



Women in Black London

**Only justice for
Palestinians can bring
peace for Israel**

**Nakba
76**

Al Nakba, meaning 'catastrophe' is the commemoration of the displacement that preceded and followed the founding of Israel. Following the end of the British Mandate, in 1948, at least 750,000 Arabs were driven from their homes into Lebanon, Syria and Jordan. Many believe the Nakba did not end in 1948. 'The ethnic cleansing of historic Palestine is still happening.' (Remix Aljazeera) Since October 7th, assaults on Palestinians in the West Bank and intimidation from settlers and the Israeli army have increased.

**15 May
2024**

The current war in Gaza is a new catastrophe. Since 7th October, when Hamas killed 1,200 Israelis and took 250 hostages (130 are still unaccounted for) 90% of the population has been displaced. 1.5 million sheltering in Rafah are under orders to move again. Israeli bombardment has destroyed over 70% of homes, 300,000 out of 439,000, which will take decades to rebuild. 48% of Gaza's tree cover has been lost or damaged. Orchards, fields and greenhouses have been destroyed. During heavy bombardment of populated areas, munitions and collapsed buildings release hazardous materials such as asbestos, industrial chemicals and fuel into the surrounding air, soil and groundwater. There is running sewage everywhere.

Women in Black London call for a permanent ceasefire, for strengthened international efforts to encourage dialogue, diplomacy and nonviolent means of securing peace for the people of Palestine and Israel. This is the only way out of the tragic cycle of violence experienced by the Palestinian people and those still held hostage by Hamas.

Women in Black in London stand in solidarity with Palestinian women in the Occupied Territories in their struggle for justice, peace, well-being and a secure, prosperous and nonviolent future for themselves and their children.

We stand with Israeli partners, such as Women in Black Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem, the Coalition of Women for Peace, Machsom Watch and other organizations in which Jewish and Palestinian Israeli women work together for a peace agreement and sustain contact with Palestinian women in the West Bank and Gaza. With them, we call for full equality in Israel for Jewish and non-Jewish citizens alike.

Please share this leaflet with others and write to your own MP or elected representative (<https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP>) asking that they work to:

- Support an unconditional, permanent ceasefire in Gaza
- Reinstatement of the funding of UNWRA to help facilitate delivery of essential humanitarian aid to Gaza.
- End the illegal arms trade between the UK and Israel.



Join us: Women in Black hold vigils every Wednesday between 6-7 pm at the Edith Cavell Statue, opposite the National Portrait Gallery and beside Page 8 Hotel. St. Martin's Place, London WC2.

Our vigils are silent, women-only and if possible we wear black. We welcome all women who support our call for an end to militarism and war.

Contact us: *Twitter @WIB_London* *FB @womeninblack.london*
<http://london.womeninblack.org/>

Donations for leaflets most welcome!