

19 Hōngongoi 2022 19 July 2022

# Newsletter No 75 Another urgent call to action for Masafer Yatta



Palestinian boy Ayoub sits by his demolished home in Al-Fakheet village in Masafer Yatta

As we reported in our last newsletter Israel has begun its ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from Masafer Yatta – an area with eight Palestinian villages under immediate threat and over 1000 residents.

This is Israel's largest ethnic cleansing operation against Palestinians since 1967.

It is part of Israel's colonial project – to ethnically cleanse Palestinians from their land in favour of Jewish settlers.

Thank you to everyone who wrote to the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs from our last newsletter – we know this crisis is on the government's radar.

# Three things you can do now to help defend Masafer Yatta

Join the PSNA on-line rally in support of Masafer Yatta. This will include Sami Hurraini, co-founder of Youth of Sumud ("steadfastness") speaking directly from occupied Palestine. Details of other speakers will be in our next newsletter.
 The online rally is on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August, 7pm (NZ time) at this zoom link https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8176053789?pwd=RkRUMUR2OStJa2xENEVNNVdrRzZvdz09

Put the date and time in your diary NOW.

- 2. **Send a brief message of support** to the people of Masafer Yatta. These messages will be translated into Arabic and forwarded to the people under threat of ethnic cleansing. Email your message of support to <a href="mailto:manal@stopthewall.org">manal@stopthewall.org</a>
- 3. Send a note to your local Member of Parliament inviting them on the zoom call and asking them to send a message of support to the people of Masafer Yatta.

Write your own message or you could send this message:

<MP name>

Use this template <u>Firstname.lastname@parliament.govt.nz</u> or <u>go here</u> to find your MP's email address.

Kia ora <MP name>

Israel has begun ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from Masafer Yatta in occupied Palestine. This is the largest ethnic cleansing of Palestinians in over 50 years. It is a grave violation of international law and United Nations resolutions.

Aotearoa New Zealand has a responsibility to take action NOW in support of these people who are living under the longest military occupation in modern human history.

As my political representative I am asking you to

- Send a message of support to the people of Masafer Yatta at this email address manal@stopthewall.org
- Join the online rally in support of Masafer Yatta on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August at 7pm. The zoom link is here
  <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8176053789?pwd=RkRUMUR2OStJa2xENEVNNVdr">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8176053789?pwd=RkRUMUR2OStJa2xENEVNNVdr</a>
  RzZvdz09
- Request the Minister of Foreign Affairs speak out now and demand Israel stop this theft of Palestinian land.

Please respond as soon as possible.

<your name>

#### **Local rallies to defend Masafer Yatta**

**Auckland:** Saturday 6 August, 2pm, Aotea Square. Facebook event <a href="here">here</a>

New Plymouth: Saturday 6 August, 12 noon, Puke Ariki landing. Facebook event <a href="here">here</a>
Napier: Saturday 30 July, 11am at intersection Tennyson Street and Marine Parade,

Napier. Facebook event here

**Nelson:** Saturday 6 August at the Nelson Market, 10am to 12 noon. Facebook event <a href="here">here</a> **Christchurch:** Saturday 6 August, 12 noon, Bridge of Remembrance, Cashel Street. Facebook

event <u>here</u>

#### More background on Masafer Yatta



PSNA National Chair John Minto wrote in a New Zealand Herald article last week about the common theme of colonisation in Aotearoa and Palestine. The article is behind a paywall but we have put it on our website at <a href="this link">this link</a>.

- JCB and Volvo bulldozers demolish homes in Masafer Yatta here
- Hyundai and Hitachi bulldozers demolish two Palestinian homes in Om Qussa village in Masafer Yatta <u>here</u>
- Israeli live-fire military training in Masafer Yatta <u>here</u>
- Ethnic cleansing of Masafer Yatta reveals Israel's new annexation strategy in Palestine here

### Biden's visit to Israel, the occupied Palestinian Territories and Saudi Arabia



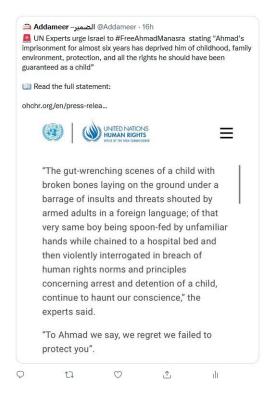
Israeli human rights group B'Tselem put up billboards to give Biden a clear message...

There were low expectations for US President Biden's visit to Israel and the occupied West Bank. Biden did nothing to change that expectation. Here are a few articles which discuss his visit:

- Biden is in Israel for the campaign money, not US interests, here
- Biden's words make war with Iran more likely <u>here</u>
- Zionists not welcome Palestinians reject Biden's Bethlehem visit here
- Repeating the colonial mistakes of the past <u>here</u>
- Strong support for Israel is no longer good politics in Michigan <u>here</u>
- Biden's moment of truth about Palestine <u>here</u>

#### Israeli brutality against Palestinian children

This tweet from Palestinian prisoner rights group Addameer speaks for itself.



