

# WHO'S MAWO?

**Mobilization Against War and Occupation** is a coalition of over 50 endorsing organizations and also individual members, most of which are working class organizations, student groups, grassroots organizations, and ethnic communities. This is including Indigenous activists and groups from the third world as well as women, youth and elder fighters for social justice and against war and occupation. We are the people in struggle because we are people that suffer at the hands of imperialism. We have the energy, drive and will for change because it is in our interest to make this change in order to create a better world for all of humanity!

**GET INVOLVED IN MAWO & THE MOVEMENT FOR PEACE!**

Member of the Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network

## NEXT ORGANIZING MEETING

► Tuesday July 30, 2024 @ 6:30pm

Britannia Community Centre

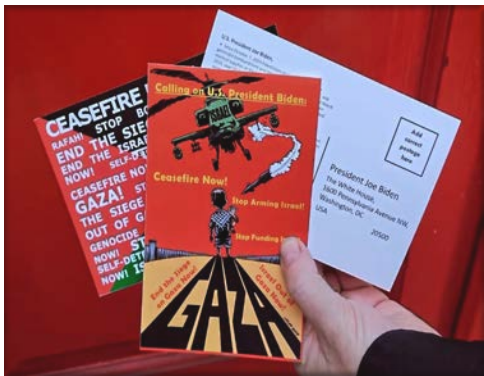
1661 Napier St & Commercial Drive, Vancouver

Email: [info@mawovancouver.org](mailto:info@mawovancouver.org) for more information

Facebook: @MAWOVancouver  
Twitter: @MAWOVan  
Instagram: @MAWOVan  
[info@mawovancouver.org](mailto:info@mawovancouver.org) 778-938-1557

► **MAWOVANCOUVER.ORG**

## ► NEW PALESTINE POSTCARDS TO BIDEN!



Send a postcard to U.S. President Biden to demand the U.S. government end their funding, aiding, arming and political clearance to Israel's apartheid regime for war crimes, occupation and genocide against Palestinians.

Email [info@mawovancouver.org](mailto:info@mawovancouver.org) for more info and to arrange pickup/delivery

## ► PICKET & VIGIL AT THE VANCOUVER U.S. CONSULATE

**CEASEFIRE NOW! ISRAEL OUT OF GAZA NOW! END THE GENOCIDE NOW!**

**WEEKLY RALLY FOR PALESTINE!**

**& Vigil for Aaron Bushnell**



**EVERY  
Monday  
5:00pm  
U.S. Consulate  
1075 W. Pender St  
Downtown Vancouver**



- ★ US/Canada Stop Arming Israel! ★
- ★ Hands Off Rafah! ★ Stop Bombing Gaza! ★
- ★ Self-Determination for Palestine! ★

## ► WEEKLY BANNER DROPS FOR PALESTINE!



**GLOBAL  
MARCH  
FOR RAFAH**

**Join every Friday!**

**4:30pm**

**Call for location: 778-881-6156**

- ★ Ceasefire Now! ★ Stop Bombing Rafah! ★
- ★ Stop Genocide in Gaza! ★ Israel Out of Gaza Now! ★
- ★ Lift the Siege on Gaza Now! ★ Stop Bombing Gaza! ★
- ★ End Canadian Complicity! ★ US/Canada Stop Arming Israel! ★
- ★ Self-Determination for Palestine! ★

Mobilization Against War and Occupation - MAWO  
[www.mawovancouver.org](http://www.mawovancouver.org) || Follow on Instagram & Twitter: @MAWOvan

## ► WEEKLY PALESTINE INFO BOOTH

**Every Sunday  
1-4 pm**



- ★ Ceasefire Now!
- ★ Stop bombing Rafah!
- ★ Stop Genocide in Gaza!
- ★ Israel Out of Gaza Now!
- ★ Call for location 778-881-6156

**stop the war! stop the occupations!**

[www.mawovancouver.org](http://www.mawovancouver.org)

**MAWO 101**

newsletter

July 2024

4th Edition

**mobilization against war & occupation**

# CEASEFIRE NOW! STOP GENOCIDE IN GAZA!



Updated July 20, 2024

**Statement by Mobilization Against War & Occupation (MAWO)**

The genocide in Gaza is now in its 10th month, and Israeli Zionist forces continue their assault on Gaza City, while continuing to bomb Khan Younis and Rafah. These intensified attacks are after 9 months of genocidal Israeli bombing, shelling and Zionist ground force raids, while Israel has inflicted starvation and widespread disease on Palestinians in Gaza. According to a study published on July 5, 2024, by the Lancet medical journal the death toll in Gaza could exceed 186,000 Palestinians due to malnutrition, lack of medication, and unsanitary living conditions, even if the Israeli bombardment, siege and genocide ended today.

