

JUST REPORT FEBRUARY 16, 2026

WITNESS

- Young people from West Bank visited London and Hertfordshire as a [CADFA](#) delegation. CADFA have been organising exchange visits for 20 years. They were joyous teenagers in their time with us – and then we heard their stories of beatings, imprisonments, deaths and oppression. A miracle that they can still smile and dance. We hold them in our thoughts as they return to their homes and to ongoing abuse and oppression.
- Deaths in Gaza this week. Over 20: 10- 12 people over the weekend.
- West Bank Feb 16th. – PA forces [killed 2 children](#) when arresting their father
- Vaporising [weapons used by Israel](#), 3000 dead without trace
- As of 10 February, Israel has violated the agreement 1,620 times, with approximately 560 shooting incidents, 80 incursions, 750 shelling and targeting incidents, and 230 demolitions of homes and buildings. Source [here](#)

LEARN

- **Palestine Action ban** deemed unlawful – but what does it mean?
Read full judgement [here](#). Summary from Novara Media [here](#), and discussion about the interpretation of the judgement Novara Live [here](#). Stephen Methven thinks the finding is robust, will be difficult to challenge, and that for parity, they are unlikely to allow the Government a “stay” in order to get their ducks in a row. On the other hand, Craig Murray takes a completely opposite view and is highly pessimistic. Read [here](#). Murray says judicial review in Scotland is even more important – money is needed, donate if you can [here](#).

- **Church action**

Synod of the Church of England

Lobbying by CAMPAIN members went well, with lots of support (although some hostile responses.) Peter – who often attends JUST – had written a strong letter to the local St Albans rep. who was called to speak and quoted him in full. The issue will be debated in July this year. This is a [group we can join](#) that is pressing for debate and action.

Iona Community – we heard from Sue Grieve about the [ecumenical community](#) linked to the island of Iona.

Palestine/Israel is one of their “[common concerns](#)”, some have been Ecumenical Accompanies - they have some excellent resources and they are active in their support. They are linked with Sabeel Kairos.

Catholic church. We all expressed disappointment with the current Pope. We know that the Tablet will not engage with support for Palestine. However the Independent Catholic News has a great report here on the [faith presence on the march](#), :perhaps we could follow up.

- **The Jewish Reform Alliance** – allying with Nigel Farage’s Reform far right anti-immigrant party - welcomed for launch at London’s Central Synagogue. Watch the disruption by Jews refusing this collaboration [here](#)
- **British Museum removes references to Palestineor does it?**
First published by the Sunday Telegraph.
read MEE story [here](#) (and note that the Open University really has caved in to UKLFI pressure).
UKLFI certainly did write to the BM with a [complaint](#).
[Response from BM here](#) denying the story.

Read William Dalrymple, *From the Holy Mountain*

And Nur Masalha, Professor at SOAS Centre for Palestine Studies

Palestine: A Four Thousand Year History (2018)

Palestine Across Millennia: A History of Literacy, Learning and Educational Revolutions (2022)

ACT

- **Palestine Action Ban. Stop the government appealing, write to your MP. Template [here](#).** Urgent before Friday hearing.

- **re Palantir:** Annex 1 of the full report is Pam's account of how Cambridge people are fighting against the local Integrated Care Board taking up Palantir. These actions are ones we can all take. Meanwhile, sign [this petition](#). Further actions you can take [here](#) and [here](#).
- **British Museum [petition](#).** You may want to wait to see if this story changes (see above), or sign anyway to ensure they know that removing references to ancient Palestine is offensive to many people.

SHARE

- Basic security in the digital age. [Recording of webinar available](#). And a zine that covers what was in that training and more [available here](#)
- Peter Osborne interviewed about his book COMPLICIT watch [here](#). He gave an online book launch on 16th Feb [here](#)

Up and Coming

📅 **Thur 19 Feb @ 7pm**

📍 Vida's, 2B Saltoun Road, SW2 1EP

Jon Fluxman of International Jewish Anti-Zionist Network (IJAN); and retired GP, will discuss what is happening in the NHS to healthcare workers showing any support for Palestine and how we can best support them. He will also address the implications of Wes Streeting's imposition of the IHRA definition of antisemitism in the NHS. Unfortunately, the event seems to [be sold out](#).

24th Feb Dr Makram Khoury-Machool is promoting his **Cambridge Centre for Palestine Studies**, in conjunction with the Cambridge Union Debating Society.

