

# Nazi Propaganda & Antisemitism IN THE MIDDLE EAST



Haj Amin al-Husseini

Adolf Hitler

A SHARED LEGACY OF HATE  
SINCE 1941

# Antisemitism: An Introduction

At its most basic level, antisemitism is a “certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred” rhetorically and physically. Antisemitism often charges “the Jews” with conspiring to harm humanity and is used to blame “the Jews” for “why things go wrong.”<sup>1</sup>

The word “antisemitism” was coined in 1879 by Wilhelm Marr, a German ultra-nationalist and white supremacist. Marr’s form of racist antisemitism culminated in the Holocaust, when Nazi Germany murdered 6 million Jews, along with many millions of others. His term is now used retroactively to describe centuries of belief and behavior that led to physical violence, discrimination, and marginalization against Jews across Europe, the Middle East, and elsewhere.

Unfortunately, neither Nazi ideology nor antisemitism died when Germany was defeated in WWII. Today, antisemitism is resurgent in Europe, the United States, and parts of the Muslim world. It comes from all quarters: the far-right and far-left in the West and some leading institutions and regimes in the Middle East.

According to the ADL’s Global 100 study, the world’s highest levels of antisemitism can be found in the Middle East.<sup>2</sup> Across the region, Jews and Israelis are frequently depicted in images and words that are nearly identical to Nazi propaganda. This is no accident.

In the following pages, we will show the similarities between Nazi propaganda and modern antisemitism in the Middle East and detail how Nazis directly influenced modern Middle Eastern attitudes toward Jews.

**Visit [www.standwithus.com/Roots](http://www.standwithus.com/Roots) for sources.**

# The Nazi Roots Of Modern Antisemitism In The Middle East

In the 1930s, Nazi Germany began cultivating radical Arab nationalists and Islamists, many of whom were already antisemitic. A number of these Arab nationalists came to support Hitler, and dedicated themselves to his cause. Chief among them was Palestinian leader Haj Amin al-Husseini. He and hundreds of Palestinians lived in Germany during the war, as he formed an alliance with the leaders of the Third Reich. He made regular radio broadcasts of Nazi antisemitism to the Arabic-speaking world, and recruited Bosnian Muslims into two SS divisions.<sup>[3]</sup> After the war, he returned to the Middle East and led the violent campaign to prevent Israel's establishment. This led to the 1948 war started by the Arab side, which lost. Meanwhile, other Nazis also fled and ended up working for Arab governments spreading antisemitic propaganda.<sup>4</sup> Today, the Nazi-style mixture of medieval and modern antisemitic imagery — and the depiction of Jews as a diabolic world force intent on global domination — saturate the Middle East. This racism is destructive for Arabs and Israelis alike. It has been and remains a central obstacle to a just and lasting peace.

While the antisemitic images and words that follow may seem preposterous to the rational mind, they nonetheless have deadly power and must be taken seriously.



"At first the claims of the propaganda were so impudent that people thought it insane; later it got on people's nerves; and in the end, it was believed."

—Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*<sup>5</sup>

# Genocidal Propaganda Then and Now

## The Nazis

**“The Jew is the parasite of humanity.** He can be a parasite for an individual person, a social parasite for whole peoples, and the world parasite of humanity.”

—Nazi Propagandist G.G. Otto, *The Jew as World Parasite (Der Jude als Weltparasit)*<sup>6</sup>

**“The Jewish danger will be eliminated only when Jewry throughout the world has ceased to exist.”**

—Nazi Propagandist Julius Streicher, *Der Stürmer*, 1942<sup>7</sup>

Visit [www.standwithus.com/](http://www.standwithus.com/)  
Roots for sources.

## Today's Middle Eastern Leaders

**“[T]he infectious microbe... spreads wherever... a remaining shred of the Talmud can be found or where a Jewish rabbi takes a seat.”**

—Hezbollah General Secretary Hassan Nasrallah, *Al-Manar* TV, May 1998<sup>8</sup>

**“This barbaric, wolflike & infanticidal regime of Israel which spares no crime has no cure but to be annihilated.”**

—Ayatollah Khomeini, Supreme Leader of Iran, July 23, 2014<sup>9</sup>

**“If they (Jews) all gather in Israel, it will save us the trouble of going after them worldwide.”**

—Hezbollah General Secretary Hassan Nasrallah, *Daily Star*, October 2002<sup>10</sup>

## The Nazis

**"The cause of the world's misfortune, however, will be forever eliminated only when Jewry in its entirety is destroyed."**

