



## EMBASSY OF PALESTINE

BUDAPEST - HUNGARY

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**29 NOV** INTERNATIONAL DAY OF  
**SOLIDARITY**  
WITH THE  
**PALESTINIAN PEOPLE**

### **TORTURE OF PALESTINIAN CHILDREN**

Defense for Children International released its report "Isolated and Alone: Palestinian children held in solitary confinement by Israeli authorities for interrogation." The report evaluates and details patterns of arrest, detention conditions and interrogation practiced by Israeli authorities. It concludes that the physical and social isolation of Palestinian children for interrogation purposes by Israeli authorities is a practice that constitutes solitary confinement, amounting to torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment under international law norms.

DCIP documented 108 cases over a four-year period, where Palestinian children were being detained by the Israeli military and were held in isolation for two or more days during the interrogation period.

### **HOME RAIDS ARE DEHUMANISING**

On November 27, Physicians for Human Rights Israel (PHRI) and Breaking the Silence published a report based on a two years research. The study revealed extensive documentation and testimonies of soldiers and evicted families.

According to the report entitled "A Life Exposed: Military invasions of Palestinian homes in the West Bank", hundreds of Palestinian teenagers are arrested by the Israeli military every year in nightly raids, violating the military's own regulations with regards to issuing summons for interrogation prior to detention.

### **ATTACKS ON CHRISTIAN AND ISLAMIC SITES**

On December 6, an Israeli settler set fire in the Basilica of the Agony (also called the Church of All Nations) on Jerusalem's Mount of Olives in the Garden of Gethsemane. Fortunately, the fire did not spread to the entire church, and no major losses resulted. This hate crime is a result of a racist discourse and incitement against the Palestinians in Jerusalem

On the other hand, on November 29, the Israeli Jerusalem Municipality demolished a historic stairway which leads to the Al-Aqsa Mosque's Lions Gate (Bab Al-Asbat) and the Old City of Jerusalem. The demolition is part of Israeli authorities' plan to establish the "Biblical garden path"

## PALESTINE & COVID 19

### CURRENT STATUS

There have been so far over 113,409 confirmed cases of COVID, 88,967 recovery cases, 1023 deaths.

### GAZA DECLARES COVID-19 DISASTER WITH HEALTH SYSTEM NEAR COLLAPSE

A rapid rise in coronavirus infections in the Gaza Strip has reached a "catastrophic stage", with the blockaded Palestinian enclave's medical system likely to collapse soon.

In the Gaza Strip, there are about 500 hospital beds scattered across the coastal enclave. But considering some 5,000 Palestinians live in each square kilometre in Gaza, these hospitals can't accommodate all cases.

A lack of coronavirus testing kits and personal protective equipment (PPE) is also complicating the fight, as Israel continues to impose restrictions on medical supplies reaching Gaza.

Officials say Israel's siege is a death sentence for Gaza's COVID-19 patients. The Gaza Strip lacks oxygen-generating machines, ventilators, protective gear, and hygiene materials.

## AN ACTIVIST TO REMEMBER: RACHEL CORRIE AWARDED THE "FREEDOM STAR"



Corrie is an American peace activist from Olympia, was 23 years old when she was crushed to death by an Israeli bulldozer on 16 March 2003, while undertaking nonviolent direct action to protect the home of a Palestinian family from demolition.

On November 29, the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, during a call with Rachel's parents, President Mahmoud Abbas awarded late American activist Rachel Corrie the "Freedom Star" accolade, honouring her sacrifices for the sake of the Palestinian people.

President Abbas hailed Corrie for "defending" Palestinian families whose homes were destroyed by the Israeli occupation. He said: "She lost her life in defence of her principles and values... The Palestinian people will always remember her as a heroine who fought for peace, dignity and justice. Her sacrifices will remain in the minds and hearts of Palestinians and freedom defenders around the world."



