



Women in Black London

Justice for Gaza and West Bank

As we approach the anniversary of 7th October, we remember the 1139 Israelis killed by Hamas in 2023. We remember the 75000+ Palestinians killed in Gaza and the 1200 which includes over 200 children killed in the West Bank by the illegal settlers and the Israeli Defence Forces since 2023. So many deaths unmarked, and the continuation of so much suffering and grieving.

Gaza

With the majority of the population living in tent cities following the devastation of war, death by hunger and disease are now threatening life in Gaza. People are dependent on food kitchens which function with great difficulty, trying to provide adequate food for the population of 2 million displaced people. Medical Aid for Palestinians report that Gaza's health system is in ruins after three years of genocide. For Palestinians, the relief they were promised following the 'ceasefire' has never arrived. Meanwhile military attacks continue and more people are killed. On 3 October yet another Israeli airstrike killed four women and one man in an apartment building in Gaza City. The damage to infrastructure and the environment will take decades to be addressed. The lives and safety of women and children continue to be especially put at risk.

West Bank

Since 2023 there has been the greatest expropriation of Palestinian land by the Israeli government and by illegal settlers. Oxfam report that a record number of Palestinians in the West Bank – 46,000 – have been forcibly displaced. Through the use of force and discriminatory legislation whole Palestinian communities in East Jerusalem have been evicted. 185 new settler outposts have been built in just two years – a precursor to the establishment of full illegal settlements. Again, villages, schools, health centres and olive groves have been destroyed.

The Elimination Report, produced by the human rights group B'Tselem, documents the structural, military and economic systems that support Israeli expansion in the West Bank.

https://www.btselem.org/the_elimination_project/?lang=en. *"States and international institutions have a moral and legal obligation to do everything in their power and use all means at their disposal under international law to prevent Israel from continuing its crimes, bring them to an end, and protect Palestinians from them".*

We 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 too, 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.

Women in Black London send a message to Ed Miliband, Foreign Secretary, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, London SW1A 2AH.

We welcome your words: *There is no justification for the suffering the Netanyahu government has inflicted on the people of Gaza and the West Bank...this is a stain on the conscience of the world.*

We welcome the sanctions that will be imposed on settlement goods and services **but urge** you to suspend all arms transfers to Israel, including through multinational programmes and the UK-Israeli Trade and Partnership Agreement. **We urge you**, through our government, to take a lead in the prosecution of war crimes in Gaza and the West Bank at the earliest opportunity.

Name: _____ Postcode: _____



Women in Black hold vigils every Wednesday between 6-7 pm at the Edith Cavell Statue, opposite the National Portrait Gallery, St. Martin's Place, London WC2. Women in Black also hold a vigil on Saturday from 12-1pm on Euston Road outside Friends House. 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: <http://london.womeninblack.org/>

FB @womeninblack.london

Donations for leaflets most welcome

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