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# Corbyn raised Nazi crimes to describe Israel in Gaza

Henry Zeffman, Sam Coates

Jeremy Corbyn compared Israel's actions in Gaza to those of Nazi Germany at Stalingrad and Leningrad, it can be revealed.

His speech in 2010 took place six months after he hosted an event on Holocaust Memorial Day at the House of Commons that likened Israeli government policy to that of the Nazis.

The Labour leader, then a backbench MP, told a rally outside the Israeli embassy in London: "I was in Gaza three months ago. I saw ... the psychological damage to a whole generation, who've been imprisoned for as long as the siege of Leningrad and Stalingrad took place."

A Labour spokesman said: "Jeremy was not comparing the actions of Nazis and Israelis but the conditions of civilian populations in besieged cities in wartime."

The party has been criticised by Jewish leaders for failing to adopt the full text of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of antisemitism in its code of conduct.

Footage also emerged yesterday of Mr Corbyn apparently praising on Iranian state TV in 2012 the release of Hamas terrorists. He asked whether there was a "serious case" against any of the more than 1,000 Palestinians freed in a prisoner swap. They had been convicted of the murder of almost 600 Israelis.

The Labour MP Joan Ryan demanded an inquiry into Mr Corbyn's comments.

A Labour spokesman said: "In 2012 Jeremy was commenting on the prison conditions of Palestinian prisoners, including elected representatives. He was of course in no way supporting or endorsing the actions of the prisoners, but defending their rights under international law, including those held without trial under administrative detention laws inherited from British rule. He welcomed the exchange of prisoners on both sides as part of a reduction of tensions."

The pro-Corbyn Momentum group has withdrawn its support for Peter Willsman, a member of Labour's ruling body who blamed Jewish "Trump fanatics" for false claims of antisemitism.

Per descrivere l'azione di Israele a Gaza Corbyn ha fatto un paragone con i crimini nazisti



# Israel is falsifying Holocaust, says leaflet from Corbyn event

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People participating in Holocaust Memorial Day are hypocrites and Israel is falsifying the genocide to justify colonisation, according to a leaflet distributed at an event hosted by Jeremy Corbyn.

The leaflet was given to people at a controversial event that Mr Corbyn arranged on Holocaust Memorial Day in 2010. It was prepared by the International Jewish Anti-Zionist Network, which organised the Never Again for Anyone — Auschwitz to Gaza tour.

The *Times* revealed yesterday that Mr Corbyn, then a backbencher, hosted one of the tour's events in January 2010. The Labour leader issued an apology yesterday for "the concerns and anxiety" caused by some of his associations in the pro-Palestinian cause.

The leaflet said that the event was part of a campaign aiming "to challenge the presentation of the Nazi genocide in which the history of the genocide of Jews is disconnected from the millions of others who perished in the same war, even in the same camps". It added: "We challenge the exceptionalising, falsifying and exploiting of this memory, which is an effort to justify and dismiss Israeli colonisation, ethnic cleansing and apartheid in Palestine."

Referring to Holocaust Memorial Day, marked every year on the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, it said: "We struggle to find words to convey the hypocrisy of these ceremonies, in which those who are silent today pay homage to the victims of yesterday's silence." It added: "The stated intention of naming and condemning the act of

genocide after WWII was to prevent its recurrence. In practice, acts of genocide are more likely to be condemned when it serves western interests, including the unconditional support of Israel."

The leaflet went on: "It is time to spell out loud and clear that, while Jews in Europe sought refuge from racist violence, the Israeli state manipulated this tragedy by using it as a vehicle to gain state power for itself."

Asked whether Mr Corbyn had received a copy and if so whether he objected, a Labour source said that they had "no record or recollection of this leaflet".

John Mann, the Labour MP who chairs the all-party parliamentary group on antisemitism, told *The Times*: "This leaflet shows the contorted and twisted minds of the extremist left."

John McDonnell, the shadow chancellor, made his most public efforts yet to distance himself from the Labour leadership on the issue yesterday, saying the antisemitism row had "shaken us to the core". "We've had a massive increase in attacks on the Jewish community, daubing of cemeteries. It's appalling that Jewish schools have to have security guards with them as well. So we've got to resolve the issue within our party and then get out there to assist the Jewish community," he said.

Yesterday new details emerged of the 2010 meeting. Rubin Katz, a Holocaust survivor, wrote to the *Jewish Chronicle* after the event claiming that Mr Corbyn had demanded that a policeman eject him. Murray Freedman, a pro-Israel activist at the meeting, told *The Times*: "Mr Corbyn called a policeman into the room. He said, 'Anyone who interrupts, take them out!'"

Israele sta falsificando l'Olocausto, riporta un volantino distribuito ad un comizio di Corbyn