In response to these ongoing horrors, the people of Palestine continue to resist Zionist Israeli brutality and occupation. The Ansarullah resistance movement have also continued to struggle alongside the people of Palestine. On July 19, a drone was able to carry out an attack in Tel Aviv, once again dispelling the myth that there can be security in a state based on occupation and oppression. This was a significant blow against the plan set up by the U.S. to prevent all-out war in West Asia. The message delivered in this attack is more important than the significance of the Ansarullah movement's ability to reach Tel Aviv and the military achievement. And the message is: the Ansarullah movement and the overall resistance movement in West Asia in defense of Palestine is ready for all-out war. This is at a time that there is no prospect of ending the war in Gaza and the war against Palestinians in the foreseeable future.

This fact becomes more apparent with the July 18 vote of the Israeli Knesset overwhelmingly in favour of rejecting any Palestinian statehood. This vote was a final nail in the coffin of the so-called peace agreements between Palestine and Israel, including the Oslo accords, which first began in 1993. For Israel, the "two-state" solution is off the table once and for all. For Palestine, this means that there will be no going back to the occupation as it was before October 7. There is only one option,

- Ceasefire Now!
- Reinstatement UNRWA Funding Now!
- Israel Out of Gaza Now!
- End Canadian Complicity!
- Stop Bombing Rafah!
- US-Israel Stop Bombing Gaza Now!
- End the Siege on Gaza Now!
- End the Israeli Genocide in Gaza Now!
- Stop Arming Israel Now!
- Stop Funding Israel Now!
- From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free!
- Boycott Israel Now!
- Self-determination for Palestine!

complete liberation for Palestine.

**Ceasefire Now!  
Stop Genocide in Gaza Now!**

On May 31, US President Biden announced a so-called "Israeli" initiative for a new ceasefire proposal. Biden's ceasefire proposal proved to be a complete farce – not only did Israel's regime fail to agree to it, but Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu responded by launching a more destructive and deadly campaign of bombing and terror throughout Gaza after Biden's ceasefire announcement. As of June 13, Israel has still not officially and publicly agreed to what Biden announced as "Israel's" ceasefire proposal. In fact, officials have spoken directly against the proposal. On June 10 the United Nations Security Council voted to endorse the May 31 ceasefire proposal, although concerns about the lack of details and clarity were noted by Russia who abstained as well as China and Algeria. However, senior Israeli UN diplomat Reut Shapir Ben-Naftaly spoke

during the UN Security Council session and stated that "Israel will not engage in meaningless and endless negotiations" and that the war "will continue ... until Hamas military and governing capabilities are dismantled". How much clearer can it be that Israel is not agreeing to a ceasefire proposal when their UN representatives say this directly during a UN Security Council vote?

Meanwhile, Hamas immediately responded to Biden's May 31 announcement and

*Continues on pages 2-6*



to the June 10 UNSC vote to say they welcome the ceasefire proposal and are open to negotiations. While Biden and US officials are attempting to put the blame on Hamas for not agreeing immediately to the proposal, in fact no written proposal was provided to Hamas until as late as June 6! US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken also tries to confuse the public and further smear Hamas when he claims that the proposal announced by Biden is “virtually the same” as the May 6, 2024 proposal which Hamas had agreed to, and which Israel outright rejected. One must ask, why then a new proposal? What are the differences between the May 6 and May 31 proposal, and what is Hamas proposing to change in order to agree with the current proposal?

The terms of the current three-phase proposal are very vague and undefined in order to provide loopholes to Israel to continue the genocide, and to make it not

hiding the true reasons of why this proposal is a non-starter.

In short, the latest US announced proposal that Israel has not even agreed to is an attempt to cool down tensions within Israel where protests by Israelis demanding the Israeli government negotiate a ceasefire for the release of Israeli captives are growing, and also for President Biden's domestic consumption as the US gets closer to the Presidential election. As it stands, this ceasefire proposal would release some of the Israeli captives without ensuring a complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza, without the siege of Gaza lifted and flow of humanitarian aid fully restored, and with the path open for Israel to continue their outright genocide of Palestinians in Gaza.

