

Oct – Nov 2021 Palestinian Justice

JUSTICE FOR PALESTINIANS BLOG

Ed Crouch, Seattle WA



"The Surrender of Chief Joseph"

By Edgar Samuel Paxson - Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=19136609>

While Israel is often referred to as “a land without a people for a people without a land,” Christians have been there since the time of Christ, and sites of activity have been found for [Muslims](#) existing since the 8th Century.

Israel continues to **steal land** from its indigenous people, [illegal](#) under international law. Yet a 2019 [report](#) by UN’s OCHA detailed that “one-third of Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem were built without permits (over 90% of requested building permits are unapproved), putting 100,000 residents at risk of forcible displacement. Already, Israel has demolished and confiscated more than 670 Palestinian structures in the occupied West Bank since the beginning of the year, displacing nearly 1,000 people. Almost half were children.” Nightly, parents may wonder, “Could this be our last night in our home?”

Bad News: Mid-October, Israel declared [Al-Haq](#), together with Addamir, Defence of Children International-Palestine, and three other top human rights organizations to be “terrorist organizations. Seattle’s Linda Bevis worked for Al-Haq for two years, “and having worked closely with the other groups, [I personally know](#) how false and ironic this is.” These human rights organizations are calling out Israeli state terror to the ICC!

According to [Human Rights Watch](#), the designation “effectively outlaws” the activities of these civil society groups, and allows Israeli authorities to “close down their offices, seize their assets, arrest and jail staff members.” It also criminalizes the funding and public support for these organizations!

Good News: More than [100 celebrities](#) have signed an open letter to condemn Israel’s decision to label six prominent Palestinian human rights groups as ‘terrorist organizations’, including Richard Gere and Susan Sarandon. And Amnesty International released statements against Israel. And, [worldwide](#), “churches at denominational levels in Norway, South Africa and the United States have renounced Zionism.” Plus, [Ben and Jerry’s](#) ended their sales of ice cream in the occupied territories.