

EMBASSY OF THE STATE

APRIL 15, 2021 Issue No. 10

OF PALESTINE

BUDAPEST - HUNGARY



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140 MINORS HELD IN ISRAELI PRISONS

On Palestine Children's Day, 140 minors are held in Israeli prisons, two of them under administrative detention.

According to the Defence for Children International-Palestine, every year between 500 and 700 Palestinian children are prosecuted by Israel in military courts. Until the end of March 2021, human rights groups have estimated 230 Palestinian children detained by the Israeli occupation, mostly from Jerusalem.

Dylan Williams, former US Senate staffer and senior vice president of the advocacy group J Street, tweeted last month:

"Harassment of young Palestinian children by Israeli settlers and their frequent arrest and detention by Israeli forces comprises a pattern of international law violations..."

THOUSANDS OF PALESTINIANS FROM GAZA DENIED IDs

The Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor declared in their report released March 28: Thousands of Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip have been deprived of identity documents and consequently, several basic rights, most notably the right to freedom of movement.

According to the report, titled "The Gaza Strip: Undocumented Citizens", those without identity cards in Gaza entered the Strip either before 2000 with Israeli-issued temporary visitor permits, or after 2000 during the periods when the border wall between Egypt and Gaza was opened.

The report reviews the difficulties faced by those without IDs as many of them lost their lives from chronic and serious diseases after being denied travel for treatment outside Palestine.

DISPLACING PALESTINIANS IN JERUSALEM

More than 100 Palestinian homes face demolition and about 1,550 residents, including more than 800 children, will be made homeless through the Israel's Jerusalem Municipality.

This comes as the Israeli municipality canceled agreements with the Palestinian residents of the Silwan neighborhood. It is set to demolish the Palestinian homes and turn the area into "The King's Garden", claiming that it was a garden for Israeli kings thousands of years ago. The municipality had agreed to provide Palestinians with land in other areas to build new homes, but it suddenly backtracked on this decision.

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PALESTINE & COVID-19

CURRENT STATUS

There have been so far over 262,000 confirmed cases of COVID, 228,000 recovery cases 2,781 deaths.

- The WHO risk assessment remains very high: despite slowly declining numbers of new COVID-19 cases in the West Bank, many hospitals remain at full capacity, with ICU bed occupancy at 100%, and 61 patients on ventilators (8 April).
- The Gaza Strip now accounts for over half of all active cases in the oPt (50.4%).
- The overall Case Fatality Rate (CFR) across oPt remains at 1.1
 %. The CFR is the proportion of deaths among identified confirmed cases.

VACCINATION UPDATE

On 21 March Palestine kickstarted its mass vaccination rollout campaign prioritizing medical staff at government and private hospitals, patients with kidney and cancer conditions, and the elderly.

131,394 people have been vaccinated in total across the oPt (as of 8 April): 100,487 in the West Bank, and 30,907 in Gaza. These figures represent around 2.5% of the total Palestinian population.

GHASSAN KANAFANI

APRIL 8, 2021 WOULD HAVE BEEN KANAFANI'S 85th BIRTHDAY



"They steal your bread, then give you a crumb of it...

Then they demand you to thank them for their generosity...

O their audacity!"

Ghassan Kanafani was born in 1936 in the city of Acre. In May, when the outbreak of hostilities in the 1948 Arab-Israeli War spilled over into Acre, Kanafani and his family were forced into exile joining the Palestinian exodus.

Though prominent as a political thinker and journalist, Kanafani is on record as stating that literature was the shaping spirit behind his politics. Kanafani's literary style has been described as "lucid and straightforward"; his modernist narrative technique using flashback effects and a wide range of narrative voices represents a distinct advance in Arabic fiction.

In many of his fictions, he portrays the complex dilemmas Palestinians of various backgrounds must face. Kanafani was the first to deploy the notion of resistance literature ("adab al-muqawama") with regard to Palestinian writing.