The US and Israel are buying time to conduct more massacres in Gaza, with the aim to ethnically cleanse Gaza of Palestinians and to make Gaza unliveable. Already according to a United Nations April 15 report, it would

"AMERICA IS ENTIRELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ONGOING WAR IN GAZA AND ISRAEL IS MERELY AN EXECUTION TOOL."

- Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah, Secretary-General of Hezbollah



a real ceasefire at all. The proposal gives Israel an option to leave the agreement anytime they want, including no obligation for Israel to move on to the second phase of the ceasefire. The first phase does not require Israeli forces to leave Gaza, referring ambiguously to their withdrawal from “populated areas” of Gaza. Phase one also does not end Israel’s blockade of Gaza which has resulted in severe shortages of medical supplies and fuel, and an Israeli-imposed famine. At time of writing, over 40 people in Gaza have died from starvation, the vast majority being children.

All together, considering the tricky language of the current ceasefire proposal, Israel’s lack of agreement, Israel’s track record of sabotaging ceasefire negotiations, and the US history of vetoing 3 previous ceasefire negotiations in the United Nations Security Council, this all shows just how unserious this ceasefire proposal really is. US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken has just wrapped up his 8th tour of West Asian countries and Israel, which was more of a PR campaign attempting to get regional support for this problematic US ceasefire proposal. This proposal has been setup not only to fail, but with the goal of smearing and blaming Hamas for its failure while

take 80 years to rebuild the destroyed homes of Gaza, if the rate of construction was the same as following Israel’s previous wars against Gaza.

Daily massacres on the rise

Blood, bodies in pieces and unrecognizable, human lives taken and scattered in the streets, and thousands buried under the rubble. This is the scene throughout Gaza, now into the 9th month of the horrific Palestinian genocide conducted by the Zionist Israeli regime. Despite worldwide condemnation, the Zionist Israeli genocidal regime is trying to hide its failure to achieve any of their goals stated after October 7, 2023, with the indiscriminate daily massacres of innocent Palestinian people. Israel’s war crimes and crimes against humanity are intensifying from the north to south of Gaza, with genocidal bombing, shelling by tanks, raids and attacks by ground forces, mass displacement, forced starvation and widespread disease.

On June 8, under the “Trojan Horse” disguise of humanitarian aid trucks filled with Zionist Israeli forces, Israel launched a massacre against the Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza, killing over 274 Palestinians, a number expected to rise as



ISRAEL: STOP BOMBING HOSPITALS!

STOP KILLING CHILDREN!

END THE SEIGE ON GAZA!



WE CALL ON MAERSK TO CUT TIES WITH GENOCIDE! Without Maersk, one of the world's largest shipping and logistics companies, Israel would not have the weapons to commit its genocide of Palestinians in Gaza. We are joining he Palestinian Youth Movement's campaign to Cut Ties with Genocide a fight against Maersk and how it facilitates the weapons trade.

SIGN THE PETITION! ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶



Sign on to support the campaign! samidoun.net ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶





On April 15, 2024, Nicole De Moor, Belgium’s Secretary for Asylum and Migration, announced in a public statement that she was calling on the Belgian immigration agencies to withdraw the refugee status of Mohammed Khatib, the Europe Coordinator for Samidoun. This attack is an attempt to suppress the right for free speech in the struggle for Palestinian liberation. We must unite and stand up against this attack!

MAWO STATEMENT

Hands Off Charlotte Kates! VPD, Drop the Charges Against Charlotte Kates!



Charlotte Kates, the International Coordinator of Samidoun Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network was arrested on April 26, 2024 in Vancouver by Vancouver Police Department (VPD) for a speech she gave on April 26 expressing support for the Palestinian resistance. VPD’s phony charges target and frame up Charlotte Kates, with full knowledge that since last October she has been a leading organizer of peaceful Palestinian solidarity mass actions in Metro Vancouver. According to a Samidoun Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network statement, “VPD officers nabbed Kates while she was on the bus riding home after attending the establishment of the Palestine solidarity encampment at the University of British Columbia, and charged her with “public incitement of hatred” and “willful promotion of hatred”. After two hours of questioning she was released with the condition “not to attend any protests, demonstrations and assemblies”.”

This is a blatant violation of freedom of expression and speech, by the VPD, in the hopes of slowing down the organizing against Israel’s ongoing genocide in Gaza

and Palestine. It is very clear that they chose to target Charlotte Kates, as she was playing a central role in organizing peaceful rallies and other actions for Palestine in the last 8 months, since October 2023.

