



NEWSLETTER 10

Dear readers,

The election of the right-wing government of Israel, led by prime minister Netanyahu and composed of ultra-nationalist Zionists, means that the coming days will see more apartheid crimes being committed against Palestinians. As of 19th January, Zionist forces have murdered 14 Palestinians, including children. The international community needs to work harder to pressure their respective governments to boycott Israel due to its inhuman treatment of Palestinians. All parties must support efforts by the global BDS movement.

Prof Nazari Ismail

Director

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- **Scores of Jewish Settlers Storm Al-Aqsa Mosque in Provocative Start to 2023**



Scores of Jewish settlers stormed the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in occupied East Jerusalem on Sunday, just a few hours after the beginning of the New Year, The New Arab reported.

Dozens of settlers forced their way into the site, the third holiest in Islam, via the

Mughrabi Gate, according to the official Palestinian news agency WAFA.

Israeli forces protected them as they worshipped at the compound in breach of the longstanding status-quo agreement governing Al-Aqsa, which says non-Muslims are allowed to visit but not pray there.

Full text at: <https://www.palestinechronicle.com/scores-of-jewish-settlers-storm-al-aqsa-mosque-in-provocative-start-to-2023/>

- **With start of new year, Israel kills 2 Palestinians, demolishes 2 homes**



On Monday morning, January 2, Israeli military forces invaded the town of Kufr Dan and killed Foad Mahmoud Abed, 18, and Mohammad Samer Hosheyeh, 22. Three others were injured, with one critically wounded in the chest.

Abed and Hosheyh were killed during armed confrontations with Israeli soldiers who invaded Kufr Dan with the purpose of punitively demolishing the homes of Abed al-Rahman Abed, 22, and Ahmad Abed, 23, two Palestinians who had carried out the Jalameh checkpoint operation in September of last year that killed one Israeli soldier. Three apartments were destroyed, displacing 13 people.

Full text at: <https://mondoweiss.net/2023/01/with-start-of-new-year-2-palestinians-killed-2-homes-demolished/>

- **Accompanied by police, Israeli settlers seize East Jerusalem land owned by Greek Orthodox Church**



Israeli settlers in East Jerusalem — accompanied by Israeli police — forcibly evicted a Palestinian family from the land they have leased from the Greek Orthodox Church since the early 1900s. The property, about 1.2 acres, is located just outside the walls of Jerusalem’s Old City, beneath the Al Aqsa Mosque and

immediately adjacent to the Pool of Siloam which, it turns out, is currently ground zero for the State of Israel’s work to extend the reach of the City of David National Park.

According to a report by Emek Shaveh — an Israeli NGO “working to defend cultural heritage rights and to protect ancient sites as public assets that belong to members of all communities, faiths and peoples” — members of the Sumrin family in Silwan have receipts proving they have paid their rent throughout the years, using the terraced land to grow agricultural produce using traditional methods.

Full text at: <https://mondoweiss.net/2023/01/accompanied-by-police-israeli-settlers-seize-east-jerusalem-land-owned-by-greek-orthodox-church/>

- **Malaysia condemns the incursion into Al-Aqsa Mosque by an Israeli government member**



Malaysia strongly condemned yesterday’s incursion into the Al-Aqsa Mosque and its courtyard by a member of the Israeli government, according to a statement.

“The orchestrated incursion led by Israeli National Security Minister, Itamar Ben-Gvir, and Israeli forces, was a clear provocation and aggression against the political status quo of Jerusalem and Al-

Haram Al-Sharif,” it said.

“Malaysia calls upon the international community to hold the Israeli regime accountable for such illegal act, and demands the regime to cease immediately any provocation in the interest of peace and stability,” it said, adding, “Malaysia continues to stand in solidarity with the people

of Palestine, and reiterates the status of Al-Quds Al-Sharif as the holy site of the Muslim Ummah.”

Full text at: <https://english.wafa.ps/Pages/Details/132651>

- **Israeli Occupation Forces Kill Palestinian Child near Bethlehem (VIDEO)**



Israeli forces killed a Palestinian child during a military raid in the refugee camp of al-Dheisha, near the occupied West Bank city of Bethlehem, the official Palestinian news agency WAFA reported.

Official Palestinian sources confirmed that Adam Ayyad, 15, was shot with a live bullet in the chest and

taken to the Beit Jala hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Another child was shot in the hand, according to the sources.

Israeli forces broke into the camp and proceeded to raid and ransack Palestinian-owned houses, sparking confrontations, during which the soldiers fired live and rubber-coated steel bullets as well as sound and toxic gas canisters.

Watch at: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1610213141492731904>

Full text at: <https://www.palestinechronicle.com/israeli-occupation-forces-kill-palestinian-child-near-bethlehem-video/>

- **Israel kills three children as 2023 dawns**



In just the first few days of the new year, Israel killed four Palestinians, including three children.

Israeli troops killed a 16-year-old boy in the Balata refugee camp in the occupied West Bank city of Nablus overnight on Thursday.

Defense for Children International - Palestine identified the boy as Amer Ghazi Zeitoun. He was shot with a bullet to the head.

