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The Colonial Forces in Arab Mashreq Region within the Twentieth Century - Its Cupidities and Objectives

# The Colonial Forces in Arab Mashreq Region within the Twentieth Century - Its Cupidities and Objectives

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## Abstract:

The study has shown the cupidities of the colonial forces and their lurking objectives in the Mashreq region, as the colonial states have several objectives, for example, political, religious, and cultural objectives. These objectives destroy the cultures, customs, and traditions of the colonized countries as well as affect their language, where we find that the language of the colonizer becomes the main language in this country, then the study showed these cupidities in more detail such as the British and French cupidities. The study then addressed the Sykes-Picot Agreement and how it has been divided, torn apart, devastated, and ravaged the Arab Mashreq region, as a result of which the colonial forces distributed the regions of the Arab Mashreq, where France acquired Syria and Lebanon, while Britain acquired Egypt, Iraq, Transjordan, and others. Furthermore, the study showed the policy of the colonial forces in the Arab Mashreq region, where the colonial forces took various and several methods, techniques, and means to impose their hegemony and control in the Arab Mashreq region, this policy contributed to knowing the overall shape of a region and drawing its map. During and after the First World War, colonialism took different forms according to each Arab region, and according to the influence of religious, cultural, and ethnic identities in it, and even applied new colonial forms that had not been applied previously in the history of global colonialism.

**Keywords:** colonial forces - Arab Mashreq region - Cupidities

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## Introduction

**First: The cupidities and objectives of the colonial forces in the Arab Mashreq region:**

The history of colonialism dates back to<sup>(1)</sup> human societies and still existed throughout history until our contemporary time. Colonialism exists and continues as long as there is an imbalance between countries, where a humanitarian group or fragile country possesses the potential to support life and existence, and another country or strong group that does not possess it and has the desire to seize it.

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The colonial forces have several objectives, such as, political, religious, and cultural objectives. These objectives destroy the cultures, customs, and traditions of the colonized countries as well as affect their language, where we find that the language of the colonizer becomes the main language the second language in several countries is the language of the colonizer, and language is a strong basis for colonial countries, as it does not lose its colonies associated with it, language and culture even if the Political Association was severed. Culture was one of the most important weapons of colonialism, and perhaps the most powerful weapon<sup>(1)</sup>.

Colonialism has other forms that are working for each other such as missionary activities and Orientalism aspect. Both aspects had an active role in changing the language and culture in societies, where missionary activities and Orientalism gain their social effectiveness through political and economic control<sup>(2)</sup>.

Western colonialism always strives to strengthen its position intellectually through intellectual theories that give colonialism a philosophical concept. It does so to justify its domination over other countries, to inculcate in their minds that it is its civilizing duty to civilize different nations, and seize their lands and capabilities for the benefit of humanity<sup>3</sup>, while in fact, they control to achieve its colonial interests. At the beginning of First World War and the twentieth century, European competition hopped the blue line imposed by the common destiny between the allies and the axis countries. Ottoman Empire was the most highly contested among the European powers, as a result of its weakness and inability to control its destiny, and the importance of the interests threatened in it, its lands turned into an arena for European battle and conflict, which ended with the supremacy of the allies, the occupation of its Arab lands in the Arab Mashreq, in addition to dividing and distributing it among them. After Russia left the war due to the Bolshevik revolution, the region has been divided into permanent zones of influence under the secret Sykes Agreement of 1916 AD, with a view of satisfaction to the Jews' establishment of a national home for them in Palestine, which is known as the Balfour Declaration<sup>(4)</sup>. This division divided, tore apart, devastated, and ravaged the large and weak countries into small opposing countries, spread destructive ideas and intellectual poisons to the collective consciousness, and created conflicts in the Arab Mashreq region from which they are still suffering from it now.

Some of the main causes of Arab Mashreq establishment are cupidities and goals of colonial countries during and after the First World War, to the beginning of its political entities' establishment, in addition to the ways and means used to reach their cupidities and goals in the Arab Mashreq region.

