

2009/10/08 Chicago Faith Coalition Update #10



Informing and Advocating on Israeli/Palestinian Issues

The [home page](#) of the Chicago Faith Coalition website features and retains these email updates. Check out the monthly [calendar](#) for speakers and events scheduled in the Chicago area.

Please email [Ed Thompson](#) with suggested items for inclusion in these weekly updates or with comments about the update.

Action Opportunities

[Join](#) the Free Mohammad Now campaign sponsored by the Jewish Voice for Peace.

[Sign up](#) for the Freedom Walk for Palestine in Chicago that is scheduled for October 17.

U.S. Foreign Policy

The level of tension in Israel/Palestine has ratcheted up several notches in the past week. [This article](#) discusses Obama's decision to continue the policy of keeping Israel's nuclear weapons secret. Tensions in Jerusalem were highlighted in this [Americans for Peace Now article](#). Another source of tension was the action taken by the Palestinians in the UN Human Rights Council that is summarized [here](#). [Barghouti](#) and [Makdisi](#) deliver blistering attacks on the Palestinian Authority. Meanwhile the [Wall Street Journal reports](#) that Hamas successfully exchanged a video for the freedom of 20 female Palestinian prisoners. [Surasky's article](#) describes the increasingly harsh attacks by the pro-Israeli hard-liners.

[This article](#) describes how 13% (including Bean, Foster, Halvorson, Quigley & Shock from Illinois) of the Representatives in the U.S. House spent nine days of their August recess on a "fact finding" trip to Israel. [Item 5 in the Americans for Peace Now legislative round-up](#) gives verbatim comments from several Representatives about what they learned from this "fact finding" trip.

Must read or must view or must hear

Youser Munayyer wrote a [compelling article](#) about Palestinians being denied their own

humanity.

[Gideon Levy exposes](#) the role of an ethics professor associated with the Israeli Defense Forces.

Realities rarely reported in U.S. news media

Brazil was certainly in the Chicago media last week. However, [this action by the Brazilian Parliament](#) was not covered.

[This Jerusalem Post article](#) wrestles with the inherent conflict between the principle of being Jewish and the principle of democracy.

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