—Nazi Propagandist  
Julius Streicher,  
*Der Stürmer*, 1941<sup>11</sup>

**"The secret goals of the Jewish people are...in the 'Protocols of the Elders of Zion' [which] contain the Jewish plan for world conquest."**

—Nazi Propagandist  
Julius Streicher,  
*Der Stürmer*, 1933<sup>12</sup>

## Today's Middle Eastern Leaders

**"There is no war going on anywhere, without having their [the Jews'] finger in it.... [The Jews] were behind the French Revolution [and] the Communist revolution....They were behind World War I....They were behind World War II."**

—*Hamas Charter Article 22*<sup>13</sup>

**"The Zionist plan is limitless.... Their plan is embodied in the 'Protocols of the Elders of Zion.'"**

—*Hamas Charter Article 32*<sup>13</sup>

**"The international hegemony, motivated by the dangerous Protocols of Zion, seeks to promote deviant and unworthy models for world young generations."**

—Ayatollah Khamenei,  
Supreme Leader of Iran,  
*October 18, 2011*<sup>14</sup>

# Jews As Demonic



A Moses figure with horns holds the Ten Commandments, the basis of Judaism. The caption reads, "He turned the devil into God, and God and the world into the devil's mockery."

—*Der Stürmer* (1943).  
Courtesy: the Simon Wiesenthal Center Multimedia Learning Center.



The caption over the photo of a Jew reads, "Satan."

—*Der Stürmer* (1943).  
From the German Propaganda Archive. Courtesy: Randall Bytwerk.



# Jews As Demonic

## Middle East



The Pope says, "Peace on Earth," with a Jew, depicted as Satan, replying: "Colonies on Earth."

—*Al-Hayat Al-Jadida* (March 2000). Courtesy: *Palestinian Media Watch*.

## Middle East



Jew depicted as the devil.

—*Iran's Fars News Agency* (2012).

# Jews As The Cause Of All Wars



The caption reads: "The Jewish War-God. He carries no sword with which to fight his battles, for his weapons are dirty tricks, fraud and lies."

—From the Nazi press  
(N.D.). Courtesy: the Simon  
Wiesenthal Center Multimedia  
Learning Center.

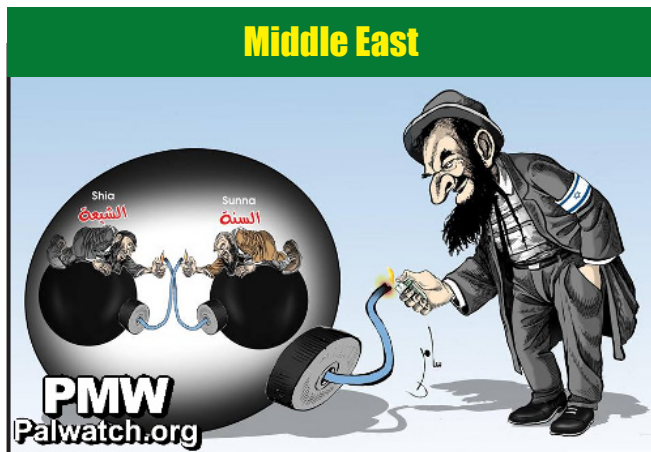
Nazi Propaganda Poster reads:  
"The Jew: The inciter of war,  
the prolonger of war."

—From the German Propaganda  
Archive (circa 1943–4).  
Courtesy: Randall Bytwerk.





# Jews As The Cause Of All Wars



Caricature of a Jew causing violence between Sunnis and Shiites.

—Fatah Facebook Page (2016) Courtesy: Palestinian Media Watch



Cartoon depicts Jews and Israel as a raven that murdered a dove representing peace

—Official Fatah Facebook page. Courtesy: Palestinian Media Watch

# Jews As Crucifiers

Propaganda poster showing modern Germany crucified by the Jews.

—*Der Stürmer* (1939).

Courtesy: the Simon Wiesenthal Center Multimedia Learning Center.



A cartoon from the Nazi publication *Der Stürmer* (August 1930).

—*From the German*

*Propaganda Archive.*

Courtesy: Randall Bytwerk.

# Jews As Crucifiers

## Middle East



Religious Jews crucify a Palestinian Boy - Official PA daily,

—*Al-Hayat Al-Jadida* (2015) Courtesy: *Palestinian Media Watch*

## Middle East



Jew crucifies Palestinian woman, with help from President Obama

—*Al Jazeera* (2013)

# Blood Libel: Jews As Vampires

## Nazi Germany



A Jewish caricature is shown ritually killing a young German woman.