Full text at: <https://electronicintifada.net/blogs/tamara-nassar/israel-kills-three-children-2023-dawns>

- **EU gives Israel green light to destroy donor aid**



Israel is ignoring the European Union's requests for compensation for its destruction and theft of EU-funded projects in the occupied West Bank.

And Brussels is doing absolutely nothing about it.

This less than entirely surprising revelation came in a response from the

European Commission – the EU's executive arm – to a question from two dozen members of the European Parliament.

The lawmakers pointed out that since 2016, Israel has demolished EU-funded structures in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, valued at almost \$2.5 million.

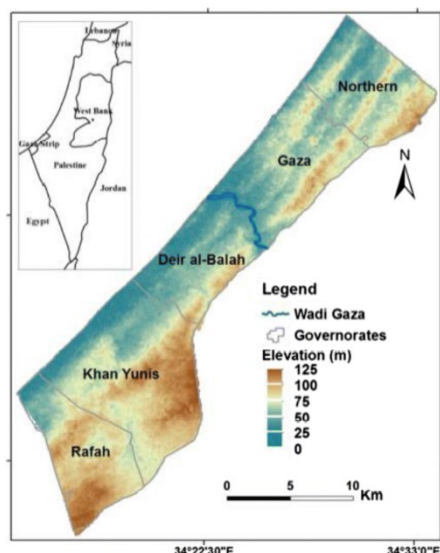
In June alone, occupation forces delivered demolition or stop-work orders to more than 50 structures funded by the EU or individual member states, valued at another \$250,000.

"This was the highest number of aid structures placed at risk of demolition in a single month since the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs began keeping track," the lawmakers observed.

In the last two decades, according to estimates by one human rights group, Israel has destroyed EU-funded projects to the tune of tens of millions of dollars.

Full text at: <https://electronicintifada.net/blogs/ali-abunimah/eu-gives-israel-green-light-destroy-donor-aid>

- **Analysis of the climate change impact on the spatiotemporal drought in the Gaza region of the southeastern Mediterranean**



The southeast Mediterranean region of the Gaza Strip is showing traces of evolving drought patterns driven by the impacts of climate change. The analysis of rainfall data at eight meteorological stations for a period extending over 48 years from 1974 to 2021 shows obvious variations in the spatiotemporal distribution of the rainfall over the Gaza Strip. The total monthly rainfall trend analysis for the wet months indicates a decreasing trend during February, March, April, and November with a ratio ranging between -16 and -62% and an increasing trend of about 35 and 141% through October at each of the meteorological stations. However, January shows an increasing trend of about $1-27\%$ at all meteorological stations except Nussirat where a decline of about -7% is recorded while December refers to an increasing trend by about $5-27\%$ in the north area of Gaza and declining trend of -2 to -17% over the southern region of the Gaza Strip. The drought analysis using the SPI indicator refers to a significant development of drought during the years 1990, 1999, 2010, and 2014 in the Gaza Strip with a major incident of occurrence where specifically, the monthly drought in term.

Full text at: <https://iwaponline.com/hr/article/doi/10.2166/nh.2022.083/92906/Analysis-of-the-climate-change-impact-on-the>

5 Books: The best books on The Israel-Palestine Conflict

1. After the Last Sky by Edward Said



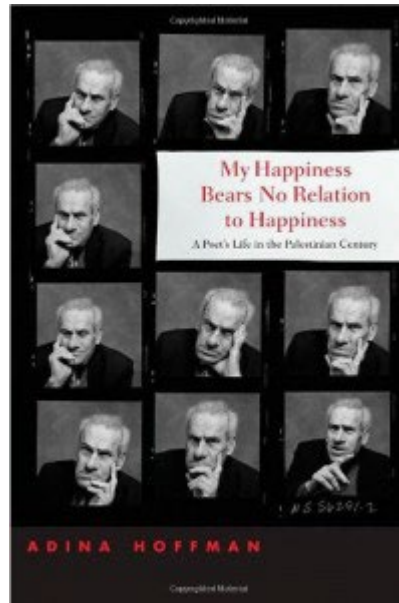
A searing portrait of Palestinian life and identity that is at once an exploration of Edward Said's dislocated past and a testimony to the lives of those living in exile.

2. Mural by Mahmoud Darwish



Mahmoud Darwish was the Palestinian national poet. One of the greatest poets of the last half-century, his work evokes the loss of his homeland and is suffused with the pain of dispossession, exile and loss. His poems also display a brilliant acuity, a passion for and openness to the world and, above all, a deep and abiding humanity. Here, his close friends John Berger and Rema Hammami present a beautiful new translation of two of Darwish's later works, his long masterpiece "Mural," a contemplation of his life and work written following life-threatening surgery, and his last poem, "The Dice Player," which Darwish read in Ramallah a month before his death. Illustrated with original drawings by John Berger, Mural is a testimony to one of the most important and powerful poets of our age.

