Abstract

Palestine has witnessed various events during British mandate era, which was treated in Palestinian newspapers, such as “Filasṭīn” Newspaper. Among the events that the newspaper covered was the “Buraq” events in 1929, or what is Known "Habat Al-Buraq" Buraq uprising, due to its connection to the ownership of “Buraq Wall”, the newspaper covered the uprising events that lasted for three weeks; from August 14th up to September 3rd, 1929. The newspaper became an important resource for the daily uprising events and its results.

This paper studies “Filasṭīn” Newspaper’s attitude towards “Al-Buraq uprising” and its implications, as the most important contemporary newspaper represented by its owner Isa Al-Isa. Did the newspaper’s attitude support the Arab participants in the uprising, therefore; supporting its continuity until achieving its goals? Or did it take a peaceful and appease attitude towards the British authorities and call for calmness and restore order? What attitudes the newspaper took towards the implications of the uprising and the events that followed such as the events connected to the amending of “Al-Buraq Wall Status quo”, the forming of Walter Show's investigation committee and the other events? Did the newspaper attitude during the uprising events and after was consistent with the attitude of the political elites? Or, did it take a different stand to that of the elites represented by Arab executive committee and the Supreme Islamic Council? What was its reaction towards the mandate regime? What were the ways the newspaper called for, to be followed in fighting Zionism during the uprising and in facing the following consequences?

The study hypothesis that Isa Al-Isa opposed the continuity of “Al-Buraq uprising”, calling for calmness, and halting the events, and not to respond to the violent policy adopted by Zionism to dominate Buraq Wall, Calling only for adopting a peaceful policy to express refusal of mandate policy. Such attitude of the newspaper was not just only in consistence with the Palestinian political elites’ attitude- represented by
Arab executive committee and the Supreme Islamic Council- but also was defending it.

To answer these questions, the study referred to the editorial pages of “Filastîn” Newspaper which I believe, it represented the point of views of owner and senior editor Isa Al-Isa. The newspaper issues for the period of August 1928 up to the beginning of 1931 were studied and analyzed to conduct its attitude towards the uprising question and its implications. Sometimes main and secondary resources were used to complete and clarify the image connected to the attitudes and events that the newspaper dealt with.

It is clear from following up, studying and analyzing the newspaper editorials that the newspaper called for calmness and keeping order during and after Al-Buraq uprising events, to stop blood shedding, preferring the peaceful solution in dealing with crisis rather than the violent one. The newspaper attitude was in harmony with the Arabs leadership's attitude, who didn't like to clash with British mandate regime, and that, was the reason for calling for calmness and peaceful solution and thus make the newspaper owner calling for peaceful confrontation with Zionism plans which were supported by the British mandate, such as strikes, negotiations and economic boycott.

Despite the continuity of British support to Zionism and the rejection of Palestinians' demands, and the failure of the peaceful ways followed by the Palestinian Arab Leaders policy, which hopped that Britain would change its bias policy towards Zionism, Isa Al-Isa kept on promoting to non-violent policy depending on British unreal promises and so called justice.

The only explanation of Isa's attitude towards the British policy in Palestine emerged from the elites' attitude who was part of it, who didn't consider Britain as an enemy as well, believing that the first and only enemy is Zionism.