



ANNUAL REPORT

AUGUST 2021-JULY 2022

FOSNA

FRIENDS of SABEEL NORTH AMERICA

A Christian Voice for Palestine

F|O|S|N|A

FRIENDS OF SABEEL NORTH AMERICA

A Christian Voice for Palestine

MISSION & MANDATE

Friends of Sabeel North America (FOSNA) is an interdenominational Christian organization pursuing justice and peace in the Holy Land through education, advocacy, and nonviolent action.

FOSNA promotes the vision of Sabeel Jerusalem, an ecumenical liberation theology movement founded by Palestinian Christians in the Holy Land. Based in the United States, we amplify the voice of Palestinians by advocating in churches, communities, and governments for liberation, justice, and peace in Palestine and beyond. Together, we are . . .

A Christian Voice for Palestine!

“ONLY JUSTICE ROOTED IN COMPASSION CAN SAVE US FROM REPEATING THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE, FROM EMPOWERING ONE OPPRESSED PEOPLE ONLY TO MAKE THEM OPPRESSORS OF ANOTHER PEOPLE.”

— Rosemary Radford Ruether, *Forward to Justice and Only Justice: A Palestinian Theology of Liberation*



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Having given itself the daunting task of being a Christian Voice for Palestine, FOSNA has risen to the challenge!

With a dedicated staff, a supportive board, and a faithful constituency, we have endeavored to maintain Christian Hope in the midst of an abysmal situation in Palestine. We have endeavored to engage the false theology of Christian Zionism with patient education and loving rebuke; to challenge a lethargic church with concrete campaigns, education, and untiring advocacy; to confront a complicit administration with challenges to live up to its stated ideals; to engage the community of activists with hope, commitment, solidarity, and coalition building.



The following pages will outline our many activities, but they also highlight the vastness of the task ahead of us. As we work to expand our base, reach out to diverse audiences, and engage new communities in our struggle for justice, we thank you for your faithful generosity, engagement, and support.

-- Jonathan Kuttab



IMPACT & ACHIEVEMENTS

Those crying out for justice in Palestine can often feel like a lone voice in the wilderness, standing against an onslaught of:

- misinformation & misdirected anger
- complicit & apathetic institutions
- cynical accusations of antisemitism, &
- an ongoing prevalence of destructive & bigoted ideologies.

As friends of Sabeel, however, we stand together in solidarity, secure in our calling as an unapologetic voice for Palestine.

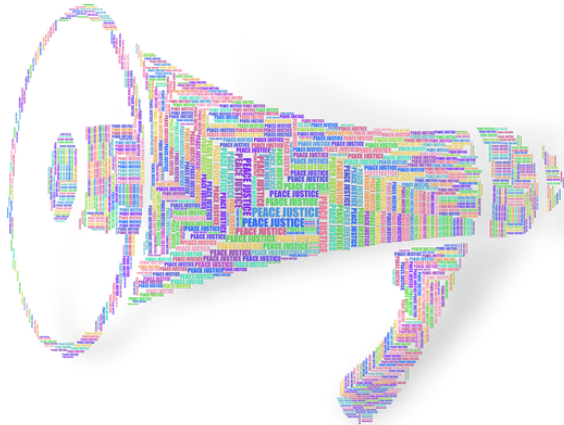
***And, together,
we are making a difference.***



FOSNA is challenging the powers of oppression and domination that humiliate and suppress the Palestinian people:

In the past year, FOSNA organized and participated in over **20** campaigns, activities, and special events.

FOSNA began regular advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill, while **thousands** of letters were sent by friends and supporters like you.



FOSNA administers a **monthly** gathering of denominational activists and national organizations, facilitating strategic communication and activity coordination.

