



The Palestinian Question In The Newspapers Of Abi Al-Yaqthan: An Analytical Study Of A Sample From The Newspaper "El-Ouma " (1933-1938)

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Received: 10/2023

Accepted: 12/2023

Published: 02/2024

Abstract:

Our study aims to highlight the extent of the rootedness of the Palestinian issue in the Algerian context in its various aspects, starting from the diplomatic contributions and the declaration of the Palestinian state from Algerian territory, as well as the repeated demands for its recognition in international forums. It also examines the popular and civil society perspectives, as well as the media aspect, which is the focus of our study. The Algerian media's coverage of the Palestinian issue is not a recent phenomenon, as it has been in the media of many countries since 7 October, but dates back to a long time ago, reaching the colonial period through the press of the national movement. One of the most important headlines that gained prominence during this period was the newspaper "EL-ouma " by the journalist Abi Al-Yaqthan, whose content we have studied through an analytical study of twenty (20) issues from October 1936 to January 1937. The study is based on content analysis, and it concludes that the newspaper "EL-Ouma " attached great importance to the Palestinian issue, especially during important events concerning the relationship between the Palestinians and the Zionists, their relationship with the European mandates, as well as the involvement of Arab kings and princes in supporting the issue.

Keywords: Palestinian issue, press, national movement, Abi Al-Yaqthan, EL-Ouma newspaper

Introduction and Problem Statement:

The Palestinian issue is considered to be one of the most widely covered topics by the media worldwide due to its long history and numerous crises, starting from the end of the Ottoman rule over Palestine during World War I, the British Mandate over Palestine, the attempt to establish a homeland for the Jewish community to gather and end their diaspora according to the Balfour Declaration, and the events leading up to the partition of Palestine in 1948. It continues to be a prominent issue, as evidenced by the ongoing events in the Gaza Strip since 7 October this year (2023), with no prospect of a solution despite the passage of almost a month since its inception.

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The Palestinian crisis is one of the issues on the minds of Algerians, including the people, the government and the media. This will be addressed in our study, as the presence of the issue in the Algerian media dates back to its inception during the colonial era. The press of the national movement did not limit its coverage to domestic affairs, but considered the Palestinian issue as an Algerian issue, taking into account the sanctity of its land within the religious framework. Therefore, it was covered by several newspapers of the national movement, one of the most prominent of which was Abi Al-Yaqthan's newspaper "EL-Ouma".

How did the newspaper EL-Ouma by Abi Al-Yaqthan deal with the Palestinian question? Through our study, we aim to answer this main question by addressing the following issues:

1. An overview of the Palestinian question and its historical roots.
2. The press of the national movement.
3. The press of Abi Al-Yaqthan.
4. The EL-Ouma newspaper (1933-1938).
5. The Palestinian edition of Abi Al-Yaqthan's newspaper EL-Ouma .

Reasons for choosing the newspaper EL-Ouma :

Through a study of the headlines and editions of Abi Al-Yaqthan's eight newspapers, we found that EL-Ouma had the highest number of editions published, reaching 170. It also maintained the regularity of its publication compared to its counterparts, as it was published every Tuesday. While we exclude the period between the first and second issues, which was almost a full year due to suspension, the remaining issues were published regularly and consistently. One of the objective reasons for choosing EL-Ouma is the maturity of Al-Yaqthan's experience in newspaper publishing and media work, as it was the last newspaper, excluding the six issues of Al-Furqan that were published after the suspension of EL-Ouma .

Sample of the study:

A total of 20 issues were selected from the 170 issues, representing 11.76% of the total issues of the newspaper. This percentage is statistically acceptable to represent the research population. The selected issues were diverse, covering different months and years, as shown in the table below:

Month and year	Issue	Percentage (%)
June 1936	02	10
September 1936	05	25
October 1936	03	15
November 1936	03	15
December 1936	03	15
January 1937	04	20

Total	20	100
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Sample of the study:

A total of 20 issues were selected from the 170 issues, representing 11.76% of the total number of newspapers. While the sample selection was consistent in terms of the number of issues, it varied in terms of the months covered. However, it did not represent all the years of publication of EL-Ouma newspaper, as some issues from several years were missing. The selected sample was available due to the unavailability of all issues of the newspaper in archives and research centres. We were able to collect the twenty issues from the Abi Ishaq Heritage Service Library in Ghardaia, Algeria, as they were the available digital copies in their possession.

