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Week 40: Nonviolence in Palestine

WEEK 40 OCT. 1 TO OCT. 7 **NONVIOLENCE IN PALESTINE**



PRINCIPLE ONE:
Nonviolence is a way of life for courageous people.

PRINCIPLE TWO:
Nonviolence seeks to win friendship and understanding.

PRINCIPLE THREE:
Nonviolence seeks to defeat injustice not people.

PRINCIPLE FOUR:
Nonviolence holds that suffering for a cause can educate and transform people and societies.

PRINCIPLE FIVE:
Nonviolence chooses love instead of hate.

PRINCIPLE SIX:
Nonviolence believes that the universe is on the side of justice.

Source: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

<http://kuminow.com/Nonviolence>

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[You Should Watch or Read](#)

Dear Kumi Now supporter,

On Tuesday **Khalil Al Amour** of the **Regional Council of Unrecognized Villages** spoke about the Bedouin villages in Israel and the government's denial of their rights. 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. The slides of his presentation are [available as a PDF](#).

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 Israeli government's denial of the existence and rights of the Bedouin villages. Our guest was Khalil Al Amour of the Regional Council of Unrecognized Villages. Learn more in the latest Kumi Now online gathering.
<https://youtu.be/BQ9KuQmx-vk>

During the webinar, the importance of indigenous rights and connections between indigenous peoples was discussed. The **Native Land** map is one of the primary resources on the internet for people to understand the lands of indigenous populations. However, it does NOT include Palestinians or Bedouins. We emailed them once and were given a noncommittal answer about future updates. We encourage you to [use the contact form](#) and insist that Bedouin and Palestinian lands be added to the map.

Next, prior to the webinar we showed a short video from the **Stop the War Coalition** project called "War on the Wall". It is a collaboration between artist **Taqi Spateen** and filmmaker **Bilal Alkhatib**. It is a work of art that commemorates Stop the War and the life of their former president, Tony Benn. In the piece, Taqi memorialises the words of Tony Benn on Bethlehem's apartheid wall, just ten metres away from Banksy's Walled Off Hotel. People really liked it. However, for reasons unknown both versions of the video have been removed from YouTube. We had downloaded a copy and it is available, at least for awhile, [here](#).

Finally, during the webinar, **Josef Avesar**, the president of an organization called the **Israeli Palestinian Confederation**, invited us all to the Israeli Palestinian Zoom simulation with Cornel West this Sunday, October 3. It is at 7:00pm Palestine time (5pm London, 12pm New York) and space is limited. Register [here](#).



Today is the [International Day of Non-Violence](#). It is observed each October 2, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence.

According to the U.N. General Assembly, the day is an occasion to "disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness". The resolution reaffirms "the universal relevance of the principle of non-violence" and the

desire “to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence.”

Next Online Gathering

WEEK
40
**NONVIOLENCE IN
PALESTINE**

**TUESDAY
OCTOBER 5
6PM
(UTC+3)**

featuring
Cody O'Rourke
of Good Shepherd
Collective and
Badia Dweik of
Human Rights
Defenders

**DEFUND
RACISM**

**JUSTICE
FOR
PALESTINE**

**KUMI
NOW
ONLINE**

October 5: Week 40 - Nonviolence in Palestine

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

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.

We will be joined by **Badia Dweik** of **Human Rights Defenders** and **Cody O'Rourke** of the **Good Shepherd Collective**.

Time: Tuesday, October 5, 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 #40: Nonviolence in Palestine

Week 40 of Kumi Now is now available [on the website](#). In “[Why Nonviolence?](#)” we discussed how each and every one of us can choose to take up nonviolent resistance to Israel’s occupation of Palestine and explain why it is the effective and ethical thing to do, and how nonviolent resistance is enshrined in international law.

But we want to make clear that nonviolent resistance is not new to Palestine. It is not something that Palestinians need to be taught. For Palestine has a deep and rich history of nonviolent protests and organization. Yet the world has an image of Palestinians that focuses on rockets, suicide bombings, and stabbings. This false image is a result of (a) concerted efforts by Israel to paint a false narrative of Palestinian resistance and (b) how quickly the world’s collective memory forgets Palestine’s nonviolent past and (c) lack of media coverage of current nonviolent resistance efforts.

Please read the essay on this issue and the story of Aya Bsheer, a resident of Gaza. And here are some facts for you:

WEEK
40

OCT. 1
TO
OCT. 7

NONVIOLENCE IN PALESTINE

Just the facts. MLK's principles of nonviolence...

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Sources: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

<http://kuminow.com/Nonviolence>

Understanding Nonviolence in Palestine: Just the Facts. MLK's principles of nonviolence...

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Source

- Dr. Martin Luther King's principles of nonviolence were outlined in his first book, *Stride Toward Freedom* and are available in "[The King Philosophy – Nonviolence365](#)" from the **King Center**.