Framing up Charlotte Kates is the exercise of a FBI COINTELPRO style operation against a person that has established and led peaceful rallies and activities in Metro Vancouver and beyond. This dangerous precedent is part of the ruling class’s attack on working and oppressed people’s right to understand, to organize, and to fight back against Zionist Israel’s ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people. We must defend Charlotte Kates as this attack on her right to organize is an attack on all of our rights to organize. An attack on one is an attack on all working and oppressed people!

We unequivocally condemn this attack on Charlotte Kates and our democratic and human rights. We demand the VPD immediately drop the charges against Charlotte Kates! Stand with Palestine! Hands Off Charlotte Kates! End the Genocide in Gaza!

FOR MORE ON CHARLOTTE'S CASE: [samidoun.net](http://samidoun.net)

EVENTS ENDORSED / SUPPORTED BY MAWO:

Vancouver Car Caravan for Cuba!

LIFT THE U.S. BLOCKADE ON CUBA!

President Biden take Cuba off the “State Sponsors of Terrorism” List!

Sunday, June 30 @ 12:30pm

For location call: 604.780.4029

Friends of Cuba Against the US Blockade - Vancouver

WWW.VANCUBAVSBLOCKADE.ORG





the United States’ forward base into West Asia, a foothold in the region from which to launch surveillance, military attacks, wars, and occupations, and to expand their plunder of resources and markets. The US imperialist new era of war and occupation has accelerated their drive for hegemony in the region, which we have seen since the war and occupation of Afghanistan in 2001, and continued with the war on Iraq, Syria, Libya, and Yemen. This is why Israel as a Zionist racist and apartheid regime has never been a truly functional legitimate state. Without the economic, financial, and military support of the US and their imperialist allies, including Canada, Israel cannot survive more than a few weeks. Even before October 7, 2023, the US had been supplying more than \$4 billion a year in military aid to Israel. Canada also provides military exports to Israel, and Canadian bank Scotiabank is the largest foreign investor in Elbit Systems, a major Israeli weapons manufacturer, who sells “battle tested” drones – battle tested against Palestinian people.

Since October 7, 2023, the defensive military operation of Palestinian resistance fighters from Gaza into Israel effectively ended all deceitful plans by Israel and their imperialist backers in the past, present and future. Today the tide is turning as Palestinians won’t accept any false promises or distractions and are fighting for their self-determination and right to exist as a nation and to form a nation-state.

**No Justice, No Peace! Palestine Will be Free!**

We have been lied to for years that the Israel-Palestine conflict is “complicated,” and peace is distant. Before the Zionist project with the support of Britain and other imperialists imposed the state of Israel on Palestinian land, Palestinians of Muslim, Jewish and Christian faith lived in harmony side by side for centuries. Despite the claims that Israel needed to be created as a “safe” homeland for Jewish people, there can be no safety when that state is

imposed by a genocidal occupation, as has been done on Palestinian land. This was just a convenient solution for racism in Europe and North America, where historically and today Jewish people face antisemitism, where Jewish people should have the right to live without discrimination. In fact, the safest place historically and today for Jewish people has been in West Asian countries, side by side with their Muslim neighbours! The solution that we are told is complicated is in fact simple. Palestinian’s legitimate demand for the right to self-determination must be met, preferably a single democratic state with the fundamental right of one person, one vote, where Palestinian and Jewish people can live in together in peace and harmony. It is only the Zionist regime and their imperialist backers that are blocking this only viable solution from becoming a reality. If it this could happen in South Africa, it can happen in the entire land of Palestine today from the river to the sea!

**Organize, Mobilize and Fight Back!**

- Now more than ever the international solidarity movement must keep up our support for Palestine. We must keep showing up in the streets, keep up a united front in defense of Palestine, and keep organizing, fighting back and mobilizing for an immediate ceasefire, and for the self-determination and liberation of Palestine!
- **Ceasefire Now!**
  - **End the Israeli genocide in Gaza Now!**
  - **Israel Out of Gaza Now!**
  - **End Canadian Complicity!**
  - **Stop Bombing Rafah!**
  - **Stop Bombing Gaza!**
  - **End the Siege on Gaza Now!**
  - **Stop Arming Israel Now!**
  - **Boycott Israel Now!**
  - **Self-determination for Palestine!**

