

JUST REPORT MARCH 23 2026

WITNESS



Eid al Fitr in Palestine this year – children smile; families visit graves...

“For people like me, who were born and raised in Gaza and have survived repeated [Israeli](#) escalations and nearly two decades of blockade, it is a time to remind the world that we are human beings capable of celebrating, just like others around the globe.”

Another perspective from [a very moving report](#). Everyone carrying grief. Everyone missing someone. They had arrived through the outward customs of Eid, the visit, the greeting, the coffee, the courtesy, but beneath those rituals was exhaustion and pain.

(The traditional Gazan dish at this time is Sumagiyya – recipe [here](#). Make this with love, think of Gaza with love, pray for the time when they can celebrate together in freedom)

Torture and genocide

[Francesca Albanese report](#) presented March 23 – Torture endemic and routine. New report of unimaginable depravity.

[Torture of baby](#). In an attempt to force the father to confess to... what exactly? Report by journalist Osama Al-Kahlout. Footage showing injuries to the child, identified as Karim, after he was detained by Israeli forces near the Al-Maghazi refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip. His father is still detained. [Sexual torture](#) of a man in front of his family.

Deaths and injuries [Gaza Unlocked](#) 14 killed and 51 injured in Gaza between 16-18th March.

[Since “ceasefire”](#) Israel has killed 677 and injured a further 1,800 Palestinians, according to Gaza’s health ministry. Israeli strikes in Gaza have [averaged about 10 a day](#) across the territory over the past five months.

[West Bank escalation](#) of settler violence, with [police and army standing by](#) and refusing to intervene. Israel has killed at least 26 Palestinians in the West Bank since the beginning of the year, of whom at least 18 were shot by the military – and according to [Electronic Intifada](#), at least 7 children. Israeli Reform rabbis have for the first time [condemned these actions](#). Please continue... Germany appears to be [backing sanctions](#) on Israel in this context

To raise your spirits, and keep us going, right at the end of this long [Electronic Intifada link](#) is footage from a newly formed girls’ choir in Khan Younis. Watch and marvel. Translation of song found by Sue in Annex 1.

LEARN Palantir update – PowerPoint attached. (watch recording of webinar [here](#))

ACT

Write to MPs. Demanding that Israel release the father of Karim and ask for sanctions on the basis of the torture report.

Palantir actions: Sign [this petition](#) against Palantir

and please try and do the following for report back next Monday...

- Use [this tool](#) to find out what your local trust is doing
- See if you can link up with a local group search [here](#)
- If you are not near a local group, register your interest with Amnesty [here](#) (same link as in the previous bullet). This doesn’t commit you to anything, but will help them find out who in your area is concerned.
- Write to MPs Lib Dem and Greens are against so encourage them) ask to pause decision to award contract to FCA – opposition is building see here

Support Freedom Theatre. The Freedom Theatre is raising funds to continue its vital work. It was founded by Juliano Mer Khamis following the film *Arna's Children*, which traced the establishment of the Stone Theatre in 1993 and the children who took part in it. Some of them were killed in 2002 during the battle in Jenin refugee camp. Over the years, The Freedom Theatre has continued to operate under nearly impossible conditions, creating a space where children in the camp can express themselves and give voice to what they endure in their daily lives under occupation. Please support the theatre's continued work, and to support art as a tool of resistance - especially in these days. **Donate here** → <http://goto.gg/75307>

In Wales, half of the councils have backed divestment from companies linked to illegal settlements, apartheid and genocide, but action needs to happen. 6/7 people support this in Wales. Please contact your local councillor & member of Senedd today, ask them to sign [our open letter](#).

SHARE

Are we burdening Palestinians with an expectation of resilience? See sobering JVL piece [here](#). We discussed this as I continue to highlight examples of the extraordinary and brilliant actions and attitudes of ordinary people – as a source of respect and wonder, and to enable us in all our guilt and despair to keep up our own actions.

Report from CAMPAIGN AGM – see Annex 2

British Museum letter – finally, folks, in Annex 3. Please send any comments, as usual to actionhourcampaign@gmail.com

Ongoing is a hearing of case brought against BBC by Arab journalists for unfair dismissal. Read about it [here](#)

Oh, [and Laura Kuennsberg \(BBC of course\)](#) on the supposed threat to Britain from Iran. *Why would Israel say something that is not true?"*

[Hind Rajab, new\(ish\) evidence of double tap strike on ambulance](#). For anyone going to see the film, Annex 4 is the flier that I produced to hand out outside the cinema after the film – you need to insert your own local numbers and contacts.

