

JUST REPORT APRIL 20th 2026

WITNESS



We held in mind Naima al Sayed, her son Anas, and the other [2,899 children who have disappeared without trace in Gaza](#), to the anguish of their families. The 14-year-old went out to gather firewood for the family with his cousin, but never returned after running away from IDF fire.

Deaths in Gaza: Between 11-17 April 28 dead, 92 injured. [Gaza Unlocked](#). [Middle East Monitor](#) reports that ongoing violations have killed 773 Palestinians and injured 2,171 since the October *cease-fire*. Deaths in West Bank difficult to estimate, but ongoing settler violence is terrible. See actions.

Report on Lebanon... [here](#) from Middle East Eye. One atrocity hit me hard... drone strike on a family home in Sohmor Bekaa Valley (where the wonderful wine comes from), at 3.30 am when the children were blasted into the street.

The charity Defence for Children International has had to close in Palestine. The Israeli military outlawed DCIP and five other Palestinian human rights and civil society groups in 2021, declaring them “terrorist organizations.” The military’s charges were bogus—as international human rights groups, the United Nations, and governments that investigated them found—but they were hard to fight because, as is often the case in Israeli military prosecutions, they were based on secret evidence. They have worked for years there documenting Israeli abuses. Neither the UN nor the EU have made any statement.

LEARN

Paula Orr, Ecumenical Accompanier shared the story of Abu Shadi, a West Bank farmer in Um al Khair, menaced by settlers, hiding his animals but still proudly cultivating the land that is left to him (for now). She stressed that he does not see himself as a victim nor a fighter. He simply wants for him

and his family to live in peace. Our discussions focused on whether those whose stories are broadcast are being put in danger – stories are only shared if the individuals concerned wish this, but of course there is a duty of care as the situation worsens – Paula is going to follow this up. EAs themselves may also be in danger.

Another participant asked about the village of Umm al-Khair, of which we have very disturbing news that settlers have put up a barbed wire barrier across an established path, effectively blocking the route that village children take to school. Fifty-five children are affected. The children and teachers have been going to the place where the barrier is every school day to demand that the barrier be removed and do their work in the open air. The first day they were there and tried to go round the barrier, soldiers fired teargas to disperse a group including children as young as five years old. There is a recent report by [Aljazeera](#) which provides more details and the villagers' demands:

If you are able, please donate to EAPPI's work [here](#). The stories build a real picture of what is happening.

Attack on Tehran synagogue. As Pat pointed out in an email, we note the failure of response on the attack on the Tehran synagogue and the stark contrast with attacks in Australia on Bondi beach, and the Manchester synagogue, which are immediately labelled 'terrorist'. Useful articles [here](#) and [here](#) (the Guardian one talks about the resilience of the community)

Palantir debate in Westminster Hall: the tide may be turning. Some excellent opposition, Report [here](#). Ian Byrne's [passionate contribution](#) worth a watch. For a recent in-depth exposé about Palantir see [The Shadow Contract](#) by the Good Law Project

ACTION

- Demand world leaders act on Annexation of West Bank [here](#). Even [Chatham House](#) has alerted us to the danger and suggested actions that EU countries could take including sanctions, but the [EU will not budge](#)
- Demand action on issuing of death penalty for Palestinians [email our government](#) and [EU leaders...](#)
- More actions can be found [here](#)

SHARE

- Mustafa Barghouti is General Secretary of the Palestinian National Initiative, and he's been a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council since 2006. He's a member of the PLO and was minister of Information in the Palestinian UNITY government. His talk from Monday evening – highly recommended - can be viewed [here](#). Please donate if you can (suggested amount £20).
- Pat shared the following:

Watch the [ICAHD webinar](#) from 14 April on Christian Zionism, with Stephen Sizer and Michael Sath

I found in Edinburgh Central lending library a recent book, anonymously written called '[Who Will Tell My Story: a Gaza Diary](#)'. It was published in 2025. It is the author's diary of the first five months of the bombardment of Gaza, and very painful even to read. By February 2024, he realises how important MUSIC is in keeping the seed of hope alive. Love of cats come into it.

- David Cannon noticed Westminster Abbey flying a Ukraine flag and wrote to ask.. turns out to be a next-door building, which is a relief. Always worth checking!!
- Martin went to a meeting of Jews and Christians, described as *toxic atmosphere* and a talk about the war on Iran. He is reflecting and will feed back more next week.
- Digital resilience... [a good news story...](#)
- Poland's Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski on Monday [called for accountability](#) and disciplinary action over alleged misconduct by Israeli soldiers, saying some had admitted to committing war crimes.

Up and Coming

- 25th April. British Museum demonstration 1:30-3:30pm, Great Russell St, London WC1B 3DG. sending a clear message: '*We will not stand by while you're complicit in genocide and occupation.*' The BM, sponsored by BP, has hosted the Israeli embassy on Nakba Day and now edited out Palestine from some labels after pressure from UKLFI.
- 28th April ICAHD webinar *From Gaza to Iran: the changing landscape of the Middle East.* 7-8.30pm Details [here](#)
- Saturday 2nd May, *PALESTINE*, St Pancras Church House, 1 Lancing St, London NW1 1NA: *Protest and the right to follow our conscience*, with [Dr Makhram Khoury Machool](#), Director of the Cambridge Centre for Palestine Studies, and [Grace Da Costa](#), Public Affairs and Media Manager, Quakers in Britain, who will open the discussions. It's a Quaker Palestine Solidarity event for British Yearly Meeting. Doors open 12.30. 12.45-2.15. All welcome, register [here](#).
- Sunday 3rd May, Barbican, London, 7.30pm. Concert by The Galilee Quartet (a Palestinian family), playing classical and traditional Palestinian music. Get your tickets [here](#). Also at Bridgewater Hall, Manchester, on 16th May.
- More upcoming events can be seen on the [PSC calendar](#)