This dissertation has been written in lieu of two optional papers (3rd and 4th) of M.A. Political Science Examination 1968, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.

The subject of this study is "India and the problem of Palestine". I have made an attempt to trace the history of Palestine in the context of the manoeuvres made by the erstwhile mandatory Powers to keep its stranglehold on one of the most sensitive and strategic region of the world. After the debacle of the Ottoman Empire the Arab world became a victim of imperialistic manipulations which reached their climax when a continuous and persistent effort was made to carve out a national home for Jews in the Arab territory.

I have analysed the various stages of this development from the creation of Israel, the long cherished homeland of the Jews, to the various expedients applied to expand the area of occupation with the clandestine support and open collaboration of the western Powers, mainly, Great Britain and the U.S.A.

I have critically examined the attitude of India at various stages of this development. I have tried to bring out the background and reasons for the consistent support which India rendered at various planes. I have tried to show that in rendering this support India was guided by the highest principles of Justice and fair-play and also its objective of helping in the maintenance of world peace. Apart from these reasons, the Indian peoples have centuries old cultural and economic ties with this region which have been examined in detail.

The establishment of Israel in Palestine constitutes a period of great significance in the history of the Arab world. It led to recurrent conflicts and dissensions between the Arab world and the Super-Powers. The struggle of Jews to have a separate homeland was challenged by the Arabs at every stage. The big powers played their heinous role in this region and made it a trouble-spot. It has attracted the attention of all powers, big or small, capitalistic
or socialistic, aligned or non-aligned for varying economic and political reasons. I have studied all the aspects of the problem in detail.

I have made critical and extensive use of the literature available on the subject as much as the limited time at my disposal permitted. A detailed bibliography of the works on which this study is based is given at the end.

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