Although the selected sample of twenty issues does not cover all the years of publication, it gives us a clear understanding of Abi Yaqthan's approach to issues, his writing style, and the journalists and correspondents of EL-Ouma newspaper. We will present some of the characteristics of the coverage in the axis in relation to the media coverage of the Palestinian issue in EL-Ouma newspaper.

1. Overview of the Palestinian issue and its historical roots:

The Palestinian issue has deep historical roots and is one of the most complex issues due to its history and the events that accompanied each period. It began with the British Mandate over Palestine and the Balfour Declaration in 1917, which promised the establishment of a state for the Jewish community after the end of Ottoman rule during World War I. The issue continues to the recent Al-Aqsa Uprising on 7 October 2023, the repercussions of which are still being felt despite the fact that almost a month has passed since it took place.

However, for the sake of scientific accuracy, we will focus on the events that coincided with the issues of Abi Yaqthan's newspaper, which is the subject of our study. This will allow us to understand the position of the Palestinian issue in the Algerian press in general, and in EL-Ouma in particular, in terms of the issues and priorities presented at the national, Arab and international levels. This will be examined in detail in the remaining sections of the study.

Some of the important events that took place during this historical period include

The case of the Western Wall: This wall, which borders the Jerusalem Sanctuary from the west, is considered by both Muslims and Jews to be one of the most important landmarks in Palestine. For Muslims, it represents the place where the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) tied his steed during the night journey and ascension. For Jews, it represents the remaining archaeological remains of the Temple Mount, where they perform their rituals and mourn its destruction. Jews from around the world visit the Wall to pray before it, and it is considered a national symbol for them.

In 1929, the Jews placed a partition at the Wailing Wall, which was later removed by the British police. However, this action provoked massive Jewish protests, which quickly turned

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into confrontations between Muslim Arabs and Jews. These clashes lasted several days and resulted in damage to buildings, infrastructure and loss of life. As a result, the British authorities restricted Jewish immigration to Palestine and imposed restrictions on the transfer of land ownership from Arabs to Jews, whether voluntarily or by force, without the prior approval of the British administration. This decision did not last long, however, due to internal and external pressures on the British. As a result, the confiscation and expansion of Jewish land in Palestine resumed. In response to these circumstances, Palestinians, both as individuals and represented by active political parties, called for strikes and uprisings from 1936. These uprisings quickly escalated into intermittent waves of violence targeting both Jews and the British as their collusion became apparent. These events caused further damage to infrastructure, military installations, transport and communications. Neighbouring Arab countries and allies intervened to calm the situation, demanding that the British administration treat the Palestinians fairly and respect their national identity and religious sites.

As a measure to resolve the conflicts, uprisings and chaos in Palestine, the British administration proposed a plan to divide Palestine into three parts. This included an area under Arab state administration, which would include part of Palestine and the eastern part of Jordan; a second area for the Jewish state; and a third area under British Mandate. This proposal was the first document to recognise the establishment of an Israeli state on Palestinian land.

However, this proposal was strongly rejected by the Arab countries, who demanded its cancellation and resistance, as well as an end to the British Mandate in Palestine and a halt to Jewish immigration from abroad.

These demands were made during a conference held at the Bloudan Hotel in Syria in 1937, as the British authorities refused to hold the conference in the Palestinian territories, citing security concerns.

These are the main historical events that accompanied the period we have devoted to studying the coverage of Palestine in the Algerian newspaper EL-Ouma , considered one of the most important press outlets of the national movement.

2. The press of the national movement: it formed an important and prominent type of journalism among the dominant types of journalism during the colonial period, despite its late emergence compared to colonialist and pro-colonialist journalism (Mohammed, 2007, p. 53) . It was supervised by the indigenous population of Algeria and published mostly in Arabic. It was created to counter the intellectual and cultural invasion of the French colonialists.

Among the most important Arabic-language newspapers were those of the Association of Algerian Muslim Scholars, such as Al-Sunna, Al-Shari'a, and Al-Sirat (published in 1933), Al-Basa'ir (1935), Al-Muntaqid (1925) and Al-Shihab (1925) by Abdelhamid Ibn Badis, Al-Islaah (1927) by Sheikh Tayeb Al-Aqbi, Al-Najah (1919) by Abdelhafidh Ibn Al-Hashemi, Kawkab

Ifriqya (1907) by Sheikh Omar Ibn Qaddour, Al-Iqdam (1913) by Prince Khaled, Al-Sadiq (1920) by Mohammed Ibn Lakbir Al-Tajir, Sada Al-Sahra (1925) by Mohammed Ibn Al-Aabid, Al-Taquadum (1923) by Ibn Al-Tahami, Al-Barq (1927) and Al-Wifaq (1938) by Sa'id Al-Zahiri, Al-Thabat (1934) by Abdelrahman Ghareeb, Al-Balagh (1926) by Sheikh Amrouche, and Al-Hayat (1933) by Bassa'eed Adoun (Abu Al-Yaqzan, 2003, p. 17).

