



مجزة Gaza



## COMPASSION FOR JUSTICE

COMPASSION FOR THEIR FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS & THE  
DESIRE FOR A WORLD IN WHICH PEOPLE ARE FREE &  
EQUAL HAVE UNITED THE MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE OF ONE  
CITY UNDER THE BANNER OF SOLIDARITY & JUSTICE.



It began with a single phone call from a distraught, young pregnant Dundee woman of Palestinian descent. Twenty-four hours later a crowd of 150 people gathered in Dundee's City Square. This was 30<sup>th</sup> December 2008 when Israel was ruthlessly bombing Gaza. Those who gathered in the Square knew that this was going to be a slaughter of the innocent and they badly needed their angry voices to be heard. Two weeks later, 1000 protestors took to the streets of Dundee.

Early in January 2009, Tayside for Justice in Palestine (TJP) was formed and within days, members of our group raised £20,000 to help the people of Gaza. From that first gathering it was obvious that this group was going to represent a wide spectrum of local organisations and individuals, both religious and secular. It was to be an inclusive group with no rigid structures and has remained so for over two years.

Our group consistently works with other groups and individuals who are active in publicising the narrative of the suffering of the Palestinian people. We are very fortunate in that our city is twinned with the West Bank city of Nablus and TJP work closely with the Dundee Nablus Twinning Association. Also together with Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign (Dundee) we managed to persuade Dundee City Council to fly the Palestinian flag over the City Square. Our efforts to involve local politicians have been very positive; our Lord Provost, John Letford, has publicly given his support to the campaign to send an aid ship from Dundee to Gaza this spring, and Joe FitzPatrick, MSP for Dundee West, stated that he would show his support for the people of Gaza by travelling on the ship.

Inside, the photo booklet illustrates the broad character of TJP. From raising money; almost £26,000 for two charities, Medical Aid for Palestinians and Interpal; helping to raise through the generosity of the people of Dundee, over £30,000 worth of aid sent on the aid ship 'MV Rachel Corrie' to Gaza last year. There's also our education programme – public meetings and day schools, and our support for the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign against Israel.

Since the bombing of Gaza in 2008/9 very little has improved. Because of the Israeli blockade 6 out of 10 people have running water only once every 4 to 5 days, and 90% of this is so contaminated that it is not fit to drink; bomb damaged homes cannot be repaired or rebuilt because of the lack of material and 40,000 children can no longer attend UN schools.

TJP will continue to highlight the plight of the Palestinians. A very important part of our work is our street campaigning, reaching out to people, and talking with them. This public work can be uplifting and rewarding. Take our stall on a typical Scottish cold, windy Saturday. Two of our supporters, one is Palestinian, are arguing with an elderly woman supportive of Israeli policies in the Middle East. After a thirty minute discussion during which our Palestinian friend related to the lady the history of his family at the hands of the Israelis, the woman tearfully said, "I'm sorry. I'm so sorry. I didn't know all that". Or the time we were doing a boycott campaign outside the opening of a new Tesco store and the manager brought us all a cup of coffee. You win some of the time!

Please try to take the time to look through our photo booklet.

*Thank you.*



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# Seeking Justice

On 30 December 2008, hundreds of people gathered in Dundee City Square to express their shock and concern at the bombing of Gaza. Ten days later, a thousand returned to reflect on the human cost. A display of tiny coffins, painstakingly designed by local artist, Pat Donachie, served as a symbolic representation of the hundreds of lives lost. At the conclusion of Operation Castlead one week later, the death toll stood at approximately 1400. As the light faded, many stayed behind to light candles and offer a silent prayer.





# Educational Campaigns

On Tuesday 12 January 2009, a public meeting was held in the Queen's Hotel, Dundee, to discuss how to channel the outrage of individuals into concerted, meaningful action. The call of the speakers to organise a march to protest against the Israeli government's flagrant abuse of human rights was later echoed in a vocal but peaceful demonstration of around 1000.



