

Abdullah Ocalan adds a new chapter to the “Protocols of the Elders of Zion”..

Imprisoned since 1999, sentenced to death and then to life imprisonment, Abdullah Ocalan, leader of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), is regarded by the French and international left and far left as a “*libertarian*”, “*feminist*” and “*ecological*” thinker.

Despite these accolades, the untouchable Ocalan nevertheless wrote, in April 2020, two articles in which his delirious antisemitism and conspiracy clearly appear: “In The Commemoration of the Holocaust”¹ and “The Jewish Ideology, Capitalism and the Modernity”². These texts were published in English on the website of the Iranian Kurds (rojhelat.info), which promotes the writing of the PJAK, the Party for a Free Life in Kurdistan, closely linked to the PKK. Since April 2010, these two texts haven’t provoked any reaction or any debate on this website, or elsewhere, as far as I know.

Even if these two articles have been poorly translated into English (and probably poorly written in their original language) their antisemitism is blatant³.

Is this open antisemitism really new in Ocalan's thinking and within the PKK? I doubt it. Some comrades told me that they had been hearing about the rampant antisemitism within the PKK for years, but that they did not want to harm the struggle of the Kurds for their national liberation. A typical attitude in the left and far left, for many years.

But, even if Ocalan became an antisemite only in April 2010, that does not change anything to the problem.

It’s obvious, in his way of writing, that he wants to appear as an important theorist and a fine connoisseur of the history of the Jewish people, over the last 3,500 years. His remarks are not limited to the evocation of the Judeocide, which he formally condemns (“*Without a shadow of a doubt Hitler could not be defended. Genocide is the most notorious crime against the humanity*”), or how Jews could integrate into the Middle East in the 21st century because he is “*among those who are the strong believers that the Jews should be settled in the Middle East and respected like the other humans*” . But on one condition: Jews must renounce to the vicious nation-state model and accept the establishment of “*democratic-confederate*” structures, in the PKK style. Indeed, for Ocalan, the nation-state is the source of absolute evil and represents the “*most important management tools of the Jewish cosmos*”. Behind this pseudo “*libertarian*” accusation, lies a ferocious antisemitism.

In his two articles, Ocalan engages in long pseudo theological considerations that go back to Abraham. I will not go into his ramblings here and will limit myself to his purely political reflections. The undisputed leader of the PKK claims to provide an analysis of the “*three strategies*” deployed by “*the Jews*” in history “*to survive*”. In reality, despite his use of Marxist language, Ocalan has only added a new chapter to the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.

¹ <http://rojhelat.info/en/?p=1188> (5 April 2020).

² <https://rojhelat.info/en/?p=1211> (13 April 2020).

³ PM Press (an American left and even « *libertarian* » publisher) published in 2020 a collection of texts (*The sociology of freedom. Manifesto of the Democratic Civilization, volume III*), in which one can find the same antisemitic thoughts, but expressed in a better English. With a foreword of John Holloway, and positive opinions from David Graeber ! These two left intellectuals have not been apparently disturbed by Ocalan’s antisemitism.

In his view, Jews have always been persecuted and therefore had to defend⁴ themselves against the hostility they aroused, using three different but complementary “strategies”:

1) **They waged a struggle for ideological influence**, thanks to their monotheistic religion, which Ocalan often calls “*mosaicism*”. They “created various religions” (Christianity, Islam) or “*philosophical movements*”. Their “*intellectuals, writers, thinkers, ideologues, scholars*” played a decisive role in all the intellectual reflection of humanity. They propagated “*scientism*” and “*positivism*”, the religion of capitalism, and transformed secularism into a harmful “*anti-religion*”. They played a decisive role in the creation of the first “*Freemasonry loges*”, etc. All that, without any “*ill-intentions*” (sic).

2) **The Jews fought to acquire a dominant economic and social position**, especially through trade, money lending, currency exchange activities as well as through their “*monopolies in the capital-monetary sphere*” (especially in the construction of the “*English and Dutch nation-states*”. Jews were active as “*merchants, businessmen and bankers*”⁵, working the stock exchanges, as well as investing their capital in industry to make it bear fruit. Since the 16th century, the triangle “*Izmir-Anatolia, Amsterdam-Holland and England*” concentrates the “*Jewish power*” of which London was (and still is) the epicentre. And, according to the paranoid vision of Ocalan ; “the Jews” financed wars (from the 16th century to the present day⁶ !) and extended their power “*in Cairo, Aleppo, the Sham [Greater Syria], Tabriz, Antakya, Baghdad and Istanbul*”. For Ocalan, capitalism has been inseparable from “*Mosaicism*” for 400 years, even in nation-states where not a single Jew lived because capitalist modernity has been shaped by Jews everywhere⁷;

