



Newsletter No 62

9 Kohitātea 2022
9 January 2022

Kia ora everyone and welcome to 2022!



Kiwi supergroup Fat Freddy's Drop asked to boycott Sydney Festival

Aotearoa New Zealand supergroup Fat Freddy's Drop are scheduled to perform at the Sydney Festival on 18 January. [So far more than 25 acts have either withdrawn or distanced themselves from the festival](#) in protest over a \$20,000 donation from Israel's Australian embassy to support Sydney Dance Company's production of *Decadance* by Israeli choreographer Ohad Naharin.

In accepting this donation, the Sydney Festival is using the Israeli Government Ministry of Foreign Affairs logo in festival promotional material and is aligning itself directly with the racist, apartheid state of Israel.

The boycott of the festival is growing with stories [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#). Aotearoa New Zealand must join the boycott and last week PSNA wrote to Fat Freddy's Drop asking them to boycott the Festival.



Fat Freddy's Drop

Something you can do now with just a couple of clicks...

Send a message asking Fat Freddy's Drop to withdraw from the Sydney Festival

Write your own note or you can copy and paste this note to both their website [here](#), and their facebook page [here](#).

Kia ora Fat Freddy's Drop,

Follow Lorde's example and boycott apartheid Israel

I'm very disturbed to see Fat Freddy's Drop are scheduled to perform at the Sydney Festival on 18 January and I'm asking you to reconsider and withdraw from the festival.

The Sydney Festival is being sponsored by Israel's racist, apartheid regime and its Ministry of Foreign Affairs logo is being used in festival promotional material.

This is deeply offensive to Palestinians who are brutally oppressed by Israel. In 2021 alone Israel killed 319 Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and demolished 895 Palestinian homes.

Already over 25 acts have either withdrawn or distanced themselves from the festival.

The Sydney Festival is no place for any self-respecting Kiwi act.

I'm urging you to follow the lead of Lorde who showed a deep respect for Palestinians by withdrawing from a concert in Israel.

South Africa's Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who died two weeks ago, said Palestinians are suffering worse than black South African's suffered and called on the world to boycott Israel.

So come on Fat Freddy's drop! Join the boycott!

(name)

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Please also go to this page [Sydney Festival – reject complicity with Israeli apartheid](#) to send a letter to every Festival board member protesting the Israeli sponsorship.

On Twitter please retweet and circulate from this from Palestine Justice Movement Sydney:  
<https://twitter.com/PalestineRising/status/1471356723491311617>.

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## The Politics of Persecution – Webinar from MLN (Movement for Liberation from Nakba)

MLN has held several excellent webinars over 2021 and this first for 2022 looks to maintain the excellent standard. Note it is on **22 January at 9.30pm (Aotearoa New Zealand time)**

**MLN** MOVEMENT FOR LIBERATION FROM NAKBA

**LIVE WEBINAR**

**THE POLITICS OF PERSECUTION**

Middle East Christians in an Age of Empire

**22 JAN '22 SAT**

The webinar link: <https://bit.ly/3pZg3S3>  
Passcode: Palestine  
Webinar ID: 815 2916 7225