As for Abu Al-Yaqdhan, his contributions in the field of journalism and publishing were numerous and varied. He brought the first Arabic printing press to Algeria from sisterly Egypt and contributed to the printing of many of the newspapers mentioned above. He also contributed to enriching the efforts of authors, journalists and writers through his coverage of local, national, regional and international affairs. The following table shows the headlines of the newspapers published by Abu Al-Yaqdhan from 1926 to 1938.

The number	Newspaper name	Publication date	Date of discontinuation	Total number of issues
01	- Wadi M'zab	1926/10/01	18/01/1929	119
02	- M'zab	1930/01/25	25/01/1930	01
03	- Al Maghrib	1930/05/29	09/03/1931	38
04	- Al Noor	1931/09/15	03/05/1933	78
05	- Al Bustan	1933/05/27	13/07/1933	10
06	- Al Nibras	1933 /07/21	23/08/1933	06
07	- Al Ummah	1933/09/08	06/06/1938	170
08	- Al Furqan	1938/07/05	03/08/1938	06

Source: Book entitled "Proceedings of the fortieth anniversary of the death of Sheikh Ibrahim Abu Al-Yaqdhan, the Sheikh of Algerian journalism", 2-3 November 2013.

The table shows the extent of Sheikh Abu Al-Yaqdhan's contribution to the journalism of the national movement. He published six (06) titles since settling in Algeria in 1925, coming from Tunisia after about 10 years of progress in the ranks of knowledge and culture at the Zitouna Mosque, where he participated in several religious, political, social and cultural activities that allowed him to build an integrated personality imbued with the values of Arabism and just causes. This manifested itself in his passion for writing and his foray into the field of journalism. He did not easily succumb to the confiscation and intellectual suppression of his newspapers by the French occupying forces, for immediately after the demise of one title, another would appear with even greater strength and boldness. The historian Abu Al-Qasim Saadallah said of him: "As for his journalistic role, the number of his newspapers and his struggle with the administration, more than one person has mentioned it, which is the unique phenomenon that distinguished Abu Al-Yaqdhan, especially during the period from 1926 to 1938. He used to publish his newspaper under a new title whenever the administration prevented him from publishing it, and events adapted to him, but they did not break him" (Al-Qasim., 1998, p. 293).

The factors that determined his entry into the field of journalism, despite the difficult circumstances surrounding it, are as follows: (Sheikh, 2013, p. 102).

-A natural inclination towards journalism since childhood, which increased during his stay in Tunisia.

-The influence of current events in his native Algeria and the Islamic world.

-The strong opposition to his scientific mission in Tunisia, both personally and for his students.

-The imposition of the conscription law by the colonial authorities on the people of the South and his strong opposition to it through his writings and newspapers.

Abu Al-Yaqdhan described journalism as "the educated mother of her children, the mobile school that educates her sons, the wise guide for her students, the astute doctor for his patients, and the great reformer for his people" (Al-Yaqdhan, 1933). He also likened it to a mobile hospital when he said in the editorial of *Al-Nibras* newspaper in the same issue that it was "the mobile hospital with its doctors, tools and medicines".

3. Newspapers of Abu Al-Yaqdhan:

We begin with a brief overview of the life of the owner of the *EL-Ouma* newspaper to which we have devoted our study. He is Sheikh Abu Al-Yaqdhan Al-Hajj Ibrahim bin Isa bin Yahya bin Dawood bin Sheikh Al-Hajj Ahmad bin Sheikh Belqasim bin Hamou bin Isa Hamdi. They take their title and the title of their large and multi-branched family from their fifth grandfather, "Sheikh Al-Hajj Ahmad", in recognition of his personality and knowledge, as well as the abundance of his descendants. He belongs to the honourable "Bilat" tribe of Qarara, one of the noble, active and righteous tribes of the Mzab Valley. His noble lineage and that of his tribe go back to Abd al-Mu'min ibn Ali al-Muwahhid, the greatest of the kings of the Almohad dynasty in Morocco. He is from the Kumiya Berber tribe of the Tlemcen region. Sheikh Abu Al-Yaqdhan's ancestors migrated from the far south of Morocco in the Saqiyah al-Hamra, where there was a large population of the Ibadiyya sect. Some of the Sheikh's ancestors settled in Ouargla in southern Algeria, from where his grandfather, "Sheikh Belqasim", moved to Qarara.

