

Palestine:

The Struggle for Liberation and Return

Since 1948 - and before - the people of Palestine have been struggling against imperialism, occupation and colonization. The land of Palestine has been stolen and six million of the people of Palestine forced into exile. Palestinians within Palestine's West Bank and Gaza Strip are subjected to the daily horror of military occupation - bombings, assassinations and massacres, walled in by a massive prison wall cutting apart their land, their movements stopped by checkpoints and roadblocks, and thousands of their people held as political prisoners. Palestinians within Palestine '48 - the part of Palestine occupied in 1948, on which the State of Israel was established - live as second-class citizens at best, as indigenous people in their own land subjected to an apartheid system that mirrors the worst of South African Apartheid in its brutality, racism, and denial of self-determination and national rights.

In the face of all of this - an occupation by a massive military power bearing nuclear weapons - Palestinians have, nonetheless, continued to resist. From the earliest days of colonialism in Palestine, Palestinian Arabs struggled for liberation of their land and their people, rising up time and again - in 1920, 1922, 1929, and in 1936, in the longest general strike to take place in the world, to the rise of the Palestinian national movement and the Intifada of today. In 1948, Palestinians struggled to stay on their land, and today six million Palestinians struggle to return to, and liberate, their occupied land alongside their brothers and sisters living in Palestine.

All of these horrors are funded by massive U.S. support in dollars, weaponry and political support, funded by over \$15 million daily in U.S. tax dollars. Far from a neutral party or a peacemaker, the United States government has been a constant source of support for the racist colonial project of Zionism and its war on the Palestinian and Arab people. Thus, it is critical for those within the United States who recognize the truth about Palestine to organize, educate others, and build solidarity with the Palestinian national movement. Our tax dollars go to fund occupation and oppression; it is up to us to support the Palestinian people's struggle for liberation and return to all of Palestine.

Our Mission

New Jersey Solidarity--Activists for the Liberation of Palestine is a grassroots organization dedicated to resistance and action in support of the Palestinian struggle for justice, national liberation, human rights and self-determination. We are dedicated to building coalitions, educating the public, spreading awareness, and organizing actions and events that highlight the pressing need for justice and spotlight ways in which we may take part in securing meaningful justice in Palestine. We are committed to standing in solidarity with the liberation struggle of the Palestinian people, supporting Palestinian resistance, and developing a strong and united resistance movement in the United States in solidarity with the liberation of Palestine.

As a movement, we are committed to standing firmly against racism and all forms of oppression, and to working in solidarity with liberation struggles of people around the world against imperialism and colonialism. We draw lessons and inspiration from earlier and continuing movements for liberation within the United States and around the world, and from the history of Palestinian resistance. Within the United States, we are committed to acting against all forms and structures of oppression, standing in solidarity with all movements for justice, and securing a foreign policy that rejects imperialism and embraces international human rights and economic and social justice. We are dedicated to exposing and highlighting the role of the United States in furthering injustice and oppression in Palestine, and call for an immediate end to all U.S. aid--political, military and economic--to Israel. We recognize our natural solidarity with all anti-racist struggles and the struggles of indigenous peoples and will work to expand our links of solidarity.

We are committed to several primary principles of unity to guide our organizing. We call for an immediate end to the Israeli occupation of all Palestinian territories, the recognition of the full, non-negotiable human right of return for all Palestinian refugees, and full political, social and economic equality under law for all people in historic Palestine. We are opposed to the existence of the apartheid

colonial settler state of Israel, as it is based on the racist ideology of Zionism and is an expression of colonialism and imperialism, and we stand for the total liberation of all of historic Palestine. As an anti-racist, anti-imperialist movement, we support equality and justice for all peoples and all religious identities.

As a solidarity movement, we are committed to working fully in support of the Palestinian people's resistance movement. We unconditionally support Palestinians' human right to resist occupation and oppression by any means necessary. We are committed to building unity at local, national and international levels in order to provide the international support needed by the Palestinian people in their struggle for liberation, and we invite all that share this commitment to join us in struggle.

What We Do

In the five years of NJS's existence, we have organized countless events - speaking events, cultural performances, demonstrations, vigils, and rallies, film showings, conferences and forums - that have celebrated Palestinian culture, supported Palestinian Arab community organizing, and educated numerous members of the public about the need for justice in Palestine.

NJS's work includes not only the hundreds of events that we have organized, but also the national tours of Palestinian speakers and cultural performers we help to coordinate, the volumes of printed materials that we produce and our copious web resources, including archives of rare and important historical documents. Our work includes supporting student organizing and educating university communities about the need for justice in Palestine, working with people of color and oppressed communities to build mutual solidarity and alliances between our common struggles for justice and liberation, playing a key role in the local and national antiwar movement to ensure the centrality of Palestine in the broad movement against U.S. war and occupation, and producing and providing the resources and materials that enable our supporters to educate their communities about Palestine.

