

30 Heriturikōkā 2022 30 August 2022

Newsletter No 78

Good news at last...

It's nice to begin the newsletter with good news. Our government has finally spoken out clearly against Israel's ethnic cleansing of Masafer Yatta and Israel's savage military raids on the offices of six Palestinian human rights organisations.

PSNA has welcomed two tweets from Aotearoa New Zealand's ambassador to Egypt and Special Representative to the Palestinian Authority, Greg Lewis, issued in the last few days:



This week I visited Masafer Yatta in the OPT with @UNOCHA and diplomatic colleagues. I was very concerned to hear about the coercive environment created by Israel for Palestinian residents including movement restrictions and eviction/demolition orders. Israel must respect IHL.



11:43 pm · 26 Aug 2022 from ישראל · Twitter for iPhone

17 Retweets 5 Quote Tweets 41 Likes



Greg Lewis 🚟 🚾 🤣 @NZinEgypt · 26 Aug

Replying to @NZinEgypt

My visit also provided an opportunity to gain greater insights on the Palestinian NGOs whose offices were raided by Israel. We raised our concerns at their terrorist designation last year. The supports the protection of human rights and support for civil society.

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Sami Hurraini was one of the Masafer Yatta residents who spoke with Ambassador Greg Lewis during his visit

The tweets are here: https://twitter.com/NZinEgypt/status/1563129930300342275 You can add a supportive comment.

In a media release last week PSNA National Chair John Minto said "For a long time we have been critical of the government in failing to speak out in support of Palestinians suffering under Israel's racist apartheid policies", says PSNA National Chair John Minto. "We are delighted to be able to speak out in support today".

He went on to say "We hope this will lead to the government holding Israel to account for breaches in international human rights law and United Nations resolutions"

If you haven't already done so - 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 manal@stopthewall.org

You can thank the government with just a couple of clicks...

Copy and paste this email to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Kia ora Ms Mahuta,

n.mahuta@ministers.govt.nz

Thank you for speaking out clearly against the Israeli government's ethnic cleansing of Palestinians at Masafer Yatta and its on-going attacks on Palestinian human rights organisations.

It is only by openly challenging Israel will it be forced to change its apartheid policies which have been well described by Palestinian human rights organisations, Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch.

I hope this will lead to the government putting in place accountabilities for Israel for its breaches of international human rights law and United Nations resolutions.

Ngā mihi,

(your name)

Israel's attacks on Palestinian human rights organisations

Below is a letter from Brad Parker at Defense for Children International after Israeli raids against the organization two weeks ago. A news account of the raids is here.

You can follow the links in the letter to show your support. You can donate to Defense for Children International here.



Brad Parker

Early this morning, Israeli forces raided our headquarters. More than a dozen Israeli soldiers forced open the office's locked front door and removed a computer, photocopier, printer, and client files related to Palestinian child detainees represented by DCIP's lawyers in Israel's military courts. They exited the office after 45 minutes, welding shut the entry door and leaving a notice taped to the door ordering the office closed declaring DCIP an illegal organization.

Read the full news alert »

Let's be clear: Sealing and closing our office door will not silence us. We reject the Israeli designation of DCIP as a "terrorist" organization and all repressive tactics aimed at eliminating our work protecting and defending the rights of Palestinian children. We urgently need the international community to show their solidarity with Palestinian civil society and denounce this serious escalation against Palestinian human rights defenders.

Call for accountability on social media:

<u>Facebook</u> <u>Twitter</u> <u>Instagram</u>

Israeli forces also raided the offices of the five other Palestinian civil society organizations criminalized by the Israeli government—Al Haq, Addameer, Bisan Center for Research and Development, the Union of Agricultural Work Committees, and the Union of Palestinian Women Committees.

This raid is the most recent move in a years-long campaign of repression against DCIP and our work exposing Israeli violations of Palestinian children's rights. Thank you for standing by our side as we challenge these repressive actions by Israeli authorities and continue advocating for Palestinian children.

In solidarity,

Brad Parker Senior Adviser, Policy and Advocacy Defense for Children International – Palestine

Apartheid in action -

Three weeks ago 50 Palestinians were thrown out of an Israeli bus after three Jewish settlers refused to travel with non-Jews. The story was reported here.



At a 2021 protest against Israel's segregated transport. Story here

Usually Israel tries to avoid evidence of "petty apartheid" – signs indicating separate seats, beaches, buses, parks etc for different ethnic groups – which were a feature of apartheid in South Africa. South Africa eventually abolished all signs of petty apartheid to try and improve its international image while maintaining the fundamentals of apartheid. Israel does the same thing today.

