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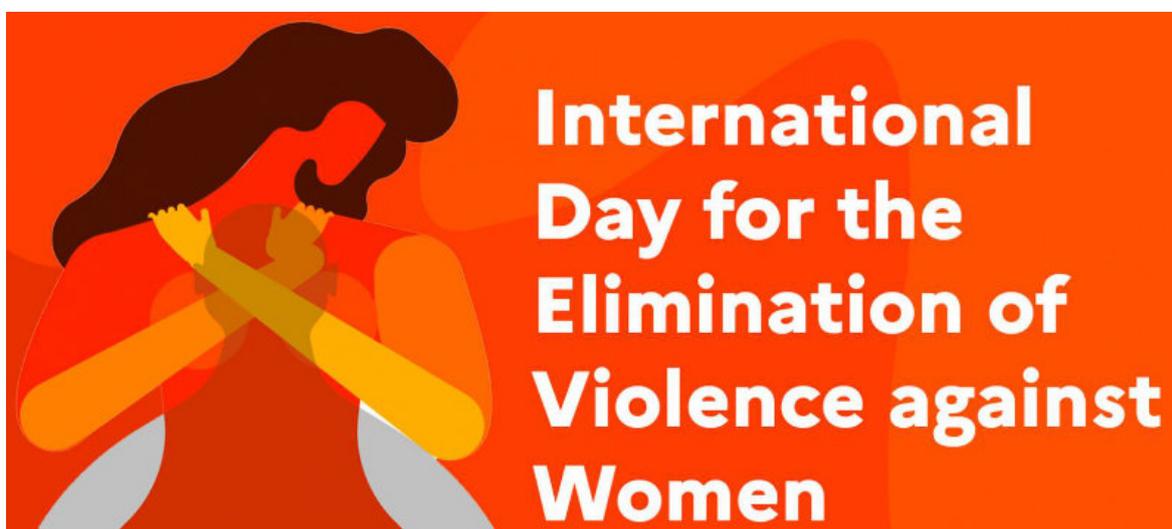
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Week 47: Gender-Based Violence



Dear Kumi Now supporter,

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](#).

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. Please join us for our next Kumi Now Online Gathering as we address gender-based violence in Palestine:

Next Online Gathering

**November 22: Week 47 - Gender-Based
Violence**



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

Our guest will be **Dr. Dorothy Jean Weaver**, the retired professor of New Testament at Eastern Mennonite Seminary.

Time: Tuesday, November 22, 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 Entry

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:

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%).

Sources

- ["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](#).

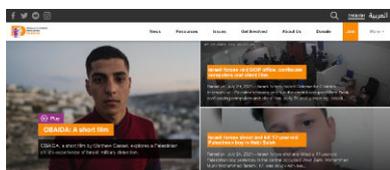
Draw a picture of flowers or take a photo of flowers and send it to the U.N. Women’s office at the following address with a note asking why the U.N. is not keeping Israel accountable to United Nations Security Council (UNSC) [Resolution 1325](#). Explain that by not holding Israel accountable to international 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, 2022

Week 44	Week 45	Week 46	Week 47	Week 48
				
November 1	November 8	November 15	November 22	November 29
Anti-Muslim and Anti-Islamic Discrimination	Antisemitism	Children's Rights	Gender-Based Violence	The Kairos Document

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 26 to December 2: 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.

Closing Thoughts

On Tuesday, **Manar Amleh** 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. You can download her slides as a [PDF document](#) or as a [PowerPoint document](#). 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 hope to see you in the online gathering on Tuesday, after which you'll receive another newsletter next Saturday, focused on our next topic, the [Kairos Document](#). As always, there is more to come!

Sincerely,

The Kumi Now Team

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kumi@kuminow.com



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