over 700 people suffered horrific injuries. This Israeli operation was directly aided by the United States with intelligence and logistical support, including use of the US-built pier on Gaza’s coast, which the US government claimed was built only for humanitarian purposes. While the Zionist Israeli raid freed 4 Israeli captives, Israeli also killed another 3 Israeli captives alongside the indiscriminate widespread massacre of Palestinians, including many children, by ground forces, heavy air strikes, drone and tank fire. Just days before on June 7, Palestinian families in Nuseirat faced another massacre when Israeli forces bombed a United Nations-run school in Nuseirat, killing over 40 people and wounding at least 74. An Al Jazeera investigation found that the guided missiles used in this brutal attack were made by a US weapons company, yet another evidence that the US government is not only complicit but is fueling this genocide of Palestinians by Israel.

This massacre came less than two weeks after the Sunday May 26 Israeli massacre of Palestinian families forcibly displaced and sheltering in the southern Gazan city of Rafah. This horrific Israeli Zionist attack killed more than 50 people and injured more than 200, and targeted an area explicitly designated as a UNRWA humanitarian assistance area. The UNRWA center was bombed with more than seven missiles and large bombs, each weighing more than 2000 pounds. Again we can draw the line back to weapons supplied by the US government. On March 30 the White House authorized more than \$2.5 billion in fighter jets and bombs to Israel, including 1,800 MK84 2,000-pound "bunker buster" bombs known to cause mass casualties like the ones dropped on Rafah on May 26. On April 24 US President Biden authorized even more military funding, with \$17 billion approved. While US military aid pours into Israel, Zionist Israeli attacks against displaced people in Rafah are continuing, and on May 28 yet another camp was bombed in Al-Mawasi, west of Rafah, killing over 21 Palestinians and wounding 64.

Northern Gaza has also suffered a recent intensified onslaught from Israeli Zionist forces. On May 31 Israeli forces were forced to retreat from Jabalia refugee camp after a 3-week siege and heavy bombardment. Jabalia is now unrecognizable to returning residents, and Jabalia and nearby Beit Hanoun have been declared disaster areas by Palestinian municipal authorities. Israeli Zionist forces destroyed over 50,000

homes, water wells and pipe networks, sewage systems, power lines, roads and UNRWA schools and facilities.

**Netanyahu, Biden – we charge you with genocide!**

For now into 9 months Israel has crossed every red line, committing war crimes, crimes against humanity and conducting a holocaust against the Palestinian people. Schools, hospitals, mosques, churches, heritage sites, industrial buildings, electrical grids, water and sewage systems have all been targeted and destroyed by Israel’s vicious and relentless bombing campaign.

Israel is waging a war against truth, information, education and history in Gaza. According to UN reports, since October 7th more than 122 journalists and media professionals have been killed by Israel in Gaza, and many more have been injured. Israel has also committed scholasticide, as over 80% of schools in Gaza have been damaged or destroyed by Israel. According to a United Nations report, as of April 18 more than 261 teachers and 95 university professors have been killed in Gaza. More than 60% of educational facilities, including 13 public libraries, have been damaged or destroyed and at least 625,000 students have no access to education. Another 195 heritage sites, 227 mosques and 3 churches have also been damaged or destroyed, including the Central Archives of Gaza, containing 150 years of history. Israa University, the last remaining university in Gaza was demolished by the Israeli military on January 17, 2024.

Gaza’s health care system has also been directly targeted, with now 32 out of 36 hospitals damaged or destroyed by Israeli bombing, shelling, or raids by Israeli Zionist forces. Many of these hospitals are completely out of service, including Al-Shifa hospital, the largest hospital in Gaza that was responsible for 20% of Gaza’s health care system, which is in ruins after a 2-week siege by Israeli forces who killed or disappeared over 1,500 people, including medical staff and patients. Hospitals still in operation face severe shortages of fuel and medicine. Shocking reports of amputations and surgeries conducted by flashlight and without anesthetic are a daily occurrence. 76 clinics have also been damaged or destroyed, 227 ambulances destroyed, and as of May 29, 493 health workers have been killed by Israeli forces.

Another Israeli war crime is forced starvation. Israel has caused a famine across Gaza and over 1.1 million Palestinians in



SAYYED HASSAN NASRALLAH, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF HEZBOLLAH, ON INTERNATIONAL AL-QUDS DAY, APRIL 5, 2024


★ There are those who are unable to accept that 'Israel' is being defeated in the region and they are unable to comprehend this.