Events

and Campaigns



#JUSTICE4HALABI

A BRIEFING WITH MAHER HANNA

ATTORNEY FOR INCARCERATED WORLD VISION STAFFER MUHAMMAD HALABI

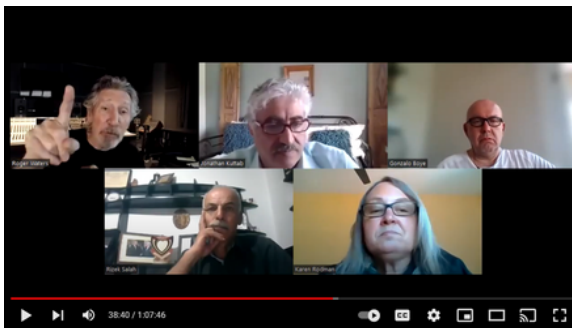
Wednesday, June 22 @ 9:30am PDT / 12:30pm EDT



ENDORSE FOSNA'S DECLARATION REGARDING RESPECT FOR THE BODIES OF THE DECEASED

SEEKING RELIGIOUS LEADERS

LIBERATING THEOLOGY
RESISTING EMPIRE



Freedom to Worship

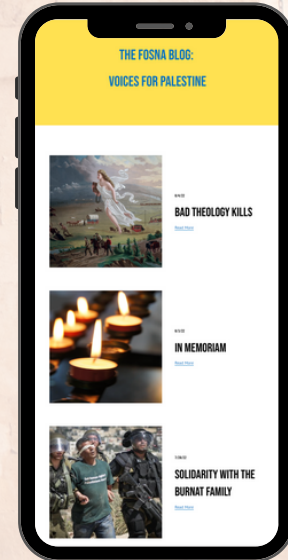
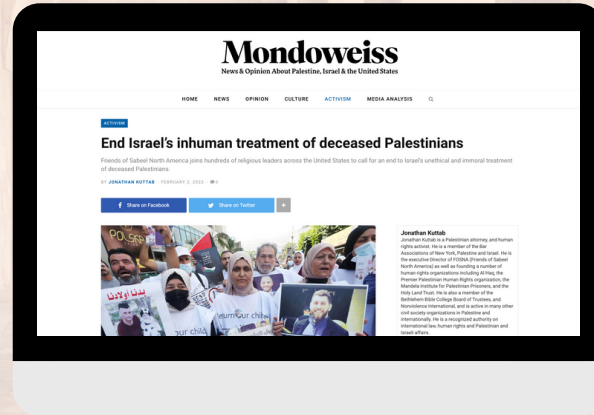


Destructive theologies, ideologies, and assumptions no longer go unchallenged:

In the past year, FOSNA released over **65** statements, articles, and reflections.

FOSNA was featured in over **40** articles from multiple outlets, including: Mondoweiss, The Arab Center Washington D.C., The Electronic Intifada, The Anglican Peacemaker, and more.

FOSNA team members published **two** books and **six** booklets on Palestinian Liberation Theology.





Events
and Writings

PALESTINIAN SPEAKERS BUREAU

No one can tell the story of Palestine better than a Palestinian!

Click here to see the list of [speakers](#) and [contact FOSNA](#) to make the connection!

Center Palestinian Voices!

THEOLOGY, LIBERATION, & PALESTINE:

CONVERSATIONS IN HONOR OF [ROSEMARY RADFORD RUTHER](#)



MARC ELLIS



NORA CARMİ



KATHY BERGEN



NAİM ATEEK



IN MEMORIAM

JULY 13, 2022 @ 9:00AM PACIFIC / 12:00PM EASTERN

7:00PM JERUSALEM

EASTER IN JERUSALEM
The Sabeel Community Celebrates Holy Saturday



REV. NAİM ATEEK



FOSNA.ORG/EASTER22 | APRIL 16, 2021 | 9AM PT, 12PM ET

**5 Brand New eBooks
from Sabeel Founder
Naim Ateek**

**SERVING A
CRUCIFIED KING**



*Meditations on Faith, Politics, and the
Unyielding Pursuit of God's Reign*

JESSE STEVEN WHEELER

foreword by MICHAEL F. KUHN



JONATHAN KUTTAR
**BEYOND THE
TWO-STATE
SOLUTION**



*Some are trapped by the past.
This book opens the gate to the future.*

Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb

Americans are growing more aware of the reality of Israeli apartheid and the colonial violence on which it is built:

- FOSNA team members served as keynote speakers, panelists, or facilitators at over **60** conferences, consultations, webinars, and other engagements.
- FOSNA endorsed or co-sponsored over **30** public statements and events.
- National leadership has been connecting with regional affiliate groups and dedicated networks, coalitions, and friends across the nation, building relationships, promoting collaboration, and coordinating special events.