—*Der Stürmer* (1934).

## Middle East



Jew depicted as demon, eating a Palestinian child.

—*Qatar's Al Raya*

Courtesy: *Palestinian Media Watch* (2009)

## Middle East



Former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon feeds a Jewish voter blood in this cartoon from Jordan.

—*Al Dustur* (December 2002).

Courtesy: *The Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center*. Courtesy: *Palestinian Media Watch* (2009)

# Blood Libel: Jews As Vampires

## Nazi Germany

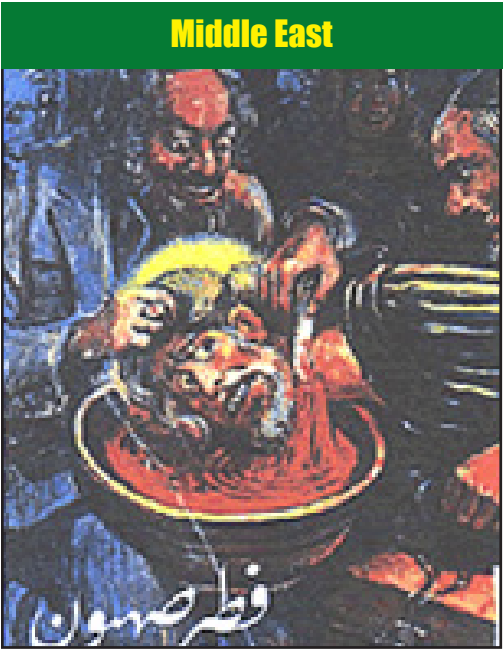
National Archives, courtesy of USHMM Photo



Reproduction from a medieval book illustration depicting ritual murder, a medieval antisemitic myth.

—*Der Stürmer* (1939). Courtesy: USHMM Photo Archives.

## Middle East



Cover of the book *The Matzot of Zion* depicting a Christian being ritually murdered by Jews (1983).

Courtesy: Anti-Defamation League, USA.

# Jews as Non-Human

## Nazi Germany



In this Nazi film, the Jews of Poland are portrayed as evil, corrupt, filthy, and bent on world domination.

—*The Eternal Jew, Der Ewige Jude (1940)*. Courtesy: the Holocaust History Project.

## Middle East



Mice with a Star of David eat away at the foundation of Al-Aqsa

—*Fatah website (2014)*



# Jews as Non-Human

## Nazi Germany



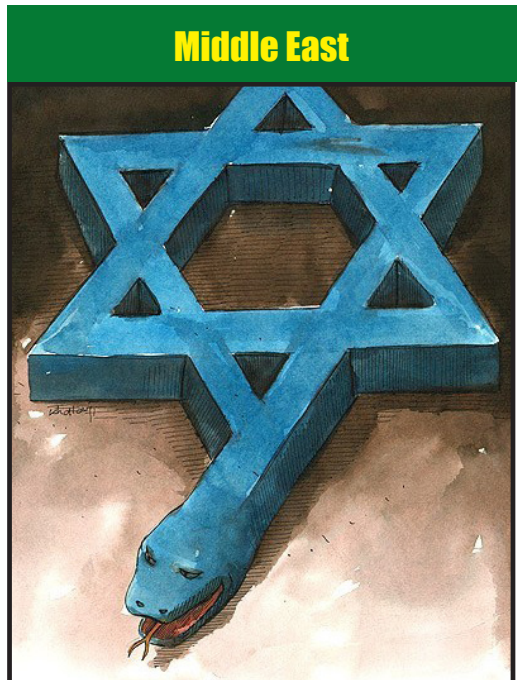
German womanhood is about to be destroyed by a snake marked with Jewish stars.

—Photograph from the National Archives.  
Courtesy: USHMM Photo Archives.