3) **“The Jews” have practised what Ocalan calls “apostasy”**, but which has another meaning for him: a cleverly calculated concealment (the equivalent of the famous Shiite “*taqiya*” which excites journalists so much). Either “the Jews” hypocritically adopted another religion (Islam or Christianity) while continuing to practise Judaism secretly, or they presented themselves as agnostics, atheists, radical supporters of freedom of thought, or even “*Freemasons*” - attitudes that seemed, on the surface, to be at the antipodes of Jewish beliefs and “*mosaicism*”.

⁴ It's very important for Ocalan to present these so-called “strategies” as a measure “self-defence” of the Jews to protect themselves. This gives a compassionate veneer to his antisemitism.

⁵ According to Ocalan, historians have “underestimated” the relationship between capitalism and religion and this subject urgently needs to be studied in greater depth!

“*The relationship between Protestantism, Capitalism, nation-state, modernity and the Jews is an issue worthy of contemplations and researches.*”

These seemingly neutral general considerations are only a derisory way of hiding his antisemitism behind an apparently “theoretical” concern, while claiming to target all religions – when in fact he only targets the Jewish religion! “Marxist” antisemites (as well as Holocaust deniers) are all the more in need of “scholarly” cautions since they have no historical knowledge.

⁶ “*The money lending of the Jewish bankers and the businessmen to the government of the Britain and the Netherland contributed significantly to their triumph in the wars. In the American continent particularly in northern America, in the wars of independence from the Britain they had huge impacts.*”

⁷ “*The role of the Jews in the establishment of the two other columns of Capitalism and the modernity (Capitalist modernity), which are the industrialism and the nation-state is nonnegotiable.*” “*The Judaism as both the strategic ideological and the economic strategic power have a substantial role in the establishment of modernity as well as the nation-state phenomena.*” “*Therefore how could one underestimate or overlook the **important** monopolistic roles of the Jewish capital on the modernity both in the form of capitalist modernity and the industrialist modernity of capitalism?*”

According to the leader of PKK, “the Jews” demonstrate a great “*strategic*” sense, and thus have always hidden their true objectives. Thanks to these three so-called “*strategies*”⁸, “the Jews” (which Ocalan successively qualifies as a “*nation*”, a “*religion*”, an “*ethnic group*” and a “*tribe*”) have succeeded in developing a “*nationalist-tribal*” ideology, which later took the form of Zionism, but which first contributed to the creation of the “*first nation-state*” in the 16th century. Guess where? In England! And of course “the Jews” inspired the creation of other nation-states where they exerted considerable economic and political influence (the reader can complete the list by drawing on his personal fantasies).

Perhaps this “Marxist” mumbo jumbo should be quoted, to detect the antisemitic venom it tries to conceal:

According to Ocalan,

*“The nation-state was not only constituted from the state-run cadres, but it had set the certain ideological make up for the citizens as well as the governmental cadres (exactly similar to religion) and envisaged the entire society as the constituting element of the nation–state. This is the characteristic that the Hebrew tribes from the outset up to date has carried first in the form of ethnic and then in the shape of nations-state development. Tribe, ethnic and the Hebraic nation at the final stage, from both religious and ethnical perspective are two complementary elements; in a sense the ethnicity is the religiosity or the religiosity is ethnicity. Without regarding the separation of the rulers and the ruled, with the aim of hitting the same target they do merge with one another. The reality is that (this is my own analysis and I do see it significantly **important**) the tendency of the nation-state is derived from the ideologies of the Hebraic tribes, imposed on all different nations; and they have been adapted and reformed accordingly. The organisation of the modern Capitalism with the Jewish style (and modern Israel) would have been the nation-state. The core of nation-state not from racial perspective but from the ideological perspective has a Jewish Zionist character. In the era of Capitalist modernity the Jews have adopted the nation-state as the model.”*

For Ocalan, the Jewish religion nourished the idea of nation, which in turn nourished the harmful idea of the State, a State that was itself the guarantee of the economic and social power of the Jews. The circle is now complete. Here we are presented with an anti-nationalist and anti-state discourse with pseudo “libertarian” overtones that serves to construct an anti-Judaic and anti-Jewish discourse.

