

22 June 2021

Newsletter No 49

Kia ora

Last week we saw the ugly face of deep-seated racism within the New Zealand Jewish Council. At the government's counter-terrorism hui in Christchurch Jewish Council spokesperson Juliet Moses did her best to try to link Palestine solidarity protests with support for terrorism, leading to a walkout by members of the Muslim community.



The question is not why she tried to do this – the pro-Israel lobby has always tried to smear the Palestine solidarity movement – but why was she invited as a main speaker at the counter-terrorism summit in the first place while the Christchurch victims of the terrorist attack were not included in the panel of speakers.

Something you can do right now!

Email Andrew Little, the minister responsible for the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques, and ask him why a known apologist for anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian racism was included in the counter-terrorism hui which the victims were effectively excluded. You can either send your own message or copy and paste the letter below:



Andrew Little

Andrew Little
Minister for Government Response to March 15 Terrorist Attacks
a.little@ministers.govt.nz

Kia ora Mr Little,

Anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian racism in the New Zealand Jewish Council

I was surprised to see the government include New Zealand Jewish Council spokesperson Juliet Moses as a main speaker at the counter-terrorism hui in Christchurch last week while the victims of the terrorist attacks, including many Arab and Palestinian families were not included.

Juliet Moses has identified herself as an apologist for repugnant anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian racism when she refuses to criticise her fellow Jewish Council member David Cumin who approvingly quotes former Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir

"there can only be peace when the Arabs start to love their children more than they hate us"

It was no surprise that Moses tried to link Palestine solidarity protests with support for terrorism at the hui because the pro-Israel lobby has been using false smears of anti-Semitism against the Palestine solidarity movement for many decades. As she showed at the hui, Juliet Moses is tone deaf to Islamophobia, anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian racism.

I would like to know why and how the decision was made to include Juliet Moses as a speaker.

I would also like an assurance the government will seek a public apology from Moses for her refusal to condemn anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian racism before including her or Jewish Council representatives in future government hui in response to the terrorist attacks.

I'm keen to hear from you without unnecessary delay.

Regards,

(NAME)

40th anniversary of the 1981 Springbok Tour

Here is the final poster for PSNA Chair John Minto's national tour to coincide with the anniversary of the protests against the 1981 Springbok rugby tour.

The poster has details of the 15 meetings around the country. Please circulate this poster to family and friends via email and social media.



Ambulances Appeal for Gaza – please donate if you can



After the savage 11-day heavy bombardment of Gaza, the killing of 256 Palestinians, including 66 children there is a desperate need for medical supplies to Gaza. Kia Ora Gaza are co-ordinating the fundraising here in New Zealand.

Please donate now with a direct payment to our bank account: Kia Ora Gaza Trust, 03-0211-0447718-000, Westpac Bank. Afterwards, email office@kiaoragaza.net with your deposit details so we can send you an e-receipt.

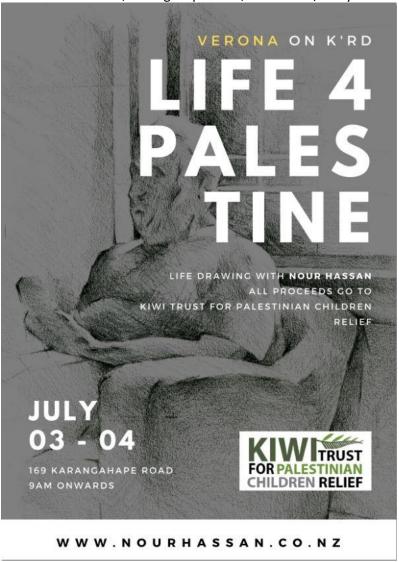
More details are here on the Kia Ora Gaza website



Bad weather is no deterrence for Napier activists taking the Palestine Solidarity message to the people of Hawkes Bay last weekend.

Fundraising artworks by Nour Hassan

• Verona Café, Karangahape Road, Auckland 3/4 July



See <u>here</u>.