Boycott Pop-Kultur 2022



Four artists have withdrawn from Pop Kultur Berlin this year, in protest at its partnership with apartheid Israel! They join at least fifteen others to have boycotted the music festival since 2017, responding to private and public appeals from human rights defenders.

Parisian artist Lafawndah wrote in her eloquent statement that "the festival's stance is an **effective show of support for racism, colonial brutality and murder**, despite its savvy marketing language touting inclusion, diversity and tolerance."

You can click to tweet your support for the boycott of Pop-Kultur 2022

Thank you all - Medical Aid Appeal for Gaza raised \$10,000 for the besieged people of Gaza!

A big thank you to everyone who donated to the Medical Aid appeal for Gaza. The \$10,000 raised was a fantastic result and will make a significant contribution for the urgent medical needs of Gaza's struggling health system which has been severely degraded from 17 years of Israel's blockade.

In case you missed the appeal you can still donate – see details below



Account Name: Kia ora Gaza Trust

Account Number: 03-0211-0447718-000

Email: office@kiaoragaza.net with your deposit details so we can send you an e-receipt.

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.

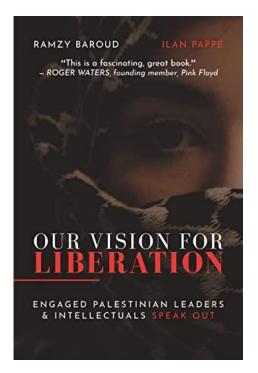
We will be able to **provide billets for people** coming in from outside Christchurch for both the Friday and Saturday nights. Bronwen will co-ordinate these requests **and all of the registrations** so please email her at bronwensummers@gmail.com

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 secretary@PSNA.nz with your address and we will get your copy in the mail!

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Cease Apartheid: Asia Pacific in Solidarity with Palestine

You can join this Asia Pacific solidarity action against Israeli apartheid by signing the petition here

Important stories from the Web

Drone-powered audio surveillance of the outdoors — via tech from ShotSpotter — is assisting Israel's control of Palestinians. Sign the petition to stop ShotSpotter here

The Second Victims of the Holocaust here

Israeli onslaught against Nablus continues killing Palestinians here

Hamas happy Israel decimated Islamic Jihad? here

You can donate to Friends of Hebron here

Congresswoman calls on white house to condemn Israeli closures of Palestinian NGOs <u>here</u> Interactive maps from ICAHD (International Committee Against House Demolitions) <u>here</u>

Palestinians have had enough of Europe's Holocaust hypocrisy here

Khalil Awawdeh detained without trial and now on hunger strike for more than 180 days here

Israel admits to killing five children in a raid on a cemetery in Gaza here

University of Melbourne statement on Palestine, BDS and apartheid here

Israel-Palestine rights groups back UN Commission here

Support the BDS movement internationally by making a donation here

Biden expresses concern over IDF raids but refuses to condemn them here

100 days later the world still demands justice for Shireen Abu Akleh here

Distorting the Holocaust to bolster the international arms trade here

With Iran deal closer than ever Israel presses for war here

When will the west support the Palestinian right to defend themselves here

Israel is normalizing terrorism – one dawn at a time here

Reminder: Dates for Palestine Solidarity activity in 2022

28 Mar – 4 Apr Israel Apartheid Week
 30 Mar Land Day Palestine
 5 Apr 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 40th anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacres

28 Sep Second Intifada - 28 Sept 2000 – 8 Feb 2005 8/9 October – PSNA National Meeting WEA, 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: 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)

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: <u>Secretary@PSNA.nz</u>
- 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

Bay of Islands	PSN Bay of Islands	email
Whangarei	PSN Whangarei	Facebook
Auckland	PSN 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	PSN Palmerston North	email
New Plymouth	PSN Taranaki	Facebook
Whanganui	Whanganui@PSNA.nz	email
Wellington	PSN Wellington	email
Nelson	Te Tau Ihu (Nelson) Palestine	Facebook
Christchurch	PSN Christchurch	Facebook
Dunedin	<u>Dunedin for Justice in Palestine</u>	Facebook
Invercargill	PSN Invercargill	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
- <u>Letters for Palestine</u>
- <u>Auckland Peace Action</u>
- Global Peace and Justice Auckland
- Auckland Uni– Students for Justice in Palestine
- Massey Uni- Students for Justice in Palestine
- <u>Tamaki Loves Palestine</u>
- <u>Justice for Palestine</u>
- Palestine Human Rights Campaign