The Ottoman Empire's participation in the First World War led to the emergence of the colonial countries' cupidities, and planning to divide it and control its lands after the war ends. In 1915, Russia barely required Allies to decide to grab Istanbul and Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits until France

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readily approved that, and even disclosed its future plans to include Cilicia, Gulf of Alexandretta and the Levant. In addition, the Agreement of Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne<sup>(1)</sup> in 1917, added Izmir and Konya to Italia's part after being promised a part of Antalya coast in Treaty of London 1915<sup>(2)</sup>. Britain opened Palestine's doors in the Balfour Declaration for Jewish settlement; thus, Britain -the main power of Allies- had to consider its strategic interests upon considering its allies' requirements from the beginning of the First World War. Accordingly, British Prime Minister, Herbert Asquith<sup>(3)</sup> formed a ministerial committee in 1915 to study the balance between the expected benefits and the post-war responsibilities, headed by Maurice de Bunsen<sup>(4)</sup>, which came up with the necessity that the situation in the Arab Gulf had to be an exclusive sphere of influence, dominate Mesopotamia as a whole, including Basra, Baghdad and Mosul<sup>(5)</sup>.

Although they were allies in their war against Axis powers, it was clear that the military and economic interests were the governor of the relationship between Entente powers. This is indicated by what was said by Kitchener, when he warned the British Cabinet that the enmities and grudges that subsided during war may emerge after them. Churchill said that after the war, Britain might find itself in enmity and war against Russia and France. Furthermore, Allies did not have trust towards what US President Wilson wanted <sup>(6)</sup>, while he stated that Britain and France had a different viewpoint from the same of Wilson about peace<sup>(7)</sup>.

In this connection, Russian leader Lenin who assumed power as the first leader of the Soviet Union after the collapse of the rule of the czars in Russia in 1917: One of the reasons for the violent war was re-dividing the world between two mighty factions that are more powerful than the billionaires, namely the Anglo-French class and the German class. The Anglo-French capitalist class aim was to plunder first by seizing its colonies, and then to plunder Turkey secondly, and the German capitalist class wanted to usurp Turkey for itself and seize the small neighboring countries to compensate for the lost colonies.<sup>(8)</sup>

There is no doubt that Germany, Russia and Italy were among the colonial countries that had cupidities in the Arab East and the Ottoman Empire heritage. However, we will just mention here the ambitions of Britain and France because they are the two main players in the Arab East after the end of First World War, which were able to contribute significantly. Indeed, in dividing the Arab East according to their colonial interests, through secret agreements concluded between them. These agreements had an effective role in shaping the region and reshaping its political map.

**British cupidities in the region:**

The British officials thought such as Mark Sykes, Storrs, Lawrence, and Gilbert Clayton, who were specialists in Arab East affairs at that time, was dominated by an almost general perception of the weak political ability of the Arabs to form an independent state without British support, and that they could not carry out the political burdens towards their issues and govern themselves. Without British or French tutelage<sup>(1)</sup> which was clearly expressed by the British politician Gertrude Bell, <sup>(2)</sup> who played an influential role in establishing the modern Iraqi state, that the Arabs could not rule themselves by themselves, and therefore the Arabs who waged rebellion and revolution against The Ottoman Empire aspiration for freedom does not represent any meaning for British officials more than a separation of the Arab regions from the Ottoman Empire to revolve in the Europeans orbit<sup>(3)</sup>.

During that period, British thought began to shift towards the Ottoman Empire. So that the main goal of Britain became removing the Ottoman Empire from the Arab East to achieve what was planned to control its regions in the Arab East, and Britain abandoned its policy that it pursued during nearly a century to preserve the unity of the Ottoman lands, but the division of the Ottoman Empire, which is what benefit Britain.

Kitchener's plan for the region in the post-war era, drawing safe routes to India through the region, and controlling Alexandretta, which is a port located opposite the island of Cyprus, which fell under British control, and extending control to the states of Mesopotamia, and building a railway connects the areas of control from the Mediterranean Sea to the Persian Gulf, to transfer forces quickly to and from India, which is the same thing that the Ministry of Indian Affairs saw, as it requested in its memorandum merging the states of Mesopotamia with India, other features that the British were convinced of came after this strategic importance, such as the presence of oil in Mesopotamia, which Britain began relying on to operate its commercial and military ships, as well as the importance of exploiting fertile agricultural lands due to the existence of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.<sup>(4)</sup>

De Bunsen Committee, whose members included Sir Mark Sykes, recommended several options for Britain's goals in the legacy of the Ottoman Empire, including: The annexation of the Ottoman lands by the allies, or leaving the Ottoman government with its complete subjugation, or dividing it into semi-autonomous units, and this last option is what it recommended as a first option, after the committee members felt that they did not need to be bound by the Ottoman divisions of the states, and they have the freedom to redraw the map of the Arab East as they consider appropriate <sup>5</sup>.

