

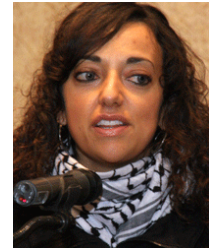
Sabeel Sacramento Conference Presenters, March 16-17, 2012

Rae Abileah is the co-director of CODEPINK Women for Peace and is a co-organizer of Occupy AIPAC and the Stolen Beauty boycott of Ahava Cosmetics. She has recently returned from organizing Occupy AIPAC in Washington D.C. She is a member of Jewish Voice for Peace and founding member of Young Jewish Proud, the youth wing of Jewish Voice for Peace. Rae has visited Israel and the West Bank several times, and traveled to Gaza in December, 2009. She is a contributing author to *10 Excellent Reasons Not to Join the Military*; *Sisters Singing: Incantations, Blessings, Chants, Prayers, Art and Sacred Stories by Women*; *Beyond Tribal Loyalties: Stories of Jewish Peace Activists*; and *Beautiful Trouble: A Toolbox for Revolution*. She can be reached at: rae@codepink.org.



Dr. Hisham Ahmed is a Professor at St. Mary's College in Moraga, CA, where he 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.

Huwaida Arraf is a Palestinian-American lawyer and human rights activist. She recently returned from being a human rights observer in Bahrain with the Witness Bahrain Initiative. She is a co-founder of the International Solidarity Movement (ISM), which has twice been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. She has served as chair of the Free Gaza Movement, which has been sending boats to challenge Israel's blockade of Gaza by sea. Huwaida was one of the primary organizers of the Gaza Freedom Flotilla and was traveling with it when it was lethally attacked by Israeli forces on 31 May 2010. She was one of the Palestine Free Riders, who, inspired by the U.S. Civil Rights Freedom Riders of the 1960s, attempted to ride segregated Israeli settler public transport.



The Rev Naim Ateek, the founder of Sabeel, is a Palestinian Citizen of Israel. 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*.

Riad Bahhur, is Professor of History and Coordinator of the International Studies Program at Sacramento City College. He teaches courses on Middle East and World History. He is producer of *People and the Land*, a documentary filmed during the first Intifada that looks at US aid to Israel in light of Israeli human rights abuses and US law.



Anna Baltzer, National Organizer, U.S. Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation is an award-winning lecturer, author, and activist for Palestinian human rights. Baltzer has appeared on television more than 100 times (including The Daily Show with Jon Stewart) and lectured at more than 500 universities, schools, churches, mosques, synagogues, and policy institutes around the world with her acclaimed presentation, *"Life in Occupied Palestine: Eyewitness Stories & Photos,"* and her full-color book: *Witness in Palestine: A Jewish American Woman in the Occupied Territories*. She is co-founder of US Campaign member group, the St. Louis Palestine Solidarity Committee.

Dalit Baum, Ph.D., is a feminist scholar and teacher in Israel, co-founder of *Who Profits from the Occupation* and the *Coalition of Women for Peace* in Israel. She is working with the Middle East Program of the American Friends Service Committee and with the Economic Activism for Palestine Program in Global Exchange, which aims to support corporate accountability campaigns in the U.S. with research, training and networking support.





Dr. Hatem Bazian is the Chairman and co-founder of the American Muslims for Palestine. At the University of California Berkeley, he is a senior lecturer in the departments of Near Eastern and Ethnic studies, an adviser to the Religion, Politics and Globalization Center, and founder of the Center for the Study and Documentation of Islam Phobia, a research unit dedicated to the systematic study of the 'othering' of Islam and Muslims. Dr. Bazian is a co-founder and academic affairs chair at Zaytuna College of California, the first accredited Muslim liberal arts college in America. He is the author of *Jerusalem in Islamic Consciousness: A Textual Survey to Muslim Claims and Rights in the Sacred City*.

Rev. Dr. Walt Davis, a social ethicist, is professor emeritus of San Francisco Theological Seminary, and former Director of the SFTS Advanced Pastoral Studies program. He now works with the Israel-Palestine Mission Network of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Keep Hope Alive-USA Olive Tree Campaign.



Laila El-Haddad is the author of *Gaza Mom: Palestine, Politics, Parenting, and Everything in Between*. She spent three years in Gaza, 2003-2007, reporting for the Aljazeera Satellite Channel's English language website (now called Aljazeera International) and Pacifica Radio's Free Speech Radio news. Her work is frequently found in the Guardian Unlimited, the BBC World Service, the Electronic Intifada, Le Monde Diplomatique, and the New Statesman. She is a contributor to *The Goldstone Report: The Legacy of the Landmark Investigation of the Gaza Conflict*. Her latest book, *The Gaza Kitchen*, will be out later this year.

