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## Week 47: Gender-Based Violence

**WEEK 47** NOV. 19 TO NOV. 25 **GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**

Nearly 40% of women in Gaza face domestic violence.

In Gaza, 62.1% of women and 92% of young women are unemployed.

Checkpoints are a common location of harassment and other gender-based violence by Israeli soldiers.

Calls to a helpline related to abuse and violence increased dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sources: WCLAC, UN, OCHA oPt, General Union of Palestinian Women

<http://kuminow.com/Gender-BasedViolence>

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Dear Kumi Now supporter,

On Tuesday, **Khaled Quzmar**, general director of **Defense for Children International Palestine**, spoke about the rights of children under international law and how Israel continues to violate the rights of Palestinian children. He also addressed Israel's unfounded allegations against DCIP. 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 appreciate it if you could share the session with your community or on social media. When posting or emailing, you could use text such as:

*Israel continues to ignore the rights of children under international law as it criminalizes and neglects Palestinian youth. And when organizations such as Defense for Children International Palestine speak out on these violations, they are labeled as terrorists. Last week Khaled Quzmar, general director of Defense for Children International Palestine, addressed these issues as part of our latest Kumi Now online gathering. Watch here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hvnr4L2YRZE>*



November 25 is International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Join us in speaking out against gender-based violence in all of its forms, both in Palestine and around the world, as we observe the day. You can learn more about the day [here](#) and join the United Nations official commemoration of the day on Zoom on November 24 at 10:00am Eastern time by registering [here](#). Or [watch live on YouTube](#).

## Next Online Gathering

WEEK <b>47</b>	<b>GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE</b>
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 23 6PM (UTC+2)	<b>KUMI NOW ONLINE</b> featuring Arij Daibes
	

### November 23: Week 47 - Gender-Based Violence

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

Women in the occupied Palestinian territory face persistent gender-based violence through night raids, settler violence, collective violence towards their families, humiliation and assault from occupation forces, and the restrictions of a patriarchal society. This week, the United Nations observes the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on November 25.

Our guest will be the tireless activist for Palestinian women's rights, **Arij Daibes**.

**Time:** Tuesday, November 23, at 6:00pm East Jerusalem, Palestine time (UTC+2) 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: 6pm
- Manila: 12am
- Sydney: 3am (+1 Day)
- Auckland: 5am (+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 #47: Gender-Based Violence**

Week 47 of Kumi Now is now available [on the website](#). Worldwide, the United Nations reports that 1 in 3 women and girls experience physical or sexual violence in their lifetime and concludes that, "Violence against women is as serious a cause of death and incapacity among women of reproductive age as cancer, and a greater cause of ill health than traffic accidents and malaria combined." To be clear, gender-based violence is a serious problem facing every society and country.

Thus, it is no surprise that in the occupied Palestinian territory gender-based violence is further exacerbated by the realities of the occupation. Please read the essay on this topic along with the story of Shereen, a mother of four. And here are some facts for you:

WEEK  
**47**  
NOV. 19  
TO  
NOV. 25

## GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

### Just the facts...

Roughly 1,360 night raids are conducted on Palestinians each year.

Nearly 40% of women in Gaza face domestic violence.

50% of Palestinian women and 63% of men agree a woman should tolerate violence to keep the family together.

Checkpoints are a common location of harassment and other gender-based violence by Israeli soldiers.

Women face escalating racial harassment, assaults, shootings and attempted kidnappings by extremist settlers.

Palestinian law provides limited gender equality. However, old local laws maintain the domination of patriarchal traditions in the society.

In Gaza, 62.1% of women and 92% of young women are unemployed.

The State of Palestine lacks a unified law to protect women against all forms of violence, including sexual abuse and harassment.

In the first half of 2020, 33% of the marriages registered in Shari'a Courts in the West Bank were for girls under 18.

