

A HOTBED FOR HATE



A COMPREHENSIVE DOSSIER OF

ANTISEMITISM

AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
AND BARNARD COLLEGE
SINCE THE 2016–17 ACADEMIC YEAR

Prepared by

 **ALUMS**
FOR CAMPUS FAIRNESS

Executive Summary

In this comprehensive research document, Alums for Campus Fairness (ACF), with most sourcing and categorizing methods from AMCHA Initiative, has chronicled the antisemitic incidents transpiring at Columbia University and its sister school, Barnard College, since the 2016-17 academic year. These campuses are arguably the most prominent settings for university-based antisemitism in the United States. This dossier is meant to equip members of the media with detailed information to expose the gravity of the situation.

The below dossier details the disturbing climate at Columbia and Barnard in the following approach:

- 1) **Antisemitic Expression - Language, imagery or behavior deemed antisemitic by the guidelines outlined in the U.S. State Department definition of antisemitism. Recent examples include:**
 - The May 2019 Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) “die-in” on campus, at which a student speaker read a statement that condoned terrorism, denied Jewish self-determination, and demonized and delegitimized Israel.
 - The April 2019 “Israeli Apartheid Week,” during which SJP erected a mock “apartheid wall” on campus, with one wall panel stating, “End Israeli Apartheid” in large letters and another calling for “return,” insinuating the elimination of the only Jewish state.
 - The Center for Palestine Studies, which held an event in March 2019 with a title and description that accused Israel of “apartheid.”
- 2) **Targeting Jewish Students and Staff - Incidents that directly target Jewish and Zionist students on campus, or other Jewish members of the campus community, with harmful or hateful action based on their Judaism or perceived support for Israel. Recent examples include:**
 - SJP’s April 2019 statement to the campus community that urged the community to ostracize Zionist and pro-Israel student groups, including Students Supporting Israel (SSI), by asking the campus “to reject racism, reject Zionism.”
 - SJP’s February 2019 denigration of Hillel’s Birthright Program, including a statement on Valentine’s Day that “there’s nothing romantic about a propaganda trip on occupied land!”
 - The November 2018 incident when a Jewish professor’s office was vandalized with swastikas and the antisemitic term “Yid” found spray-painted in red in the entryway to the office.
- 3) **BDS Activity – Incidents tied to the BDS movement that are antisemitic in intent, content, expression, and effect. Recent examples include:**

- The March 2019 proposal on whether to hold a campus-wide referendum on divestment from Israel, which was debated in the Student Council for four hours and ultimately failed in a secret ballot.
- The April 2018 Barnard's Student Government Association (SGA) letter urging administrators to divest from eight companies with ties to Israel.
- The Columbia University Apartheid Divest's March 2018 event, titled "WTF is BDS?!"

Finally, the dossier reviews various bigoted and antisemitic statements, publications, and actions from Columbia and Barnard faculty and staff, including:

- Nadia Abu El-Haj, Professor of Anthropology and Co-Director of the Center for Palestine Studies, who has published a book implying that Israeli archaeologists falsified evidence to prove the existence of Israelites in the area.
- Gil Andijar, Professor of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies, who has said that "Israel is absolutely a colonial enterprise, a colonial settler state, to be precise."
- Partha Chatterjee, Professor of Middle Eastern, South Asian and African Studies, who has claimed that Israel treats its Arab citizens "as lowly barbarians."
- Hamid Dabashi, Professor of Iranian Studies and Comparative Literature, who has repeatedly compared Israel to ISIS; he has also posted on Facebook that for "every dirty treacherous ugly and pernicious act happening in the world," the "ugly name of 'Israel' will pop up as a key actor in the atrocities."
- Katherine Franke, Sulzbacher Professor of Law, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, who has lamented feeling "as if I teach at the New York franchise of Hebrew University Law School."
- Gil Hochberg, Ransford Professor of Hebrew and Comparative Literature, who has described the establishment of Israel as "coordinated Zionist attacks on Palestinian villages aimed at Judaizing strategic parts of the country."
- Rashid Khalidi, Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies, who has been identified as "a PLO spokesman."
- Mahmood Mamdani, Herbert Lehman Professor of Government, who has compared Israel to "settler America" and Palestinians to Native Americans.
- Joseph Massad, Professor of Modern Arab Politics and Intellectual History, who has accused Jewish Zionists of complicity in the creation of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust.
- George Saliba, Professor of Arabic and Islamic Science, the subject of a months-long investigation following accusations of anti-Semitism made by Jewish Columbia students.
- Michael Taussig, Professor of Anthropology, who has promoted a claim that Israel trains wild boars and gazelles to destroy Palestinian farmers' crops.

IHRA's Working Definition of Antisemitism

On May 26, 2016, the [International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance](#) (IHRA) in Bucharest adopted the following non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism:

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

In May of 2016, the IHRA plenary gathered in Bucharest to define antisemitism and identify political tools to combat rising antisemitism worldwide. As a member of IHRA, [the United States uses this working definition](#) to guide its foreign policy action and encourages other governments and international organizations to use it as well.

Contemporary Examples of Antisemitism

Contemporary examples of rhetorical or physical manifestations of antisemitism could include, but are not limited to:

Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.

Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as a collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government, or other societal institutions.

Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.

Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers), or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).

Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.

Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.

Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of the State of Israel is a racist endeavor.

Applying double standards by requiring of Israel a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.

Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.

Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the State of Israel.

Antisemitic acts are criminal when they are so defined by law (for example, denial of the Holocaust or distribution of antisemitic materials in some countries).

Criminal acts are antisemitic when the targets of attacks, whether they are people or property – such as buildings, schools, places of worship and cemeteries – are selected because they are, or are perceived to be, Jewish or linked to Jews.

Antisemitic discrimination is the denial to Jews of opportunities or services available to others and is illegal in many countries.

Incidents

ACF categorized antisemitic incidents in the following way, using the AMCHA Initiative's method of delineation:

Antisemitic Expression - Language, imagery, or behavior deemed antisemitic by the U.S. State Department definition of antisemitism, or wholly consistent with that definition.

Targeting Jewish Students and Staff - Incidents that directly target Jewish students on campus or other Jewish members of the campus community for harmful or hateful action based on their Jewishness or perceived support for Israel.

BDS Activity - The BDS movement is antisemitic in intent, content, expression, and effect.



Antisemitic Expression

05/11/2019

Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) held a “die-in” on campus, at which a statement that condoned terrorism, denied Jews self-determination, and demonized and delegitimized Israel was read.

The statement said, “We must understand the [Israeli] assault on Gaza in its broader context. This is not a ‘cycle of violence.’ This is a linear path of violence that we can trace back decades, a path which concretely spells out the racist objective of Zionism: to create an ethno-supremacist state with no place for the indigenous Palestinians. What is happening in Gaza, and in Palestine more generally, is not ‘conflict’ but colonialism, maintained through a program of ethnic cleansing and incremental genocide. Any form of resistance, whether violent or non-violent, has been met by the Israeli state with a brutal response, sanctioned by an international community that refuses to treat the Zionist entity for the settler-colonial project that it is.”

A video of the event was promoted by SJP along with the message, “Sign the petition calling on Columbia to divest from war-profiteering companies complicit in the suffocation of Gaza: <http://bit.ly/CUADpet>.” Video credit: SJP / Facebook. [Source 1](#)



04/01/2019

As part of “Israeli Apartheid Week,” SJP erected a mock “apartheid wall” on campus. One panel said, “End Israeli Apartheid” in large letters and another called for “return,” which would effectively eliminate Jewish self-determination if implemented. Photo credit: SJP Facebook. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

04/01/2019

As part of “Israeli Apartheid Week,” SJP held the event “CHRISTIAN ZIONISM 101,” where participants discussed “the experience of Palestinian Christians living under apartheid.” [Source 1](#)

03/28/2019

The Center for Palestine Studies (CPS) held the event “Cracks in The Wall: Beyond Apartheid Palestine/Israel,” whose title and description accused Israel of “apartheid.” The description read, “After decades of occupation and creeping annexation, Israel has created an apartheid system in historic Palestine... and the Palestinian-led boycott campaign continues to gain momentum. Now, White argues, is the time to plot a course to avoid the mistakes of the past - to create a real way forward, and beyond apartheid, in Palestine.” [Source 1](#)

03/12/2019

Columbia SJP and Columbia/Barnard Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) issued a statement to the community following a failed BDS vote that demonized and delegitimized Israel.