British officials also saw that establishing a state in the Arabian Peninsula that includes the holy places of Mecca and Medina would give Britain a great opportunity to control the spiritual leadership of the

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Islamic world, and thus tighten control over its Muslim subjects in the countries they had previously occupied.

British documents indicate that the exclusion of Italy from the lands of western and southern Arabia and the Red Sea was necessary for British interests, as Italian ambitions focused mainly on Yemen, and these documents mention the importance of the location of the Arabian Peninsula as it is along two main roads from Europe to India, and the absence of a state with strong influence in the Arabian Peninsula that has influence over the tribes and their leaders, and the strategic importance of Aden and its protectorate, and its borders with the imam of Sanaa state.<sup>1)</sup>

As for Arabian Peninsula center, the settlement of relations with Ibn Saud will guarantee it the stability of the situation in that region, and it engulfs its gains in the Gulf along the coast, and closing the peninsula center from foreign interference, especially since the British government began to view Ibn Saud before the First World War as Undeniable political phenomenon and thus supports its position in the Arabian Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula, and will not arouse the jealousy of its allies, as they have no aspirations in the middle of the Arabian Peninsula, as Percy Cox commented on that in Captain Shakespeare's message to his government in London<sup>2)</sup>. Military officials have always considered it a vital side on the sea route to India, all of this preserve its real gain, which is India and its road, and to achieve this, Britain mobilized its forces intensively to preserve the strategic value of the Suez Canal as the vital artery of the British Empire and protect the road to India.

Also It is not possible to ignore the economic cupidities in the region and its impact on the military and political decisions in that period, whether those acquired commercially in previous years, or that you will get as a result of current events, or that you aspire to in the future, we mention examples of that indicating the British economic ambition, since by 1911 AD Britain and British India were the two most important trading partners for Basra, as well as British shipping companies roaming the Ottoman provinces rivers in Mesopotamia, as well the great participation in large irrigation and agricultural projects, and the purchase of a majority share of the Anglo-Arab Oil Company contributed to securing oil for the ships of the naval forces, which contributed to reducing their dependence on oil sources not belonging to their empire, and the suspicion of British officials about the presence of oil around Mosul was the reason for their adherence to it later. As for the Suez Canal in Egypt, it was what most Kitchene concerned about during and before the war, as the British forces were desperate to defend it so that the Ottoman forces would not take it, as its fall in their hands causes a great confusion, or it may incapacitate it in one of its vital centers.<sup>3)</sup>

Although British economic interests in the region were important and strengthened its position in the world such as cotton production for its factories, oil production in Persia and then Iraq, and its

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commercial investments in Egypt, but its presence in the Arab East maintained its identity as a moderate power in the world and arranged its interests and expansionist ambitions. Through sea lanes to India such as the Suez Canal and seaports, and through air passages through Egypt to Iraq, India and Africa, as well as the military forces that established in the Gulf, Iraq, Palestine and Egypt to support and achieve its colonial Cupidities<sup>(1)</sup>.

### **British cupidities in the region:**

France has always cupidity the Syria region. For many years preceding the war, it has permeated and become responsible religiously and morally for Christians there, especially Catholics, who have consolidated its relationship with them since the withdrawal of Muhammad Ali Pasha's militaries from the Syria region in 1840. It also clearly interfered in 1860 after civil conflict in Mount Lebanon and Damascus and intends to extend its authority over the Syrian coast, but its attempt went nowhere.<sup>(2)</sup> France got European countries' recognition of its protection of Syria's sacred places, and its rights there at the Congress of Berlin in 1878.<sup>(3)</sup>

These relationships supported France to organize societies and religious and scientific schools, and it is said that Syrian students studied in French schools before the first world war by<sup>(4)</sup>, that she stepped into the region. The British recognized that when they wanted to divide Arab lands during the first world war, especially in Sykes-Picot Agreement.

