

Scholars Circle Resource Guide

The Genealogy of Arab–Islamic Antizionism



About Hussein Aboubakr Mansour

Hussein Aboubakr Mansour is an Egyptian-American intellectual specializing in modern intellectual history. In 2012, he had to flee his home country, Egypt, due to the persecution he faced because of his vocal work against antisemitism. His current work focuses on Arab political thought, Arab intellectual history, and the globalization of antisemitism and revolutionary radicalism. Hussein previously served as an assistant professor of Hebrew language and culture at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California.

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Bernard Lewis, *The Jews of Islam* (1984)

Bat Ye'or, *The Dhimmi: Jews and Christians Under Islam* (1985)

Jeffrey Herf, *Nazi Propaganda for the Arab World* (2009)

Matthias Küntzel, *Jihad and Jew-Hatred: Islamism, Nazism and the Roots of 9/11* (2007)

Emmanuel Sivan, *Radical Islam: Medieval Theology and Modern Politics* (1985)

Robert Wistrich, *A Lethal Obsession: Anti-Semitism from Antiquity to the Global Jihad* (2010)

Paul Berman, *Terror and Liberalism* (2003)

Hussein Aboubakr Mansour, "The Enchantment of the Arab Mind," *Mosaic* (July 2025)

Key Takeaways

- ✓ Islamic antizionism is a synthetic product, not a natural development of Islamic theology or jurisprudence.
- ✓ The eliminationist turn required the import of European antisemitism and its translation into Islamic idiom.
- ✓ Nationalist, progressive, and Islamist movements were the institutional vehicles of synthesis.
- ✓ Arab states instrumentalized the resulting discourse, embedding it in mass culture as a permanent feature of political life.
- ✓ Understanding this genealogy is prerequisite to understanding what contemporary antizionism actually is – and what it is not.

The views expressed by the speaker don't necessarily reflect Chai Mitzvah's official position.