

# edward said the question of palestine

Edward Said and the Question of Palestine: A Deep Dive into Identity, Conflict, and Narrative

**edward said the question of palestine** is not just a phrase but a doorway into understanding a complex web of history, politics, and identity that has shaped the modern Middle East. Edward Said, a Palestinian-American scholar, literary critic, and advocate, became one of the most influential voices in articulating the Palestinian struggle and challenging dominant narratives about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. His work, especially through writings like *\*The Question of Palestine\**, offers profound insights into the cultural and political dimensions of a conflict that has defined generations.

## Who Was Edward Said?

Before diving into his perspectives on Palestine, it's essential to understand who Edward Said was. Born in Jerusalem in 1935, Said was deeply connected to Palestinian identity from an early age. His upbringing in a cosmopolitan environment exposed him to multiple cultures and languages, but the displacement he and many Palestinians experienced after 1948 left a lasting impact on his worldview.

Said later moved to the United States, where he became a professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University. Beyond academia, he was a public intellectual who used his platform to speak on issues of colonialism, identity, and human rights. His approach combined rigorous scholarship with passionate advocacy, making his voice uniquely resonant in discussions about Palestine.

## Edward Said and the Question of Palestine: Exploring the Core Themes

The phrase “the question of Palestine” refers to the ongoing dispute over Palestinian rights, land, and national identity. Said's examination of this question goes beyond surface-level politics to interrogate how history, representation, and power dynamics shape the conflict.

## Historical Context and Displacement

One of Said's key contributions is framing the Palestinian experience within the larger narrative of displacement and exile. He highlighted the Nakba (Arabic for “catastrophe”), referring to the 1948 Palestinian exodus during the creation of Israel, as a foundational trauma that continues to affect Palestinian identity and claims to justice.

For Said, understanding the question of Palestine meant acknowledging the lived realities of refugees and those scattered across the globe. This historical context is vital to grasping

why Palestinians continue to fight for recognition, return, and sovereignty.

## **Challenging Dominant Narratives**

Edward Said is perhaps best known for his groundbreaking book *\*Orientalism\**, where he critiqued Western representations of the East. This critique is central to his work on Palestine as well. Said argued that mainstream Western media and political discourse often portrayed Palestinians as obstacles to peace or as inherently violent, thereby dehumanizing them.

By exposing these biased narratives, Said sought to reclaim Palestinian voices and stories. He emphasized the importance of narrative in shaping public opinion and policy, urging readers to question whose stories were being told and whose were silenced.

## **The Role of Identity and Culture**

In *\*The Question of Palestine\**, Said also explored how Palestinian identity is deeply intertwined with culture, memory, and resistance. Despite political fragmentation and suffering, Palestinians maintain a vibrant cultural heritage that serves as a form of resilience.

Said's insights remind us that the conflict is not merely territorial but also about identity and the right to self-expression. This cultural perspective encourages a more nuanced understanding of the conflict beyond headlines and political rhetoric.

## **The Impact of Edward Said's Work on Palestinian Advocacy**

Edward Said's influence extends far beyond academia. His eloquence and moral clarity have inspired activists, scholars, and policymakers worldwide who seek a just resolution to the Palestinian plight.

## **Bringing International Attention to the Palestinian Cause**

Through lectures, essays, and interviews, Said brought the question of Palestine to global audiences. His ability to articulate complex ideas in accessible language helped bridge the gap between intellectual discourse and grassroots activism.

Said's insistence on human rights, international law, and the importance of dialogue continues to shape debates around peace negotiations and humanitarian efforts.

# Encouraging Critical Engagement and Dialogue

Rather than advocating for violence or simplistic solutions, Said championed critical engagement. He believed that meaningful progress required honest conversations about historical grievances, power imbalances, and mutual recognition.

This approach has encouraged a more inclusive dialogue involving Palestinians and Israelis, as well as the international community, fostering spaces where difficult truths can be acknowledged.

## Key Concepts in Understanding Edward Said's Perspective on Palestine

To truly appreciate Said's contribution, it's helpful to explore some foundational concepts he emphasized:

- **Exile and Displacement:** The physical and psychological impact of being uprooted from one's homeland.
- **Representation:** How media and academic narratives shape perceptions of Palestinians.
- **Resistance:** Not only through political means but also cultural and intellectual expression.
- **Intersectionality:** The interconnectedness of colonialism, imperialism, and nationalism in the Palestinian context.

