

# Omar Barghouti

**Omar Barghouti supports terrorism the destruction of the only Jewish state. He is the co-founder of BDS (Boycott, Divest, Sanction), a movement dedicated to the delegitimization of Israel and the prevention of cooperation between Israelis and Palestinian-Arabs.**

- **Barghouti defends the second intifada, a wave of terrorist attacks that murdered innocent Israeli and Palestinian-Arab civilians.**
  - He claims that “the Intifada was largely a nonviolent type of popular protest.”<sup>i</sup> However, thousands of civilians on both sides were killed during this wave of terrorism.<sup>ii</sup>
  - Here are just a few examples of attacks:
    - A Hamas suicide bomber **murdered 21 civilians (mostly youths)** and injured 120 more outside a nightclub in Tel Aviv on June 1, 2001.<sup>iii</sup>
    - A Hamas suicide bomber **murdered 15 civilians** on the evening of August 9, 2001 at the Sbarro restaurant in downtown Jerusalem.<sup>iv</sup>
    - A Palestinian-Arab bus attacker **killed eight young adults** on February 14, 2001 outside Tel Aviv.<sup>v</sup>
- **Barghouti co-founded the BDS movement, hurting both Israelis and Palestinian-Arabs.**
  - BDS is an anti-Semitic movement because it spreads lies about the only Jewish state in an attempt to isolate it politically, economically, and socially.
    - Freedom House ranks Israel as the *only* completely free country in the Middle East, yet BDS only targets the Jewish state.<sup>vi</sup>
      - BDS ignores countries (Saudi Arabia, North Korea, Syria, etc.) with the worst human rights records.
  - BDS has harsh repercussions for both Palestinian-Arab and Israeli civilians.
    - The BDS movement against Israel harms Palestinian-Arabs working in Israel by boycotting products they produce and eliminating their places of work and sources of income. **If BDS succeeds, roughly 100,000 Palestinian-Arabs will lose their jobs.**<sup>vii</sup>
    - BDS undermines peace negotiations by encouraging Palestinian-Arab leaders to not associate or negotiate with Israeli peace partners. It also distorts reality by demonizing Israel and insisting it is to blame for the entire conflict.
- **Barghouti spreads anti-Semitic propaganda.**
  - **He lies about Israeli society and claims Israel is under a system of apartheid. Claiming Israel is an apartheid state is a deliberate lie constructed to demonize the only Jewish state.**
  - Barghouti argues that Israel is a fascist state,<sup>viii</sup> directly comparing Israel to the Nazi regime.<sup>ix</sup> Ignoring the robust free society in Israel and comparing its democracy to Nazism are classic examples of anti-Semitic propaganda, as defined by the U.S. State Department’s definition of anti-Semitism.<sup>x</sup>
  - He equates the right of self-determination for the Jewish people with “racism and hatred,” reflecting an anti-Semitic double standard.<sup>xi</sup> Demonizing only the Jewish people’s desire for self-determination is discriminatory and racist.
  - Barghouti claims Israel is under a “system of institutionalized racial discrimination,”<sup>xii</sup> even though Israeli-Arab citizens enjoy the same rights as Jewish citizens. They also enjoy more freedoms in Israel than Arabs living anywhere else in the Middle East.
- **Barghouti twists history to blame Israel for anti-Semitic attacks.**

- Barghouti claims that “we don’t have deep seated hatred, have no history of pogroms, atrocities against Jews in the Arab East” and further asserts that the hatred between Arabs and Jews is entirely “Zionist connected.”<sup>xiii</sup>
  - **The Arab East has a long and violent history of pogroms against Jews long before the modern Zionist movement and the official creation of Israel:** Aleppo (1850, 1875), Damascus (1840, 1848, 1890), Beirut (1862, 1874), Dayr al-Qamar (1847), Jaffa (1876), Jerusalem (1847, 1870 and 1895), Cairo (1844, 1890, 1901–02), Mansura (1877), Alexandria (1870, 1882, 1901–07), Port Said (1903, 1908), Damanhur (1871, 1873, 1877, 1891),<sup>xiv</sup> and Hebron (1929).<sup>xv</sup>
- **Instead of calling for peace between Israelis and Palestinian-Arabs, Barghouti calls for the destruction of Israel.**
  - He opposes the existence of a Jewish state, saying, **“Most definitely do we oppose a Jewish state. No rational, not-sell-out Palestinian will ever accept a Jewish state in any part of Palestine.”**<sup>xvi</sup>
  - Barghouti calls for the creation of **“a unitary state, where, by definition, Jews will be a minority.”**<sup>xvii</sup> This goal is reliant on the destruction of the state of Israel.
  - Barghouti opposes the very idea of Jewish self-determination and calls for the ‘euthanasia’ of Zionism.<sup>xviii</sup>
    - In reality, Zionism is the Jewish civil rights movement that supports Jewish self-determination. Barghouti wants this destroyed.

<sup>i</sup> Philippe Assouline debates BDS founder Omar Barghouti on anti-Israel radio show (SoCal). Via YouTube. May 8, 2014.

<sup>ii</sup> *The Second Intifada Begins*. Ziv Hellman.

<sup>iii</sup> *Suicide Bomb kills 17 at Tel Aviv Nightclub*, The Telegraph. June 2, 2001

<sup>iv</sup> *The Massacre at the Sbarro restaurant*, The Malki Foundation.

<sup>v</sup> *Victims of Palestinian Violence and Terrorism since September 2000*. Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

<sup>vi</sup> Freedom House: Middle East and North Africa, Countries and Topics.

<sup>vii</sup> *EU Survey: Palestinians working for Israelis are paid double those working for Palestinians in the West Bank and triple those in the Gaza Strip*. Itamar Marcus and Nan Jacques Zilberdik. Palestinian Media Watch. February 26, 2015.

<sup>viii</sup> Omar Barghouti, via YouTube, The Guardian. April 6th, 2011.

<sup>ix</sup> *Omar Barghouti at UCLA: Echoes of 1930’s Europe* spme.org January 16, 2014.

<sup>x</sup> *Defining anti-Semitism*. U.S. Department of State. June 8, 2010.

<sup>xi</sup> *Strategies for Change*. Vimeo. Omar Barghouti. September, 2013.

<sup>xii</sup> *Strategies for Change*. Vimeo. Omar Barghouti. September, 2013.

<sup>xiii</sup> *Strategies for Change*. Omar Barghouti. September, 2013.

<sup>xiv</sup> Yossef Bodansky. *Islamic Anti-Semitism as a Political Instrument* Co-Produced by The Ariel Center for Policy Research and The Freeman Center for Strategic Studies, 1999. See also *The Encyclopedia of World History* By Peter N. Stearns, William Leonard Langer p. 527. 2001.

<sup>xv</sup> *Long Shadow of 1929 Hebron Massacre*. BBC. August 26, 2009.

<sup>xvi</sup> *Strategies for Change*. Vimeo. Omar Barghouti. September, 2013.

<sup>xvii</sup> *Extremists and their Message*. Israeliapartheidweek.com

<sup>xviii</sup> *BDS Cookbook: In their own words*. StopBDS.com