The statement read, “Our commitment to opposing all forms of oppression necessarily entails a rejection of the racist political manifestation of Zionism in the Israeli State... we are not deterred. Every year, more and more people and institutions recognize that Israel is an apartheid state.... As more college students demand that their schools divest from companies that perpetrate crimes against Palestinians, as more congresspeople come out in support of Palestinians, and as more institutions divest one thing is clear: unconditional support for Israel is no longer viable, in discourse and otherwise.” [Source 1](#)

02/28/2019

SJP, JVP, and Columbia University Apartheid Divest (CUAD) held the event “Palestine & BDS 101,” where slides provided from the talk demonstrated that delegitimizing language was used throughout.

The opening slide itself stated, “Collective International Pressure to End Israeli Apartheid” and a fourth slide stated, “The [CUAD] campaign calls upon the University to divest its stocks, funds, and endowments from companies that engage in or profit from the State of Israel’s practices of apartheid.”

A further slide called for the “right of return.” Another slide claimed that “the State of Israel has not only occupied Palestinian land, but also the sovereign territory of 3 of its 4 neighboring countries. Today, Israel continues to occupy land in Syria, Lebanon and Palestine.”

Slide 28 included the text, “Israel describes itself as the State of the Jewish people (there is no ‘Israeli nation’). This has led it to pursue several general racial policies [which include] Demographic engineering of a racial majority and thus a ‘racial democracy.’”

The presentation was finalized with slides calling for BDS. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

02/12/2019

CPS held the event, “Unsettling Spaces: Technologies of Violence in Palestinian Jerusalem,” where Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian gave a presentation titled “Speaking Life, Speaking Death: Jerusalem’s Children in the ‘Showroom’ of Violent Technologies.”

The presentation was advertised by CPS in demonizing words that included, “Children’s words and acts provide unique insight into the daily experiences of domination, colonization and occupation that are part of Israel’s ‘combat proven’ politics. Surveillance, spatial control, imprisonment, torture, and professional training of security personnel have turned the old city into a showroom for states, arms companies, and security agencies to market their technologies as tested, and ‘combat proven’... The geostrategic significance of controlling Jerusalem for Israel and the sacralized politics invoked to turn it into a ‘show room’ speak death.”

During the event itself, Shalhoub-Kevorkian claimed, “Israel does weapons tests on Palestinian children,” “Palestinian spaces are laboratories for the Israeli security industry,” and that Israel is “making money over children’s bodies and children’s lives.” She additionally claimed children face a “death machine” at Bab al-Amud, the Arabic name for the Damascus Gate entrance to the Old City of Jerusalem. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#), [Source 4](#)

02/11/2019

SJP tabled on campus to promote its “divestment campaign” and urged students to sign the “CU Apartheid Divest Petition,” which demands “that Columbia University end its investments in Israeli Apartheid.” [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

11/11/2018

CPS and Columbia SJP, along with Al-Awda, The Palestine Right to Return Coalition, Science for the People and Within our Lifetime, United for Palestine co-hosted the three-

day event, “Second International Meeting for Science in Palestine.”

The third day of the event included a panel with Columbia Professor Michael Harris and Khury Petersen-Smith of the Institute for Policy Studies, at which Harris was advertised as discussing “motivations and challenges of the Academic Boycott of Israel.”

During this panel event, Harris claimed, “Including Israel as a full partner in the European Research Network effectively meant the importation of Israel systemic racism into the European research state. And this was a point that was stressed in the recent [academic boycott] events at the University of Michigan and this cannot be stressed enough.”

Harris continuously stressed the importance of scientists engaging in an academic boycott of Israel with a variety of arguments, including, “We feel it is incumbent upon us to be especially active in speaking up for the academic boycott precisely because we are protecting our profession...we can also leverage our protected positions to defend colleagues who are threatened by their institutions [for implementing an academic boycott of Israel] and many of us signed the statement in support, protesting the decision of University of Michigan to sanction American Studies professor John Cheney-Lippold.”

Petersen-Smith delegitimized Israel with accusations of “Israeli apartheid” throughout the panel and claimed, “the playbooks that the right wing [globally] is using to go after progressive academics was developed by Zionists.” [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#), [Source 4](#)

11/10/2018

CPS and SJP, along with Al-Awda, The Palestine Right to Return Coalition, Science for the People and Within our Lifetime, United for Palestine co-hosted a three-day event titled “Second International Meeting for Science in Palestine.”

The second day of the event included a session titled “An update from Palestine,” where panelists demonized and delegitimized Israel. Rami Abdul Aziz, a member of Within Our Lifetime, United for Palestine, stated, “We work to uplift the Palestinian struggle of the Palestinian people against their oppressors, recognize the inalienable right of return for all Palestinians [and] the illegitimacy of the settler colonial Zionist state... The right to a dignified life will be the end to the Israeli occupation of Palestine and the realization of the right of all Palestinians to return home.”

Suzanne from Al-Awada New York stated, “Our name Al-Awada... represents return and our full name is the Palestinian Right to Return Coalition. Much of the work we’ve done over the years has been to center the voice of the Palestinian refugee... who feel the impact and oppression of the occupation and the colonization of Palestine... scientists who... want to advance [the] progress of humanity and the future of humanity... have to really think about how their participation in that field serves to dismantle forms of oppression and white supremacy including Zionism.” [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

11/09/2018

CPS and Columbia SJP, along with Al-Awda, The Palestine Right to Return Coalition, Science for the People, and Within our Lifetime, United for Palestine co-hosted the three-day event, “Second International Meeting for Science in Palestine.”

During the first day's panel event, "Doing science under military occupation," speakers demonized and delegitimized Israel and denied Jews self-determination. One speaker discussed the "right to education under apartheid." Another panelist showed a map of "Palestine" that included all of Israel at first, but then became fragmented, insinuating all of Israel is Palestine.

A third speaker stated, "We can do a lot if we can take off the biased ideas about superiority of one people... we can share everything. There is a chance of real peace, not by the [supremacy] of those fanatics who are coming from everywhere to build a Jewish state - a religious state is a racist state." [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#)

04/19/2018

CUAD issued a press release following a BDS resolution's passage by the student government. The press release used demonizing and delegitimizing language, stating, "The results of this historic vote indicate the shifting tide of our generation against Israel's brutal colonization of Palestine and the apartheid practices and politics used to expand its settlement and push the Palestinian population out of their homes. The message from Barnard students is clear: get our tuition dollars out of settler colonialism and its benefactors... this shows conclusively that the Barnard community is absolutely in favor of divestment. The university must follow through and respect the will of the student body and democratic process."

It added, "Barnard can again demonstrate its commitment to socially responsible investment by divesting from Israeli settler-colonialism, military occupation, and apartheid law... While this campaign only targeted eight companies, we will continue to organize until Columbia University and Barnard College divest from all companies complicit in Israel's injustices." [Source 1](#)

04/17/2018

An anti-Israel poster was found at 113th St. and Broadway, just outside of Columbia University, that depicted IDF soldiers as insect exterminators, with the captions, "Shoot to kill! Protect your victory garden." [Source 1](#)

04/13/2018

CUAD published an article in the school paper that demonized and delegitimized Israel and called for BDS.

The article claimed, "[BDS] calls for individuals, institutions, and governments to remove themselves both economically and symbolically from the Israeli State until it abides by international law by ending the occupation, decolonizing all occupied Arab lands, and dismantling the Apartheid Wall."

It added, "Divestment is the moral answer to the question of Palestine—a question now entering its 70th year since the ethnic cleansing of 750,000 Palestinians in the period prefacing the establishment of Israel." [Source 1](#)

04/11/2018

SJP and JVP held a "Gaza Solidarity Rally" opposite a pro-Israel group's booth marking Holocaust Remembrance Day. SJP members chanted, "Free Palestine, free," "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" and, "From Gaza to the plaza, globalize the Intifada!"

The rally's description said participants are calling for Palestinians to be able to "return to the homes from which they were ethnically cleansed in 1948." No mention of the Holocaust occurred in JVP or SJP's rally. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#)

04/09/2018

Middle East Institute, CUAD, Columbia/Barnard JVP, Student-Worker Solidarity - CU/BC USAS, Liberation Coalition, and Academic Freedom Week co-sponsored the conference, "Day 1: On the Palestine Exception (with some thoughts concerning anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and Zionism in the academy)," with Profs. Gil Hochberg (UCLA/Columbia), Joseph Massad (Columbia), and Jasbir Puar (Rutgers).