NOURA ERAKAT
Human Rights Attorney
Professor at Rutgers University,
Author of *Justice for Some: Law and the Question of Palestine*.



JONATHAN KUTTAB
International human rights lawyer,
founder of Al-Haq, NonViolence
International & Just Peace
Advocates. Executive Director of
FOSNA.



JEFF HALPER
Israeli Anthropologist.
Founder of One Democratic
State Campaign.



Public
Events



**Panel Discussion on the
Amnesty International Report
"Israel's Apartheid Against Palestinians:
Cruel System of Domination and Crime Against Humanity"**

Presented by Friends of Sabeel North America, Pittsburgh
PANELISTS

Rohay Asaad, Political & feminist Palestinian organizer & human rights lawyer/advocate
Diana Butts, Director of Communications for the Institute for M. E. Understanding
Jeff Halper, Author of "Decolonizing Israel, Liberating Palestine"
Jonathan Kuttab, Executive Director (FOSNA) Friends of Sabeel North America

Sunday, March 27, 2022
1-2:30PM Pittsburgh; 8-9:30PM Jerusalem

VIRTUAL ON ZOOM: PLEASE CLICK HERE TO RECEIVE LINK <https://tinyurl.com/fosnapanel>

And, thanks to the generosity of friends like you, FOSNA is the largest contributor to the essential work of Sabeel in Palestine!

- 
- ***Kumi Now!*** Connecting global activists with the organizations working on the ground in Palestine and Israel
 - ***Sabeel Thursday Service.*** A global online service examining scripture in light of the ongoing realities confronting the Palestinian Church and the pursuit of Palestinian liberation
 - ***Cornerstone Magazine.*** A periodical exploring topics of critical concern in the movement for Palestinian liberation
 - ***Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan.*** Providing health insurance for thousands of Palestinians otherwise denied as a result of Israeli apartheid
 - ***Prophetic Direct Action.*** Confronting Christians Zionists, defending the disenfranchised, organizing and advocating on behalf of the Palestinian Christian community
 - ***Wave of Prayer.*** Global prayers for Palestine



CORNERSTONE

ISSUE 84, SPRING 2022

A PUBLICATION BY SABEEL-ECUMENICAL LIBERATION THEOLOGY CENTER



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ISRAEL: AN APARTHEID STATE?

Sabeel Staff

This month's issue of Cornerstone reflects on the issue of apartheid. It is notable that in both South Africa and Israel leaders utilized the scriptures to justify their racist regime, arguing that they were set apart—chosen exclusively by God—to rule over those who were already living in the land. Both the white Afrikaners in South Africa and Israeli settlers have used the exodus narrative to claim that they alone have sovereignty over the land. This reality humbles us to be careful how we read the scriptures. Do we weaponize the Bible to harm others for our own gain? Or do the words of scripture move us to sacrificial love for our neighbour?

Today we turn to Mark 11:12-25, Jesus cleansing the temple, to reflect on the issue of apartheid. At first this text might seem like a surprising choice—what does Jesus kicking the merchants out of the temple have to do with the racism of apartheid? Yet, as we explore the text together it becomes clear that Jesus' anger is not only directed towards money changers in the temple, but also the deeper, negative impacts of the temple structure at that time.

First, let us recall the story together. In Mark 11:15 we are told Jesus arrives in Jerusalem and upon seeing the money changers and those selling sacrificial animals forces them to leave saying, "Is it not written: 'My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations?' (Isaiah 56) But you have made it 'a den of robbers.'"

WEEK 29 JULY 16 TO JULY 22 THE ISRAELI APARTHEID WALL

The Wall is not built on the Green Line, but rather cuts deep into the West Bank.

There are 634 checkpoints or other military obstructions under Occupation control.

Some 12% of Palestinians in the West Bank are "outside" the Wall.

Checkpoints may have very limited hours, and can be closed without notice.

The Wall's total length is over 700km, more than twice the length of the Green Line.

181km of the Apartheid Wall surrounds Jerusalem, cutting the city off from the rest of the West Bank.



