



Week 9: Restrictions on Movement

WEEK
09 FEB. 26
TO
MAR. 4

RESTRICTIONS ON MOVEMENT

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Most farmers require special permits to reach their isolated land between the wall and Green Line.

There are 124 gates at the entrances to villages - 59 of them closed most of the time.

Sources: CPT, OCHA oPt, CWP, Who Profits, UNICEF

<http://kuminow.com/RestrictionsonMovement>

[Kumi Now](#)

[News](#)

[Get Involved](#)

[Organizations in Action](#)

[Arts and Culture](#)

[You Should Know](#)

[View in browser](#)

Dear ,

We'd like to let you know that you'll now be able to download and share this newsletter in PDF format. You can [download this week's newsletter in PDF right here](#). We'll add links

to the past newsletters on the [Newsletters page](#) of the website.

On Tuesday we had the pleasure of hearing **Badee Dwaik**, president of the **National Association of Human Rights Defenders**, **Hisham Sharabati**, coordinator of the **Hebron Defense Committee**, **Haya Abu Shekidem**, journalist and activist in the **Human Rights Defenders Association**, and **Alaa Jaber**, an activist and resident of the old city of Hebron. The replay of the session is now available [on YouTube](#) and [on our website](#). The website includes bios of the participants and all of the links shared during the gathering.

We would love it if you could share the session with your community. You could use language such as:

Israel continues to flaunt international law and human decency in its expansion of settlements in the West Bank, particularly in Hebron. Learn more about Israel's illegal settlements and the violence they cause in the latest Kumi Now gathering: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_A-2xs0HIU

As mentioned in the online gatherings, we would like to carve out time at the end of the meetings for one or more people from around the world to tell us how you are applying Kumi Now back in your community or are otherwise advocating for Palestine. The idea is to share advocacy ideas and inspiration for others. If you would like to speak for up to 5 minutes in a future meeting, please [email us](#) at kumi@kuminow.com.



March 1st is [Zero Discrimination Day](#). The day aims to promote equality before the law and in practice throughout all of the member countries of the UN. This week we look at the discrimination that Palestinians face as their regular trips to work, the store, or to visit family are daily reminders of Israel's unequal policies. So let's move on to information on our next Kumi Now online gathering:

March 2: Week 9 - Restrictions on Movement

[Read the full entry online.](#)

This week we observe March 1 as Zero Discrimination Day. For Palestinians faced with the daily humiliations and delays caused by the checkpoints, we must shed light on the restrictions of movement for Palestinians

WEEK
09

**RESTRICTIONS ON
MOVEMENT**

featuring
Tarteel Junidi of
Christian
Peacemaker
Teams

**KUMI
NOW
ONLINE**

**TUESDAY
MARCH 2
6PM
(GMT+2)**



within Palestine.

Our guest will be **Tarteel Junidi of Christian Peacemaker Teams**.

Time: Tuesday, March 2, at 6:00 PM East Jerusalem, Palestine time (UTC+2) That's 8am in Seattle, 10am in Chicago, 11am in New York/Toronto, 4pm in London, and 11pm in Manila.

Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/94679502800> (The meetings require a simple registration now, but it only takes a second.)

Remember, if you'd like to receive a reminder about the gathering an hour before it begins, please use the [registration form at the bottom of the page](#).

And here's what we have coming up in March so you can plan ahead and decide how you want to be a part of Kumi Now:

KUMI NOW ONLINE: MARCH, 2021

Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13
				
March 2	March 9	March 16	March 23	March 30
<i>Restrictions on Movement</i>	<i>Women in Peacebuilding</i>	<i>Olive Trees</i>	<i>Natural Resources</i>	<i>Conditions in Gaza</i>

EVERY TUESDAY | 6PM PALESTINE TIME | KUMINOW.COM

Coming up in Kumi Now

Each week below will have an online gathering with a guest or guests speaking on the topic. The time and Zoom link will be the same each week.