Ocalan reads like a bad science fiction tale about the role of the Jews in the constitution of nation-states and then nationalist movements that continue through the centuries since, according to Ocalan, “*Jewish cosmopolitanism*” (note how the antisemitic panoply is completed over the course of the articles), will provoke numerous social revolts and inspire “*Arab, Turkish, Palestinian, Iranian-Shiite and Kurdish*” nationalisms, given the alleged ideological “*monopoly*” that “the Jews” supposedly exercise over “nationalism”.

As you have probably understood now, Ocalan is a cautious antisemite – or at least he tries to be.

On the one hand, he praises the “qualities” of the Jews, noting their admirable ability to resist persecution, massacres and Judeocide; their supposedly “*inherent*” and “*tribal*” sense of money (if one takes this as a compliment); their outstanding intellectual achievement; their decisive contributions to the European Enlightenment. Ocalan even goes so far as to write that “*the Jewish tiny civilization*”, born more than three millennia ago, became “*the essence of the world civilization*”.

On the other hand, he stresses the extent to which “the Jews” constitute a “*tribe*”, an “*ethnic group*”, or “*colonials*” (sic) who, although a minority, have always been able to manipulate both the masses and their leaders, whether “*in Syria, Iraq, Iran, the Caspian banks (sic), Russia*”, “*Northern Africa*”, “*Balkans*”, Europe or America. According to Ocalan, as early as the 10th century, “the Jews” “*set up cities in which they also established markets*” and monopolised “*half the roles and administrations in the cities as well as the management of the newly-born developing states*”.

⁸ This word recurs obsessively in both texts, perfectly revealing the conspiracy theories behind them.

However, at some point, Ocalan can no longer control himself and reveals the basis for his argument : the Jews created their own misfortune not only by acquiring so much economic and financial power (especially in Ocalan's sick brain), but also by considering themselves “*superior to the rest of the society*” and as the “*chosen nation of God*” (once again, another “Marxist” who did not understand this concept!).

Poor Jews, they did not know it, but they caused their own genocide. Their nationalist, ethnic and religious attitude and ideology caused not only Hitler to emerge, but the Holocaust as well.

“*The fundamental reason for the Holocaust committed by Hitler was that the Jewish capitalists threw their strategic economical powers behind the Britain and it had a substantial role in the defeat of the Germans. The same alliance in the Cold War also rendered the Russian hegemonic tendencies defeated.*”

According to Ocalan, the exceptional combination of the “*ethnic and religious dimensions*” that characterise Judaism was bound to provoke the hostility of peoples against the Jews, “*the best organised and the most experienced nation in the world*”.

Perhaps most sordid, Ocalan proclaims, “*I full heartedly understand the victims of genocide; I feel and understand it to the level that not a single Jew would be able to reach; since the same system has encircled me and befall the same calamity upon me.*” He then immediately adds, “*Nonetheless it was the Jews who created and reinforced such a system.*”

“*The Jews as the businessmen and the bankers collected a significant capital, and in the establishment of every nation-state they received considerable protections. The nation-state was the catalyst for the expansion of the Jewish capital. (...) When the Jewish capital was expanding throughout the world, it had nonetheless produced its own adversaries. (...) It is well evident that the Jewish capitalists (...) produced a great maintenance to the institutions of the nation-state in the direction of their traditional policies. By doing this they explicitly set the ground for the massacre of the Jewish communities; they were not aware of that thus could not be held accountable.*”

And Ocalan explains that one can neither understand nor analyse the Judeocide, nor even prevent further genocides from occurring, if one does not denounce the pioneering ideological role of “*Jewish nationalism*” ever since... 3,500 years!!

Ocalan's fake “examples” are partly chosen in the West, including Russia, although in such an allusive way that one wonders whether he really believes that the Russia of the Tsars was in the hands of “the Jews”, or whether he believes in an international Judeo-Bolshevik conspiracy ! And he also chooses examples in the Middle East, where, according to him, very early in history, “the Jews” got their hands not only on trade but on land in “*the most fertile districts*”, thus damning the pawn to the Arabs before the birth of Islam.

In these two articles, Ocalan constantly refers to the supposed activities of Jewish bankers and traders in this region. For him, the Arabs' hostility against the Jews can be explained by a “*conflict which has the historic background of 3,500 years*” and “*is now culminating to the clash of civilisations*”.

Ocalan refers to the “*important*”¹⁰ role of the Jews in the Seljuk dynasty (11th-13th century) and then in the Ottoman Empire, a role that has supposedly led to the persecution and ethnic cleansing of Christians and Kurds. He thinks Jews have even imposed certain projects on Mustapha Kemal, who did not grasp the full extent of their nefarious influence.

