

# opinions

## Whose actions endanger human lives

Following the recent series of fatal attacks against Israelis carried out by the HAMAS and the Islamic Jihad, the Israeli government decided to issue temporary exclusion orders against about 400 operatives. The order provides for the exclusion of members of terrorist organizations whose actions endanger human lives. The deportees can not be looked upon as humanitarian victims as the Western media has proposed. Rather, the deportees must be looked upon as terrorists, responsible for the tragic deaths of Israeli soldiers and innocent civilians. The HAMAS and the Islamic Jihad organizations are branches of the extremist Moslem Brotherhood which operate in the territories under Israeli administration. The 1988 charter of the HAMAS states that "the liberation of all of Palestine, from the (Mediterranean) Sea to the (Jordan) River, is the most exalted strategic goal" of the organization. The group declares that "it is an obligation to kill all Jews" (from HAMAS leaflet 65, 1990), and employs armed terrorism against Jews and Arabs alike.

Its ideology rejects compromise or peace with Israel, and its terrorist actions are aimed not only at killing Jews, but at killing the peace process as well. The HAMAS charter is one

of the most murderous and genocidal documents of its kind. It commands "holy war for Palestine against the Jews", and not only orders believers to cleanse the land from its "occupiers" but states: "The Moslems are under obligation, by order of their Prophet, to fight Jews and kill them wherever they can find them."

It has been alleged that these exclusion orders do not comply with international law, and in particular with Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention. However, as the Official Commentary to the Convention makes it clear, the prohibition in that article against "individual or mass deportation" was drafted in the context of the arbitrary deportations carried out during World War II for the purpose of extermination, subjugation and forced labour. Israel's issuance of exclusion orders is not arbitrary but directed only at those individuals whose presence and hostile activity in the territories constitute a clear danger to human life. Moreover, the purpose of the orders is not to exterminate or subjugate the population but rather to maintain security and orderly government in the areas, as required by Article 64 of the Convention.

The Lebanese government, hav-

ing called Israel "a Nazi regime" and "inhuman" for temporarily expelling members of a murderous terrorist organization, has decided to deprive these deportees of water, food and medical supplies. For the first time in memory, a government is preventing its own brethren — people, the Palestinian Latin Patriarch, described as "God's children" — from receiving humanitarian aid from the UN and the International Red Cross.

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her mentors, her capacity to "observe and absorb intelligent discourse on subjects", the accessibility of her professors with whom she can interact on a variety of subjects, and being part of a philosophy department which inspires the "sort of open and contemplative thought from which one can truly learn".

The accolades continue and are intended to remind the reader that what the writer has finally attained is some measure of that elusive truth which continues to evade those whose "minds have been systematically closed by academic apathy or artificial representations of universal dissent". She closes with a statement of grandiose proportions: "I feel as if I am learning to ask the right questions and, in turn, my intellectual chaos may finally be subsiding". She may not believe this, but

Any democratic society, such as Israel, must defend itself against those who wish to destroy it and to murder its citizens. The innocent victims of HAMAS terrorism were brutally murdered, and were neither shown mercy nor given any right to appeal. Israel, as a state which respects the rule of law, grants these terrorists the rights which they did not grant their victims. Unlike many other democratic countries, Israel does not uti-

lize the death penalty, yet chooses instead to simply remove the terrorists from the area for up to 2 years. Israel feels that this temporary exclusion is a more humane way of accomplishing the duty incumbent upon all free states — to stop terrorism, to protect its population, and to preserve the state from threats against its very existence.

Adam Block

which she feels are idiosyncratic, unjustified, "ignorant" and "invalid". Furthermore, the authority with which she makes her statements (for example, "the greatest crime against enlightenment is committed by those who attempt to close discourse") guards against anyone who might wish to address the issue from a different point of view — particularly those who have consistently been shunted and disqualified from participating in this so-called enlightening discourse. The Western hegemonic influence on primordial and unresolvable matters such as truth, beauty, knowledge and justice (including the canon in which these are contained) needs to be rewritten even if it means radically altering our educational system to include the company of those who are continually perceived as belonging on the margins of the academic community.

Denis Wall

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