French companies permeated the Syria regions from the economic side until they became dominant in the purchasing of agricultural products, and Syrian raw materials, especially the growing of cotton and texture in Syria and the silk industry in Lebanon, which became an important source of French investment as the Syria regions is converted into cheap raw materials source for French factories and a market for selling French goods. French monopolies reached railways privilege, the port of Beirut, and the gas and electricity plant until after the first world war. This was shown by the establishment of a new bank monopolizing the Syrian currency issuance to the population while withdrawing ducat reserves circulating abroad, which returned huge profits to French capitalists.<sup>(5)</sup>

One of the reasons why France was interested in the Syria region? was the possibility of appearing oil, when the first world war began, French companies had the majority of the railway network centered in the Syria region. It was noticeable that the French economy was interested in the Mount Lebanon and the coast and centered more than the Syria inland areas.<sup>(6)</sup>

After the end of the war, France understood that it's centering on Mount Lebanon and on the coast it occupied in 1919 would be threatened if it was not secured in Syria and imposed overall control,

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which makes its economic strength and religious leadership in danger, which was achieved after excluding the Arab Government led by Faisal bin al-Hussein.

France has politically set close relationships with Separatism led by Massacres in Mount Lebanon, which sought to separate from the Ottoman Empire during the war, and even demanded to be under French protection and put pressure to win a French mandate over their region, helping France achieve its designations to extend its authority and influence in Syria and to have rights to protect Christians there.<sup>(1)</sup>.

In sum, France's position in Syria was based on three elements: First, moral influence emanated from the religious and cultural protection of minorities, second, political influence emanated from their closer relationship with two political movements, one Maronite Christian in Mount Lebanon Mutasarrifate, and finally the other national common between Muslims, Christians, and economic influence. The war was the largest investor in the Ottoman lands and set the foundations of these elements before 20 years of the first world war.<sup>(2)</sup>.

### Sykes-Picot Agreement

The division of the region into multiple parts was prepared beforehand despite the British declarations for Sharif Hussein Bin Ali, confirming the nonsense in their promises to the Arabs to establish a unified country for them. The British document illustrates this fact through Mark Sykes' secret note of 1915, an overview of the human, religious and political dimensions of the Arab Mashreq and the division of the region into sections by the 4G Arabs illustrated by Sykes as follows: Arabian Peninsula Arabs, are divided into Hijaz, Najd, Gulf Coast, Muscat, Yemen, and Hadramaut Arabs. Mesopotamia Arabs, are divided into five regions along the Tigris and Euphrates rivers banks. and the Syrians, with an explanation of the underlying causes for the religious situation complexity in Syria, including the situation between Christians and Muslims, northern Iraq Arabs, and the island, are divided into five parts: Diyarbakır, North Island, Mosul, Kirkuk, Baghdad<sup>(3)</sup>.

The McMahon–Hussein Correspondence did not stop, which stated Arab country unity, until another agreement was signed in January 1916 between the colonial forces to divide the Arab country, characterized by complete secrecy away from the Arab allies' considerations, political expert Mark Sykes represented British and consul Charles Picot in Beirut represented France, which were known for their names, and then provided to Tsardom of Russia, and Foreign Minister Sergei Sazonov represented it in these negotiations.<sup>(4)</sup>.

A deceptive British policy, smartness, and deceiving all parties in that region and that period. It agreed with the Arabs to establish an Arab country, at the same time, it negotiated with France to divide the Mashreq as influence lands and provided promises to the Zionist organization to establish a State for

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them in Palestine hoping to achieve its interests through its alliance with these forces, despite its knowledge of the opposing objectives of these forces.<sup>(1)</sup> After the first world war, British was gradually freed from the undertakings and agreements it made during the war by exploiting all the information and discrepancies in the world and Arab status, including the Sykes-Picot Agreement, which agreed with France in 1337 A.D. 1918 to justify them in line with the region status quo of. By virtue of this, the Mosul region entered the British influence circle in turn France get a share of the petroleum wealth in the region.

ironically; These countries began their negotiations and developed their plans to divide the Ottoman legacy, which was still under Ottoman control, and even the war balances were against them. Those negotiations, which appeared to be in the form of a colonial compromise project for the colonial influence sovereignty in turn for internal influence areas are available for self-united semi-country such as the observance of certain Arab aspirations aspects<sup>(2)</sup>.

