We stand in Solidarity with the Palestinian People

Rutgers University faculty condemn Israel’s military assault against the Palestinian people across all Palestinian geographies. We join and welcome the endorsement of all colleagues committed to combatting racism, colonialism, and settler colonialism.

A ceasefire does not end the colonial conditions of structural violence and inequality that Palestinians live under. The fifteen year siege of and systemic war on Gaza are part of a long-standing effort to isolate, dehumanize, and punish Palestinians for resisting decades of occupation and what UN ESCWA, Human Rights Watch and the Israeli human rights organization B’tselem, have called an Israeli Apartheid regime.

The forced displacement of Palestinian families from occupied East Jerusalem, including Sheikh Jarrah, takes legal, bureaucratic, and military forms. Zionist settler colonial expansion marks Palestinian homes and neighborhoods for removal, destruction, and replacement while military and settler infrastructure limits Palestinian mobility and segregates them into Bantustans. Critical resources such as water and land are expropriated by the Israeli state. These tactics are part of a broader effort to deny the possibility of Palestinian self-determination in Palestine.

The Palestinian rights to freedom, security in their homes, to return, self-determination, and to be free of violent occupation are well established under international law. The language of both-sidedness, of timeless or religious ‘conflict’ with moments of ‘escalation’ erases the military, economic, media, and diplomatic power that Israel, as an occupying force has over Palestine. While we mourn the loss of civilian life in Israel, we also refuse to engage narratives that demand an ‘equal sides’ approach to a fundamentally unequal reality.

The demand to center Israel’s right to ‘self-defense’ erases the colonial context and delegitimizes the Palestinian right to resistance and to self-defense, both principles enshrined in international law. It also neglects non-violent tactics and campaigns, such as BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions), and civil disobedience that Palestinians have used for decades to dismantle the system around them. We stand in solidarity with a growing chorus of voices in the US media, in universities, activists and social movements, and with progressive political leaders in the US government. With them, we demand an end to US’ long-standing military, economic, and diplomatic support for unchecked Israeli anti-Palestinian violence.

We are in awe of the Palestinian struggle to resist violent occupation, removal, erasure, and the expansion of Israeli settler colonialism. As faculty at an institution committed to the principles of social justice and academic excellence, particularly those of us who study and teach about the Middle East or Racism, we endorse the Palestine and Praxis call to action. We affirm our own commitments to speaking out in defense of the rights and dignity of the Palestinian people as well as foundational principles of scholarly integrity and academic freedom. We recognize our role and responsibility as scholars to theorize, read, teach and write about the very issues unfolding in Palestine. Not doing so means we fail to provide our undergraduate and graduate students, including Palestinian and Israeli students, with the critical tools and information they need to understand and engage the subjects of Palestine and Israel, colonialism, US empire, and anti-racism. Those who do not study these issues can be involved in study groups, teach-ins, and other such educational activities as faculty and students were during other moments of international protest and solidarity, like protests against the Vietnam War and Apartheid South Africa.
Therefore, we stand in solidarity with Palestinians and their Jewish as well as non-Jewish allies around the world, understanding that their struggle is inseparable from other movements for equality, justice and liberation both within the United States and globally. We join together in rededicating ourselves to working against all forms of racism, imperialism, colonialism, settler colonialism and injustice at Rutgers, in the classroom, on campus, and beyond.

Signatories

Toby C. Jones, History
Zakia Salime, WGSS & Sociology
Deepa Kumar, Journalism and Media Studies
Zahra Ali, Sociology and Anthropology
John Keene, English/African American and African Studies
Yasmine Khayyat, African, Middle Eastern, and South Asian Languages and Literatures
Omar Dewachi, Anthropology
Melissa M. Valle, Sociology and Anthropology & African American and African Studies
Sahar Aziz, Law
Johan Mathew, History
Christien Tompkins, Anthropology
Mayte Green-Mercado, History
Nukhet Varlik, History
Nermin Allam, Political Science
Sylvia Chan Malik, American Studies
Domingo Morel, Political Science
Leyla Amzi-Erdogdular, History
Sadia Abbas, English
Laura Lomas, American Studies
Manu Samriti Chander, English
Maya Mikdashi, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Noura Erakat, Africana Studies and Criminal Justice
Wendell Hassan Marsh, African American Studies and African Studies
Charles G. Häberl, African, Middle Eastern, and South Asian Languages and Literatures, and Religion
Kathleen C. Riley, Anthropology
Whitney Strub, History
Asli Zengin, Women’s and Gender Studies
Laura Schneider, Geography
Asher Ghetner, Geography
Paul O’Keeffe, Geography
Jawid Mojaddedi, Religion
Yesenia Barragan, History
Mark Bray, History

