

## Nonkilling Arts Research Committee- May 2012

Sent: Friday, May 04, 2012 8:26 AM

Nonkilling Arts RC: Palestine Anthology - Essays, Literature, Images by Anis Hamadeh

Dear friends,

I received this week an insightful e-publication from our colleague Anis Hamadeh. See below anis-online link below. It is entitled, "Palestine Anthology: Essays, Literature, Images". The e-book is a collection of thought-provoking essays, poems, paintings, plays (faked interviews) and cabaret. The author's search for meaning of peace in the 21st century and the passion for a "tri-logue" between his mother country Germany, his father's homeland Palestine, and Israel on the issue of nonkilling peace and justice are both authentic and courageous. Kudos Anis. More on the book in the words of its author below.

Nonkilling Regards

Bill

Bill (Balwant) Bhaneja  
Coordinator/Facilitator  
Nonkilling Arts Research Committee  
Center for Global Nonkilling

[www.nonkilling.org](http://www.nonkilling.org)

"Nonkilling is the measure of human progress."

----- Original Message -----

From: [Anis Hamadeh](mailto:Anis Hamadeh)

## Palestine Anthology

### Essays, Literature, Images

[www.anis-online.de/1/pal\\_ant.pdf](http://www.anis-online.de/1/pal_ant.pdf) (3,5 MB)

by **Anis Hamadeh**

Mainz/Germany, May 2012

"I thought I would just take a quick look at the book, but was captivated, and read through it ...

Very well done and important. Simple, evocative, informed, imaginative and captivating. Anis Hamadeh's compelling message, in words and images, should be contemplated, and taken as a call to action to bring peace and justice to people who have endured and suffered too much, and needlessly."

**Noam Chomsky**

"A very rich collage of all forms of communication, journalism, prose, poetry, music, masterly combined to make Middle East reality hit our souls. And, as the author says, it all goes beyond pro-Palestinian to pro-human to pro a better Middle East. Strongly recommended: you will be touched, as was

**Johan Galtung,**

Professor of Peace Studies, founder of TRANSCEND: A Peace Network"

**Introduction**

With this manuscript I am looking for two publishing houses, one for the English and one for the German version. Also for blurbs and reviews. High resolution copies of the displayed pictures and photos are

available. Some of the texts at hand are not proofread by a native speaker yet, many are. (Special thanks to Paquita Lamacraft and Gulamhusein Abba.) This introduction will be updated prior to a print edition as will the final selection of texts. The book will be online at [www.anis-online.de/1/pal\\_ant.pdf](http://www.anis-online.de/1/pal_ant.pdf) at least until print - the German version is "pal\_ant\_d.pdf".

This Palestine anthology is a compilation of 39 texts that mostly appeared online between 2001 and 2012, plus 28 (here colorful) drawings and photos. Some of the major pieces have already been read by thousands of people worldwide and received numerous feedback reactions. Individual works are available in other languages, like Arabic, French, even Italian and Spanish. My perspective on Palestine/Israel is special, the sources below will speak for themselves. I consider it a virtue to reveal parts of my life in this context. It shows independence and the fact that I cannot be called "pro-Palestinian". I am pro-human, actually. The anthology comprises about a sixth of my Palestine-related journalistic and artistic work which in turn covers about a sixth of my complete works. Criteria for the entries in this book are that the contributions point beyond daily news and that they are bi-lingual. The translations were made by yours truly. Sometimes I write in English and translate into German later, like the opening and the closing essays or the "Faked Interviews".

The first half of the "Palestine Anthology" is essayistic, the second literary, with poetry and prose, satire, dialogues, Palestimericks, a diary entry and a short story. Each of the two parts is broadly chronological, starting with the most recent. There is a development in my thinking; today I would not write some of the things I wrote ten years ago. Germany and its role in history is an often occurring topic in this collection. It is tackled from a global perspective, not from a provincial one. Some arguments and motives occur several times, but I regard this redundancy as a necessary emphasis rather than an unpleasant repetition, especially as sometimes individual articles are forwarded to people who don't know about the book. Moreover, this anthology considers readers who are not familiar with the Palestine/Israel "conflict". Yes, I put this concept in quotes, because it basically is a code word for "oppression". Concerning the literature: Depending on your political attitude, some of the satires and dialogues bear the potential of making you laugh with their black humor.

At the end of the anthology you will find three Palestine song lyrics with chords. The music mp3s can be obtained for free on Anis Online. I chose simple chords and singable keys – well, it is only one key, to be precise, D major. The songs are three of seven that I perform on stage in the "Palestine Express" cabaret. In this book you will find previously unreleased excerpts from the show. Some of the items reach beyond the topic, e.g. the dialogue "The Boys in Enemy Land" which is set in Afghanistan. But it is too funny to be omitted. Then the essay "What is Peace?" and the Samir episode. Also the closing piece, it provides a general view of Anis Online, the website I call home.

Anis Hamadeh, May 1st, 2012. Mainz/Germany

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