These ideas underscore why the question of Palestine remains urgent and unresolved, highlighting the need for empathy and a multifaceted approach.

## Edward Said's Legacy and Continuing Relevance

Even years after his passing in 2003, Edward Said's work remains a cornerstone for anyone seeking to understand the Palestinian struggle. His scholarship and activism offer tools to navigate the often polarized and emotionally charged discussions surrounding the conflict.

Whether through his critiques of Orientalism or his passionate defense of Palestinian rights, Said encourages a deeper, more human-centered engagement with the question of Palestine. By listening to his voice, we are reminded that behind every political debate are real people with histories, hopes, and dreams.

In a world where media soundbites and political slogans often reduce complex issues to black-and-white narratives, Edward Said's nuanced approach is a call to think critically and compassionately. His work invites us to confront uncomfortable truths and to imagine possibilities for justice that honor the dignity of all involved.

Exploring Edward Said and the question of Palestine is not merely an academic exercise; it's a journey into understanding the power of narrative, the pain of exile, and the enduring hope for peace and recognition. Through this lens, the Palestinian story emerges not just as a conflict but as a testament to resilience and the universal quest for justice.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Who is Edward Said and what is his significance in 'The Question of Palestine'?**

Edward Said was a Palestinian-American scholar and literary critic known for his work on postcolonial studies and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. In 'The Question of Palestine,' he critically examines the history and politics surrounding the Palestinian struggle for statehood and rights.

### **What is the main argument presented by Edward Said in 'The Question of Palestine'?**

Edward Said argues that the Palestinian people have been systematically displaced and marginalized through the creation of the state of Israel, and he calls for recognition of Palestinian rights and a just resolution to the conflict.

### **How does Edward Said's perspective in 'The Question of Palestine' differ from mainstream narratives?**

Said challenges dominant Western and Israeli narratives by highlighting Palestinian dispossession and advocating for their perspective, which is often overlooked or misrepresented in mainstream discourse.

### **What historical events does Edward Said discuss in 'The Question of Palestine'?**

Said discusses key events such as the 1948 Nakba (Palestinian exodus), the 1967 Six-Day War, and subsequent Israeli occupation, emphasizing their impact on Palestinian identity and claims.

### **Why is 'The Question of Palestine' considered an important work in Middle Eastern studies?**

'The Question of Palestine' is important because it provides a critical and scholarly

Palestinian viewpoint, influencing academic, political, and public understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

## **How does Edward Said address the role of media and Western policies in 'The Question of Palestine'?**

Said critiques Western media and political policies for often supporting Israeli narratives and ignoring Palestinian suffering, thereby shaping public opinion and policy in ways that disadvantage Palestinians.

## **Additional Resources**

Edward Said and The Question of Palestine: A Critical Examination

**edward said the question of palestine** represents a seminal intersection of intellectual inquiry and political activism, framing the Palestinian struggle through the lens of postcolonial critique and cultural identity. Edward Said, a prominent Palestinian-American scholar and literary critic, profoundly influenced how the Palestinian narrative is understood in academic, political, and humanitarian contexts. His pivotal work, "The Question of Palestine," published in 1979, remains a cornerstone for those seeking to grasp the complexities of Palestinian identity, displacement, and resistance within the broader Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

## **Contextualizing Edward Said's Contribution**

Edward Said emerged as a powerful voice during a critical period when the Palestinian cause was often marginalized or misrepresented in Western discourse. "The Question of Palestine" is not merely a historical account but a critical examination that challenges dominant narratives imposed by colonial and imperial powers. Said's approach combines personal experience, rigorous scholarship, and political advocacy, making his analysis both deeply empathetic and intellectually robust.

In the book, Said elucidates how the Palestinian people were dispossessed through a gradual process of displacement, starting with the 1948 Nakba, when hundreds of thousands of Palestinians were uprooted following the establishment of the state of Israel. He critiques Western media and political establishments for their role in perpetuating a one-sided narrative that often delegitimizes Palestinian claims to self-determination.

## **Postcolonial Theory and Palestinian Identity**

One of Said's most significant contributions to "The Question of Palestine" is his application of postcolonial theory to the Palestinian context. His earlier work, "Orientalism," laid the groundwork for understanding how Western representations of the "Orient" have historically been laden with stereotypes and served as justifications for imperial domination. In "The Question of Palestine," Said extends this critique to analyze how

Palestinians have been portrayed as the "other" — a people without history, rights, or a legitimate claim to their homeland.