The dispute over Palestine emerged rapidly at the beginning of the negotiations. All looked for his interests in it, while France considered it as among its vital and religious interests in Syria and previously recognized by the British. The British wanted to keep them away from the Suez Canal while securing the Arabian Gulf and Indian land. The Russians also showed their aspirations in Palestine before all agreed to include it in a special system where an international administration is established to be appointed after consulting Russia in agreeing with the rest of the allies and the representative of Sharif of Mecca with British influence.<sup>(3)</sup>

In contrast, Russia's share of influence was in the north-eastern Anatolian countries, while Sykes Picco's colorful map showed the British and French in the Arab countries. The blue region, known as Syria's coastal, which includes Lebanon and the Syrian coast, belonged to France, and the red region or known as Iraq's coastal, includes Baghdad to Basra to the Arabian Gulf, belonged to the British and they had the right to execute the rule form they want in their specific regions. It identified two internal regions, one in Syria,Aand the other in Iraq,B where they recognize an independent Arab country, with a priority to provide foreign advisers and staff upon the request of the Arab government or the Arab governments' alliance<sup>(4)</sup>.

The agreement also had other items on port distribution between them, with the British controlling the Haifa and Acre ports, making Iskenderun a free port under French control, distributing Tigris and Euphrates waters, the Baghdad Railway, and others. What we are concerned with is the colonial seeking to divide the Mashreq as influence and interests' areas. Britain has taken the necessary precautions to include an item in this Agreement, whereby the British and French Governments agree

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that they will not get or agree to make any other forces to get any lands in the Arabian peninsula, thereby giving them room to be seen as equal to land ownership<sup>(1)</sup>.

The fate exposed the colonialist intentions in front of Al-Sharif Hussein and Arab countries after Bolshevik Revolution in Russia 1917 AD, Bolsheviks' declaration on secret agreements signed by Tsarist Russia including Sykes-Picot Agreement, despite the Turkish attempts to exploit that declaration of the agreement to hold a peace with the Arab rebels<sup>(2)</sup>, however, Al-Sharif Hussein didn't believe this declaration and quickly lodge a formal protest to British government through its representatives in Egypt but Britain as usual, an evasive politics, appear friendly face and assured Al-Sharif Hussein that Britain is committed to its obligation with Egypt and all that were just negotiations to study the situation in the region that preceded agreement with Arab and not a formal treaty, the situation changed with the Arab Movement's remarkable success and its revolt against the Turks and Russia's withdrawal from war<sup>(3)</sup>.

Al-Sharif Hussein was deceived by Britain or may pretend to believe it, never looking back either for personal ambition or for his sense of military and financial involvement in the British Projects and accept the British Government explanation and Lawrence assurance, Al-Sharif Hussein continued to support the British Government and continued his revolt against the Ottoman Empire, although the reality of the British position was an expression of apathy and lack of interest in keeping their promises for Arab. Sykes declared that reality that repel Arab need Britain and cannot do without their money that Britain grant to Arab and posed no threat to the interests of Britain and the Jews, regardless of the divisions between them, thus Arab will accept any awards from His Majesty's Government.<sup>(4)</sup>

Establishment of a national home for the Jews in Palestine - Balfour Declaration:

Theodor Herzl<sup>(5)</sup> (1904 AD) attempts were real and practical to establish national home for the Jews in Palestine due to that he met Sultan Abdülhamid to ask to be allowed to establish national home in exchange for helping the Ottoman Empire with money to pay off its European debts. However, Sultan Abdülhamid replied to him that the Jews keep their money, perhaps they get it for free if our state had vanished, but on our human remnants.<sup>(6)</sup>

Herzl didn't give up and hold the first Zionist conference in Basel, Switzerland in 1879 AD, in which the Jews decided to gather the Jews from all over the world to establish a national home for them in Palestine, and to establish the world congress of Zionists. They put the necessary means to achieve that goal, and with the beginning of the World War First, Britain promised the Arab to help them gain independence from the Ottoman Empire, on the condition that they enter the war on its side