His nickname "Abu Al-Yaqdhan" was derived from the Fifth Imam, Abu Al-Yaqdhan Muhammad bin Aflah bin Abdul Wahab bin Rustam, in admiration of his justice, high standards and position as a learned and religious man.

Sheikh Abu Al-Yaqdhan was born on Monday, the 29th of Safar al-Khair, 1306 AH, corresponding to the 5th of November, 1888 CE, in the city of Qarara, Ghardaia Province in southern Algeria. Among the significant historical milestones in his life, we mention the following: :(Ahmed, 2011, p. 20).

He studied in Qarara and was a student of Sheikh Al-Hajj Omar bin Yahya Al-Maliki, and later studied with the Qutb Sheikh Atfich in the town of Beni Yazgan. In 1918 he travelled to

Tunisia and joined Al-Zaytuna and later Al-Khaldounia. In 1914, he became the head of the first scientific mission from M'zab to Tunisia. Between 1917 and 1925, he actively participated in Tunisian cultural and political life. In 1920, he became a member of the Tunisian Constitutional Party and had a close friendship and collaboration with its leader Thaalibi. In 1926 he founded his first Arabic newspaper, "Bani M'zab", which was edited in Algeria, printed in Tunisia and distributed throughout the Muslim world, both East and West. Between 1926 and 1938, he published eight nationalist newspapers, all under the French colonial authorities. These newspapers were Wadi M'zab, M'zab, Al-Maghrib, Al-Noor, Al-Bustan, Al-Nibras, EL-Ouma and Al-Furqan.

In 1931, he founded the Arabic Printing Press in the capital of Algeria, which was one of the first Arabic printing presses and provided important services to the national and cultural movement between 1931 and 1962. In 1324 AH, Abu Al-Yaqdhan married Miss Sti, the daughter of Omar Al-Nasser. He participated in the founding of the Association of Algerian Muslim Scholars in 1931 and was elected to its Board of Directors in 1932, serving as its deputy treasurer. In the 1930s he was appointed a member of the Azaba Circle, the religious authority in Qarara, and deputised for Sheikh Byoud in delivering sermons at the Grand Mosque until his illness prevented him from continuing in April 1957. He became a member of the Reformist Life Society in 1937 and held a leading position in its administration.

He published articles and research papers in Arab newspapers and magazines, especially in Algeria and Tunisia, such as Al-Farooq, Al-Iqtihad, Al-Munqidh, Al-Shihab, Al-Basair, Al-Manar in Algeria, and Al-Munir, Al-Irada, and Al-Sawab in Tunisia, as well as Al-Manhaj in Cairo.

After 1938, he devoted himself to writing and settled in his home town of Qarara until he was stricken with hemiplegia in April 1957, but this did not deter him from his intellectual endeavours. He died on Friday the 25th of Safar, 1393 AH, 30 March 1973, in Qarara, where he was buried. He left behind about sixty works in various disciplines of the humanities, including:

- "Diwan Abu Al-Yaqdhan" in two volumes (printed)
- Sulaiman Al-Baruni Pasha in two volumes (printed)
- Sul Al-Istiqama" as a textbook of Ibadhi jurisprudence (printed, in eight volumes)
- Fath Nawafid Al-Quran" (printed)
- Irsad Al-Ha'ireen (printed)
- Sabil Al-Mu'min Al-Basir Ila Rabbih (printed)
- Addendum to the biography of Al-Shamakhi in three parts (manuscript)
- Al-Ibadiyya in North Africa" (manuscript).

The intellectual, social and reformist wealth that Abi Al-Yaqdhan presented to his local Mozabite community, Algerian society and the Arab world earned him the praise of important national figures. Sheikh Abdelhamid Ibn Badis, for example, said of him: "And Abi Al-Yaqdhan, in addition to his Mozabite identity, of which he is rightly proud, is an Arab who strives and struggles for Arabism, a patriot who fights and struggles for nationalism, and a devout Muslim who puts Islam at the forefront of all his actions."

The poet Mufdi Zakaria also said of him: "If the title 'Sheikh of Journalism' is to be given to one of the masters of Algerian journalism, Sheikh Abi Al-Yaqdhan undoubtedly deserves it. He spent a full ten years in a glorious journalistic struggle, defying the Algerian colonial administration with patience, determination and an unshakable will, during a period that was one of the most difficult and harsh in the stages of the struggle of the pen in Algeria" (Duboz. Ali Mohammed, n;d, p. 237).

