JUST REPORT MARCH 31 2025



Mustafa Khafaja; Ezzedine Sha'at Saleh Moammar; Rifaat Radwan Mohammad Behloul; Ashraf Abu Labda Mohammad Al-Hila; Raed Al-Sharif. Assad al Nassasra is still missing.

On Friday, the Israeli military admitted that it had "opened fire" on vehicles in Rafah that "turned out" to be "ambulances and fire trucks". However, the discovery of the bound bodies makes clear that this was no

accidental or careless killing, but a

deliberate execution.

We remembered and mourned the lives of <u>14 medics murdered</u> on 28th March by Israelis, handcuffed, shot individually and buried in a mass grave. Another is still missing. Further details <u>here</u>. More than 1,000 Palestinians have been killed since March 18. See <u>here</u> for details up to 28/3/25

LEARN AND ACT

Quaker Meeting House police raid, 27th March 2025.

We were fortunate to have a briefing from Graham Taylor, a member of Westminster Meeting, speaking in a personal capacity. Graham and Sheila Taylor are active in the Quaker Socialist Society which stands up for radical Quakerism. Although the full facts of what happened are not yet clear, it seems apparent that the raid was designed to intimidate – the door was broken down; those arrested were not practising Quakers, but attending a Welcome meeting of Youth Demand which was not actively planning protest action but was designed to inform people about the group and about possible future action. The twin concerns are climate change and Palestine, and they demand the cessation of all trade with Israel. Full details as far as we know them here.

Response from the press has been unequivocally hostile to the police (even the <u>Spectator</u>) – though Graham reminded us that the right wing press have their own agenda against the Metropolitan police commissioner and the Mayor of London, protesting against "woke" reforms and what they describe as the "<u>decriminalisation of anti-Semitism</u>". For those interested in the concept of sanctuary - which no longer applies - see here.

With regard to the Quaker response, Graham praised the comments of Paul Parker, Recording Clerk (i.e. the "CEO" of Quakers in Britain) and the <u>official response</u> in condemning the Met incursion, listen to an <u>interview here with the Times.</u> However, Quakers now function as charities and bear in mind financial, commercial and reputational interests in determining the terms of letting premises and in the actions they undertake. Quakers could take this opportunity to stand in solidarity and open their doors to dissenters who share their values — they could also place further restrictions on the groups

they allow to use their buildings¹. Quakers in Britain provide statements about Palestine but oppose the use of the term genocide, and refuse any "official" representation on marches and demonstrations².

Please write to the Clerk of Westminster meeting, and to Paul Parker clerk@westminsterquakers.org.uk; rco@quaker.org.uk. Suggested content

- Express outrage and support; your hope that this event will strengthen Quaker opposition to repressive police and counter protest powers; and active support for Palestine.
- Write to your local paper
- Visit your local meeting house and urge them to open their doors to protestors about Palestine as well as climate change
- We will be composing a letter from JUST as a group to Paul Parker please send ideas for what you think should be included.

Also this week: Please take action to support BDS

PSC Don't Buy Apartheid April 5

Write, remove, relabel....!!!!

Stickers here

BDS movement website here; and here for boycott list

Download an app to help you find the products **Boycat**, No thanks

See Annex 1 for list of Israeli products to boycott.

Book club for Palestine: Munther Isaac

And finally something lovely...

The Book Club on Palestine will be studying Rev. Munther Isaac's new book, <u>Christ in the Rubble</u> on Wednesday evenings from 7–8 pm UK time via Zoom over 9 weeks starting on Wednesday, 16 April 2025. The host is Avigail Aberbanel, an anti-Zionist former Israeli who blogs on Substack. There is no requirement to attend every meeting. Rev. Isaac will be present at the launch meeting to present his work and engage in dialogue with participants. Further details, including the signup link can be found on this article in Avigail's Substack page: <u>Announcing the upcoming Book Club on Palestine Series</u>

Please share widely

¹ Westminster Meeting along with Friends House, refused to allow Jeremy Corbyn to speak at a public meeting. Westminster Meeting restrictions on room hire includes the risk that "Invited speakers may reasonably be expected to attract significant controversy". Local meetings are able to set their own terms: York Meeting House has been consistently open to dissenters.

² If you want chapter and verse on this, I am currently preparing an article for publication which provides extensive evidence. Quakers in Britain reluctantly ("with a heavy heart"- this phrase has been removed from the <u>updated statement</u> but I can assure you it was there originally) acceded to pressure in accepting the ICJ ruling that there was "plausible risk of genocide". They will not go beyond this.

ANNEX 1 Don't Buy Apartheid

Reports <u>here</u> and <u>here</u> (TUC, very useful)

Over 50% of Israel's agricultural produce is imported by the European Union, of which a large percentage arrives in British stores, including all the main supermarkets. These include: **Asda, Tesco, Waitrose, John Lewis, Morrisons,** and **Sainsburys**.

Don't buy any fruit, vegetables or wine that are labelled produce of Israel. These are grown and produced using land and water stolen from Palestinians.

Common products to look out for are peppers, avocados and dates, but many other items including citrus fruits, pomegranates, tomatoes, herbs and potatoes can also be imported from Israel.

Boycott all wines labelled from Israel. Look out in particular for wines from Golan Heights, Judean Hills and Upper Galilee.

Coca Cola Sprite Fanta Powerade Minute Maid Dasani FUZE tea

Puma Zara Expedia

Wix - website platform

Nestlé, a Swiss multinational, has a presence in Israel through its investment in Osem, a major Israeli food producer. This investment connects Nestlé to various local industries and markets, broadening its involvement in the region.

Perrier
Nescafé
Nespresso
NIDO
Gerber
Cerelac
Kit Kat
Crunch
Smarties
Häagen-Dazs
Purina
Boost
Stouffer's
Lean Cuisine
Milo
Nestea
PowerBar
☐ SodaStream An Israeli manufacturing company best known for its device for making carbonated water. It was acquired by PepsiCo, but the primary operations remain in Israel in disputed territories

Booking.com Trip Advisor AirBnB

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