in Egypt that enables anti-Jewish sentiment to flourish in the Egyptian press without a single word of condemnation or criticism from political or civic leaders. President Mubarak's government continues to engage in business as usual when it comes to blatant expressions of anti-Semitism in the media which seep into Egyptian society undermining the attempts by the new U.S. administration to deliver on the promise of the President's Cairo speech.

Anti-Semitism in Egypt has contributed to the barriers that have existed since 1979 when Israeli Prime Minister and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat signed a historic peace agreement. Yet, in the past thirty years relations between the two countries have not developed passed proper cordiality—neither government encourages interaction between citizens of the two countries, and cultural exchanges are virtually non-existent. This “cold peace” between Israel and Egypt is most apparent in the Egyptian media where all too often Jews and Israelis are depicted in a derogatory and incendiary manner.

Daily newspapers and television shows prominently propagate age-old anti-Semitic themes with Jews portrayed as stooped, hook-nosed and money-hungry, fighting for world domination. This plethora of anti-Semitic themes and statements in the media portrays the tacit approval of anti-Semitic sentiments in Egyptian society—writers capitalize on age-old anti-Semitic canards with statements such as “The Jews control the American media... The Jews control the most important American newspapers...” (*Al-Ahram*, March 7, 2007). These statements are matched by equally offensive cartoons depicting Jews as controlling the international financial systems and the American government. Other hateful themes, such as Jewish exploitation of the Holocaust are common in daily papers, with claims such as “Since the Jews know to take advantage of their catastrophes through reaping their fruits as if the tragedy bore fruits” (*Al-Akhbar*, January 28, 2007). Other articles deny or diminish the Holocaust, while cartoonists depict Israeli leaders as Nazis.

This spate of anti-Semitic sentiment is largely seen in the media, but recently it has manifested itself in active discrimination—such as the Egyptian government's attempt to exclude Israeli doctors and scientist from an international conference on breast cancer. Furthermore, in a rare but very public instance Egyptian Culture Minister Farouk Hosni gave an anti-Semitic diatribe after losing the UNESCO chairmanship to Bulgarian diplomat Irina Bokova, stating: “It was clear by the end of the competition that there was a conspiracy against me ... There are a group of the world's Jews who had a major influence in the elections who were a serious threat to Egypt taking this position.”

While such statements by government officials are, indeed, rare, when placed in the context of the virulently anti-Semitic Egyptian media, they become all the more troubling. In the report below you will find recent examples of anti-Semitic cartoons and articles which exemplify the anti-Jewish sentiments to which Egyptians are regularly exposed.



*Al-Yawm As-Sabe'a*, Sep 5, 2009  
Headline: "River Nile Basin"



*Al-Yawm As-Sabe'a*, July 13, 2009  
Toilet paper roll reads: "Amnesty International"



*Al-Ahram Weekly*, January 29-February 4, 2009

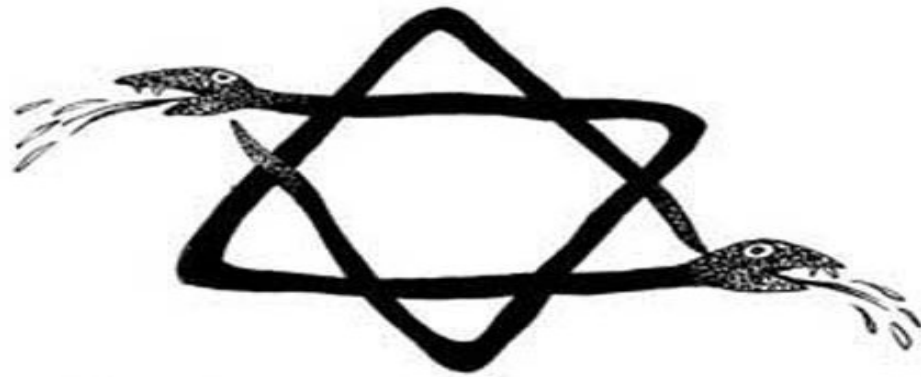
The Jew is holding a sign which reads: “The Israeli Council of Ministers.”



*Al-Ahram*, January 23, 2009

Headline: “No comment.”

The snake has a Jewish star on it and the bomb in its mouth is labeled: “The resistance in Gaza.”



Handwritten signature in Arabic script.

