

The main points made by 'Issam Kamel, writing in Al-Gumhuriya, December 12, 2005

- The Iranian president, in his call to the Europeans to “bear the results of having oppressed the Jews and to establish their state in Austria and Germany ,” lit a great fire that will not be extinguished. The reason the world is panicking at what Ahmadinejad said **is not only because the Jews rule everything that happens in Europe , but because the Western world is afraid the Jews will return to live among them** . The idea to get rid of them was a stroke of genius because it got them off the map of the West, rid Europe of them and at the same time turned them into the thorn in the side of the Arabs.
- The most important aspect of Ahmadinejad's remarks was that **he raised the issue of the legitimacy of the existence of the State of Israel in the region** [i.e., the Middle East]. They have also reopened the argument over historical facts which the Jewish propaganda and political machines invested a great deal of effort to gloss over. “Whatever may be said about the recklessness of the man [i.e., the Iranian president] who uttered those remarks or about his lack of understanding of the international equation, he has at least motivated us to rethink the issue of why the Jews of the world came to our countries.”

The main points made by Dr. Mahmoud Wahib al-Sayyid, writing in Al-Gumhuriya, December 14, 2005

- In his recent remarks, which certain critics called rash and unwise, the Iranian president denied the events of the Holocaust, which Israel and the West view as the source of [Israel '] right to exist.
- It is possible that Ahmadinejad was rash and that his remarks motivate the West to support Israel , although they have no reason to do so. However, the Iranian president did recall facts which many have tried to ignore: Europe rid itself of the Jewish presence, and solved its own problem by tossing the problem to the Middle East . The issue of the Holocaust was inflated out of all proportion to increase the damage for which the Jews would [demand] to be compensated. That compensation was embodied in the establishment of an independent homeland [for the Jews] which has received the full support and patronage of the West. That was why German and Austria trembled when Ahmadinejad reminded them that someone had to compensate the Holocaust victims, if the Holocaust did [indeed] take place, and if [in fact] it was as serious and terrible [as claimed].

The main points made by Hisham 'Abd al-Rauf, writing in the government daily newspaper, Al-Massa, December 12, 2005



- In a article entitled “ Israel 's lies,” Hisham 'Abd al-Rauf claimed that during the Second World War “ **these massacres, which Israel alleges the Nazis perpetrated against the Jews, never happened. The famous execution chambers [i.e., the gas chambers] were not more than rooms for disinfecting clothing.** ” The Holocaust, he claimed, was nothing more than a lie the Jews exploit to “extort world solidarity.” The Iranian president, he wrote, posed a “logical and proper question” to the Western countries “which planted Israel in the heart of the Islamic world, and which protected and continue to protect it.”²

¹ For further information see our Special Bulletin "[Iranian president Ahmadinejad again denied Israel 's right to exist and expressed doubts about the Holocaust](#)"

² Taken from the MEMRI Internet site, December 27, 2005.