★ The people of the Axis of Resistance can win against the zionist enemy, but the negligent ones do not see that because of their ignorance.

★ When Yemen began attacking ships linked to the 'Israeli' enemy at sea, some in the Gulf considered this a scenario and a play."

★ The one who should be ashamed is the one who normalizes with 'Israel' and justifies and rationalizes its crimes.

★ The one who should be ashamed is the one who should know that America is behind the crimes in all countries of the region."



STOP US/UK/CANADA BOMBING OF YEMEN

On December 21, 2023 the United Nations Population Fund continued to label Yemen a country living, “one of the world’s largest humanitarian crises.” Yet on January 11, 2024 headlines throughout the mainstream media were trying to re-label Yemen a threat to the global economy and security.

Genocidal Joe Biden’s White House along with support from imperialist allies in the United Kingdom, Australia, Bahrain, Canada, and the Netherlands, continue to bomb multiple cities in Yemen, including

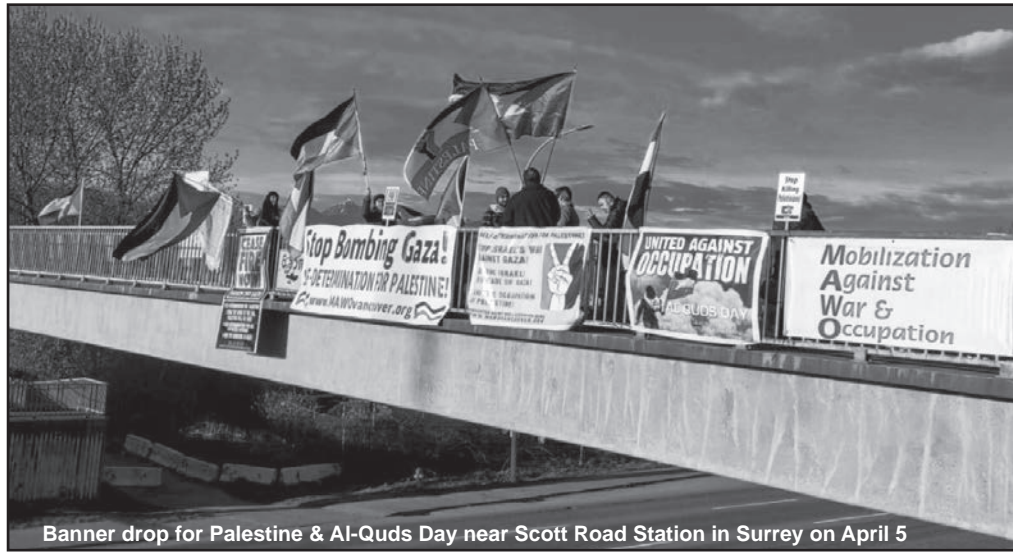
the capital Sana’a. Hypocritically the White House claims its brutal bombing campaign against an already vulnerable Yemen are in “self-defense,” but how can it be when Yemen is a world away from the United States?!

This bombing is a direct attack against Yemen’s heroic solidarity against the ongoing genocide in Palestine, as Yemen has stopped ships to Israel.

From Vancouver, we join people around the wolrd to defend Yemen and demand the US, UK, Canada and all imperialists stop bombing Yemen, stop the genocide in Gaza and Free Palestine!







Gaza face “catastrophic famine” as per a March 15 UN report. Images coming out of Gaza show severely malnourished children and adults, and daily reports of death by starvation are increasing. A June 15 UN agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) report found 50,000 Palestinian children in Gaza require immediate medical treatment for acute malnutrition. Meanwhile Israel continues to target the severely limited aid deliveries and those seeking aid. According to a June 17 United Nations report, Gaza is the most dangerous place in the world for aid workers, with 250 killed since October 7. On April 1 Israeli airstrikes killed 7 humanitarian aid workers, including foreign nationals, despite their aid delivery being in coordination with Israel. Israel has seized the Rafah border crossing and restricted humanitarian aid from entering Gaza, with any aid that does enter Gaza being a drop in a vast ocean.

## The world stands with Palestine!

After over 8 months of Israeli's genocide against Palestinians, recent weeks have been marked by Israel's increased brutality and horrific massacres throughout Gaza. Israel's rash and increasingly destructive actions are a mark of desperation in response to Israel's increasing isolation on the world stage, and the fracturing of support for this genocide within Israel.