The event description demonized Zionism, claiming, "[T]here is the little-known Zionist-Nazi alliance to rid Germany of its Jewish population... Richard Spencer is, therefore, hardly an aberration in linking the basic precepts of Zionism to the White Supremacist desire of a white ethno-state... The link between White Supremacy, male chauvinism, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and Zionism is clearer than ever." [Source 1](#)

03/29/2018

CUAD, SJP, and JVP held the event, "Resisting Settler-Colonialism: A Talk by Steven Salaita." During the event, Salaita alluded to historical tropes of Jewish control, stating, "Support for Israel unites all elements of the ruling class. Zionism is ubiquitous in sites of power." He further claimed, "racist violence is based into the ideology [of Zionism]" and accused Israel of "ethnic cleansing." In response to a question by a student asking how to counter Students Supporting Israel's (SSI) statements on Jewish indigeneity to the land, Salaita claimed, "There's nothing indigenous to somebody who self identifies as Zionist... It's a category that pretends to be ethnic and pretends to be religious but it's a political identity... My claim to Palestine is my grandmother lived there and she was kicked out in 1948 and I have a right to return." [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

03/28/2018

Chicanx Caucus held the delegitimizing event, "Teach In: Israeli Apartheid and the Mexican Border" at the Intercultural Resource Center on campus. [Source 1](#)

03/26/2018

CUAD, Columbia/Barnard JVP, and Columbia SJP held the event, "I is for Intifada" which involved "a presentation on the political history of the Palestinian intifadas and their lasting significance." The event occurred the same day as a student government meeting where Aryeh presented on why the Apartheid Divest resolution was hurtful. Aryeh cited the "I is for Intifada" event as an example of how the presence of CUAD on campus can cause Jewish students to feel unsafe, explaining further, "One thing I want to emphasize: we showed you the slide on the screen where Students for Justice in Palestine called for intifada, and we have given you horrifying stories of what intifada means to us as Jewish people. To us it means the murder of innocent people. And this is why us as Jewish people feel targeted by your movement." [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

03/21/2018

In honor of "Israeli Apartheid Week," Apartheid Divest CUNY officially released its BDS resolution for the campus community to read, as well as sign a petition of support.

The petition included demonizing and delegitimizing language, calling for divestment due

to the “State of Israel’s ongoing system of... apartheid, genocide, and other human rights violations in Palestine/Israel.” The resolution language itself delegitimized Israel by citing a pulled U.N. report, claiming, “Beyond a reasonable doubt Israel is indeed an apartheid state.” [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#)

03/19/2018

CUAD was offered time to speak at a student government meeting in order to encourage SGA to call on the Barnard administration to “boycott, divest, and sanction companies that profit from or contribute to the subjugation of Palestinian people” at the meeting.

According to an article in *The Columbia Spectator*, one speaker justified BDS by stating, “racism, white supremacy, and settler colonialism are evils upon this world that aren’t correct. It shouldn’t be how our college is investing its money—our money should be reflecting the values of Barnard students.”

After hearing the speech, the SGA board voted amongst itself and agreed to pose a question of divestment to the student body in the form of a referendum vote. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

02/26/2018

Columbia/Barnard JVP held the demonizing event, “Return the Birthright Teach-In at Columbia/Barnard.” The description for the event stated that “the racist ideology that Birthright is built upon” would be discussed. [Source 1](#)

02/21/2018

The Middle East Institute held the event, “Envisioning Palestine: Strategies for Palestinian Self-Determination” with Maya Berry, Khaled Elgindy, and Abdallah Hamarsheh.

During the event, an audience member asked how to bring more international attention to the Great March of Return, which the audience member described as “the Palestinians themselves in the Gaza Strip have been trying to gather a mass movement that could actually cross the border between the Gaza Strip into Israel... this movement basically is to bring more than a hundred thousand people in the Gaza Strip to... cross and pass the fence into the Israeli land.”

Hamarsheh replied, “we welcome any movement that tries to break the status quo and to support it as much as possible... I will add my voice to yours here because this is a very important question and ask again and let’s think of how the civil society in Palestine but also the international community elsewhere can support this movement.” [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

02/16/2018

The Center for Research on Women held a panel event with a number of professors titled “Technologies of Surveillance and the Selling of the In Security State” at the 43rd Annual Scholar and Feminist Conference, “Subverting Surveillance: Strategies to End State Violence.”

Multiple panelists engaged in antisemitic rhetoric. One of the panelists, Prof. Rabab Abdulhadi of San Francisco State University, discussed “how white supremacy also fits

in [with] the settler colonial project... I don't think we can treat [the] US or Israeli settler colonial state[s] as an exception, because [they are] inherently and by definition racist, genocidal, exploitative and expansive."

Abdulhadi falsely claimed that the "Israeli army upon graduation, published these t-shirts, there is many of them under that says 'one shot two kills' killing a Palestinian with the mother and the child inside" and also claimed, "Israel was supposed to be protecting, but Israel actually not only aided in flood lights on the Sabra and Shatila Massacre, but also actually collaborated in the killing according to the people I've interviewed." [Source 1](#)

01/18/2018

An op-ed published in the school paper demonized Israel and Zionism, stating, "Special efforts are being made to show that Zionism cannot possibly be racist by AIPAC-sponsored trips for students at historically black colleges. It's like the proverbial free lunch—there's no such thing...Even the before-and-after survey from Hillel—'Do you consider Israel a militarized society? Do you consider Israel a diverse society?' etc.—intimated the trip's apparent goal of disproving the growing belief among college students that Israel is a racist, apartheid state...Besides eating Palestinian food in Hillel, enjoying land taken from Palestinians is the would-be free lunch travelers must recognize—by simply being there, you stand on land that was and continues to be cleansed of its indigenous population." [Source 1](#)

01/15/2018

SJP re-circulated a petition for the campus community to boycott Book Culture, a local bookstore used by professors and students, due to Book Culture's denunciation of the BDS movement and refusal to include a children's book endorsing Intifada during a children's event.

The boycott call included "both a refusal to patronize the store, and, if possible, a refusal to send course materials, such as textbooks, to Book Culture for student pickup" and claimed that "the first and second intifadas [were] periods of massive grassroots mobilization against Israeli apartheid, occupation, and ethnic cleansing."

As of the re-circulation date, nearly 150 students and 18 professors from Columbia University and Barnard College had endorsed the boycott call. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#)

12/18/2017

SJP launched a boycott petition for the Columbia community to sign, pledging to boycott Book Culture, a local bookstore used by many professors and students, because of Book Culture's denunciation of the BDS movement and refusal to include the book "P is for Palestine" in a children's event. "P is for Palestine" includes a page endorsing the Palestinian intifada (violent uprising).

The SJP petition used language that demonized and delegitimized Israel, stating, "We, the undersigned students, alumni, faculty, and affiliates of Columbia University, demand that Book Culture retract their statement...[which] conflate[s] the term 'intifada' with 'terrorism,' doing a gross disservice to the complexity of the first and second intifadas as periods of massive grassroots mobilization against Israeli apartheid, occupation, and ethnic cleansing...We call on the greater Columbia community to boycott the bookstore

until it meets these demands. This boycott includes both a refusal to patronize the store, and, if possible, a refusal to send course materials, such as textbooks, to Book Culture for student pickup." [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#)

11/02/2017

SJP held the event, "The Balfour Declaration at 100 Years." The description for the event stated, "Balfour pledged the support of the British metropole to the Zionist settler-colonial project, providing sponsorship for the colonial domination and ethnic cleansing that continues on a century later." [Source 1](#)

10/25/2017

SJP held the event, "Palestinian LGBT+ Identity Under Occupation."

During the event, PowerPoint slides were used in the presentation. Slide #7 of the presentation defined "Israeli Occupation & Apartheid" as one element that "affects Queer politics in Palestine."

Further slides reinforced the delegitimization of Israel as "apartheid" throughout, including Slide #33, which stated, "The struggle of queer Palestinians is therefore inextricable from the struggle against Israeli apartheid at large."

Slide #27 falsely accused Israel of "pinkwashing" and defined this concept as, "The process by which the Israeli state seeks to gloss over the ongoing settler colonialism of historic Palestine by redirecting international attention towards a comparison between the supposedly stellar record of gay rights in Israel and the supposedly dismal state of life for LGBTQ Palestinians in Occupied Palestine." [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

10/03/2017

SJP held the event "Palestine & BDS 101" to understand, "Why do you call it [Israel] apartheid?" and to "learn about the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions movement as well as our divestment campaign calling on the university to divest its funds, stocks, and endowments from companies that profit from Israeli apartheid, illegal occupation of land, and violations of Palestinian human rights." [Source 1](#)

08/27/2017

SJP and JVP participated in producing a "Disorientation Guide 2017," a zine made by students at Barnard and Columbia to welcome incoming students in August 2017.