This framing has profound implications. It not only affects international perceptions but also influences policy decisions and peace negotiations. Said argues that overcoming the Palestinian question requires dismantling these entrenched narratives and recognizing the Palestinians as a people with a distinct identity, history, and political rights.

## **Critical Themes in “The Question of Palestine”**

### **Historical Displacement and the Right of Return**

A recurring theme in Said’s work is the historical displacement of Palestinians and the controversial "right of return." He meticulously documents the forced exodus during the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, emphasizing that this event is not simply a historical footnote but a continuing reality that shapes Palestinian identity and claims. Said insists that any comprehensive solution to the conflict must address this right, which remains a sticking point in peace negotiations.

### **Representation and Media Bias**

Said was particularly concerned with how media coverage influences public opinion and policymaking. In "The Question of Palestine," he critiques Western media for often presenting the conflict through a pro-Israel prism, marginalizing Palestinian voices and grievances. This media bias reinforces political policies that sideline Palestinian rights and portray Israel as the sole legitimate party.

The implications of this media imbalance extend beyond public perception. They affect diplomatic relations, humanitarian aid, and international law, making it difficult to achieve justice and peace. Said’s call for fair representation remains relevant as media landscapes evolve with new technologies and social platforms.

### **The Role of International Law and Human Rights**

Said’s analysis also touches upon international law and human rights frameworks. He highlights the discrepancies between legal principles—such as those enshrined in United Nations resolutions—and the realities on the ground. For example, UN Resolution 194 affirms the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes, yet this right has been largely ignored in practice.

By exposing these gaps, Said challenges readers to question the effectiveness of international institutions and the political will of global powers. His work encourages a re-examination of how law and diplomacy can better serve justice for Palestinians.

# Edward Said's Influence on Contemporary Discourse

Edward Said's "The Question of Palestine" has had a lasting impact on both academic scholarship and political activism. His analysis paved the way for a more nuanced understanding of the Palestinian struggle, influencing fields such as Middle Eastern studies, human rights law, and international relations. Scholars and activists continue to draw on Said's framework to critique ongoing policies and advocate for Palestinian self-determination.

Moreover, Said's fusion of intellectual rigor with emotional resonance has helped humanize Palestinians in global discourse, countering decades of dehumanization and stereotyping. His emphasis on narrative and representation has encouraged other marginalized groups worldwide to assert their histories and rights in the face of dominant powers.

## Comparisons with Other Key Texts

When compared with other influential works on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, such as Rashid Khalidi's "Palestinian Identity" or Ilan Pappé's "The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine," Said's "The Question of Palestine" stands out for its integration of literary criticism and political analysis. While Khalidi focuses on historical and political developments and Pappé on revisionist historiography, Said's work is distinctive for its emphasis on cultural representation and the power of discourse.

These complementary perspectives enrich the broader understanding of the conflict, offering multiple lenses through which to analyze the enduring challenges of displacement, statehood, and reconciliation.

## Challenges and Criticisms

While Edward Said's contributions are widely celebrated, his work has also faced criticism. Some argue that his narrative is overly idealistic or dismissive of Israeli security concerns. Others suggest that his focus on discourse may underplay the material and geopolitical complexities shaping the conflict.

Additionally, Said's staunch advocacy sometimes places him at odds with more moderate voices within the Palestinian political landscape, highlighting tensions between intellectual critique and practical diplomacy.

Nevertheless, these critiques underscore the contentious and multifaceted nature of the Palestinian question, illustrating why Said's work remains essential for anyone seeking a deeper understanding beyond simplistic binaries.

# Key Takeaways from Said's Approach

- Emphasis on the importance of narrative and representation in shaping political realities.
- Highlighting the dispossession and ongoing displacement of Palestinians as central to the conflict.
- Critique of Western media and political biases that obscure Palestinian claims.
- Advocacy for rights-based solutions grounded in international law.
- Integration of cultural critique with political activism to foster a holistic understanding.

Through these points, Edward Said's "The Question of Palestine" continues to challenge readers and policymakers to reconsider entrenched perspectives and seek more just and equitable outcomes.

Edward Said's profound engagement with the Palestinian question remains a vital reference point in ongoing debates about identity, justice, and peace in the Middle East. His work not only illuminates the historical and political dimensions of the conflict but also invites a deeper reflection on the power of narrative to shape the future of an unresolved struggle.