The weekly newsletter will always contain reminders of the upcoming online gatherings and the Zoom link. But if you're like me and need a reminder right before the sessions begin, you can [register to receive a reminder email one hour prior to each online gathering](#). And no more digging through your inbox looking for the Zoom link! Just [use the registration form at the bottom of the page](#).

March 9: Week 10 - Women in Peacebuilding

[Read the full entry online.](#)

In other weeks of the year we document the hardships that women have had to bear due to the occupation. However, as the world celebrates International Women's Day on March 8, we want to highlight the roles that women play in nonviolent resistance and the growing



opportunities available to them in spite of the occupation.

For the Kumi Action we will write short profiles of seven strong Palestinian women and share them with you. You will take these profiles and post them, one per day, on social media, or print them out and post them someplace others can see them.



March 16: Week 11 - Olive Trees

[Read the full entry online.](#)

This week we will look at how Palestinians in the occupied territory face rampant destruction of their olive trees and livelihoods. As more trees are uprooted and burned by settlers and Israeli occupation forces, brave farmers work to replant and undo the damage. However, their resources are stretched thin and livelihoods and traditions are at stake.

For our Kumi Action we will continue our support of Palestinian olive tree planting initiatives and spread information about the recent widespread destruction of olive trees.



March 23: Week 12 - Natural Resources

[Read the full entry online.](#)

This week, as the United Nations and the world observe World Water Day on March 22, we will focus on environmental exploitation. The West Bank is rich in natural resources. However, due to Israel's occupation and control over the occupied Palestinian territory, access to and use of Palestinians' natural resources is obstructed. Rampant throughout the occupied territory, this practice is at its worst around the Dead Sea, where Israel exploits the land for its water and minerals.

For the Kumi Action we will spread information about AHAVA's illegal exploitation of Dead Sea resources.

March 30: Week 13 - Conditions in Gaza

[Read the full entry online.](#)

On March 30 Palestinians celebrate Land Day, a commemoration of the first Palestinian general strike, in 1976, against land confiscation in Israel. On the same date in 2018, Palestinians in the Gaza Strip launched the Great March of Return to protest the blockade of Gaza and demand the right to return to their lands. This



week, the Kumi Now community stands in solidarity with the citizens of Gaza as we focus on the blockade.

For our Kumi Action we will "check in" to Gaza on social media and share videos and other resources on Gaza with others.

Kumi Now

WEEK
09
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RESTRICTIONS ON MOVEMENT

Just the facts...

Under international law, Israel has the obligation to facilitate the free movement of Palestinians within the oPt.

10% of women are delayed at checkpoints while travelling to hospital to give birth.

Over 400 kilometres of roads are prohibited or restricted for Palestinian vehicles.

Women are delayed for hours (often without food/water), endure verbal or physical abuse, stripped semi-naked, slapped, and worse.

Most farmers require special permits to reach their land isolated between the wall and the Green Line.

Checkpoints make it difficult or impossible to transport tools/materials, slowing repairs and the building of infrastructure.

About 88,000 Palestinians are forced to use detours, two to five times longer, to reach the closest city.

The permit regime, wall, and checkpoints isolate East Jerusalem from the rest of the West Bank.

There are 124 gates at the entrances to villages – 59 of them closed most of the time.

From 2000 and 2005, 67 women were forced to give birth at Israeli military checkpoints. 36 babies died.

5,587 flying (temporary) checkpoints were counted on West Bank roads in 2016.

Sources: CPT, OCHA oPt, Visualizing Palestine, CWP, Who Profits, UNICEF

<http://kuminow.com/RestrictionsonMovement>

Please note: To match the dates in the book, we will now be posting a new entry each Friday, and this newsletter should go out each Friday or Saturday.

Sharing and publicizing: The graphics in this newsletter are designed to be the perfect size and shape to share to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. So each week you can help the cause simply by sharing these images online. It's one more option you have to help.