Pages 12-13 introduced SJP and JVP and their campaign, CUAD. Language on the pages delegitimized Israel with false accusations of "apartheid" and calls for BDS, stating, "We organize in accordance with... Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) against the state of Israel until it ends the occupation of Palestine and dismantles its apartheid state." Language further promoted the "right of return." [Source 1](#)

05/01/2017

SJP displayed a mock "apartheid wall" on Yom Hazikaron (Israeli Memorial Day) that said in large letters, "End Israeli Apartheid" and engaged in demonizing theatrics of a "mock checkpoint," recoded on a student's video. Demonizing theatrics included CUAD members holding up signs saying, "I was arrested for speaking Arabic" and "I've been waiting for 14 hours" with one student pretending to be a pregnant woman in labor who

was forced to get “back in line” and impeded from delivering by “IDF soldiers.” [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#)

04/24/2017

CUAD held the event “The Road to Freedom: The BDS Movement for Palestinian Rights and the Struggle Against Apartheid” with Omar Barghouti, co-founder of the BDS movement, Rebecca Vilkomerson, and Premilla Nadasen. A large banner stating “Boycott Israel” hung prominently in front of the table of panelists.

All panelists expressed support for BDS. Nadasen further delegitimized Israel through comparisons to South African apartheid. Vilkomerson called for greater “anti-normalization,” while Barghouti demonized and delegitimized Israel with accusations of “ethnic cleansing” and “apartheid.”

This event was supported and co-sponsored by: Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Department, Anthropology Department, Middle East Institute, Columbia Queer Alliance, Divest Barnard for a Just Transition, Student-Worker Solidarity, Mobilized African Diaspora, CU Turath: The Arab Students Association, No Red Tape, Barnard Columbia Socialists, Columbia University South Asian Feminism Alliance, African Students Association, Columbia University, and Samidoun Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

04/19/2017

CUAD held the event “BDS 101” in order for participants to “learn about the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions movement as well as our divestment campaign calling on the university to divest its funds, stocks, and endowments from companies that profit from Israeli apartheid, illegal occupation of land, and violations of Palestinian human rights.” [Source 1](#)

04/18/2017

CUAD tabled in support of their anti-Israel divestment petition. Signs held by students included: “Do you like Apartheid? If not, sign the petition,” “I support CUAD because Genocide is f*ck*d up,” and “I support CUAD because Apartheid must go.” [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

03/24/2017

IfNotNow members published an op-ed in *The Columbia Spectator* titled “What is Jewish Resistance?” [Source 1](#)

03/06/2017

JVP members published an op-ed in *The Columbia Spectator* that falsely accused Israel of “apartheid” and “ethnic cleansing,” and stated that “Judaism could flourish without the need for ethnonationalism—the supremacy of Jewish ethnic identity in the State of Israel—or racist apartheid policies.” [Source 1](#)

03/02/2017

As part of “Israeli Apartheid Week,” SJP and JVP erected an “apartheid carpet” due to wind issues (the “apartheid wall” was laid down this year instead of upright). One of the panels said, “END ISRAELI APARTHEID.” [Source 1](#)

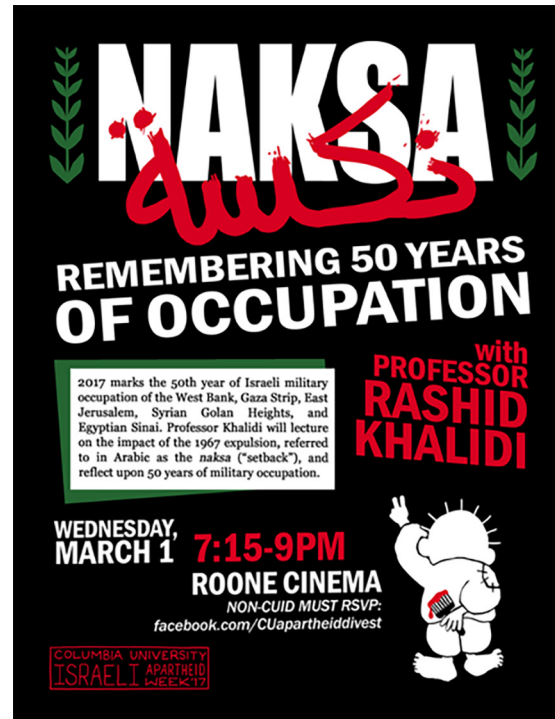
03/01/2017

As part of “Israeli Apartheid Week,” SJP held the event, “50 Years of Occupation: The 1967 Nakba with Prof. Rashid Khalidi.”

The description for the event demonized Israel with false accusations of “ethnic cleansing” and “regular civilian massacres by the occupation forces.” The description also stated, “Boycotts, Divestment, and Sanctions against Israel [is] a call we hope to honor by pressuring Columbia’s administration to divest its \$10 billion endowment from companies that profit from the occupation.”

During the event, Prof. Rashid Khalidi delegitimized Israel with constant referrals to the state as “colonial” and “settler-colonial,” diminishing Jewish indigenous claims as “opportunism” in the Q&A portion.

He added, “What Israel does to the Palestinians is increasingly being seen as akin to Jim Crowe, as akin to apartheid, and the call for Boycotts, Divestment and Sanctions are regarded as comparable to earlier boycotts in Montgomery, in Greensboro, and of course, South Africa.” The event was co-sponsored by CUAD and Columbia/Barnard JVP. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#)



02/28/2017

CUAD held the event, “No Peace on Stolen Land: From Standing Rock to Palestine.” The event was co-sponsored by LUCHA Columbia University, CQA: Columbia Queer Alliance, and GendeRevolution.

During the event, both CUAD members and the speaker, Maile Hampton, falsely accused Israel of “apartheid” and called for BDS. One CUAD member called Israel “a colonial settlement regime.”

Maile Hampton further distorted and demonized Zionism, stating, “people like to say when you stick up for Palestine you are being anti-Semitic but that has nothing to do with Judaism. That’s saying Zionism has anything to do with Judaism! That’s saying when people are chanting ‘death to Arabs,’ bombing others...carrying out violence acts and saying it

represents Judaism that's anti-Semitic because that's not what Judaism is about." [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

02/27/2017

CUAD published an article in the school newspaper titled "No Neutrality in Apartheid" which falsely stated that the status quo in Israel includes "apartheid" and demonized Zionists, stating, "'Neutral' silence has become a powerful tool wielded by Zionists in their effort to bolster the hegemony of Israeli apartheid and dissuade dissenting voices. From hard-right Zionist groups such as AIPAC to student Hillel chapters..."

The article promoted a divestment petition, stating, "As part of our work this Israeli Apartheid Week, CUAD will present a resolution to CCSC calling for divestment...If 10 percent of the CC student body signs our petition supporting the resolution, CCSC will be obligated to put the resolution to a vote... This is our way of honoring the Palestinian call to BDS (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions)." [Source 1](#)

02/27/2017

As part of "Israeli Apartheid Week," SJP held the event, "Zionists are Racists."

The description for the event demonized and delegitimized Israel, stating, "In November 1975 the United Nations passed the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 3379, a resolution that declared 'Zionism is Racism.' With the support of newly liberated African nations, the bill recognized the supremacist ideology of the Israeli nation-state that had predicated its settler colony upon racial apartheid and ethnic cleansing. Come learn about Israel's racist and imperialist policies and... discuss what the BDS struggle looks from the perspective of South Africa."

According to SJP, speaker Barney Pityana from the Black Consciousness Movement and the South African Students' Organization delegitimized Israel by falsely accusing the state of "apartheid." The event was co-sponsored by CUAD and Columbia/Barnard JVP. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#)

02/27/2017

Marking "100 Years of Settler-Colonialism" since the Balfour Declaration, SJP launched its "Israeli Apartheid Week" in order to promote BDS and the delegitimizing notion that Israel is founded as a settler-colonial project, as well as educate on the "apartheid policies of Israel." [Source 1](#)

02/25/2017

CPS held the event "The Way to the Spring: Life and Death in Palestine - Ben Ehrenreich in conversation with Colm Tóibín," which was co-sponsored by Columbia Journalism School and the Heyman Center for the Humanities.

During the event, Ehrenreich demonized and delegitimized Israel with false accusations of Israel being "as clear an apartheid, an instance of apartheid, as one can find," and stated, "Israel is a settler colonial society and the one thing a settler colonial societies have in common is that they follow a genocidal logic." He also falsely accused Israel of "incremental genocide." [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

02/17/2017

CUAD, JVP, and SJP held the event, "Yasser Qous: Afro-Palestinian Identity & Life Under Apartheid."

