



Speak Out Now

October 9, 2023

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Stop Israel's War Against Palestinians!

On Oct. 7, Palestinian military forces from Hamas, the ruling party in Gaza, carried out a surprise attack on Israel, taking up to 100 hostages, including an Israeli military commander, and killing at least 400 people. In response, Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu has announced that Israel has begun a “long and difficult war,” and promises to turn Gaza into “rubble.” Israeli airstrikes have already killed 400 Palestinians in Gaza.

This conflict is sometimes portrayed as a clash of two equivalent powers, but this hides the hideous reality. The state of Israel was founded in 1948 on the historic land of Palestine. Since 1967, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank have been militarily occupied and controlled by Israel. Israel has used the occupation to further its genocidal erasure of the Palestinian people to take more of their land, and force Palestinians to live restricted lives, under constant threat of violence, or trapped, as they are in Gaza, with little access to food, water, regular electricity, or medicine, under a constant state of siege.

For months, Israel has been in a state of political crisis, led by far-right, religious and settler parties. Settlers illegally take Palestinian land while the military protects them. Since January, many Israelis have erupted in protests against this power grab. They seek to impose an authoritarian, religious regime in Israel to further their goals. Israel is divided between the old order that was secular, liberal, and more democratic for the Jewish citizens in Israel, and the new far-right order, which is religious, authoritarian, and repressive. But neither side has anything to offer Palestinians, including the two million Palestinian citizens of Israel who live as second class citizens, with the worst jobs, the worst education, and suffer discrimination and racism in their daily lives.

The Israeli army wasn't prepared when the attack from Hamas came. It was too busy protecting the nearly one million Israeli settlers in the West Bank, while they wreaked havoc on Palestinian communities, encouraged in their racist rampages by Netanyahu's right-wing ministers. Hamas's attack has embarrassed Netanyahu's government, and has forced many Arab states to back off from their shameful dealings with Israel's government.

But, ultimately, Hamas has no solution to the occupation. They are the rulers of a prison, seeking only to maintain their credibility, and pressure the Arab states to maintain their minimal material support for Palestine.

The problem from beginning to end is the colonial, genocidal state of Israel and its occupation of the Palestinian people, with, in the words of Biden, “rock solid and unwavering” support coming from the U.S. The U.S. and other imperialist powers have funded and supported Israel for decades as a military ally in the Middle East. In spite of the growing consciousness of millions around the world of this injustice, the occupation and Israel's racist regime remain in place.

But the Palestinians are not alone. The people of the Middle East understand that their lives are intertwined. The same imperialist powers that support Israel dominate the people of the Middle East. Already, hundreds of thousands of people have turned out in demonstrations from Iraq to Tunisia. If the poor and working people of the Middle East have their say, then the Palestinians will find their liberation alongside the Egyptians, Iraqis, Syrians, Tunisians, Lebanese, and all those who share a common history in the struggle against imperialism, against Israel and the shameful governments that oppress the people of the Middle East for the benefit of imperialist powers, like the U.S.

The Palestinians deserve every bit of solidarity we can offer. We can support their call to boycott, divest from, and sanction the state of Israel. We can demonstrate in the streets to show they aren't alone, and denounce any support of the Israeli regime. But these are not enough. In a real sense, their struggle is ours because we have the same enemy — the capitalist class and its governments in the U.S. and elsewhere who dominate the Middle East while we live under ever-increasing exploitation. The deepest act of solidarity is to struggle against the capitalist system, and to build a world free from exploitation and oppression.

End The Israeli War And Occupation!

Strike for Healthcare, not Wealthcare!

Last week, 75,000 Kaiser Permanente nurses, pharmacists, and other healthcare workers walked off the job for a three-day strike at hundreds of different facilities in five states across the country plus Washington D.C. Short-staffing, low wages, and poor benefits have affected the entire healthcare industry and workers at Kaiser are saying “no more!” The workers have stood up, but their fight isn’t over and they may strike again in November.

Management and administration continue to cut costs while putting workers in precarious working and living conditions. Their profit-driven model leads to overwork, inadequate pay, and poor working conditions. Now management argues that the strike is harming patients, but it is Kaiser’s policies that continue to worsen patient care. Their struggle is all of our struggle: for healthcare, not wealthcare!

We are the Port!

The Port of Baltimore has reached a new record in cargo transportation, built on the backs of the more than 15,000 workers whose labor has produced what is now a major economic force. This trend mirrors increasing productivity at ports around the U.S.

Who will benefit from the \$2.6 billion in business revenues? Will the local community see some of the profits, or will it just be stuck with only pollution and long work hours? Who will choose where the industrial area will expand, and who will be displaced?

Even though our labor is what makes the ports productive, the decisions on how these profits are spent are not in the hands of the workers. But they should be! The hard-working people who run the ports should be in charge of these decisions.



Floods Disrupt New York City

New York City experienced the worst September flooding in 140 years. The climate crisis and inadequate infrastructure totally disrupted city life. Subways and airports were shut down as people had to abandon their cars and homes to survive.

To add insult to injury, even after 28 people had to be rescued, mayor Eric Adams shamefully blamed New Yorkers, saying, “If anyone was caught off guard ... they live under a rock.”

For years the government has kicked the can down the road not addressing the failing infrastructure and the climate crisis. They show us they have total disdain for our health and safety and will not protect us.

Migrant Deaths Reached a Record High

The number of migrants crossing the U.S.-Mexico border is on track to break records this year, with deaths due to extreme heat having already reached a new high. The numbers will only increase as the economic conditions in migrants’ home countries worsen, and the climate crisis intensifies.

The Biden administration’s policies have made matters worse, now requiring migrants to first apply and be denied asylum in another country. Then, migrants must request an appointment with U.S. Customs through an app. If they don’t meet these requirements, migrants can be quickly deported. And now, Biden has continued to expand the border wall.

None of this addresses the crises of poverty, climate, and much more that force people to leave their homes. If we wait for politicians to fix this, the record numbers of deaths at the border will only grow.

End Israel's War and Occupation of Palestine

Join us for a presentation and discussion about the current situation, what has led to this, and what role we can play here in the U.S.

Sat. Oct. 21 at 4pm

2727 California St. Berkeley

\$5 donation (no one turned away for lack of funds)

Can't join in person? Join on Zoom:

tinyurl.com/43v38w9e