

### EMBASSY OF THE STATE

### OF PALESTINE

#### **BUDAPEST - HUNGARY**

#### **JUNE 15, 2021** Issue No. 12



#### SHOCKING SCALE OF DAMAGE IN GAZA

The International Commission for Support of Palestinians' Rights (ICSPR) revealed a report about the destruction inflicted on Gaza during the latest Israeli offensive.

According to the report, during the offensive, which lasted II-days between 10-21 May, the Israeli occupation carried out more than 2,000 airstrikes that killed 253 people and wounded 1,948 others. Some 66 children were killed.

Meanwhile, the report stated that 120,000 people were displaced due to their homes being either completely or partially damaged. Some 2,075 housing units were completely or partially damaged and rendered not suitable for living.

The report also found that 47 media offices were demolished and 70 schools and healthcare centres were partially or completely damaged, including the head office of the Ministry of Health.

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#### SILENCING THE **PRESS**

Israel's latest crackdown on journalists has been condemned the Foreign Press Association (FPA) following a number of high-profile arrests this month. The international body, whose members include major news outlets including Reuters and the New York Times, called on Israel to stop its threat and intimidation of journalists.

"We call upon the Israeli government to allow free and independent coverage of the operation in Palestinian Authority areas," the FPA said after Israel declared Ramallah City a "closed military zone" and threatened to forcibly remove foreigners. This comment followed the arrest of Givara Budeiri. an  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{l}$ Jazeera correspondent.

#### IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE IN **GAZA**

The total losses suffered by the agricultural sector as a result of the recent Israeli military aggression are estimated at \$204 million.

Farmers were forcibly displaced by Israel's indiscriminate bombing which prevented them from reaching and working on their land. The losses included the destruction of hundreds of acres of vegetable crops and trees as a result of direct targeting, as well as the disruption of water for irrigation purposes. Livestock owners also incurred losses, as a large number of birds and animals died as a result of the interruption of the supply of animal feed due to the closure of border crossings. Access to land as well as the absence of an open market for produce, including export opportunities, was already a major problem due to the ongoing Israeli blockade of Gaza. The bombardment made it worse.

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## PALESTINE & COVID-19

#### **CURRENT STATUS**

There have been so far over 301,544 confirmed cases of COVID, 302,357 recovery cases and 3,520 deaths.

- Two weeks after escalations subside across the occupied Palestinian territory, COVID-19 case numbers in Gaza shoot up, largely due to the resumption in testing which had completely ceased. West Bank numbers continue to decline giving hospitals some breathing space.
- More vaccines arrive in oPt: in the last week, 72,000 doses of AstraZeneca and nearly 103,000 doses of Pfizer.

# CHILDREN'S DAY MAY, 30

In Hungary, Children's Day is a special occasion for every child, a holiday set aside just for them.

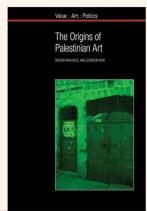
On this special day we wish all the Hungarian children and the children of the world a peaceful and joyful life full of success.

On this special day we ask you to stand with the Palestinian children living under the brutal Israeli occupation and to defend children's rights.



#### A BOOK TO READ

The Origins of Palestinian Art





The Origins of Palestinian Art provides the most comprehensive survey of contemporary Palestinian art to date. The development of contemporary practice, theory and criticism is understood as integral to the concomitant construction of Palestinian national identities. particular the book explores intricate relationship between art and nationalism in which the idea of origin plays an important and problematic role. The book deconstructs the existing narratives of the history of Palestinian art, which search for its origins in the 19th century, and argues that Palestinian contemporary art demonstrates pluralistic, politically and philosophically complex attitudes towards identity and nation that confound familiar narratives of origin and belonging.

#### PALESTINE AND HUNGARY



- Acting Head of Mission Dr. Fadi Elhusseini met with HE Mr. Laszlo Varadi, Deputy State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary.
- Acting Head of Mission met with HE Mr. Péter Erdő, Hungay Cardinal of the Latin Rite of the Catholic Church.
- Acting Head of Mission met with H.E.
   Ms. Alicia Morales Ambassador of Cuba to Hungary and Dean of Latin America countries.
- Acting Head of Mission met with HE
   Dr. Csaba Rada, Head of the
   Representative Office of Hungary in Ramallah.