- بدون تعليق -

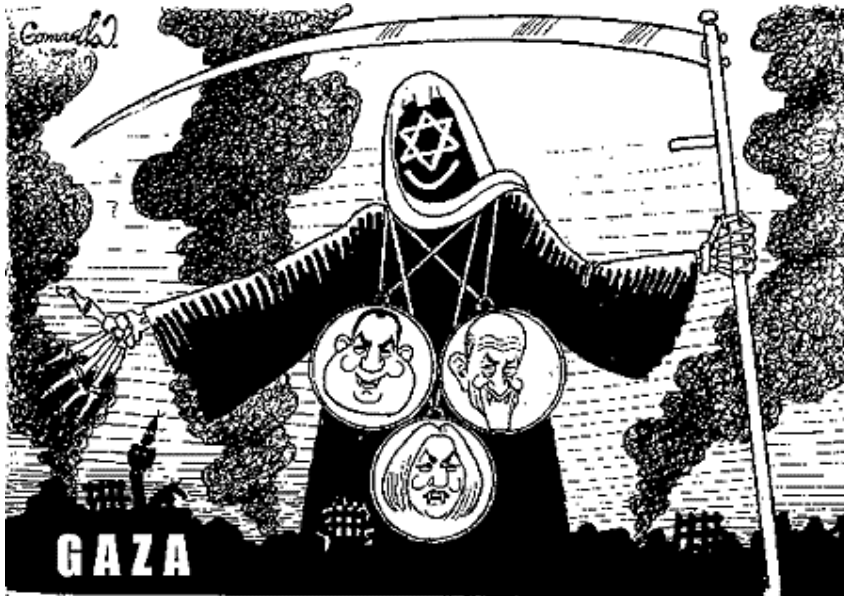
*Al-Ahram*, January 25, 2009

The bottom of the cartoon reads: "No comment."



Handwritten signature in Arabic script.

*Badeel*, January 25, 2009



*Al-Ahram Weekly*, January 15-21, 2009



*Al-Ahram*, January 14, 2009

Headline: “The Israeli Ground Hostility against Gaza.” At the bottom: “No comment.”



*Al-Ahram weekly*, January 8-14, 2009

Former Israeli Prime Minister, Ehud Olmert, is compared to a bull in a china shop. His horns are shaped like a Jewish menorah.



*Akhbar al-Yaum*, January 13, 2009

Headline: “The Israeli Hostility against Gaza.”  
The Israeli/Jewish scorpion is holding “Gaza.”



Al-Ahram, January 11, 2009  
 On the bottle: “American Digestion Pills.”



Al-Wafd, January 7, 2009  
 Headline: “The Security Council is Failing to Adopt a Cease Fire Resolution.”  
 The Jew has “The UN” and the “Security Council” in his pockets.





*Akhbar al-Yaum*, January 6, 2009

The Jew, portrayed with the long nose and beard, is standing on skulls. The signs read: “Sabra and Shatila,” “Jenin,” “Bakher al-Baqer” (IDF attack on an Egyptian school in 1970) and “Gaza.”



