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In Memoriam

Tikva Honig-Parnass

1929-2025

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I am so sad to learn of the death of my dear friend Tikva Honig-Parnass. Tikva was a fearless socialist, a committed feminist, and one of the most consistent and principled anti-Zionists I have ever known. I was privileged to work with her during the first Palestinian Intifada, when she was acting director of the Alternative Information Centre in Jerusalem, and I was editor of the centre's monthly English-language journal News From Within.

As a teenager, Tikva had been a member of the "Marxist-Zionist" Mapam party, and was a member of the Palmach force during the 1947-9 wars which led to the establishment of the Israeli state on the ruins of Palestine. She later broke definitively with Zionism, joining Matzpen and the Revolutionary Communist League. [1]

In 1993, when the RCL shamefully supported the Oslo Agreement, Tikva and the late Eli Aminov formed the Democratic Secular faction within the group, arguing that the RCL was "supporting the imperialist order in the Middle East". The dispute eventually led to the disintegration of the RCL, and to Tikva's departure from the AIC. She continued to work with Tawfiq Haddad, producing the invaluable bulletin Between the Lines, articles from which were published as a book under the same title in 2007.

In 2011, Tikva published False Prophets of Peace, a relentless demolition of the pretensions of "liberal Zionism". This is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the verbal gymnastics and political hypocrisy of this strange amalgam, and will form part of Tikva's enduring legacy.

PS:

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[1] See her writing about this time - and its impact on her later political positions here <https://againstthecurrent.org/atc07...> and a later reflection here <https://www.aljazeera.com/features/...>