

From: [Moti](#)
To: info@aturemlaguerra.org;
Subject: Answer from Noa
Date: jueves, 19 de febrero de 2009 9:07:09

Dear friends,

Thanks for your letter.

I read it carefully and hope you will read mine with the same attention.

My initial response to your letter was from the gut. it made me angry. so much of what i see as misinformation (statistics, incidents, our political system, our democracy, your 'back-of-the-bus' theory and other fantasies etc...), so much of that old enemy, self righteousness, so little real effort to see the other side. i wrote you back, with a list of "counter statements" ,with things i have heard from Palestinian friends in Gaza about how Hamas treat the population there, with quotes from the Hamas covenant (i wonder if you have ever really read it? here's the link: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp), which state Hamas' intentions about the jews, including me and my children, and Israel's declaration of independence (here's that link too: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/israel.asp), which states israel's intentions.

i wrote about things i have read in historical documents, about our regions conflict, and thoughts about the Gaza war.

i wrote and i wrote....

then i read what i had written and saw that it would achieve nothing.

so i am starting again.

Throughout my adult life i have been fighting for peace, and i continue to do so today.

i have sung for it, spoken for it, collaborated with Arab artists around the world, participated in forums and panels, sang in peace demonstrations (like the one where my hero Yitzchak Rabin was murdered), i have helped raise money for peace projects, performed for children and hospitals on

both sides of the fence, the list is so long....and i have paid a price for it... including threats to my life by extreme right wing people in Israel who did not like my statements, (i said, amongst other things, that i refuse to sing in the occupied territories until there is an agreement as to their status, and that i support a Palestinian state alongside Israel).

My friends, you wrote in your letter one sentence that rang very true to me: our situation is VERY complex.

i have spent a long time reading the history, learning, and i know one thing: we are living in a world where "truth" has lost its meaning, where a combination of greed, propaganda, fear, paranoia and all the other demons put together has warped our vision in a way that makes communication almost impossible!

There is NO black and white, and there is NO absolute truth.

We were all wrong, we were all right. Both sides NEVER missed an opportunity to miss an opportunity to make peace! There were so many chances to jump out of the circle of hatred, but Arabs and Jews never managed to do it. And that is the great tragedy of both our peoples.

I would like to declare my beliefs openly before you now:

I support peace, co-existence and re-conciliation!

I support the right of the Palestinian people to freedom, independence, self-definition and a state of their own!

I pray this state live peacefully and democratically side by side, with Israel, with good relations and exchange of culture, commerce and all else.

I am against violence in all its forms and for DIALOGUE.

I support equal rights for all of Israel's citizens, Jews and non-Jews alike.

I support ONLY LOVE IN THE NAME OF GOD, never war, never killing, never dying. GOD IS ONLY LOVE AND COMPASSION. And no one religion has a monopoly on that.

Now....

I want reciprocation.

I want my Palestinian brothers to respect MY right to live in freedom and independence, MY right for self definition with a state of my own where i can feel secure and safe, MY right to a peaceful existence alongside Palestine and the entire Arab world.

Here is my 3 step peace plan:

- 1. Recognize- both sides must recognize each-other's rights, as stated above.without formal recognition, there can be no progress.**
- 2. APOLOGIZE- after all the horrible things we have done to each other in the name of this cause or that, this god or that, this sense of :''justice'' or that,. We need to truly and deeply apologize to each other, express deep sorrow for the lost lives, for the blood spilled. We can't bring back the dead but we can feel remorse, we can identify with each other's pain, we MUST.**
- 3. Share!!- both sides must realize that whatever dream they had of a complete SOMETHING, it is not worth dying for. LIFE is our sacred value. We must SHARE what little land we have, share our dreams, give up something to gain a great thing...LIFE!**

That is my plan, those are my values.

I believe that there are many many people, on both sides of the fence, that share these values. And i am sure you are amongst them.

My friends, i want no ill feelings between us.

I will be coming to Barcelona for a concert this coming Tuesday. i would be happy to invite you to listen to the music, and to shake hands after the show, as brothers should.

I would also urge you to visit Israel some day. You may be surprised.

Sincerely yours,

Noa