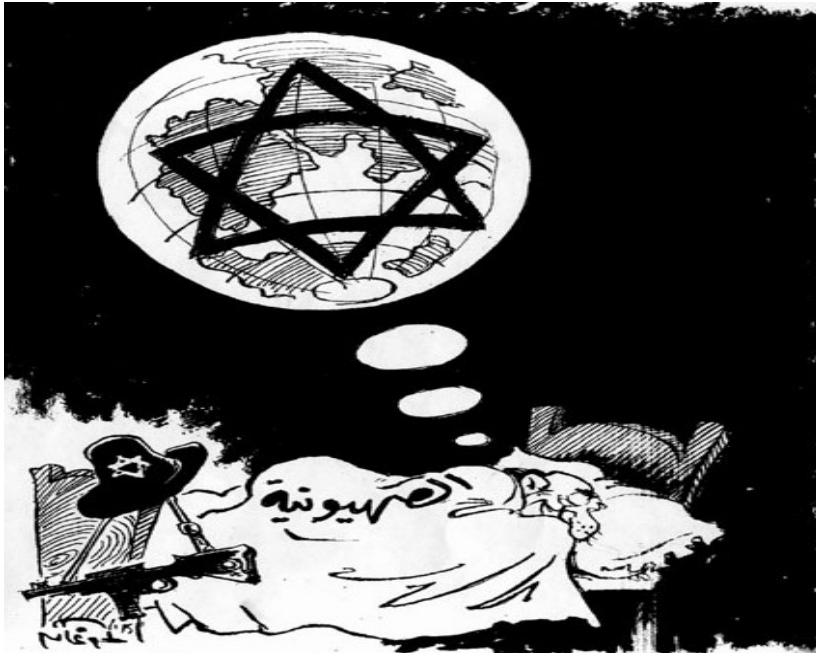
*Al-Gumhuriyya*, January 6, 2009

The Security Council is standing handcuffed (holding the “veto” note) with his eyes and mouth covered. The soldier has a Jewish star with a swastika inside on his chest.



*Al-Ahram*, January 5, 2009

The Israeli/Jewish monster, wearing a yarmulke, stabs a peace dove while the world watches.



*Al-Gumhuriyya*, January 2, 2009

In Arabic: "Zionism."



*Al-Ahram weekly*, December 3-9, 2008



*Al-Gumhuriyya*, December 7, 2008

The “settlers,” on the left, pictured with a long nose and beard, and the “occupation forces,” on the right, is running from the grenade representing “incitement.”



*Al-Ahram Weekly*, October 23-29, 2008



*Al-Gumhuriyya*, September 19, 2008  
The Jewish/Israeli snake has Uncle Sam wrapped in its grasp.



*Al-Gumhuriyya*, September 12, 2008

The Jew, pictured with a long nose and beard, says: “Anybody who doubts the events of September 11th will be called an anti-Semite.” On the sign: “American scholars, researchers and analysts disbelieve the official narrative of the events of September 2001 and accuse President Bush’s administration of hiding and fabricating the facts.”



*Al-Ahram Weekly*, August 7-13, 2008



*Al-Ahram Weekly*, August 7-13, 2008

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert is depicted as a blood-sucking vampire.



*Al-Ahram Weekly*, August 7-13, 2008



*Al-Ahram Weekly*, March 27-April 2, 2008  
German Chancellor Angela Merkel is pictured with a Star of David on her blouse.



*Al-Ahram Weekly*, March 6-12, 2008





*Al-Ahram Weekly, March 6-12, 2008*



*Al-Gumhuriyya, March 3, 2008*

The caption above reads: "The International Legitimacy." The world is holding a paper which says: "Gaza's Holocaust."



*Al-Gumhuriyya*, December 10, 2007

The Third World War” is holding a weapon of “mass destruction,” while “Zionism” is trying to pull it.



*Al-Gumhuriyya*, November 17, 2007

The snake labeled “Zionism,” is about to kill Uncle Sam.



*Al-Gumhuriyya*, October 13, 2007  
The bloody handed Jew is leading Uncle Sam.



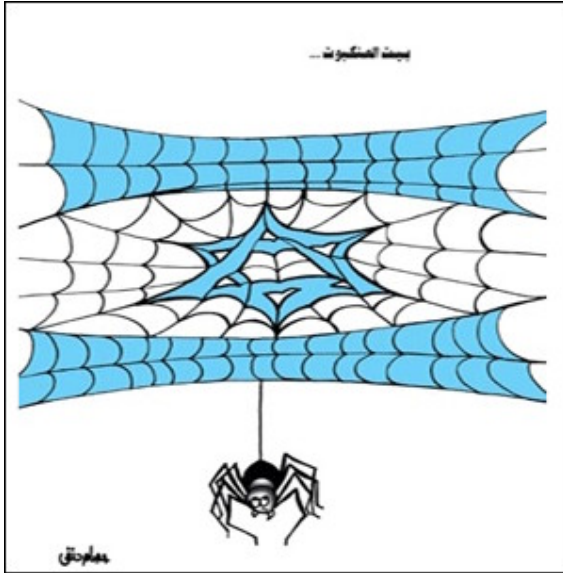
*Al-Ahram Weekly*, August 10, 2007



*Al-Mawkiif al-'Arabi*, April 8, 2007  
 Headline: “Ban Ki-moon”



*Al-Gumhurriya*, September 23, 2006  
 Headline (below): “The dream that used to be.”  
 The Jew is dreaming about “The New Middle East.”