4. EL-Ouma Newspaper (1933-1938):

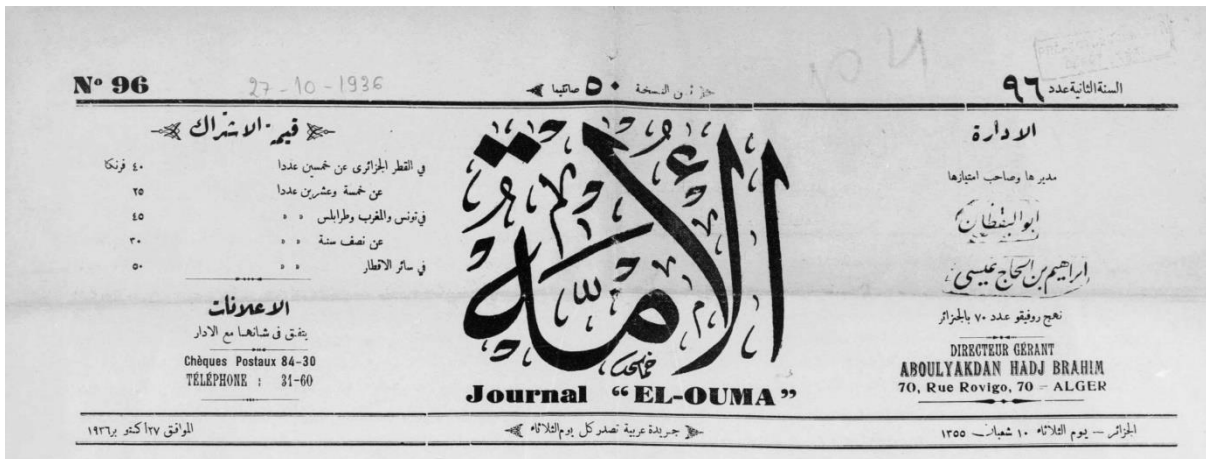
4.1 Introduction to the EL-Ouma newspaper:

The first issue of the newspaper "EL-Ouma " was published on 8 September 1933. It was seen as an extension of the newspaper "Al-Nibras". Instead of an introductory article, Abi Al-Yaqdhan published a regular article entitled "Social Cooperation and its Effects on Nations and Communities". It was the seventh in a series of articles previously published in the confiscated Al-Nibras. However, the life of the newspaper was in the grip of the colonial authorities and it was stifled in its infancy, leading to a year-long suspension of its publication. Abi Al-Yaqdhan tried to use this interruption as an excuse to retire from journalism. However, the insistence of Algerian readers on his return to the battlefield made him reconsider his decision, stating: "Until they strip us of our excuses and put us under great pressure, we must return to the field of work, despite the sacrifices we have made along the way, and considering that we have felt to the utmost the urgent need to serve religion, nation and country" (Al-Hajj, 2006, p. 112).

The articles and issues published in the paper were aimed at awakening the Algerian Arab nation by addressing its religious, social, cultural and political issues. The aim was to purify Islamic society from the corruption of immoral behaviour and to guide it towards the everlasting happiness of honour and dignity. The newspaper also sought to correctly shape Algerian society so that it would be imbued with noble ethics, nourished by correct ideas, and plan its path straight towards a prosperous and good life (Al-Hajj, 2006, p. 113).

The newspaper "EL-Ouma " was printed by the "Arabic Printing Press" founded by Abi Al-Yaqdhan in 1931. It was located at 70 rue de Rouffignac in Algiers. The press had limited resources and simple means. The newspaper "EL-Ouma " is considered one of Abi Al-Yaqdhan's most influential newspapers, with 170 issues published before it, like its predecessors, was confiscated on 6 June 1938.

4.2 The Formal and Artistic Aspects of the Newspaper "EL-Ouma"



Format 02: Image of the front page of "Al Umma" newspaper.

Firstly, it is worth mentioning the newspaper's presentation from a formal and artistic point of view, before looking at its content and style, focusing on the media coverage of the Palestinian issue in the issues selected for study.

The layout of EL-Ouma newspaper:

EL-Ouma was a weekly newspaper published every Tuesday from Tuesday, 8 September 1933, with dimensions of 55 cm x 30 cm. The title of the newspaper, "EL-Ouma", was written in prominent black Arabic script in the centre of the page, immediately followed by its French title, "Journal EL- OUMA". In the top right-hand corner of the newspaper, the address of the newspaper's headquarters and the name of its director are written in Arabic, and below that, the name of the owner and the location of the newspaper are written in Latin letters. In the top left-hand corner is the subscription price for Algeria, Tunisia and Tripoli, as well as for other regions, with significant discounts for six-month subscribers.