Kumi Week #9: Restrictions on Movement

Week 9 of Kumi Now is now available [on the website](#). The checkpoints throughout the occupied Palestinian territory control and choke the lives of Palestinians. In 2014, UNAIDS declared March 1 as Zero Discrimination Day. Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of UNAIDS, stated in 2019 that, "Laws must protect, not cause harm. All countries must carefully examine their laws and policies in order to ensure equality and protection for all people, without exception." For Palestinians faced with the daily humiliations and delays caused by the checkpoints, we must shed light on the restrictions of movement for Palestinians within Palestine. Here's what you need to know and what you can do so that together we can *rise up*.

Please read the essay on this issue and the story of Hassan, a school principal. And here are a few more facts for you:



Understanding Settlements and Violence: Just the Facts...

- In 2016, Israeli forces deployed an average of 107 adhoc 'flying' checkpoints along West Bank roads each week.
- Between 2000 and 2005, 67 Palestinian mothers were forced to give birth at Israeli military checkpoints. 36 babies died.
- A total of 5,587 flying (temporary) checkpoints were counted on West Bank roads in 2016.
- There are 124 gates at the entrances to villages – 59 of them closed most of the time.
- About 88,000 Palestinians are forced to use detours, two to five times longer, to reach the closest city.
- Most Palestinian farmers must obtain special permits or 'prior coordination' to reach their land isolated between the wall and the Green Line.
- Over 400 kilometres of roads are prohibited or highly restricted for Palestinian-plated vehicles.
- Under international law, Israel has the obligation to facilitate the free movement of Palestinians within the oPt, including East Jerusalem.
- The permit regime, wall, and checkpoints have progressively isolated East Jerusalem from the rest of the West Bank.
- 10 percent of pregnant women are delayed at checkpoints while travelling to hospital to give birth.
- In Hebron, Palestinian children living and/or studying in schools in the Old City must walk through up to four Israeli military checkpoints just to reach school.
- Palestinian women passing through the checkpoint system are subjected physical hardship and the constant risk of harassment.
- Palestinian women are delayed for hours (often without food/water), endure verbal or physical abuse, stripped semi-naked, slapped, and worse.
- Checkpoints make it difficult or impossible to transport tools and work materials throughout different areas of occupied al-Khalil, slowing or preventing repairs and the building of infrastructure.

These facts are drawn from the following reports and sources:

- ["Movement and access in the West Bank"](#) from **OCHA oPt**.
- The ["Checkpoint Births"](#) infographic from **Visualizing Palestine**.
- ["Children of the State of Palestine"](#) from **UNICEF**.

- [“The gendered aspect of Israeli checkpoints in the OPT”](#) from **Coalition of Women for Peace** and **Who Profits from the Occupation**.
- And the [Kumi Now entry](#) from **Christian Peacemaker Teams**.

Learning More

To learn more, you should watch:

- **Kalandia: A Checkpoint Story**, available on [on YouTube](#).
- Rent or buy the documentary **Checkpoint** by Yoav Shamir [on Vimeo](#).
- There is also a short film called **The Present** from [filmmaker Farah Nabulsi](#), that you should try to watch. It has just been [shortlisted for an Academy Award](#). You can see [a trailer](#) on the film's website and take a look at the film's [list of festival screenings](#).

To go deeper, we have an extensive list of [Additional Resources](#) at the bottom of this week's entry and we're developing a [YouTube playlist](#) on the subject.

Once you understand the situation you'll want to get involved. Here's the Kumi Action for this week:

Kumi Action



Every time you go through a door or cross the street, wait for a minute to try to better understand what it is like to not have the freedom of movement like many Palestinians. If walking with someone, share the 'why' behind your waiting: checkpoints prevent many Palestinians from freely moving around. Write about the importance of freedom of movement on social media alongside a picture of one of the military checkpoints. Include a link to [this page of the Kumi Now website](#) along with the hashtags #HumanRights, #KumiNow, and #Kumi9.

News

Important news going on in Palestine, Israel, and the diaspora, from trusted sources of news.

