



# MFA Digest

Center for Public Diplomacy

April 2023



# *Al-Quds Day*

*A Day beyond Islamic Countries*





The International Quds Day is a legacy of the late founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeini, who designated the day in solidarity with the Palestinians and in opposition to the Israeli regime.

People across the world mark the International Quds Day to express their solidarity with the Palestinian people and denounce Israeli atrocities in the occupied territories as well as the besieged Gaza Strip.



## History

Al-Quds Day (Arabic: **يوم القدس**) is the last Friday of the month of Ramadan on which demonstrations are held across the world to protest against the occupation of Palestine. Soon after the Islamic revolution in Iran, Imam Khomeini called on Muslims to dedicate this day to demanding the rights of oppressed Muslims around the world - particularly in Palestine. On this day, rallies are organized before Friday Prayer to protest against the occupation of Palestine and the oppression of its people.

From the beginning of Iran's revolution, Imam Khomeini stated that one of his goals was the liberation of Palestine from its occupant government. After the revolution, all official ties to Israel were broken and Israel's embassy in Iran was granted to the Palestinians. When a new Israeli raid began on the south of Lebanon on Ramadan 13, 1399/August 7, 1979, Imam Khomeini gave a speech in which he announced the last Friday of the month of Ramadan to be known as "al-Quds Day":

In the name of Allah the All-Compassionate, the Most Merciful

For many years, I have been notifying the Muslims of the danger posed by the usurper Israel which today has intensified its savage attacks against the Palestinian brothers and sisters, and which, in the south of Lebanon in particular, is continually bombing Palestinian homes in the hope of crushing the Palestinian struggle.

I ask all the Muslims of the world and the Muslim governments to join together to sever the hand of this usurper and its supporters. I call on all the Muslims of the world to select as al-Quds Day the last Friday in the holy month of Ramadan – which is itself a determining period and can also be the determiner of the Palestinian people's fate – and through a ceremony demonstrating the solidarity of Muslims worldwide, announce their support for the legitimate rights of the Muslim people. I ask God Almighty for the victory of the Muslims over the infidels.





## The Ottoman Palestine



### » The decline of the Ottoman empire «

• In WWI, Britain pushed back the Ottoman forces and occupied Palestine.



### » A failed plan «

• Napoleon Bonaparte was the first to call on Jews to form a country in Palestine. Switzerland hosted a conference themed with Jewish state, but only 1 percent of the Jews favored the plan.



### » The policy of Ottoman rulers «

• Despite requests made by Jewish rabbis regarding mass immigration and settlement of Jews in the Palestinian territory, the Ottomans issued orders against their mass immigration.



### » Geographical range «

• The Levant, Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon



### » Ruling period «

• From August 1516 to the end of WWI



### » Napoleon's military expedition «

• After the French Revolution, Napoleon Bonaparte attacked Palestine with the aim of occupying Egypt and the Levant. The Ottoman commander Ahmad Pasha managed to exterminate the French troops in Akha and defeat Napoleon.



1516



1822



1917



1948



2015





# The British Mandate

After the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, the League of Nations delegated the Mandate for Palestine to Britain, with the aim to establish a Jewish national home in Palestine and preserve the rights of the settlers regardless of their race and religion.



## » The Balfour Declaration «

This was the first step toward create the state of Israel, which was taken following a letter penned by the then British Foreign Secretary, where he pledged to establish a national home for Jewish people [in Palestine]



## » Taking control of Palestine «

September 1923, 29



## » Decline «

May 1948, 14



## » Geographical range «

West and East of the Jordan River, Palestine and Jordan



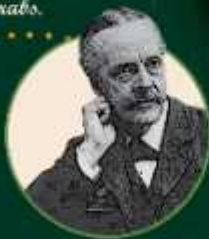
## » Sinai and Palestine Campaign «

The British promised the Arabs that it would respect their independence if they revolted against the Ottomans. In the end, Egyptian forces, under the command of Britain, successfully expelled the Turks.



## » The Sykes-Picot Agreement «

Following the expulsion of the Ottomans, Britain and France divided the entire region into spheres of French and British influence. This measure was a betrayal of Arabs.



