

## **Balfour and Palestine – 100 years of British responsibility**

**Saturday 7 October 2017 10am- 4.30pm**

**Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BB**

**Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/MKvctUyh8sF2>**

This year PSC is working with a range of partners including key Palestinian community organisations to mark the centenary of the Balfour Declaration. We are organising a conference on the 7th October, and a [national march and rally in central London on Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> November](#), to raise public awareness of Britain's central role in the dispossession of the Palestinian people, and for Britain to fulfil its role and responsibilities as a key member of the international community. Britain has a particular responsibility for ensuring that Palestinian human rights are protected and respected.

For the past 100 years Palestinian rights have been disregarded. As we approach the centenary of the Balfour Declaration – on the 2nd November – which built the path for their dispossession, we are demanding justice and equal rights for Palestinians now.

The conference will feature panel sessions on:

- A Century of British complicity
- The historic significance of Balfour
- Going forward: Challenging British responsibility

Entrance: £5 / £3 Unwaged

Details and to register: [www.palestinecampaign.org/events/conference-balfour-palestine-100-years/](http://www.palestinecampaign.org/events/conference-balfour-palestine-100-years/)

**Jointly organised by National Education Union – NUT Section and Palestine Solidarity Campaign**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Speaker's Biographies**

**Tariq Ali** is a British Pakistani writer, journalist, historian, film maker and political activist. He is a member of the editorial committee of New Left Review and Sin Permiso. Among the publications he contributes to are the Guardian, CounterPunch and the London Review of Books. He is the author of a number of books. He is well known for his contribution to the anti-imperialist movement over many years, and a popular speaker at demonstrations and meetings.

**David Cronin** is a contributing editor with The Electronic Intifada, a website focused on Palestine. His latest book is Balfour's Shadow: A Century of British Support for Zionism and Israel (Pluto, 2017). His earlier books are Europe's Alliance With Israel: Aiding the

Occupation (Pluto, 2011) and Corporate Europe: How Big Business Sets Policies on Food, Climate and War (Pluto, 2013).

**Badia Dwaik** is a human rights and peace activist from Hebron. He obtained a degree in Social Work from Al Quds Open University before being arrested and serving 3 years in Israeli jail in his twenties. Badia Founded the Human Rights Defenders, a group that exposes the daily atrocities committed against Palestinians. It teaches Palestinian civilians how to understand when human rights abuses have been committed against them and how to report them. Badia has also co-founded a number of additional campaigns and projects including Youth Against Settlements, the Capturing Camera Project training students in documenting of human rights abuses and the Free Shireen Issawi campaign.

**Yara Hawari** is a British Palestinian scholar-activist, a PHD candidate in Palestinian Studies at the University of Exeter. Originally from Galilee, she has spent her life between Palestine and the UK. She is an Al-Shabaka Policy Analyst and Member. Yara has written for a number of publications, including the Independent, Morning Star, Open Democracy, The Electronic Intifada, and Al-Shabaka.

**Ben Jamal** is Director of Palestine Solidarity Campaign, and a previous member of its executive committee. His father's family was driven out of Jerusalem and into exile in 1948 when Israel was created in the land they had called home for generations. Ben was the Chair and an activist in the Kingston and Richmond branch of PSC for many years.

**Dr Ghada Karmi** is a Palestinian doctor of medicine. She was born in Jerusalem, and forced to leave her home in 1948. She held a number of research appointments at SOAS and the Universities of Durham and Leeds. She was an Associate Fellow of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. She is currently a Research Fellow and the University of Exeter. Ghada is the author of a number of books, and one of the best known Palestinian campaigners in Britain, as well as a Patron of PSC.

**Ken Loach** is an internationally renowned film maker with credits for directing, writing and producing. His provocative and socialist perspective has garnered 98 awards and 75 further nominations. His work has been honoured at festivals in Berlin, Cannes, Dublin, Havana, Rio de Janeiro, Seville, Stockholm, Sydney, Venice, Vancouver and many other places. His recent "I, Daniel Blake" won a BAFTA for "Outstanding British Film of the Year". Ken is a Patron of PSC and a supporter of BDS, and every penny from the sale of "I, Daniel Blake" for Israeli distribution is given to grassroots Palestinian organisations.

**Lowkey** is a rapper and political activist of Iraqi and British descent. He has released a number of albums and singles including "Long Live Palestine". He has performed his work on Palestinian demonstrations in Britain. After taking a number of years out for his studies, he has returned to recording and touring. He has visited refugee camps in the West Bank, and was detained by Israeli police. He was involved in bringing medical aid to Gaza and was detained again in 2010. Lowkey is a patron of PSC.

**Leanne Mohamad** is a British Palestinian, school student, public speaker and human rights activist. Her speech “Birds not Bombs” won the Redbridge borough final in the Jack Petchey “Speak Out” Challenge, subsequently she was subjected to a campaign of on-line abuse.

**Andrew Murray** is Chief of Staff for Unite the Union. He was seconded to Labour Party Headquarters for the recent General Election. He was Chair of Stop the war Coalition from 2001 – 2011, and again from 2015-16. He is author of a number of books on national and international politics. A long standing supporter of the Palestinians, he has played an important role in many of the major mobilisations of recent years.

**Bernard Regan** is Visiting Research Fellow at St.Mary’s University. He was a founding member of PSC and is currently a member of the Executive Committee. He is a long standing trade union activist, currently NUT Trustee. He is National Secretary of the Cuba Solidarity Campaign. His book “The Balfour Declaration : Empire, Mandate and Resistance in Palestine” is due for publication this autumn.

**Professor Jonathan Rosenhead** Emeritus Professor of Operational Research, LSE; Chair since 2008 of British Committee for the Universities of Palestine (BRICUP); Advisor to the Venezuelan Minister of Planning and Finance Minister 2000-2014; Trustee of the Science and Society Trust, and the Human Nature Trust.

**Maz Saleem** is an anti-war and anti-racist campaigner. She is the daughter of Haji Mohamed Saleem, who was murdered in Birmingham by a far-right terrorist. She is an officer of the Stop the War Coalition. She has written for a number of publications including the Independent, Middle East Eye, 5 Pillars, Counterfire and Stop the War website.

Chairing the panel sessions will be:

**Louise Regan, President NEU-NUT Section**

**Kiri Tunks, Vice Chair PSC & Vice President NEU-NUT Section**

**Hugh Lanning, Chair PSC**

=====