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After Zionism: One State for Israel and Palestine

by Antony Loewenstein and Ahmed Moor
Saqi Books, 2024. 326 pp, \$13.87

Reviewed by Alex Selsky

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The authors aim for "achieving true equality and justice for all Israelis and Palestinians." However, the book primarily presents the Palestinian perspective. For instance, Ilan Pappé, Israeli historian living in London, discusses the Nakba and the expulsion of Arabs in 1948 but does not provide the Jewish perspective or context, such as the Holocaust or historical Jewish suffering and displacement.

The book questions the legitimacy of Jewish nationhood and self-determination. Omar Barghouti, who was born in Qatar and grew up in Egypt, for example, criticizes the Israeli Law of Return as fundamentally racist and against international law, without mentioning similar laws in other democratic countries or the discrimination against minorities in Muslim-majority nations. He does not address that nation-states and similar laws exist worldwide.

Jeff Halper, an Israeli Jew born in the United States, argues that ending the occupation would halt violence against Jews, without considering the historical violence against Jews and other minorities in Islamic regions before modern Israeli policies. The book focuses on challenging the existence of the Jewish state, rather than solely seeking justice, and does not explore the rights that other nations' citizens enjoy in a similar context.

The distinction of the book lies in its call to abandon the two-state solution in favor of a one-state solution, openly negating the Jewish right to self-determination and disregarding the historical circumstances that led Jews to fight for this right. Furthermore, the authors argue that the events of October 7 only strengthen their case.



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