



SOCIALIST PARTY OF MICHIGAN MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

October 2023

Workers of the World Unite!

Gaza Under Siege! Stand Against Genocide and Apartheid!

As of November 5th, when this newsletter edition is being published, the death toll in the Gaza Strip has exceeded 9,700 people--over 4,000 of them children. The brutal response of the Israeli government to attacks by Hamas earlier this month have disproportionately targeted and killed innocent civilians, most of whom are children. The median age in the Gaza Strip, which reputable international organizations (such as Human Rights Watch) have referred to as an open-air prison inside an apartheid state, is 19 years old.

On the flip side of this newsletter we will offer you resources on the history of the Palestinian struggle, critical political context, and resources on how you can help the people of Gaza and those who oppose Israel's genocidal actions against the people of Gaza.

It is important for us here to hold space and reflect on the terror unfolding before our eyes.

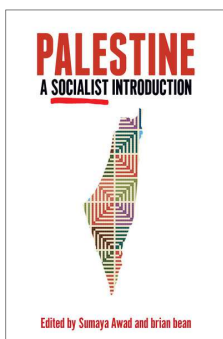
Whatever your feelings on Hamas--and we do have some commentary on the flip side specific to the issue--the actions of the Israeli government in response are those of a settler-colonial state seizing the opportunity to justify the eradication of an indigenous population. It might be called hyperbole if the government officials of Israel weren't being absolutely explicit about their intent, such as claiming there "are no innocents in Gaza" (former Israeli defense minister Avigdor Lieberman).

The response of the U.S. Government and the U.S. capitalist media has been as predictable as it is appalling: apologia and misinformation for Israel's government, framing refugee camps and hospitals as "legitimate Hamas targets" and providing platforms for hateful rhetoric that puts both residents of Gaza and the Palestinian diaspora at risk, such as referring to Palestinians as "animals" needing to put down.

Propaganda has consequences. Here in Michigan a would-be fascist vigilante from Farmington Hills threatened to go to Dearborn and "hunt Palestinians." In the Chicago area a landlord, poisoned by a steady diet of conservative media, stabbed a 6 year old Palestinian-American child to death.

As socialists and human beings living in the imperial core we have an obligation to fight back against the misinformation and demonization of the Palestinian people, whose genocide is literally being funded by the tax money taken from our wages (recently to the tune of \$14 billion dollars). In the U.S. the distorted reality echoes loudest, and we should not forget how most of the rest of the world is condemning the actions of Israel in Gaza. We stand with the Palestinian people; the Jewish diaspora suffering from the actions of the Israeli government, both those protesting the Israeli government's genocidal campaign and those who have become collateral damage in a conflict flamed by colonial belligerence; and everyone else who stands for peace and the self-determination of the people of Palestine.

Radical Recommendations



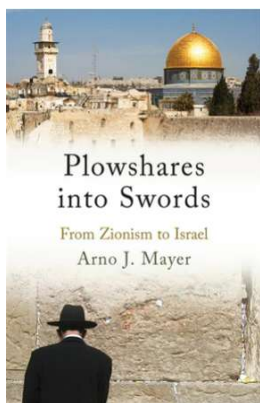
Palestine: A Socialist Introduction
Edited By Sumaya Awad and Brian Bean

Essential reading for those who want to learn the history of Israeli settler-colonialism and Palestinian resistance.

This book offers indispensable analysis and history that explains the class issues as play, the role of U.S. Imperialism, and a critical primer on the history of the Palestinian left as well as their successes and failures. Available from [Haymarket Books](#)- the ebook version is currently free.*

Plowshares into Swords: From Zionism to Israel
By Arno Mayer

A more exhaustive history of the founders of the Israeli state, and sheds critical light on how more rational voices for co-operation and peace between Jews and Arabs were drowned out by those who wished to execute the Zionist vision as a more antagonistic colonial project- and the early history of Palestinian resistance. From [Verso Books](#).**



From Revolutionary Left Radio
Understanding Settler Colonialism in Israel and the United States

<https://revolutionaryleft.radio.libsyn.com/best-of-understanding-settler-colonialism-in-israel-and-the-united-states>

Decolonizing Palestine: Toward National Liberation in the Levant

<https://revolutionaryleft.radio.libsyn.com/decolonizing-palestine-toward-national-liberation-in-the-levant>

A Brief History of Jewish Anti-Zionism

<https://revolutionaryleft.radio.libsyn.com/best-of-a-brief-history-of-jewish-anti-zionism>

From the River to the Sea: The Palestinian Liberation Struggle

<https://revolutionaryleft.radio.libsyn.com/best-of-from-the-river-to-the-sea-the-palestinian-liberation-struggle>

*<https://www.haymarketbooks.org/books/1558-palestine-a-socialist-introduction>

**<https://www.versobooks.com/products/2053-plowshares-into-swords>

Important Articles & Events

“Text-Book Case of Genocide”: Top U.N. Official Craig Mokhiber Resigns, Denounces Israeli Assault on Gaza
From Democracy Now

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/11/1/craig_mokhiber_un_resignation_israel_gaza

Blowback: How Israel Went From Helping Create Hamas to Bombing It

From The Intercept

<https://theintercept.com/2018/02/19/hamas-israel-palestine-conflict/>

Thousands March in Largest Mobilization for Palestine in Detroit History

From LeftVoice

<https://www.leftvoice.org/thousands-march-in-largest-mobilization-for-palestine-in-detroit-history/>

A Conversation with Dr. Mark Braverman
Tragedy in Gaza- What can we do & how can we help?

Hosted by Kalamazoo Non-Violent Opponents of War

<https://wmich.mediasite.com/Mediasite/Play/3b1baf686a741f788909dca9192661a1d>

Trusted Organizations to Donate to Palestine

A list of credible on-the-ground organizations from [buildpalestine.com](#) to lend financial support to.

They do emphasize that because of the blockade financial and humanitarian support cannot currently reach Gazans. Speak out and share information about the genocide in Gaza first, and resources can be deployed as soon as conditions on the ground allow.

<https://buildpalestine.com/2021/05/15/trusted-organizations-to-donate-to-palestine/>

Follow **Jewish Voice for Peace-Detroit** on Facebook who are currently organizing Gaza solidarity actions on the east side of the state.

Kalamazoo Non-Violent Opponents of War hold a weekly vigil in front of the federal building in Kalamazoo, MI at the corner of Park St. and Michigan Ave. Sundays at 12PM. Recent and current vigils are emphasizing the siege on Gaza.

“The supreme objective of the Palestine liberation movement is the total liberation of Palestine, the dismantlement of the Zionist state apparatus, and the construction of a socialist society in which both Arabs and Jews can live in peace and harmony.”

-Leila Khaled

Palestinian Revolutionary and Freedom Fighter, member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)