#### **NAKSA DAY**

June, 05

The "Naksa," Arabic for "the setback," refers to the displacement of tens of thousands of Palestinians as a result of the Israeli invasion of 1967.

Israel occupied the Gaza Strip, the West Bank and East Jerusalem, the Sinai Peninsula from Egypt, and the Golan Heights from Syria.

Israel brought more than one million Palestinians under its direct control in the occupied West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip. By the end of the war, it had expelled 300,000 Palestinians from their homes.



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#### PICTURE OF THE MONTH



#### AL-HARAM AL-SHARIF

Al-Aqsa is the name of the silver-domed mosque inside a 35-acre compound referred to as al-Haram al-Sharif, or the Noble Sanctuary. The compound lies in the Old City of Jerusalem, which has been designated a World Heritage site by the United Nations cultural agency, UNESCO. The Dome of the Rock is a Muslim shrine with a vibrant gold dome built on the site where Prophet Muhammad is believed to have ascended to heaven by night on the day of "Isra' wa Mi'raj." The Umayyad Caliph Abdel Malik ibn Marwan commissioned its construction and it was completed during the reign of his son, Al-Walid, in the year 705.



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#### CULTURAL HERITAGE

## COMMUNITY BASED TOURISM

Palestinian Heritage Trail conducted guided familiarization trip for local and international journalists and media representatives. The trip took place on a newly developed segment from Beit Mirsim to Battir. Familiarization started with a hike in Surif's area, then visiting service providers in surrounding in Hebron villages governate.

There are 16 villages along the new segment of the Trail and the Trail extension adds 60 kilometers to the original trail of the 440-kilometerlong Palestinian Heritage Trail. The purpose of the is lo introduce trip journalists to new touristic attractions and share with them a taste of what guests experience when would hiking the Trail. The guests experienced the diverse flora and fauna and enjoy the beauty of nature, as well as the historical and cultural locations, and most importantly get to meet touristic service providers along that segment of the Trail.

#### **EVENTS**

## INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL ART EXHIBITION

International Virtual The Art Exhibition "Zahret al-Madaen" opened in the city of Hebron, under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture, and organized by the Fine Art Forum Association "Haneen", in cooperation with the Palestinian Society for Culture and Palestinian Child Arts. 70 artists from 14 Arab and Islamic countries will participate in the exhibition, through artworks that focus on the Palestinian cause, and the processes of Judaization of Jerusalem and the displacement of its original inhabitants.

#### FILM SCREENING

The Nakba in Our Personal Archives is an Arabic film streaming of two short films produced by the Palestinian Museum in collaboration with musician Samir Jubran to mark Nakba Day. The first video is a montage of photographs of life before the 1948 Nakba, selected from the Palestinian Museum Digital Archive. The video reimagines the lives of the photographed individuals to manifest the richness and diversity of the ordinary, personal daily life that was robbed from the Palestinian people. The second video tells the story of an old bundle that contains sesame seeds harvested by the people of the Palestinian village of Sirin in the Galilee a few years prior to the 1948 Nakba. The Palestinian Museum social media platforms.

#### **SPORTS**

## PALESTINE IN THE AFC ASIAN CUP

Palestine breathed life into their qualification hopes with a 4-0 win against Singapore in Group D of the Asian Qualifiers for the FIFA World Cup 2022 and AFC Asian Cup China 2023. Palestine went into the match needing a win to climb up the group standings, and they duly delivered the win in expert fashion as they brushed aside Singapore.



#### PALESTINE PARTICIPATES IN THE RUSSIAN GRAND PRIX FOR ARAB PROFESSIONAL BOXING

Palestine will be present in the Russian Grand Prix for Arab Professional Boxing Championship. With the participation of six players from the State of Palestine, which will be held at the end of next July in the Russian capital, Moscow.

#### PALESTINE PARTICIPATED IN THE WORLD JUDO CHAMPIONSHIPS IN BUDAPEST

Palestine participated in the World Judo Championship in Budapest. 668 male and female players from 16 countries participated. The head of the Judo Federation participated in the opening ceremony.

PALESTINE PARTICIPATES IN THE 66<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF ARAB YOUTH AND SPORTS MINISTERS

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