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Planet Gaza

The principle of equality among human beings is the universal value that will decide the future of the world. To continue to ignore that principle in the twenty-first century, as was done in the past, condemns humanity to disaster. What is happening today in Palestine is consistent with the history of the West over the past five hundred years, but above all it warns of its viability as a programme for the future.



With their complicity with Israel's genocidal action, the Western powers are consistent with their past, but above all they point in a direction for the future.

Beyond the ongoing vicious genocidal slaughter, the most terrible thing about what is unfolding before our eyes in Gaza is that it offers a perspective for the future. The attitude of the Western governments, their media and propagandists, contains a clear warning

about how the privileged part of this world can solve the impasse to which in this century the capitalist system invented and defended by them has led us.



The Colombian President, [Gustavo Petro](#), has referred to this by pointing out that "what the barbaric military power of the north has unleashed on the Palestinian people is the prelude to what it will unleash on all the peoples of the south when we run out of water due to the climate crisis; the prelude to what will be unleashed on the exodus of people who will go by the hundreds of millions from the south to the north."

The solution is the one used for centuries by those same powers that today fear being displaced from the bridge: decimate populations and seize resources through war.

In the absence of "new worlds" to which to export demographic surpluses and vital metabolisms that are unsustainable and incompatible with the principle of equality between human beings, the horizon that can be seen is to create islands of well-being and law strictly protected by armies and navies for, say, 20% of the world's population, and to confine the rest in humanly and environmentally disastrous areas. For those who try to escape from these areas, walls, shots and shipwrecks (28,000 dead since 2014 in the Mediterranean alone, as a foretaste of what the great environmental migration announces). A planetary Gaza.



As [Immanuel Wallerstein](#) observed, this is not a very different plan from the one Hitler and his contemporaries had in mind. What we are witnessing these days, not only the massacre, but its political and media treatment, and not only in the United States but in

the *parent nations* of the European Union such as France and Germany, reminds us that this *modus operandi* is perfectly compatible with "European values", and all the semantic instruments on "democracy", "rules-based order" and designs of the "international community". fully discredited outside the geographical boundaries of the blind minority that runs it.



[The Discrediting of Enlightened Europe: Imperialism and Colonialism](#)

Colonialism spread civilization on the basis of genocides perfectly compatible with the Enlightenment, the separation of powers, and parliamentarism. Renaissance humanism was with the wars of religion and Auschwitz with the German "great culture." Why couldn't the series continue today?

The denial of the principle of equality between human beings, the dominated being reduced to an animal condition, is intended to work today in Gaza in the same way that it once worked for Africa, Asia and Latin America. The problem today is that this continuity with the last few centuries is seen as an unacceptable anachronism by the majority of the world's population.



This "first fusion of old-school colonial and genocidal violence *with state-of-the-art advanced heavy weapons*," that "twisted amalgam of the seventeenth and twenty-first centuries, packaged and wrapped in a language that harkens back to primitive times and thunderous biblical scenes involving the defeat of entire peoples: the Jebusites, the Amelikites, the Gentiles, the Nazis, the Gentiles, the Apostles, the Apostles, the Nazis, the Apostles, the Nazis, the Apostles, the Apostles, the Nazis the Canaanites and, of course, the Philistines," in the words of [Saree Makdisi](#)*, is a challenge to humanity and intelligence.

The principle of equality among human beings is the universal value that will decide the future of the world. To continue to ignore that principle in the twenty-first century, as was done in the past, condemns humanity to disaster. What is happening today in Palestine is consistent with the history of the West over the past five hundred years, but above all it warns of its viability as a programme for the future.

Note:

* Saree Makdisi (Washington, 1964), Lebanese-Palestinian-American academic and writer, is a professor of English and comparative literature at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and a frequent commentator on the Middle East. He is the author of *Romantic Imperialism: Universal Empire and the Culture of Modernity* (Cambridge University Press, 1998) and *William Blake and the Impossible History of the 1790s* (University of Chicago Press, 2003), *Palestine Inside Out: An Everyday Occupation* (2008), *Making England Western: Occidentalism, Race & Imperial Culture* (2014), and *Tolerance Is a Wasteland: Palestine and the Culture of Denial* (2022).

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