Powerful [protest in Hastings](#) – against the proposed death penalty legislation – for Palestinians only, in Israel...this could be widely repeated

Up and Coming

Tuesday 24th, 7,30 pm. Wales – Senedd Leaders debate on Palestine organised by PSC, livestreamed on [PSC YouTube channel](#), and available to watch afterwards.

Three events on **Wednesday 25th March**

- [Arms Factory Protests – Day of Action](#)
- +972 Magazine, Local Call and Just Vision on **6:00 PM Jerusalem time (I think this is 4pm GMT)** for a timely briefing featuring journalists on the ground in the region. Together, they will offer firsthand insight into the humanitarian, political, and military dynamics shaping this moment, and help make sense of rapidly shifting developments. [Register here](#).
- 19.00 **Book club on Palestine** Jonathan Wonham on *Diary of a Spice Seller*. [Register here](#)

28 March - [Together March](#) in London against the far right.

29th March [Amos Trust has an appeal slot](#) on Radio 4

ANNEX 1 Song from Khan Younis

Fly, fly, little sparrow,
Drift on the morning air,
Over to the neighbor's window,
Settle softly there.

Bring me back a silk handkerchief,
Light as clouds above,
Leave the rest in quiet corners,

Carry it with love.

Fly, fly, little sparrow,
Over rooftops high,
Past the gardens, past the doorways,
Through the open sky.

Tell them I am thinking of them,
Send them all my cheer,
Then return, my tiny traveler,
Back to me, my dear.

Fly, fly, little sparrow,
Do not stay too long,
For my heart awaits your flutter,
And your gentle song.

ANNEX 2 Minutes of CAMPAIN AGM, Tuesday 17th March 2026

1. Attendance and apologies for absence

Present: Adam Waterhouse (Chair), Jonathan Coulter (Secretary), David Mond (Treasurer), Sharen Green, Alan Mackie, Miranda Pinch, Bernard Spiegall (exec. committee members), Priscilla Alderson, Swee Ang, Jeff Beatty, John Tranter, Sandy Kennedy, Elizabeth Morley, MH, Kevin Stewart, Sue Shreeve, Colin Lomas and Nicola Grove.

Apologies: Pat Bryden, Michael Mansfield KC, Abbas Hussein, David Somervell, Roxane Simon, Theresa Waterhouse, Jan Deckers and Sue Cooke (excuse me if I have missed anyone).

2. Discussion of the Chairman's Report

- The Chairman read the document shown in Annex 1 – which can be provided on request
- He highlighted the fact that CAMPAIN had strengthened itself organisationally and improved the management of its website and communication (though it would still welcome additional support from volunteers in this latter area).
- He highlighted CAMPAIN members' participation in mass Civil Disobedience re the proscription of Palestine Action, and the JUST weekly action hour which had been active since November 2024.
- He discussed our various campaigns, notably: engagement with the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism and States Legislation (Jonathan Hall KC); support to Dr Swee Ang vis-à-vis the British Medical Association, and to Prof Makram Khoury-Machool whom the police had illicitly detained under terror laws; continued lobbying of the CofE, Quakers and other religious groups, and above all; trying to build a pro-Palestine coalition for media reform – an activity we saw as vital to scaling up our challenge to misrepresentation in public narratives.
- Nicola Grove and Priscilla Alderson corrected/augmented the Chairman's account of our engagement with the Quakers, as follows:

In May 2025 British Quakers became the first British church to officially recognise that genocide and apartheid were taking place in Palestine/Israel. None of the Friends who are

members of CAMPAIN or attend JUST spoke at the relevant meeting, but they were actively part of the *discernment* that led to this landmark decision.

In January 2026, Quakers in Britain published a set of [guidelines on antisemitism](#), which have been in development over several years. There is widespread disquiet regarding evident bias towards Zionist perspectives, and the failure to consult Jewish groups who support Palestinian rights. CAMPAIN members and JUST attenders have made their concerns known to the key people involved, although with unsatisfactory responses thus far. This work continues and we hope for an evaluation that will lead to amendments.

The Quaker Socialist Society had published [Priscilla Alderson's rebuttal](#) which gained over 2,000 views and has helped prompt [a vigorous online debate](#). CAMPAIN republished Priscilla's piece gaining over 400 views.

- Sharen Green commented that it was inaccurate to claim that Bp Rachel Treweek had supported our efforts: *She continues to speak out bravely for Palestinians, but she has never answered letters I have sent her! She doesn't engage with us at all except when confronted in person.*

3. Treasurer's Report

- The Treasurer presented the document in Annex 2 (which can be provided on request) showing that CAMPAIN's financial situation had greatly improved. In the year to 28th Feb 2026, it had earned a surplus of income over expenditure of £2,691 (compared to a deficit of £1,414 in previous year) and could carry forward a cash surplus of £3,614
- CAMPAIN had easily achieved the target of raising a reserve of £2,000 that it had set itself for last year, thanks in part to generous donations.

