JUST REPORT FEBRUARY 23, 2026

WITNESS

Ramadan in Gaza
Even through this grief and exhaustion, I see a defiant and beautiful hope. In Al-Zawayda, neighbours share their small portions of lentils or dates with dignity that rises above hunger. This solidarity is our sacred resistance. It is our way of declaring that even if our homes are destroyed, the human spirit within us will not be crushed. We light a single candle, not because it will keep the darkness away, but because the act of lighting it is itself a victory over despair[1].

12 killed in Gaza 16-23rd February[2]
Israel blocks access to Al Aqsa mosque and forbids Ramadan decorations in Jerusalem
Tours of prisons organised for settlers, to see handcuffed, prone prisoners organised by Israel, Prisoners are mocked and not informed of the beginning of the holy month.

LEARN

Visiting Palestine – Colin advised us on visiting Palestine – Israel is keen to promote tourism and to encourage Christians to visit the holy sites. Best route is flying to Tel Aviv – going through Jordan incurs more holdups as presumably more suspicious. As to more sustainable routes, Bernard and Janine have discovered they can get as far as Limassol by train and boat, but no further[3].

Once there, providing you are discreet, you should have no problem staying with or linking with Palestinians - but note that Israel has started revoking ESAs that have already been issued and preventing allies of Palestinians from entering Israel. NB John, one of our JUST members is keen to visit, possibly walking the Palestine Heritage Trail. If anyone is interested in this or in going on an ICAHD study tour study tour (May 11-21 2026) or with International Solidarity Movement ISM please email John on jwoolgrove4@gmail.com.

Colin also encouraged us all to reach out and contact Palestinians to talk to them via zoom as they are so keen to get their stories heard and to make contact. Contact the Palestine embassy and ask to be put in touch with anyone wanting a regular chat.

Report on Palestine Solidarity Campaign AGM – Jonathan cited a key representative of Declassified UK at its summit of Jan 31st who said that "if we don't change the media landscape, we won't change anything else". However, we got a dispiriting response to our motion about strategic prioritisation of addressing media misrepresentation. PSC Exec tabled an amendment that downgraded the wording from "strategic priority" to "focus" and said that the PSC BDS committee in Palestine would need to sign off on any strategic priority. Then on the day there was no time to debate the motion. In view of this experience, CAMPAIN, working with Richard Sanders, Tim Llewellyn and David Cannon, will ask to meet key PSC figures in person. Ben Jamal is presently in a difficult position - the hearing due on Monday has been postponed because the prosecution suddenly presented a huge new dossier of evidence that has not been seen by the defence.

British Museum
After UKLawyers for Israel claimed that the BM had responded to their letter demanding removal of labels referring to Palestine and ancient Palestine, William Dalrymple posted that the Curator had spoken to him personally to say this was not the case. Unfortunately, this is less than honest. Labels have been changed (William Dalrymple confirmed to Haim Bresheeth that this is the case). See here for a very informative short film. After a visit last week, one colleague commented (a) there is no exhibition about Palestine & Gaza, (b) in the Ancient Levant gallery many of the historical

[1] Guardian article quote
[2] Datatechforpalestine
[3] A ferry from Cyprus to Haifa was stopped years ago for security concerns.

explanatory notices refer to Israelites, giving Israeli place names even in the occupied West Bank e.g. Samaria instead of Sebastia. (c) no mention of illegal occupation. Also, they mention the "West Bank" & "Gaza". Another explanatory text mentions the ancient Egyptian word 'Peleset' which was used to refer to Palestine, but the text only states that it refers to 'Philistines' without giving the current word 'Palestinians.

Haim Bresheeth from Jewish Network for Palestine has written an excellent letter. There is some good information on the history here, here and William Dalyrymple's episode from a series here. Read Professor Nur Masalha *Palestine: A Four Thousand Year History* (2018) & *Palestine Across Millennia: A History of Literacy, Learning and Educational Revolutions* (2022).