#### Rejecting bogus claims of terrorism

Meanwhile nine European Union countries have rejected Israel's bogus claims that six Palestinian civil society organisations are terrorist groups. It is Israel which runs terror campaigns against Palestinians – these six groups are simply effective in speaking out about Palestinian Human rights. This is "terrorism" in Israel's eyes.



#### US Presbyterian Church: Israel is an apartheid state

The Presbyterian statement is here with commentary on the statement here and here.

Meanwhile Palestinian Christians have just released a dossier on Israeli apartheid which is reported <u>here</u> with media reporting of the dossier <u>here</u>

#### Remember PSNA National Meeting - 8/9 October in Christchurch

Our national meeting will be on Saturday  $8^{th}$  and Sunday  $9^{th}$  October in Christchurch at WEA – 59 Gloucester Street, Central Christchurch. The meeting itself will go from Saturday morning till Sunday lunchtime.

We are keen to have a great turnout from around the whole country, **please make sure cost is not** a barrier to any region or centre being represented — we are happy to pay airfares etc to make sure this can happen. All we ask is that people book as early as possible to keep the airfare cost down. Just book your fares and send the receipt to Neil and we will get it paid pronto.

We will be able to provide billets for people coming in from outside Christchurch for both the Friday and Saturday nights. Bronwen will co-ordinate these requests so just email her at bronwensummers@gmail.com

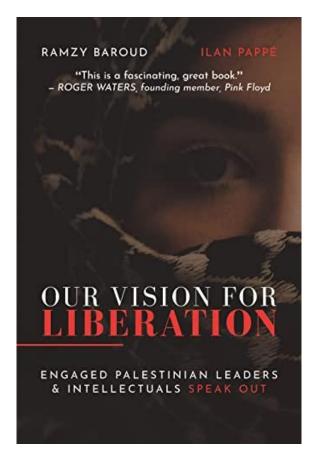
If you don't need a billet please email Bronwen anyway to let her know you are coming. This will make the organisation of lunch easier.

Looking forward to seeing you all in springtime in the Garden City!

#### **Our Vision for Liberation**

This is an exceptional book which documents what liberation looks like from Palestinian viewpoints.

A book review by Christchurch-based Lois Griffiths is here



It is presented by outstanding Palestinian author and activist Ramzy Baroud (who toured Aotearoa New Zealand several years back) and renowned Israeli historian Ilan Pappe. It is a not-to-be-missed publication!

We have purchased 50 copies for PSNA supporters and we are selling these at \$35 per copy to cover our costs. To get your copy simply deposit \$35 in our bank account here:

Account name: PALESTINE SOLIDARITY NETWORK

Account number: 38-9015-0849542-00

And then email <u>secretary@PSNA.nz</u> with your address and we will get your copy in the mail! Looking forward to hearing from you!

#### Important stories from the Web

- Petition: Stop PayPal discriminating against Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian
   Territories here
- New York Times and US State Department collaborate in Israel's coverup of Shireen Abu Akleh's killing <u>here</u>
- Ben and Jerry's sue Unilever to block sale of Israeli business <u>here</u>

#### Reminder: Dates for Palestine Solidarity activity in 2022

28 Mar – 4 Apr 30 Mar 5 Apr	Israel Apartheid Week Land Day Palestine Palestinian Childs Day
9 Apr	Deir Yassin massacre - Irgun Terrorism - 107-120 Palestinian men, women and children massacred
17 Apr	Palestinian Prisoners Day
11 May	World Kufiya Day
15 May	Nakba Day – marking the mass ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from Palestine in 1948
5 Jun	Nakba Day - Start of 1967 War - Land Grab — Invasion of Jerusalem, West Bank,
	Gaza, Egypt and Syria - 5 June 1967 – 10 June 1967
20 Jun	Attack on Gaza - 6–21 May 2021 (2 weeks and 1 day)
16-18 Sep	40 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacres
28 Sep	Second Intifada - 28 Sept 2000 – 8 Feb 2005
8/9 October –	PSNA National Meeting in Christchurch
2 Nov	Balfour Declaration
29 Nov	United Nations - International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People
8 Dec	"First Intifada - 8 Dec 1987 – 13 Sept 1993

#### 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: <a href="mailto:admin@palestinesolidaritynz.net">admin@palestinesolidaritynz.net</a>

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** 

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

#### **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
- <u>Letters for Palestine</u>
- Auckland Peace Action
- Global Peace and Justice Auckland
- Auckland Uni– Students for Justice in Palestine
- Massey Uni- Students for Justice in Palestine
- <u>Tamaki Loves Palestine</u>
- Justice for Palestine
- Palestine Human Rights Campaign