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**edward said the question of palestine: The Question of Palestine** Edward W. Said, 2015-08-19 This original and deeply provocative book was the first to make Palestine the subject of a serious debate--one that remains as critical as ever. A compelling call for identity and justice. —Anthony Lewis Books such as Mr. Said's need to be written and read in the hope that understanding will provide a better chance of survival. —The New York Times Book Review With the rigorous scholarship he brought to his influential *Orientalism* and an exile's passion (he is Palestinian by birth), Edward W. Said traces the fatal collision between two peoples in the Middle East and its repercussions in the lives of both the occupier and the occupied--as well as in the conscience of the West. He has updated this landmark work to portray the changed status of Palestine and its people in light of such developments as the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the intifada, the Gulf War, and the ongoing Middle East peace initiative. For anyone interested in this region and its future, *The Question of Palestine* remains the most useful and authoritative account available.

**edward said the question of palestine:** *The Politics of Dispossession* Edward W. Said, 2012-10-24 Author of the groundbreaking *The Question of Palestine*, Edward Said has been America's most outspoken advocate for Palestinian self-determination. As these collected essays amply prove, he is also our most intelligent and bracingly heretical writer on affairs involving not only Palestinians but also the Arab and Muslim worlds and their tortuous relations with the West. Solidly imbued with historical context and geopolitical conjecture...fresh, unpredictable, personal and incorruptible writing.—*Boston Globe* In *The Politics of Dispossession*, Said traces his people's struggle for statehood through twenty-five years of exile, from the PLO's bloody 1970 exile from Jordan through the debacle of the Gulf War and the ambiguous 1994 peace accord with Israel. As frank as he is about his personal involvement in that struggle, Said is equally unsparing in his demolition of Arab icons and American shibboleths. Stylish, impassioned, and informed by a magisterial knowledge of history and literature, *The Politics of Dispossession* is a masterly synthesis of scholarship and polemic that has the power to redefine the debate over the Middle East.

**edward said the question of palestine:** *The Discourse of Palestinian-Israeli Relations* Sean F. McMahon, 2010-04-15 This Foucault-inspired analysis of the degeneration of the Oslo Process into direct Palestinian-Israeli violence critically examines the ideas and practices that define Palestinian-Israeli relations. The text offers a radically different peace proposal that moves far beyond exhausted calls for confidence-building measures and/or an end to settlement construction.

**edward said the question of palestine:** *Edinburgh Companion to the Postcolonial Middle East* Ball Anna Ball, 2018-11-14 This *Edinburgh Companion* seeks to develop a postcolonial framework for addressing the Middle East. The first collection of essays on this subject, it assembles some of the world's foremost postcolonialists to explore the critical, theoretical and disciplinary possibilities that inquiry into this region opens for postcolonial studies. Throughout its twenty-four chapters, its focus is on literary and cultural critique. It draws on texts and contexts from the late nineteenth to the early twenty-first centuries as case studies, and deploys the concept of 'post/colonial modernity' to reveal the enduring impact of colonial and imperial power on the shaping of the region. And it covers a wide and significant range of political, social, and cultural issues in the Middle East during that period - including the heritage of Orientalism in the region; the roots and contemporary branches of the Israel-Palestine conflict; colonial history, state formation and cultures of resistance in Egypt, Turkey, the Maghreb and the wider Arab world; the clash of tradition and modernity in regional and transnational expressions of Islam; the politics of gender and sexuality in the Arab world; the ongoing crises in Libya, Iraq, Iran and Syria; the Arab Spring; and the Middle Eastern refugee crisis in Europe.

**edward said the question of palestine:** *Palestine's Horizon* Richard Falk, 2017-03-20 Richard Falk has dedicated much of his life to the study of the Israel/Palestine conflict. In *Palestine's Horizon*, he brings his experiences to bear on one of the most controversial issues of our times. After enduring years of violent occupation, the Palestinian movement is exploring different avenues for peace. These include the pursuit of rights under international law through the UN and International Criminal Court, and the new emphasis on global solidarity and non-violent militancy embodied by the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Campaign (BDS). In focusing on these new tactics of resistance, Falk refutes the notion that the Palestinian struggle is a 'lost cause'. He also reflects on the legacy of Edward Said and the importance of his humanist thought in order to present a vision of peace that is mindful of the formidable difficulties of achieving a just solution to the long conflict.