## Middle East

Star of David depicted  
as a snake

—Iran's Fars News Agency  
(2012) Courtesy: MEMRI



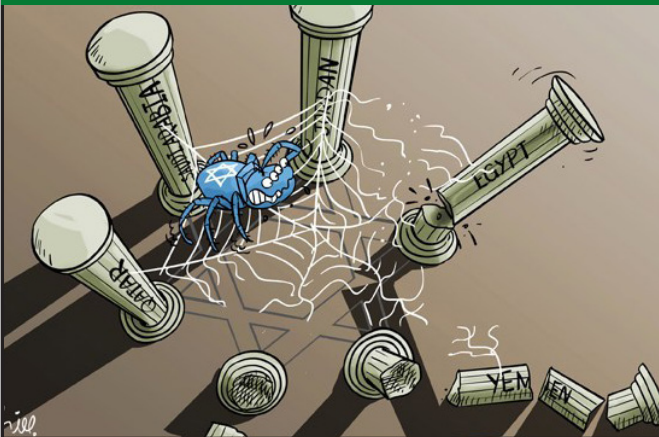
# Jews as Non-Human

## Nazi Germany



A spider, identified with a Jewish star, drinks the blood of his Aryan victims.  
—*Der Stürmer* (1930). From the German Propaganda Archive. Courtesy: Randall Bytwerk.

## Middle East



A spider branded with a Star of David.  
—*Iran's Fars News Agency* (2012) Courtesy: MEMRI

# Ethnic Cleansing Of The Ugly Jews

## Nazi Germany

### Vergeltung



This cartoon was published five months after Hitler took power. The title is "Revenge." The Nazi who shoves the Jew over the cliff says: "Go where you wanted me to go, you evil spirit."

—*Der Stürmer* (June 1933).  
From the German Propaganda  
Archive. Courtesy: Randall Bytwerk.

## Middle East



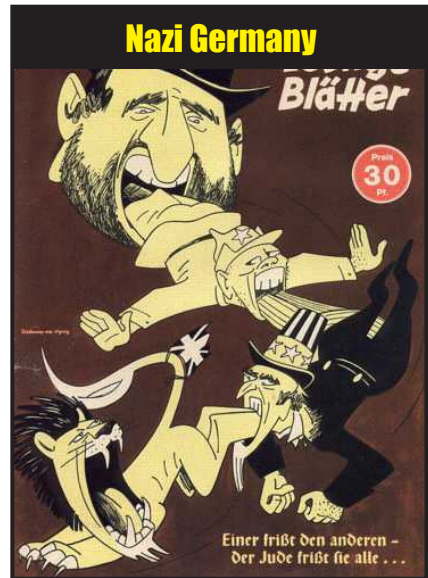
In this cartoon, Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser, backed by the armies of the Arab states, kicks the Jew into the sea.

—*Al-Farida* (1967).

# Jews Control The World

A German “humor” magazine from 1943 shows a Jew eating the Soviet Union, the United States, and Great Britain.

—*Lustige Blätter* #29 (1943).  
From the German  
Propaganda Archive.  
Courtesy: Randall Bytewerk.



Jews making the American flag wave, meant to indicate Jews control American policy.

—*Der Stürmer* (1941).  
From the Library of  
Congress. Courtesy:  
USHMM Photo Archives.



# Jews Control The World

## Middle East



Jew depicted as puppet master behind McCain and Obama.

—Saudi Arabia's *Al-Watan* (2008). Courtesy: MEMRI

## Middle East



Jew rides a man representing “The Quartet,” which is made up of the UN, U.S., EU, and Russia.

—Saudi Arabia's *Al-Watan*. Courtesy of MEMRI

# Jews Control The World

## Nazi Germany



Library of Congress, courtesy of USHMM Photo Archives.

Nazi cartoonist Seppla (aka Josef Plank) depicts the Jew as an octopus with its tentacles encompassing the globe.

—From the Library of Congress. Courtesy: USHMM Photo Archives.

## Middle East



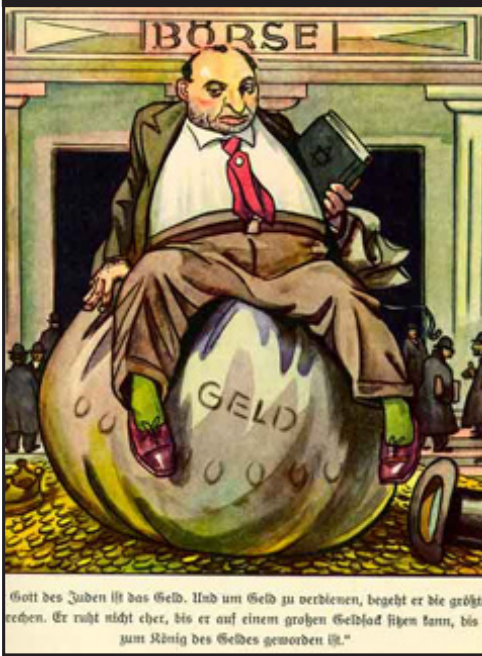
Cover of the Egyptian edition of the antisemitic tract by Henry Ford, *The International Jew*, showing an octopus with its tentacles covering the globe.

