

## An Open Letter to the World Leaders and Israel

*Aiman Taieboune*

Palestine is dying  
And the so-called world-leaders are . . . watching.

Palestine is dying  
And the so-called world-leaders are . . . observing:

From their ivory towers,  
With caution,  
Eager to maintain their private interests  
At the expense of the death of children,  
As that is all they care about.

Palestine is dying  
And the entire world is watching:  
How western democracy is only an illusion  
And how the cause for human rights  
Is only the forefront  
Of a system of exploitation and manipulation,  
Like how mafias keep 'clean' businesses  
To justify their blood-covered earnings.

These, my friends, are the real terrorists.  
They have sown the seed of terror in the hearts of Palestinians,  
Terrorized them to the bone,  
And then condemned them for what they became,  
Which they themselves had sown in them!

These, my friends, are the real terrorists.  
They launder their blood-stained money under the illusion of democracy  
And then they condemn  
Others for violence  
Which they themselves had instilled in them!



I must tell the world-leaders  
And Israel, then,  
That they may have just created another  
“terrorist,”  
For no righteous man can stand  
And watch  
This horror unfold  
And furthermore  
Justify it to himself  
Within some theory of the cosmos  
To reconcile it with their existing schemas of the world.

There is only so much stoicism in us, after all.

Mark this,  
Then,  
As my letter to the so-called world-leaders and Israel:

Palestine is dying  
And your institutions are watching,  
Doing nothing,  
At the expense of helpless men, women, and children.  
Tell them,  
Tell them they may have just created another “terrorist” –  
In me,  
In me.

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