**SPEAKER**

**PROF. MITRI RAHEB**

**COMMENTATORS**

**Dr. Chandra Muzaffar**

**Prof. Ilan Pappé**

**Dr. Joseph Camilleri**

**MODERATOR**

**Time Zones:**

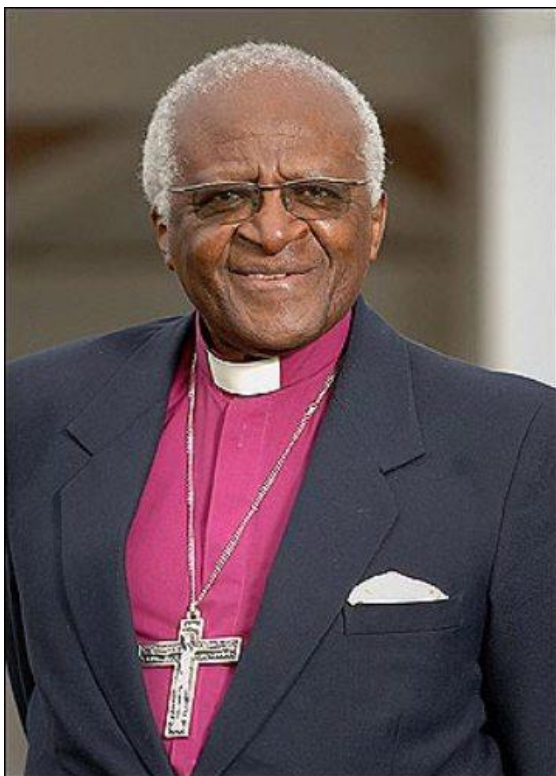
|                 |         |                |         |             |        |
|-----------------|---------|----------------|---------|-------------|--------|
| Palestine       | 1030 AM | Thailand       | 330 PM  | New Zealand | 930 PM |
| Malaysia        | 430 PM  | Korea/Japan    | 530 PM  | Australia   | 730 PM |
| India/Sri Lanka | 200 PM  | S Africa       | 1030 AM |             |        |
| Taiwan          | 430 PM  | United Kingdom | 830 AM  |             |        |

Persecution of Christians in the Middle East has been a recurring theme since the middle of the nineteenth century. Middle Eastern Christians are often portrayed as a homogeneous, helpless group ever at the mercy of their Muslim enemies, a situation that only Western powers can

remedy. The Politics of Persecution revisits this narrative with a critical eye. At this webinar, Prof Mitri Raheb will chart the plight of Christians in the Middle East from the invasion of Napoleon Bonaparte in 1799 to the so-called Arab Spring.

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## **Archbishop Desmond Tutu – Friend of Aotearoa New Zealand and Champion of Palestinian human rights – dies aged 90**



Palestine has lost a champion of the struggle against Israeli apartheid with [the death of South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu](#), aged 90.

Tutu is known internationally as a leader of the struggle against white minority rule in South Africa and won the Nobel Peace Prize for his work reconciling South Africans after the end of its brutal apartheid regime.

He was the moral conscience of the country and sometimes highly critical of South Africa's ANC-led government saying that some in the ANC leadership had stopped the apartheid gravy train "just long enough to jump on".

### **Relationship with New Zealand**

Archbishop Tutu was a warm friend of New Zealand and many New Zealanders across our political divides will feel a deep sadness at his passing.

In the early 1980s when Tutu faced court action from the South African authorities, a delegation of church leaders from New Zealand, led by former Anglican Archbishop of Aotearoa New Zealand, the late Sir Paul Reeves, went to South Africa in an act of international solidarity. This was deeply appreciated by Tutu.

During the protests against the 1981 Springbok tour one of the three Auckland protests squads was called Tutu Squad in his honour.



Later he came to New Zealand and at one point gave evidence as an expert witness on apartheid during a trial arising from 1981 tour protests. Such was his charisma, his mana and the deep respect he commanded everywhere that when he was called to the witness stand by Hone Harawira the entire courtroom stood.

In this case all the activists on trial were acquitted after the jury deliberated.



**PSNA National Chair meeting Tutu in South Africa in 2009**

### **Support for Palestinians**

Tutu was outspoken against injustices all around the world and in particular he condemned the racist policies faced by Palestinians from the Israeli regime. He frequently described Israel's treatment of Palestinians as "worse" than that suffered by black South Africans.

He said international solidarity with Palestinians such as through BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) is critical to ending injustices like apartheid.

"I have witnessed the racially segregated roads and housing in the Holy Land that reminded me so much of the conditions we experienced in South Africa under apartheid," said Tutu.

"We could not have achieved our democracy without the help of people around the world, who through... non-violent means, such as boycotts and disinvestment, encouraged their governments and other corporate actors to reverse decades-long support for the apartheid regime"

In relation to Israeli policies towards Palestinians Tutu said the world should "Call it apartheid and boycott!"