4. Election of Officers

None of the positions were contested and nobody has stood down. Hence, the existing officers (Adam Waterhouse, Chair; Jonathan Coulter, Secretary; David Mond, Treasurer) and the other committee members (Alan Mackie, Miranda Pinch, Sharen Green, Stephen Sizer and Bernard Spiegel) were re-elected.

5. The way forward

- Jonathan Coulter led a discussion of CAMPAIN's attempt to build a pro-Palestine coalition for media reform, the topic on which he and others had been working since late 2024. They had focused much of their effort on getting by far the largest organisation, the Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC), to take a leading role in this matter. Progress had been slow and this caused them to propose a motion at the PSC's AGM on February 14th.
- However, the PSC Executive Committee amended our motion to downgrade it from "a strategic priority" to "a focus", and then time constraints prevented it being debated. They also indicated that they were giving the Palestinian Boycott National Committee (BNC) veto power over PSC's strategic priorities.

CAMPAIN had followed up with a letter signed by 29 people and dated March 3rd to Ben Jamal, the

Director of PSC, requesting an in-person meeting to discuss implementation (Jonathan thought that we were unlikely to get an answer until the end of Ben Jamal/Chris Nineham's trial).

When Jonathan asked whether we should keep pressing for this proposal, or desist, responses were that we should persist.

Adam felt that while PSC was an immensely important organisation, it lacked a credible theory of political change. It was not enough to campaign and press for divestment; it needed to win the moral argument and that required influencing media narrative.

Alan felt we needed to keep plugging away. Jeff Beatty wanted a system for disavowing inaccurate or biased news in the mainstream before it became established in peoples' minds. Swee Ang felt that PSC was often playing safe, for example saying little about Iran which was being attacked because of its support for Palestine. If it would not take the lead in challenging the media narrative, someone else needed to do so. Sue Shreeve noted that while PSC was at the centre of the big marches, it was not getting them publicised. Bernard noted that the regulator's criticism of the hierarchy of the BBC opened up further opportunities for challenging that entity using FOI requests.

The meeting concluded that regardless of how PSC reacted to CAMPAIN's most recent letter, we should produce a strategic document, i.e. a media engagement strategy of how we change hearts and minds in the UK. It was also suggested that we might convene a special meeting of members around this topic.

- Nicola had been formulating arguments challenging the way the British Museum had represented Palestine – apparently following pressure from UK Lawyers for Israel. She wanted to know whether CAMPAIN would be prepared to support a webinar on ancient Palestine, that would parallel a (planned) British Museum talk on ancient Israel and Judah. This would need to be considered by the Executive Committee.
- Martin Holst suggested that CAMPAIN write a letter in support of Francesca Albanese and that we sponsor a push-back against Christian Zionism.

Jonathan Coulter, Secretary of CAMPAIN

23 March 2026

ANNEX 3 Letter to British Museum

To Nick Cullinam, Curator of the British Museum; Trustees of the British Museum

As lovers of the British Museum, we were extremely concerned by the report in the *Daily Telegraph* (February 14th) that following a letter from UK Lawyers for Israel, you have removed references to Palestine from displays on the grounds that the term is not historically appropriate, and can no longer be considered “politically neutral” (apparently your words). We are sure we do not need to tell you that this vexatious harassment, now extremely common in the well documented UK suppression of the rights of Palestinians and their supporters (see [recent report](#) from the European Legal Support Centre) should be disregarded by any institution that claims to educate the public and conserve precious cultural histories.

We were then reassured by the information from the historian William Dalrymple (whose podcast [EMPIRE](#) provides evidence for the longevity of use of the name Palestine in the area), forwarding [your response to him](#), reading as follows:-

To reassure you we are not removing mention from Palestine from our labels," Nick told me. "Indeed, we have a display on at the moment about Palestine and Gaza. "I know this is something our curators have thought long and hard about - as you can imagine. We amended two panels in our ancient Levant gallery last year during a regular gallery refresh, when some wording was amended to reflect historical terms.