**edward said the question of palestine:** *Intimate Strangers* Andreea Deciu Ritivoi, 2014-08-26 Hannah Arendt, Herbert Marcuse, Alexander Solzhenitsyn, and Edward Said each steered major intellectual and political schools of thought in American political discourse after World War II, yet none of them was American, which proved crucial to their ways of arguing and reasoning both in and out of the American context. In an effort to convince their audiences they were American enough, these thinkers deployed deft rhetorical strategies that made their cosmopolitanism feel acceptable, inspiring radical new approaches to longstanding problems in American politics. Speaking like natives, they also exploited their foreignness to entice listeners to embrace alternative modes of

thought. *Intimate Strangers* unpacks this stranger ethos, a blend of detachment and involvement that manifested in the persona of a prophet for Solzhenitsyn, an impartial observer for Arendt, a mentor for Marcuse, and a victim for Said. Yet despite its many successes, the stranger ethos did alienate many audiences, and critics continue to dismiss these thinkers not for their positions but because of their foreign point of view. This book encourages readers to reject this kind of critical xenophobia, throwing support behind a political discourse that accounts for the ideals of citizens and noncitizens alike.

**edward said the question of palestine: *The Time beneath the Concrete*** Nasser Abourahme, 2025-01-24 In *The Time beneath the Concrete*, Nasser Abourahme argues that settler colonialism is always as much an attempt to conquer time as it is to conquer land. Taking as his primary object Palestinian refugee camps, created in the fallout of the eliminatory violence of Israel's founding, Abourahme shows how these camps become the primary place where settler colonial attempts to dominate space and time encounter Indigenous refusal. Seen from the camps, Israel becomes a settler colonial project defined by its inability to move past the past—a project stuck at its foundational moment of conquest. At the same time, the Palestinian insistence on return is a refusal to abide by the closure of the past into settler futurity. Palestinian struggle does not just happen in the open time of dispossession; it happens over this time. That struggle, Abourahme demonstrates, is a form of anticolonial refusal that draws its power not from any decisive finality, but precisely from irresolution and keeping time open. Duke University Press Scholars of Color First Book Award

**edward said the question of palestine: *Postcolonial Theory and the Arab-Israel Conflict*** Philip Carl Salzman, Donna Robinson Divine, 2021-04-26 Postcolonial theory is one of the main frameworks for thinking about the world and acting to change the world. Arising in academia and reshaping humanities and social sciences disciplines, postcolonial theory argues that our ideas about foreigners, 'the other,' particularly our negative ideas about them, are determined not by a true will to understand, but rather by our desire to conquer, dominate, and exploit them. According to postcolonial theory, the cause of poverty, tyranny, and misery in the world, and of failed societies around the world, is Euro-American imperialism and colonialism. Previously published as a special issue of *Israel Affairs*, this work examines and challenges postcolonial theory. In scholarly, research-based papers, the specialist authors examine various facets of postcolonial theory and application. First, the theoretical assumption and formulations of postcolonial theory are scrutinized and found dubious. Second, the deleterious impact on academic disciplines of postcolonial theory is demonstrated. Third, the distorted postcolonial view of history, its obsession with current events to the exclusion of the historical basis of events, is exposed and corrected. Fourth, an examination of Middle Eastern culture challenges the assumption that these societies have been shaped entirely, and victimized, by Western intrusion. Finally, exploring the Arab-Israel conflict, the one-sided case of postcolonial Arabism is explored and found to be faulty.

**edward said the question of palestine: *The Princeton Sourcebook in Comparative Literature*** David Damrosch, Natalie Melas, Mbongiseni Buthelezi, 2021-06-08 Key essays on comparative literature from the eighteenth century to today As comparative literature reshapes itself in today's globalizing age, it is essential for students and teachers to look deeply into the discipline's history and its present possibilities. *The Princeton Sourcebook in Comparative Literature* is a wide-ranging anthology of classic essays and important recent statements on the mission and methods of comparative literary studies. This pioneering collection brings together thirty-two pieces, from foundational statements by Herder, Madame de Staël, and Nietzsche to work by a range of the most influential comparatists writing today, including Lawrence Venuti, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, and Franco Moretti. Gathered here are manifestos and counterarguments, essays in definition, and debates on method by scholars and critics from the United States, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America, giving a unique overview of comparative study in the words of some of its most important practitioners. With selections extending from the beginning of comparative study through the years of intensive theoretical inquiry and on to contemporary discussions of the world's literatures, *The*

