

# “We Are at War!” declares Netanyahu. Oh really? Your War or My War

By [Barbara Nimri Aziz](#)

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*“We Are at War!” declares the Israeli leadership. Oh really?*

Do Israelis and their allies count only bombings and armored tank attacks as war?

Then what have Israeli troops been doing daily and ceaselessly as they storm into West Bank neighborhoods, killing, terrorizing families, abducting youths?

What was it that killed 243 Gazans in May 2021?

What have armed Jewish settlers been doing when they attack towns, commandeer roads and burn homes in Arab villages around their fortified settlements?

What did Israel’s prime minister dare at the United Nations just days ago, wantonly brandishing a map of Israel absent any reference to Palestine, neither historical Palestine nor the rumps of villages left by Jewish colonization?

What are Israeli bulldozers doing when they uproot Palestinian orchards, when settlers pour a farmer’s harvest of olive oil into his ravaged field on his way home from the oil press?

What are Israeli troops doing when they prevent an ambulance reaching a wounded Palestinian?

What are Israeli intelligence agents doing when they threaten, bribe and coerce Palestinian to work for them as informants?

What are roadblocks and the close scrutiny of any Arab traveler along any road in Israel and the occupied lands?

What are Israeli supporters doing worldwide when they suffocate anyone daring to criticize the apartheid state?

What is Israel doing when it chokes all Gazans with sanctions that reduce people to penury, only surviving on charity organizations?

What is Israeli doing when it constructs walls through Arab neighborhoods, dividing a family from its fields?

There are endless means of recording war.

I add two more to my questions: words penned long ago by poet Mahmoud Darwish, and a video clip of some bulldozers in action, a common occurrence (posted July 20, 2023 on X) widely viewed it seems, but unnoticed.

Mere hours after Israel's president met with [@POTUS](#), [@VP](#) and [@SecBlinken](#) and addressed Congress, the Israeli government bulldozed the farming plot of a Palestinian community in the occupied West Bank. [pic.twitter.com/2nEMlfqjKf](https://pic.twitter.com/2nEMlfqjKf)

— Dylan Williams (@dylanotes) [July 20, 2023](#)

# In Jerusalem

BY MAHMOUD DARWISH

TRANSLATED BY FADY JOUDAH

In Jerusalem, and I mean within the ancient walls,  
I walk from one epoch to another without a memory  
to guide me. The prophets over there are sharing  
the history of the holy ... ascending to heaven  
and returning less discouraged and melancholy, because love  
and peace are holy and are coming to town.  
I was walking down a slope and thinking to myself: How  
do the narrators disagree over what light said about a stone?  
Is it from a dimly lit stone that wars flare up?  
I walk in my sleep. I stare in my sleep. I see  
no one behind me. I see no one ahead of me.  
All this light is for me. I walk. I become lighter. I fly  
then I become another. Transfigured. Words  
sprout like grass from Isaiah's messenger  
mouth: "If you don't believe you won't be safe."  
I walk as if I were another. And my wound a white  
biblical rose. And my hands like two doves  
on the cross hovering and carrying the earth.  
I don't walk, I fly, I become another,  
transfigured. No place and no time. So who am I?  
I am no I in ascension's presence. But I  
think to myself: Alone, the prophet Muhammad  
spoke classical Arabic. "And then what?"  
Then what? A woman soldier shouted:  
Is that you again? Didn't I kill you?  
I said: You killed me ... and I forgot, like you, to die.

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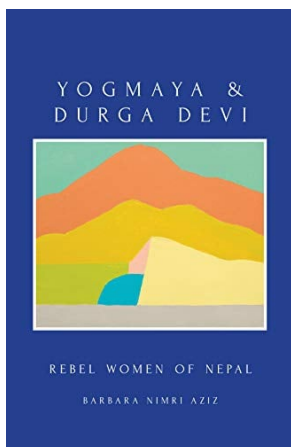
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*Barbara Nimri Aziz whose anthropological research has focused on the peoples of the Himalayas is the author of the newly published ["Yogmaya and Durga Devi: Rebel Women of Nepal"](#), available on Amazon.*

She is a regular contributor to Global Research.

Featured image: Razan al-Najjar, the 21 year old Gaza medic killed by an Israeli sniper on June 1, 2018 treating an injured man, undated photo from Palestine Live on twitter.

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## [“Yogmaya and Durga Devi: Rebel Women of Nepal”](#)

By Barbara Nimri Aziz

A century ago Yogmaya and Durga Devi, two women champions of justice, emerged from a remote corner of rural Nepal to offer solutions to their nation’s social and political ills. Then they were forgotten.

Years after their demise, in 1980 veteran anthropologist Barbara Nimri Aziz first uncovered their suppressed histories in her comprehensive and accessible biographies. Revelations from her decade of research led to the resurrection of these women and their entry into contemporary Nepali consciousness.

This book captures the daring political campaigns of these rebel women; at the same time it asks us to acknowledge their impact on contemporary feminist thinking. Like many revolutionaries who were vilified in their lifetimes, we learn about the true nature of these leaders’ intelligence, sacrifices, and vision during an era of social and economic oppression in this part of Asia.

After Nepal moved from absolute monarchy to a fledgling democracy and history re-evaluated these pioneers, Dr. Aziz explores their legacies in this book.

Psychologically provocative and astonishingly moving, “Yogmaya and Durga Devi” is a seminal contribution to women’s history.

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