

**MARIN COUNTY/BAY AREA SABEEL CONFERENCE
MARCH 5–6, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF SAN ANSELMO**

SPEAKERS AND WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

Ziad Abbas is a Palestinian refugee from the Deheisheh refugee camp in the West Bank and cofounder of the Ibdah Cultural Center in Deheisheh, where he has served as executive director since 1994. He is currently associate director of the Middle East Children's Alliance (MECA).

Dr. Hisham Ahmed, professor of politics at St. Mary's College, Moraga, California, teaches courses on Middle East politics, terrorism and nonviolence. He was born in Deheisheh refugee camp and served as a Fulbright scholar and on the faculty of Birzeit University. His book, *From Religious Salvation to Political Transformation: The Rise of Hamas in Palestinian Society*, was the first to appear in English on the subject.

Mohammed Alatar is a filmmaker and human rights activist from Jenin in the West Bank. He was nominated for the Martin Luther King Jr. Award for Humanity in 2002 in recognition of his work for human rights. His films include *The Iron Wall* and *Jerusalem: The East Side Story*.

The Rev Naim Ateek, the founder of Sabeel, is an Arab-Israeli citizen known to many as the 'Bishop Tutu of Palestine.' He served as the canon pastor of the Episcopal Cathedral of Jerusalem and is the author of numerous books and articles, including *Justice and Only Justice: A Palestinian Theology of Liberation* and *A Palestinian Christian Cry for Reconciliation*.

Anna Baltzer is the Jewish-American granddaughter of Holocaust survivors. She was a Fulbright scholar and served as a volunteer with the International Women's Peace Service, where she documented human rights abuses. Baltzer is the author of *Witness in Palestine: Journal of a Jewish American Woman in the Occupied Territories*.

Omar Barghouti, an independent Palestinian researcher, commentator and human rights activist, is a founding member of the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel and the Palestinian Civil Society Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign against Israel. Barghouti holds bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from Columbia University.

Dr. Hatem Bazian is a lecturer in philosophy and Islamic studies at UC Berkeley and adjunct professor at the university's Boalt Hall law school. He teaches courses on Islamic law and society, Islam in America, Islamophobia and Middle East studies and is a visiting professor in religious studies at St. Mary's College, Moraga. Bazian is the author of *Jerusalem in Islamic Consciousness* and the founder and president of American Muslims for Palestine.

Dr. George Bisharat, professor of law at the University of California Hastings College of Law, teaches Criminal Procedure, Islamic Law, Law and Social Anthropology, Criminal Practice Clinic, and Law in Middle East Societies. He writes frequently on law and politics in the Middle East and is the author of *Palestinian Lawyers and Israeli Rule: Law and Disorder in the West Bank*.

Mark Braverman is a Jewish-American clinical psychologist and founder of Crisis Management Group Associates in Maryland. He recently published *Fatal Embrace: Christians, Jews, and the Search for Peace in the Holy Land*, which focuses on interfaith relations and the role of religious beliefs in the current discourse on Israel/Palestine.

Kathleen and Bill Christison are former CIA analysts. Bill Christison was a senior official in the organization, and Kathleen worked on Middle East issues for 35 years. She is the author of *Perceptions of Palestine* and *The Wound of Dispossession*. Together the Christisons published *Palestine in Pieces: Graphic Perspectives on the Israeli Occupation*.

Dr. Mads Gilbert, professor of medicine at the University of North Norway, specializes in anesthesiology and emergency medicine. He provided medical support in Gaza during Israel's three-week assault in December 2008 and January 2009. Dr. Gilbert described this experience in his book, *Eyes in Gaza*, co-authored with Erik Fosse and due to appear in English in May.

David Glick is a Bay Area activist whose poetry often reflects his passion for justice. His work, which he sees as a way to "build bridges of understanding," has appeared in two anthologies. He is a member of Jewish Voice for Peace and the Marin Peace and Justice Coalition and works as a counselor with adults and couples.

Dr. Jeff Halper, an Israeli-American peace activist, founded and coordinates the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions. He is a professor of anthropology, author, acclaimed speaker and 2006 Nobel Peace Prize nominee. His books include *Obstacles to Peace: A Reframing of the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict* and *An Israeli In Palestine: Resisting Dispossession, Redeeming Israel*.