*Al-Mawqif Al-'Arabi* Magazine, September 4, 2006  
In Arabic: "The Spider's house (Web)."



*Al-Ahram Weekly*, July 21, 2006



*Al-Gumhuriyya*, July 12, 2006

Headline is: “After the World Cup.”

Uncle Sam on the right is saying to the bloody handed Jew on the left: “I’m the first and you are the second.” The Jew is saying: “No...I’m the first and you are the second.”



*Al-Gumhuriyya*, July 11, 2006

Uncle Sam is holding a bottle of “Iraqi blood” and is asking the young Jew who is holding a bottle of “Palestinian blood:” “Let me taste and I will let you taste.”



*Al-Gumhuriyya*, July 10, 2006  
 Headline: “Israeli attacks and assaults on Gaza and the West Bank.”



*Akhbar Al-Yawm*, May 25, 2006  
 Headline: “America criticizes verdicts handed down by Egyptian courts.”  
 U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, wrapped in an Israeli flag says: “The law in Egypt has many shortcomings, they [the Egyptians] need to learn from what we are doing in Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib.”



*Al-Gumhuriyya*, May 15, 2006

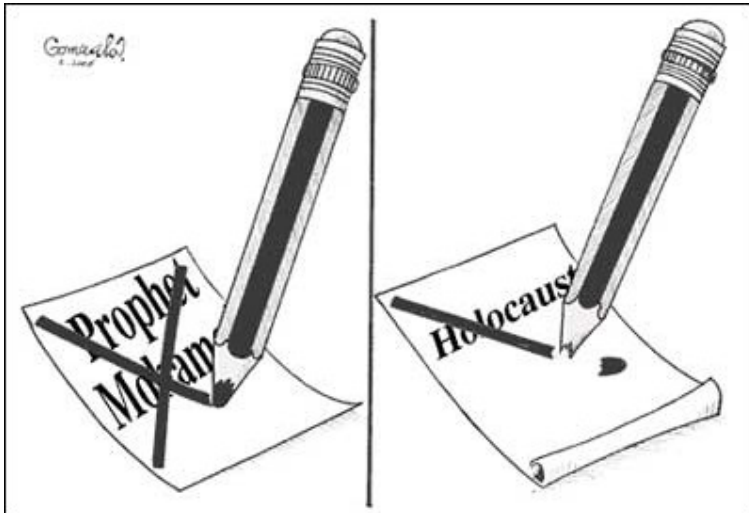
The Angel of Death is labeled “Terror,” the soldier on the right “Fascism,” and the religious Jew “Zionism.” The banner reads: “In commemoration of the partition of Palestine between the Arabs and the Jews,” with “Arabs” crossed out.



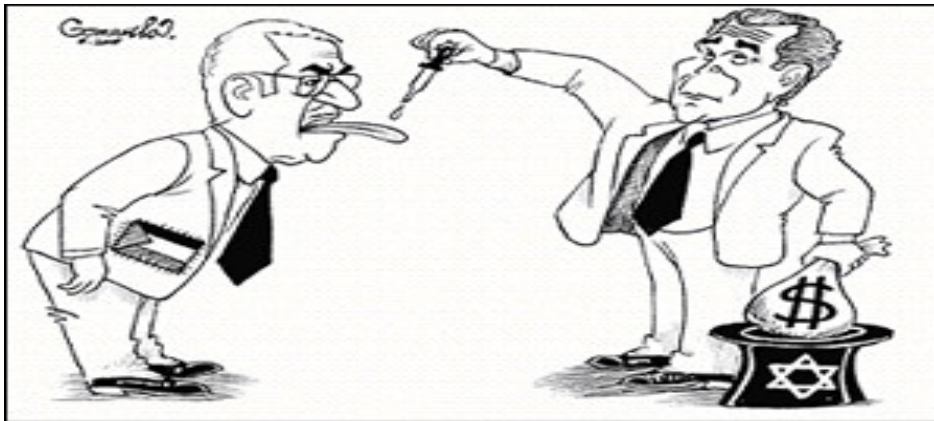
*Al-Gumhuriyya*, April 8, 2006

The Israeli soldier holds a newspaper with the headline: “Israel Withholding Palestinian [tax] Money.” The religious Jew sitting on a bag of money says: “Naturally...as long as we take the land we have to take the money.”





