

EDITOR
Rashid I. Khalidi
Columbia University

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Maia Tabet

MANAGING EDITOR
Nehad Khader

BOOK REVIEW EDITOR
Joseph Massad

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Paul Karolyi

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
Emily C. Smith

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE
Nadia Abu El-Haj, *Barnard College*
George Bisharat, *University of California, Hastings*
Beshara Doumani, *Brown University*
Leila Farsakh, *University of Massachusetts, Boston*
Rhoda Kanaaneh, *New York University*
Walid Khalidi, *Harvard University (retired)*
Ussama Makdisi, *Rice University*
Camille Mansour, *University of Paris*
Joseph Massad, *Columbia University*
Salim Tamari, *Birzeit University*

The Institute for Palestine Studies (IPS) is a private nonprofit research institution unaffiliated with any political organization or government, highly regarded throughout the Arab world as a model of institutional organization and independence. Established in Beirut in 1963, it is the oldest institute in the world devoted exclusively to documentation, research, analysis, and publication on Palestinian affairs and the Arab-Israeli conflict. IPS supports the Institute for Palestine Studies (USA), Inc. in Washington, D.C. [a 501(c)(3) public charity] and the Institute of Jerusalem Studies in Ramallah (West Bank).

The Journal of Palestine Studies (JPS), launched in 1971, is the oldest and most respected English language journal devoted exclusively to Palestinian affairs and the Arab-Israeli conflict. *JPS* provides unprejudiced, solid documentation and serious research, free from embellishment, distortion, omission, propaganda, appeal to the emotions, or spin. The guiding principle of *JPS* and of IPS as a whole regarding Palestine has always been that the facts, coherently presented, speak for themselves.

Learn more about the Institute and its publications at www.palestine-studies.org

The Journal of Palestine Studies is co-published by University of California Press and the Institute for Palestine Studies (USA), Inc. on behalf of Institute for Palestine Studies.

© 2014 Institute for Palestine Studies. All rights reserved.

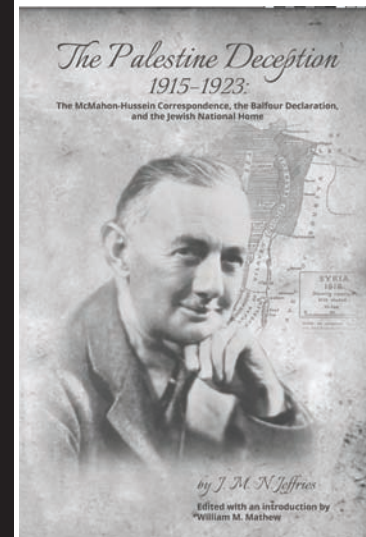
All pieces designated "Articles" are peer reviewed by external reviewers.

The bird emblem on the cover is based on a traditional Palestinian design originally used on pottery in Southern Palestine (ca. 1200 BC).

The Palestine Deception

1915-1923:

The McMahon-Hussein Correspondence, the Balfour Declaration,
and the Jewish National Home



Published by the Institute for
Palestine Studies USA, Inc..

J.M.N. Jeffries, ed. William M.
Mathew, 2014, 167pp.

ISBN: 978-0-88728-320-8

J. M. N. Jeffries, formerly a war correspondent in Europe and the Middle East, working for Britain's largest-selling newspaper, the Daily Mail, was sent to Palestine in 1922 by its owner, Lord Northcliffe, to report, through a series of articles, on its developing political and economic affairs—just four years on from the Balfour Declaration and its promise of British support for the establishment in Palestine of a Jewish national home. A Zionist Commission had arrived there in April 1918 and working, often tensely, alongside British military and civilian authorities, had succeeded in setting up a nascent Jewish polity—the nature and implications of which Jeffries sets out to appraise.

Jeffries' articles, reproduced in full here for the first time, highlight Britain's duplicity in its dealings with the resident population of Palestine—arguing that clear, written pledges of Arab political independence, offered in 1915–16 as a means of gaining local military support in the war against Germany and her Ottoman ally, had been decisively contradicted by the terms of the Balfour Declaration in 1917: thus "The Palestine Deception." Providing, for the first time, a very public translation from the Arabic of pertinent extracts from that correspondence—something that the government itself would not allow until 1939—Jeffries caused a considerable stir in political circles in London, prompting senior members of the House of Lords in particular (as the editorial Introduction sets out) to ask that the government revise the terms of its commitment to the Zionist project in advance of the forthcoming final settlement of the League of Nations Mandate for the territory.

Polemics apart, Jeffries, writing with lively wit and telling irony, offers a vivid contemporary snapshot of Palestine in the early 1920s.



Institute for Palestine Studies USA, Inc., 3501 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20007
800/874-3614 - 202-342-3990, ext. 23
www.palestine-studies.org - ipsdc@palestine-studies.org