

Jerusalem amid two Nakbas:1948-2023

Lubya Village "Lieu de memoire" revisited

The 2nd international Conference on
"Jerusalem:Where to?"

Amman-Jordan

May 14-15-2025

Mahmoud Issa

Wishful thinking

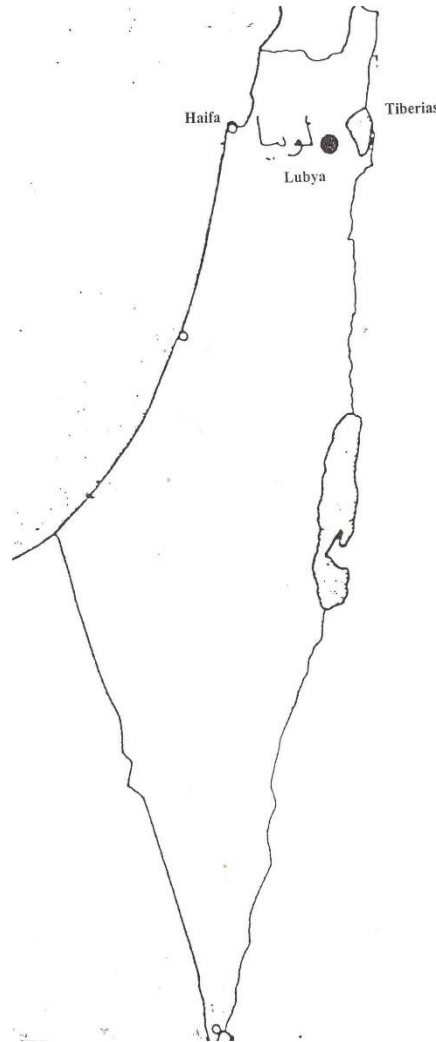
The Israeli opposition leader and former general Yair Golan – who earlier this year [declared](#), “We’d all like to wake up one spring morning and find that 7 million Palestinians who live between the sea and the river have simply disappeared” – now declares his country is “[killing babies](#) as a hobby”.

"Afforestation policies"

Under the cover of "Afforestation policies", 82 forests were planted on the debris of demolished villages in all Palestine: eg. Canada Park, Denmark Park, South African Forest (where my village Lubyas was). South African Jews came ten years ago on the first of May 2015 and presented Apology certificates for Lubyans, apologizing for their participation in building the forest under the Big Lie: to make the desert green, by Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael – Jewish National Fund (KKL-JNF). Also made a documentary film to undo their act: "A Village Under Forest"-can be seen at <http://mahmoud.dk>