The title of the event and its description delegitimized Israel with false accusations of apartheid. The description stated, "Several members of the Afro-Palestinian community actively participated in defending Jerusalem from the Zionist occupation during the 1948 war and have historically played a large role in resisting Israeli apartheid." [Source 1](#)

12/04/2016

CUAD held the event, "Hear It from Your Peers." The advertisement for the event delegitimized Israel, falsely accusing Israel of apartheid. [Source 1](#)

11/22/2016

SJP held the event, "Incarceration & Apartheid." The advertisement for the event demonized and delegitimized Israel, falsely accusing Israel of "regular campaigns" of "gassing" Palestinians and engaging in "Zionist supremacy" through the use of "apartheid laws." [Source 1](#)

10/28/2016

SJP co-sponsored the event, "BOOM CLAP SHHH: Queer Anti-Zionist Performance." The advertisement for the event delegitimized Israel by falsely accusing the state of apartheid. [Source 1](#)

10/18/2016

CUAD held the event, "Grassroots Jerusalem: Fayrouz Sharqawi" at Barnard College. The advertisement for the event delegitimized Israel, falsely accusing the state of an apartheid system. [Source 1](#)

10/06/2016

An individual held a sign and walked around the campus gates that said, "Google it!!! Jews financed black slavery." The same individual has appeared at Columbia numerous times in the past with antisemitic signs. [Source 1](#)

09/19/2016

SJP had an article published in *The Columbia Spectator* titled "Genocide is not justice, and its advocates don't belong on our campus." [Source 1](#)

Targeting Jewish Students and Staff

04/28/2019

SJP issued a statement to the campus community that denigrated SSI, invited the campus community to ostracize pro-Israel campus groups, called to de-platform SSI, asked the campus “to reject racism, reject Zionism, and reject SSI,” as well as demonized and delegitimized Israel.

Shared with the hashtag of #BoycottSSI, the statement read, “As with other racist groups on campus, SSI’s political ideology does not deserve to be tolerated or even combated in the avenues of ideas... We believe that racist ethno-supremacism should, in fact, be challenged on campus. We also believe that social ostracization is a powerful tool that the student body can use to voice their rejection of Zionism, white supremacy, anti-Semitism, and other oppressive ideologies... We believe organizations like SSI, given their racist rhetoric and their recorded history of harassment, must be effectively deplatformed... Any advocacy on behalf of the State of Israel effectively amounts to a defense of its settler-colonial foundations and apartheid regime.” [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#)

02/14/2019

SJP denigrated Hillel’s Birthright Program, denied Jewish self-determination, and delegitimized Israel in a call for students to talk to them in response to Hillel tabling on campus.

The call stated, “Today, Columbia/Barnard Hillel is tabling outside Liz’s Place and using Valentine’s Day as an opportunity to advertise their semester Taglit-Birthright Israel trip. But there’s nothing romantic about a propaganda trip on occupied land! Students who approach the display may not realize that many of their Palestinian peers are deprived of their own right to freely travel to their homeland and families living under Israeli apartheid. Birthright is in large part funded through right-wing mega donors such as Michael Steinhardt and Sheldon Adelson, and this is reflected in the programming of birthright, which obfuscates the Palestinian struggle on their own land and, most recently, has amended the Birthright contract to expel ‘disruptive’ participants who dare to question the narrative they are fed on their 10-day tour of colonized land. Come talk to an SJP/JVP member who can talk to you about the real price of Birthright: the denial of Palestinian claims to their homeland and refugees’ right of return.” [Source 1](#)

11/28/2018

A Jewish professor’s office was vandalized with swastikas and the antisemitic term “Yid” found spray painted in red in the entryway to the office, which is not shared with other staff. The professor teaches and researches the Holocaust at Columbia Teachers College. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

10/10/2018

Prof. Katherine Franke refused to write reference letters for students seeking jobs or internships in Israel. [Source 1](#)

04/21/2018

A spam email titled "ISRAEL DID 9/11" was sent out to hundreds of Barnard students. The email accused "Israel, Zionist Jews & American Traitors" of "perpetrating the 9/11 terrorist attacks" and said the "9/11 Commission Report is a 571-Page Zionist Lie." The university's IT service desk suspended the accounts used to send the emails and advised students to delete the messages. [Source 1](#)

04/18/2018

Aryeh: Columbia Students Association for Israel described the ways the student government treated its group unfairly during the divestment voting process, stating, "From the very beginning, this process was dishonest and opaque. The decision to initiate a referendum was made behind closed doors without hearing formally from any pro-Israel students—and in contradiction to repeated assurances that no decision or vote would be made during that session.... When Aryeh was finally able to speak at SGA, our one request—for a fair and unbiased referendum—was ignored, as SGA elected to put forward an unsourced text that included CUAD's arguments and propaganda, in many cases word-for-word... Finally, after securing CUAD an overwhelming advantage in the wording of the referendum, SGA Executive Board unilaterally imposed campaign rules on Aryeh, guaranteeing an unequal playing field." [Source 1](#)

11/02/2017

Columbia/Barnard JVP denigrated SSI and their event, "Hebrew Liberation Week," denied Jews self-determination, and demonized and delegitimized Israel in a statement reading, "Columbia/Barnard Jewish Voice for Peace wants to draw attention to SSIs Hebrew Liberation Week... Let us be clear: SSI uses the language and imagery of multiple indigenous communities to promote a revisionist 'liberation' narrative. They also use the tactic of brown-washing, presenting the so-called diversity of Israeli society as an apparent remedy for ongoing racist violence against the very populations they use to display their 'tolerance.'"

The statement added, "SSI's blatant racism and utter ignorance of history should not be welcome on our campus. They consistently present twisted and misleading views of history and do unforgivable violence to the sacred struggles of Native Americans and indigenous peoples. Their brown-washing and appropriation of indigeneity speak loudly for the racist political values they hold. SSI does not stand for anyone's liberation. They stand for the occupation and ongoing ethnic cleansing of Palestinian people in support of an ethno-nationalist state which has little to do with a just future for anyone." [Source 1](#)

09/15/2017

The ADL reported that a swastika and "WP" (shorthand for "white power") were written in black marker on a stairwell. The date of the incident is approximated from ADL's "Selected List of 2017 Anti-Semitic Incidents" report. No further confirmation or details about this incident are available. [Source 1](#)

02/21/2017

A class of 2020 student had an op-ed published in *The Morningside Post* titled “The Myth of ‘Polite Discourse.’” [Source 1](#)

02/15/2017

The chair of the Student Governing Board had a letter to the editor published in *The Columbia Spectator* titled “Your free speech is intact.” [Source 1](#)

02/13/2017

In response to an SSI event with Israeli Ambassador to the U.N. Danny Danon, CUAD held a protest entitled “Racists Not Welcome: Protest the Israeli Ambassador at Columbia.”

The description for the protest demonized Israel with false accusations of “savage ethnic cleansing of the original inhabitants” that “besieged and bombed the Palestinian people since its inception” and stated, “We do not welcome virulent racists on our campus.”

At the protest itself, demonizing and delegitimizing chants of “Stop your murder, stop your hate, Israel is an apartheid state!” and “No peace on stolen land! Justice is our demand!” were heard as some protesters tried to, and eventually succeeded in, breaking into the lecture hall.

According to *The Columbia Spectator*, Danon was interrupted seven times by protesters in the audience. Protesters stood and chanted phrases such as, “From Palestine to Mexico, border walls have got to go” and “From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free,” while holding signs reading similar statements. One group of protesters left the room with a large banner that read, “Boycott Israel.” [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#), [Source 4](#)

12/06/2016

CUAD and a collection of 24 other campus groups published a statement that denigrated a pro-Israel group on campus and demonized Israel by falsely accusing it of “ethnic cleansing.”