—Dar al-Fadila (2001). Courtesy: The Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center.



# Jews As Greedy Criminals

## Nazi Germany



The cartoon's caption reads, "The God of the Jews is Money. And to gain money, he will commit the greatest crimes. He will not rest until he can sit on the largest sack of money, until he becomes the King of Money."

—*Der Gifpilz (1938). From the German Propaganda Archive. Courtesy: Randall Bytwerk.*

## Middle East



In this Jordanian cartoon, a Jew is seen carrying large bags of money.

—*Al Dustur (2005). Courtesy: haGalil.com.*

## Middle East



Image of a smiling Jew covered in money.

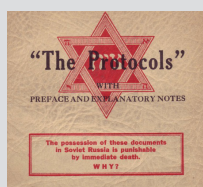
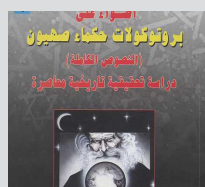
—*Iranian website 'Holocartoons', (2010). Courtesy: MEMRI —Al-Watan (N.D.).*

# Post WW II:

## This transfer of Nazi racism was not an accident.

After World War II, many prominent Nazis fled Europe and were welcomed in the Middle East. After 1953, President Gamal Abdel Nasser absorbed about 2,000 of them into Egypt, where they worked in the secret service,

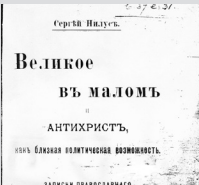
Nazi Propagandists	Position in Nazi Germany	Position in the Middle East After WW II...
Dr. Johannes Von Leers. Post-war name: Omar Amin.	Protégé of Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels and one of the Third Reich's most important antisemitic ideologues.	Ministry of Information, Cairo, Egypt. Translated <i>Protocols</i> into Arabic.
Hans Appler. Post-war name: Sakah Chaffar.	Information services with Joseph Goebbels, Nazi minister of propaganda.	Ministry of Information, Cairo, Egypt.
Franz Bartel. Post-war name: El Hussein.	Assistant chief of the Kattowitz Gestapo (Poland).	Ministry of Information, Cairo, Egypt.
Werner Birgel. Post-war name: El Gamin.	SS officer from Leipzig.	Ministry of Information, Cairo, Egypt.
Wilhelm Boeckler, SS Untersturmführer.  Franz Buensche, SA Obersturmführer.	SS officer wanted in Poland for the murder of the Jews of the Warsaw ghetto.	Ministry of Information, Cairo, Egypt.



directed anti-Israel propaganda, and translated antisemitic texts into Arabic, such as the forgery *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.<sup>15</sup> Other Nazis became journalists in countries such as Syria. Some prominent examples include:

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Nazi Propagandists	Position in Nazi Germany	Position in the Middle East After WW II...
Franz Buensche, SA Obersturmführer.	Collaborator with Joseph Goebbels, Nazi Minister of Propaganda.	Ministry of Information, Cairo, Egypt.
Louis Heiden. Post-war name: El Hadj.	Journalist for anti-Jewish News Agency, Weltdienst.	Converted to Islam. Translator of <i>Mein Kampf</i> into Arabic. Lived in Egypt in the 1950s.
Georges Oltramare. Post-war name: Charles Dieudonne.	Director of <i>Le Pileri</i> , antisemitic newspaper in Vichy, France.	Served as propagandist for Nasser in Cairo, later moved to Switzerland.
Franz Rademacher. Post-war name: Thome Rossel.	Headed Anti-Jewish section of Foreign Affairs Ministry, 1940-43.	Journalist in Damascus, Syria, later returned to Germany and tried for war crimes.
Albert Thielemann. Post-war name: Amman Kader.	SS officer in Czechoslovakia.	Ministry of Information, Cairo, Egypt.



*The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* is a fabricated antisemitic text purporting to describe a Jewish plan for global domination. It was first published in Russia in 1903, translated into multiple languages, and disseminated internationally in the early part of the 20th century. The Nazis used the *Protocols* as propaganda against Jews despite having been exposed as fraudulent by *The Times of London* in 1921.

# Expose This Legacy Of Hatred

Educate Elected Officials, Journalists, And Community Leaders. Hold Middle Eastern Leaders Accountable And Demand That They Teach Peace.



**What starts with the Jews, never ends with the Jews.**

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