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**edward said the question of palestine: Nurturing the Nation** Lisa Pollard, 2005-01-31  
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**edward said the question of palestine: The Character of Criticism** Geoffrey Galt Harpham, 2013-10-28 Why are some critical texts more compelling, memorable, or engaging than others? Can criticism be judged as a discourse of description, explanation, and analysis alone, or do our evaluations reflect other kinds of investments in it? In this book, Geoffrey Galt Harpham argues that the most powerful and effective criticism demands to be read as an expression of a distinctive sensibility, a way of being in the world; it demands, in other words, to be read as a discourse of character. Through a series of detailed and intimate intellectual portraits of leading critics--Elaine Scarry, Martha Nussbaum, Slavoj Žižek, and Edward Said--Harpham unfolds the complex and indirect ways in which human character is expressed in criticism. A final chapter on Criticism in a State of Terror assesses the contemporary situation. The Character of Criticism represents not just a snapshot of contemporary criticism but a fresh approach to criticism itself that clarifies the stakes involved for writers and readers of criticism alike. It does so not by making difficult thinking easy but by making it stranger--more idiosyncratic, exotic, and singular.

**edward said the question of palestine: Educators of the Mediterranean... ..Up Close and Personal** Ronald G Sultana, 2012-01-01 "A score of prominent educators from South Europe and the Middle East and North Africa region speak about their upbringing, their educational and professional journeys, their academic achievements, and their struggles in order to enhance democracy, justice and equity in their countries and across the Mediterranean. The interviews in this volume shed light on educational movements, challenges, and aspirations in a region that is attaining increasing importance geo-politically, and in comparative and international studies. These are powerful and critical voices, providing readers with fresh, often unexpected insights about contexts, cultures, and convictions that deserve global attention. The interviews with these men and women inform, intrigue, but above all inspire, calling, as they do, for an earnest commitment to a vision of education as a transformative, democratising force. In contrast to the global, totalising discourse that has increasingly defined education in narrowly economic terms, here are the beginnings of alternative agendas, inviting citizens to 'read' and decode the world around them, and to confront power, wherever it lies. In doing so, the educators in this volume draw upon and put at our disposal a wide array of theoretical lenses, nimbly weaving these within a narrative that speaks about a lifetime lived in the hope of making a difference. These, then, are vivid, engaging, and reflexive accounts, emerging from contexts where democracy has only recently taken root, if at all, and from a region that has come to symbolize the return of the political, and the reclaiming of the public sphere as a site for transformation, contestation, revolt, and hope."

**edward said the question of palestine: The Expansion of England** Bill Schwarz, 2005-08-04 The organized study of history began in Britain when the Empire was at its height. Belief in the destiny of imperial England profoundly shaped the imagination of the first generation of professional historians. But with the Empire ended, do these mental habits still haunt historical explanation? Drawing on postcolonial theory in a lively mix of historical and theoretical chapters, *The Expansion of England* explores the history of the British Empire and the practice of historical enquiry itself. There are essays on Asia, Australasia, the West Indies, South Africa and Britain. Examining the sexual, racial and ethnic identities shaping the experiences of English men and women in the nineteenth century, the authors argue that habits of thought forged in the Empire still give meaning to English identities today.

**edward said the question of palestine: Mapping Exile and Return** Alain Epp Weaver, 2014-01-01 One of the most persistent, if vexing, issues facing not just theology but also political theory, sociology, and other disciplines, is the ongoing Palestinian-Israeli conflict. For theology, the problem is especially nettlesome on account of the church's shared history and tradition with the Jewish people. Palestinians, including Palestinian Christians, bear the brunt of suffering and

dispossession in the current situation, yet are burdened even more by Christian political appropriation of Zionism. Through an analysis of Palestinian refugee mapping practices for returning to their homeland, Alain Epp Weaver takes up the troubled issue of Palestinian dispossession and argues against the political theology embedded in Zionist cartographic practices that refuse and seek to eliminate evidence of co-existence. Instead, Alain Epp Weaver offers a political theology of redrawing the territory compatible with a bi-national vision for a shared Palestinian-Israeli future.

