

## FACT SHEET ON THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND

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### *ITS ROLE IN ETHNIC CLEANSING*

- The JNF provided political, financial, and intelligence support in the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians during The Nakba (the Catastrophe) and the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948. It aided Zionist forces in **expelling two-thirds of the Palestinian population** living in what became Israel.
- Any one of the 1.2 million Palestinian citizens of Israel can enter and walk around a JNF park or forest and look at the remnants of their village, but cannot actually reclaim their land even if they have the key to the house and the title deed proving their ownership. As for the over 6 million Palestinian refugees, they cannot hope to even visit the land as Israel denies the entry,
- The JNF's forests, parks, and recreational facilities have been planted and constructed over the remains of hundreds of Palestinian villages, not only erasing the presence of Palestinians in their homeland, but also any visible sign that they ever existed here
- Since its creation in 1901, the Jewish National Fund (JNF) has directed its resources towards to the acquisition of land and property rights for the **exclusive use of Jewish settlers**
- The JNF has direct control of 13% of the land of pre-1967 Israel, and has great influence over another 80% of all land in Israel
- Indigenous Palestinians are forbidden from leasing or building on any lands acquired by the JNF
- Through its subsidiary Hemnuta, the JNF has illegally acquired lands and houses in the occupied West Bank, and particularly in 1967 occupied Jerusalem.

### *ITS ROLE IN "GREENWASHING"*

- After 1948, the JNF was re-branded as an environmentalist organization focused on forestation
- Despite its status as a chartered agent of the State of Israel, the JNF and its affiliate organizations enjoy charitable status in over 50 countries as environmental charities
- The JNF's development and forestation projects perpetuate ethnic cleansing by securing lands for exclusive Jewish settlement
- The Negev Desert and the Galilee are two current focal points for JNF greenwashing where the JNF is using environmentalist rhetoric and projects to veil its efforts in stripping Palestinians of their homes and land. On 1/16/11, the Bedouin village of Al Arakib was destroyed for the 9th time since its total destruction in July 2010.