News

- An Israeli plan to send COVID-19 vaccines to Syria, Honduras, the Czech Republic, and Guatemala, but not Palestine, was at least temporarily held up by Israeli courts. ([Mondoweiss](#))
- Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh announced a new set of restrictions in response to a recent surge in coronavirus infections. ([WAFA](#))
- Speaking of discriminatory restrictions on movement, Israeli occupation forces on Friday placed military barricades at the entrances of the Old City, obstructing Palestinian worshippers from reaching Al-Aqsa Mosque. ([Palestine Chronicle](#))
- Representatives from Palestine and Egypt signed an agreement to develop the

- Gaza Marine field for natural gas production. ([Palestine Chronicle](#))
- On Friday, Palestinians in Hebron marked the 27th anniversary of the horrific Ibrahimi Mosque massacre. But they were prevented by Israeli authorities from performing the calls-to-prayer on the pretext that Jewish settlers, who took over half of the mosque and turned it into a synagogue following the 1994 massacre, were celebrating the holiday of Purim. ([IMEMC](#))

Opinion and Analysis

- **Al-Shabaka** has an in-depth "[Focus On: Palestinian Political Leadership](#)".
- A forensic investigation by **Forensic Architects** casts doubt on Israeli forces' story of a car crash at a West Bank checkpoint that led to the killing of Ahmad Erekat. You can [find there investigation here](#). You can [read coverage](#) from **+972 Magazine** and [listen to their podcast episode](#) about it. **Electronic Intifada** also has an [extensive article](#).

Publications

- **Washington Report on Middle East Affairs** has released their [March/April 2021 issue](#).
- **This Week in Palestine** has released their [February 2021 issue](#), focused on "Palestine in the Nineteenth Century".
- **The Instiute for Palestine Studies** has released the [newest issue](#) of the *Journal of Palestine Studies*.
- **The Institute for Palestine Studies** has released the [Winter 2020 edition](#) of *Jerusalem Quarterly*. You can [download the PDF edition](#) for free. It is part 2 of a "Home and House" theme. You can find the [first issue here](#).

Get Involved

Updates on how Kumi Now partner organizations and other organizations are engaging in the struggle for Palestinian human rights and equality, and ways that you can help.

This Week

- **Tuesday, March 2:** Join us for the latest **Kumi Now** online gathering. Information is near the beginning of the newsletter.
- **Thursday, March 4:** The **Mondoweiss Book Club** hosting a discussion with Zaina Arafat, the author of the lastest book club selection, *You Exist Too Much* at 6pm Eastern, 1am Palestine time. [Register here](#).
- **Friday, March 5:** Join the **Mideast Focus Ministry Film Series** to watch and discuss *East Jerusalem | West Jersusalem*. To get a link to watch the film at your convenience, send a message to seattlemideastfocus@gmail.com. You will get the link around 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3 and have until 8 p.m. on Friday, March 5, to watch the film. Watch the film on your own and join the discussion on February 19 at 8 p.m. Pacific time using [this Zoom link](#).

Future

- **April 18 and 19: J Street** will host its annual virtual conference. [Registration is now open](#).

Ongoing Campaigns

- **Palestine Solidarity Campaign** writes that "Facebook is currently deciding whether to change its hate speech policy in a way that will fundamentally undermine your ability to talk about Israel on its platform. The social media giant is considering restricting the use of the word "Zionist" by equating it to the words "Jew" or "Israeli," making it a protected category. This means Palestinians talking about their experiences of living under apartheid could have their posts blocked, and labelled as hate speech. We must defend the right to openly criticise Israel, and prevent Palestinian voices being censored." You can go sign the [Jewish](#)

[Voices for Peace petition.](#)

- Khan Al Ahmar Needs help - again. The far-right NGO Regavim is at it again, seeking the immediate destruction of the village and its school. [UNJPPI has more details](#) and what you can do to help through Jahalin Solidarity.
- **Amos Trust** released the music video "[Protection — Gaza](#)" as part of their [Christmas campaign and appeal](#) to raise funds to support the [Near East Council of Churches \(NECC\)'s programs in Gaza](#).
- **Independent Jewish Voices Canada (IJV)** has started the [#NoIHRA campaign and website](#), opposing the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Working Definition of Antisemitism (IHRA-WDA), which is designed to silence criticism of Israel and of Zionism by equating this criticism with antisemitism.
- Join **Samidoun, the Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network**, by joining the growing [campaign to free imprisoned Palestinian feminist leader Khitam Saafin](#). In particular, there is a social media storm happening right now using the hashtag #FreeKhitamSaafin.