*Al-Ahram Weekly*, February 9-15, 2006



*Al-Ahram Weekly*, June 2-8, 2005



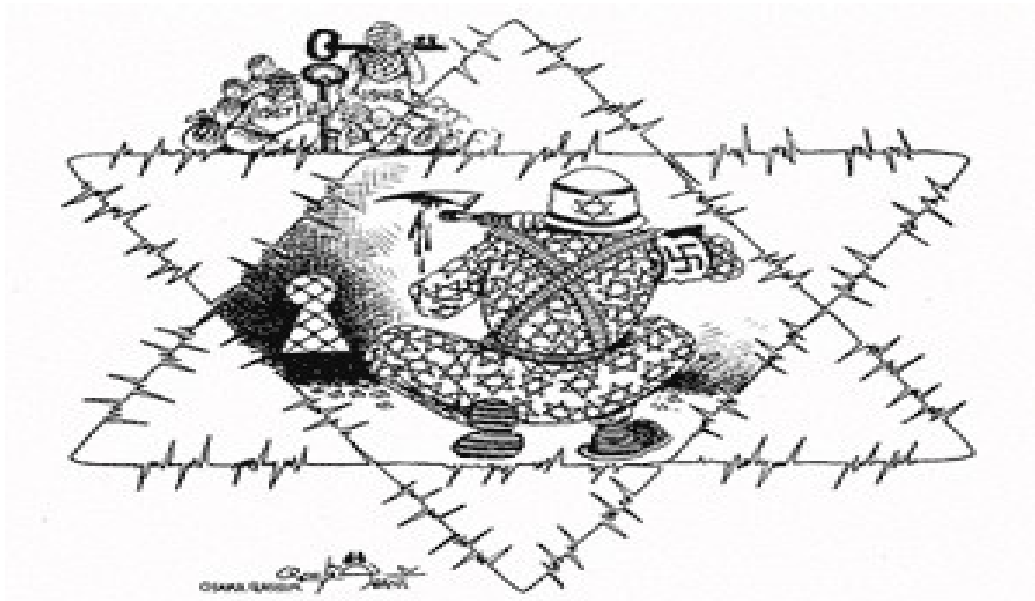
*Al-Ahram Weekly*, May 19-25, 2005



*Al-Ahram Weekly*, May 27 - June 2, 2004



*Al-Wafd*, May 26, 2004  
 Bush and Sharon are pointing to “The Arab Summit” and laughing.



*Al-Ahram Weekly*, May 13-19, 2004



Al-Ahali, April 21, 2004

Headline: “Bush-Sharon Negotiations Are Torpedoing International Legitimacy and Resolutions.” The American is asking: “Who brought up the story of international legitimacy?”



Al-Akhbar, April 18, 2004

Bush is saying: “Yes, I agree to all that Sharon said. Don't you have an opinion?”  
On the bag in Arabic: “America's Jews.”



Rouz al-Yousuf, April 17, 2004

The Jew is saying: “Yes, we opposed the film 'The Passion' because it was the Hamas organization who tried to crucify him, and not us.”



Al-Ahram, April 8, 2004

Headline: “Sharon toasts: ‘To my health!’”

Bush’s glass reads: “Iraqi blood;” Sharon’s reads: “Palestinian blood”



*Al-Wafd*, April 6, 2004

In Arabic: "The veto."

Uncle Sam is holding Prime Minister Sharon who has a swastika on his tie.