## PALESTINE & HUNGARY



### MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- Acting Head of Mission met with Deputy State Secretary for Export Development Mr. Joó István.
- Virtual Meeting with International Director of Chamber of Commerce Ms. Stark Mária.
- Meeting with Secretary General of Hungary Rectors' Conference Dr Dubécz Zoltán
- Virtual Meeting with MP President of the Hungarian National Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Balla Mihály.
- Meeting with Co-Founder of Teqball Mr. Huszár Viktor.
- A statement was issued on the Occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

**29** INTERNATIONAL DAY OF  
**NOV** SOLIDARITY  
WITH THE  
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

In 1977, the General Assembly called for the annual observance of 29 November as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (resolution 32/40 B).

"Let us together resolve to renew our commitment to the Palestinian people in their quest to achieve their inalienable rights and build a future of peace, dignity, justice and security."

- António Guterres



**PICTURE OF THE MONTH****Lighting Bethlehem Christmas Tree**

A special occasion in the world, but especially in Bethlehem where Jesus was born. Bethlehem city has celebrated the Christmas tree lighting in the Nativty Square with only a few people in the Nativty square, in order to commit to health protocols. The event, which yearly gathered thousands of people who came to Bethlehem from all areas of the world, was held during the weekend lockdown and in synchronization with the tree lighting in the nearby Beit Jala town. The ceremony included a three-dimensional presentation of the Christmas story and two theater plays, "The Star of Bethlehem."



Embassy of Palestine in Hungary

## CULTURE

### BETHLEHEM CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Bethlehem Cultural Festival took place from 3rd to 7th December virtually celebrating Bethlehem's rich and diverse cultural scene. Events included: music performances, dance classes, film screenings and cookery demonstrations.

### INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CULTURAL HERITAGE

On December 7, the Online International Symposium on Cultural Heritage in Palestine was held in the framework of the EU-funded project "My Heritage! My Identity!" The Symposium was organized by RIWAQ, aiming to foster a collective reflection and exchange about the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage in Palestine.

### ARMENIAN CERAMIC DESIGN WORKSHOP

On December 4, the Armenian ceramic furniture design workshop was organized by Yabous Cultural Centre in partnership with The Palestinian Museum to offer skills of production design.

## AGRICULTURE

### GUAVA HARVEST

The Gaza Strip and Qalqilya Governorates are among the most cultivated areas for guava in Palestine. The area cultivated with guavas in Palestine is about 5592 dunums. Cultivating guava depends on the region; it starts in July and remains until December.

This year in Gaza, the area of land cultivated is estimated at 2092 dunums. The average production per dunum is 600 kilograms; thus, the production was 2750 tons, which cover 50% of the local needs.



## ENTREPRENEURSHIP & TECH

### PALESTINE'S INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND TECH

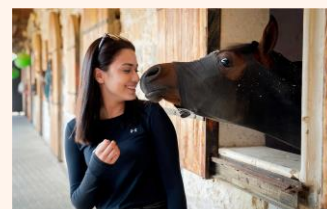
This is the biggest and most polarizing conference about the eco-system of entrepreneurship, technology, and startup economy in Palestine. The conference was held on December 14 with focus on empowering the digital Palestinian generation.

## SPORTS

### 2020 FEI AWARDS

The "Federation Equestre Internationale" FEI has decided that the 2020 FEI Awards will be awarded to the "Best of the Best FEI Awards". Fifty-five nominees from 19 nations have been selected for the five Awards: Best Athlete, Rising Star, Best Groom, Against All Odds and Solidarity.

Leila El-Malki a Palestinian teenager won the "against all odds award". Leila has dedicated her life to encouraging girls and women to enter equestrian sport. Leila has been instrumental in helping young children start riding for the first time.



## LITERATURE

### PALESTINE WRITES FESTIVAL

From December 2 to 6, the online global festival "Palestine Writes Literature Festival" hosted live talks, cooking sessions, programming for children, and various workshops.



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