Calls to a helpline in the oPt related to abuse and violence increased dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sources: WCLAC, UN, OCHA oPt, General Union of Palestinian Women

<http://kuminow.com/Gender-BasedViolence>

### Understanding Gender-Based Violence. Just the facts...

- Roughly 1,360 night raids are conducted on Palestinians each year.
- Nearly four in ten women in the Gaza Strip face domestic violence, mostly by their partners.
- 50 per cent of Palestinian women and 63 per cent of Palestinian men agreed that a woman should tolerate violence to keep the family together.
- In Gaza, about 3,000 displaced pregnant women suffer lack of access to basic services.
- 40,000+ pregnant women in Gaza are deprived of access to basic reproductive health services.
- In Gaza, 61% of women and 86.3% of young women are unemployed. The female labor force participation rate is 16%.
- In the West Bank and Jerusalem, 26% of women and 64.7% of young women are unemployed.
- Women face escalating racial harassment, assaults, shootings and attempted kidnappings by extremist settlers.
- Calls to a helpline in the oPt related to abuse and violence increased dramatically after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Some laws that PNA had enacted provide for limited gender equality. However, women cannot enjoy this equality because of continuing application of old local laws that maintain the domination of patriarchal traditions in the society.
- The State of Palestine lacks a unified law to protect women against all forms of violence, including sexual abuse and harassment.
- The state of Israel regularly utilizes the prevention of prisoner's visits as a punitive



measure against Palestinians.

- “Honor killings” have been more common in the last decade, becoming one of the main causes of femicide in Palestine.
- 93% of surveyed women have suffered or still suffer from verbal harassment.
- Women are legally allowed to file for divorce, but divorced women are socially blamed for their broken relationships and are considered a burden on their families.
- Married women in poor households are three times more likely to experience repeated physical violence than well-off women (29% versus 9%).

### Source

- [“Facts and Figures”](#) from **UN Women**
- [“Fact Sheet: The State of Palestine’s Women Under Occupation”](#) from the **Permanent Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations**
- [“A crisis within a crisis: fighting Gender-Based Violence \(GBV\) during COVID-19”](#) from OCHA oPt
- [“Report on the status of women and girls in the State of Palestine”](#) from the **General Union of Palestinian Women**
- [“Islamic Relief Palestine: Gender-based violence against women and girls in Gaza - Protection and Inclusion Framework”](#) from **Islamic Relief**
- [“Gender-based violence in the occupied Palestinian territory”](#) from **Bisan Center for Research and Development**

### Learning More

In addition to these reports, you can learn more by watching this [WILPF interview with Amal Abusnour](#), the director of programs for **WCLAC**, about “Palestinian Women under Prolonged Occupation”. You can then read the report, [“Palestinian Women Under Prolonged Israeli Occupation: The Gendered Impact of Occupation Violence”](#).

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



*Photo by CPT Palestine used under [CC license](#).*

Draw a picture of flowers or take a photo of flowers and send it to the U.N. Women’s office at the following address with a note asking why the U.N. is not keeping Israel accountable to United Nations Security Council (UNSC) [Resolution 1325](#). Explain that by not holding Israel accountable to international law, the U.N. is allowing violence against Palestinian women and girls. In your note, encourage the U.N. to act by fully implementing UNSC Resolution 1325 and to hold Israel accountable for its actions.

U.N. Women  
Two United Nations Plaza, 12th Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
United States

Post a picture of the flowers you shared on social media along with the message “By not holding Israel accountable to international law, the U.N. is allowing violence against Palestinian women and girls.” On Twitter you can tag U.N. Women [@UN\\_Women](#), while on Facebook it is [@unwomen](#). Include a link to [this page](#) of the Kumi Now website along with the hashtags #KumiNow and #Kumi47.

## 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.*



### Women’s Center for Legal Aid and Counselling

**The Women’s Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling (WCLAC)** is an independent Palestinian non-profit and non-governmental organization established by a small group of women in 1991. By forging a feminist vision based on the principles of gender equality and social justice, WCLAC plays a prominent role in addressing gender-based violence in Palestinian society’s public and private spheres.

The organization aims to address the causes and consequences of gender-based violence within the Palestinian community as well as gender specific effects of the prolonged military occupation. These issues are interconnected and are of equal importance. For nearly three decades, the Centre’s work has bridged the need to address discrimination and violence against women within Palestinian society, and the need to support the national struggle for freedom and independence from Israeli occupation.

As a leading defender of women’s rights in Palestine, WCLAC is proud of its uncompromising commitment to provide social and legal counselling and emergency shelter in an environment where human rights abuses are rampant and women’s issues are regularly overlooked. Furthermore, it proposes bills and law amendments, works on policy developments, and monitors and documents violations of human rights as a consequence of the conflict.

