



EMBASSY OF PALESTINE

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UN CONDEMNS ISRAEL MOST IN 2020

The UN General Assembly (UNGA) condemned Israel the most during 2020. With its resolutions criticising Israel in the last two weeks of the year, the UNGA brought its total number of resolutions against it to 17 — which was almost three times compared to the rest of the world standing at six.

The resolution in November states "deeply concerned that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967..." and stresses "the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and other activities..."

Another resolution in October says it is imperative to resolve the issue of the Palestine refugees and urges both sides to deal with Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues within the peace negotiations.

SYSTEMATIC SETTLERS' ATTACKS

Ongoing attacks by Israeli settlers on Palestinians are part of a large campaign aimed at seizing more Palestinian lands and imposing new realities on the ground. These attacks are being carried out with full support from the Israeli army and government.

The Israeli settlers have recently increased their attacks in many Palestinian towns and villages across the occupied West Bank.

There is another campaign carried out by the Israeli occupation army and police targeting Palestinian shops, businesses and vehicles.

EVEN TREES ARE NOT SAFE

The beginning of the year started with more confiscation of land and uprooting of trees.

On January 6, Israeli occupation forces uprooted thousands of olive trees in the West Bank's central occupied city of Salfit.

On December 30th, Israeli occupation forces uprooted dozens of olive trees on Palestinian-owned lands in the village of Al-Jab'a in the southern West Bank city of Bethlehem.

Over 800,000 Palestinian olive trees have been uprooted by Israeli authorities and settlers since 1967, according to research from the Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem.

PALESTINE & COVID-19

CURRENT STATUS

There have been so far over 147,400 confirmed cases of COVID, 131,117 recovery cases 1,604 deaths.

PALESTINIANS DEPRIVED COVID-19 VACCINES

The Israeli Authorities ensured all vaccinations for holders of Israeli identity cards, while neglecting its duty as an occupying power in violation of the Geneva Conventions and international agreements which oblige it to provide health protection means for everyone living under its control.

Amnesty International (AI) called on Israel to start providing coronavirus vaccine doses to Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

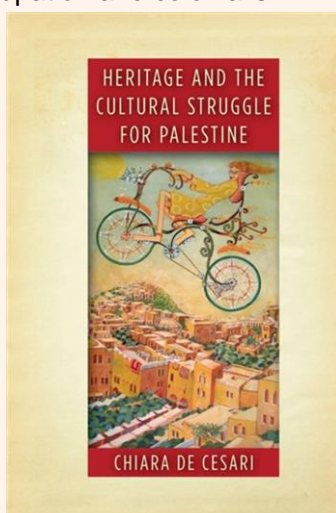
In the occupied West Bank, the vaccination drive includes only those living in Israeli settlements, which are illegal under international law, and not the Palestinian population.

AI called on Israel to "stop ignoring its international obligations as an occupying power and immediately act to ensure that Covid-19 vaccines are equally and fairly provided to Palestinians living under its occupation in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip."

A BOOK TO READ : "HERITAGE AND THE CULTURAL STRUGGLE FOR PALESTINE"

In recent decades, Palestinian heritage organizations have launched numerous urban regeneration and museum projects across the West Bank in response to the enduring Israeli occupation. These efforts to reclaim and assert Palestinian heritage differ significantly from the typical global cultural project: here it is people's cultural memory and living environment, rather than ancient history and archaeology, that take center stage. It is local civil society and NGOs, not state actors, who are "doing" heritage. In this context, Palestinian heritage has become not just a practice of resistance, but a resourceful mode of governing the Palestinian landscape.

With this book the author examines the Palestinian heritage projects— notably the Hebron Rehabilitation Committee, Riwaq, and the Palestinian Museum—and the transnational actors, practices, and material sites they mobilize to create new institutions while resisting occupation and colonialism.



