Palestine

I, ***Esma Ali*** believe in the God of Adam, Noah, Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Jesus and Mohammad. Peace be upon all of the Prophets of God. God is the ONE and ONLY God of the Universe. Some call HIM Dios, Yahweh, Jehovah…. I call HIM *Allah.*

Land of Palestine- I feel special connection to it. Zionist control and occupy the land, ***unjustly*** and that bothers me. It is the Holy Land for God’s believers like *me*:

In Quran (5:21), Moses says: *"O my people! Enter the holy land which Allah hath assigned unto you…*

The call of the Prophets has nothing to do with race or inheritance/ancestry. The call of the prophets is strictly based on piety, awareness of Allah. In fact, Prophet Noah had built the ark but his son had NO right over it because his son was a Non-Believer who never even made it on the Ark. One does NOT inherit the right to anything that God has provided unless one is a believer in the ONE true God.

The source of conflict over Palestine stems from the fact that Jews believe that they have more right to the Holy Land than the Muslims. ***I disagree!!*** Progeny of Abraham were CHOSEN to work in God’s cause and thus rewarded the holy land. *God especially favored and provided tons of resources to the progeny of Prophet Jacob, alias* **Israel***,* (peace be upon him).  *God sent MANY prophets through the line of Jacob for the purposes of enlightening Jacob’s offspring to carry out HIS plan.* According to Islam, Prophet Jacob, alias, Israel, built *Al-Masjid Al-Aqsa*, the Mosque in Jerusalem, which the Jews call the *“Temple”*. It was built under the influence of Prophets Abraham and Isaac. Similarly, the Kaba in Mecca was built by Prophet Ishmael under the influence of Abraham. Prophet Solomon elaborately expanded and renovated the *Masjid Al-Aqsa*, which Prophet Jacob had constructed for the purposes of worshipping ***Allah***. He built it for the worshippers, even if the worshippers exclude Prophet Jacob’s progeny. He denied access to any polytheists, even if they ***encompassed*** his progeny. The ***Quran***, though it has sometimes been criticized by some Jews as Anti-Semitic, very clearly acknowledges the children of Prophet Jacob (Israel) as *Chosen People of God. The Quran does NOT reprimand their actions* ***any more*** *than the Bible does!!*

As indicated in the Hebrew Bible, the children of Israel transgressed from the religion of the believers. They worshipped other gods. They practiced indulgence and carried out injustices as the Hebrew Bible constantly stresses. It is natural for those who are doing well to forget about God’s favors. God warns Muslims, in the ***Quran*** to learn from the errors of their elders-- children of Israel--. They were NOT following HIS laws. They have broken the covenant highlighted above and did not work in HIS cause. They changed HIS message so that they would not have to follow it. Therefore, they have exited off the path to Paradise, with gardens and *rivers.* They have rebelled against God. They have rejected and killed God’s prophets. They tried to kill Prophet Jesus as well but God saved him.God has provided humans with guidance as well as free will and HE expects us to make RIGHT choices. Muslims are NOT simply “saved” just for accepting Islam as a creed. Their actions have to coincide with God’s guidance, which lacked in the children of Israel.

The term Jew had not come into the picture until the Persians came into the picture around 586BC. The Persians called Judah, the Southern Kingdom of Israel, ***Yahuda*** and the occupants of Judah became known as the ***Jews***. As a Muslim, I am most certainly a follower of Prophet Jacob. His people are my people and I reserve the right to criticize them just the same as I may criticize the elders in my family. God has set aside the land of Palestine for those who establish *HIS laws, HIS rulings*. The Quran displays HIS *final* commandments. The Quran represents HIS last testament to mankind. In the beginning of Prophet Muhammad’s ministry, God had him face towards the *Masjid Al-Aqsa* in Jerusalem upon making prayers (Salat). Then, later on God had him change direction to pray facing the Kaba in Mecca. Prophet Abraham had a hand in establishing both of the sanctuaries. I have ***more*** right to the land of Palestine than those among the Jews, who are cursed in the Hebrew Bible for disobeying God. The *Book of Amos* is one of MANY which demonstrates the extent of God’s wrath upon the descendants of Prophet Jacob. Therefore, as a Muslim, I have ***more*** right over the land than those who have earned God’s wrath. There are some among our elders from the children of Israel who surely follow the true light of God and exhibit obedience to HIM and therefore I have ***same*** right over the land of Palestine as ***they*** do.

Here is Quran (2:62) *Lo! Those who believe (in that which is revealed unto thee, Muhammad), and those who are Jews, and Christians, and Sabians - whoever believeth in Allah and the Last Day and doeth right - surely their reward is with their Lord, and there shall no fear come upon them neither shall they grieve.*