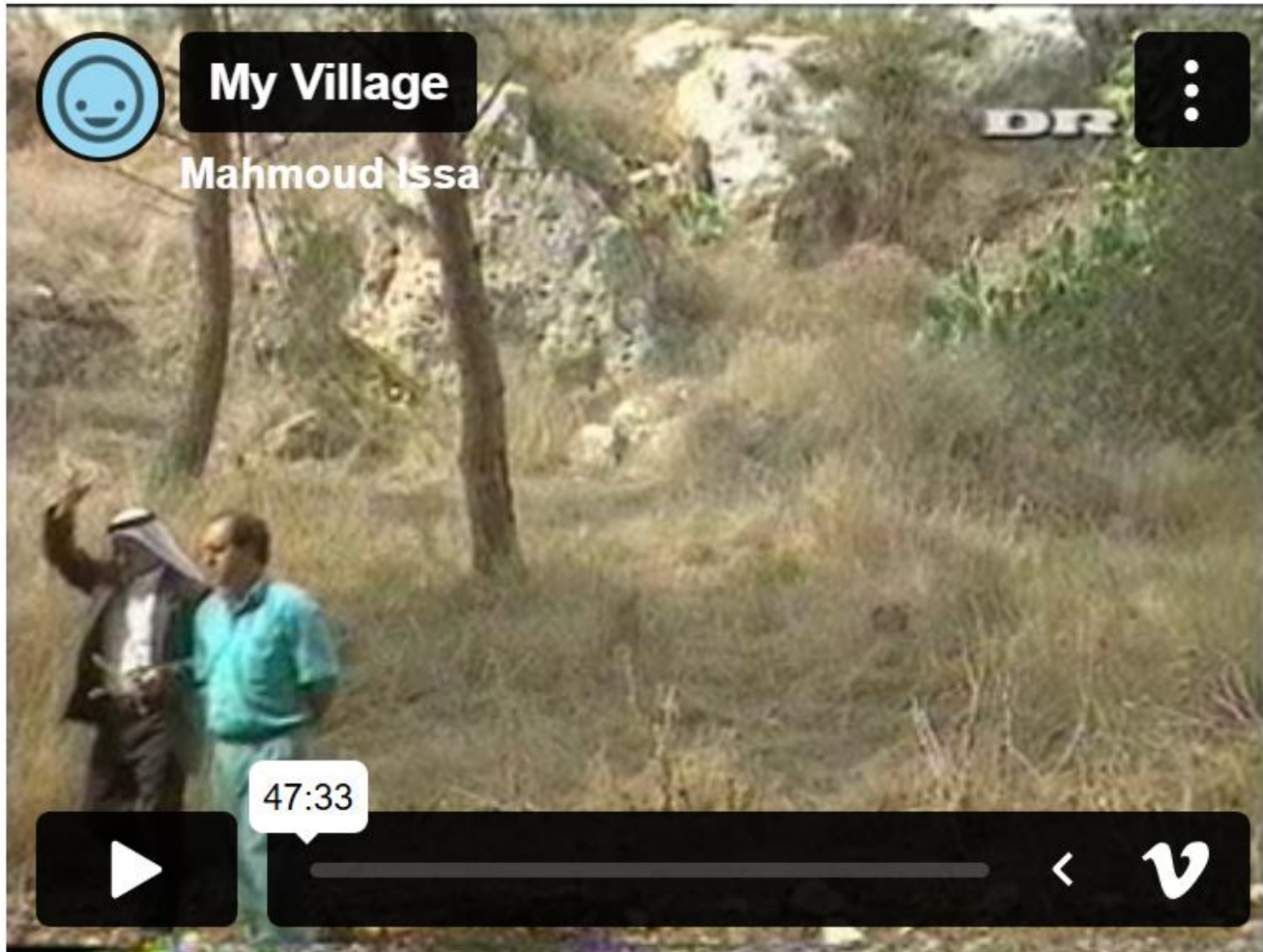
Lubya

**Repository of silenced memories-as Crusaders defeat
4.July 1187. Jerusalem fell 2. October (Ibn al-Athir).**



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2. “Den Fædrene Jord”- “Ancestors’ Land” Documentary film on Lubyā 1995 – ارض الآباء



The Village (LUBYA) Under the Forest فيلم “القرية تحت الغابة

A documentary by **Mark Kaplan & Heidi Grunebaum**, from South African, protesting the renaming of Lubya’s ruins to “**South African Forest**” after its demolition and ethnic cleansing in 1948 – to obliterate the historiography of the village under greening policies-The film is based on my counselling and research.



The Only Photo of Lubyia Before Destruction

Documents on Lubyia in British and Zionist archives in London, Jerusalem and Tel Aviv reveal the number of houses, wells, camels, cows, deeds of land and income of the people of the village.

Foto: 4.10.1945

Lubyia-a Palestinians Village: Historiography, Culture and Identity



A view of Lubyia from the air 1945. The road in the photo connects Nazareth & Tiberias



A view of Lubyia from the air 1945. The road in the photo connects Nazareth & Tiberias

Memories of the Past

the only standing wall

Out of 1000 demolished rooms in Lubya in 1948, all that remains for refugees, are merely memories of the past & landscape: the vertibral column of their existence.



Lubya's only standing wall

Ethnic cleansing started in 1948 & now continued – online-in Gaza & West Bank Refugee Camps since 2023.

Haj Karzon and Map of Lubyia

Oral history will remain one of the main sources of our perceptions and understanding of the various social and historical facts related to a specific time in a specific period, whenever classical historical means of analysis are unavailable. Film: “The Village under Forest” at mahmoud.dk



Haj Karzon:1928-"one day suddenly I woke up and all the streets of Lubyia are in front of me". Drawing all the houses, names and places.



South African minister Ronnie Kasrils' Dedication to Lubya: planting olive tree

**“Lubya:
dedicated by the
honourable
minister, Ronnie
Kasrils (minister
of State Security
in South Africa:**



Nelson Mandela's words which are enshrined on the entrance of the apartheid museum in South Africa :

“To be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others”.



Memory of Three Different Kinds of Exile case of app. 15 million Palestinians

1. Internal exile
2. Exile by choice, or voluntary migration,
3. Exile by uprooting or forced migration
4. Foto of the Association for the defence of the rights of the displaced people (ADRID)



The meeting in Shafa-Amr of the Committee for Defending the Rights of the Refugees in Israel