1516

1923

1947

1948

2015



# Resolution 181

## » Reactions «

- The resolution was welcomed by Israeli authorities and rejected by Arab and Muslim leaders
- The Arab Committee declared a revolt| Palestinian and Israeli paramilitary forces engaged in a conflict
- Anti-Jewish revolts and the exit of Jews from Aleppo
- The start of negotiations between the US and the Palestine Liberation Organization
- The end of the British Mandate of Palestine| the beginning of Arab and neighboring countries military campaign against Israel
- The failure of the resolution

## » November 1947, 29 «

- It's a UN General Assembly resolution known as Partition Plan for Palestine. Under this resolution, Palestine was divided into separate Jewish and Arab states and 55 percent of the Palestinian land was allocated to Israel. Based on the resolution, Jerusalem would be administered internationally.

## » Background «

- The Arab Revolt in Palestine in 1939-1936 laid the groundwork for the 1947 Arab-Israeli war. The United Nations passed such a resolution to establish peace and stability.

1516

1923

1947

1948

2015



# The Nakba Day

The Nakba day is designated by Palestinians to mark a day when hundreds of thousands of Palestinians were expelled from their lands [by Israeli forces]. It points to the displacement of the Palestinian diaspora.

1. **»Time of occurrence«**  
• May 1948, 14
2. **»Occasion«**  
• Israel's Independence Day
3. **»Background«**  
• The 1948 War
4. **»Events«**  
• The occupation of 67.5 percent of Palestinian territories  
• the occupation of 774 cities and villages  
• The destruction of 531 villages  
• 34 instances of massacre  
• The increase of Jewish settlers to 33percent [of the Palestinian population]
5. **»The Right of Return«**  
• It highlights the Palestinians refugees' legal right to return [to their homeland], which was enshrined in Resolution 194 of the U.N General Assembly. The resolution has been affirmed by the international community 135 times in the period 2000-1948.

**The displacement of [Palestinian diaspora] in**

- Jordan: 2 million people
- Lebanon: 427,570 thousand people
- Syria: 477,700 people
- The West Bank: 788,108 people
- The Gaza Strip: 1.1 million people

Timeline: 1516, 1923, 1947, 1948



# The Deal of the Century

The deal of the century is Donald Trump's peace plan aimed at ending the 7 decade long conflict. Under the plan, Israel agrees to the formation of an independent Palestinian government in return for significant benefits



## Details

- The separation of the West Bank and part of east Jerusalem
- The formation of a Palestinian government on the other side of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem
- Palestinians' renunciation of their right of return and Resolution 194
- Abu Dis becoming the capital of Palestine instead of Jerusalem
- Neighborhoods in the vicinity of al-Quds to be delegated to the Palestinian National Authority
- Ancient towns to be owned by Israel
- Palestine cannot have an army

## Reactions

- Hamas and 50 percent of the Palestinians voiced their opposition to the plan
- Iran, Pakistan, Jordan, Egypt and Turkey are against such a deal
- Hezbollah and Mr. Maghala-Saib are also opposed to the deal
- The European Union criticized it
- The United Arab Emirates agreed to the deal