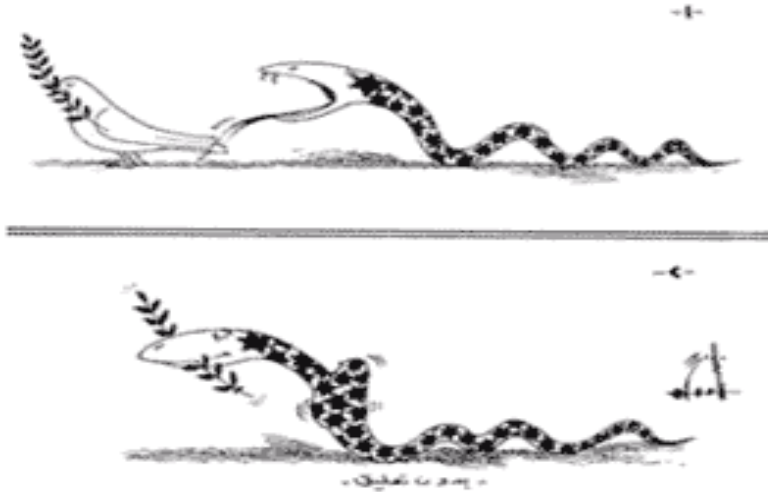
*Al-Ahram Weekly*, April 1-7, 2004



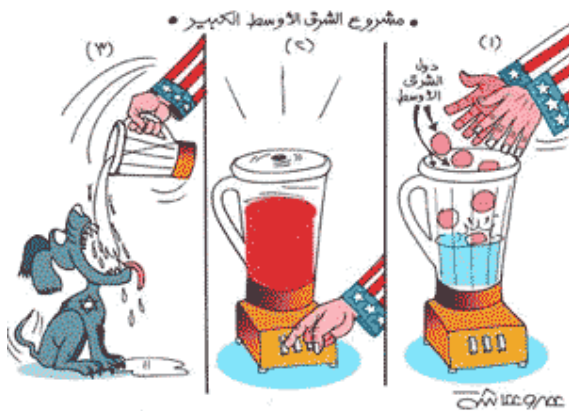
*Karikatir*, April 2004



*Al-Wafd*, March 27, 2004  
Headline: “No comment!”



*Al-Ahram*, March 24, 2004  
 In Arabic: “No comments.”



*Al-Wafd*, March 17, 2004  
 Headline: “The big Middle East's plan.”  
 From right to left: America puts “the Middle East countries” into the blender;  
 America blends them together and, in the final frame, feeds the mixture to the dog  
 with a Jewish star on it.



## **Excerpts from Articles in the Egyptian Press**

- "...No one was moved or got anxious regarding the hundreds of Iraqi and Palestinian girls that are being really and truly raped day and night by the Americans and the Israelis..."  
**Muhammad Abu Kraisha, "The Desperate People Plays Out in the Open," *Al-Gumhuriyya*, June 6, 2007**
- "The Arab League received yesterday an official complaint from the Palestinian government, in which it said that Israel is polluting the water sources, from which the Palestinians drink, with microbes, dirt and atomic garbage. This is one of the dirty and criminal weapons for the siege, starving and the daily annihilation perpetrated by Israel – currently – against the Palestinian people.....It also reveals the truth of the conspiratorial Israel..."  
**Shafiq Ahmad 'Ali, "A Zionist Document Reveals: Israel is Using Dirty Weapons since Palestine's War," *Ruz al-Yousuf*, May 20, 2007**
- "... The Jews control the American media... The Jews control the most important American newspapers..."  
**Jamal Zaida, "Who is Ruling Egypt?" *Al-Ahram*, March 7, 2007**
- "... Since the Jews know to take advantage of their catastrophes through reaping their fruits as if the tragedy bore fruits. They filled the world, and still fill it with crying and wailing for their victims which they claim to be six million. This is how the Holocaust entered history through its ugliest door... The Jews do not want anybody except them in the Holocaust... Under the slogan 'No to the Holocaust,' the world lived half a century – since 1942 until 2007 – incessantly reminded of the Holocaust..."  
**Ibrahim Sa'da, "Waiting for the Second Holocaust," *Al-Akhbar*, January 28, 2007**
- "...the establishment of Israel was announced on May 15, 1948 as a satanic parasitic plant which has no seeds in the soil..."  
**Dr. Ahmad Yusuf Al-Qar'i, "What is the Meaning of Drawing Israel's Borders," *Al-Ahram*, March 16, 2006**
- "...Israel... with its monstrous aggressions, outlaw acts and bloody policy has presented and is presenting the evidence that it hasn't yet passed the stage of criminal gangs and terrorist groups..."  
**"Israel... is a Terrorist Organization," (Editorial), *Al-Gumhuriyya*, March 13, 2006**
- "...the blood of the Palestinians has become a game among the Israeli politicians... as if Hamas is the one occupying Israel and shedding its (Israel's) people blood and blocking all doors for peace..."  
**"The Palestinian Blood...an Election Game" (Editorial), *Al-Gumhuriyya*, March 3, 2006**

- “...The blood that follows the killers will not only follow them in imagination, but is following also in the present. They will not know the taste of peace, only through the blood that they will re-spill. From here the Zionist Mack Beth could only kill the Palestinian paralyzed Sheikh, Ahmad Yasin...But the Zionists’ killing of the Sheikh Ahmad Yasin is natural behavior in spite all. I mean that this is logical, because the hands that were soiled with blood will never find peace, unless it soils itself with fresh blood from which it escapes fear, and presents its power...But the Zionists cannot feel safety if their hands are not soiled with blood.”