Learning More

- To learn more about nonviolence in general we suggest you read *How Nonviolent Struggle Works* by **Gene Sharp**, [available for free](#) from the **Albert Einstein Institution** and [Why Civil Resistance Works: The Strategic Logic of Nonviolent Conflict](#) by **Erica Chenoweth and Maria Stephan**.
- To learn about nonviolence in Palestine you should read [Popular Resistance in Palestine: A History of Hope and Empowerment](#) by **Mazin B. Qumsiyeh** and watch the [interview with him](#) from the **International Center on Nonviolent Conflict**.

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



It is time to do some self-promotion! Find a way to promote Kumi Now by speaking about it to a friend, sharing your experience doing Kumi Now with your religious community, giving a presentation on it to a class at school, and/or posting about Kumi Now on social media. You can say something like, "I believe nonviolent action is a powerful way to resist injustice and bring peace to Palestine" and share the link to our Kumi website.

Include a link to this page of the Kumi Now website along with the hashtags #Nonviolence, #KumiNow, and #Kumi40.

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.

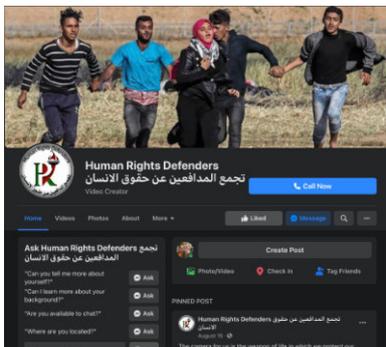
Good Shepherd Collective

The **Good Shepherd Collective** raises awareness of the violent and unjust structures operating in the Holy Land and provides educational resources and action



items to effect the broad changes that will usher in peace. They understand violence to be rooted in the systems and laws that guide civil formation and order. As such, they reject the binary discourse of “Israelis vs. Palestinians” and instead focus on the structural violence and oppression that leads to violence. They organize to change the policies and laws that underpin these structures through grassroots campaigns. In this way, they advocate for the rights of all people and seek to build broad coalitions across movements to usher in a new era of justice. Though they are centered in the South Hebron Hills, their understanding of justice demands they be active across all movements as their resources and talents allow.

You can find Good Shepherd Collective on their [website](#) and follow them on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Vimeo](#).



Human Right Defenders

Human Rights Defenders aims to document human rights violations by the Israeli occupation in Palestine. It is run out of the South Hebron Hills and is co-founded by Badia Dweik.

You can follow Human Rights Defenders on [Facebook](#) and find an article and fundraiser from Good Shepherd Collective [here](#).

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:

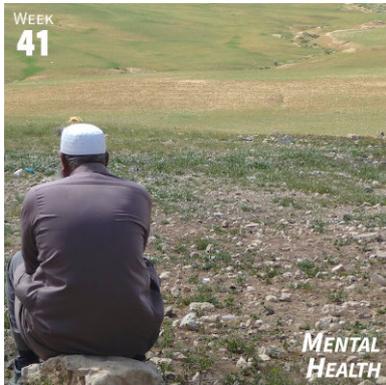
KUMI NOW ONLINE: OCTOBER, 2021

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 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

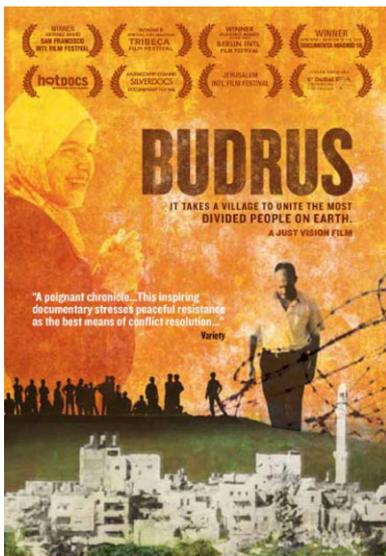


men. But it is women and children that suffer much of the violence. The end of war is no different: men negotiate treaties, while the voices, needs, and expertise of women are ignored. In reality, however, women, and by extension children, bear unbelievable levels of violence and harm, especially in 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.



Budrus

Budrus (2009, 81 minutes) is the perfect documentary to watch to go along with our theme this week. About the film:

“Budrus is an award-winning feature documentary film about Palestinian community organizer, Ayed Morrar, who unites Palestinian political factions and invites Israeli supporters to join an unarmed movement to save his village of Budrus from destruction by Israel’s Separation Barrier. Success eludes them until his 15-year-old daughter, Iltezam, launches a women’s contingent that quickly moves to the front lines. Struggling side by side, father and daughter unleash an inspiring, yet little-known, movement in the Occupied Palestinian Territories that is still gaining ground today. In an action-filled documentary chronicling this movement from its infancy, Budrus shines a light on people who choose nonviolent strategies to confront a threat.”

More information is on the [film's website](#). Depending upon your location, you should be able to watch it on the Just Vision [website](#), [Amazon](#), or [Apple TV](#) for just a couple dollars/euros/etc.

And if you sign up for the Just Vision newsletter in the box that will pop up [on the website](#) you can watch the film for free. After you submit your email address it will allow you to scroll down and when you push play on the film the entire film will play.

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, [Mental Health](#). As always, there is more to come!

Sincerely,

The Kumi Now Team

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kumi@kuminow.com



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