

The Democratic Front for Peace and Equality (DFPE) – “HADASH”

The DFPE (HADASH in Hebrew) is a Jewish-Arab movement with rich and consistent experience in social and political struggles. The DFPE is composed of the Communist Party of Israel (established in 1919), local branches of the Front, and Jewish and Arab groups and individuals.

The DFPE has three deputies in the Israeli parliament (Knesset) out of 120, a number of mayors, including the city of Nazareth, members of local councils, including Tel Aviv and Haifa and significant representation in the Histadrut (General Federation of Labor). DFPE by its activities and by virtue of its Jewish Arab composition has fortified its position as the main consistent, authentic Left in Israel. In its long years of struggle, it has contributed to changes in public opinion regarding issues of peace and equality, while remaining faithful to the overall interests of the two peoples – Israelis and Palestinians (to one point, it was the only formation which called for two states for two peoples).

The DFPE peace platform, as it appears in its program, is of particular importance these days during the current restoration of the Israeli occupation.

1. Evacuation of all the settlements and Israeli withdrawal from all the Palestinian territories conquered in the June 1967 war [from all of the territories of the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem.]
2. Recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to establish its own independent and sovereign state in the territories alongside the State of Israel.

The June 4, 1967 lines will become the recognized and secure borders between the State of Israel and the Palestinian State and the Arab countries. The Golan will be returned to Syria and Israel will withdraw to the international border with Lebanon.

3. In the framework of a permanent and stable peace settlement, West Jerusalem will be recognized as the capital of the State of Israel and East Jerusalem – the capital of independent Palestine. The accords will ensure cooperation between the two capitals, free access to the Holy Places and free movement between the two parts of the city.
4. A just solution to the problem of the Palestinian refugees will be secured in accordance with the UN resolutions (which recognize their right to choose between return to their homeland or to receive compensation) and in the framework of the negotiations.
5. The peace provisions will be anchored in agreements that will provide the legal basis for peaceful co-existence between states and non-interference of one state in the affairs of the other.

DFPE is the only political framework that supports reserve soldiers and young conscripts who refuse military service in the Palestinian territories.

Together with the unequivocal condemnation of attacks on innocent Israelis and Palestinians, the DFPE sees the source of these criminal acts in the continuing occupation and in the disruption of the political process for ending the occupation – for which the Sharon-Peres government is responsible.

DFPE condemns the policies of the American government and its president George Bush for extending full and complete backing to the Israeli occupation, which is an act of state terrorism continuing for 35 years.

The demand for a change in the Palestinian leadership as a condition for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, is considered by the DFPE, a demagogic maneuver and intervention in the internal affairs of the Palestinian people.

The DFPE is an active partner in all the protest activity of the peace movements in Israel. Its representatives in all bodies carry the flag of this struggle. The DFPE also organizes a wide range of activities distinctive for it, such as the recent demonstration opposite the American Embassy in Tel Aviv against Bush's speech and the US support for Sharon on June 30, 2002.

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