The Rev. David W. Good is the Senior Minister of the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme, CT, which has cross-cultural partnerships with Central Methodist Mission in Johannesburg, South Africa, Cheyenne River (Lakota) Indian Reservation and a 9-year partnership with the community of Beit Sahour, near Bethlehem in Palestine. David has led 10 interfaith journeys to Israel, the Golan, and the West Bank. He chairs the Tree of Life Educational Fund and has chaired Koinonia Partners.



Susanne Hoder has studied the Israeli/Palestinian conflict for 10 years, as founder of the Interfaith Peace Initiative and through independent travel to the region. She led the research into companies supporting the occupation for the New England Conference of the United Methodist Church. In 2010, she helped found United Methodist Kairos Response, which seeks to align the church's investments with its clearly stated position against Israel's occupation. Susanne lives in Rhode Island and Florida. She holds a BA in International Relations. She is retired from a career in corporate communications.

Gerald Lenoir is a long time leader in racial justice and anti apartheid movements in the United States. He is currently the Director of the Black Alliance for Just Immigration and a board member of the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and Interfaith Peace-Builders. He is also a co-founder of the Priority Africa Network, which advocates for progressive U.S. policies toward Africa and organizes dialogues between African Americans and black immigrants. Lenoir led the first African Heritage delegation of the Interfaith Peace-Builders to Palestine-Israel in 2011.



Dr. Sunaina Maira is Professor of Asian American Studies at the University of California, Davis. Her books include: *Desis in the House: Indian American Youth Culture in New York City* and *Missing: Youth, Citizenship, and Empire After 9/11*. She has published articles on Palestinian and Palestinian American hip hop and linkages between Asian and Arab American studies. Maira is a founding organizer of the US Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (USACBI) and has been involved with the Palestine solidarity movement and various BDS campaigns; she has also worked with various community and immigrant rights groups in the Bay Area.



Josh Ruebner is National Advocacy Director of the U.S. Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation, a national coalition of 380 organizations working to change U.S. policy toward Israel/ Palestine to support human rights, international law, and equality. Ruebner is a former Analyst in Middle East Affairs at Congressional Research Service and holds a graduate degree in International Affairs from Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. Ruebner's analysis appears frequently in media such as NBC, ABC Nightline, CSPAN, Al Jazeera, USA Today, Los Angeles Times, The Hill, Detroit Free Press, Huffington Post, and Middle East Report.

Cecilie Surasky, Deputy Director, Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP), joined the staff of JVP in 2003 as part of a Ford Foundation human rights fellowship following 15 years working with NGOs on advocacy communications. A videomaker, former newspaper columnist and talk radio host, Cecilie's analyses of Israel-Palestine politics have appeared in numerous media outlets around the world. Cecilie graduated from Brown University with a BA in Religious Studies with special honors for her work in Modern Culture and Media. She is the editor of Muzzlewatch, JVP's acclaimed blog documenting efforts to silence open debate about Israel-Palestine policy, and leads JVP's fundraising, media and online outreach efforts.



Kristin Szremksi is the Director of Media and Communications for the American Muslims for Palestine. She is an award-winning journalist, spending more than 20 years as an investigative reporter and editor. Ms. Szremksi has been published nationally and internationally and her work currently appears on Al Jazeera English, the Washington Report on Middle East Affairs and the Electronic Intifada. She is a member of the National Press Club, the Society of Professional Journalists, and Association of Women Journalists, among other professional associations.

Rev. Dr. Don Wagner is the current National Program Director of the Friends of Sabeel North America and the founder of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, the only such center at an Evangelical institution of higher education in North America and Europe. His books include: *Anxious for Armageddon* (1995), and *Dying in the Land of Promise: Palestine and Palestinian Christianity from Pentacost to 2000* (2000). He has led numerous study groups to the Middle East and works internationally to educate Christians about the importance of a just and peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the problems of Christian Zionism.



Alison Weir is Executive Director of If Americans Knew, which specializes in statistical and factual examination and media coverage of Israel-Palestine and President of the Council for the National Interest. A former journalist, she speaks widely, including, the National Press Club, briefings on Capitol Hill, the Asia Media Summit in Kuala Lumpur and Beijing, and lectures at Harvard Law, Yale, Stanford, Berkeley, the Naval Postgraduate Institute, and numerous other venues. She has received diverse awards. Her articles have appeared in the *Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*, *CounterPunch*, and various anthologies, including *The New Intifada* and *Censored 2005*. She narrated the award-winning documentary *Occupation 101*.

Rabbi Alissa Wise, Director of Campaigns, Jewish Voice for Peace, has been an activist for justice in Israel/Palestine for over a decade in New York City with Jews Against the Occupation, on the West Bank with the International Women's Peace Service, and as the founding co-chair of the JVP Rabbinical Council. Alissa has worked as a tenant organizer with the Fifth Avenue Committee in Brooklyn and was a participant in AVODAH: The Jewish Service Corps. She was the Education Director at Jews for Racial & Economic Justice (JFREJ) in New York City. Alissa graduated from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia in 2009 where she received the Rabbinical Student Association's Tikkun Olam Award for her work with Palestinian communities.

