

## **Abstract**

The Israeli new historians emerged after a hard labor following factors that added to their emergence and status a new account that paved the way for a lot to be convinced that the Palestinian account (the account of the defeated) was the truthful one.

The emergence of those historians aroused a great deal of controversy amongst the Israeli academic even the official circles to the extent that some said that their emergence is like a stab in the back of the Israeli official account which has always screened the Palestinian Arab account. The main objective of this study is to answer a core question that can be stated as follows: What are the means of exploiting this new Israeli account to gain political and historical benefits? What are the reasons underlying the emergence of these historians? Are they natural innocent reasons are they are merely another face of Zionism?

Through reviewing a large number of literatures, especially the Israeli ones, and investigating their contents, and attempting to study both the Palestinian and Israeli realities, this study is based on a hypothesis that this account is an unprecedented opportunity and a victory in the history battle between the Arab and Israeli accounts. The emergence of those new historians comes in synchrony with the Israeli disclosure of its national archival documents and other indications.

In order to investigate the relationship between the objective of this study and its hypotheses, the historical methodology was adopted to investigate the historical events of the years 1947 – 1948. In addition, the descriptive method was adopted to describe the events that took place as they did in

order to detect, investigate, evaluate, and assess the events in order to reach the core of the truth in its indications and attempt to assess it.

In Chapter One, the Palestinian Arab account of the 1948 catastrophe is discussed starting from the Partition Resolution which formed the key of events at that time, the Palestinian Arab responses against that resolution. The discussion also includes the Arab readiness to counteract that resolution and their real preparations at the military level. Comparisons and contrasts are also made between the Arab and the Zionist preparations for war in 1948. Then, a stop is made at the first ceasefire that to some extent was decisive to the battle in a way or another. Then, the most important Israeli plans is discussed. Plan Delta 91 was the turning point of the war events to the favor of the Jews in the 1948 war. Furthermore, the Chapter discusses the most brutal and hideous massacres committed by the Jewish bands in Deir Yaseen because that massacre will be engraved in the collective memory of the Palestinians for ages to come. In addition, Deir Yaseen is the most obvious example of the volume of the tragedy that the Palestinians witnessed in 1948. Finally, the core issue that has made the Arab-Israeli continue for many generations is discussed. This issue is the forceful expulsion of the Palestinian at that time and created the question and made it alive till today and tomorrow.

Chapter Two discusses the most important controversies of the new, modern and contemporary history in the State of Israel and how such controversies are transformed to the most important discussions approached by the new historians. Then, the most important Arab and Israeli stands related to this phenomenon are discussed. Then we will discuss the main causes that have led to the emergence of this

phenomenon. It will be sufficient to display the most important pioneers of the phenomena and their most prominent writings.

In Chapter Three, I will discuss the most important legends created by the Israeli official establishment in 1948 and promoted them by mass media. Of course, the Deir Yaseen Massacre will be at the front line from the perspective of the account of the Israeli official establishment. Then the discussion will include the way how the Israeli new historians attempted to refute such legends through the same archive from which the official account sprang.

Chapter Four will clarify the importance of new historiography in Israel and the most importance outcomes that the new historiography attempted to reach and if the new historiography has helped to cause changes in the societal structure in Israel. The new historians will assessed and then the study will attempt to show the radical change in the speech of some new historians.

Chapter Five, considered the conclusion and expectation, discusses the way of peace settlement after the previous discussions, especially from the perspective of new historians. Should there be a settlement, how much is Israel prepared to achieve, and how far is Israel prepared to accept such a scenario? Camp David will be taken as an example of attempts to achieve settlement and to find a breakthrough in the face of Israel adamancy and Arab concessions. Therefore, it was necessary to discuss proposals on which several scenarios such as the binational state, the way to achieve it, what the hurdles are, and why that proposal was aborted.