More and more countries are recognizing Palestine's right as a state, and on May 28 Spain, Ireland and Norway announced they formally recognise a Palestinian state. On June 4 Slovenia also became the latest European country to recognize the Palestinian state. This comes after the May 10th United Nations General Assembly vote that overwhelmingly supported Palestine's membership to the United Nations. The United Nations took another step against Israeli war crimes on June 7, when the UN

humanitarian aid to enter Gaza, Israel has not complied. In response to the ICJ orders that Israel stop military operations in Rafah on May 24, Israel bombed Rafah more than 60 times in the 48 hours following the ICJ orders, before committing the May 26 massacre of displaced families sheltering in tents.

The move of international institutions and governments to speak out against Israel comes from the massive groundswell of world public opinion against Israel, against the genocide in Gaza and in support of Palestinian self-determination. Millions of people from all sectors of society, especially working and oppressed people worldwide, are joining consistent and ongoing demonstrations, actions and boycott campaigns to demand a ceasefire in Gaza and in support of Palestine. The student movement across the US has taken a decisive step forward with hundreds of encampments at university and college campuses across the US, as well as at many campuses in countries around the world. On Saturday June 8 massive protests around the world were held in solidarity with Palestine and to demand a ceasefire in Gaza, including over 100,000 protesters in Washington DC who encircled the White House, establishing a 2-mile red line against the US-backed genocide in Gaza. In London, England over 175,000 came to the streets to protest Britain's arming and support for Israel's genocide in Gaza and to call for a ceasefire. This scene was repeated around the world with demonstrations in Canada, Germany, France, Spain, Italy and many other countries. Around the world the message is clear – humanity stands with Palestine.

### Freeing captives or another failure?

Looking closer at the Israeli Zionist regime's massacre in Nuseirat on June 8, one can

over 275 Palestinian people but also killed 3 Israeli captives in the process. How can Israel claim any victory in this “rescue operation” of only 4 Israeli captives when it comes after 8 months of genocide, the killing over 43,000 Palestinians, and the killing of 3 more Israeli captives in Nuseirat in addition to other captives killed over the last 8 months by Israel’s own bombing and direct gunfire? Netanyahu is attempting to celebrate the rescue of 4 captives and downplay the 3 captives killed and attempting to spin this massacre into war propaganda to justify a continued genocide.

## Cracks widen in Israeli ruling class and society

On June 9, Israeli minister Benny Gantz resigned from Israel's war cabinet, which was convened after October 7, citing Prime Minister Netanyahu's lack of plan for the war on Gaza. Alongside this departure, observer member Gadi Eisenkot also left the war cabinet, and on the same day Brigadier General Avi Rosenfeld, senior commander in charge of the Israeli forces Gaza division, also resigned. A week later on June 17, Netanyahu dissolved the war cabinet entirely, referring decisions to his security cabinet.

While political maneuvering continues and criticisms from Israeli military officials and politicians become louder, one thing is clear – Israel's ruling class is fractured and divided from every side of the political spectrum. The Israeli entity is in a crisis, due to a number of factors putting pressure on this fragile state that has enjoyed its bubble of supposed invincibility that was burst on October 7.

The most central factor shaking Israel's ruling class and society is the resistance of Palestinian people. In part this is the armed resistance, which shocked Israel on October 7 with their ability to successfully attack 8 Israeli military bases at once and penetrate into Israel, dispelling the myth that there can be security of a state based on occupation and oppression. This continues today with Israeli forces continuing to face casualties within Gaza, not only continuing but increasing even after over 8 months of Gaza being carpet bombed and severely blockaded. According to the Israeli military, 650 Israeli soldiers and officers have been killed since October 7, with January 22 being the deadliest day when 21 Israeli soldiers were killed in Gaza, and more recently 8 soldiers killed in a single operation on June 15.

Another powerful aspect of the Palestinian resistance is that of the Palestinian people, who have refused to give up their struggle for self-determination and justice. Despite the immense destruction, after Israeli forces were forced to withdraw from Jabalia refugee camp, Palestinians returned to their destroyed homes in Northern Gaza, set up tents amid the rubble and expressed their determination to rebuild. Even after over 8 months of horrific genocide, Palestinian families are showing their steadfast desire to reclaim in their homeland, to practice and pass on Palestinian culture, and to inspire the world with their determination to achieve liberation.

