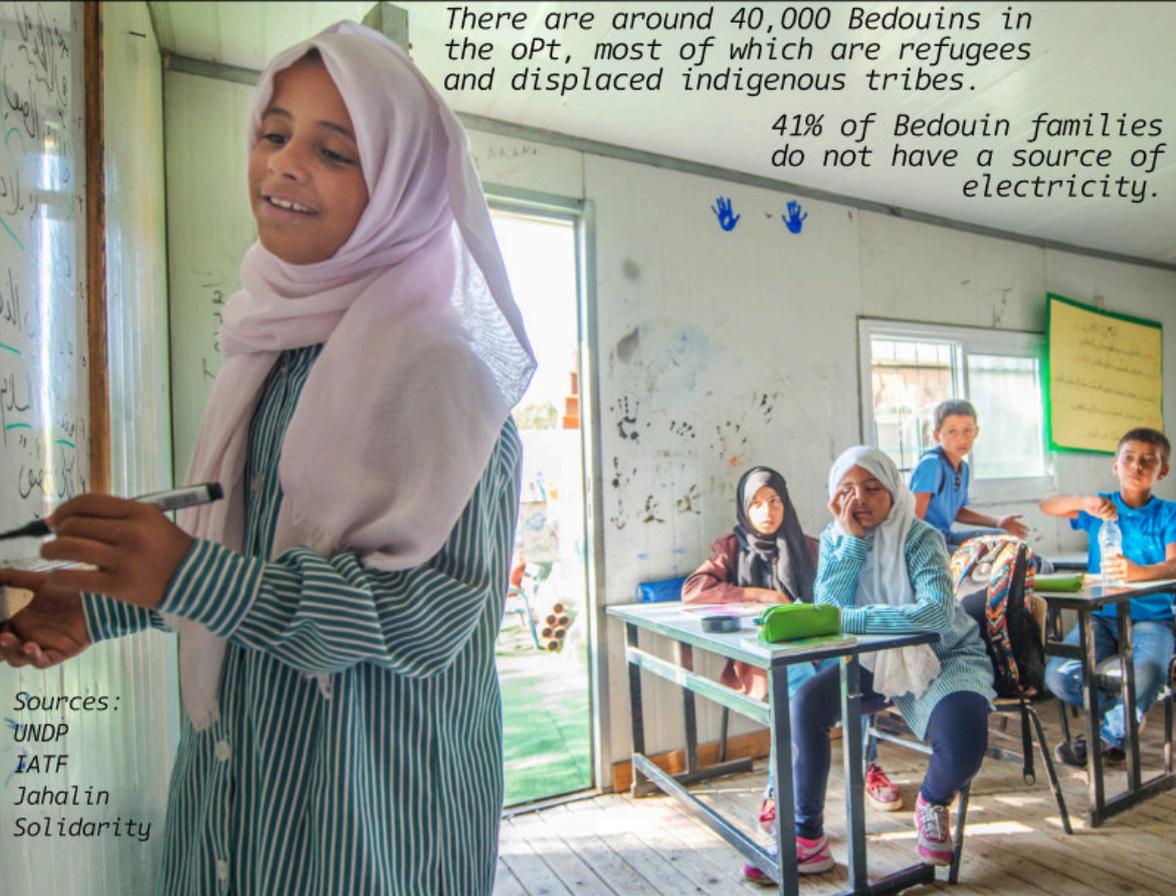


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Week 39: Bedouin Rights

WEEK 39 SEP 24 TO SEP 30 **BEDOUIN RIGHTS**



There are around 40,000 Bedouins in the oPt, most of which are refugees and displaced indigenous tribes.

41% of Bedouin families do not have a source of electricity.

Sources:
UNDP
IATF
Jahalin
Solidarity

<http://kuminow.com/BedouinRights>

[Next Online
Gathering](#)

[This
Week's
Entry](#)

[You
Should
Know](#)

[Upcoming
Weeks](#)

[You Should
Watch or Read](#)

Dear Kumi Now supporter,

On Tuesday **Dr. Bolos Swilem** of Gaza spoke about the toll the neverending Israeli blockade of Gaza is having on the land and its people. The replay of the session is now available on [YouTube](#) and on [our website](#). The website includes the advocacy instructions and links shared during the gathering.

