Emergency Conference

Before it's too late: Moving from protest to persistent action

You are invited to convene on Thursday July 22, 2010 in Wahat al-Salam – Neve Shalom 10:00 – 17:00

The Flotilla incident exposed the direct link between blind exercise of power with relation to the residents of the Occupied Territories and between oppression of Palestinian citizens of Israel. It exposed the clear bond between the Occupation, violence towards the outside and the injury to citizens' rights and basic principles of democracy within.

The conference calls to join forces between Jewish and Arab organizations for human rights, protest and peace, to make a clear joint appeal and work together to:

- Stop the siege on Gaza
- Stop incitement and racist policy aimed at Palestinians in Israel.
- Stop the persecution of critics and opponents of Government policy.
- Strive for ending the Occupation in a persistent and effective way.
- Enable a joint struggle by Arab and Jewish organizations on the basis of clear ideas, in order to awaken all those who wish to work for change.

The programme:

10:00 Registration – Fred Segal Peace and Friendship Library courtyard.

Part 1

10:30 – 12:00 1st panel – The siege on Gaza after the Flotilla incident. Moderator: Ahmad Hijazi. Speakers: Dr. Neve Gordon, Noah Salameh – Center for Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation in the PNA, MK Hanin Zoabi, Hadas Ziv - Physicians for Human Rights.

12:15 – 13:45: 2nd panel – The assault on human rights and on Arab and Jewish activists opposing Government policy. Moderator: Nava Sonnenschein. Speakers: Gideon Levi, Att. Abeer Baker - Adalah, Elisheva Milikovski, Prof. Gadi Algazi.

13:45 – 14:45 Lunch in Neve Shalom – Wahat al-Salam hotel

Part 2

The participants will divide into 4 groups according to areas of interest and direction of actions. In the groups we will create an "open space" for joint strategic thinking, towards organizing effective, persistent activity. Facilitated by Abdessalam Najjar, Nachi Alon and Yoav Lurie.

Participating organizations

Wahat al-Salam – Neve Shalom; Bimkom: Planners for Planning Rights: Keshev: The Center for the Protection of Democracy in Israel: Psychoactive: Mental Health Professionals for Human Rights; Adalah: The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel; Mossawa Center: The Advocacy Center for Arab Citizens in Israel; The Association for Civil Rights in Israel; Women's Coalition for Peace; Combatants for Peace; The Israeli Committee Against Housing Demolitions; Public Committee Against Torture in Israel, HaMoked: Center for Defense of the Individual, Gush Shalom: Israeli Peace Block; Yesh Din: Volunteers for Human Rights; Physicians for Human Rights; Rabbis for Human Rights; Palestinian – Israeli Peace NGO Forum; Tarabut-Hithabrut: Arab-Jewish Movement for Social & Political Change; Israel Social TV; Elaam: Media Center for the Palestinian – Arab Society in Israel; Gisha: Legal Center for Freedom of Movement; Negev Coexistence Forum; The Association of Forty; Machsom Watch.