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against the Ottoman Empire, which entered the war on the side of Germany. At a time when the British government in the year 1917 AD issued a statement in the form of a letter from the British Foreign Secretary at that time, Arthur James Balfour<sup>(1)</sup> to the leader of the Zionist movement, Lord Rothschild<sup>(2)</sup>. In Balfour declaration, Balfour pledged that the British government would use their best to achieve the objectives of establishing a homeland for the Jewish people in Palestine, without prejudice to the interests and rights of non-Jews in Palestine. Balfour was appointed as foreign secretary during Lloyd George's tenure <sup>(3)</sup> as prime minister, and he is known for his support for Zionist policy.<sup>(4)</sup>

Wresting Palestine from Turkish power using military force was not difficult for Britain as much as finding ways to control it through the settlement they aspire to after the war, especially in the presence of French cupidities in Syria, and the desire of Al- Hussein and the rest of the Arabs to annex it to a unified Arab kingdom, so Britain saw support If Zionism gives them a strong hope of establishing their national home and enabling them to live in Palestine according to the Zionist vision. It will play an auxiliary role for them, and always giving excuses for the provisions of controlling the region, making Palestine a strategically important and barrier region, and strengthening this more by inviting the Jewish people to Palestine. The Jewish people will support the continued British presence in the region in exchange for that<sup>(5)</sup>.

The proportion of Jewish people in Palestine is negligible compared to the Arab population <sup>(6)</sup> when the declaration was issued, which became a common media name, the "Balfour Declaration", as the declaration was issued before the British armies occupied Jerusalem in front of the Arab revolutionaries. Britain sent a message to Al-Sharif Hussein, in which it affirmed that it would not allow the Jews to settle in Palestine except to the extent consistent with the interest of the Arab population, and that it would continue to recognize their right to independence according to its promise to them and according to the principles of American President Wilson. It aimed to bat away the state of discontent and furore that the Arab met Balfour Declaration <sup>(7)</sup>.

The Zionist Organization was actively trying to turn the Balfour Declaration into practical steps on the ground. The leaders of the Arab revolution insisted that it was legally null and void, and continued their revolution against the Ottoman Empire, and Faisal continued his advance with the British army towards Syria.

In December 1917, the Battle of Jerusalem ended between the British forces and the forces of the Ottoman army. It ended with the victory of the British forces, the final withdrawal of the Ottomans

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from Jerusalem, and the entry of the general into the Jerusalem, where the British occupation of Palestine was a major goal of the battles of the First First World War the Arab East after Britain pledged to establish a national home to the Jews in Palestine according to the Balfour Declaration. Minister David Lloyd Georg stated that General Allenby 's liberation of the holiest city in the world enabled the Christian world to recover its holy places. <sup>(1)</sup>.

The British forces headed to occupy the rest of Syria from the Ottoman Empire, and Allenby continued his victories in Syria, as he seized Damascus in October 1918 AD, and the Ottoman Empire announced its surrender in October 1918 AD.

Although the announcement of the Balfour Declaration was before the British entered Palestine, and posttraumatic shock, the leaders of the Arab revolution who allied with Britain against the Ottoman Empire did not back down from their positions, and Lawrence was able to deceive them once again and confirm that this declaration is not a retreat from Britain's promise to establish the Arab state according to Correspondence of Al- Hussein and McMahon, as assured by David George Hogarth<sup>(2)</sup> that the settlement would not affect the political freedom of the Arab.

With the end of the First First World War 1337 AH/ 1918, Jews started to immigrate to Palestine which was under the British occupation which facilitated Jews' immigration, aiming to establish a homeland for them in Palestine according to Balfour Declaration. That was largely accompanied by support for establishing economic projects for Jews during the period of mandate in Palestine.

Wilson, the American President who declared peoples' right in deciding their fate, did not show any objection to the British Foreign Ministry on Balfour Declaration in October 1917 AD, before announcing it officially by Britain. France and Italy officially agreed also on the declaration context in 1918AD, then America and Japan in 1919AD. Allies also agreed in San Remo conference in 1920AD on British mandate against Palestine, and Balfour Declaration to be carried out due to what was mentioned in the second article of the mandate instrument. Within two years, Palestine was actually under the British administration; as the Zionist British Minister Herbert Samuel was sent<sup>(3)</sup> as a first toxic delegate in Palestine who presented a summons to his government suggesting establishing a Jewish state in Palestine under British supervision<sup>(4)</sup>.