Today, Palestinians in Israel Own Only 5% of the historical land of Palestine

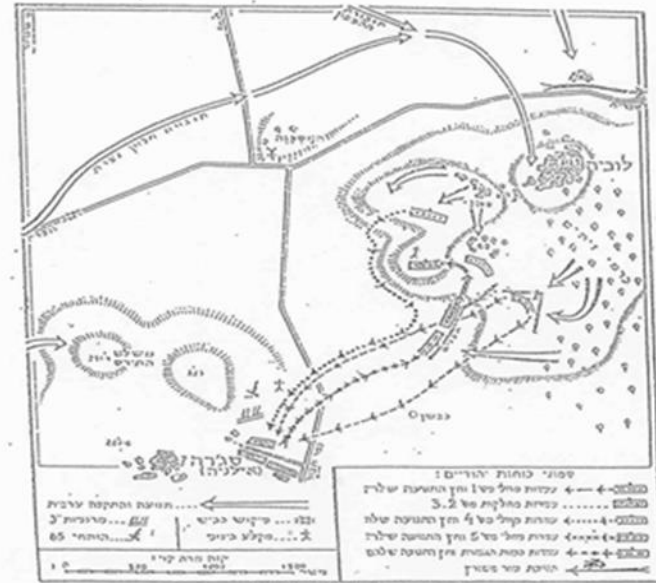
The acquisition of
land by Zionist
colonization
associations, began
to affect Lubyā in
1892



Ethnic Cleansing

675 villages and hamlets and eleven urban neighborhoods were systematically and deliberately evacuated and demolished.

Here is a map of the battle against Lubya in 1948



Detailed map of the attack on Lubya 1948

Officers Who Occupied Luby



21. A map of Palestine with the names of all the 418 destroyed villages



Iren Lavi, the officer who led the first attack on Luby 1948, and his wife.



Nahum Abbu, the officer who participated in Luby's occupation, 1948.

Necessity of Oral History to Recover Hidden Histories of the Past

The neglected narratives and memories of the marginalized and alienated are invisible to official historiography.



Um Isam, the daughter of Labya's Mukhtar, Hassan Abu Duhais, with her family in Nazareth.



Around 50.000 Living in 23 Countries

Refugees from Lubyia live and reside in as many as twenty-three countries around the world

**Fayiz Fawaz and Abu Sameeh(from Yarmook refugee camp)
geneological tree of his family-tracing back to Hassan, son of the fourth Khalif in Islam**



Abu Majid & Abu Sameeh Samadi, showing books he wrote, in Yarmook Camp-Syria
And the Samadi family tree: 9.5 meters long

Graveyards: Past and Present

Father found a tree he planted when young



Trees planted before expulsion, identified again in 1994.



Israeli grave from the new settlement:
Giv'at Avny on Luby'a's land



Lubyuan cemetery from 1948

The Routes of Memory Among three generations

Lubya museum on-line

<http://mahmoud.dk>

- The old people of Lubya were a living library which told the history of the village in detail.



Second & third generations: Lubyans from Denmark & Sweden visiting their grandparents' land in Lubya.



Lubyan families in the debris of their house 1995.

Debris of Lubyá's Cemetery

- Forbidden even to repair



Cleaning the children's graveyard near "Prophet Shwamis's tomb".



Lubyans, gathered in protest against the damage of their grandparent's tombs, accompanied by a representative from the religious ministry in Israel.



"Here is buried a dog", reads this Hebrew Graffiti, written on the tomb of Muhammad Mufaddl. Lubyans demand that Israeli authorities fence the graveyard, but in vain.



Lubya's 240 Absentees & Conqueror's Cynical Statement

“The most adaptable and best survivors would ‘manage’ by a process of natural selection. The others will waste away. Some will die but most will turn into human debris and social outcasts and will probably join the poorest classes of Arab countries.”

Lubya's 240 Absentees

Appendix I¹⁰⁸

"Israel State
Administrator of the Absentees properties
The Absentees' Property Law 1950

"I declare the following persons as Absentees according to article 30/a of the law":

