Is Israel testing new weapons ?on Palestinians

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Ahmed Al-Fakhrani - Egyptian writer and novelist

19.01.2024

In his English-language book in mid-May by Verso, "Palestine Lab: How Israel Exporting Occupation Technology to the World?", journalist Anthony Leweinstein investigates the manufacture of Israeli weapons and military technology, and the use of Palestinians as a field of experiments to market its products in the .world

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Anthony Lowenstein defines himself as a Jewish-Australian anti-racist and anti-Zionist writer, who has published several important books, but only his best-selling book "Disaster Capitalism", which was published by the Kuwaiti World of Knowledge series, translated by Ahmed Abdul Hamid, has been translated from them in the Arab region. It is a book that does not care away from the book "Palestine Laboratory", although it seems to raise that concern from another angle by asking: "How do governments and international companies make huge profits from the "?scourge of wars and the calamities of humanity

As well as the book War on Drugs, which reveals how the war on drugs has become the deadliest war in the modern era, and that its agenda, designed by Washington, has nothing to do with ending drug use or .addiction, but about controlling markets, regions and people

Israel is the partner of"

"dictatorships

In addition to deep investigation, Loeinstein was also able to collect very important field testimonies from within the occupied territories from various parties, visiting them since 2005 periodically, and covering the press every three or four years, in Israel, Gaza and the West Bank for various media, and he lived in East Jerusalem between 2016 and .2020

Israel is the tenth largest country in the manufacture and export of weapons, according to the writer, and gained this position by testing military weapons and technologies on Palestinians first, and marketing them as "proven effective" military technologies. These weapons have also been used in many crimes and wars around the world, which have been committed and continue to be committed against peoples and .opponents of repressive regimes

The importance of Lewenstein's book "The Palestine Laboratory" lies in the fact that it follows a more profound and freshy way to recount what is happening to the Palestinians, and also linking this to global issues that receive the attention of the average citizen in any part of the world. What is happening in Palestine is a miniaturized and more intensive version of what is happening on the planet, whether from the dominance of digital surveillance and our lack of privacy, or the rise of the global right in Europe and America, but in a country that is theoretically the largest democracy in the world like India, while in fact it is witnessing the transformation to a Hindu fundamentalism that .adopts an extreme ethnic nationalist

The writer reveals the roles of countries such as the UAE, Saudi Arabia and dictatorships in Africa, Asia and Latin America, in addition to Israel's participation in a large number of "genocide" cases around the world since the second half of the twentieth century, whether by supporting or exporting technologies, weapons and training to militias .and armies

This perspective makes the question of Palestine a central issue, as it reveals a major threat to humanity in poor and rich countries alike. He points out that the dictatorial regimes are all friendly and lucrative political relations with Israel, based on training and the export of technologies and weapons, and even drug trafficking gangs in .Colombia were receiving weapons and training from Israel

In recent times, Israel has participated in the genocide carried out by Myanmar against the Rohingya, and in India's attacks on Muslims in Kashmir, by providing weapons and technology, and also providing .infrastructure for the digital wall, along the U.S.-Mexico border

In recent years, huge numbers of Israeli watchtowers have spread along the border, built by a company called Al-Bayt, Israel's leading arms company, to tackle migrants in ways that may later evolve into killing them. The EU, in turn, is also using Israeli surveillance technology to .monitor migrants

According to the book, the European Union implements an informal policy of rescuing a very limited number of illegal immigrants, by sending a few boats to the rescue and leaving the rest to the fate of the sinking, the unethical policy pursued by the European Union uses Israeli marches as an essential part of its infrastructure to monitor the

.Mediterranean all the time to make the EU more like a fortified castle

The most popular app in the Arab world is Pegasus, which is run by an Israeli NGO, and has the ability to hack mobile phones and spy on conversations. This app was used by Saudi Arabia, which bought spy systems from Israel on a large scale, and is said to have used it in the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, who found the app on his .phone

Spy systems undermine the press

The book explains how in 2019 the UAE bought from Israel large amounts of defensive equipment and spying systems, like many dictatorships, undermining the freedom of press workers, human rights or even the freedom of a normal citizen, to identify, arrest, torture and .kill opponents

Why did global systems buy weapons, surveillance and espionage" technology from Israel specifically, which makes it the tenth in terms of arms sales among countries of the world, which is high compared to a .small country in terms of population?" Leweinstein asks

The writer simply replied: "Because these weapons and surveillance systems have been first tried on the Palestinians and have proven effective. It is something that began since the establishment of the State of Israel after the 1948 Nakba War, but it crystallized further after ".the War of 67

Although countries such as the United States, France, Russia and Britain have trained and armed repressive countries, and tried their weapons in their wars for the purpose of marketing them, the main difference is that Israel has the longest occupation in modern history of a captive people of 5 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. In addition, Israel's narrative and the cause of its existence from its point of view, are mainly based on the genocide it experienced in Nazi camps, although it secretly participates in the majority of violations in various parts of the world, and promotes itself as the "most moral army," and ".the only democracy in the Middle East"

