## **April - May 2021 Palestinian Justice**

## JUSTICE FOR PALESTINIANS BLOG Ed Crouch, Seattle WA

Rage and hurt don't express the feelings for the deadly attacks of the Israeli military (IDF) against Palestinians in May. This is the <u>fifth assault in 12 years!</u> The IDF killed more than <u>242 Gazans</u>, including 69 children and two doctors, injuring nearly 2,000 civilians. Fighter planes shot Boeing precision guided missiles and dropped bombs. Coupled with rocket attacks and tank shelling over 1800 housing units in <u>258 buildings</u> - up to 13 stories tall, and 57 schools were destroyed. 77 thousand Palestinians were displaced into shelters. There was much damage to other schools, nine hospitals, and 19 primary health care facilities. Israel claims to have taken out Hamas operatives and a vast Gaza tunnel system, but this is hard to believe in view of all the "collateral" death and destruction. In retaliation, Hamas rockets killed 13 Israelis.

The welcomed ceasefire May 20th, does not end the illegal military occupation of Palestine. While life returns to normal in Israel, the day of the ceasefire, there was an armed assault on those praying at the Al-Asqua Mosque. The 14 year old blockade of Gaza continues. Thousands of demolitions and evictions, including 70 year old Palestinian homes, are planned. Palestinians feel helpless in their own land. This is murder, land theft, and ethnic cleansing!

While the World Health and Red Cross called for medical supplies to Gaza, Biden signed an executive order to send \$735 million worth of Boeing precision-guided weapons to Israel. The House and Senate initiated bills to halt this arms sale. Even the Seattle City Council considered a matter condemning the sale. And 2-3,000 staged a rally in Seattle's Westlake Mall to protest Israel's warfare.

Why has Washington, D.C. maintained such "large-scale military, financial, and diplomatic support for the Israeli occupation in the face of unprecedented violations of international law and human rights standards by Israeli forces"? The Institute of Policy Studies states that while the Christian right and AIPAC support Israel and our politicians, the U.S.'s military-industrial complex actually gives <u>five times as much</u>. All this may shield veiled racism against Arabs.

It's time for America to give Israel 'tough love,' "unconditional support for Israel's right to live in peace and security within its internationally recognized border, but an equally clear determination to end the occupation."

Ed Crouch <u>gecrouch61@gmail.com</u> Thanks to Mary Elizabeth Maltman, Linda Bevis, Ed Mast, Amin Odeh, Alice Rothchild, Matt Weiner, and John Berg for resources.