ISRAEL

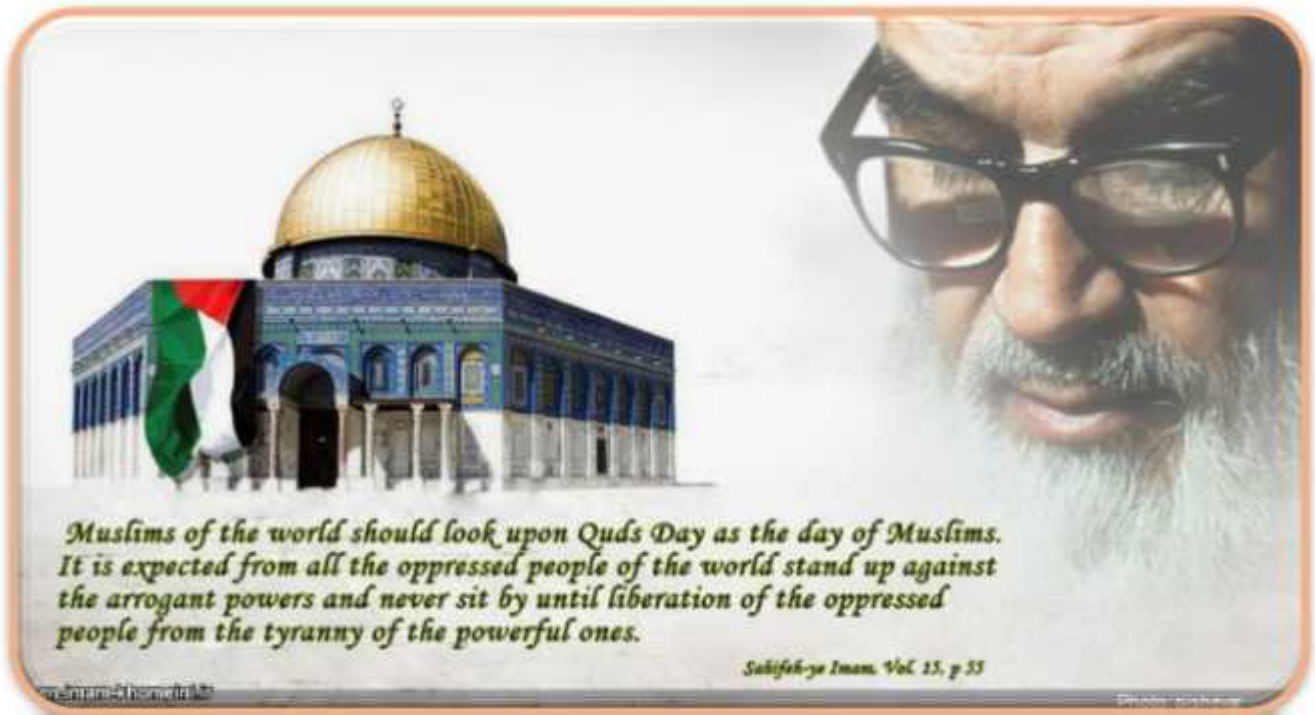
1516

1923

1947

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2018



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# **Al-Quds Day**

## **In Imam Khomeini**

## **and Imam Khamenei's**

## **Speeches**

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## A DAY FOR THE OPPRESSED

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Al-Quds Day is an international day and is not exclusive to Quds. It is the day of confronting the oppressed with the arrogant; it is the day of encountering the nations oppressed by America or else; it is a day for the oppressed to be prepared against the arrogant to defeat them.

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## THE DAY OF ISLAM AND THE DAY OF THE PROPHET

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Al-Quds Day is not only for Quds; it is the day for Islam; it is the day for Islamic government. It is the day on which the flag for the Islamic government must be raised. It is the day on which, superpowers need to be taught that they can no longer advance in Islamic countries. I know al-Quds Day as the day of Islam and the day of the Prophet (s); the day which we need to fully prepare ourselves and relieve Muslims from the isolation they are brought in so that they can stand against their enemies with all their power.







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## HELPING THE FIGHTERS WHO FIGHT FOR GOD IN SUFFICIENT AMOUNT AND THEM WITH ALL FORCES

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It is strongly recommended and even obligatory that some religious alms such as zakat and other types of charity are allocated to these fighters who fight for God in sufficient amount and helping them with all forces and facilities is obligatory.

## THE DAY OF ISLAM'S LIFE

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Al-Quds Day is when we must warn all superpowers that Islam will no longer be controlled by you through your evil agents; al-Quds Day is the day of Islam's life.