PALESTINE & HUNGARY



LETTER FROM THE ACTING HEAD OF MISSION FOR THE NEW YEAR

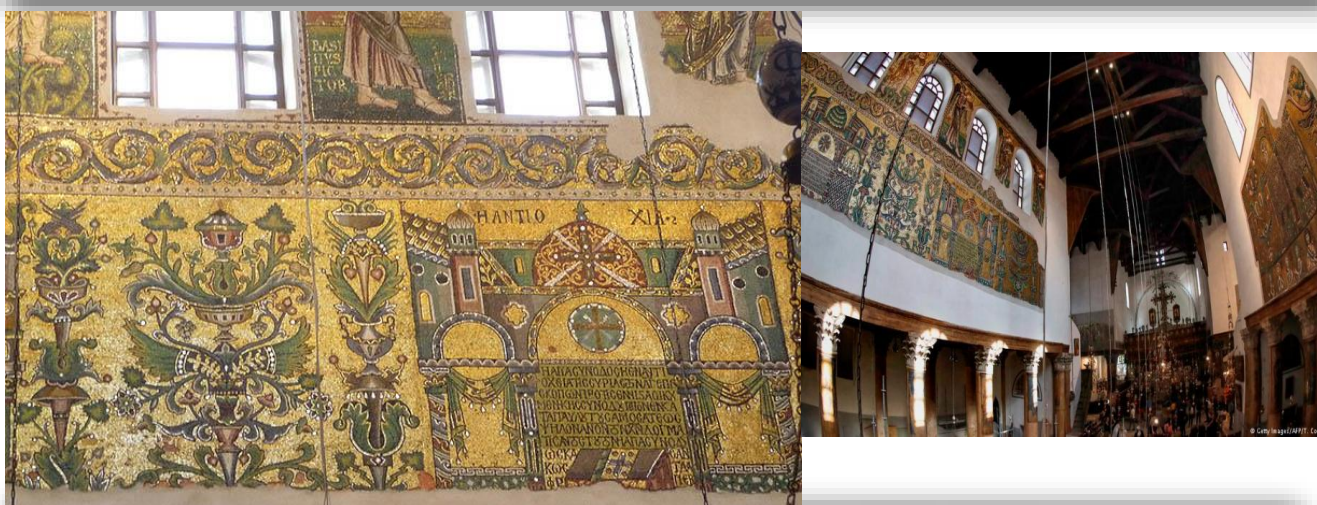
The Acting Head of Mission offers his best wishes for the New Year.

"This is always a hopeful time as we celebrate the end of one year and the beginning of another. And while 2020 was difficult for the entire world, it was especially difficult for the Palestinians facing both the pandemic and the occupation. However, we all must look ahead benefiting from our experiences and looking forward to brighter days ahead of us. Challenges are there, but the determination to rise up and meet those challenges have and will be our spirit for existence and progression.

We in Palestine are committed to bringing dignified peace that provides liberty, prosperity and security to our people and the region, and embodies the establishment of our independent state with Jerusalem as its Capital. This will remain our vision and this will remain our goal.

As an Embassy in Hungary, we really believe that we can work together to build a better future for our countries and our people.

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



MOSAIC IN THE NATIVITY CHURCH - BETHLEHEM

On December 2018, the Nativity Church completed its preservation of the mosaic to shine against the walls above the heads of visitors to the Church that marks the birthplace of Jesus. Overlooking the nave are seven angels framed in gold who appear to have landed on a carpet of vivid green grass. Each is placed between windows symbolising divine light. One of the angels was discovered during the restoration work beneath a layer of plaster. These mosaics are made of gold leaf placed between two glass plates. One of the partially destroyed angel figures was restored using different materials to the original so as not to mislead future archaeologists.



CULTURE

PRINTED IN JERUSALEM EXHIBITION

On January 11, the Curators' Tour, Printed in Jerusalem: Mustamloun, was organized by The Palestinian Museum and presented by Baha Jubeh to explore the relationship between Jerusalemites and the political, educational, commercial, cultural, and touristic publications printed in their city (in Arabic).

SCIENCE

INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF SCIENTISTS FOR PALESTINE

On January 10, the third International Meeting for Science in Palestine was held at Wong Auditorium at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) with a panel and discussion with some of the most prominent scientists alongside the Palestinian Minister of Education.

This event included first-hand accounts on the act of practicing science despite living under an occupation and present a critical assessment of what the scientific community can and should do to facilitate scientific research by and for Palestinians.

AGRICULTURE

GROWING BROCCOLI IN GAZA



Two women in Gaza have taken to agriculture to harvest broccoli for sale in the local market in an effort to overcome the besieged enclave's rising poverty levels

The university graduates from Khan Yunis consulted a number of farmers in their area before choosing to plant broccoli as it is a rare vegetable in Gaza. The pair purchased seedlings from a nursery in Gaza City and set off on the arduous task of planting a dunum of land (0.001 square kilometers) with the crop.



TECHNOLOGY

ICPET 2020

Palestine Technical College-Deir El-Balah and Al-Quds University, organized the fourth edition of the 2020 International Conference on Promising Electronic Technologies (ICPET 2020), in coordination with IEEE Palestine Subsection, and in collaboration with Palestinian Communication and Informatics Society at PALAST with sponsorship of Palestine Academy for Science and Technology, through Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Jerusalem sponsorship and Higher Council for Innovation and Excellence.

The conference was held on 16-17, December 2020, virtually (via Zoom), at Palestine Technical College-Deir El Balah and at Jerusalem.

The scientific committee chair from Al-Quds University, Dr. Isam Ishaq, presented statistics about participating researches in this year, which amounted to 44 papers presented by 11 countries. The research papers accepted at the conference were 31 scientific papers distributed over 8 scientific sessions over two consecutive days.

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