*From left: Dr Sarah Glynn (Scottish Jews for Justice in Palestine),  
Keir McKechnie (veteran political campaigner),  
Mike Arnott (Dundee Trade Union Council) and  
Louise Whiteside (DUSA Stop the War)*

This was followed by a number of public lectures, workshops and day schools organised with other sister organisations which included speakers such as:

- ✧ Hajo Meyer (Holocaust survivor)
- ✧ Hedy Epstein
- ✧ Mike Prysner
- ✧ Yvonne Ridley
- ✧ Gideon Levy
- ✧ Ben White
- ✧ Shir Hever
- ✧ Gilbert Achcar
- ✧ Roland Rance
- ✧ Muhammad Idrees Ahmad
- ✧ Ramzy Baroud
- ✧ Rich Wiles



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# Raising Awareness



Members of Tayside for Justice in Palestine conducted a campaign in Dundee City Centre raising awareness of the conflict in Palestine. Also promoting the campaign for boycotting Israeli goods outside various supermarkets and on 9 February 2009, marked the opening of a new Tesco store in Lochee with an awareness raising picket urging shoppers to choose a more ethical alternative to Israeli goods.

  
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# Charity Concerts

Tayside for Justice in Palestine organised a number of Charity concerts and gigs. On 15 March 2009 organised its first charity concert in the Apex Hotel, Dundee to raise funds for Medical Aid for Palestinians.



Among the artists who gave freely of their services were Michael Marra, Sheena Wellington, Loadsaweeminsingin, Buskers Against the Bomb and Pauline Meikleham.

**MAP**  
MEDICAL AID FOR PALESTINIANS

  
Gaza  
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## Dundee's Aid to Gaza



A city-wide appeal for humanitarian aid to be carried on the first Gaza Freedom Flotilla elicited a magnificent response from people across Tayside: 5 tons of cement (donated by a local builder), medicine, medical equipment, food and educational materials totalling 13 pallets worth over £30,000 were sent on the MV Rachel Corrie from Ireland.



# Freedom Flotilla I



Following the excellent campaign which raised £30,000 worth of aid across Tayside, a representative from Dundee was to accompany the aid going into Gaza. Ali El-Awaisi (21) a young Dundee man of Palestinian descent boarded the main passenger Ship the Mavi Marmara. The Ship was violently attacked by Israeli commandos in International Waters, killing 9 passengers and injuring many more, the night of May 31, 2010. Ali was tortured and imprisoned with five other Scots together with a few hundred activists, including MPs, authors, religious figures and ex-diplomats.



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## HELP

! Ali El Awaisi, from Dundee is on a *Humanitarian Mission* to deliver Aid worth £30,000 donated by fellow DUNDONIANS onboard the **FREEDOM FLOTILLA 6** ships heading to **GAZA** along with 800 others from around the world (30 people from UK alone)



### WHY is this needed?

There is a Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza; 1.5 Million people don't have enough **FOOD, SHELTER OR MEDICINES**

(source: Amnesty Intl & UNRWA)

### Your HELP is needed!

Israel has already attacked ships and has killed & injured tens of people onboard to stop this Aid convoy entering Gaza & imprisoning people aboard

### How Can you HELP?

Speak to local MPs & MSPs to pressure Government to **STOP ISRAEL**

Attend **PUBLIC MEETING** to discuss planned actions on **TUE 1st June, 6pm. Tower Building, Dundee University**

### Follow news on:

[www.ihh.org.tr](http://www.ihh.org.tr) [www.aqsa.org.uk](http://www.aqsa.org.uk) [www.witnessgaza.com](http://www.witnessgaza.com)



