

Oh! Jerusalem

The United States has officially recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAKxZeFc8Jk>) .

Needless to say the Muslims are not happy.

JERUSALEM (AP) — Thousands of Palestinian protesters clashed with Israeli forces in east Jerusalem and the West Bank, demonstrators in the Gaza Strip burned U.S. flags and pictures of President Donald Trump, and a top Palestinian official said Vice President Mike Pence would not be welcome in the West Bank, in a show of rage Thursday over the American decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

Israeli forces were bracing for the possibility of even stronger violence on Friday, when tens of thousands of Palestinians attend weekly prayers at Jerusalem's Al Aqsa Mosque, the city's most sacred Islamic site. In Gaza, the supreme leader of the Hamas militant group called on Palestinians to launch a new uprising against Israel.

The Palestinians were blindsided by Trump's move to depart from decades of U.S. policy on Jerusalem and upend longstanding international assurances that the fate of the city would be determined in negotiations. (<https://apnews.com/8ddae4b406ed471c93dd2732b617727b/Protests-across-Palestinian-areas,-Mideast-after-Trump-move>)

Analysis. The biggest problem in the "peace" negotiation between Israel and Islam is that the two sides negotiate from different bases. Israel, and by extension the United States, negotiate based on our legal principles of treaties being relatively permanent documents. We consider "peace" to be the absence of conflict. None of this is true to Muslims.

Islam divides the World into two parts: *Dar al-Islam*, the lands of Islam and *Dar al-harb*, the lands of war. Islam is always at war with the kufr, the unbeliever. Unbelievers are to be converted, conquered or killed. There is no peace treaty in Islam. There is a *hudna*. This is a form of armistice that may last up to ten years and is renewable. As an armistice it may be broken at any time. A good example is the situation in Korea where only an armistice exists.

Jerusalem is important to Muslims as it was the first "prayer direction". Now when Muslims pray, they face Mecca. The Al Aqsa Mosque is where Mohammad supposedly began his "night journey" to Heaven. It is the third holiest site in Islam after Mecca and Medina. To have Jerusalem and its Temple Mount under the control of the hated Jew is a religious affront in an land where religion is everything. So long as the status of Jerusalem was in doubt there was a chance that Islam could recover by politics what it lost in the Six Day War.

What I believe may be happening here is a message to the Muslim World. Make peace with Israel. Accept its existence. The longer you stall the more you lose. The American Embassy will be located in

Jerusalem within about four years. A major nation has recognized the facts on the ground. Perhaps the next thing the Muslims may lose is some of the land they want for their state. Perhaps the United States will recognize Judea and Samaria as a permanent part of Israel. And so on down the line until the "Palestinians", those former Jordanians who live in the land conquered by Israel in the Six Day War, will come to the table and negotiate in earnest while they still have something remaining to negotiate about.

This may also be part of the message that President Trump delivered to the Saudis. If the Palestinians continue to stall and obfuscate, they risk losing those things that they really want. It is time for the Muslims to come around to the meanings of peace and treaties that the rest of the World considers normal.

The rest of the World must finally accept that Islam is just another totalitarian "ism" as was Naziism, Communism, Fascism and others throughout history. It is another ism to be destroyed in the same way that we destroyed the other isms. The only difference between Islam and the other isms is Mohammad's choice of the ideal of his ism. He chose a deity. Hitler chose a race. Communism chose a social organization. They are functionally equivalent.