

From a Diaspora Nation to the State: The Formation of Zionism and Its Evolution

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Abstract

When the 19th century the modern waves of nationalism swept across the entire Europe, as a Diaspora nation and had been subjugated nearly 2,000 years, the Jews also affected by this wave and began to think their own position and the Jewish nation problem of where to go. So they had a Jewish national movement that called "Zionism." In order to maintain their own national sustainability forever, many Jewish people of insight have made a number of solutions at that time. Diaspora Nationalism advocates that the Jews as a minority within the borders of the nations should strive for and enjoy autonomous status. Territorialism wants to find a "national home" for the Jews to settle down. The World Zionist Organization wants to establish an independent Jewish State, and hoped to rebuild the kingdom in Palestine. However, trapped in the reality of the constraints of the international environment, Jews' above-mentioned ideas, lacking the back of political power, were ignored by the international community. Even in such real political considerations, the rights and interests of the Jewish people to be sacrificed led to the tragic catastrophe of Jews in World War II. Therefore, the authors proposed to start from the Jewish national movement-determination process, how they inspire the production of the Zionist ideal, and how the Zionism flourishes under the impact of anti-Semitism. This article performs an analysis on Zionism and the multiple plights it faced on the occasion of promoting, giving a clear view to understand Zionism and the Jewish problem of the whole history.

Keywords: Zionism, Jews, Israel, Zion, Theodor Herzl