Marisa J. Fuentes, History and Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies
Judith Surkis, History
Elaine LaFay, History
James Livingston, History
Jackson Lears, History
Belinda Davis, History
Xun Liu, History
Sean T. Mitchell, Sociology and Anthropology
Arthur B. Powell, Urban Education
Lyra Monteiro, History
Camilla Townsend, History
Barbara Foley, English
Donna Murch, History
Tamara Sears, Art History
Salam Al Kuntar, Classics
David Fogelsong, History
Aldo Lauria Santiago, History, Latino and Caribbean Studies
Kenneth Sebastián León, Latino and Caribbean Studies
Mary Rizzo, History
Popy Begum, School of Criminal Justice
Kevon Rhiney, Geography
Hanan Kashou, African, Middle Eastern, and South Asian Languages and Literatures
Samah Selim, African, Middle Eastern, and South Asian Languages and Literatures
Atiya Aftab, Middle Eastern Studies
Karishma Desai, Education
Carlos Ulises Decena, Latino and Caribbean Studies
Jon Cowans, History
Jamie Pietruska, History
Charles Payne, African and African American Studies
Radhika Balakrishnan, Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies
Nelson Maldonado-Torres, Latino and Caribbean Studies, and Program in Comparative Literature
Ousseina Alidou, African, Middle Eastern, South Asian Languages and Literatures
Akissi Britton, Africana Studies
Zeynep Gürsel, Anthropology
Bridget Purcell, Anthropology
Alison Howell, Political Science
Antonio Y. Vázquez-Arroyo, Political Science
Gabriela Kuetting, Political Science
Amir Moosavi, English
Becky Schulthies, Anthropology
Ethel Brooks, Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies
Alamin Mazrui, African, Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Literatures
Kyla Schuller, Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies
Tim Raphael, Arts, Culture and Media
Nate Gabriel, Geography
Jasbir Puar, Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies
Michael Adas, History
Carter Mathes, English
Evie Shockley, English
Sarada Balagopalan, Childhood Studies
Kate Cairns, Childhood Studies
Erica R. Edwards, English
Stéphane Robolin, Literatures in English
James Brown, English and Communications
Troy Shinbrot, Biomedical Engineering
Carlos Ulises Decana, Latino Studies, Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies
Melissa De Fino, Rutgers University Libraries
Andrew Goldstone, English
Atif Akin, Art & Design
James Brown, English and Communications
Troy Shinbrot, Biomedical Engineering
Carlos Ulises Decana, Latino Studies, Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies
Melissa De Fino, Rutgers University Libraries
Andrew Goldstone, English
Lilia Fernandez, Latino and Caribbean Studies
Anjali Nerlekar, African, Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Literatures (AMESALL)
Lauren Silver, Childhood Studies
Andrea Marston, Geography
Preetha Mani, African, Middle Eastern, and South Asian Languages and Literatures
Charles I. Auffant, Law
Jamal Ali, AMESALL
Shaheen Parveen, AMESALL
Belinda Edmondson, English, African American and African Studies
Beth Rubin, Education
Edwin Bryant, Religion
David D. Troutt, Law
Zaire Dinzey-Flores, Latino & Caribbean Studies
Todd Wolfson, Journalism and Media Studies
David Lopez, Law
Trinidad Rico, Art History
Krista White, Rutgers Libraries
Diane Fruchtmann, Religion
Dennis C. Prieto, Law
Mark Krasovic, History
Debra Scoggins Ballentine, Religion
Itzel Corona Aguilar, Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies
Kayo Denda, Rutgers U. Libraries - NB
Meredeth Turshen, Bloustein School
Diane Fruchtmann, Religion
Sara Perryman, Writing Program, English
Chryistin Ondersma, Law
Adnan Zulkiflar, Law
Jillian Salazar, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Brittney Cooper, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies/Africana Studies
Chenjerai Kumanyika, Rutgers Department of Journalism and Media Studies
Hamid Abdeljaber, CMES
Carolyn A. Brown, History
Genese Sodikoff, Sociology and Anthropology
Karen Caplan, History
Shantee Rosado, Africana Studies and Latino and Caribbean Studies
Thayane Brêtas, Global Urban Studies
David Hughes, Anthropology
Meril Antony, Public Administration
Icnelia Huerta Ocampo, CMBN
Dana Luciano, English, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Elizabeth Surles, Rutgers Libraries,
Institute of Jazz Studies
Mukti Mangharam, English
David Winters, Journalism and Media Studies
Mukti Mangharam, English
Terry Matilsky, Physics and Astronomy
Sara Elnakib, Family and Community Health Services
Meheli Sen, African, Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Literatures
David Kurnick, English
Jawad Irshad, OIT
Beyza Guven, Center for Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience
Andrew T. Urban, American Studies and History
JB Brager, Douglass College
Howard Swerdloff, English
Juan Lazaga, History
Benjamin Koerber, African, Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Literatures
Janice Fine, School of Management and Labor Relations
Hebtalla Elkhateeb, English
Dan Battey, Education
James WJ Robinson, School of Management and Labor Relations
James Jones, African American and African Studies

Parvis Ghassen-Fachandi, Socio-Cultural Anthropology
Saladin Ambar, Political Science
Karen Thompson, English
Timothy Eatman, Urban Studies
Lina Saud, Psychology
Frank Edwards, School of Criminal Justice
Julia Bowling, School of Criminal Justice
Andres Rengifo, School of Criminal Justice
Bryan Sacks, Journalism and Media Studies
David Letwin, Rutgers Arts Online
Jody Miller, School of Criminal Justice
Joel Miller, School of Criminal Justice
Englebert Santana, Honors Learning and Living Community
Sununda Gaur, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Nikol Alexander-Floyd, Political Science
Sandra Russell Jones, History and Religions
Caroline Key, Digital Filmmaking
Deniz Turker, Art History
Park McArthur, Art and Design

Rutgers Faculty Can Sign the Letter Here

A Resource Guide on Palestine is available Here