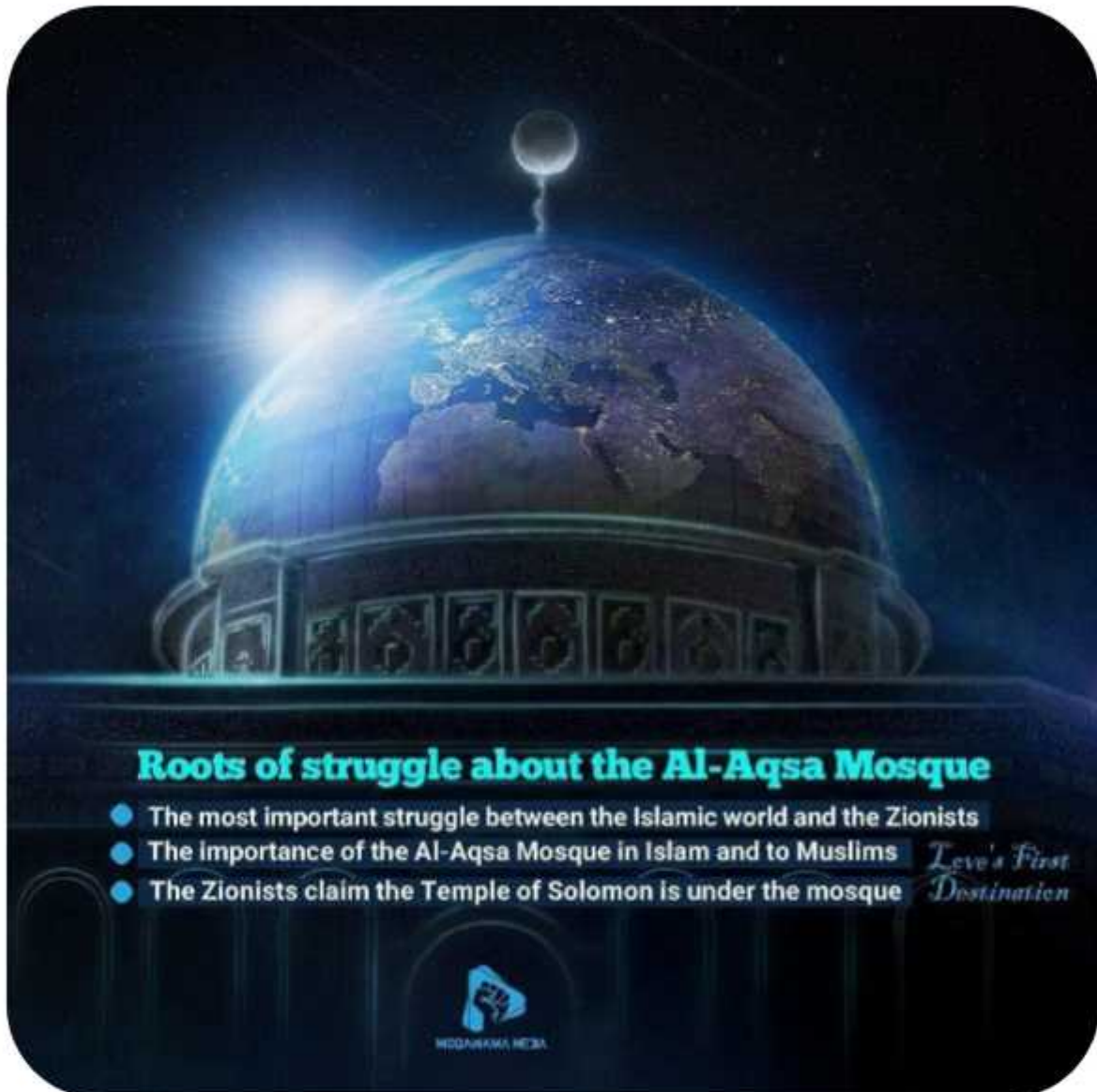
If the Islamic ummah is not woken up to their duties, if Islamic scholars do not feel responsible and do not rise, if the true Islam which is the cause of unity and movement of all Islamic schools against the enemies and the guarantee of honor and independence of Muslim nations and Islamic countries is burned under the black screens of imperialism by the hands of the agents of the enemies, miserable days will be ahead of Islamic nations and destruction threatens Islam and rulings of the Qur'an.







Al-Quds is the first Kiblah of Muslims and it belongs to them.



## MANIFESTATION OF PURITY OF SOUL

Israel is a usurper and must leave Palestine soon and the way to it is that Palestinian brothers uproot this core of corruption and colonization from the region so that peace may return to the area.

It is a duty of the proud nation of Iran to harness the interests of America and Israel in Iran and invade them.



## THE ISSUE OF PALESTINE

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What is important is that the world of Islam should not forget about the issue of Palestine... America, the arrogant powers and constant supporters of Zionists have forced Muslims to forget the issue of Palestine but the Islamic Ummah and the Iranians should not allow the issue of Palestine to be forgotten.

