

[View in browser](#) or [download as PDF](#)



Week 5: Palestinian Citizens of Israel

WEEK 05 JAN. 29 TO FEB. 4 **PALESTINIAN CITIZENS OF ISRAEL**

Palestinian citizens of Israel are a national, ethnic, linguistic, and religious minority under international human rights law.

They number over 1.8 million people (21% of Israel's population).

A photograph of four children on a set of rough, stone stairs. A yellow metal railing runs along the stairs. One child is sitting on the stairs holding a yellow and black soccer ball, while others are walking up or down.

Over 65 Israeli laws discriminate against Palestinian citizens of Israel.

Sources: Adalah, Inter Agency Task Force

<http://kuminow.com/PalestinianCitizens>

[Next Online Gathering](#)

[This Week's Entry](#)

[Kumi Action](#)

[You Should Know](#)

[Upcoming Weeks](#)

[You Should Watch or Read](#)

Dear Kumi Now supporter,

Thank you to everyone who joined us on Tuesday to discuss Kumi Now in 2022. We were very inspired by the discussion and your ideas. We'll work to incorporate whatever we can! If you missed the conversation, it is available [here](#). Please note that, since this was an open discussion, the video is unlisted and will only show up on YouTube with this link, nor will it be listed on the Kumi Now website. If you have more ideas about the webinars and Kumi Now, please email us at kumi@kuminow.com.

We'd also like to put out our annual **call for volunteers**. We've been reluctant to call on volunteers too heavily, wanting our community to instead have their time free to spread the word of Kumi Now as you engage others in your own local communities. However, as the Kumi Now initiative continues to grow, particularly with the website, this newsletter, and the online gatherings, we find that we could use a few volunteers to help us along. In particular, we could welcome people who would like to:

- MCing future Kumi Now online gatherings
- Helping find/write items for the weekly newsletter (news items, upcoming events, arts and culture items, You Should Know entries, etc.)
- Compiling the Just the Facts articles for the website and newsletter
- Creating YouTube playlists for each of the Kumi Now weeks
- Compiling and formatting the weekly newsletter

If you're interested, just email us at kumi@kuminow.com. There is also a [page on the website](#) that discusses each activity more in-depth.

Now let's move on to information on our next Kumi Now online gathering, coming THIS TUESDAY:



February 1: Innovators Series

Come join us as we meet, discuss, converse with, and are inspired by Palestinians around the world. We will kick off our Innovators Series with a special guest this Tuesday. Join us!

Time: Tuesday, February 1, 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> (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 this page](#).

And now on to this week's Kumi Now entry and what you can do to oppose the partition and annexation of Jerusalem...

International Day of Solidarity with
Palestinian Israeli Citizens

January 30



Tomorrow is International Day of Solidarity with Palestinian Israeli Citizens. The High Follow-Up Committee for Arab Citizens in Israel [called in 2017](#) for January 30 of each year to be observed as such. It doesn't appear that much has happened with the date since then, but it should! Please take today, and this entire week, to help us bring attention to the discrimination faced by Palestinian citizens of Israel.

This Week's 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 #5: Palestinian Citizens of Israel

Week 5 of Kumi Now is now available [on the website](#). Some Israelis argue that Arab citizens of Israel have better lives than other Arabs in the Middle East and are allowed to vote and hold public office. Such arguments ignore the overwhelming evidence of inequality and discrimination within Israeli society and echo the victim-blaming arguments used in the past to justify American Reconstruction-era racism and separate-but-equal discrimination and Apartheid-era policies in South Africa. 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 about Lana and Taiseer. And here are a few more facts for you:

WEEK JAN. 29
05 TO
FEB. 4

PALESTINIAN CITIZENS OF ISRAEL

Just the facts... *In 1914, Palestinians comprised about 92% of the population.*

Palestinian citizens of Israel are a national, ethnic, linguistic, and religious minority under international human rights law.

They number over 1.8 million people (21% of Israel's population).

Between 1948-1966 the Israeli government imposed military rule on Palestinian citizens, severely limiting their freedom of movement, livelihoods, and expression.

Simultaneously, Israel appropriated of 73% of Palestinian land.

Palestinian citizens are Muslim (83%), Christian (9%), and Druze (8%), and speak Arabic as their native language.

During the Nakba, over 750,000 Palestinians fled their homes.

500 Palestinian villages were destroyed by Zionist military forces.

Just 150,000 Palestinians remained in their homeland, becoming Palestinian citizens of Israel/

Over 65 Israeli laws discriminate against Palestinian citizens of Israel.

