

Singing for Palestine

What we are singing about and what you can do

Homes, Schools and Trees....

Israel's now openly stated aim is to greatly accelerate the take over of Palestinian land and the building of settlements on Palestinian land, settlements which are illegal under international law. This leads to whole Palestinian communities being identified for expulsion. One of these is Masafer Yatta in the South Hebron Hills. In 14 pastoral communities, many have for years been forced to live in caves, as houses they build are destroyed. This year, the school they built for their children has been demolished.



When we visited Palestine in 2017, we planted young olive trees in a farm in At Tuwani, one of the local communities. We have been saddened and angered by hearing that early in January 146 trees were uprooted by Israelis from a nearby illegal settlement.

What you can do: Plant a Tree in Palestine

www.stopthejnf.org/plant-a-tree-in-palestine

January 2023 Military raids on Palestinian Communities : collective punishment, injury and death

On 4 Feb Israeli forces fired bullets, tear gas and an anti tank missile into an overcrowded Jericho refugee camp, Aqbat Jabr. 5 people were killed and many others injured, This follows a similar military raid in Jenin on 26 January which killed 9 people and injured 20 others, some still in a critical condition. This included a 60 year old woman and children. In both raids, Israeli forces blocked access to paramedics to tend to the wounded and in Jenin they demolished a home. The Israeli government's explanation is that they are targeting terrorists (in other

words people defending their communities which are under occupation), but the resulting action is **collective punishment** of the whole community. The refugee camps exist as a result of seizure of Palestinian land and home over the past century. Last year a new report from Amnesty international detailed massive seizures of Palestinian land and property; the dispossession and displacement of Palestinians from their homes since 1948 www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde15/5141/2022/en/

What you can do: Ask your MP to call for cessation of arms sales to Israel and support for Masafer Yatta

<https://palestinecampaign.eaction.online/masaferyattamp>

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A young Palestinian is stopped for just being in the street

Open Shuhada Street

Since 1994 the main street of Hebron, Shuhada Street, has been closed to Palestinians. Even those who's homes are there. They have to go through armed checkpoints to reach their home through back streets, but are not allowed to walk on Shuhada Street. Israeli settlers from illegal settlements are free to walk the streets armed and are supported by Israeli defense forces. An international campaign calls for the opening of the street.

What can you do: Support the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign and become active in their Israel Apartheid Week, 13-27 March 2023

<https://bdsmovement.net/news/people-against-apartheid>

Who are we?

San Ghanny, 'we shall sing' in Arabic, is a group of singers who travelled to Palestine to meet and sing in solidarity with Palestinians in the West Bank and present song and story performances in Scotland about their experiences.

www.singlouderthanguns.com/sanghanny/

"I have seen the humiliation of the Palestinians at checkpoints and roadblocks, suffering like us when young white police officers prevented us from moving about. Many South Africans are beginning to recognize the parallels to what we went through.

I remain forever hopeful that, like the nonviolent efforts that have preceded it, the BDS movement will ultimately become a catalyst for honest peace and reconciliation for all our brothers and sisters, both Palestinian and Israeli." (Archbishop Desmond Tutu)



We are joined in singing today by Protest in Harmony, Edinburgh's radical singing group.

www.protestinharmony.org.uk/

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