PALESTINE AND HUNGARY



EVENTS & MEETINGS

- Acting Head of Mission participated in the meeting between the Council of Arab Ambassadors and HE Péter Szijjártó Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- A statement was issued on the Occasion of the Palestinian Land Day

PALESTINIAN LAND DAY

MARCH, 30

On 30 March 1976, six Palestinians were killed by Israeli forces as hundreds of Arab citizens in the occupied territory took to the streets to protest Israel's expropriation and occupation of Palestinian lands.

The event became known as the Land Day and a symbol of national struggle that unites Palestinians around the world.

Forty-five years later, not much has changed, as Israel continues its policy of annexation.



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PICTURE OF THE MONTH



SPRING IN PALESTINE - A PICTURE FROM BIDDYA

Biddya is a Palestinian town in the Salfit Governorate, located 32 kilometers southwest of Nablus and half that distance from Salfit in the northern West Bank. This is a typical picture from the area, where the ancient groves of gnarled olive trees stand surrounded by a vibrant carpet of delicate flowers. To preserve such a scenic traditional landscape, municipalities in the area established ecological parks.



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SPORTS

PALESTINE RANKS SECOND PLACE IN THE TUNISIAN INTERNATIONAL DESERT ROAD ULTRA-**MARATHON**

On March 20, the Palestinian runner Sami Asaad Nateel from Maghazi Camp in the central Gaza Strip ranked second place in the Tunisian International Desert Ultra-marathon. More than 100 runners came from different countries including Palestine, Algeria, Libya and France.

EVENTS

"YALLA TO THE **MARKET FOR** SHOPPING" FESTIVAL

The "Yalla (Let's Go) to the market for Shopping" festival was launched on April 4, the festival has revitalized the ancient Jerusalem markets. It is scheduled to continue until the beginning of the month of Ramadan, in order to encourage Jerusalemites and Palestinian people who can Jerusalem to shop for Ramadan from the Old City to counter the occupation's attempts to Judaize it.



AGRICULTURE

ALMONDS SEASON

The green almonds crop is the first sign to welcome spring in Palestine. In fact, it is the second agricultural crop after olive oils. Palestinians consume it while green and when dried. They also export green almonds.



CULTURE & HERITAGE

IMPORTANT ANTIOUITIES UNCOVERED

The Armenian Patriarchate Jerusalem reported uncovering large Armenian cross-stone known as Khatchkar, probably dating back to the 12 century, during works at the Armenian Garden. The Khatchkar carries inscription at the bottom, where the words "Lord Jesus, remember..." Armenian can be read. The Khatchkar itself has detailed engravings, an Armenian showing flowering cross as well as grape motifs.

ARTS & CULTURE

BETHLEHEM ARAB CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2021

On April 10, President Mahmoud Abbas inaugurated the activities of Bethlehem as the Capital of Arab Culture, an initiative taken by the Arab League under the UNESCO Cultural Capitals Program. President Abbas affirmed that "the Palestinian people are continuing their national struggle to achieve justice, dignity, freedom and the embodiment of our independent state on the land of our ancestors."

INTERNATIONAL **EXHIBITION: "ARABIC** COLORS"

Sponsored by the Ministry of Culture, the electronic art exhibition "Arabic Colors", was held on the occasion of Culture Day and organized by the Art Forum Association "Haneen", in cooperation with the Palestinian Child Arts Center. 71 artists from 14 Arab countries participated.

CULTURAL EXHIBITION IN GAZA

The Culture and Free Thought Association launched the activities of the annual cultural festival, titled "Palestine is my home", under the slogan "We deserve to live", at the headquarters of its educational centers in the south and west of Khan Yunis, in the Gaza Strip.

ART COMPETITION IN DRAWING JERUSALEM FOR CHILDREN

The Council of Youth and Culture announced the launch of an art competition in drawing the occupied city of Jerusalem and embodying the Judaization and obliteration of its Arab and Islamic identity.

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