While Arab citizens of Israel make up 21% of the total population, they contribute only 8% of national GDP.

95% of Arab towns and villages fall into the Ministry of Economy's 4 lowest (of 10) socio-economic rankings of Israeli municipalities.

Sources: Adalah, Inter Agency Task Force

<http://kuminow.com/PalestinianCitizens>

Understanding Palestian Citizens of Israel: Just the Facts...

- In 1914, Palestinians comprised about 92% of the population.
- During the Nakba ("Catastrophe"), over 750,000 Palestinians fled or were forced to flee from their homes and 500 Palestinian villages were destroyed by Zionist military forces.
- Just 150,000 Palestinians remained in their homeland, becoming Palestinian citizens of Israel (PCI) and an involuntary minority.
- Between 1948-1966 the Israeli government imposed military rule on Palestinian citizens, severely limiting their freedom of movement, livelihoods, and expression.
- Simultaneously, Israel appropriated of 73% of Palestinian land.
- Palestinian citizens are Muslim (83%), Christian (9%), and Druze (8%), and speak Arabic as their native language.
- Palestinian citizens a national, ethnic, linguistic, and religious minority under international human rights law.
- They number over 1.8 million people (21% of Israel's population).
- They eside primarily in the Galilee in the north; the "Little Triangle" in the center; and in the Naqab.
- While Arab citizens of Israel make up 21% of the total population, the Israeli government estimates that they contribute only 8% of national GDP.
- The government estimates that the Israeli economy loses NIS 31 billion every year as a result of under-utilizing the full workforce potential of Arab women and men.

- The vast majority (95%) of Arab towns and villages fall into the Ministry of Economy's four lowest socio-economic rankings of Israeli municipalities (on a scale of 1-10).
- Jews and Arabs largely live in separate municipalities, with 70% of the Arab population living in Arab cities, towns and villages, 29% living in "mixed cities" and Jerusalem, and 1% living in Jewish localities.
- 78% of Arab youngsters reached the 12th grade (up from 76% in 2012), compared with 94% of their Jewish (non-Haredi) peers.
- Adalah maintains a database of over 65 laws that discriminate against Palestinian citizens of Israel.

This week's Just the Facts comes from:

- ["Palestinian Citizens of Israel: A Primer"](#) from **Adalah**
- ["FACT SHEET: Arab Citizens of Israel"](#) from **Inter Agency Task Force**

Learning More

- **Middle East Monitor** has a great short video that sums up the situation, ["Explained: Palestinian citizens of Israel"](#).
- You can consult **Adalah's** ["Discriminatory Laws Database"](#).
- You can find our [list of additional resources](#) on the topic.
- Finally, you can browse our [YouTube playlist about Palestinian Israelis](#).

Once you understand the situation you'll want to get involved. Here's the Kumi Action for this week. We're now releasing a video each week focusing on the Kumi Action! Check out the one below [on YouTube](#).

Kumi Action



Help keep families together! If you would like to help Lana and Taiseer and families like theirs or families suffering due to home demolitions because of the Kaminitz law, we urge you to contact your foreign ministries by phone, post or e-mail and tell them what you think about these laws. You can send your foreign ministries an early Valentine with a message to explain that as a citizen of your own country you "demand that Israel recognize the rights of Arab citizens and the rights of all people to be together with

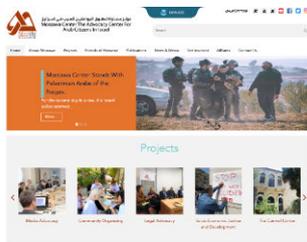
whom they choose.”

Many foreign ministries have a specific Israel desk to which you can direct your comments. If you would like help finding the contact information for your foreign ministry or suggestions for what to say or write please contact Mossawa at Programs: mossawa@gmail.com. You can also call the parties in the Knesset at (+972) 2-6753333 to tell them to stop blocking resolutions that demand equal rights for citizens.

Share the Valentine’s Day message that you send to your foreign ministry on social media, tagging the ministry, if possible. Encourage others to send similar messages, and give them this short video on the citizenship law to watch: <https://youtu.be/VBBpENBXx4M>. Include a [link to this page](#) of the Kumi Now website along with the hashtags #HappyValentinesDay, #KumiNow, and #Kumi5.

You Should Know

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



Mossawa Center

The Mossawa Center, the Advocacy Center for Palestinian Arab citizens, in Israel, is a non-profit, non-governmental organization established in 1997. It aims to promote the economic, social, cultural, and political rights of the Palestinian Arab citizens in Israel, and the recognition of this community as a national indigenous minority, with their own national, cultural and historical distinctiveness. The Center develops programs to promote a democratic society, and acts against all forms of discrimination based on race, nationality, religious affiliation, social status, gender, and disabilities.

