

PALESTINE PALESTINE



EXIST! RESIST! RETURN!

March 30th is Palestinian Land Day - when Palestinians across the world remember the unarmed protesters killed by Israel in 1976 during demonstrations about Israel's theft of Palestinian land.

This year, March 30th also marks the 1st anniversary of the start of the Great Return March. These ongoing protests, taking place every single Friday, have seen thousands of Palestinians calling for their right of return to their villages and homes from which they were forcibly removed. The right of return is a basic right of the Palestinians enshrined in international law.

Since the beginning of the Great March of Return Israel has killed more than 260 unarmed demonstrators, and injured and maimed more than 27,000, more casualties than during the entire war on Gaza in 2014.

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On Monday 18 March 2019 the United Nations Human Rights Council's (UNHRC) independent Commission of Inquiry released an extremely thorough and forensic 252 page report into the Great March of Return. It is absolutely clear that Israeli forces have committed **violations of international law** that may constitute war crimes or crimes against humanity. Among the key findings of the report are:

- **Israeli forces deliberately shot children, medics, journalists, and disabled people.**
- **Israeli forces killed and maimed Palestinian demonstrators who did not pose an imminent threat of death or serious injury to others when they were shot, nor were they directly participating in hostilities.**
- **Contrary to the official narrative of the Israeli Government, the Great March of Return demonstrations have been civilian in nature.**

It is essential that this report is taken seriously, its recommendations implemented, and for the international community to hold all parties that violate international law accountable for their actions.

Since the election of Donald Trump the collective rights of the Palestinian people have come under intensifying attacks. Israel has further entrenched its system of oppression; passing a **racist nation state law**, that confirms that Palestinian citizens of Israel do have the same rights under the law as Jewish citizens, maintaining its crippling **siege on Gaza**, and continuing to rapidly expand **illegal settlements** in defiance of international law. Meanwhile, Trump's **cuts to UNRWA funding** are part of a wider attempt to redefine the refugee status of millions of displaced Palestinians and erase their fundamental Right of Return.

Today the Palestinian people need our solidarity more than ever, and are calling for global protests to protect their rights. As Israel continues to flout international law and violate human rights, there is a responsibility on the global community to hold it to account and push for an end to the oppression of the Palestinian people.

Join us to take action for justice and equality for the Palestinian people.



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