In honouring Tutu's legacy, freedom-loving people around the world should follow his advice and spurn Israel till everyone living in historic Palestine has equal rights.

Aotearoa New Zealand, the Palestinian struggle and the world have lost a dear friend and a great humanitarian.

## Erasing Palestine

Most of the media (Aotearoa New Zealand especially) have done their best to ignore Tutu's principled support for Palestinian human rights. Mondoweiss have discussed this [here](#), David Rovics has a short video explaining this [here](#) and the Guardian reported it [here](#).

PSNA National Chair John Minto was interviewed many times by TV, radio and the print media about Tutu's life and stressed the archbishop's support for the Palestinian struggle. However, this was specifically omitted from almost all media reports of John's comments.

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## Aotearoa New Zealand sponsored ambulance serves disabled patients in Gaza



After Israel's brutal attack on Gaza in May this year Aotearoa New Zealand's Kia Ora Gaza led a fundraising effort to help in an international appeal for ambulances for Gaza. Pictured above is one of the ambulances on duty – note the Kia Ora Gaza logo painted on the side.

The full story is [here](#).

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## Hisham Abu Hawash over 140 days of hunger strike




Hisham Abu Hawash on Day 138 of his hunger strike

In our last newsletter we reported on Palestinians on hunger strike to end “administrative detention” of Palestinians by Israel. Administrative detention is Israel’s policy of imprisonment without charge or trial.

An update on the story is [here](#)

**Meanwhile the prisoners on administrative detention have released this letter which explains their situation. PSNA will be discussing how best we can support their campaign:**

قرارنا حرية  
لا للاعتقال الإداري



لجنة الأسرى الإداريين  
في سجون الاحتلال

**Subject: Administrative detainees in the Israeli  
occupation prisons**

**Dear [the name of the official ]**

We send you respect and appreciation from the administrative Palestinian detainees in the prisons of the Israeli occupation state.

The Occupation State of Israel uses the policy of administrative detention against our Palestinian people in an arbitrary manner and in violation of international standards, human rights conventions, and the Fourth Geneva Convention. This policy, which targets our families and people who are suffering and trying to live freely and with dignity, like the other free peoples of the world, is enforced by the Shin Bet as an arbitrary and oppressive medium to humiliate and torture the Palestinian detainees and their families, undermine their morale, break their will, and disrupt legitimate Palestinian social and political activities under international law. The policy of administrative detention targets human rights defenders and notable political and social figures, such as: academics, political activists, and elected members of legislative bodies.

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They are joined by university students, educators, women, children, ill patients in need of health treatment, and more.

In the last five years, we have noticed the expansion of this policy (the Administrative Detention policy), using a new, fictitious, and unsubstantiated pretext. These circumstances can be summarized as follow:

- i. A sudden arrest happens without any warrant, and that depends on the mood of the Shin Bet officer or the agent who writes a malicious report against some activists. Sometimes, the arrest is because of a political or social opinion, or simply for practicing a human right, such as: participating in local or university elections, or even attending a gym. Others are targeted for visiting a patient or for helping someone in need.
- ii. The detainee does not know the reason for his or her detention, nor is his or her lawyer provided with any meaningful information. The detainee does not know as well the time of his or her release, which causes morale damage and harms to detainees and their families.





- iii. The administrative detention policy is not used for reasons of security or even for a clear political reason. Instead, it is used against those who speak out against human rights violations.
- iv. The detainees are presented before a military court show trial that has no real credibility or authority of decision-making. These judgments are produced by military courts that do not judge according to international conventions and standards. Instead, these courts operate under a special military law, and the judges there are officers in the Israeli Occupation Army, implementing the policy of the Shin Bet.
- v. There is no clear or defined sentence imposed on the detainees, as all administrative detention orders are renewable. The court decision is based solely on a secret file. The judge refuses to reveal its details, and the “military judge” himself is unable to know or verify the accuracy of the information that it contains.
- vi. The military commander of the region has the right to issue an arrest warrant whenever he wants, and to extend it for the period he wants, and he has the right to release you and right after the release return you to detention within hours, without any justification.
- vii. This policy manipulates the emotions of the detainees and their families until the last minute. Detainees do not know if their



detention will be extended, until they find out that it is extended again. This has reached the level of informing the detainee of his or her release, yet when the detainee arrived the last checkpoint, another decree renewing the period of detention is sent out by a Shin Bet officer, just moments before his or release. This process serves as a form of psychological torture against both the detainee and his or her family.