All this is considered as a concept for a country that sought to colonial control and plundering peoples' capabilities, but without the concept, it is the landowner's recognition of strangers' rights in his land, and waiving it to the settlers, so what is the exchange for that? Arabs was shocked by Faisal bin Al-Hussein when he came back from Peace Conference in Paris in 1919AD. He entered an agreement with Haim Wiseman, the Zionist leader, of the legitimacy of Balfour Declaration which judged to establish a national shelter for Jews in Palestine, but it is conditional on European countries

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recognition of Arabs' independence and unity in one political entity<sup>(1)</sup>. This agreement was subject to many explanations; it did not clarify anything about establishing a Jewish country, and in return, any national or political right for Palestinian Arabs in Palestine was not mentioned. Despite Jews' recognition of it, a lot of Arabs did not approve what this agreement includes, as Faisal went to Peace Conference in Paris as a representative for his father, Hejaz leader, not for Arabs.

Whatever the matter is, it is clear that Faisal's political character was not the same before and after the international involvement. So do you think his father's character, who trusted all the British promises and called all his subordinates to trust them, affected his decisions? Despite debunking it in more than one occasion, he believed its promises so more that he trusted all allies, so he entered agreements with the World Zionist and with French. Or the great accelerated incidents that happened to the region helped that man to formulate an ambitious character that moved to the leaders' approaches, searching for establishing a state and political entity, or setting on negotiating table with the world leaders made inside himself the personal ambition for acquiring a state whatever its borders are, maybe this or maybe that. Thomas Lawrence, known as Lawrence of Arabs who accompanied Faisal during the Arab Revolt and his battles against the Ottoman Empire, thought that experiences in Astana and Damascus prepared Faisal to be the prospective leader, and all his difficulties are facilitated for the sake of achieving his goals. He bore responsibility and fighting burden more than his brothers, Abdullah, Zaid and Ali, and more than what Britain expected<sup>(2)</sup>.

Arabs in Palestine tried to confirm their political identity by establishing Quds conference in 1339AH / 1921AD to refuse the mandate and Balfour Declaration, and establishing a democratic representative system. They held these requirements to the West, but the ways were blocked in front of them<sup>(3)</sup>.

After the proving of the British orientations towards supporting the Zionist project in Palestine, about which the British Colonial Minister Winston Churchill expressed in June 1922, which is considered as an official recognition of the British support of the Zionist movement in Palestine<sup>(4)</sup>. After that, a decision of Senate and chamber of deputies was issued in USA in September 1922AD, of supporting establishing a national homeland for Jewish people in Palestine<sup>(5)</sup>.

In 1922, the Council of the League of United Nations agreed on the mandate project which covered the land area of Palestine and Transjordan. For Quds, it was the British Governor and mandate government's seat.

Britain continued supporting Jews until the first conflict between Arabs and Jews in 1928. British Support was practically interpreted as providing weapon to Jews and training them on it, therefore exasperation was spread among Arabs' groups<sup>(6)</sup>, then Arabic revolutions were held against the colonial

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existence, the first of them was in 1929AD, followed by one in 1936AD, which continued for three years<sup>(1)</sup>.

After ending the Second World War, the Zionist movement leaders' pressures continued asking for opening immigration for Jews to Palestine. To face the Jewish pressures, the Arabs saw that establishing the Arab League in 1945AD, which was at first a British suggestion, was a project that can enable us for facing these pressures against Britain which strongly supported the Zionist movement projects and immigration, therefore it led to increase the number of Jews from fifty thousand immigrants, after the First World War, to six hundred and fifty thousand immigrants after the Second World War.

In 1947AD, Britain decided to get out of Palestine and refer the cause to the United States; then a committee from the United States was sent to evaluate the situation and provide suggestions. Upon its report, it was decided that Palestine will be divided. It asked the United States to present its recommendations, so a meeting of United States was held including the suggestion of dividing Palestine into two states, Palestinian and Jewish, provided that Quds would still international.

