

2009/08/12 Chicago Faith Coalition Update #2

Informing and Advocating on Israeli/Palestinian Issues

You are receiving this 2009/08/12 Chicago Faith Coalition Update #2 email because you have endorsed a Chicago Faith Coalition on Middle East Policy (CFCMEP) letter, attended (or were invited to) a CFCMEP meeting or have requested being added to this distribution list. The new Chicago Faith Coalition website home page [view [here](#)] will also feature and archive these updates. Every two weeks, the Chicago Faith Coalition website will also post a new poll about Israeli/Palestinian matters. The Chicago Faith Coalition will be the sole user of your email. You can unsubscribe at any time. Please email [Ed Thompson](#) with suggested items for inclusion in these weekly updates or with comments about the update.

Action Alert

Americans for Peace Now (APN) initiated an action alert last week for sending emails to the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). APN provides an automated email to the ADL asking them to rethink their positions on settlements and peace in Israel/Palestine as published in a full-page *New York Times* ad on August 4, 2009. Click [here](#) to ask the ADL to rethink their positions that oppose the Obama administration's approach to settlements and peace in Israel/Palestine.

Meet with your Senators and your Representative during their August recess to speak out for justice, security, peace and reconciliation in Israel/Palestine. Find contact information for your elected representative [here](#).

U.S. Foreign Policy

[Read](#) *The Jerusalem Post* online editorial published on August 5, 2009 entitled "Rattling the Cage: Sheikh Jarrah really says it all." B'Tselem's comments about the Sheikh Jarrah property rights trampling can be read [here](#). At the time of this writing, the Obama administration has not

commented about the Sheikh Jarrah incident.

In the past few weeks, several articles have suggested that the Obama administration must address the not-for-profit organizations and individuals within the United States that are providing financial and social support for trampling Palestinian property rights by expanding Israeli settlements. [Read](#) Ronit Avni's (Executive Director of [Just Vision](#)) op-ed in *The Washington Post* on June 25, 2009 entitled "Want to Stop Israeli Settlements? Follow the Dollars." [Menassat.com](#) is a website focusing on news, trends and events concerning the media in the twenty-two countries of the MENA region. [Read](#) their extensive discussion of some American policies, organizations and people that help make Sheikh Jarrah incidents possible.

A recent quarterly publication of BADIL entitled *Litigating Palestine: Holding Israel Accountable in the Courtroom* is available [here](#). One of the articles in this publication entitled "The Jewish National Fund: Possibilities of a Legal Challenge" by Karen Pennington and Joseph Schechia examines whether recent precedents targeting Islamic charities in the United States may reopen the door to challenging the not-for-profit status of the Jewish National Fund and other Zionist para-state organizations. This article can be read [here](#).

Must read or must view or must hear

Listen [here](#) to a 30-minute audio recording of Dori Smith's interview about settlements in East Jerusalem with Dr. Alice Rothchild on Talk Nation Radio for August 6, 2009. As a Jewish physician, she brings a unique perspective on a wide range of issues that are critical for justice, security, peace and reconciliation in Israel/Palestine. [Read](#) Louis Frankenthaler's article entitled "'Breaking the Silence" or silencing the critics?" published by *The Electronic Intifada* on August 7, 2009.

Gaza conditions rarely reported in U.S. news media
The International Committee of the Red Cross released a report on the conditions in Gaza a few weeks ago. You can read the report [here](#).
Rabbi Brant Rosen ([Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation](#) in Evanston) has been one of the leaders of an initiative to support Gaza by fasting for Gaza. Details can be found [here](#).

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