On the lie of Israel's democracy, the writer draws attention to the fact that the majority of the attempts of some Israeli lawyers or human rights workers to file lawsuits inside Israel to reveal secret documents that prove their participation in the events of repression and genocide, end with the rejection of those claims by the judiciary under the pretext of "Israel's reputation", as well as the strict military control of newspapers and the media in relation to the defense army or sovereign apparatuses, and many Israeli officials and judges believe that weapons .technology is Israel's pride

Loeinstein does not forget to assert in his book, that "if you are a Palestinian living in the West Bank, you are treated as a second-class citizen who cannot vote in Israeli elections, you are governed by a corrupt Palestinian leadership in the West Bank, the Palestinian ".Authority

He adds, "In Gaza there is Hamas, and I have spent time with these two organizations, and I can assure you, as a reporter and I do not defend either of these two corrupt political organizations, that they are a disaster for the Palestinian people, but let's not forget the main point, which is that the occupying power is Israel and not the Palestinians. The development of Israeli technology technologies, according to the statements of a number of Israeli officials, aims to make it very easy to ".kill Palestinians

Israel and the rise of the global right

Lewenstein notes that it is "remarkable, shameful and shocking," that the Israeli flag often flys in extreme right gatherings and demonstrations around the world, in Australia, the United States, Britain and Europe, some of which are traditional right-wing and Nazi groups, that is, they despise Jews, but at the same time they show a deep admiration for Israel, as it admires the ethnic nationalist structure, especially after the Israeli Knesset ratified in 2018, a law that .makes Israel a nation-state for Jews only

The global far right in the West wants, the same thing, to create a reality for a Christian ethnic nationalism in its countries, and he sees .that Israel offers it a unique example, if it can do it, he can also

In his book, Loewenstein cites an example of Richard Spencer, the leader of Germany's "alternative" far-right party affiliated with neo-Naziism – despite his anti-Semitism – of a disproportion for Israel in 2018, saying, "Jews, once again, are at the forefront, rethinking politics and sovereignty for the future, and showing a way forward for ".Europeans

Spencer called himself the "White Zionist," and took advantage of the belief among far-right elements that Israel is at the forefront of defending Western civilization against Muslim hordes, and that secularism inhibits successful national cooperation. Religiosity is the goal

The world is 'harassing' Israel

In his 2019 book, "The Virtue of Nationalism," Luram Hazoni, president of the Herzl Institute in Jerusalem, and a senior conservative thinker, who cites Lewenstein at the depth of the penetration of far-right ideology within Israel, mentioned Palestinians only once, complaining that the world is harassing Israel to give Palestinians a state against .Israel's wishes

Instead, Hazoni attacks opponents of apartheid in South Africa and Serbia under the autocrat Slobodan Milosovic. "The reason these people are particularly discriminated against, disgusted and punished, is that whites in South Africa and Serbs are seen as European, subject to ethical standards that have nothing to do with what is expected of .their African or Muslim neighbors," he argues

Lewenstein follows, "It is clear that Hazoni is concerned that Israel will suffer the fate of these same two states. This kind of toxic ideology fuels Israel's daily reality in Palestine by spreading a lie that Palestinians are inherently violent and irrational: they can only be terrorists. In this novel, staying under occupation for more than half a century is just a marginal footnote. Palestinians need surveillance, imprisonment, torture and murder. Israel needs to keep them in a high- ".tech cage because the alternative is genocide against Jews

The book carries a large number of information, details and quotations that illustrate how each of the two countries admired the actions of the other, and are inspired by each other, by almost the same thinking, such as claiming that they happened through the holy, Jewish and Christian right, on a land without a people, and that that people, if any, would be a line of defense of civilization against barism. This is no different from the concept launched by George W. Bush in his war on terror, which divided the world into two axes, the axis of good and civilization represented by America and its allies, and the axis of evil and .barbarism in which the rest of the world is placed

What the book concludes, is that Israel has become a major inspiration for the far global right, as exemplifying India, the world's largest country in terms of area and population, describing itself as the world's largest democracy, which Loenstein questions with the rise of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a Hindu fundamentalist who speaks .openly about a state based on ethnic Hindu nationalism

Modi reiterates the ideological alignment relationship beyond a defensive relationship with Israel, as happened between the latter and South Africa, and not only does it stop at buying large quantities of weapons, defense equipment, spy systems and smart walls, but its officials, led by the Indian Prime Minister, speak with great admiration for what Israel is doing in the West Bank, and they want to do something similar in Kashmir against the Muslim majority, which India has been doing for years, after in 2019 it repealed the articles that give the Kashmir region a kind of autonomy, and brings large numbers of .Hindus to settle and occupy Muslim lands in Kashmir

Lewenstein sees the greatest threat of the century as ethnic nationalism, especially when a country that considers itself the largest democracy in the world, prouds its transformation under Modi into a Hindu-fundamentalist state in which it creates the conditions for mass .violence against Muslims

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