**edward said the question of palestine: The Lions' Den** Susie Linfield, 2019-03-26 A lively intellectual history that explores how prominent midcentury public intellectuals approached Zionism and then the State of Israel itself and its conflicts with the Arab world In this lively intellectual history of the political Left, cultural critic Susie Linfield investigates how eight prominent twentieth-century intellectuals struggled with the philosophy of Zionism, and then with Israel and its conflicts with the Arab world. Constructed as a series of interrelated portraits that combine the personal and the political, the book includes philosophers, historians, journalists, and activists such as Hannah Arendt, Arthur Koestler, I. F. Stone, and Noam Chomsky. In their engagement with Zionism, these influential thinkers also wrestled with the twentieth century's most crucial political dilemmas: socialism, nationalism, democracy, colonialism, terrorism, and anti-Semitism. In other words, in probing Zionism, they confronted the very nature of modernity and the often catastrophic histories of our time. By examining these leftist intellectuals, Linfield also seeks to understand how the contemporary Left has become focused on anti-Zionism and how Israel itself has moved rightward.

**edward said the question of palestine: Hannah Arendt in Jerusalem** Steven E. Aschheim, 2001-08 It is impressive to see an edited collection in which such a high intellectual standard is maintained throughout... I learned things from almost every one of these chapters.—Craig Calhoun, author of *Critical Social Theory*

**edward said the question of palestine: Rights, Virtue, and Others in MacIntyre** Joel Pierce, 2024-08-22 Rights, Virtue, and Others in MacIntyre: Community After the Fall demonstrates that human rights are not anathema to MacIntyre's vision of practices, virtue, and tradition, but rather are necessary to stop that vision being appropriated in problematic ways and to help it take those outside one's own community seriously. This work brings MacIntyre into extended conversation with historians such as Brian Tierney and Charles Reid as well as with postcolonial thinkers and theologians such as Edward Said and Willie James Jennings, demonstrating that each has something to say to MacIntyre about the limits of virtue's vision. MacIntyre's readings of historical theologians, including Ockham and Vitoria, are brought into question, with each being shown to demonstrate how rights can act to complete, rather than undermine MacIntyre's program. What emerges is a MacIntyrean understanding of rights in which they act as historically discerned constraints against the excesses of institutional power.

**edward said the question of palestine: Collectivity in Struggle** Shaul Setter, 2021-01-15 We live in a neoliberal regime that works to dismantle social institutions and eradicate forms of collective gathering. Over and against this state of affairs, *Collectivity in Struggle* revisits a crucial moment in recent history when the formation of collectivity sat at the heart of a radical emancipatory struggle and called for a creative endeavor, both artistic and political. The book examines two projects developed in the 1970s vis-à-vis the Palestinian revolt: Jean-Luc Godard's cinematic engagement with the Palestinian forces and Jean Genet's textual enterprise alongside them. Through an inverse reading that uncovers from the seemingly discrete and finalized artworks—Godard's film or Genet's book—the process of their becoming, Shaul Setter explores the ways in which these projects portray and conceptualize the revolutionary stage of the Palestinian revolt, its abrupt end, and two different modes of prolonging it. Concentrating on their formal experimentation, their potentiality for collective enunciation, their conflicted positioning on the threshold of colonial European culture and the hidden Semitic languages inscribed in them—Setter claims that these two projects insist on the writerly aspects of revolutionary political action.

**edward said the question of palestine: Israel at Sixty** Efraim Karsh, Rory Miller, 2013-10-23  
Sixty years after the birth of Israel, this fascinating and original book of essays brings together a number of the leading experts on Zionism and Israel to examine the domestic and international context of Israel's transition from community to state in 1948. With contributions on a wide range of historically important topics that are no less relevant now than they were six decades ago, the book examines how countries as diverse as France, the United States, Turkey, Britain and Ireland viewed the partition of Palestine in 1947 and the subsequent establishment of Israel in 1948. It also looks at the involvement of the UN, Zionist and Arab leaders in the events immediately preceding Israel's birth. While controversial issues such as the role of the Holocaust in the creation of Israel and the attitude of the Zionist movement to Palestinian Arabs, from its onset to the 1948 war, are examined in order to set the record straight after decades of mistaken and misleading research. This book was previously published as a special issue of Israel Affairs.

**edward said the question of palestine: *Palestinian Refugees*** Robert Bowker, 2003  
Encompassing history, politics, and political culture, Bowker grapples with fundamental issues of Palestinian identity in the context of the peace process.

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