The statement accused SSI of supporting “Israel’s active project of ethnic cleansing” and “co-optation of indigeneity” for organizing an event entitled “Indigenous People Unite.” The statement then goes on to identify Palestinians as “indigenous people of Palestine since 1948,” in an attempt to deny Jews any historical connection to Israel before 1948, and to negate Zionism itself as the return of the Jewish people to their ancestral homeland. [Source 1](#)

12/06/2016

Protesters at Columbia staged a walkout of an SSI event, right as a Jew addressed the room to describe his connection to the land of Israel. The protesters held demonizing signs stating, “Israel is built on land theft, displacement and ethnic cleansing” as well as “Zionism is racism.” [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

BDS Activity

03/10/2019

A proposal on whether to hold a campus-wide referendum on divestment from Israel was debated in the Student Council for four hours and ultimately failed in a secret ballot with a vote of 20 for and 17 against since it did not meet the two-thirds majority requirement in order to pass. After the vote, anti-Zionist students chanted “From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free” outside the meeting room. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#)

04/30/2018

Barnard’s Student Government Association (SGA) followed on their successful anti-Israel divestment vote by sending a letter urging administrators to divest from eight companies with ties to Israel. The letter explicitly states SGA’s support for CUAD’s campaign for divestment. It was sent to President Sian Beilock, Dean of the College Avis Hinkson, Provost and Dean of the Faculty Linda Bell, and Chief Operating Officer Rob Goldberg. [Source 1](#)

04/23/2018

Barnard’s SGA voted to write a letter to the administration in support of a student-wide BDS referendum to call on Barnard to divest from eight companies with ties to Israel. [Source 1](#)

04/18/2018

A BDS referendum voted on by the student body passed. Of the 1,153 students that voted on the referendum, 64.3 percent voted in its favor (741 yes, 412 no). The referendum calls on the SGA to write a letter to the administration asking them to divest from eight companies that “profit from or engage in the State of Israel’s treatment of Palestinians.” [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

03/06/2018

CUAD held the event, “WTF is BDS?!” [Source 1](#)

02/03/2018

SJP issued an “Update on the Petition to Boycott Book Culture” that stated, “We are not asking them to ‘take our position’ on any politicized topic, such as the Palestinian intifada or BDS. The core issue is that, by signing onto a [anti-BDS] statement, they have effectively taken a position-- one marked by the racist misrepresentation of Palestinian political resistance... We ask for the end of the Palestine exception, and we will continue our boycott, with the support of the progressive and activist community, until Book Culture retracts its initial [anti-BDS] statement.” [Source 1](#)

01/25/2018

JVP held the event, “What the Heck is JVP?!” The description for the event stated, “We will discuss our work with the BDS (Boycott, Divest, and Sanctions) movement both on-campus and in larger Jewish communities.” [Source 1](#)

10/25/2017

CPS held the event “The Legal Framework of Occupation,” which featured Professor and U.N. Special Rapporteur Michael Lynk, with Columbia Profs. Katherine Franke and Rashid Khalidi serving as discussants.

During her remarks, Franke promoted BDS, saying that because Israel “is in flagrant violation of International law,” the call for BDS should be transformed “from a tactic deployed by Palestinian civil society organizations into a mandate imposed by the entire international community to be implemented by the United Nations.” [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

04/08/2017

JVP hosted the event, “Shabbat Discussion: Our Jewish Case for BDS.” [Source 1](#)

04/02/2017

The student government discussed for four hours, and voted on, a motion to include a referendum in the ballot for the upcoming general elections, which would read, “Do you support Columbia University Apartheid Divest’s campaign as part of the Boycott Divestment Sanctions movement?” The motion failed with a vote of 26 against putting the question on the ballot, five for, and one abstention. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

02/27/2017

CUAD published a petition to “demand that Columbia University end its investments in Israeli Apartheid.... Sign our petition and demand Columbia divest from apartheid!” [Source 1](#)

11/04/2016

CPS promoted an off-campus BDS event, “Palestine, BLM and Boycott in the Arts,” on the center’s University-hosted website, in tacit approval of the event and BDS.

The advertisement stated, “In recent years, the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaign has made significant headway in the United States despite intensive, and unconstitutional, efforts by pro-Israeli forces to stop its spread...the Movement for Black Lives declared its support for BDS in its official platform... provid[ing] a new level of moral legitimacy to BDS...How can we, as artists, cultural producers and workers, embrace boycott in the arts as an act of solidarity and revolutionary love?” [Source 1](#)

09/29/2016

CUAD held the event “BDS 101” for participants to “learn why we are demanding that the University divests from Israeli Apartheid and understand what that means!” [Source 1](#)

08/31/2016

A “Disorientation Guide 2016” was produced by a new hub called Disorientation 2016, which was shared with students as a resource for activism on campus and progressive spaces. Pages 36 and 37 covered JVP and SJP, both of whom called for BDS on their respective pages. [Source 1](#)

Accusations of Antisemitism Directed at Faculty and Staff

Nadia Abu El-Haj

*Professor of Anthropology, Barnard College and Columbia University
Co-Director of the Center for Palestine Studies (CPS)*

2001

El-Haj published a book titled “Facts on the Ground: Archaeological Practice and Territorial Self-Fashioning in Israeli Society.” [Source 1](#)

The book implied that Israeli archaeologists falsified evidence to prove the existence of Israelites in the area.

El-Haj’s book was met with heavy criticism that was used by critics to argue that El-Haj was not fit to receive tenure.

Gil Andijar

*Professor of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies (MESAAS)
Professor of Religion
Professor of the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society (ICLS)*

2003

In an interview about his book, “The Jew, the Arab: A History of the Enemy,” Anidjar argued that “the last Semites and the only Semites” are Arabs. [Source 1](#)

Anidjar claimed that “the Arabs have become the race that is still attached to its religion, whereas the Jews have in fact become Western Christians, and therefore are no longer marked, neither by race nor by religion.”

Anidjar also claimed that Jews have become “white.”

Anidjar insisted that “it is absolutely essential to continue to insist on the colonial dimension of Zionism, and colonial in the strict sense, absolutely... So, Israel is absolutely a colonial enterprise, a colonial settler state, to be precise.”

Partha Chatterjee

Professor of Middle Eastern, South Asian and African Studies (MESAAS)
Professor of Anthropology

09/09/2015

Chatterjee published an essay titled “Partha Chatterjee: Why I Support the Boycott of Israeli Institutions.” [Source 1](#)

- Chatterjee went on to claim that Israel treats its Arab citizens “as lowly barbarians” and also referred to Israeli security measures as “blatantly colonial protocols of the Israeli authorities” — accusing Israel of “colonial rule as well as apartheid”.

Hamid Dabashi

Professor of Iranian Studies and Comparative Literature

04/04/2019

It was reported that Dabashi wrote a post on Facebook comparing Israel to ISIS. Dabashi’s post has since been deleted. [Source 1](#)

- “What’s the difference between ISIS and ISRAEL? ... ISIS murderous thugs conquered parts of Syria and declared a ‘caliphate,’ no decent human being on planet earth recognized their armed robbery or their ‘caliphate’ – their ISRAELI counterparts meanwhile conquered parts of Syria and declared it part of their Zionist settler colony – no decent human being on planet earth recognizes their armed robbery ...”
- “ISIS does not have a platoon of clean shaven and well coiffured [sic] columnists at the New York Times propagating the cause of the terrorist outfit as the Zionists columnists do on a regular basis.”
- “All of Syria belong to all Syrian people, not an inch it either to ISIS or to ISRAEL.”

05/20/2018

Dabashi posted on Facebook, “Every dirty treacherous ugly and pernicious act happening in the world just wait for a few days and the ugly name of ‘Israel’ will pop up as a key actor in the atrocities...” [Source 1](#)

05/16/2018

Dabashi wrote, “As of Tuesday 15 May 2018 Israeli army had cold-bloodedly and in full view of the world murdered more than 100 Palestinians... during the Great March of Return protests held in Gaza’s since 30 March.” [Source 1](#)

- Dabashi went on to write, “After this massacre, representative of many more before it, by Israelis against harmless defenseless peaceful Palestinians, every single US president since 1948, both the most popular and the most detested, are accountable and must be charged with aiding and abetting in crimes against humanity — As must Benjamin Netanyahu and every other liked or detested Israeli war criminal that call themselves ‘Prime Minister.’”
- In the same post, Dabashi charged, “The Israeli flag, the very term ‘Israel’ are now

and forever synonymous with mass murderers... with massacres, with land thieves, with incremental genocide, with war crimes, with crimes against humanity.”

05/15/2018

Dabashi wrote a post stating, “This was an epic battle between defenseless good and viciously armed evil — with their bare hands and their naked souls and their exposed bodies Palestinians went to face pure evil ... today even Bernie Sanders was exposed for the spineless coward liberal Zionist that he is — blaming and condemning ‘ Hamas’ before mildly criticizing the mass murderers who massacred defenseless Palestinians — so you too Bernie Sanders can go to hell!” [Source 1](#)

- In the same post, Dabashi went on to praise the violent protesters, writing, “Palestinians just taught the world a priceless lesson — a master class in their power of dignity and defiance... and in doing so they told the whole pitiful gang of of Zionists from Israel to the US to Saudi Arabia they can go to hell — for Palestinians are not going anywhere from Palestine — Palestine is theirs, they are the master of their own destiny— the inhabitants of their own homeland— neither their own corrupt leadership nor those disgusting colonists occupying their country have a say in the matter.”
- Dabashi celebrated the attempt to storm the Israeli border as a “bold act of nonviolent revolutionary mobilization...” that “schooled Gandhi and send him and MLK [Martin Luther King] back to school.”

