

**WASATIA.** The term means moderation, mid-ground, justice and balance; the Prophet Mohammed said, “the best way to run affairs is through moderation.” **Wasatia**, launched in Palestine in 2007, is an Islamic movement that endeavors to bring about peace and prosperity through a deeper and more rational understanding of Islam. **Wasatia** strives toward ending the Israeli military occupation through negotiations and peaceful means, by mitigating religious radicalism and reducing political extremism. **Wasatia’s** goal is to teach creative and critical thinking and open-mindedness, to use dialogue and education to deconstruct mythologies, distortions and misinterpretations.

*The founder of the Wasatia movement is peace activist and former PLO member Professor Mohammed S. Dajani Daoudi ...*

*“Palestinians must overcome victimhood and move to reconciliation; it is time for both peoples to seek peace & reconciliation.*

*“It used to be Palestinians against Israelis, now it is Palestinians & Israelis for peace against Palestinians & Israelis against peace.*

*“The radicals want to have an exclusive ownership of the land ... while we are seeking a shared ownership of the land.”*

*see my blogs 913, 812, 782, 715, 543*

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**WAR 1.** Israel was established for the stateless Jews in Palestine - which had been Muslim since the 7<sup>th</sup> century - and won the 1947 - 49 war of independence against the Arabs. **S**ince then Palestinians - robbed of their land and living in refugee camps - have fought back as suicide bombers. “Tell me what you want to be,” a child was asked. “A martyr.”

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**WAR 2.** Chris Hedges writes in his book **WAR IS A FORCE THAT GIVES US MEANING:** “War is a drug. It is peddled by mythmakers - historians, filmmakers, novelists and the state. **T**hey endow it with qualities it often possesses - excitement, power, exoticism and chances that allow us to rise above our small stations in life. It dominates, distorts, corrupts culture. **T**he enduring attraction of war is this: Even with its carnage it can give us what we long for in life. It can give us purpose and resolve, it gives us a cause ... it allows us to be noble. **B**ut questions about the meaning, or meaningless of our place on the planet are laid bare as we watch those around us sink to the lowest depths; evil lurks below the surface in all of us.”