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Arab-Latin American Literary Perspectives on the Palestinian Exile

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Latin America has been deeply involved in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with some countries taking a firm stance for one side or the other. While some countries have been vocal in their support, common threads run through the region's perspective on the conflict: believing in the importance of a two-state solution and focusing on human rights. But beyond the political and economic support provided to the Palestinian cause, Latin American countries have also served as cultural exclaves and safe spaces for Palestinian communities across Latin America. In this essay, we aim to delve into the functions of these cultural exclaves for Palestinian exiles and safe spaces for Palestinian diasporic communities, as well as their impact on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as reflected in the following texts: Miguel Littin's documentary film *Crónicas palestinas: caminos de la ira* (2002) and his drama film *La última luna* (2005), Alberto Nazal's *Beit Jala Forever* (2006), and the collections of Arab and Jewish short stories in Spanish complied in the books *Caminos para la paz* (2007), edited by Ignacio López-Calvo and Cristián H. Ricci, and *Delta de las areas* (2013), edited by Rose Mary Salum. *[Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: http://www.transformativestudies.org ©2024 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]*

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The Palestinian-Israeli conflict is highly complex on historical, social, political, and economic levels, especially after the escalations of violence following the terrorist attacks of October 7, 2023. Although the U.S. and Europe are often seen as the most critical agents in the production of discourses and debates around this controversial issue, Latin American

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