

**THE
STRUGGLE
CONTINUES:
BOYCOTTING
ISRAEL
APARTHEID**

Conference Oct 6 - 8 2006
Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE)
252 Bloor St. W
Toronto On
Canada

FRIDAY - 06/10/2006

17:00 - 21:30

Conference registration Room 2198

Information on child care and prayer space will be available at the registration table. Market place is in 2nd floor hallway area.

18:00 - 21:00

Public Forum: South Africa to Palestine: Building an Anti-Apartheid Movement OISE Auditorium, Main Floor

This Public Forum will highlight ongoing struggles to end apartheid in Palestine by drawing lessons from the South African experience. Key players in the current BDS movement against Israeli.

Speakers

Jamal Juma'a was born and lives in Jerusalem and is the coordinator of the Palestinian grassroots anti-Apartheid Wall Campaign. He is a founding member of several support organizations including the Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees (PARC) and the Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange (PACE) on whose boards he continues to serve. He has written several widely published and translated analysis pieces on the Wall and the struggle for Palestine. He regularly represents the Stop the Wall Campaign.

Willie Madisha has been president of both the South African Democratic Teacher's Union (SADTU) and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) since 1999 and was recently reelected at COSATU's 9th National Congress in September 2006. COSATU is South Africa's largest labour federation, representing 1.8 million workers across 21 industries, and played a leading role in the struggle against apartheid. Willie Madisha is also a key member of the Tri-Partite Alliance consisting of COSATU, the ANC and the S.A. Communist Party. He has traveled to Palestine and is a leading international critic of Israeli apartheid.

Rafeef Ziadah is a third-generation Palestinian and an organizer with the Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid (CAIA) and SUMOUD - Political Prisoner Solidarity Group in Toronto. She has been active with a number of grassroots campaigns on Palestine including the SUSTAIN (Stop US Tax-funded Aid to Israel Now!) campaign in Washington DC. She is currently completing her PhD at York University.

SATURDAY - 07/10/2006

Chair: **Larissa Cairncross** grew up under South African apartheid, has been involved in anti-apartheid, anti-racist and women's organizing since the 1980s and is currently an organizer with the Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid (CAIA).

8:30 - 9:30

Registration Room 2198

9:30 - 10:30

Inside the Apartheid Wall OISE Auditorium, Main Floor

Insight into the brutal conditions of apartheid in Palestine and how the people survive. Who are the grassroots organizations that came together to call for an international BDS campaign in July 2005 and what are their main focuses for the campaign?

Speakers

Jamal Juma'a.

Chair: **Nadia Daar** is a graduate student in the Political Science department at York University and a founding member of the Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid (CAIA).

10:45 - 11:45

Supporting Apartheid: Israel Advocacy in Canada

OISE Auditorium, Main Floor

The brokers who facilitate support for the Israeli Apartheid regime are very active in Canada. Who are they and how do they operate?

Speakers

Diala Al-Dabbas is a Palestine solidarity activist at the University of Western Ontario and an executive member of the Western chapter of Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights.

David Noble is a professor at York University who has researched extensively on the corporate Canadian institutions which support Israeli Apartheid.

Dan Freeman-Maloy is a Toronto activist and member of the Grassroots Anti-Imperialist Network (GRAIN) at York University.

Chair: **Ahmed Shokr** is an activist with the Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid.

11:45 - 12:45 Lunch

12:45 - 14:00

Perspectives on Resistance: lessons from the South African struggle OISE Auditorium, Main Floor

South African campaigners share their history and experience in both the anti-apartheid struggles.

Speakers

Willie Madisha.

Salim Vally has been a social justice activist since high school and was a regional executive member of the high school South African Student's Movement (SASM) which played a pivotal role in the Uprising of 1976. He has been a teacher, union educator, organizer and spokesperson, and as a researcher of grassroots community and worker conditions and needs has produced numerous critical reports. Since 1995 he has been a lecturer and senior researcher in the School of Education at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg and is the chairperson of the Palestine Solidarity Committee and the Anti-War Coalition.

Chair: **Yolisa Dalamba** is a South African who was active in the Toronto-based anti-apartheid movement. She is a popular educator.

14:00 - 14:15 Break

14:15 - 16:00 - *Multiple Concurrent Workshops*

Perspectives on Resistance: Lobbying Room 2212

Evaluating the Palestine movement's record in pressuring decision makers to take positions consistent with International Law relevant to Palestine and how to coordinate lobbying efforts around the demand of BDS.

Speakers

Betty Hunter is the General secretary of the Palestinian Solidarity campaign in the United Kingdom.

Khaled Mouammar is the President of the Canadian Arab Federation and a longtime lobbyist on behalf of Palestinian rights.

Amina Sherazee is a Toronto lawyer and human rights activist and a member of the Muslim Canadian Congress.

Raja G. Khouri directed a landmark national study of the Canadian Arab community and authored the book 'Arabs in Canada: Post 9/11' and is currently writing a book on Palestinian contemporary artists. He serves on the Ontario Hate Crimes Community Working Group.

Chair: **Dania Majid** is President of the Arab Lawyers Association (ACLA).