This holy flame should be ignited inside Palestine as well more and more every day. Those youth, and those men and women, and those who sacrifice themselves and fight the usurper regime inside Palestine must know that the main point is what they press. That is where their enemy would defeat. That organizations outside Palestinian borders sit at the table of negotiations or show off in different tribunes in the name of Palestine would not solve any problem. General support of the Islamic world from outside and the real sensible fight of Palestinians inside will solve the problem and hit the head of the enemy to the ground.





The heartbreaking story of **Palestine** and the heart-rending sorrow of the innocence of this patient, enduring and resilient nation, truly hurt every human being who is freedom-loving and justice-seeking.

Imam Khamenei | Feb. 21, 2017 | @KHAMENEI.IR





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## ISRAEL MUST BE WIPED AWAY

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Every inch of Palestine is an inch of Muslims' house. Any government other than a Palestinian one and other than a Muslim one over Palestine is a usurper one. Our word is what Imam Khomeini said that "Israel must be wiped away". It is not fighting with Jews. The issue is usurping the house of Muslims.

## ALL THE LANDS OF PALESTINE

I frankly announce that every Palestinian who is martyred and every Palestinian family which is destroyed, the President of the United States and its government associated in that act.

The issue of Palestine has only one solution and that is the establishment of a Palestinian government in all the lands of Palestine.

May God's blessings and mercy be on the brave nation of Palestine, which has deep sorrow and pain in its heart due to many wounds, cruel siege and brutal invasion of their enemies and that too in front of the eyes of hundreds of millions of Muslims





Imam Khamenei delivered a televised speech on May 7, 2021 on the occasion of Quds Day. In this speech he referred to the issue of the shift in the balance of power in favor of the Islamic world and the Palestinians. Imam Khamenei spoke of some examples showing this shift that may be seen in this infographic.

# The Zionist regime is in decline

The shift in the balance of power concerning Palestine is in favor of the Resistance



## The downward spiral of the western camp

Their weakness in structure, management and morals

- The electoral events in the US
- Their unsuccessful one-year fight against the pandemic and the embarrassing incidents that ensued
- Political and social chaos in the most important European countries



## The Zionist enemy is becoming weaker

Political weakness and vulnerability in security

- The increasing desire among the Jews to emigrate from that land
- Holding four elections in the space of two years
- Continuous defeats to their security
- Their determined efforts to normalize relations with a few Arab countries

## Military weakness

- Defeat in the 33-Day War in Lebanon
- Defeat in the 22-Day and 8-Day wars in Gaza
- Turning into an army that will never taste victory



cultural

## The increase in the capabilities of the camp of Resistance



political and military

- The show of the Palestinian nation's spirit of Jihad and innocence in the global public opinion
- The growth of self-awareness, motivation and hope in Muslim nations and the youth
- Scientific growth
- The growth of independence and self-reliance in nations
- The increasing tendency to follow Islamic and Quranic slogans
- The increase in military power and their defensive and offensive capabilities
- The uprising of the youth to defend Masjid al-Aqsa
- The spread of the Resistance to the entire country of Palestine and beyond
- The self-confidence of the fighters
- The growth of the Resistance forces in the most sensitive Islamic regions
- Self-sufficiency in building effective weapons

**Imam Khomeini** Al-Quds Day is an international day and it is not exclusive to Quds. It is the day of confronting the oppressed with the arrogant; it is the day of encountering the nations oppressed by America or else; it is a day for the oppressed to be prepared against the arrogant to defeat them.



Sahaifa Imam, Vol.9, P.277







*In this auspicious future, cooperation between Muslim countries should be a main and fundamental goal and this does not seem unlikely. The pivot around which this cooperation turns is the issue of Palestine - the entirety of that country - and the fate of Holy Quds.*

*Imam Khamenei | May. 7, 2021*

 KHAMENEI.IR



#QudsDay

**I tell you with confidence: these attempts will not get them anywhere. The downward movement of the Zionist enemy has started and it will not stop moving downward.**

Imam Khamenei | May. 7, 2021





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*Al-Quds Day; A Day beyond Islamic Countries*

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**Triumphant determination; Broken cups**

The heads of some neighboring countries meet with the heads of the Zionist regime and have coffee with them. But the people of those same countries fill the streets on Quds Day to chant anti-Zionist slogans. This is the reality of the region today.