Close the Israeli embassy

Remember our campaign to close the Israeli embassy in Wellington.

The petition is on-line here in English and Arabic or use the QR code here.



Solidarity with Palestine by Artists, Cultural Workers and Scholars of Aotearoa New Zealand

Remember to please help circulate this statement of solidarity with Palestine. It is aimed particularly at Artists, Cultural Workers and Scholars.

They can read and sign on to the statement at this link.

This has been organised by **Dr Rand T Hazou**, Senior Lecturer in Theatre, School of Humanities, Media and Creative Communication, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Massey University

Donations still needed for the Gaza Centre for Human Rights which has been targeted and destroyed by Israel

Since we publicized this appeal in our last two newsletters over \$8,000 has been donated – we'd love to get over \$10,000 to help the centre get on its feet again and collect evidence for war crimes prosecutions from the latest Israeli outrages.

Can you make a donation? - account details are below

Here is the background to the appeal from our last newsletter:

The offices of the Gaza Centre for Human Rights have been targeted and destroyed by a missile from an Israeli fighter jet.

New Zealander Julie Webb-Pullman has been working for the Centre for several years as an international expert on gathering evidence of Israeli war crimes against Palestinians in Gaza. (Julie is currently waiting to return to Gaza after being delayed in New Zealand through Covid 19)



So far the Centre, under Julie's guidance, has sent over 2000 claims of war crimes relating to Israel's attack on Gaza in 2014 and its targeting the Great March of Return protests in March 2018.

Earlier this year the International Criminal Court made the formal announcement that they are opening an investigation into allegations of grave Israeli breaches of International Humanitarian Law. Israel is furious and has tried to stop the investigation.

Now Israel has seized the opportunity to hit back with missiles from an Israeli fighter jet. The Centre is making an appeal for funds to get back up and running and PSNA is coordinating fundraising here.

People can donate to:

Account name: PALESTINE SOLIDARITY NETWORK

Account number: 38-9015-0849542-02 (Please put GCHR in the reference)

This is a message from Julie describing the photo and the damage.

I would really appreciate it if you could also appeal for funds for Gaza Centre for Human Rights - our offices were directly targeted and destroyed a few days ago. We need to replace printers, photocopiers, furniture etc.

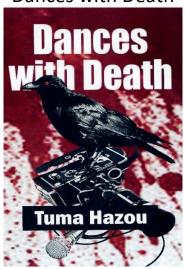
Our electronic backup files are safe, but all of the original documents have been destroyed.

Attached is a picture of the destruction - our offices were on the third floor, the translators' office is the one with the blue wall, my office is at the front. Was.

Like almost every building in Gaza, it is a mixed residential and office tower.

We expect the New Zealand media will report on this and the government will condemn outright this bombing of a human rights organisation.

Dances with Death



New Zealand-based Palestinian Tuma Hazou's book – "Dances with Death" – which we have previously promoted in the newsletter, has been nominated for the Palestine Book Awards in 2021. Congratulations Tuma – we will keep you posted on developments!

Some good reading

Amongst the thousands of good articles on-line here are a few worth reading.

- Palestine Solidarity: Tui Motu News: <u>Land & People crying for Justice</u>, <u>Solidarity and Action</u>
 The article can be downloaded as a pdf here
- Petition No More Weapons for Israel
- Colonialism: The myths of British imperial benevolence and Palestine
- Amnesty International Petition: <u>People seeking Asylum should be welcomed, not</u> imprisoned



A two-page summary of the issues is here

- "As the bombs fall, I write" the poets of Gaza
- Edward Said biography reviewed here
- Israel's ultra-orthodox go into opposition <u>furious with new Israeli Pm Naftali Bennett</u>
- The Israel hasbara (propaganda/public relations) machine is attempting to sanitize <u>Naftali</u> <u>Bennett's "I killed many Arabs" quote</u>



Are you able to donate a cup of coffee a month to the campaign?