3. My Happiness Bears No Relation to Happiness by Adina Hoffman

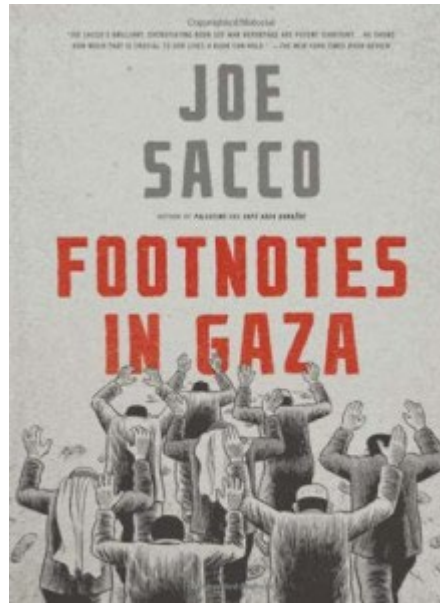


Beautifully written, and composed with a novelist’s eye for detail, this book tells the story of an exceptional man and the culture from which he emerged.

Taha Muhammad Ali was born in 1931 in the Galilee village of Saffuriyya and was forced to flee during the war in 1948. He traveled on foot to Lebanon and returned a year later to find his village destroyed. An autodidact, he has since run a souvenir shop in Nazareth, at the same time evolving into what National Book Critics Circle Award–winner Eliot Weinberger has dubbed “perhaps the most accessible and delightful poet alive today.”

As it places Muhammad Ali’s life in the context of the lives of his predecessors and peers, *My Happiness* offers a sweeping depiction of a charged and fateful epoch. It is a work that Arabic scholar Michael Sells describes as “among the five ‘must read’ books on the Israel-Palestine tragedy.” In an era when talk of the “Clash of Civilizations” dominates, this biography offers something else entirely: a view of the people and culture of the Middle East that is rich, nuanced, and, above all else, deeply human.

- **Footnotes in Gaza by Joe Sacco**



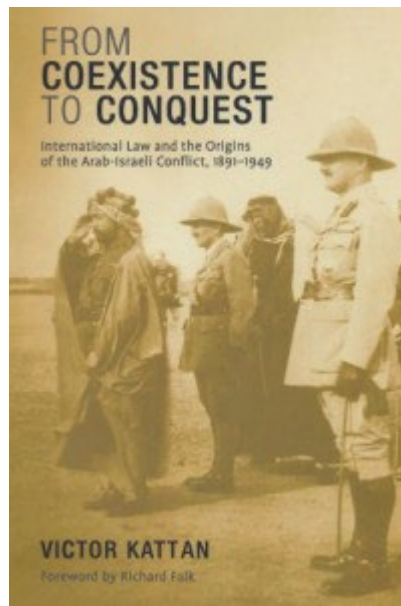
From the great cartoonist-reporter, a sweeping, original investigation of a forgotten crime in the most vexed of places

Rafah, a town at the bottommost tip of the Gaza Strip, is a squalid place. Raw concrete buildings front trash-strewn alleys. The narrow streets are crowded with young children and unemployed men. On the border with Egypt, swaths of Rafah have been bulldozed to rubble. Rafah is today and has always been a notorious flashpoint in this bitterest of conflicts.

Buried deep in the archives is one bloody incident in 1956, that left 111 Palestinians dead, shot by Israeli soldiers. Seemingly a footnote to a long history of killing, that day in Rafah—cold-blooded massacre or dreadful mistake—reveals the competing truths that have come to define an intractable war. In a quest to get to the heart of what happened, Joe Sacco immerses himself in daily life of Rafah and the neighboring town of Khan Younis, uncovering Gaza past and present. Spanning fifty years, moving fluidly between one war and the next, alive with the voices of fugitives and schoolchildren, widows and sheikhs, *Footnotes in Gaza* captures the essence of a tragedy.

As in *Palestine and Safe Area Goražde*, Sacco's unique visual journalism has rendered a contested landscape in brilliant, meticulous detail. *Footnotes in Gaza*, his most ambitious work to date, transforms a critical conflict of our age into an intimate and immediate experience.

- **From Coexistence to Conquest by Victor Kattan**



From Coexistence to Conquest seeks to explain how the Arab-Israeli conflict developed by looking beyond strict legalism to the men behind the policies adopted by the Great Powers at the dawn of the twentieth century. It controversially argues that Zionism was adopted by the British Government in its 1917 Balfour Declaration primarily as an immigration device and that it can be traced back to the 1903 Royal Commission on Alien Immigration and the Alien's Act 1905.

The book places the violent reaction of the Palestine Arabs to mass Jewish immigration in the context of Zionism, highlighting the findings of several British commissions of inquiry which recommended that Britain abandon its policy. The book also revisits the controversies over the question of self-determination, and the partition of Palestine.

The Chapter on the 1948 conflict seeks to update international lawyers on the scholarship of Israel's 'new' historians and reproduces some of the horrific accounts of the atrocities that took place. The penultimate chapter argues that Israel was created through an act of conquest or subjugation. The book concludes with a sobering analysis of the conflict arguing that neither Jews nor Arabs were to blame for starting it.

Dates for Palestine Solidarity in 2023

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	Naksa 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 Sept	40th anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacres
28 Sept	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