**GAZA: END THE BLOCKADE**  
**LET THE AID IN**

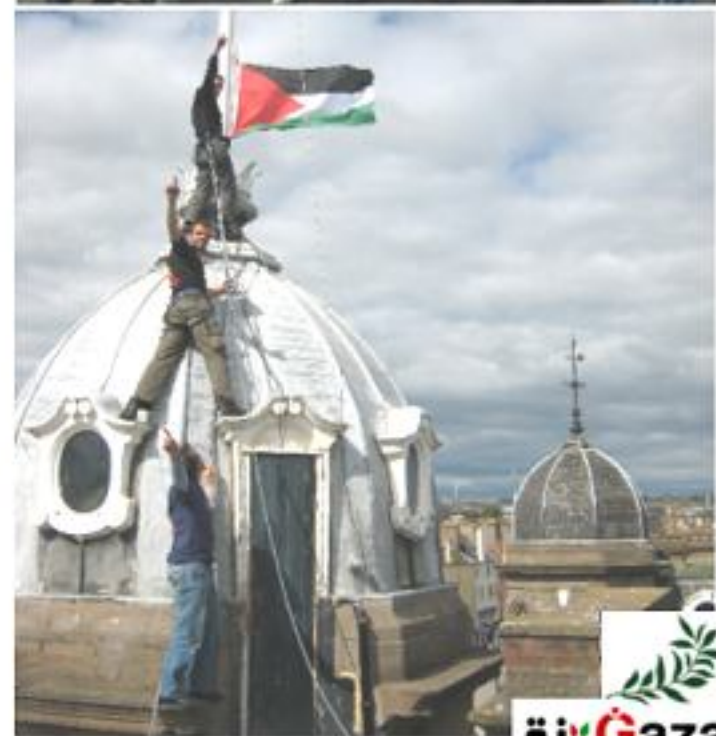




# Raising the Palestinian Flag



Following the return of Ali from the Freedom Flotilla, a motion was passed by Dundee City Council condemning Israel's attack on the flotilla. The Palestinian flag was raised over a central building in the city centre, with the agreement of the owner of the property, and thanks to the effort of the Lord Provost, the Palestinian flag was also raised over the City Square and continues to fly today.



  
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# At the Scottish Parliament



In April 2010 an exhibition promoting Israeli science and technology was held at the Scottish Parliament. As Israeli military technology was deployed in Gaza to such devastating effect in Gaza, a group from Dundee set up our installation outside the Parliament



*Dennis Canavan*



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building where we were joined by local peace campaigners and members of the Scottish Palestinian Solidarity Campaign. A number of Parliamentary staff, including former MP and MSP Dennis Canavan, came out to offer their support.

More recently, in March 2011, Tayside for Justice in Palestine co-hosted the launch of the Scottish Ship to Gaza Campaign at the Scottish Parliament. The event had cross-party support.



*Pauline McNeill MSP (Scottish Labour Party),  
Joe FitzPatrick MSP (Scottish National Party),  
Jim Hume MSP (Scottish Liberal Democrats)*



# Gaza Remembered



On the first and second anniversary of the Israeli attack on the Gaza Strip and the killing of 1400 people, TJP commemorated the 357 children who lost their lives with an art installation. It consisted of tiny coffins together with hundreds of shoes and the names of the 357 children who lost their lives.

In the second anniversary, we launched the Flotilla Fund for the Scottish Ship to Gaza in the presence of a number of local dignitaries including the Lord Provost of Dundee, John Letford. We have launched numerous fundraising initiatives and are asking individuals to give to our “£10 a person campaign”, or to “buy a mile to Gaza for £500” or donate as much as possible to make a difference and let the people of Gaza know that the people of Scotland care!

  
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# Scottish Ship to Gaza

**HELP BREAK & END  
THE ILLEGAL SIEGE!**

This spring we are sailing to Gaza from Scotland  
with more ships from across the world, more  
people, and more supplies to help the  
1.7 Million besieged Gazans

***we need your help  
to make a difference***

We sail as an expression of citizen  
non-violent, direct action, confronting  
Israel's ongoing abuses of Palestinian  
human and political rights.

**£500,000  
Appeal Launched  
for ship**

**PLEASE  
DONATE  
NOW**

[www.ScotlandtoGaza.com](http://www.ScotlandtoGaza.com)  
[scottishship@gmail.com](mailto:scottishship@gmail.com)

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**تآآة Gaza**

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**TAYSIDE FOR JUSTICE IN PALESTINE**