05/15/2018

Dabashi wrote on Facebook, “The Zionist propagandists are cynically abusing the legitimate grievances of Iranian people against their own government to drive a wedge between them and their state support for Palestinians — don’t fall for it — like all other nations around the globe, Iranians are committed to the Palestinian cause.” [Source 1](#)

05/02/2018

Dabashi posted photos on Facebook of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. [Source 1](#)

- He called Netanyahu a “criminally insane creature,” a “leading perpetrator of crimes against humanity, this nightmare who needs to be put in a strait jacket and chained to a cage in an asylum house or a zoo ...”
- “[T]he man Israelis have freely elected as their chief political representative, the man whose pernicious gibberish and flat lies instigating for death and destruction of a sovereign nation every major venue in ‘Western media’ prominently featured . . . is the crowning achievement of ‘Western liberal democracy’ on the last colonial fortress and garrison state of their Enlightenment Modernity...”

11/13/2017

Dabashi posted an article to his Facebook about Israeli film star Gal Gadot’s refusal to work with Brett Ratner because of allegations of sexual misconduct. [Source 1](#)

- “She is against sexual assault on white woman, but she is for the mass slaughter of Palestinian women men and children — of course she is the sweetheart of Israeli, European, and US press.”

11/12/2017

Dabashi posted a picture on his Facebook account of Jared Kushner and Ivanka Trump with the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia Mohammed bin Salman. [Source 1](#)

- “There is a reason why a small gang of European Zionists could land in Palestine and in broad daylight of history steal it from under the feet of Palestinians... and today that reason is in the shape of this contemptible coward Mohammed bin Salman... hides behind the wing of his Israeli and American protectors and benefactors, buys them with his windblown wealth, so that Jared Kushner’s Zionist kins can kill and rob Palestinians even more as they enable him to slaughter Yemeni women and children apace.”

06/23/2016

Dabashi proposed on Facebook his “simple solution,” that Presidential Candidate Hillary Clinton “pick up Benjamin Netanyahu as her VP and get it over with... to put an end to this charade that the US/Israel are two Column of a foreign country.” [Source 1](#)

11/12/2015

Dabashi posted on Facebook that “Hillary Clinton has white house ambition the first thing she does is pledge to her Zionist bosses...” [Source 1](#)

09/16/2015

Dabashi wrote on Facebook, “Israel is the most well-funded terrorist organization on planet earth over the last sixty years plus --the Islamic State looks up to the Jewish State as its exemplary model.” [Source 1](#)

07/14/2015

Dabashi posted on Facebook, “There must be a global uproar against the thuggish vulgarity of Netanyahu and his Zionist gangsters in Israel and the US Congress to force them to dismantle their nuclear program--systematically used to terrorize and murder Palestinian people and steal the rest of Palestine!” [Source 1](#)

03/23/2015

In an article, Dabashi wrote that “the majority of Israelis... are delusional fanatics who have worked themselves into a frenzied stupor [sic] to murder more Palestinians, steal more of Palestine, wage war against Lebanon, Syria or Iran, and do whatever other murderous mischief is necessary to convince them from within that self-propelling hurricane of death and destruction that they are right and the whole world is wrong.”

[Source 1](#)

- Dabashi has also accused Israel of committing an “incremental genocide“ of the Palestinian people and has described Israel as “a military garrison that has stolen another people’s homeland at gunpoint and forced them into exile and refugee camps. Like the rest of Palestine, Jerusalem belongs to Palestinians.”

02/15/2015

Dabashi likened Israel to ISIS on Twitter, writing, “Absolutely, marvelously put, bravo Mr. Cambadelis--and of course he has compared Israel to ISIS--and rightly...” [Source 1](#)

08/21/2014

Dabashi posted on Facebook that Operation Protective Edge was “the continuation of the selfsame logic of Zionist conquest and depopulation of the entirety of Palestine.” Israel commenced Protective Edge in July 2014 to stop rocket fire targeting Israeli civilians and to destroy Hamas attack tunnels. [Source 1](#)

08/08/2014

Dabashi compared Gaza to Auschwitz and asked, “What are Israelis? Who are Israelis? They are Israelis by virtue of what? By a shared and sustained murderous history - from Deir Yassin in 1948 to Gaza in 2014. Is that not Zionism, the ideological foundation stone of being an Israeli?” [Source 1](#)

07/19/2014

In a Facebook post, Dabashi juxtaposed a picture of the Warsaw Ghetto with a picture in Gaza and wrote, “Warsaw Ghetto 1943 (the site of Jewish uprising against Nazi barbarism)—Gaza 2014 (the site of Palestinian resistance against Zionist militarism).” [Source 1](#)

04/10/2012

Dabashi published an op-ed praising former Waffen SS member Günter Grass for writing a poem demonizing Israel. Dabashi went on to claim that Israel is a “racist apartheid state” and that its founding was an extension of European colonialism. [Source 1](#)

11/29/2012

In an article, Dabashi claimed that Israel attacked Gaza in Operation Pillar of Defense to gain political standing (rather than to stop the Hamas rocket attacks fired at civilian population centers) and is “interested in nothing but maiming and murdering more Palestinians.” [Source 1](#)

01/12/2009

In an article, Dabashi claimed that “the pro-Israeli Zionist lobby in the US banked and invested heavily in infiltrating, buying, and paying for all the major and minor corridors of power.” [Source 1](#)

07/06/2008

In an editorial, Dabashi referred to a “Zionist cabal,” writing that “[former United States President Barack] Obama began his speech in front of AIPAC by falling right into the oldest trap that the American Zionist cabal has in its bag of tricks -- dispatching its lunatic fringe to spread rumors (via emails) of facts and fantasies...” [Source 1](#)

- “For [American Zionists], Israel is a dyslexic Biblical exegesis, a vicarious avocation, a profitable business deal, a dangerous delusion, a Jewish apartheid state.”
- Dabashi then slammed President Obama’s momentary recognition of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital as giving Jerusalem to a “band of white European colonial settlers and the pack of their billionaire American supporters.”
- Dabash also referred to Israel as a “racist apartheid state” and “a colonial outpost of American military barbarism.”

09/30/2002

In an interview with the anti-Israel Electronic Intifada website, Dabashi referred to pro-Israel advocates as “Gestapo apparatchiks” and said, “The so-called ‘pro-Israeli lobby’ is “an integral component of the imperial designs of the Bush administration for savage and predatory globalization...” [Source 1](#)

September 2004

Dabashi was investigated following accusations of anti-Semitism made by Jewish students at Columbia. The accusations were bolstered by an article Dabashi wrote for the Egyptian newspaper, Al-Ahram. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#)

- “What they call ‘Israel’ is no mere military state. A subsumed militarism, a systemic mendacity with an ingrained violence constitutional to the very fusion of its fabric, has penetrated the deepest corners of what these people have to call their ‘soul.’”
- “Half a century of systematic maiming and murdering of another people has left... its deep marks on the faces of these people, the way they talk, walk, the way they greet each other... There is a vulgarity of character that is bone-deep and structural to the skeletal vertebrae of its culture.”
- Dabashi later defended his article, arguing, “That passage could have easily been written about North Korea, Cuba, or about Pinochet’s Chile, the Shah’s or Khomeini’s Iran, Apartheid South Africa, Nazi Germany, the French in Algeria, the Belgians in Congo, the British in India, the Americans in Iraq, or the Janjaweed in Darfur.”

04/17/2002

Dabashi cancelled his Columbia class to attend an anti-Israel rally on campus, citing his “moral duty” to attend. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#)

- Anti-Israel professor Joseph Massad was reported to have addressed the rally, proclaiming that Israel is “a Jewish supremacist and racist state” and that “every racist state should be threatened.” Another professor, Nicholas De Genova, also stated that “the heritage of the victims of the Holocaust belongs to the Palestinian people. The state of Israel has no claim to the heritage of the Holocaust.”
- The Columbia Hillel rabbi at the time, Charles Sheer, questioned the decision of Dabashi and another Columbia professor, George Saliba, to cancel classes in order to attend the anti-Israel rally.
- In response, Dabashi wrote in The Columbia Spectator that Rabbi Sheer had “taken upon himself the task of mobilizing and spearheading a crusade of fear and intimidation against members of the Columbia faculty and students who have dared to speak against the slaughter of innocent Palestinians.”

