

## Chicago Faith Coalition Update #21 January 7, 2010



### Social Justice and Security for Palestinians and Israelis

#### Action Opportunities

Show your social networks the [human face of life in Gaza](#) as depicted by Gazans with video cameras supplied by B'Tselem.

Ask the U.S. Consul General in Jerusalem to [demand that Israel release Leaders of Palestinian nonviolence](#).

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#### U.S. Foreign Policy

The [New York Times reported](#) about Gazan demonstrators and Egyptian soldier clashes. This article also reported that only some of the Viva Palestina convoy were permitted into Gaza, but [MP George Galloway, the leader of the convoy, told Amy Goodman on Democracy Now](#) that all of the convoy entered Gaza. The [New York Times also published an article about life in Gaza](#) with references to several videos that were created by Gazans with cameras donated by B'Tselem.

An *electronic intifada* article suggests some reasons [why the United States and its allies have been so eager to protect Israel from war crime accountability](#).

The *Wall Street Journal* reported about [a captive soldier becoming an Israeli cause](#) and the following day about [continuing negotiations for the soldier's release in exchange for about 1,000 Palestinian prisoners](#).

The *Wall Street Journal* also reported on the [900 Israeli settler housing units planned for East Jerusalem and the animosity between Livni and Netanyahu](#).

Cecilie Surasky in *MuzzleWatch* [discusses the new "language weapons" that are being provided to Israeli diplomats](#). American officials would benefit from reading [Brian Eno's "Stealing Gaza" article in CounterPunch](#), [Nadia Hajib's article entitled "When does it become genocide?"](#) and [Imam Zaid's article entitled "Thomas Friedman: Prisoner in a Glass House."](#)

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### **Must read or must view or must hear**

[Jim Walls' blog "A Teachable Moment"](#) looks at the movie *Avatar* in a new light.

[Professor Walid Khalidi lectures eloquently about the history of Jerusalem.](#)

The [Los Angeles Times](#) article by [Jonathan Kuttab](#) suggests that a one- state solution is not as far fetched as it seems.

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### **Realities rarely reported in U.S. news media**

Articles that have put a human face on the situation in Gaza include the [Financial Times](#), the [electronic intifada on a family's losses](#) and the [electronic intifada on how a new year opens old wounds](#).

Since the main stream media ignored the Gaza Freedom March, this [electronic intifada article](#) provides updates for the past few days.

Nonviolent Palestinian leaders are being taken to Israeli prisons as [described by Nadia Hajib](#), the [report on the weekly Bil'in demonstration](#), [Jody McIntyre's interview with a Bil'in mother](#) and the [updated status of Jamal Juma'](#).

[Bloggers on the Health and Human Rights Project](#) delegation to Israel/Palestine led by Alice Rothchild include some compelling and detailed descriptions of life in the West Bank and in Israel.

The devastating results of Israeli policy on one family are described in this [Mondoweiss blog](#). [Grant Smith writes about AIPAC's legal problems](#) as the organization turns 47.

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### **Scheduled Event**

Prayer Service for Peace

Friday, January 15, 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM.

Lutheran Church of the Atonement at 909 East Main Street in Barrington.

Recent travelers to Israel, the West Bank and Jordan will share their experiences and photos.

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