1	Ahmad Younis Ahmad Younis	24	Muhammad Samir M.Ma. Karzon
2	Amina Kasim Hassan	25	Husein Ali Yasin Shihab
3	Ibrahim Musa Ibrahim Shihab	26	Ahmad = = =
4	Hafid Mousa Ibrahim Shihab	27	Muhammad = = =
5	Ali Musa Kayid Karzon	28	Ahmad Salah Shihab Ali
6	Muhammad Musa Kayid Karzon	29	Muhammad Said Abidruhman M. Lutfi
7	Mahmoud Musa Kayid Karzon	30	Lutfi = = =
8	Ahmad Musa Kayid Karzon	31	Hanifa Sharaith Mahmood
9	Muhammad M. Khalil Karzon	32	Arafa = = =
10	Hamda M. Khalil Karzon	33	Fatima M. Hussein Bakir
11	Husein Abidrahman I. Rashdan	34	Zahra = = =
12	Husni Abidrahman I. Rashdan	35	Khazna Abbad Mustafa
13	Hassan = = =	36	Fatima = = =
14	Muhammad Kayid A'yid Muwasil	37	Hanna Ahmad Amin Rhyayil
15	Nayif Younis = = =	38	Frajli = = =
16	Muhammad Hassan Younis Ayyil	39	Fouziyya = = =
17	Muhammad Younis M. Hamdan	40	Arif Fouzi Kuharib al-Ammouri
18	Ahmad Younis = = =	41	Fayiz = = =
19	Muhammad Yousef = = =	42	Ramzi = = =
20	Abdulla = = =	43	Muhammad Ma. Saleh Muhammad
21	Ahmad Abidkadir M. Zamil	44	Hussain = = =
22	Awad = = =	45	Ali Mahmoud Saleh Muhammad
23	Ibrahim Samir Muhammad Karzon	46	Said Hassan Said Isawi
47	Musa Hassan Said Isawi	72	Mustafa Yasin Shihab Ali
48	Ali Awad = = =	73	Hassan = = =
49	Rashid Abidrahim Shabkoni	74	Mahmoud = = =
50	Said = = =	75	Ali = = =
51	Ibrahim Taha Ibrahim Taha	76	Kasim Muhammad Yunis Shihab
52	Amina Issa = = =	77	Saleh = = =
53	Husein Issa Hassan Issa	78	Faleh Swailih Shihab Ali
54	Mahmoud = = =	79	Milih = = =
55	Issa Saod Masod Abdulla	80	Ali Yunis = = =
56	Hamad = = =	81	Kasim Muhammad Yunis Shihab
57	Ahmad = = =	82	Saleh Muhammad Yunis Shihab
58	Abdu = = =	83	Muhamad Ali Kasim Muhammad

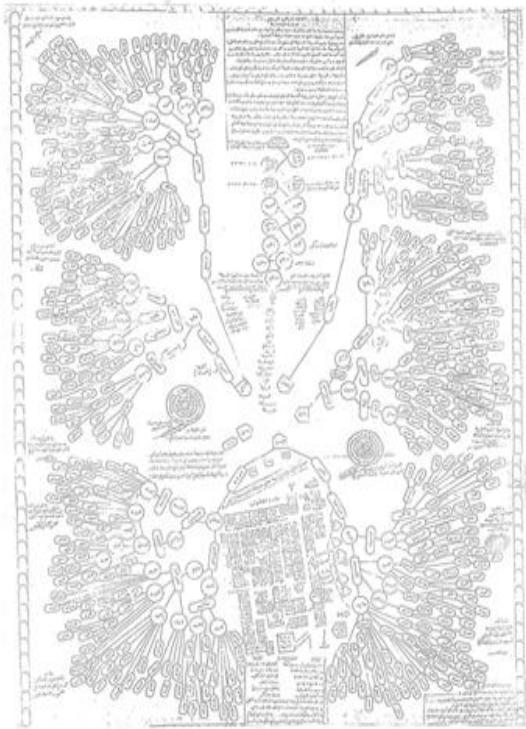
¹⁰⁸ This official document (found in the Nazareth land department) is mentioning the names of 240 Lubya who were declared as Absentees, and by consequence confiscating their land, under the responsibility of the administrator, (Hebrew, *Abotrope*). In the following case he is M. Shimar.

Suppressed Memories - Khalid Said Vivid Memory After 42 Years in Exile

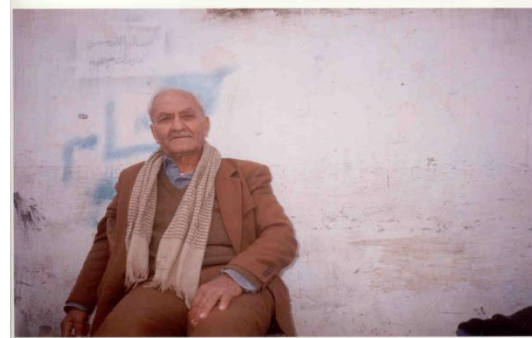
After 42 years Khalid Said visited Lubyia found his family's home debris although he was only 8 years old in 1948, when he left Lubyia.



Geneological Tree of Samadi & Atwat Families-Abu Dhais residing in Hama's refugee camp author of a book on Lubyia



The geneological tree of al-Samadi family, traces back to Hassan, son of Khalifa Ali in the 7th century. Original length of the family tree: 9.5 meters.



Around 20.000 gathered on Lubya debris-Named now “South African Forest”, commemorating the 66th anniversary of Nakba Day in 2014





Reports about the Event in Lubyia 2014



Demonstration on the first of May 2015 on Lubyaland, by Lubyans from Europe, Palestine and South African Delegation and Israelis as well.



Apology ceremony



Third Generation Remembering: Graveyard, Mosque, School & Debris of houses.



“My Pledge of Solidarity”. Certificate of Apology signed by more than 200 SA. - acknowledging the Nakba





Rebuilding Lubyā 2021
Common project between Jordan &
Palestine Univ. Architects

اعادة بناء لوبيه 2021

They Destroy, We Rebuild

LUBYA