- viii. These policies have made some detainees spend more than ten years in detention without a horizon or a way out. It has disrupted the lives of many and deprived them and their families of many opportunities to live and to live with dignity.
- ix. This policy has begun to expand in recent years to include more women and children (under the age of 18), not to mention targeting the patients and the elderly who are unable to pose any security risk.
- x. These policies are accompanied by a set of unjust and unjustified instructions that have absolutely nothing to do with security, including: the confiscation of many belongings upon arrest, preventing families from attending court and hearing court sessions, and preventing contact with families and forbidding them



from participating in necessary events and life milestones, like funerals, births and weddings, even by phone.

Encountering this arbitrary and repressive policy, and in order to change our difficult reality, we carried out several initiatives and steps, conducted dialogues, and we met many officers in the Shin Bet and the Shabas (Prison Service) seeking to stop the policy of administrative detention, and to reveal the secret files in the courts of the occupied country. Moreover, under international law, administrative detention is to be used only in cases of security threats and the protection of lives, not as an arbitrary and unjustified political and social penalty. Nevertheless, we reached a dead end.

Therefore, after we have reached a dead end, the only option we have now is to begin our mass, united resistance movement against the administrative detention policy. Starting on the first of January 2022, this movement includes an extensive boycott of all the levels of the Israeli courts. Moreover, in case the occupation does not respond to our just demands, this movement will escalate to an open collective hunger strike within months.

This message is to present you with all of the main points of our case. Furthermore, it is our belief that there is a moral responsibility on every



human being who is free and stands for the truth, justice, and human rights. We hope you refuse to stand by and watch this inhumane atrocity that is being committed against us. In turn, we hope you advocate for the truth and for justice with all ways and means possible to you.

We hope that international and local human rights institutions will lobby and pressure the Occupation State of Israel to release all the administrative detainees and stop the unjustified administrative detention policy, which is being carried out for illogical and illegal reasons.

To inquire and follow up with the administrative detainees in the occupation prisons directly, and to listen to their demands, the conditions they are experiencing, and what they plan to do, you can apply for a visit to the Prisons Authority through your lawyer to visit the prisoner "Fadi Hamad Ahmad Ghanem", ID Number 937433894.

Signed,

Administrative detainees in

the Israeli occupation prisons



## Football for Freedom – Auckland Jan 22

Enter a team or just come along to watch the games.

[www.manukauunited.net/F4F](http://www.manukauunited.net/F4F)

Palestine Solidarity Network - Tamaki Makaurau Auckland will be there with Merchandise you can buy including Free Palestine t-shirts and Palestinian Flags

Come along and meet like-minded people as well as supporting this important initiative.

Have a chat about what you want to see happening in Auckland this year in support of Palestinian Human Rights.



football4freedom • Following ...

football4freedom FOOTBALL FOR FREEDOM TOURNAMENT IS HERE!

Football for Freedom is a non-for profit event that aims to connect people together through the beautiful game of Football. We also aim to raise awareness for refugees and practical support for former refugees in Aotearoa and Palestinian people in Gaza.