You can find Mossawa Center on their [website](#) and follow them on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

Upcoming Weeks

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



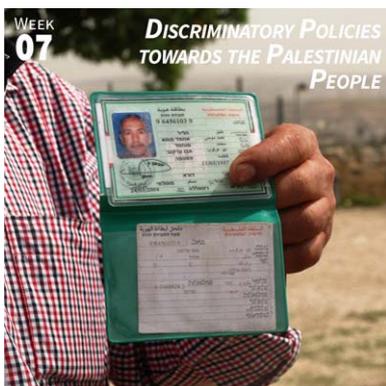
February 9: Week 6 - Medical Rights

[Read the full entry online.](#)

The blockade of Gaza is a noose around its neck. One of the worst impacts of that noose is the denial of patients’ rights to travel within Palestinian territory for treatment, which is not available in Gaza. As a result, 54 patients died awaiting permission to travel for medical treatment in 2017. Begun in 1994 by the Catholic Church, the World Day of the Sick, observed every February 11, is a day for turning our attention and aid to

those suffering from sickness.

Our Kumi Action will use Google Map reviews to bring awareness to the violations of medical rights of Palestinians.



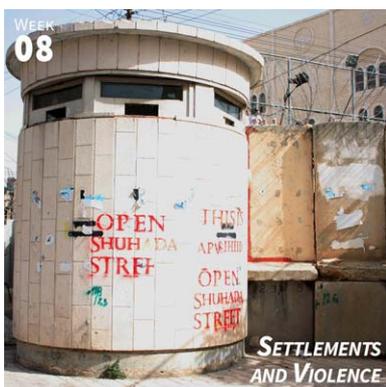
February 16: Week 7 - Discriminatory Policies towards the Palestinian People

[Read the full entry online.](#)

It is clear that there are many practices of the Israeli government that deny Palestinians their human rights and fundamental freedom and, by extension, their social development and justice.

One of these practices is that of citizenship denial and discrimination, and the restrictions on movement and opportunities that come with it. Asking a Palestinian about her passport quickly becomes an object lesson in the machinations of occupation.

Our Kumi Action will involve sharing pictures of our flags and messages regarding universal rights and social justice.



February 23: Week 8 - Settlements and Violence

[Read the full entry online.](#)

This week, as Palestinians mark the date of the Ibrahimi Mosque massacre on February 25, the Kumi Now community is focusing on Israeli settlements. Palestinians in the occupied territory face loss of lands and resources, violence, discrimination, and other injustices due to the encroachment of these settlements that are illegal under international law.

You get a choice of Kumi Actions: posting signs, hosting a vigil, or hosting a screening of the film *Soldier on the Roof*.

You Should Watch or Read

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

Dine in Palestine: An Authentic Taste of Palestine in 60 Recipes from My Family to Your Table by Heifa Odeh



Dine in Palestine: An Authentic Taste of Palestine... by Heifa Odeh was just published a couple months ago and is a great option if you're looking to add a Palestinian cookbook to your kitchen. Heifa runs the incredibly useful website [Fufu's Kitchen](#). You can read an article about her [here](#). About the book:

“Bring the bold flavors of Palestine into your own kitchen with this comprehensive collection of Middle Eastern recipes by Heifa Odeh. From familiar favorites like moussaka and tobouleh, to more complex meals like Musakhan, Palestine’s national dish, this book includes everything you need to know to cook the full range of Palestinian dishes.

With streamlined techniques honed through her online cooking course, Heifa makes it easier than ever to enjoy Arab cooking. From bold flavored breakfasts like Tomato and Lemon Flatbread and satisfying mains like Harissa Pomegranate Molasses Salmon to sweet treats like Fig and Honey Pistachio Cake and beyond—each dish is also halal to make meal times more inclusive for Muslim holidays and gatherings. With dishes featuring the best Middle Eastern ingredients like figs, pomegranate, sumac and za’atar, every dish offers a taste of Palestine. Whether you have been making Arab cuisine for ages or if you are looking to expand your repertoire, this cookbook has something for everyone.”

You can purchase Dine in Palestine at your favorite book store.

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, [Medical Rights](#). As always, there is more to come!

Sincerely,

The Kumi Now Team

[Go to Kumi Now Page](#)

kumi@kuminow.com



[View in browser](#) or [download as PDF](#)

This email was sent to rcniman@gmail.com
You received this email because you are registered with Kumi Now

[Unsubscribe here](#)



© 2021 Kumi Now