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

Last week we learned about the neverending Israeli blockade of Gaza and the toll it takes on the innocent citizens of Gaza. Our guest was Dr. Bolos Swilem of Gaza. Learn more in the latest Kumi Now online gathering. <https://youtu.be/EINV6W7IKvM>



In September 2011, Israel adopted the [Praver Plan](#). One of its goals was to relocate 40,000 to 70,000 Negev Bedouin from their chosen homes to government-mandated lands. While there have been challenges and protests against it, the Praver Plan continues in practice through a variety of policies and actions designed to force Bedouin from their lands.

Next Online Gathering

WEEK 39	BEDOUIN RIGHTS
 KUMI NOW ONLINE	TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 28 6PM (UTC+3)
 	featuring Khalil Al Amour of RCUV

September 28: Week 39 - Bedouin Rights

[Full information on the gathering is here.](#)

Refugee Bedouin communities in Palestine and Israel have experienced decades of home demolitions and forcible transfers along with virtually non-existent services. In September 2011, Israel adopted the Praver Plan. One of its goals was to relocate 40,000 to 70,000 Negev Bedouin from their chosen homes to government-mandated lands.

We will be joined by **Khalil Al Amour** of the **Regional Council of Unrecognized Villages**.

Time: Tuesday, September 28, at 6:00pm East Jerusalem, Palestine time (UTC+3) That's...

- Pacific (Seattle/Vancouver): 8am
- Central (Chicago): 10am
- Eastern (New York/Toronto): 11am
- Atlantic: 12pm
- Newfoundland: 12:30pm
- Greenwich (London): 4pm
- Central Europe (Paris/Stockholm): 5pm

- South Africa: 5pm
- Manila: 11pm
- Sydney: 1am (+1 Day)
- Auckland: 3am (+1 Day)

Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/94679502800> (There might be a quick registration form, and please set an alarm for yourself for Tuesday.)

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](#).

This Week's Kumi Now Entry

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 #39: Bedouin Rights

Week 39 of Kumi Now is now available [on the website](#). In Israel the Bedouin are a minority group often singled out by Israel for harassment. Israel's failure to understand the traditional nomadic Bedouin lifestyle and efforts to get them to settle in permanent villages and integrate into mainstream Israeli society—while at the same time coveting Bedouin land for use by the state and Jewish Israelis—eerily mirror American mistreatment of Native American tribes as they were forced onto reservations and their land was used for European settlers and fortune seekers.

Please read the essay on this issue and the story of Nisreen, a student at Al Khan al-Ahmar school. And here are some facts for you:

Just the facts...

There are around 40,000 Bedouins in the oPt, most of which are refugees and displaced indigenous tribes.

55 to 79% are food insecure. Some spend 60% of household income on food expenditures.

There are around 5,000 Bedouin families in the oPt as well as 5,000 Bedouin and herder families.

41% of Bedouin families do not have a source of electricity.

In Area 'C', only 225,000 dunums are available for the grazing of sheep and goats.

For years the Civil Administration has pursued an expulsion plan against Bedouin communities.

Israeli settlers in the Jordan valley use nearly 25 times as much water as the nearby Bedouin communities.

Israel has been threatening to destroy the school at Al Khan al-Ahmar since 2009 and threatening forcible relocation of the village since 2012.

Bedouin communities comprise three confederations linking 92 tribes.

Rahat, the only Bedouin city (population over 65,000) is the poorest in Israel.

Negev Bedouins, approximately 250,000 people, are the poorest population in Israel.

Sources: UNDP, IATF, Jahalin Solidarity

<http://kuminow.com/BedouinRights>

Understanding Bedouin Rights: Just the Facts...

- There are around 40,000 Bedouins in the oPt, most of which are refugees and displaced indigenous tribes.
- 55 to 79% are food insecure. Some spend 60% of household income on food expenditures.
- There are around 5,000 Bedouin families in the oPt as well as 5,000 Bedouin and herder families.
- 41% of Bedouin families do not have a source of electricity.
- In Area 'C', only 225,000 dunums are available for the grazing of sheep and goats.
- For years the Civil Administration has pursued an expulsion plan against Bedouin communities.
- Israeli settlers in the Jordan valley use nearly 25 times as much water as the nearby Bedouin communities.
- Israel has been threatening to destroy the school at Al Khan al-Ahmar since 2009 and threatening forcible relocation of the village since 2012.
- Rahat, the only Bedouin city (population over 65,000), is the poorest in Israel.
- Negev Bedouins, approximately 250,000 people, are the poorest population in Israel.
- Bedouin communities comprise three confederations linking 92 tribes.