ACT

- Petition re influence of Israel on UK politics needs 100,000 signatures to qualify for a Parliamentary debate, and is now about 12,000 signatures short of this, sign here.

- Complain to British Museum. Petition here. Letter requiring signatures here. Also please write in person, especially if you are a member.

- Support Palestine House – the local council wants rid of it and there have been over 100 complaints from UKLFI, whose offices are opposite. For Palestine House development, donate here.

- Ealing Friends of Palestine call on us to support Francesca Albanese, □□□first Trump tried to silence her, now France and Germany want her to resign over "false accusations". Francesca Albanese is one of the few brave voices for Palestine. We gotta stand with her! Nominate her for a Nobel Prize here

SHARE

- We had an animated discussion about **dates** – as in fruits. Information you need is here. And a new monitoring authority here. Advice from participants is, ONLY buy these brands: Yaffa dates, Zaytoun, Holy Land ; Sofra and Rift valley. DO NOT BUY Myjool, Jordan Valley, King Solomons, Tamara Dates, Hadiklaim, Jordan Plains, Carmel Agrifood. Unlabelled dates are unlawful, please report to Trading Standards. One person reported that their local action is to regularly empty the shelves of these brands, and in one instance when they went back, ethical dates were being stocked instead.

- Miranda Pinch has just returned from the West Bank and is available to give talks in person or online "**Encounters in Palestine and Israel".** She is very informed and an excellent speaker. See here for an article Email admin@campain.org if you would like to get in touch with her.

- **Australia** – Glynis shared with us the grim situation in Australia. Before the Bondi beach massacre, public opinion was shifting, but has now reverted to tacit support for suppression of pro-Palestine views, so that people are actively self-censoring. The refusal to allow the return of Australian citizens from Syria including 23 children is alarming. We in the UK are fast heading in this direction. We send Glynis all our support.

Small wins

- West Bank – case against dispossession won.

- Israeli sniper Rom Kovtun faces a criminal complaint in Chile under Law 20.357 for genocide and war crimes linked to Al-Shifa.

Resources

- Free book on nonviolent tactics available to download here ◌ ◌ ◌ ◌ ◌
- Amos Trust webinars are all are available to listen and watch again here. If you would like news of all Amos' online events direct to your inbox, please sign up to our Words of Hope Enews. Highlights are Marwan Barghouti 11th Feb and Comedy for Palestine 17th Feb. The aim is for Marwan's plight to highlight the thousands of other Palestinian prisoners and also give some protection to Marwan.
- PSC Director Ben Jamal's speech on defending the right to protest can be seen here.
- Glynis recommends Chris Hedges' documentary which includes the participation of Francesca Albanese Resistance101: Forging a New Movement for Palestine in Italy; Richard Sanders on the Epstein files
- Free Marwan Barghouti – website here. Tomorrow's Freedom Channel 4 film available here

Up and Coming

Tuesday, March 3rd: 8PM Jerusalem, 7PM Berlin, 6PM London, 1PM NYC Green Olive Tours

Join us with Nazeem Al-Suleiman for a dispatch from Deir Istiya in the occupied northern West Bank.

Occupation forces are attempting to bifurcate the northern West Bank by constructing a corridor of settlement outposts along Route 505 as part of a broader strategy of violent control. Join us with Nazeem Al Suleimen, a lifelong community advocate and former mayor of Deir Istiya, to learn more about conditions in the village and in the northern West Bank. We will hear about recent military closures and the efforts of community members to counter settler violence as Ramadan continues:

15th March. Issa Amro will speak on Annexation in the West Bank at Palestine House, High Holborn in London. Register here.

MAY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 'We're making our voices heard and putting Palestine on the ballot in the May 2026 local elections. We are making it clear we won't vote for any candidates who do not support the rights of the Palestinian people and push to divest from complicit companies.
Click here to join me & sign the People's Pledge*: www.votepalestine.co.uk/home#peoples-pledge'