At the top of the main title of the newspaper, the issue number is written in Arabic and numerals on the right, and in French numerals on the left. At the bottom of the page, the price of the issue in Algeria is given as 50 centimes. Below the main title and in a horizontal frame, the date of issue is given on the right in Arabic months and numerals, and on the left in foreign numerals and Gregorian months. In the middle of the page, the periodicity of the newspaper is mentioned, stating that it is published every Tuesday.

It is obvious that Abi Al-Yaqdhan paid attention to the formal and artistic aspects of the front page of the newspaper, displaying all the necessary information for the newspaper in accordance with the publishing requirements. This was done in order to respect editorial standards and to avoid any inconvenience. At first glance, it is clear that the owner of the newspaper is aware of the journalistic work and its technical aspects, from the title of the newspaper to its headquarters. It is inconceivable that a newspaper could be published from

an unknown location, not to mention its financial value, which ensures transparency and prevents tax evasion.

The Arabic depth was also emphasised in the artistic aspects through the use of prominent and beautiful Arabic fonts, Arabic numerals and Hijri months. However, some necessary information was also presented in French, such as the title, the name of the newspaper's owner and its location, to give the impression of the newspaper's legality and legitimacy.

However, the absence of photographs in the selected issues is mainly due to the lack of material and technical resources of *Abi Al-Yaqdhan's* printing press, not to mention the lack of funding. The paper was published through subscriptions from customers, donations from benefactors and occasional advertisements.

5. The Palestinian Question in the Newspaper "EL-Ouma ":

5.1 The number of issues dealing with the Palestinian issue in the selected sample:

The Palestinian issue had a significant presence in the newspaper *EL-Ouma*, which was the subject of this study. It was reflected in a large number of news articles and analytical pieces, totalling approximately eighty-five (85) articles. Starting with issue number seventy-seven (77), almost every issue contained articles dealing with the Palestinian issue, given the significant developments that took place during this period. These developments were covered in the first section devoted to the Palestinian issue. Moreover, out of the twenty (20) issues analysed, approximately 13% of the articles were devoted to the Palestinian issue, which corresponds to 11.66% of the total space devoted to the analysed topics. The headlines related to the Palestinian issue were prominent and consistent in most of the issues.

The results show that *EL-Ouma* paid considerable attention to the Palestinian cause, sometimes at the expense of local issues, especially during the unfortunate events that followed the British proposal for the partition of Palestine into an Israeli territory, an Arab territory comprising part of Palestine and Jordan, and another territory under British mandate to maintain stability and security between the two states, as stated in the partition document.

Through its extensive coverage of the issue, *EL-Ouma* aimed to make the Algerian and Arab nations reflect on the hidden agenda of British colonisation in creating a state for the Zionist entity in the Holy Land. This was particularly evident after the explicit message of commitment sent by the British Foreign Secretary to Lord Lionel Rothschild on 2 November 1917, calling for the establishment of a homeland for the Jewish people in Palestine, which stated:

"Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have great pleasure in transmitting to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following statement of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations, which has been submitted to and approved by the Cabinet:

His Majesty's Government look with favour upon the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of that object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the attention of the Zionist Federation. (Khmaissa, 2018).

These promises were fulfilled in 1948 with the actual establishment of the State of Israel following the end of the British Mandate on 14 May 1948, as proclaimed by the Executive Head of the World Zionist Organisation.

Therefore, all the activism that took place in Palestine between (1917-1948) was extensively highlighted by the newspaper EL-Ouma in its pages. In one of its articles, it said: "The Palestinian issue has occupied the minds and hearts in its greatness because it is the source of enlightenment, the unifying factor for world peace, the cradle of the heavenly religions, the first of the two Qiblas (directions of prayer) and the third of the two holy shrines. It is the site of Al-Buraq and the ascension of the Master of Existence from the earth to the heavens. As the holy Arab-Muslim land of Palestine, it used to enjoy the shadow of peace, nourished by the food of justice and equality, where Christians and Israelis lived honourably alongside Arab Muslims, the owners of the land, without any injustice or oppression. But ... as soon as political interference entered Palestine, the situation changed and turned it upside down, making it a colony like no other, a field of discord like no other, and a theatre of battle like no other" (EL-Ouma , Issue 78, 9 June 1936).