Sources

- ["INFOCUS: Bedouins in the occupied Palestinian territory"](#) from **UNDP**
- ["FACT SHEET: Arab Citizens of Israel"](#) from the **Inter Agency Task Force on**

Israeli Arab Issues (IATF)

- [“Welcome to Khan Al-Ahmar”](#) from **Jahalin Solidarity**

Learning More

To learn more about the Bedouin of Palestine and Israel we suggest you read the **IATF's** ["The Issue: Negev Bedouin"](#). And you can watch ["High Hopes"](#) from **Guy Davidi** and **Jahalin Solidarity**.

To go deeper, we will be developing an extensive list of [Additional Resources](#) at the bottom of this week's entry as well as 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



Smuggle a sheep to Israel! Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Alon Schuster needs to know that the Bedouin people should be free to control their own communities. You can send a picture of a sheep (or goat or camel) to Alon Schuster. You can draw a sheep, or find a photo on the internet. Get creative and write a message on your picture such as the phrase, “If you really want to respect the Bedouin people, their lands, traditions, and communities, abandon the Praver Plan!”

You can send it via fax at +972 03-9485835 or via email at aschuster@knesset.gov.il and moked.sherut@moag.gov.il. Or you can even chat with a member of the office [online](#). Next, share the picture you sent on Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram and encourage others to carry out the same action. Include a link to [this page](#) of the Kumi Now website along with the hashtags [#AbandonthePraverPlan](#), [#KumiNow](#), and [#Kumi39](#).

You Should Know

One or two people, companies, or organizations generally related to the issue of the week you should know, and how you can follow them online.

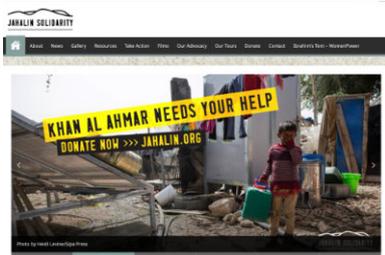


Adalah: The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel

Adalah (Justice in Arabic) is an independent human rights organization and legal center. Adalah's mission is to promote human rights in Israel in general and the

rights of the Palestinian minority (20% of the population), in particular. This work includes promoting and defending the human rights of all individuals under the control of Israel, including Palestinian residents of the occupied Palestinian territory.

You can find Adalah on their [website](#) and follow them on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#). And you can read their Kumi Now [entry](#).



Jahalin Solidarity

Jahalin Solidarity is a Palestinian non-profit which aims to develop and work with Palestinian society (especially Bedouin, but also others in Area C and East Jerusalem) targeted for transfer and forcible displacement. As such, Jahalin Solidarity represents an initiative of civil society dedicated to protecting the rights of Bedouin and other Palestinians living under occupation, especially those living in a coercive environment of ongoing demolitions and imminent forced eviction by the Israeli military authorities. Jahalin Solidarity works in solidarity with Bedouin and other Palestinian civil society to support their struggle to stay where they have lived for the past 60+ years in the Jerusalem periphery or elsewhere, to uphold the Palestinian Right of Return, and end the Israeli occupation.

You can find Jahalin Solidarity on their website and follow them on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#). You can find the original Kumi Now entry from Jahalin Solidarity [here](#).



Regional Council of Unrecognized Villages

Founded in 1997, the **Regional Council of the Palestinian Bedouin Unrecognized Villages (RCUV)** is a community non-governmental organization which represents the residents of the 45 unrecognized villages in the Naqab, Israel. These villages have a total population of 74,000 inhabitants and each range in size from 500 to almost 5,000 residents. They are deprived of their municipal services and political representation and are constantly threatened with mass transfer and segregation by the State of Israel. A majority of the other 45% of the Bedouin community in the Naqab is Internally Displaced. The purpose of the RCUV is to represent these communities and create awareness of their collective demands from the State of Israel.

You can find RCUV on [Facebook](#). You can also read their original [Kumi Now entry](#).

Upcoming Weeks

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

KUMI NOW ONLINE: OCTOBER, 2021

Week 40	Week 41	Week 42	Week 43
			
October 5 <i>Nonviolence in Palestine</i>	October 12 <i>Mental Health</i>	October 19 <i>Profiting from Occupation</i>	October 26 <i>Women in Conflict</i>

EVERY TUESDAY | 6PM PALESTINE TIME | KUMINOW.COM

Each week below will have an online gathering with a guest or guests speaking on the topic. The time and Zoom link are 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](#).