This leads to the Zionist Israeli regime's inability to achieve any of its stated goals when the genocide on Gaza began. On October 7 the Israeli Zionist regime announced that their objectives in Gaza were to eliminate Hamas, to return the Israeli captives and to bring "safety and security" back to Israel. This is despite the fact that safety and security for Israel has never really existed and cannot be secured on the occupation of Palestine and the oppression, apartheid and genocide of Palestinians. Now into 9 months of genocide and war, the Israeli regime has

found these are unachievable objectives.

The other force exerting heavy pressure on Israel is that of sustained, growing international protest and the condemnation of Israeli war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide and ethnic cleansing by international organizations. As detailed earlier in this statement, the view of Israel on the world stage has dropped while support for the Palestinian struggle has increased. According to a Gallup poll in the US, approval of Israeli military actions in Gaza among Americans dropped from 50% in November 2023 to 36% in March 2024.

The voice of public pressure has not only been internationally, but within Israeli society itself. On June 3, the first antiwar student encampment was established at Israel's Bezalel University in Jerusalem. Tens of thousands of Israelis are protesting the Netanyahu government, and on June 17 protests in front of Netanyahu's home kicked off an announced week of anti-government protests, with a key demand being a ceasefire deal. Across Israel, there is a growing sentiment not only for a ceasefire to return Israeli captives, but also to end the genocide against Palestinians.

Also among Israeli society is the increase of Israelis leaving Israel. Nearly half a million Israelis left Israel in October and November 2023 and did not return. 80% of Israelis currently living abroad say they don't intend to return to Israel, according to a March 2023 survey conducted by the Hebrew University at the initiative of the World Zionist Organization (WZO). Furthermore, Israel saw a massive decrease of more than 70% in the number of Jewish people migrating to Israel after October 7. Israeli society is also facing an ongoing deterioration of their economy. Israel's gross domestic product shrank nearly 20% in the fourth quarter of 2023. Meanwhile Israel's expenditure on arms and military increased more than 200% from \$1.8 billion in the month before October 7 to \$4.7 billion in December 2023. Even with the US government pumping arms and military funding into Israel, they face decreased investments, a decline in their workforce as their population is either leaving Israel or pulled into military service and industries on hold due to the war. On top of this, there is a growing campaign around the world to boycott and divest from Israel which is sure to also have an increasing impact on both the Israeli economy and corporations that support Israel.

All of these factors have widened differences within Israel's ruling class and society at large, and contributes to the decline of a state that has survived until now dependant on the military, financial and political support of US imperialism.

## Self-Determination for Palestine!

For over 100 years, both while under British colonial rule and since 1948 under Israeli occupation, Palestinians have tried every avenue to assert their right to self-determination, including legal and diplomatic measures. 78 resolutions in the United Nations demanding that Israel respect various aspects of Palestinian human rights have been repeatedly violated. All so-called solutions imposed by imperialists and Israel on Palestinians since 1948, especially the Oslo Accord in 1993, have not brought peace. Instead, as planned they have prolonged and expanded the racist Zionist Israeli occupation and war against Palestine. This imperialist support for Israel isn't because their governments really care about the Israeli people – since the Balfour Declaration by the British government in 1917, to the formation of Israel on Palestinian land, Israel has always been an imperialist project, first for Britain and today for the United States. Israel is



**Info tabling for Palestine at the Vancouver Public Library on March 24, 2024.**

announced adding Israel to their list of countries which have committed abuses against children in armed conflict. While international institutions increasingly take positions against Israeli war crimes, despite having traditionally remained silent to the war crimes of Israel and their imperialist backers, Israel continuously flouts international law. The charge against Israel of committing genocide, brought to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) by South Africa with the support of more than 70 countries, has had at least 10 countries formally join South Africa's case. Despite repeated orders by the ICJ to allow

see that Israel's justification of rescuing Israeli captives was nothing more than an attempt to save face after over 8 months of failures. Despite the destruction of Gaza and a genocide against the Palestinian people, Israel has failed to achieve any military objectives, and instead face growing opposition within the Israeli ruling class and society. Israel has had repeated opportunities to negotiate with Hamas for a ceasefire to exchange Israeli captives with Palestinian political prisoners, who number over 10,000 held in Israeli jails. However, the Israeli regime chose a rescue operation that not only resulted in the massacre of



Weekly picket at the U.S. Consulate in Vancouver for Palestine on April 1, 2024