We will be running a Men's and Mixed 7-a-side Tournament with all money going to our sister club in Gaza! Entry fee is \$300, register your team today before you miss out  
[www.manukauunited.net/F4F](http://www.manukauunited.net/F4F) LINK IN BIO

[Register here](#)

[www.manukauunited.net/F4F](http://www.manukauunited.net/F4F)

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## Important stories from the Web

1. Israel must choose – withdraw from occupied territories or give Palestinians the vote [here](#)
2. How Israeli bombing poisoned Gaza's water – video [here](#)
3. Interview with Roger waters – 30-minute video [here](#)
4. Solidarity with Palestinians in Stadiums [here](#)
5. Artists boycott Sydney Festival [here](#)
6. A vision for liberation – Palestinian-led developments on Health and Education [here](#)
7. Israeli army rule allowing shooting of stone throwers will be applied to Palestinians not Jews [here](#)

8. Why Israel is amending its open fire policy – three possible reasons [here](#)
9. Life as a young journalist in Palestine [here](#)
10. Intelligence five eyes to become seven? [here](#)
11. Palestinian children killing in 2021 [here](#)
12. Pegasus software found on Jamal Khashoggi's phone [here](#)
13. Imagine you had a Palestinian child – could you support the two-state solution [here](#)
14. This is what a week of dinners looks like for a family in Gaza [here](#)
15. Israeli army settlers kill two Palestinians in separate incidents [here](#)
16. Emma Watson endorses Palestinian solidarity and Israeli officials lose their minds [here](#)
17. Israel calls apartheid claims radioactive [here](#)
18. Biden is breaking promise to Palestinians because Israelis don't want to reopen consulate [here](#)

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## 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**

Or Pay Pal account: [admin@palestinesolidaritynz.net](mailto:admin@palestinesolidaritynz.net)

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

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## 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).

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## 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](mailto: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](http://www.PSNA.nz)
  - ❖ PSNA Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/groups/671376706283605/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/671376706283605/)
  - ❖ PSNA email: [Secretary@PSNA.nz](mailto: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)

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## PSNA Groups

### National Committee

|                        |                                                          |  |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Website                | <a href="http://www.PSNA.nz">www.PSNA.nz</a>             |  |
| Chair – John Minto     | <a href="mailto:Chair@PSNA.nz">Chair@PSNA.nz</a>         |  |
| Secretary – Neil Scott | <a href="mailto:Secretary@PSNA.nz">Secretary@PSNA.nz</a> |  |

### Regional Groups

|                |                                                 |          |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Bay of Islands | <a href="#">PSNA Bay of Islands</a>             | email    |
| Whangarei      | <a href="#">PSNA Whangarei</a>                  | Facebook |
| Auckland       | <a href="#">PSNA Auckland – Tamaki Makaurau</a> | Website  |

|                  |                                                         |          |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Hamilton         | <a href="#">Palestine Human Rights Campaign Waikato</a> | Facebook |
| Tauranga         | <a href="#">Tauranga Moana 4 Palestine</a>              | Facebook |
| Napier/Hastings  | <a href="#">Aotearoa Standing with Palestine</a>        | Facebook |
| Palmerston North | <a href="#">PSNA Palmerston North</a>                   | email    |
| New Plymouth     | <a href="#">PSNA New Plymouth</a>                       | email    |
| Whanganui        | <a href="#">Whanganui@PSNA.nz</a>                       | email    |
| Wellington       | <a href="#">PSNA Wellington</a>                         | email    |
| Nelson           | <a href="#">Te Tau Ihu (Nelson) Palestine</a>           | Facebook |
| Christchurch     | <a href="#">PSNA Christchurch</a>                       | Facebook |
| Dunedin          | <a href="#">Dunedin for Justice in Palestine</a>        | Facebook |
| Invercargill     | <a href="#">PSNA Invercargill</a>                       | email    |

### Other groups supporting Palestinian Rights

- [Palestinian Community of New Zealand](#)
- [Palestinian Youth Aotearoa](#)
- [Preserved Identity \(Palestinian products\)](#)
- [Boycott Divestment and Sanctions NZ](#)
- [Kia Ora Gaza](#)
- [Letters for Palestine](#)
- [Auckland Peace Action](#)
- [Global Peace and Justice Auckland](#)
- [Auckland Uni– Students for Justice in Palestine](#)
- [Massey Uni- Students for Justice in Palestine](#)
- [Tamaki Loves Palestine](#)
- [Justice for Palestine](#)
- [Palestine Human Rights Campaign](#)