<http://kuminow.com/ApartheidWall>

Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center

Sabeel Thursday Service

Join Sabeel every Thursday (6pm Jerusalem) for online Bible Study, discussion, and prayer. Examine scripture in light of the ongoing realities confronting the Palestinian Church and the pursuit of Palestinian liberation.

A Sabeel Initiative



CONNECTING GLOBAL ACTIVISTS WITH THE ORGANIZATIONS WORKING ON THE GROUND IN PALESTINE AND ISRAEL



LORD hear our prayer

Sabeel, Wave of Prayer.



Web Traffic & Social Media

- **New Website:**

- Unique Visitors: 12,000
- Page views: 27,000

- **Twitter:**

- Followers: 2,410
- Reach: 68,300

- **Facebook:**

- Followers: 6,886
- Reach: 71,172

- **New Instagram:**

- Followers: 288
- Reach: 2,884

THE FOSNA TEAM

STAFF

JONATHAN KUTTAB

Executive Director

AMY MCLAUGHRY

"Chief Number Cruncher"

CHAD COLLINS

National Organizer

LAILA A.

Communications and Campus

Outreach Coordinator

JESSE WHEELER

Executive Administrator /

Development Director

TRUSTEES

CANON NAIM ATEEK

(PRESIDENT)

NAHIDA GORDON (CO-CHAIR)

JOE ROOS (CO-CHAIR)

PHIL BENSON

MARIE-CLAIRE KLASSEN

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GABRIEL HABIB

YVONNE HADDAD

ZAHA HASSAN

RASHID KHALIDI

ATIF KUBURSI

AFIF SAFIEH

JOHN SALZBERG

DOROTHY JEAN WEAVER

CORNEL WEST

OUR MEMBERS, AFFILIATES, & FRIENDS:

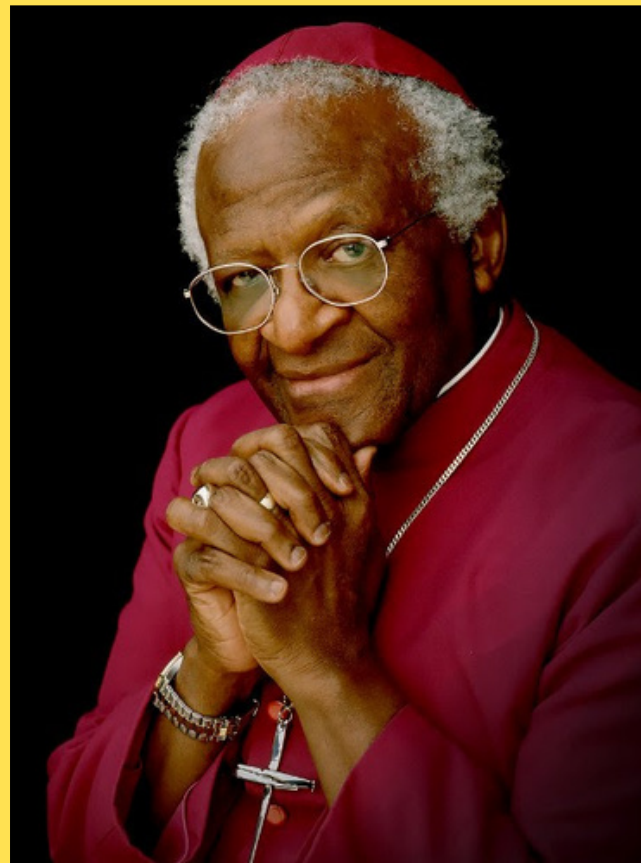
You are the heart & soul of the North American movement for Palestinian liberation!

