



**No 035**  
October 22, 2009

A weekly sample of news and opinions on current events from around the Middle East collected and brought to you by the Dayan Center.  
To see full article, click on title.

## What Would Be at Stake in a Third Palestinian Intifada / Hussein Ibish

Far too many actors and commentators are casually viewing the present extremely dangerous situation, and even welcoming the prospect of a third intifada or the dismantling of the Palestinian Authority, or are calling for less dramatic but also extraordinarily dangerous scenarios. So, before this goes any further, let us be clear exactly what is at stake for all parties should a catastrophic third intifada take place.

Source: [Common Ground News Service](#), **October 15, 2009**

## The Coming Intifada / Yousef Munayyer

Anyone watching the Middle East and the Occupied Palestinian Territories recently can tell you that anger and rage is bubbling just below the surface. What may not seem apparent is that a new intifada, or uprising, may be right around the corner. When this happens, western media outlets will scramble to explain how and why we have come to this state. They will most likely blame the Palestinians, once again ignoring any and all history or context of the occupation.

Source: [Ma'an News Agency \(Bethlehem\)](#), **October 15, 2009**

## It's Cairo, Not Tel Aviv! / Tariq Alhomayed



After the eruption of the Goldstone report we are now facing a new old reality: the reality of Hamas, as usual, evading reconciliation that strives towards organizing the internal Palestinian structure. Hamas, state that they will not sign an agreement with the Palestinian Authority in Egypt as long as it does not respect Palestinian principles. This is confusing; the Palestinians are being asked to go to Cairo, not Tel Aviv, as reconciliation is being sponsored by Egypt. So what principles are they talking about?

Source: [Al-Sharq Al-Awsat \(London\)](#), **October 17, 2009**

## Scandal in the Raw / Azmi Bishara

Vaunting themselves as peers of Israel, Ramallah's leaders and their lackeys in Geneva are a disgrace to the Palestinian national struggle and are leading the Palestinian people to disaster.

Source: [Al-Ahram Weekly \(Cairo\)](#), **Issue No 968, 15 - 21 October 2009**

## Obama's Irrefutable Afghan Predicament / Muqtedar Khan

My suggestion is that for now, the US make a truce with the Taleban and focus on Al Qaeda. If Obama can defeat them in Pakistan, reform health care at home, reduce unemployment, bring peace to the Middle East, save the environment, survive Rush Limbaugh and retain the White House in 2012, then perhaps he can try to achieve what Alexander the Great, the British, the Soviets and the American Empire under Bush failed to achieve — subdue the Afghans.

Source: [Khaleej Times Online \(Dubai\)](#), **October 19, 2009**

## Is Hezbollah Finally on the Back Foot? / Hanin Ghaddar

Hezbollah is still very strong politically and militarily. However, the military, political, and financial setbacks it has suffered recently, and the fact that its aura of secrecy, purity and invincibility may have lost some of its luster, might harm the party in the long run, and thus lead to a weakened organization. Maybe it is time for the Party of God to start communicating with other Lebanese.

Source: [Now Lebanon \(Beirut\)](#), **October 16, 2009**

## An Attempt at Hagiography on Turkish Foreign Policy / İhsan Yılmaz

Until just five or six years ago, I had believed and observed for decades that the Turkish Foreign Ministry was foreign to its country, its people and their values. But today, we live in a golden age, as it were, that we can even speak of the democratization of Turkish foreign policy. Turkish people, with a few exceptions, are very happy with the developments taking place.

Source: [Today's Zaman \(Istanbul\)](#), **October 18, 2009**