As Abu Al-Yaqthan pointed out in the above-mentioned issue, the Arab dimension of the Palestinian land sought to present the values of Islam in terms of coexistence and tolerance between different religions and races, with no distinction between Arab and non-Arab, white and black, except through piety. Emotional appeals were also observed in Abu Al-Yaqthan's discourse, appealing to the emotions of belonging to the land, religion and culture. Such appeals are one of the effective techniques in the recipients' response, as noted by Alexis Tan.

The prominent focus on the Palestinian issue makes the Algerian and Arab nation think about it as one of the leading Arab issues that requires mobilisation and defence.

Often, the media cannot present all issues and problems, but they determine the issues that their audience should think about. This is based on the prioritisation approach, which assumes that the more the media focuses on a particular story or event, the more space that story occupies in the minds of its audience. There is therefore a reciprocal relationship between the media's attention to a particular issue and the public's interest in it. Thus, the theory is based on the idea that the media has the ability to determine the important issues for the audience (Al-Sayed, 1998, p. 288).

In addition to these analytical articles, the newspaper paid attention to news articles through its network of writers in Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Tunisia and Morocco. The paper also carried news

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about Palestine from some well-known regional and Arab newspapers known for their interest in the Palestinian issue, such as Al-Shorouk, Al-Shabab, Al-Fateh and Al-Rabita Al-Arabiya.

In addition to publishing the data issued by the Palestinian Arab Committee in Egypt and Lebanon and the data issued by the Arab National Office in Damascus, not to mention the data issued by the Algerian parties that have decided to participate in the relief of Palestine. In issue 35 of the newspaper (24.8.1937), we read a statement issued by the Arab Defence Committee for the Relief of Arab Palestine, affiliated to the Algerian People's Party, under the title "Algeria Donates to Aid Palestine", in which it expressed its position on the decision to partition Palestine. It reads: "The People's Party decided in its meeting on the 4th of this month to become officially involved in the Arab-Palestinian issue and to fulfil its duty as an Arab-Muslim party in Arab-Islamic countries to defend the dignity of Arabism and Islam in Palestine, which has been violated by the cursed cancer of British colonialism. Accordingly, the Arab Defence Committee for Arab Palestine was formed and six meetings were held within one week. It was unanimously decided to send telegrams to the highest authorities in Europe and to the United Nations "protesting against this partition".

The party also decided to collect material contributions and send them to Palestine, but those who contributed were subjected to brutal French repression and confiscation of these funds, and the party's leader, Massali Al-Hajj, and five of his companions were imprisoned, prompting the party to issue a statement of protest. (Al-Yaqthan, A., Li-Filastin, Statement of the People's Party on the Theft of Directed Aid, 1936) (Al-Yaqzan, 1936)

EL-Ouma published the most famous local and Arab writers and poets, including Hussein Heikal, Abdelkader Mazine, Mustafa Sadiq Al-Rifai, Mohammed Hassan Al-Najmi, Ahmed Mahrum, Bashara Al-Khoury, Mufdi Zakaria and Jalwah Al-Abbasi.

Abu Al-Yaqthan did not limit himself to a few journalists and correspondents. The rest were either contributors or, as has been made clear, their writings were taken over from other newspapers. Therefore, Abu Al-Yaqthan issued a call to writers in issue 51, published on 19 November 1935, asking for literary and moral contributions from writers and intellectuals. It stated: "EL-Ouma opens its pages to all those who wish to contribute to its enrichment and revival in the fields of literature and morality... We ask the great writers and penmen to make their literary and moral contribution in accordance with the elegance of their pens and the attractiveness of their expressions in important issues that are in line with the nation's approach and follow its chapters". Abu Al-Yaqthan did not accept all contributions, but set conditions for accepting, rejecting or modifying the article. It was an important image for him that transcended all considerations. He also stated in the same issue, "...EL-Ouma newspaper does indeed set conditions and asks writers to adhere to them. These conditions are that the writers should seek wisdom, integrity and moderation and avoid personal issues and empty debates, and they should write clearly with a clear signature, and they should not interfere in the publication of the article, how it is published and what is not published, as this is the responsibility of the administration alone. It may be related to a distortion in the formulation

and editing to the extent that it is unsuitable for publication, or it may deviate from the newspaper's approach.

There are also some pre-publication procedures that the Editorial Board follows. This may be necessary to ensure appropriateness on occasion, or to modify and refine the article as a result of imbalances in its formulation, or the article may be in one valley while its title is in another valley, so it is harmful to make the title fit the spirit of the article, and so on..."

