

Jeopardy

"Walls of exploitation, built on sacred land

**A nation's identity , rooted in another's
hand**

expatriation, alienation and pain

**The footprint of Zionism, an endless
abstain**

Apartheid in disguise , a system so grand

Separation , inequality and prejudice

**Bowlderization of culture , identity and
name**

**The cost of a dream , built on another's
shame**

**From Nakba to now , a story untold
of buoyancy and might , in the face of gold
but also of suffering , of tears and of blood
The price of a stolen homeland , built on
another's mud**

**Zionism's twilight , a dark and endless
night**

**A dream of a nation , built on another's
light**

**Racism's toxicity , leaching deep into the
bone**

**A poisonous ideology , leaving death and
despair alone ."**

By : Aphile . A . Mhlongo

Zionism = Racism

This poem is an assessment of Zionism , the
nationalist movement that emerged in the late
nineteenth century with the goal of establishing a

Jewish homeland in Palestine. This poem argues innately how Zionism's racist in some manner, eternalizing systems of exploitation, expatriation, and alienation against the native Palestinian population .

Displacement and marginalisation of indigenous Palestinians

Zionism's goal of establishing a Jewish state in Palestine led to the forced displacement of the Palestinians.

The first stanza sets the tone , describing the "walls of exploitation" and the "footprint of Zionism" as a harmful and ongoing process. The use of the word "abstain" suggests a mundane and tenacious narrative that continues to this day.

Apartheid policies and practices

Israel practices policies such as the separation barrier and settlement expansion, perpetuates a system of Apartheid

The second stanza compares Zionism to Apartheid highlighting the separation, inequality and effacement of the Palestinian culture and identity. The image of prejudice invokes the brutal legacy of Apartheid and racism in the United States.

Lack of accountability for past wrongs

Zionism's failure to acknowledge and make amends for past wrongs, such as the Nakba, eternalizes the lack of moral accountability and justice

The third stanza implies to the Nakba or "catastrophe" in Arabic , which marks the forced debarment of Palestinians from their homeland. The poem emphasises the " bouyancy and might" of Palestinians, but it also acknowledges the sufferings, tears and pain blood that have been shed in the name of Zionism .

Erasure of Palestinian identity and culture

Zionism's emphasis on Jewish identity and privilege perpetuates the removal of Palestinian identity, culture and history.

The last stanza is a blistering disquisition of Zionism's ideology, describing it as a "dark and endless night" that prolongs racism and toxic

ideology. The image of a "dream built on another's light suggests a profound monstrosity, where one nation's aspirations are built on the sufferings of others.

This poem presents the impeachment of Zionism, arguing that it's congenitally racist and sustains systems of abuse or oppression against Palestinians . The poem is rooted in the understanding of the historical and ongoing impacts of Zionism on Palestinian lives and livelihoods.