Organizations in Action

Kumi Partners

Updates on how Kumi Now partner organizations are engaging in the struggle for Palestinian human rights and equality.

- **FOSNA** hosted "[Facebook, we need to talk about Christian Zionism](#)".
- **PCHR** released their [Weekly Report on Israeli Human Rights Violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory \(18-24 February 2021\)](#).
- **Sabeel** released the [Wave of Prayer for the week of February 25](#).

Other Organizations

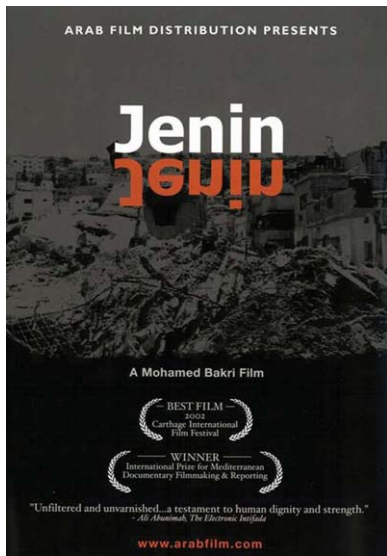
Updates, reports, and actions from the United Nations, governments, and other international organizations that relate to Palestine.

- **Al-Shabaka** released a new episode of their podcast, "[Palestinian Digital Rights: Crackdowns & Corporate Complicity with Amal Nazzal](#)".
- **Foundation for Middle East Peace** published its [Settlement & Annexation Report: February 25, 2021](#).
- **Harvard Divinity School** hosted "[What's New About the New B'Tselem Report: A Moment of Moral Clarity](#)" with Sam Bahour, Diana Buttu, Hagai El-Ad, and Orly Noy.
- **Mondoweiss** released their [latest podcast](#), with Ahmad Abuznaid, executive director of the US Campaign for Palestinian Rights.
- **OCHA oPt** published a [Flash Update #5 on Humsa al Bqai'a](#).
- **WHO** published their [Health Access report for January 2021](#).
- Experts from the **UN** [published a statement](#) urging Israel to respect international obligations, specifically addressing the case of Issa Amro.
- **UN** published the [NGO Action News 25 February 2021](#).
- **Yeah Din** [released a position paper](#) on the possible ICC investigation.

Arts and Culture

Recent and not-so-recent films, books, music, and other arts related to Palestine, as well as news about festivals and other events

Jenin, Jenin



Jenin, Jenin is the 2002 documentary by Arab Israeli filmmaker Mohammed Bakri that tells Palestinians' perspective on the [Battle of Jenin](#). The film was [recently banned from screening in Israel](#). The **Palestine Film Institute** has made it free to watch on Vimeo. You can [read more about the controversy](#) around the film and [watch to decide for yourself](#).

You Should Know

One or two people, companies, or organizations you should know, and how you can follow them online.



+972 Magazine

Continuing our profiling of major news sources on Palestine and Israel, this week we turn our attention to **+972 Magazine**.

+972 Magazine is an English-language Israeli news organization founded in 2010 in Tel Aviv and targeted at an international audience. Contrary to what its name implies, it isn't really a magazine in a traditional sense. Instead, it's built around its [website](#), [podcast](#), and [newsletter](#).

You can follow +972 Magazine on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). They're also on [YouTube](#), although they aren't really a video news organization.

What's Next

We hope to see you in the online gathering on Tuesday, after which you'll receive another newsletter next Friday/Saturday, focused on our next issue, [Women in Peacebuilding](#). As always, there is more to come!

Sincerely,

The Kumi Now Team

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