TWISTING HISTORY FOR THE NTH TIME

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Category: Opinions

By Garcia Wilde, 14 October 2025

Although the West's mainstream media pretends its coverage of the century-old Arab-Israeli conflict has been balanced, anyone with room temperature IQ knows the West's media is anti-Arab and has been for decades.

In 2001 Jack G. Shaheen wrote *Reel Bad Arabs* about Hollywood's negative treatment of Arabs. The 672-page tome analyzed more than one thousand Hollywood movies which, since the dawn of silent movies, had smeared the reputation of Arabs as brutal, fanatical, thieving, heartless, backward, sex-obsessed, racist, treacherous, incompetent, corrupt… Arabs have always been Hollywood's favorite bad guys. Since it's no secret who dominates Hollywood, it's easy to detect the reason for Hollywood's animus towards Arabs. From *Exodus* to *Cast a Giant Shadow* to *Judith,* Hollywood has acted as Zionism's unofficial PR agency even before the establishment of Israel in 1948.

Hollywood has played every trick in the book to depict Arabs in bad light so as to advance Israel's colonialist cause. It has even gone back thousands of years (*The Ten Commandments, Ben-Hur*) to mythological stories (the David and Goliath duel*)* to justify the creation of Israel. The *Ben-Hur* novel's title is *Ben-Hur, A Tale of the Christ.* But there's very little about Christ in the Samuel Goldwyn (Szamuel Gelbisz) and Louis B. Mayer (Lazar Meir) studio's Biblical epic.

Ancient Philistines, meaning Palestinians, appeared as villains also in *Samson and Delilah***.** It was released in 1948, the year Israel was founded. In 1960, *The Goliath* was made into the Palestinian King Kong by Orson Welles.

Let's take a look at the egregious *Ivanhoe*, the spectacular historical movie produced in 1952 by Pandro Berman. The blockbuster epic starred Robert Taylor and Elizabeth Taylor. The movie was loosely based on the 1819 Sir Walter Scott novel by the same name. Because the novelist admired Jewish philanthropist Rebecca Gratz, he named his Jewish heroin Rebecca.

The movie has a simple plot. Returning from the Crusades, King Richard Lionheart has been arrested and imprisoned in Austria by Duke Leopold. The latter is demanding a 150,000 silver Mark ransom to release the English king. Otherwise, the duke would hand Richard to his arch enemy…King Philip II of France. King Richard's treacherous brother, John, has no intention to pay the ransom: in the absence of his older brother, he is enjoying life as the king of England.

A leader of the English Jewish community is approached by Ivanhoe and his father to help raise the ransom money. England's Jews—although persecuted—promptly raise 100,000 silver Marks. How the rest of the 150,000 Marks were raised is not mentioned. After receiving the ransom, Duke Leopold releases King Richard who returns to England in triumph and kicks his brother from the throne.

Rebecca, the daughter of the Jewish community's patriarch, saves the life of Ivanhoe, the hero. Mortally wounded in a deadly tournament against five Norman knights, Ivanhoe is returned to good

health through Rebecca's secret medicines. She also offers her jewels to boost the Jewish contribution to the king's ransom.

There are several verbal examples of anti-Semitism in the movie, but the main rejection of Jews comes from Ivanhoe himself. Although he loves Rebecca, who had saved his life, Ivanhoe picks wan and much older Lady Rowena because she is Saxon like him.

Now the historical truth:

1. King Richard was openly anti-Semitic. When he was approached by presents-bearing Jewish leaders following his coronation (1189) at Westminster Abbey, King Richard flogged them and threw them out. When rumors about the incident spread mobs attacked Jews and ransacked Jewish neighborhoods. Some Jews sought sanctuary in the Tower of London while others escaped.
Despite the movie's depiction of friendship between the English and the Jews, the latter were not a welcome community. But Hollywood had to curtsy and thank the British for helping establish Israel through the notorious Balfour Declaration of 1917.
2. The movie outrageously claims two-thirds of the 150,000-Mark ransom to release King Richard was donated by the Jews of England. The truth is very far from that claim: Jews donated 5,000 Marks. Exaggeration is common currency in Hollywood, but bumping the 5,000 to 100,000 takes serious chutzpah.
3. Israel was founded in 1948 when 750,000 to 950,000 Palestinians were driven from their homeland by Jewish forces. The event was surely fresh in the minds of moviegoers. Thus, when donating the 100,000 Marks, the Jewish patriarch (Rebecca's father) says the money was donated by the "People of Israel." It's not farfetched to maintain the line was injected in the script to instill subliminal pro-Israel sentiment among moviegoers.

Just a year after the establishment of Israel, Hollywood made the pro-Israel *Sword in the Desert*. Israelis fight Arab fanatics. Paul Newman, who was half-Jewish and played the hero in *Exodus,* said years later that the movie was no more than a cowboys-and-Indians tale.

The American entertainment industry's pro-Israel campaigns started even before Israel was created. In 1946 Marlon Brando appeared in a pro-Israel play titled *A Flag is Born*. The role gave a big boost to the career of the unknown actor. Brando also appeared at Irgun (Jewish terrorist group) fundraisers. Writing about the play, *The Jerusalem Post* said:" The play that changed history." It certainly changed truth in history.

Comments

Tsakoug – 2025-10-16 22:12:19
Thank you for this. The film version of Ivanhoe long irked me.

H – 2025-10-15 13:15:04
Fascinating history Mr Garcia. Which developed or underdeveloped country is not controlled by zionist ingenuity, pray. They deserve credit for the power/leadership they have to create the Bible stories, the Hollywood stories, Anne Frank, Masada, and “media” to condition minds. And not just about the Arabs and Palestine.



Keith Garebian – 2025-10-15 05:46:04
Even CNN or our own Canadian media sources are plainly more sympathetic to Israeli sources than to Palestinian ones.