We will need some serious money to make our campaign as effective as possible. For example, we will need somewhere in the vicinity of \$25,000 to bring speakers to New Zealand over the next year and organise large public meetings to help spread the message.

You can help. Are you able to donate a cup of coffee a month to the campaign? In other words, can you afford to make an automatic payment of \$5 per month to support the Palestinian struggle? (If you can afford more that would be great!)

Our account details are:

Account name: Palestine Solidarity Network Account number: 38-9015-0849542-00

We are happy to provide a receipt upon request (however, we are not a registered charity so this is not tax-deductible)

Merchandise for sale

We have Merchandise you can buy including T-shirts from our website.



Go here - https://www.psna.nz/shop

In Occupied Palestine daily newsletter – an invitation to subscribe from Leslie Bravery

Because of mainstream news media complicity, daily headlines and commentary only occasionally ever mention the relentless Israeli violence in Palestine, not even the frequent air strikes!

However, daily news and statistics regarding the violence Palestinians are forced to live under are regularly reported on in the "In Occupied Palestine daily newsletter", sourced and compiled for easy reading and correlation chiefly from the Palestinian Monitoring Group's daily situation reports.

The "In Occupied Palestine" daily newsletter continues to be circulated, by email, worldwide to subscribers only, as it has been over the last two decades.

Contact: Palestine Human Rights Campaign

(Please note we have changed the link).

More ways you can get involved

- Forward this Newsletter If you know people who may be interested in this movement, please forward this Newsletter to them.
- Join in local activities in your area monthly Rallies In Auckland at 2.00 pm on the first Saturday of every month. Please consider doing the same in your community. Contact Secretary@PSNA.nz if you would like to know where and how to get Flags and Banners
- Help set up a Students for Justice in Palestine groups on your campus
- Tell Your MP your opinions on Divestment and Sanctions of Israel.
- Write Letters to Newspapers Call Talkback Radio
- Keep in touch with the campaign on social media
 - ❖ Palestine Solidarity Network Aotearoa (PSNA) website: www.PSNA.nz
 - ❖ PSNA Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/671376706283605/
 - PSNA email: Secretary@PSNA.nz
- The Palestine Human Rights Campaign produces the In Occupied Palestine
 newsletter. It is a regular daily newsletter on the daily situation in Palestine,
 compiled by Leslie Bravery and emailed to subscribers. If you would also like to
 become a subscriber, please contact Leslie at "sumud1 @ outlook. com" (remove the
 spaces to use as an email address) for further information.
- Keep Updated on our Facebook pages and websites (listed below)

PSNA Groups

National Committee

Website	www.PSNA.nz	
Chair – John Minto	Chair@PSNA.nz	
Secretary – Neil Scott	Secretary@PSNA.nz	

Regional Groups

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Bay of Islands	PSNA Bay of Islands	email
Whangarei	PSNA Whangarei	Facebook
Auckland	PSNA Auckland – Tamaki Makaurau	Website
Hamilton	Palestine Human Rights Campaign Waikato	Facebook
Tauranga	Tauranga Moana 4 Palestine	Facebook
Napier/Hastings	Aotearoa Standing with Palestine	Facebook
Palmerston North	PSNA Palmerston North	email
New Plymouth	PSNA New Plymouth	email
Whanganui	Whanganui@PSNA.nz	email
Wellington	PSNA Wellington	email
Nelson	Te Tau Ihu (Nelson) Palestine	Facebook
Christchurch	PSNA Christchurch	Facebook
Dunedin	<u>Dunedin for Justice in Palestine</u>	Facebook
Invercargill	PSNA Invercargill	email

Other groups supporting Palestinian Rights

- Boycott Divestment and Sanctions NZ
- Kia Ora Gaza
- Letters for Palestine
- Auckland Peace Action
- Global Peace and Justice Auckland
- Preserved Identity (Palestinian products)
- Auckland Uni– Students for Justice in Palestine
- Massey Uni- Students for Justice in Palestine

- <u>Wellington Palestine</u>
- Palestine Human Rights Campaign