You can find WCLAC on their [website](#) and follow them on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

## Upcoming Weeks

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

## KUMI NOW ONLINE: NOVEMBER, 2021

Week 44	Week 45	Week 46	Week 47	Week 48
				
November 2 <i>Anti-Muslim and Anti-Islamic Discrimination</i>	November 9 <i>Antisemitism</i>	November 16 <i>Children's Rights</i>	November 23 <i>Gender-Based Violence</i>	November 30 <i>The Kairos Document</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](#).



### November 30: Week 48 - The Kairos Document

[Read the full entry online.](#)

In 1985, theologians around Soweto, South Africa issued the first Kairos Document. Twenty-four years later, theologians in Palestine issued a like-minded document. This week, as the world observes International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on November 29, the Kumi Now community is focusing on spreading the message of the Kairos Document, bringing Christians and non-Christians together to stand for justice and peace everywhere.

For our Kumi Action we will be reading and sharing the Kairos Palestine document.

## 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.*

### 3 Palestinian Documentaries

On Vimeo you can [rent a series of 6 films called “Curated by Andrea Luka Zimmerman”](#). The entire series costs the equivalent of U.S. \$12. Of the 6, 3 are full-length Palestinian documentaries. Information on each is listed below, however, they are only available to rent as a package of all 6 films. More information on the series is [here](#).



## **Ghost Hunting by Raed Andoni**

About the film:

“*Ghost Hunting* {1h 34min, 2017}. The figures are quite clear: since 1967, some 750,000 Palestinians have endured a stay in one of Israel’s prisons or interrogation centers—places you really don’t want to go, as filmmaker Raed Andoni makes abundantly clear in his hybrid documentary *Ghost Hunting*. For the film, he cast men who, like himself, have served time in the infamous Moscobiya Prison in West Jerusalem. He then gets them to reconstruct a whole complex from memory, down to the smallest details; it serves as a backdrop for bringing suppressed experiences to the surface. Grueling, humiliating interrogations and desperate days in chokingly small cells are reenacted by people who actually experienced them. While one man allows himself to get carried away in the role of ruthless interrogator, another is devastated by the exact reconstruction of a prison cell. Can this really be called a reconstruction, or has the torture of the past started all over again? The distinction between reality and dramatization becomes less and less clear.”

More information is available [here](#) and you can rent it as part of the [“Curated by Andrea Luka Zimmerman”](#) series. You can read an article about it [here](#).



## **Salata Baladi by Nadia Kamel**

About the film:

“*Salata Baladi* {1h 45 min 2007}. Award-winning Egyptian filmmaker Nadia Kamel’s heritage is a rich blend of cultures, languages and religions stretching across continents. Prompted by the realization that her 10-year-old Palestinian-Egyptian nephew is growing up in an era when talk of purity and civilizational clashes is all too common, Nadia urges her feminist, communist, pacifist mother, Mary, to share the treasures of their diverse family history. Mary, born in Cairo to an Egyptian Jewish father and an Italian Christian mother, became Muslim when she married Nadia’s father, an Egyptian with Abkhazian origins. But as Nadia and Mary weave their way through the family’s multi-ethnic fairy tales, they inevitably bump into a silence shrouding an estranged Egyptian- Jewish branch of the family that emigrated to Israel in the 1940’s. Nadia and Mary embark on an unexpected and sometimes heart-wrenching journey, confronting persisting complexities along the way.”



More information is available [here](#) and you can rent it as part of the “[Curated by Andrea Luka Zimmerman](#)” series.



## On Akka's Shore by Umama Hamido

About the film:

“On Akka's Shore {60mins- 2019} is a fictional memoir of Umama and her friend Tareq Al Jazzar based on hallucinations, dreams and out-of-body experiences, scenes slip between Akka in Palestine, a Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon, Hamido's city of birth, Beirut and London, their current home. On Akka's Shore takes us on an exploration of the chaos of memory in relation to personal and collective history. ‘Yesterday I dreamt that I was flying over the streets of Beirut. I was my camera, my body and my eye and all of me was one with the lens. You asked me how it was. I told you, the feeling resembles everything in it. Do you think places get stuck in time when we leave them?’ (Umama Hamido). On Akka's shore was supported by Jerwood Charitable Foundation, Pacitti Company and Artsadmin.”

More information is available [here](#) and you can rent it as part of the “[Curated by Andrea Luka Zimmerman](#)” series.

### 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, the [Kairos Document](#). As always, there is more to come!

Sincerely,

The Kumi Now Team

[Go to Kumi Now Page](#)

[kumi@kuminow.com](mailto:kumi@kuminow.com)



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