Palestine Studies: A Landmark event: The University of Cambridge "Why Cambridge Centre for Palestine Studies?"
Date: 24th February 2026 - Time: 6.30pm (UK) Speakers The Rt. Hon. Lord (CU Chancellor) Chris Smith The Rt. Hon & Rt. Revd. Dr Rowan Williams (104th Arch. Canterbury) Prof. Dr. Stefan H. Sperl (Academic Director, CCPS) Hosts Dr Makram Khoury-Machool (CCPS F. Director) & Mr. Christopher Lorde President, CUS In person event – Address: 9A Bridge Street, Cambridge CB2 1UB Seats for non-members are limited; therefore, you are kindly requested to Contact us via email to: theccps21.org@gmail.com or WhatsApp: [078 459 87 459](tel:07845987459) by Friday 20/02

ANNEX 1: action against Palantir in Cambridge

Activists composed a flyer and stuck it up on lamp-posts etc., with a QR code for accessing information. Latest information is that Palantir data can be transferred without GPs knowing, and used to deny health care (e.g. through insurance companies). Through a responsive councillor, they approached the local [Integrated Care Board](#) and asked pertinent questions such as: how confident are you that data will not be used as a product? Has the ICB made the right decision? A doctor at the meeting also voiced concerns about the ethics of sharing genomics. This was of course before the revelations about the connections between Epstein and the Palantir CEO Peter Thiel. The ICB are meeting again in March, watch this space.

Dan suggests the following: Palantir is nothing without the desire/sanction of companies and government departments to 'put together their borderline demonic software with our data!' Although this gentleman obviously represents his own interests, he is also a leading figure in privacy systems and hardware so I recommend viewing this recent 'Palantir'-centric [output](#) from Rob Braxman He is an acquired taste, but 'sound' I think!

ANNEX 2: more on anti-zionism

- Steve Salaita very good website, article [here](#) "your crisis of faith is not my concern during a genocide"
- Judaism as Occupied Territory [here](#)
- And the amazing Munther Isaac [@MuntherIsaac](#)

By now, I'm sure many of you have watched this exchange between Carrie Prejean Boller ([@CarriePrejean1](#)) and an American Jewish Zionist leader. I am deeply grateful for her courage. This confrontation sheds light on two issues that

have shaped public discourse for years: the definition of Zionism, and the increasingly aggressive claim that being anti-Zionist is inherently anti-Semitic. I'm also grateful that more and more Americans are finally beginning to see the problem we have been pointing to for years: the attempt to impose one definition and one set of rules on the rest of the world—rules everyone is simply expected to accept without question. Let me be clear: the central problem with Zionism is not complicated. Zionism established a homeland for the Jewish people on someone else's land. Palestine was not empty. This is not a theoretical debate for Palestinians. We are the people who have lived the consequences: dispossession, expulsion, fragmentation, military rule, and erasure—Muslims and Christians alike. (And yes, I have the same objection to any state built on an exclusive religious identity. A state should belong to all its people.) But Israel was founded on the land of others—and its exclusive identity continues to dismiss, marginalize, and erase half the population. What makes this even more troubling is that this project is repeatedly presented as something “Christian,” as if Christians are obligated to endorse it—something Carrie made clear she does not support as a Catholic. This is precisely why moments like this matter: they expose how the conversation is manipulated. Again and again, they mischaracterize what you are actually saying. Being anti-Zionist does not mean that Israel does not have the right to exist. Being anti-Zionist means Israel does not have the right to exist as a state built through the expulsion of Palestinians, and sustained by policies that treat Palestinians as second-class citizens—including, by the way, Palestinian Christians. So, pay attention to the tactic: they try to change the rules of engagement by claiming you are calling for Israel's destruction, when that is clearly not what you are saying. This is not confusion. It is a deliberate distortion meant to shut down the conversation, avoid accountability, and portray any critique as extremist. And there is another layer to this: the problem of what I can only call an imaginary Zionism—a Zionism that speaks as if Palestinians do not exist. It speaks about safety and refuge, but refuses to account for the people displaced for the project to succeed, and the price Palestinians continue to pay today—in the form of the genocide in Gaza. For Palestinians, Zionism is not an abstract identity debate. It is a political project with a clear history. Zionist leaders themselves spoke openly of “transfer.” They admitted the logic of removal. They named it. They defended it. And the world watched it happen. So, let me ask plainly: as a Palestinian—on the receiving end of settler colonialism and ethnic cleansing—if I oppose Zionism, does that make me anti-Semitic? Of course not. And yet, this is what we have been dealing with. The IHRA definition of antisemitism—unfortunately adopted by many Christians without acknowledging its serious problems, especially when it comes to Zionism—has made honest conversation nearly impossible. In practice, it has functioned as a tool to police speech: to make any serious critique of Zionism, or any naming of Palestinian dispossession, immediately suspect. This is why I am grateful for Carrie's courage. She refused to accept the imposed rules. She refused to allow a political ideology to redefine her faith. And she refused to allow Palestinian suffering to be erased. We need more of this moral clarity. Not to attack Jewish people, deny Jewish suffering, or trivialize antisemitism—which is real and deadly—but to insist that opposing an ideology of dispossession is not hatred, and that justice for Palestinians is not extremism. Because Palestine was not empty. And Palestinians—Christians and Muslims—are not invisible. Not then. Not now. And one final thing: Carrie wore a Palestinian flag. I want to say how much I appreciated that. We felt seen. In a session where Palestinian suffering was dismissed—and where even the reality of genocide was denied—that simple act of symbolism, of choosing to visibly affirm our humanity, meant more than many people realize.