BDS DAY AND PALESTINIAN LAND DAY, MARCH 30, 2012. COMPILED BY DICK BENNETT FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE.

Here is the link to all OMNI newsletters: http://www.omnicenter.org/newsletter-archive/ For a knowledge-based peace, justice, and ecology movement and an informed citizenry as the foundation for change.

1. News for Palestinian Land Day

   USA TODAY

   1. Clashes Mark Palestinian Land Day

   Voice of America - 12 hours ago
   March 30, 2012 Clashes Mark Palestinian Land Day VOA News Palestinian Land Day rallies were marked Friday by clashes with Israeli security forces which ...

   2. Gazan killed as Palestinians mark Land Day
   AFP - 20 hours ago

   3. Palestinian protesters marking Land Day clash with IDF soldiers in Jerusalem and West Bank
   Haaretz - 11 hours ago

2. Palestinian killed as thousands protest on 'Land Day' – USATODAY ...

   www.usatoday.com/news/...palestinians-land-day.../1

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   12 hours ago
   Israeli security forces Friday confronted Palestinian demonstrators along Israel's frontiers in an annual 'Land ...

3. More videos for Palestinian Land Day »

4. Clashes as Palestinians mark 'Land Day' - Middle East - Al Jazeera ...


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   8 hours ago – Israeli security forces use water cannon and tear gas in clashes with protesters at flashpoint Qalandiya checkpoint.

   Get more results from the past 24 hours

5. Protester dies as Palestinians mark Land Day - Middle East - Al ...


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   7 hours ago – Demonstrator killed by Israeli security forces in Gaza and more than 120 people wounded in riots in the West Bank.

   Get more results from the past 24 hours
Mazin Qumsiyeh mazin@qumsiyeh.org 3-30-12 to jbennet,

*Injuries to our friends, death and mayhem on Land Day and the Global March to Jerusalem*

This blog is also posted at
http://popular-resistance.blogspot.com/2012/03/land-day.html where you can leave comments

*Two of our friends were among the over >150 people injured today by the Israeli occupation forces. Demonstrations were held in dozens of locations in Palestine and the border areas of Palestine.*  Other demonstrations were held for Land Day in cities around the world. The ambulance took our friend and home guest Don Bryant (US Citizen) to the hospital as he was hit in the head by a tear gas canister. We quickly gathered the rest of the group and rushed to the hospital. There we find many injured people (I counted 8 in the emergency room and two at the X-ray). One of the injured there was our friend Yusef Sharqawi hit with a rubber-coated steel bullet that fractured his shoulder blade. Mohamed Zakout, 20 year old was shot and kiled by Israeli forces in Gaza as he participated in a demonstration near the Erez checkpoint. In Jerusalem, Israeli occupation forces used horses to trample on people and arrested 36 individuals. Before all is done Israel will likely to arrest 300 people. Below is our video and other relevant videos.

Some of my students have more logic/sense than the political leadership of the USA, Israel and the "Palestinian authority" combined. For example, last week we had a lively discussion about roles of politiciansin creating the problems and perpetuating the disastrous human rights violations here. I don't teach this course human rights but I coach it so after we exchanged significant information about these issues all of it showing the bad things of politics (collaborations, agreements of surrender, etc), I asked to take time for us to talk just about the positives (no negatives). I was surprised at some of the good comments that came out: persistance of the Palestinain people, demonstrations and many forms of popular resistance happening, the fact that rights are not lost for people even when their leadership is corrupt and weak, the fact that many were martyred/injured/imprisoned for their work for Palestine, the fact that while some collaborated and even sold their conscience and tehir heritabe, more simply refused ……
So it is that we can always look at the glass half empty or half full. We can always curse the darkness or light a candle and hope for the best. We can feel depressed and powerless or we can actually do something. I was anxious before the demonstrations today. Our mind racing to worry about level of participation/attendance and about Israeli authorities' violent reaction to peaceful demonstrators (there is afterall a long history of that including shooting at unarmed demonstrators). We have to remind myself of the positives and forget all the negatives (or at least just learn from them lessons and keep them in the back of our mind). The march was a success even before it started. The thousands who tried to arrive to us here in Palestine got an education THROUGH the process of preparing to come to nearby boorders and they each told many othesr where they are going and why. This ripple effect that started month before today's events is critical. Here are a few other positives before, during and after this event today:

-37 Indian activists were stranded in a ship off the port of Beirut for 36 hours. Activists in India mobilized speaking to parliamentarians and other officials and the indian embassy was able to get the Lebanese government to finally issue the visas for them. This ensured ath more people because aware of our predicament here: not onlt the Zionist regime but the collusion sometiems of Arab regimes. It also meant more activism in india will be growing and more boycotts, divestments and sanctions.

- Hundreds of activists from different countries did not know about each other or their commen interests until this event. The process of linking together via physical meetings and internet empowered many of tehm and they became more active in tehir local communities. I know of several example where new projects (e.g. on boycotts divestment, sacnction, different ways of media work etc) were started in some copuntries or localities because they learned from the networking with other activists.

-Activists learned via doing how to work in team efforts, how to make collective decisions etc. These skills are useful for any kind of collective work.

-The attempts by the Zionist manipulated media to hide and ignore the brutality of the apartheid regime is backfiring. More and more people stopped seeking news via these corporate outlets and started to get news directly via blogs, live feed, email etc.

-Israeli Brigadier General Yoav Mordechai said about the events today "It's important to remember that this is the first day. The Nakba and Naksa days are ahead of us, and that is where the challenge will be." It is obvious that they start to worry!
I could go on to list a few more. But we need now to focus on our next events: the Welcopme to Palestine Campaign for 15-21 April. We do need people to work hard on this (volunteers are always welcome). Action is the best antidote to despair.

*Our video in Bethlehem: http://youtu.be/7U1qQVqVnsM*

Other videos

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sVuxQJw-6TI

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ukH9VBD2Zeg

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JkF9awg-HPA

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nflbnYZW4ws

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JkaIs8s4i4Y

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BXJnBZfX1GA

Pictures

http://photoblog.msnbc.msn.com/_news/2012/03/30/10940732-violence-on-land-day-as-israeli-forces-and-palestinians-clash

Take action Land Day


Israel Defense Ministry plan earmarks 10 percent of West Bank for settlement expansion. Newly released maps indicate Civil Administration secretly setting aside additional land for Jewish settlements, presumably with the intention of expanding them. By Akiva Eldar


More links/news on this land day events
Thousands of demonstrators mark Land Day in Jordan

Rabbis of Anti-Zionist Group Join Protest Marking Land Day on Lebanon-Israel Border

Why Land Day still matters: Today, with no resolution in sight to the historic injustices inflicted upon them, Palestinians in Israel and elsewhere use this day to remember and redouble their efforts for emancipation.
By Sam Bahour and Fida Jiryis

Mazin Qumsiyeh, PhD

GLOBAL BDS LAND DAY
BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT, SANCTIONS

BDS roundup: Gearing up for a global BDS day of action

1. The BDS Global Day of Action is an opportunity to showcase the achievements of our diverse and global movement through visible and ... 
2. Commemorating Palestinian Land Day: Join the BDS Global Day of ...
BDS Global Day of Action 2012. Follow the latest about the BDS Global Day of Action 2012. free_palestine_wsf_brazil. From News ...

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4. BNC salutes Global BDS Day of Action and Israeli Apartheid Week ...

5. Boycott Israeli Products, BDS Day Of Action 2010 - YouTube

6. More videos for global bds day of action »