Katherine Franke

Sulzbacher Professor of Law, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Director of the Center for Gender and Sexuality Law

Faculty Director of the Law, Rights, and Religion Project

09/24/2014

Mondoweiss, a website that spreads Israel-hating propaganda, has referred to Franke as a “true leader” in efforts to defend Steven Salaita, the Said Chair of American Studies at the American University of Beirut (AUB). [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#), [Source 3](#), [Source 4](#)

- In 2014, The University of Illinois (U of I) withdrew an offer of employment to Salaita after becoming aware of his anti-Semitic tweets. One tweet, posted shortly after Hamas kidnapped three teenage Israeli high school students, read, “You may be too refined to say it, but I’m not: I wish all the f**king West Bank settlers would go missing.”
- A month later, Salaita tweeted “Zionists: transforming ‘antisemitism’ from something horrible into something honorable since 1948.”
- On July 8, 2014, he tweeted, “There’s something profoundly sexual to the Zionist pleasure w/#Israel’s aggression. Sublimation through bloodletting, a common perversion.”

02/10/2013

In an editorial, Franke lamented feeling “... as if I teach at the New York franchise of Hebrew University Law School...” [Source 1](#)

Gil Hochberg

Ransford Professor of Hebrew and Comparative Literature

Professor of Middle East Studies

08/13/2014

Hochberg co-authored an article with fellow anti-Israel academic Mark LeVine. In their article, the authors slammed Hollywood actor Jon Voight for publicly defending Israel. [Source 1](#)

- The authors went on to describe the establishment of Israel as “coordinated Zionist attacks on Palestinian villages aimed at Judaizing strategic parts of the country.”

Rashid Khalidi

Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies

Professor of History

Professor of Middle East, South Asian and African Studies (MESAAS)

10/30/2008

Several mainstream publications, from *The New York Times* to the *Los Angeles Times*, identified Khalidi as “a PLO spokesman.” He served as an advisor to the Palestinian

delegation to the Madrid and Washington Arab-Israeli peace negotiations from 1991-1993. [Source 1](#)

Mahmood Mamdani

Herbert Lehman Professor of Government

Professor of Middle East, South Asian and African Studies (MESAAS)

Professor of International Affairs

Professor of Anthropology

12/18/2014

In an essay titled “Settler Colonialism, Then and Now,” Mamdani compared Israel to “settler America” and Palestinians to Native Americans, stating that “Zionists in Israel have long drawn inspiration from how Americans cleansed the land of Indians.” [Source 1](#)

- Mamdani then compared Native Americans to Jews in Nazi Germany, quoting an American Indian law specialist who wrote, “The Indian plays much the same role in our American society that the Jews played in Germany. Like the miner’s canary, the Indian marks the shift from fresh air to poison gas in our political atmosphere.”
- Mamdani then added, “The Palestinian plays that same role in contemporary Israeli society.”

12/02/2014

Mamdani was a featured speaker alongside BDS founder Omar Barghouti at an event titled “Palestine’s South Africa Moment?” [Source 1](#)

- At the event, Mamdani’s argued, “The Palestinian challenge is to persuade the people of Israel — and the world — that just as in South Africa, the long-term security of a Jewish homeland in historic Palestine requires the dismantling of the Jewish State... Jews can have a homeland in historic Palestine, but not a state.”

Joseph Massad

Professor of Modern Arab Politics and Intellectual History

05/21/2013

In an editorial titled “The Last of the Semites,” Massad claimed that the basis of Jews’ belief in the land of Israel as their homeland originated in “the Protestant Reformation with its revival of the Hebrew Bible”. [Source 1](#)

- Massad claimed that European anti-Semitism was the foundation of the Zionist movement and Jews’ desire to immigrate to the land of Israel.
- Massad also accused Jewish Zionists of complicity in the creation of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust, and likened Israeli Jews to Nazis. Jeffrey Goldberg, editor-in-chief of The Atlantic Monthly, described Massad’s editorial as “one of the most anti-Jewish screeds in recent memory.”
- Massad, while portraying Israel as inherently anti-Semitic and racist, wrote that the Nazis “not only killed 90 percent of European Jews, but in the process also

killed the majority of Jewish enemies of Zionism who died precisely because they refused to heed the Zionist call of abandoning their countries and homes.”

- Massad argued that the creation of Israel required the elevation of Jews to “white” in order that “Europe and its American accomplice would continue their Nazi policy of visiting horrors on non-white people around the world.”
- He also accused Western nations who work to convince Arabs to accept Israel’s existence of continuing “Nazi-Zionist” policies.
- Massad claimed that that relations between Germany and Israel are a continuation of past Nazi policies: “The massive billions that Germany has paid to the Israeli government as compensation for the holocaust, as if Israel and Zionism were the victims of Nazism, when in reality it was anti-Zionist Jews who were killed by the Nazis.”
- Massad claim that, following the Nazi genocide of anti-Zionist Jewry, “the only remaining ‘Semites’ who are fighting against Zionism and its anti-Semitism today are the Palestinian people.”
- Massad further wrote that “Israel’s claims that it represents and speaks for all Jews” is one of “the most anti-Semitic claims of all.”

2004

A documentary film titled “Columbia Unbecoming” featured Columbia students giving testimony that Massad and other Columbia professors had either intimidated them or treated them unfairly because of their pro-Israel views. [Source 1](#)

- According to the documentary, Massad asked during a 2002 lecture, “How many Palestinians have you killed?” after a Jewish student who served in the Israeli army asked Massad an unrelated question.
- One person claimed that Massad ordered a female student to leave his classroom after she told Massad that Israel provides civilians with advanced warnings before attacks.

01/31/2003

In an editorial, Massad described Zionism as an “anti-Semitic project” focused on “destroying Jewish cultures and languages in the diaspora in the interest of an invented Hebrew that none of them [Jews] spoke, and in the interest of evicting them [Jews] from Europe and transporting them to an Asian land to which they had never been.” [Source 1](#)

- He argued that “the real victims of Western anti-Semitism are Arabs and Muslims... and no longer Jews.”
- Later in his essay, Massad blamed Holocaust denial among Arabs on “Zionist abduction of the holocaust to justify Israel’s colonial and racist policies.” Massad clarified that “All those in the Arab world who deny the Jewish holocaust are in my opinion Zionists.”

March 2002

Massad reportedly stated, “The Jews are not a nation... The Jewish state is a racist state that does not have a right to exist” at an Oxford University lecture.

George Saliba

Professor of Arabic and Islamic Science

2004

Saliba was a subject of a months-long investigation following accusations of anti-Semitism made by Jewish Columbia students. [Source 1](#), [Source 2](#)

- One student interviewed, Lindsay Shrier, testified that — after she mentioned that Jewish history in the Middle East dates back millennia — Saliba told her, “You have no voice in this debate. You have green eyes. You’re not a Semite. I have brown eyes. I am a Semite. You have no claim to the land of Israel.” Saliba wrote an article in The Columbia Spectator denying the accusations.
- The investigation also addressed Saliba’s cancelling classes on April 17, 2002 in favor of attending an on-campus anti-Israel rally — which he also urged students to attend. Reportedly, Massad addressed the rally, proclaiming that Israel is “a Jewish supremacist and racist state,” and that “every racist state should be threatened.” Nicholas De Genova, a professor of Latino Studies, also declared, “the heritage of the victims of the Holocaust belongs to the Palestinian people. The state of Israel has no claim to the heritage of the Holocaust.”

Michael Taussig

Class of 1933 Professor of Anthropology

06/17/2013

During a visit to Israel, Taussig wrote a series of diary posts titled “Two Weeks in Palestine.” [Source 1](#)

- In his post titled “Sunday,” Taussig promoted a claim that Israel trains wild boars and gazelles to destroy Palestinian farmers’ crops.
- He went on to claim that the Jewish National Fund plants pine trees in Israel in order “to conceal the prior existence of Palestinian villages and extend Israeli settlement.”
- In his post titled “Monday,” Taussig promoted a claim that Israeli pesticides caused an extinction of bees in the West Bank.
- In his post titled “Tuesday,” Taussig quoted a Palestinian writer who wrote that “bridging gaps of understanding” between Israelis and Palestinians “is like having to sit down with my rapist and understand his pain while he is still penetrating me.”
- Taussig also suggested, in two different posts titled “Sunday,” that Israelis intentionally kill Palestinian children for sinister reasons: “Soldiers are instructed to fire with real bullets if their lives are deemed at risk. Shooting a kid in the back suggests something else.”