Glen Hauer is a founding board member of Jewish Voice for Peace and coordinator of the Healing from War workshops in Warsaw and World War II death camps. He is a former civil rights attorney and an active member of his San Francisco synagogue.

Remi Kanazi, a Palestinian-American poet and writer based in New York City, is the editor of *Poets for Palestine*, a recently released collection of poetry, spoken word, hip hop and art.

Mohammed Khatib is a member of the Popular Committee of Bil'in, a West Bank village. He organizes nonviolent protests against the barrier separating his community from its farmland and has been arrested and beaten for his activities. Khatib has challenged the barrier in Israeli courts and set up an alliance of West Bank villages to share his strategies.

Dr. Paul Larudee advocates for peace and justice in Palestine. He works with the International Solidarity Movement, an organization dedicated to nonviolent resistance to the occupation, and while working with ISM in 2002, he was wounded by Israeli gunfire. Larudee co-founded the Free Gaza Movement, whose boats became the first in 41 years to enter Gaza by sea. He recently initiated the Free Palestine Movement.

Barbara Lubin is a peace, justice and disability rights activist and co-founder of the Middle East Children's Alliance (MECA), which has delivered more than \$17 million in food and medical aid to children in Palestine, Iraq and Lebanon and provided support for hundreds of community projects in the West Bank and Gaza. She has led many delegations to the Middle East.

Lubna Masarwa, a Palestinian-Israeli resident of Jerusalem and community organizer for Al Quds University, works with Palestinian villagers resisting the Separation Wall and Jerusalem residents facing home demolition. She advocates for children's educational rights and directs a leadership program for girls. Masarwa serves on the Free Gaza Movement board.

Nuha Masri, born in Jerusalem, is a third-year student at UC Berkeley, majoring in sociology. Masri is an active member of Students for Justice in Palestine and was one of the few Gaza Freedom March participants to enter Gaza.

Dr. Norton Mezvinsky is a professor of history at Central Connecticut State University, specializing in U.S. history, U.S. immigration history, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the history of Judaism, and terrorism in the postmodern world. He is the coauthor of *Jewish Fundamentalism in Israel* and heads The International Council for Middle East Studies, an educational think tank.

Lorin Peters has volunteered with Christian Peacemaker Teams in Hebron and At-Tuwani, West Bank. He served with the Peace Corps in Thailand, where he became committed to nonviolence. Peters taught physics, nonviolence and religion at Bishop O'Dowd High School in Oakland for many years and has extensive knowledge of Gandhi and his teachings.

Loubna Qutami is an MA candidate in ethnic studies at San Francisco State University and the founder of the Palestinian Youth Network, where she serves on the international executive board. She is a member of the General Union of Palestine Students and the Arab Resource and Organizing Center.

Norman Solomon, a nationally syndicated columnist on media and politics, is founder and executive director of the Institute for Public Accuracy. He is the author of a dozen books, including *Made Love, Got War: Close Encounters with America's Warfare State* and *War Made Easy: How Presidents and Pundits Keep Spinning Us to Death*. Solomon has appeared on the "NewsHour With Jim Lehrer," CNN, MSNBC, Fox News Channel, C-SPAN, National Public Radio and other media outlets.

The Rev. Richard Toll has chaired the board of Friends of Sabeel North America since 2000. He is a retired Episcopal priest and former canon pastor of St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle. Rev. Toll was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity by The Church Divinity School of the Pacific, Berkeley, for his work with Sabeel.

Dr. Don Wagner is an associate professor of religion and Middle Eastern studies, ordained Presbyterian minister and executive director of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at North Park University. He served as national director of the Palestine Human Rights Campaign and is the author of *Anxious for Armageddon* and *Dying in the Land of Promise: Palestine and Palestinian Christianity from Pentecost to 2000*.

Lorene Zarou-Zouzounis, a Palestinian-American, has published her poems in eight anthologies, including *Poetry of Arab Women: A Contemporary Anthology*. Her forthcoming collection is entitled *Faces – the Nine Stations of Pain and Joy*. Zarou-Zouzounis also writes historical fiction for children and stories based on those her elders told her when she was a child in Ramallah, Palestine.

Dr. Stephen Zunes is a professor of politics and international studies and chair of the program of Middle East Studies at the University of San Francisco. Zunes is the author of *Tinderbox: U.S Middle East Policy and the Roots of Terrorism* and of numerous articles on U.S. policy, the Middle East, nonviolence and human rights. He has received several awards for his work.