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Archbishop
Desmond Mpilo Tutu



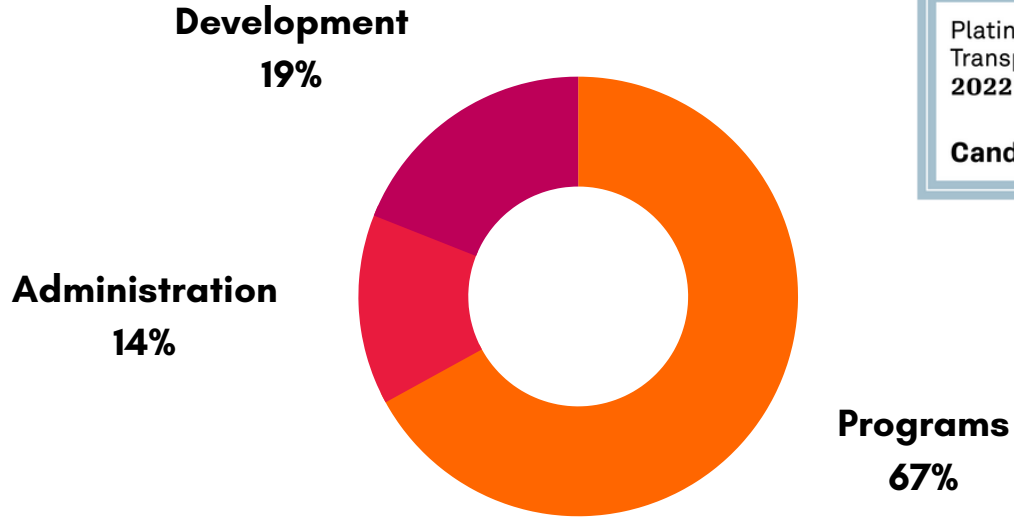
Patron of Sabeel International
& a true friend to Palestine



RESOURCE ALLOCATION



FOSNA is funded by the generous support of hundreds of individuals giving small donations.



Platinum
Transparency
2022

Candid.

\$326,978 Total budget | **896** Individual donors

LOOKING AHEAD!

Going forward, we seek to:

- Fortify, expand, and mobilize FOSNA's constituent base.
- Continue shining a light on the violent reality of Israeli apartheid and its catastrophic impact on Palestinian lives and communities.
- Declare and embody a prophetic message for the churches in America, confronting destructive ideologies and promoting theologies of liberation, justice, and peace.



NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT!

Palestinian civil society is under attack, facing an unprecedented assault on its most basic liberties.

Yet, with the collapse of the "peace-process" people are recognizing Palestine for the anti-colonial struggle it has always been!

Ethnic cleansing is continuing apace in Masafer Yatta, East Jerusalem, the Negev, and beyond.

Yet, diverse liberation movements are coming together in solidarity, from the movement for Palestinian liberation to the movement for black lives and indigenous struggles the world over!

www.fosna.org/donate

NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT!

American leaders, including "progressives," remain unable or unwilling to hold Israel accountable for its crimes.

Yet, people of conviction are waking up to the reality of Israeli apartheid and speaking out against injustice!

Anti-boycott laws and cynical accusations of antisemitism are being promulgated the world over.

Yet, many are questioning destructive dogmas and long-held beliefs about Israel, pursuing authentic liberation, and standing up for freedom both here and abroad!

www.fosna.org/donate

SUPPORT THE WORK OF FOSNA IN 2022

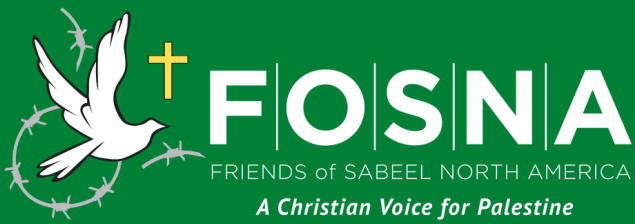
Now is the time to act!

We can advance justice in and beyond the Holy Land, but only if we stand together. This work has never been more important!

Join the global Sabeel movement in action by joining one of our many campaigns or by donating at:

www.fosna.org/donate

For a comprehensive report of activities, visit: www.fosna.org/R2022



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friendse@fosna.org | (503) 653-6625

www.fosna.org

Our Values, Our Voice

We advance Palestinian liberation.

We recognize theology as a liberating force.

We believe active engagement with the world is an integral element of faith.

We are building a base of active support for Palestinian freedom in U.S. churches.

We value intergenerational leadership and advocacy.

We are accountable to and led by Palestinian communities in Palestine and the diaspora.

We see the connections between struggles and work across movements for justice.