You reassured Mr Dalrymple that the letter from UKLFI was in no way instrumental in the decisions made. However there are reports of what BM spokespersons have said, which are frankly worrying:-
For example the [Museums Association](#)

UK Lawyers for Israel said on its website that a British Museum spokesperson had told the group that it was reviewing and updating some gallery panels and labels because “audience testing has shown that the historic use of the term Palestine ... is in some circumstances no longer meaningful”. ...The museum spokesperson said that while the term “Palestine” had previously been considered neutral for the region, for many people the term “no longer holds a neutral designation and may be understood in reference to political territory, which is why we use UN terminology”.

Why do you consider that use of the term Palestine in its historic context is biased?

And this from [Hyperallergenic](#)

*“Some labels and maps in the Middle East galleries have been amended to show ancient cultural regions, which is more relevant for the southern Levant **in the later second millennium BC,**” a British Museum spokesperson said in an email to Hyperallergenic. The museum, however, denied removing the word “Palestine” from its displays altogether, as initially reported by the [Telegraph](#) on Saturday. “It has been reported that the British Museum has removed the term Palestine from displays,” the spokesperson said. “It is simply not true. We continue to use Palestine across a series of galleries, both contemporary and historic.”*

As our members wanted to know more, I visited the museum on 9th March and was both angered and confused by the terminology, noting the following:-

- I was only able to find 3 mentions of Palestine in the Ancient Levant galleries. There were 2 very tiny labels of grave goods, and the small dolls said to be dressed in “Palestinian” costume (see below). Please tell us where it is mentioned in contemporary galleries?
- The signage about the Ancient Levant is a particular example of the cultural eradication that you claim is not happening. This states:- *THE ANCIENT LEVANT 7500-332BC... comprises modern Jordan, Israel, Gaza, West Bank, Lebanon and ancient Syria.* Gaza and the West Bank, along with East Jerusalem, of course constitute modern Palestine. It would appear that you are avoiding the term because you see it as too political in the present circumstances. There are two objections to this. Firstly, it should be pointed out that Palestine is in fact recognised as a [“Permanent Observer State” at the UN, enjoying](#) the status that allows it to participate in all of the Organization’s proceedings, except for voting on draft resolutions and decisions. The majority of UN participating states have recognised the State of Palestine, including our own government on 22/9/2025. This refusal to name modern Palestine is a clear example of anti-Palestinian bias. Secondly, and more importantly from the historical perspective, it is completely inappropriate to retrospectively obliterate the term Palestine as the historic designation of this geographic area for thousands of years. You have, we believe, heard from the leading Palestinian historian, Professor Nur Masalha, whose book *Palestine: A 4000 year old history* is a seminal text on ancient Palestine. You are

insisting on using the name “Canaan” for the area. What is your evidence that this was the common term for the region after the middle and late Bronze Age¹, from when – as Professor Masalha makes clear – the name Palestine was ubiquitous, and has continued to be so (the fact that modern Israel was established in 1948 does not negate the existence of Palestine).

- There is no display relating to Palestine and Gaza. I specifically inquired at Reception about this, and the staff said categorically that there was nothing, nor had there been anything recently. Please clarify. Perhaps you could provide one.
- I wonder if you are referring to the display case entitled CONFLICT & IDENTITY. In no way is this about Gaza of course. This is where there are 2 small dolls made in the Aqabat refugee camp. The label here is particularly shocking in its refusal to recognise that the “Arabs” displaced “between 1948 and 1967 (the Nakba- it is instructive that you provide no explanation or context when supplying these dates) are Palestinian, given that your aim from the vitrine is to highlight “*the efforts of communities under threat to determine their cultural heritage and self-representation throughout history.*”. It is a strange kind of curatorship that denies people their name whilst purporting to celebrate their spirit of resistance and survival. Please explain why you have substituted “Arab” for “Palestinian” in this context.
- You should also know that the tradition of embroidery has a specific name – Tatrez - that it continues during the 21st century, and that it is recognised by [UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage](#). The label inaccurately states that costumes were embroidered in the 19th and 20th century, clearly implying that the tradition has ceased. Please explain.
- You provide almost no information about the Philistines. Professor Masalha (and many other historians, including William Dalrymple) have described Philistine culture in detail, and it is apparent that they were a sophisticated people who built the major cities of the area during their tenure. I was surprised to see no mention of this. I understand also that the museum holds an important of Palestinian coins and that the Philistines were responsible for striking the first coinage in the area, but these are nowhere to be seen.
- Finally, we note that there will be a [talk about Ancient Judah and Israel](#) during Jewish Cultural Month in May/ June. This is not published on your own website, but is advertised on that of the Board of Deputies of British Jews. We are sure that it will be scholarly and fascinating (indeed many of us would like to attend) but we are concerned that the information may subsequently be used to further cultural genocide in arguing for the non-existence of the ancient history of Palestine. We are sure you would be mortified were this to happen, so would like to know how you plan to safeguard against the likelihood.
- We would further request that in the interests of balance and political neutrality, you invite a speaker on ancient Palestine history, such as Professor Masalha, to give a talk at the museum, using relevant artefacts. In this way you can protect your own reputation, and help further the narratives that you apparently value, of maintaining cultural identity in the face of extreme oppression.