5.2 The nature of the headlines in the topics addressing the Palestinian issue:

The type of headlines used in articles dealing with the Palestinian issue varied. They included news headlines, which accounted for 30% of the total, and explanatory and analytical headlines, which accounted for 45%. There were also promotional headlines aimed at awakening the conscience of the nation and its youth to their own cause, which accounted for about 20%. The remaining percentage was devoted to republishing statements issued by Arab or regional human rights organisations.

These percentages show that the newspaper focused on analysing and interpreting events in Palestine, especially the development of the Zionist entity's imposition on Arab lands and the partition project that began to take shape after the Balfour Declaration in 1917. The period in which Al-Umma was active was rich in events that needed to be reported and explained. It published articles by various Egyptian, Syrian and Iraqi writers who provided analysis and insight based on factual data. The aim of Al-Umma's articles was to make the Arab people aware of the danger of dividing Palestinian land and allowing Jews to own part of it. As can be seen, the headlines were sometimes informative, sometimes promotional and sometimes satirical.

5.3 The vigilant style of "Al Ummah" newspaper. An analysis of Al-Umma's style reveals that it is characterised by frankness, clarity and persuasiveness. In describing Al-Umma's approach, Zoubir Seif El-Islam said: "It takes the path of honesty, integrity, truthfulness, embodying justice and serving the public good. It does not resort to embellishment, flattery, lies or hypocrisy". Abu Al-Yaqzan is known for his sincerity and integrity, and he does not engage in flattery of officials for personal gain or service. This is evident in his style of writing and his acceptance of other writers' articles in Al-Umma newspaper and his other publications.

His articles are characterised by detail and analysis. Muhammad Nasser explains that this is a natural consequence of the journalistic approach to writing during the era of reformist writers in general. Their strong desire to convey their intended message to their readers and convince them of their ideas led them to provide detailed analysis and sometimes even repetition. (Nasser, 2018, p. 167).

Furthermore, his style tends to present evidence and arguments, often using religious and cultural affiliations. For example, he cites Qur'anic verses and poetic verses as evidence.

Through the style of Al-Umma newspaper, we observe the dominance of literary and persuasive language over the journalistic language we see today. This reflects the aim of reformist newspapers, and Abu Al-Yaqzan's newspapers in particular. The general context calls for raising awareness, awakening consciences, urging youth to be patriotic and confronting the enemy through mostly explicit means. This is in contrast to some of Abu Al-Yaqzan's earlier newspapers, as critics have noted. They observed a change in his style as a result of his experience and the challenges he faced as he continued his journey. Al-Umma's experience is a mature one, with its numerous newspapers, its style and its approach to both form and content.

Indeed, the satirical style has at times been present in Al-Umma, following in the footsteps of its predecessor, Al-Nibras. In some of its issues, it appeared as an expression of frustration with certain British decisions, as seen in an article entitled "England Puts Out a Fire with Petroleum Pipes". This was meant to convey the idea that the British administration was tackling problems with more problems, rather than finding clear and definitive solutions in favour of the rightful owner of the land. Instead, they persisted and added to the turmoil, adding to the complexity of the situation by, for example, pouring petrol on the fire instead of water.

Conclusion:

It can be said that Al-Umma newspaper treated the Palestinian issue as a central topic in its field of interest, accounting for about a tenth of the media content in 170 issues over a period of five years. It sought to keep abreast of all developments surrounding the issue, especially during a sensitive period in Palestinian history, namely the empowerment of Zionists alongside Palestinians on the same land. The newspaper went beyond mere reporting and delved into analysing, interpreting and guiding Algerian and Arab public opinion to engage with and rally around their cause.

Al-Umma, under its owner Abu Al-Yaqzan, was a comprehensive and mature newspaper in its style, deep in its analysis and convincing in its arguments. It drew its strength and depth from its diverse writers from different Arab regions, whether in the east, west or south, or from the talented Algerian writers, intellectuals and poets. Al-Umma's mission was reformist, aimed at awakening the Algerian and Arab conscience to its core problem, which has yet to see the light of day, but has only become more complex and oppressive for the Arab people in their own land. The newspaper faced repression because of the frankness with which it tackled its subjects and the courage with which it expressed its views. It was completely confiscated by the colonial authorities on the basis of a decision issued on 24 May 1938, which stated: "By decision of the Minister of the Interior of 24 May 1938, the Arabic newspaper Al-Umma, printed in Algeria, is forbidden to be circulated, sold, distributed or published in Algeria".

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