

71 Containers Allegedly Bound for 'Israel': Palestine on the Political Stage, 'Israel' on the Economic Stage?

The allegation that at least 71 containers have been or are currently en route to 'Israel' via the Port of Tanjung Pelepas (PTP) in Johor, Malaysia is not a matter to be taken lightly. The Madani Government must take full responsibility should this prove true.

The Citizen-Led Accountability Network (CLAN) has reportedly questioned how such shipments could pass through the country's trade and port systems, provided the allegations – based on documentation revealed by BDS Malaysia – are accurate. CLAN has emphasized that these claims must first be thoroughly investigated and verified.

According to BDS, the containers are believed to be carrying weapons manufacturing equipment destined for Elbit Systems, an arms manufacturing facility based in Haifa. On this basis, they have warned of the potential existence of a routine and highly organized supply chain network catering to 'Israel'.

While we do not wish to cast aspersions, the Madani Government must simultaneously refrain from deceit, concealing facts, or shielding any transgressions. Should it be true that 71 containers are bound for the Jewish entity, the underlying issue extends far beyond mere administrative matters – such as who completed the documentation, who handled the containers, or how port security protocols were breached.

The fundamental question remains: how can trade destined for 'Israel' still operate through Malaysia when the government itself has publicly announced a prohibition?

On December 20, 2023, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim announced that Malaysia would not only prohibit 'Israeli'-flagged vessels and those owned by the 'Israeli' shipping corporation, ZIM, from docking at national ports, but would also bar any vessel en route to 'Israel' from loading cargo at Malaysian ports.

In fact, a nearly identical incident occurred roughly a month ago. On August 7, 2026, the Malaysian Checkpoints and Border Agency (AKPS) detained a container at PTP suspected of carrying goods for export to 'Israel'. AKPS explained that the shipment was suspected of violating Item No. 15, Second Schedule of the Customs (Prohibition of Exports) Order 2023, which prohibits the direct or indirect export of goods to 'Israel'.

The Prime Minister characterized this enforcement as proof of Malaysia's unwavering commitment to ensuring the nation does not serve as a trade conduit that could support or contribute to the atrocities committed by 'Israel' against the Palestinian people.

If a single container in August was deemed severe enough to warrant enforcement action and a public statement from the Prime Minister, then the current allegations involving 71 containers unequivocally demand a substantially more rigorous explanation.

It is insufficient for the government to merely state that an investigation will be conducted. The public has the right to know whether these allegations hold merit. The government must be transparent in disclosing the identity of the exporter, the nature of the goods, the ultimate destination, the shipping company facilitating the transport, and precisely how a shipment allegedly bound for 'Israel' could bypass existing regulatory and control mechanisms.

However, in assessing this issue, the Muslim Ummah must not become entangled solely in debates concerning enforcement lapses. The core issue extends beyond the potential failure of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Should the allegations regarding the 71 containers bound for 'Israel' prove true, the more fundamental issue at hand is the persistent maintenance of relations with the Jewish entity via trade routes – despite Malaysia's fiery rhetoric in support of Palestine on the political stage.

If these assertions are true, it implies that economic interests are, in reality, prioritized above any political posture. Furthermore, it demonstrates that laws can be easily circumvented

when aligned with economic imperatives. Pressure on 'Israel' ultimately degrades into selective sanctions whenever there is a lucrative economic benefit for the country.

'Israel' is a colonial entity that persistently occupies the lands of Palestine, displaces its inhabitants, perpetrates the massacre of Muslims, and orchestrates the destruction of Gaza. Under such circumstances, Muslim rulers are strictly forbidden from rendering any assistance that could empower the aggressors; instead, they are religiously obligated to undertake Jihad to combat the invaders – an obligation that remains unfulfilled.

Allah (swt) forbids all forms of assistance to the enemy. He (swt) dictates: **﴿وَلَا تَعَاوُنُوا عَلَى** **الْإِثْمِ وَالْغَدْوَانِ﴾** **“And do not cooperate in sin and aggression.”** [Al-Ma'idah (5): 2].

As Muslims, and as a country alleging adherence to the principles of Ahl al-Sunnah wa al-Jama'ah, any trade relations that tangibly bolster the economy, logistics, or the operational capacity of the colonial entity must be evaluated strictly through the lens of Divine Rules, rather than commercial viability.

Nevertheless, even if proven true, this revelation is neither strange nor entirely surprising, given the decades of betrayal by the rulers of the Muslim Ummah toward Palestine. For far too long, they have not only allowed the people of Palestine to be slaughtered and the Jewish entity to exist, but they have also recognized its legitimacy and provided unceasing assistance to the enemies of Allah (swt).

Such is the inherent nature and hypocrisy of Muslim rulers – standing on the political stage to denounce 'Israel,' echoing slogans of solidarity for Palestine, and posturing as the supreme champions of the cause of Palestine. Yet, simultaneously, on the economic stage, they extend all forms of aid – including weaponry – to 'Israel,' effectively facilitating the enemies of Allah (swt) in their slaughter of people of Palestine and the obliteration of the Blessed Land.

Palestine is fundamentally an issue of the colonization and occupation of Muslim lands. Its resolution demands the political fortitude of an Ummah that is genuinely liberated from personal vested interests, the influence of global superpowers, and the international capitalist system. It requires a government that firmly establishes the laws of Allah (swt) as the foundation of its governance.

Therefore, while demanding the government provide a transparent explanation regarding the allegations of the 71 containers, and enforcing its duty to take action against any party proven to have used Malaysia as a trade conduit to 'Israel,' Muslims must look beyond the immediate issue. As long as the politics of Muslim countries continue to operate within the framework of a secular capitalist system and international relations dictated by material interests, solidarity with Palestine will remain subjected to the political machinations of rulers – caught in the contradiction between political rhetoric and economic reality.

The resolution to the issue of Palestine will not emanate from the incumbent rulers. Resolving the crisis of Palestine necessitates Islamic political power led by a ruler possessing profound faith, piety, courage, and sincerity – one who will not merely sever all economic ties with the colonialists but will unequivocally eradicate the occupiers from the face of the earth, entirely liberate the occupied lands, and restore them to the Muslim Ummah as their rightful owners.

This indispensable power is none other than the Khilafah (Caliphate) State, whose second return has been promised by Allah (swt) and His Messenger (saw). The obligation upon every Muslim today is to strive relentlessly to realize this promise, just as Muhammad al-Fateh strove diligently to fulfill the prophecy of the conquest of Constantinople.

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