October 5: Week 40 - Nonviolence in Palestine

[Read the full entry online.](#)

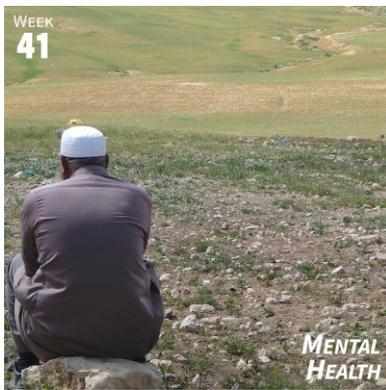
October 2 is the International Day of Non-Violence, celebrated annually by the United Nations on the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. Dedicated to teaching “the universal relevance of the principle of non-violence” and working “to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence,” it is an international holiday that is dear to the Kumi Now community. This week, we look at the organizations and individuals working on all sides of the conflict in Palestine and Israel to bring a just solution through nonviolence.

For our Kumi Action we will do some self promotion, finding ways to share Kumi Now and the message of nonviolence with others.

October 12: Week 41 - Mental Health

[Read the full entry online.](#)

Mental health is too often a taboo subject even in the healthiest of societies. But in societies torn apart by violence or affected by constant hardship mental health



can become an even more difficult subject to address. World Mental Health Day, celebrated on October 10, was founded by the World Federation of Mental Health to raise awareness of mental health issues around the globe and direct resources where they are needed. One such area is Palestine, where the constant use of tear gas, night raids, checkpoints, and other forms of psychological warfare take their toll in the West Bank and the combined injustices of the blockade of have created a society on the brink of crisis in Gaza.

For our Kumi Action we will inform mental health workers around the globe of the mental health crisis in Palestine.



October 19: Week 42 - Profiting from Occupation

[Read the full entry online.](#)

Every week, hundreds of companies and corporations are profiting off the occupation. Sadly, these profits are at the cost of the rights and livelihoods of the Palestinian people. On October 21, 2003 the United Nations condemned the Israeli Apartheid Wall, demanding “that Israel stop and reverse the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.” Building of that wall continues, and it is just one way that outside corporations are directly profiting off the occupation, aiding in its construction and flocking to the industrial zones and settlements it enables.

For our Kumi Action we will make acronyms out of the names of companies profiting from the occupation.



October 26: Week 43 - Women in Conflict

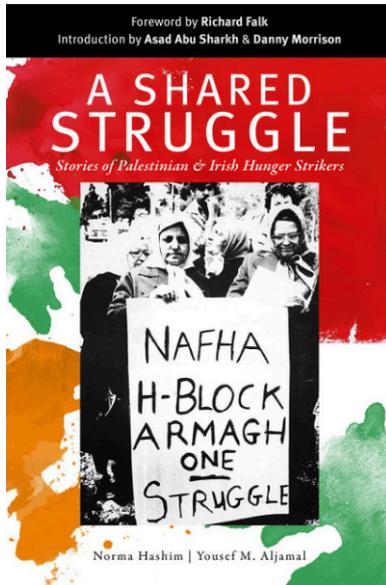
[Read the full entry online.](#)

There is a twisted irony at the intersection of war and gender: war is almost always declared and fought by men. But it is women and children that suffer much of the violence. The end of war is no different: men negotiate treaties, while the voices, needs, and expertise of women are ignored. In reality, however, women, and by extension children, bear unbelievable levels of violence and harm, especially in refugee camps, military occupations, and the ongoing crisis in Gaza.

For our Kumi Action we will hold our own vigils or contact women's organizations to see how they can help the struggle of Palestinian women.

You Should Watch or Read...

One (or maybe two) recent or not-so-recent film, book, video, article, or other piece of art that you should consider reading or watching this week. Have a recommendation? Let us know.



A Shared Struggle: Stories of Palestinians & Irish Hunger Strikers

A Shared Struggle: Stories of Palestinians & Irish Hunger Strikers by Norma Hashim and Yousef M. Aljamal was just published in August and looks at the similar histories of Ireland and Palestine and the nonviolent actions used against occupation. You can learn more about the book on the [publisher's website](#) and read a [review of it at Mondoweiss](#). And of course, you can purchase it from your favorite independent bookseller.

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 topic, [Nonviolence in Palestine](#). As always, there is more to come!

Sincerely,

The Kumi Now Team

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kumi@kuminow.com



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