Perspectives on Resistance: Media Management for BDS

Room 2213

Messaging for the campaign in mainstream and alternative media to give media activists tools for getting the BDS message out and BDS campaigners guidance on how to get positive results for the campaign.

Speakers

Kristin Schwartz has been News Director at CKLN 88.1fm since 2000. She is a board member of the National Campus/Community Radio Association and sits on the Steering Committee of a national news program in development, "GroundWire: Community Radio News". Her activist background includes many years in grassroots anti-racist movements in Toronto.

Rahul Mahajan is an author and freelance journalist who has reported from occupied Iraq including Fallujah during the April 2004 assault. His activist roles include sitting on the Steering Committee of United for Peace and Justice, the national antiwar coalition in the United States.

Justin Podur is a writer and editor at ZNet (www.zmag.org). He has reported from Haiti, Colombia, Venezuela, Argentina, Brazil, Palestine, and Chiapas (Mexico). He is a member of the Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid (www.caiaweb.org) and other activist organizations in Toronto.

Perspectives on Resistance: The Research Connection

Room 2296

Identifying relevant lessons from the struggle against South African apartheid, what research needs to be done to support a BDS campaign in Canada, and providing participants with the tools and methodologies to research the links between Canada and Israel.

Speakers

CP Pandya is a freelance journalist and researcher on economic issues who has published in ZNet, Z Magazine, and Critical Asian Studies and been a contributing editor for The New Standard and a producer for Democracy Now!

Robert MacDermid teaches Political Science at York University and is an expert on campaign and party finance systems in Canada and who funds political parties.

Adam Hanieh is an activist with the Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid, Al-Awda Toronto and Sumoud - Political Prisoners Group. He is co-author of Stolen Youth: The Politics of Israel's Detention of Palestinian Children.

Chair: **Andrew Hugill** is currently an activist with the Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid (CAIA).

Art Strikes Back: Role of Artists in Promoting the Cultural Boycott (PWYC) Room 2214

A workshop for artists in any discipline who want to support the BDS campaign.

Artists

Faith Nolan is a singer, song-writer, and guitarist who is renowned for the power and appeal of her voice. An Afro-Nova Scotian activist whose songs deal with a range of issues including Afro-Canadian history, native heritage, feminism, workers' issues and children's rights, she is a much-respected, longtime contributor to social justice and solidarity work across Canada.

Bassam Bishara is from Upper Galilee, Palestine. He is a vocalist, plays the oud and qanoun and has toured extensively throughout Europe and the United States, raising funds for the Intifada, performing with an orchestra and as a soloist. He teaches at York University and is establishing a school in Toronto which will be dedicated to Middle Eastern music.

Bill Shawanda is a designer, cross-cultural educator and community animator. He has developed workshop and creation work for some of the most challenging communities in the province. He is recognized for his work on the "Peace Tree" Project which explored the relationship between Aboriginal and non-Native peoples in 1997.

Chair: **Florencia Berinstein** is a visual artist in Toronto and the Coordinator of the Mayworks Festival. She was a member of Creative Response, a group of artists that put on cultural projects in support of and in solidarity with Palestine in 2002/2003.

16:00 - 19:00 Break

19:00 - 22:00

BILADI Cultural Evening & Iftar/Dinner

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Join us for an Iftar (breaking the fast)/dinner followed by some of the best poets and artists in the city for an evening of solidarity between the Indigenous Peoples of the World in our struggles against Settler Apartheid



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For more information visit <http://www.caiaweb.org>
Or email endapartheid@riseup.net

SUNDAY - 08/10/2006

9:00 - 10:00

Registration Room 2198

10:00 - 12:00 - *Multiple Concurrent Workshops*

Focal Points of Action: The Labor Connection Room 2214

There have been many recent developments within this key sector from which to build and generate an overall organizing strategy.

Speakers

Ken Luckhardt was Chairperson of the South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU) Solidarity Committee from 1980-88. Founded in 1955, SACTU was the first non-racial trade union federation in South. The SACTU Solidarity Committee (Canada) was mandated to establish solidarity relationships between SACTU and the Canadian labour movement by the SACTU National Executive Committee, a crucial role in mobilising labour support for the call for sanctions against the apartheid regime of South Africa. Luckhardt has also taught in Anthropology and Sociology departments in Canadian universities.

Denis Kosseim is a college professor based in Montreal and . He is a member of the executive board of La Coalition pour la justice et la paix en Palestine and has campaigned extensively for his teachers's union, La FAC (Fédération Autonome du Collégial) to support the Israel boycott campaign.

Katherine Nastovski is chair of the International Solidarity Committee of CUPE Ontario, and Ontario rep, CUPE National Global Justice Committee as well as Vice President Unit 1 CUPE 3903. She was instrumental in bringing Resolution 50 to the floor in the spring Provincial convention.

Chair: **Herman Rosenfeld** is a member of Trade Unionists Against the War and an activist in CAW.

Focal Points of Action: The Community Role Room 2213

Key communities need to be centrally involved in the BDS project. The Palestinian and Arab communities as well as solidarity communities all have significant roles to play.

