

World Week for Peace in Palestine-Israel **29 May - 4 June 2010**

The good life of some is built on the pain of many. The pleasure of a few is obtained at the expense of the agony of millions. ...some worship death in fighting for their own security without understanding that our lives are bound together, that peace is collective and only achievable when all experience it.

God, we thirst for you in a thirsty land. We feel alone and depressed. What shall we do?

--- Jean Zaru, Quaker clerk of the Ramallah Friends' Meeting

KAIROS joins the World Council of Churches in calling on church communities worldwide to:

- + **PRAY** for peace in Palestine and Israel
- + **EDUCATE** on the impact of the Occupation on Palestinians and Israelis
- + **ADVOCATE and ACT** for just and peaceful solutions.

KAIROS is the ecumenical social justice organization of eleven Canadian churches. KAIROS works on behalf of Canadian churches with partner organizations in Palestine and Israel to fund local peace-building initiatives. Organizations we support are: **Sabeel, Bat Shalom, The Jerusalem Center for Women, Filastiniyat, the Department of Service for Palestinian Refugees, and others.**

See www.kairoscanada.org for info on our partners and programs.

Visit www.worldweekforpeace.org for more info on the World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel campaign of the World Council of Churches



KAIROS members are: The Anglican Church of Canada, the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Canadian Religious Conference, the Christian Reformed Church in North America, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, the Mennonite Central Committee of Canada, the Presbyterian Church in Canada, the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF), the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), the United Church of Canada

What your community can do

SEE AND TALK. Hold a film night or a discussion with local resource people. Start a book or study group. We invite you to take the time to learn and listen.

GO FAIR TRADE: Sell Zatoun fair trade, organic olive oil from Palestine at your church, and encourage others to buy it from local volunteers or Ten Thousand Villages. You'll be supporting Palestinian farm families struggling to stay on their lands. See www.zatoun.com

READ and share alternative sources of info on Palestine and Israel, including your own church's policies, KAIROS and church partners, and blogs from people on the ground.

ORGANIZE a full or half day workshop. KAIROS is now offering "Just Peace 101" workshops for people new to the situation, and "201" workshops for those already involved. Just get in touch and we'll tell you more.

RESPOND to church and KAIROS urgent actions. These respond to partner requests and urgent developments in the region. Our voices make a difference—they show partners they are not alone, and they offer a Christian witness to our own politicians and leaders.

For other information and resources on Palestine and Israel contact jgraham@kairoscanada.org or 1 877 403 8933 x233



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**The Jerusalem Prayer for Sunday, May 30, 2010**

THE HEADS OF CHURCHES IN JERUSALEM

INVITE CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD TO PRAY

We believe that every human being is created in God's image and likeness and that every one's dignity is derived from the Almighty. We believe that this dignity is one and the same in each and all of us. This means for us, here and now, in this land in particular, that God created us not so that we might engage in strife and conflict but rather that we might come and know and love one another, and together build up the land in love and mutual respect.

In the absence of all hope, we cry out our cry of hope. We believe in God, good and just. We believe that God's goodness will finally triumph over the evil of hate and of death that still persist in our land. We will see here "a new land" and "a new human being", capable of rising up in the spirit to love each one of his or her brothers and sisters.

***Gracious God our Heavenly Father, Creator and sustainer of each human life,***

we give you thanks and praise for your gift to us of your only Son, Jesus Christ -- His birth in Bethlehem, His ministry throughout the Holy Land, His death on the Cross and His Resurrection and Ascension. He came to redeem this land and the world. He came as the Prince of Peace.

We give thanks to you for every church and parish around the world that is praying with us this day for peace. Our Holy City and our land are much in need of peace.

In your immeasurable mystery and love for all, let the power of your Redemption and your Peace transcend all barriers of cultures and religions and fill the hearts of all who serve you here, of both peoples - Israeli and Palestinian - and of all religions.

In the land you made holy, free us all from the sin of indifference, contempt and violence which only brings hatred and killing. Free the souls and hearts of Israelis and Palestinians. Give liberation, freedom

and dignity, to the people of Gaza who live under trials, threats and blockades. Guide the leaders in this land, purify their minds and hearts, to become true servers of their peoples. Speak your word of love for all to hear, guide us to justice in all lands, grant us power to proclaim your reign, bridge the gaps that divide and unsettle us and let your Kingdom come.

All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, barrier breaker and sharer of our humanity.

and in the power of the Holy Spirit, who prays in and with us all. Amen.

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It's time for Palestine.

It's time for Palestinians and Israelis to share a just peace.

It's time to respect human lives in the land called holy.

It's time for healing to begin in wounded souls.

It's time to end 60 years of conflict, oppression and fear.

It's time for freedom from occupation.

It's time for equal rights.

It's time to stop discrimination, segregation and restrictions on movement.

It's time for those who put up walls and fences to build them on their own property.

It's time to stop bulldozing one community's homes and building homes for the other community on land that is not theirs.

It's time to do away with double standards.

It's time for Israeli citizens to have security and secure borders agreed with their neighbours.

It's time for the international community to implement 60 years of United Nations resolutions.

It's time for Israel's government to complete the bargain offered in the Arab Peace Initiative.

It's time for those who represent the Palestinian people to all be involved in making peace.

It's time for people who have been refugees for 60 years to regain their

rights and a permanent home.

It's time to assist settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territories to make their home in Israel.

It's time for self-determination.

It's time for foreigners to visit Bethlehem and other towns imprisoned by the wall.

It's time to see settlements in their comfort and refugee camps in their despair.

It's time for people living 41 years under occupation to feel new solidarity from a watching world.

It's time to name the shame of collective punishment and to end it in all its forms.

It's time to be revolted by violence against civilians and for civilians on both sides to be safe.

It's time for both sides to release their prisoners and give those justly accused a fair trial.

It's time to reunite the people of Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

It's time for all parties to obey international humanitarian and human rights law.

It's time to share Jerusalem as the capital of two nations and a city holy to three religions.

It's time for Muslim, Jewish and Christian communities to be free to visit their holy sites.

It's time in Palestine as in Israel for olive trees to flourish and grow old.

It's time to honour all who have suffered, Palestinians and Israelis.

It's time to learn from past wrongs.

It's time to understand pent-up anger and begin to set things right.

It's time for those with blood on their hands to acknowledge what they have done.

It's time to seek forgiveness between communities and to repair a broken land together.

It's time to move forward as human beings who are all made in the image of God.

All who are able to speak truth to power must speak it.

All who would break the silence surrounding injustice must break it.

All who have something to give for peace must give it.

For Palestine, for Israel and for a troubled world,

It's time for peace.

World Council of Churches, 2010