We very much look forward to hearing from you. To summarise, here is the list of questions we would be grateful if you could address:-

1. Which labels have been changed and what did they originally say?
 2. Have you consulted any Palestinian experts on these changes ?
 3. Where in the museum, apart from the Ancient Levant, is the term Palestine to be found (contemporary galleries?)
 4. What is your evidence that Canaan was the common term for the geographic area of Palestine, after the middle and late Bronze Age when the term Palestine appears to have superseded it?
 5. Why did you tell Mr Dalrymple that there was an exhibition about Gaza in the Levant galleries? Were you referring to the Conflit and Identity vitrine?
 6. Have you plans to create a display about the history of Gaza?
 7. Why are the two small dolls created by refugees from 1948 and 1967 described as made by Arabs rather than made by Palestinians?
 8. Why is Tatrez described as a tradition of the 19th and 20th Centuries rather than the ongoing cultural activity and resistance that is the truth?
 9. Why is the panel on the Philistines so uninformative about their contributions to ancient culture?
 10. Are you aware of the inherent risks that a talk on ancient Israel and Judah may be used to further denial of Palestinian history by some sectors? What are you doing to minimise the risk?
 11. Will you commit to organising a talk this summer about ancient Palestine illustrated by artefacts in the museum?
- cc.His Excellency Husam Zumlot, the Palestinian Ambassador to Great Britain
Professor Ilan Pappé, Professor Nur Masalha, William Dalrymple, Professor Avi Shlaim, Peter Osborne

¹ The relevant [Routledge Handbook](#) clarifies that:- “References to Canaan in Middle and Late Bronze Age texts are few and far between...., the very rarity of Bronze Age text references to Canaan is in itself a reflection of the fact that there was no perception, either by the Canaanites themselves or by others, of a common identity which linked all Canaanites together. They did form coalitions from time to time, for ad hoc military purposes against a common enemy. But such military coalitions involved non-Canaanite states as well, and were clearly not based on ethnic considerations... References to Canaan in Middle and Late Bronze Age texts are few and far between

ANNEX 4 Flier for Hind Rajab film

YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING "THE VOICE OF HIND RAJAB"



WHAT CAN I DO?

It's easy to feel despairing and helpless in the face of this terrible story. But Hind's mother has said that she was a remarkable child, who wanted to be a doctor to help people. Now her story is known across the world. There are more than 20,000 other children who have been killed and more than 30,000 injured, and the current war means this devastation is ongoing and increasing. But you CAN help. Below are some organisations to support or to go to for information.

Support the **Hind Rajab Foundation** <https://www.hindrajabfoundation.org/>
Set up in her name, the foundation focuses on accountability for war crimes.

The **Palestine Trauma Centre** helps people affected by the war and has an active UK branch.
<https://www.palestinetraumacentre.uk/>

The **Hands Up project** (<https://www.palestinetraumacentre.uk/>) works with children in Palestine, using online drama, storytelling and creative writing. They have published illustrated books of children's poetry which make wonderful gifts – *Oh Big Blue*, and *Moon Tell Me Truth*. They are always interested in volunteers.

Visit two vibrant centres of Palestinian culture in London – **Palestine House** in Holbourn (<https://palestinehouse.org/about-us/>) and **Gallery P21** in Somers Town (<https://p21.gallery/home>)

Palestine Solidarity Campaign organises events and demonstrations (<https://palestinecampaign.org/>). There is a North Herts branch that you can join or approach for information, and we organise many different events locally. Email northhertspsc@gmail.com

Every Monday there is an online **Action Hour for Palestine** 7.30-8.30 with updates and actions. email admin@campaign.org for details.

Buy products from **Zaytoun** which come directly from Palestinian farmers. <https://zaytoun.uk/>
Above all, please take the time to **write to our MPs** and ask them to do all they can to stop the genocide and ethnic cleansing – in Gaza, the West Bank and now also Lebanon.

Josh Dean (Hertford and Stortford josh.dean.mp@parliament.uk); Chris Hinchliff (North East Herts chris.hinchliff.mp@parliament.uk); Lewis Cocking (Broxbourne, lewis.cocking.mp@parliament.uk); Kevin Bonavia kevin.bonavia.mp@parliament.uk Stevenage).