⁹ The new English translation published by PM Press in 2020 is more ambiguous about Hitler :

«*During the two world wars, the Allies destroyed Germany's hegemonic claim. One reason Hitler carried out the genocide of Jews may well be that he believed that Jewish capital had used its strategic strength on England's side and played a major role in Germany's defeat in World War I. During the Cold War, the same alliance, in a new configuration, would also destroy Russia's hegemonic claims.*» But the same obsession with “the Jews” runs through the book.

¹⁰ The adjective “*important*” appears 24 times in both articles. The repetition is sufficient to produce its effect. The same is true of the expression “*not to be underestimated*”, which enables him to avoid giving the slightest statistical, historical or documentary precision to his remarks.

Dealing with more than three millennia in fifteen pages, these two very confusing articles offer us a good example of an antisemitic discourse hidden behind a feigned Philo-semitism and a host of anti-Jewish clichés and classic stereotypes. Why, in order to defend himself against the Turkish State (the stated aim of these two articles, according to their author), does a political prisoner like Ocalan need to construct a mythical and fundamentally conspiratorial narrative (even if he pretends being hostile to conspiracy theories)?

What is the relationship between the fight against his imprisonment and the alleged decisive role of the Jews behind the scenes of history for three millennia? I can see only one explanation: Antisemitism in the 21st century is still an effective anti-capitalist¹¹ ideology that provides pseudo-historical explanations and helps leftist leaders like Ocalan better manipulate the political and social frustrations of the oppressed.

But, I ask you. Who on the left, and the extreme left, is still capable of denouncing and fighting antisemitism?

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¹¹ Anticapitalist and even “revolutionary”. According to the Italian historian Francesco Germinario, anti-Semitism is neither a “*perverse or delirious vision of history (...) that turns into a negation of reality*”, nor a “*deviation*” nor an “*exceptional phenomenon*”. Antisemitism is a “*revolutionary political ideology determined to destroy liberal bourgeois society*” ; it proposes a Great Narrative, alternative to the Great Marxist Narratives, and is therefore also likely to win the support of the masses, especially the middle classes and the petty bourgeoisie. Like socialism, anti-Semitism has always put forward a “*clearly universalist proposal of orientation, insofar as the struggle against the Jews, starting from the nation to which the anti-Semite belongs, must be understood by all peoples* ». And Germinario compares the universal scope of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion to that of the *Communist Party Manifesto* of Marx and Engels. According to him, from the outset, anti-Semitic movements have called on “*politics to control financialized liberal capitalism*” ; and on the state to intervene to “*eliminate all the causes and aspects that determine the crisis of the capitalist social system, from financial speculation to perilous stock market operations*”. Because it declares itself hostile to the “*capitalism of circulation*”, Banking and Finance, this ideology supports “*productive capitalism*” (of the industry but also of indigenous crafts and small trade) against “*parasitic capitalism*” (monopolised, in this fantasy vision, by the Jews). See. F. Germinario, *Negazionismo a sinistra, paradigmi dell’uso e dell’abuso dell’ ideologia*, Asterios, 2017.

* POST-SCRIPTUM ABOUT OCALAN'S FLAWED "GEOPOLITICS"

I received this comment after publishing my article on the Net and, as I think the author points towards an important point, I gladly add here his remarks :

“What is quite extraordinary is Ocalan's recapitulation of all the antisemitic themes, kneaded into one sauce. This sheds light on conspiracy themes whose connection to antisemitism is not necessarily obvious to the layman, such as the obsession with the power of the Queen of England among the followers of Lyndon Larouche (Jacques Cheminade in France). An important point seems to me to be his "geopolitics" of the 20th century and the 21st : the Jews are behind the Anglo-Saxon maritime empires, Great Britain, and then the United States, directed their victorious struggle first against Germany (that's why Hitler committed the Holocaust, writes Ocalan !), then against Russia-USSR, and now they are leading this struggle against China. Germany (Nazi), Russia (under Stalin then under Poutine), China, are the three successive figures of the terrestrial empires, which are not nation-states but have the vocation to unite peoples really linked to their soil (Ocalan is here close to Alexandr Douguine) ... There is nothing marginal about this global geopolitical vision, in which the thought of Nazi Germany is generally erased (but Ocalan has the “merit” of not forgetting it!). It is very widespread.” (Vincent Présumey.)