GEORGI FYODOROV

Novosti Press Agency Publishing House

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# EREMY OF PEACE TAND THE MET AND THE PROGRESS

On the criminal policy of Israel's Zionist regime



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Translated from the Russian by Vyacheslav SEMYONOV Translation edited by Selena KOTLOBAI

PROGRESS

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## Chapter I

# A Creature of Big Business

Although it is a historical fact that Zionism\* first appeared in the latter half of the last century, its supporters maintain that it emerged in ancient times when the Jews were taken into captivity by the Egyptians and when Solomon's Temple, their chief shrine, was destroyed by Nabuchodonosor. Therefore, Zionist ideologists, historians and journalists present Zionism as an "eternal movement" whereby Jews will be reunited in a "national homeland". This cannot be true, however, if only because it was not until the end of the 19th century that a number of social, economic, political and international factors had appeared creating a situation that made it possible for Zionism to become an organised movement.

Among these factors are the growth and consolidation of the economic influence of the Jewish bourgeoisie which towards the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century was an orga-

nised part of the world bourgeoisie. It was bound together by religious and ethnical ties and, in many cases, by kinship relations as well. Another factor here was its desire to broaden its international links and to consolidate its positions in the economic system of capitalism.

As capitalism developed, the Jewish bourgeoisie was able to gain strong positions in the capitalist world. In the 18th and early 19th centuries Jewish financiers were almost the only ones to have liquid capital in Central Europe. In Germany, Austria and Hungary they played a prominent part in banking and in export and import trade. For centuries Jewish traders held a monopoly on most of the commercial and industrial operations in Poland, Lithuania and Romania. \* At the turn of the century 55 per cent of the first and second guild merchants in Russia were Jews who accounted for 40 per cent of the turnover in trade. In the first half of the 19th century the banking firm of Rothschild granted 44 foreign loans to 20 countries including Prussia, France, Russia, Brazil and Greece to the tune of 130 million pounds sterling, an enormous sum in those days.

The Jewish bourgeoisie had acquired effective levers for influencing the political life in capitalist countries. "The contradiction that exists between the practical political power of the Jew and his political rights is the contradiction between politics and the power of money in general. Although theoretically the former is superior to the latter, in actual fact politics has become the serf of financial power," \*\* Marx said in a comment on this issue.

<sup>\*</sup> In Hebrew "Zion" means "hill" or "rock", a name given to a hill in Jerusalem where, according to legend, the Jews had their first temple. The word "Zionism" was coined after bourgeois Jewish ideologists put forward the idea that all Jews are to return to Mount Zion.

<sup>\*</sup> See Political Affairs, No. 7, 1971, p. 59

<sup>\*\*</sup> K. Marx and F. Engels, Collected Works, Vol. 3, p. 171

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