Speakers

Issam Al-Yarani is the Executive Director of Palestine House Educational and Cultural Centre in Mississauga.

John Clarke is a member of the executive committee of the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty (OCAP).

Speaker from the Phillipine Network for Justice and Peace.

Chair: **Owen Leach** is a member of the Black Action Defense Committee and the Coalition of Concerned Taxi Drivers.

11:45 - 12:45 Lunch

13:00 - 15:00 - *Multiple Concurrent Workshops*

Focal Points of Action: The Faith Sector Room 2214

Educating, organizing and providing resources to deliver the BDS message within faith-based communities is a specific campaign. What can we learn from past BDS campaigns and how can we manage the challenges and opportunities of the faith-based BDS campaign.

Speakers

Wahida Chishti Valiante is a longtime political and social activist who writes on social and religious issues, including gender equality and social justice. She promotes interfaith dialogue on ethical issues and is a founding member and current national vice-president of the Canadian Islamic Congress and a member of the Christian Muslim Liaison Committee.

Richard Chambers has a Master's degree in applied ethics from Harvard University, is the public policy and advocacy co-ordinator with The United Church of Canada and serves on their Ethical Investment Committee. The United Church of Canada is the largest Protestant church in the country with congregations in over 2,000 communities.

Mohammed Shokr has been active with the Muslim community for the past 20 years in several educational and social roles. He is a National Board member of the Canadian Islamic Congress (2004-2005), and a member of The Muslim Unity (a politically advocacy group).

Chair: **Karin Brothers**.

Focal Points of Action: Campus Organizing

Room 2212

What can be done on campuses -- institutional de-linking, academic boycott, withdrawal of University/College investments in apartheid corporations. What roles can students and faculty play, and how can we build a campus-based campaign across Ontario and Turtle Island.

Speakers

Jonathan Rosenhead is Emeritus Professor of Operational Research at the London School of Economics. He has served on the executive of the anti-apartheid movement, been a Labour Party candidate in Britain and Chair of the British Society for Social Responsibility in Science. He is a member of BRICUP, the British Committee for Universities of Palestine, which is campaigning for an academic boycott of Israeli higher education institutions.

Zainab Amadahy is a Toronto-based writer, singer, activist and community worker. She was active in the University of Toronto campus anti-apartheid campaign against South Africa in the 1980s. She currently works with the Coalition in Support of Indigenous Sovereignty - Indigenous Caucus and is the Executive Director of Community Arts Ontario.

Melanie Newton is a Professor of Caribbean history, culture and politics at the University of Toronto.

Jamila Ghaddar ran in the 2003 federal elections as an Independent in the Hamilton West while still a student at McMaster University.

Chair: **Hazem Jamjoum** is an activist with Al-Awda, Toronto and with Sumoud - Political Prisoner Solidarity Group.

15:00 - 15:15 Break

15:15 - 16:15

Building A National BDS Movement: Setting The Foundations For An Anti-Apartheid Network

OISE Auditorium, Main Floor

This session will evaluate past successes/failures of existing BDS campaigns and discuss ways of building a national BDS campaign. Discussion will focus on the best means of coordinating work in different cities and between different sectors.

Speakers

Dr. Ismail Zayid was born in Beit Nuba, Palestine has had a distinguished career as a teacher and medical researcher. He has been an activist in the Palestinian

and Arab cause throughout his life and is currently the president of the Canada Palestine Association and the Arab Canadian Association of the Atlantic Provinces. He plays a key role in the campaign to strip the JNF of its charitable status based on its active participation in the violent dispossession of Palestinians and the use of Canadian tax revenue to fund Israeli war crimes. See the website <http://izayid.tripod.com>.

Ehab Lotayef is VP Communications of 'Parole arabe', a member of ISM in Montreal and an organizer with the Montreal-based Coalition for Justice and Peace in Palestine (CJPP). He has travelled to both Palestine and Iraq.

Reena Katz is an organizer with the Jewish Womens' Committee to End the Occupation (JWCEO), Zatoun Fair Trade Olive Oil from Palestine and the Coalition Against Israeli Apartheid (CAIA).

Chair: **Navyug Gill** is a student-activist at the University of Toronto in the Palestinian anti-apartheid struggle and for indigenous people's sovereignty in Turtle Island.

16:30 - 17:30

Confronting Apartheid at Home and Abroad: Steps Forward OISE Auditorium, Main Floor

Making the links between the struggles of Palestinians against Zionist settler-colonial apartheid and the struggles of indigenous peoples here on Turtle Island against Canadian settler-colonialism; and suggesting new directions for the struggle against Israeli apartheid.

Speakers

Co-Chief Robert Lovelace was born into a line of Tslagi Indians through his great grandparents and is a member of the Ardoch Algonquin First Nation located in the Ottawa Valley. He has been an Aboriginal rights activist for many years and currently teaches indigenous studies at Fleming College and Queen's University.

Adam Hanieh.

Chair: **Zainab Amadahy.**

Conference end

The organizers of the conference would like to thank CUPE 3903 for their generous support without which this conference would not have been possible.

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