Arabs tried to argue the Arabic rights in Palestine with the international committees, including what Muhammad Fadel Al-Jamali indicated when he was a Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq; since he presented Iraq's memorandum of the Palestinian cause in 1947AD to the United States committee with Palestine cause in its secret meeting held in Sofer (Lebanon), as this memorandum refers to the success of the containment British policy for positions in Arab Mashreq countries, and its role in supporting Zionism for establishing a homeland for them in Palestine, and to that would lead to more conflicts and instability in the region, and that Arabs no longer have any trust in committees and reports that argue the Palestinian Arabs' rights in the light of United States principles<sup>(2)</sup>. Except that these attempts did not succeed.

When Jews made sure that Britain withdrew in 1948, they declared establishing a Jewish state as mentioned in the division decision, Israeli declaration of independence, and opening immigration for all the world Jews for the new entity. As a result, for that, the Arab armies started a war against the Zionist entity but they failed to prevent the establishment of the Zionist entity. The war changed the population composition, as a large number of Palestinian people immigrated from the occupied territories, and Gaza Strip became under the Egyptian administration, and the West Bank under Jordanian administration; therefore, Jews became the majority in the new entity.

Through the historical narrative for establishing the Jewish State in Palestine it is clear that, Zionist movement by its aspirations and striving was able to draw a part of the Arab Mashreq, and based on its formation by supporting British colonialism which launched sympathy statement on the Zionist wishes through Balfour Declaration which didn't limit the wishes, but made major and strong strides to facilitate the achieving of this goal, Service to Zionism, primarily for its colonial interests. Where

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they made their conception of the Jewish state as a colonial tool would be a need didn't separate the Arab Mashreq from Maghreb.

Arabs were deceived again, Britain promised them that Jewish settlement in Palestine would not affect Arab political and economic freedoms that the Jewish settlement in Palestine would not affect Arab political and economic freedoms, then it took a practical step against everything with which promised the Arabs. It allowed immigration to change the demographics for the benefit of Jews in Palestine, it also supported Various Agricultural and Commercial Zionist Projects to empower Jews economically. Establishing Jewish villages and settlements, Zionist appointment supporting establishing a Jewish state in Palestine, as a first high commissioner of Britain in Palestine and employing Jews and supporters of Zionism as soldiers and administrators in the most important influential jobs in society. Attempt to deceive Arabs don't prejudice to the interests of the non-Jewish groups residing in Palestine Without talking about how these rights would be secured. Jews and the Zionist organization were considered this permit adopted international Legally for the subsequent establishment of their State and directly mentioned in Israeli proclamation of Independence which they put during the official declaration in 1984 AD<sup>(4)</sup>

Despite British promises to Sheriff Hussein and the Arabs who participated in the revolution against the Ottoman Empire for establishing the united Arab State according to the correspondence of Hussein-McMahon, but after the war France obtained the Levant, Britain obtained Iraq and Palestine. where the Balfour Declaration ignores the political rights of the Arabs in Palestine and considers them just one of non-Jewish denominations, at the time which the percentage of Jews in Palestine represented nothing to the percentage of Arabs, the illusion of establishing an Arabic state allied with colonial powers in this time was vanished. This indicates an absence of political identity and limited awareness after the defeat of the Ottoman Empire, easy to deceive with the promises of colonial powers, lack of Arab leaders to understand the international political game and its inability to keep pace with events and developments.

### Conclusion:

We found that the study showed the ambitious of colonial Powers and its objectives in Mashreq. Colonial States have several objectives, political, religious and cultural leads to destroy the cultures, customs and traditions of colonial States as well as influence their language. As we find the colonial language, becomes the main language in the states. The study showed these ambitions in detailed as the British and the French ambitions, then it talked about Sykes-Picot Agreement and how it divided and disrupt the Arab Mashreq. The colonial powers distributed the regions of the Arab Mashreq, where France acquired Syria and Lebanon, while Britain acquired Egypt, Iraq, Transjordan, and

others. Then the study explained the policy of the colonial powers in the Arab Mashreq region, where the colonial Powers have taken a variety and different methods to impose their dominance in the Arab Mashreq region. Contributed in its overall form in formation and mapping the region. Colonialism during and after the First World War took different forms according to each Arab region, according to the influence of religious, cultural and ethnic identities, it applied new colonial forms that had not previously been applied in the history of world colonization.

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