**Ahmad ‘Abd al-Mu’ti Hijazi, “All of the World’s Seas Will Not Wash that Blood”, *Al-Ahram*, March 31, 2004**

- “This is the Israeli theory framework in which we have to see the crime of Sheikh Ahmad Yasin’s killing. This is so that we know that this is not the first crime, nor will be the last...”

**Rajab al-Bana, “The Theory of State Terror”, *Al-Ahram*, March 28, 2004**

- “...This is Ariel Sharon, Israel’s PM, who led from the air the conspiracy to kill the great Sheikh Ahmad Yasin, the spiritual leader of the Palestinian Hamas movement...This is the atrocity of terror... in a Satanic manner...What is this barbaric animality, which preceded the lowest wild animals?”

**Zakariya Nil, “The Public Opinion and the Expected Tunis Summit”, *Al-Ahram*, March 27, 2004**

- “The terrible killing of Ahmad Yasin came to add a new sphere to the spectrum of violence and tension in the Middle East, due to Sharon’s silly and daredevil policy, which lacks the simplest rules of logic and sense. Innocents of both sides are paying its price...”

**“The Necessity of International Protection to the Palestinian People”, *Al-Ahram*, March 24, 2004 (*Al-Ahram*’s view)**

## **Egyptian Media Outlets**

***Akhbar al-Yaum*** —an Egyptian weekly paper based in Cairo and founded by Mustafa Wali Amin. The chief editor is Mohammad Barakat.

***Al-Ahram*** — an Egyptian daily controlled by the Egyptian government: the president appoints the editor. The editor (and the editors of the other government owned dailies, *Al-Gumhuriyya* and *Al-Akhbar*) is given substantial leeway in his editorial practices, assuming he avoids certain “taboos.” *Al-Ahram* is the largest Arabic paper in the world and has established the Al-Ahram Regional Press Institute.

***Al-Gumhuriyya*** — a government-controlled daily.

***Al-Ahram al-Arabi***— a weekly published by the Dar al-Ahram publishing house. The editor-in-chief of the newspaper is Usama Saraya, and the chairman of the publishing house is Ibrahim Nafi, who is *Al-Ahram*'s editor in chief. Although both newspapers are published by the same publishing house, *Al-Ahram* and *Al-Ahram al-Arabi* are different. The editorials in *Al-Ahram* are always supportive of government positions, while the editorials in *Al-Ahram al-Arabi* are critical of the government and also other countries. The paper publishes very strong anti-Israeli views.

***Al-Ahram al-Masai*** — also published by the *Al-Ahram* publishing house.

***Al-Mawqif Al-'Arabi*** — a nationalist Egyptian political weekly, edited by Abdul Azim Minaf who is considered to be a pro-Nasser supporter. *Al-Mawqif Al-Arabi* is regarded as an opposition paper dealing with the same issues as *Al-Wafd*. *Al-Mawqif Al-Arabi* magazine expresses extreme anti-Israeli and anti-Semitic views.

***Al-Ussu'*** — an Egyptian opposition weekly.

***Alyom Alsabe'a***—an Egyptian independent weekly first published in 2008 which focuses on the economy and politics. The Editor-in-Chief is Khaled Salah a popular writer and journalist in Egypt. The owner of the newspaper, Walid Mustafa is close to President Mubarak.

***Al-Wafd***— the main opposition paper in Egypt. The paper criticizes the regime on a wide range of issues — from economy to internal and foreign policy. However, it is important to note that the criticism is only on subjects that are allowed by the regime. The paper is one of the most acceptable tools of opposition activism, since the Egyptians see themselves as supporters of freedom of the press, and the paper is supposed to be concrete proof to this idea. *Al-Wafd* expresses extreme anti-Israel and anti-Semitic views, in its articles and cartoons.

***Badeel***—calls itself an “independent” paper. It is a daily paper and was founded by Mohammad As-Sayyid Sa'eed. The chief editor is Khalid al-Bilashi.



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