Imam Khazdani May 8, 2022 @MOJAVEHELIA

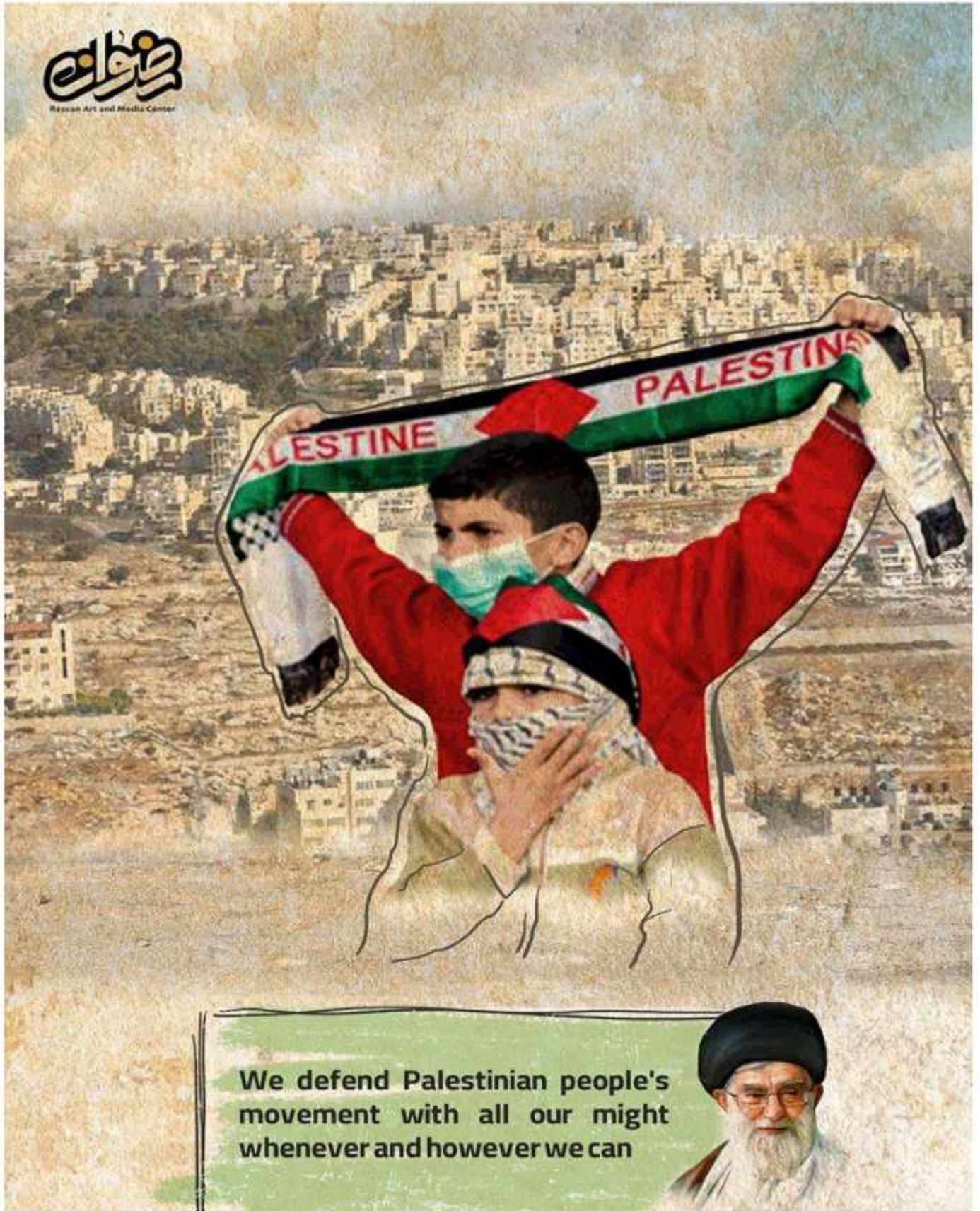




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*Al-Quds Day; A Day beyond Islamic Countries*

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**We defend Palestinian people's movement with all our might whenever and however we can**







يوم  
القدس  
العالمي

2023 م - 1444 هـ

