

# Palestine: the resistance continues



*Palestinians and their supporters protest against Israeli forces who besieged the city of Nablus for two weeks last October (photo: Activestills)*

## **2023 promises to be a tumultuous year for everyone living in Palestine.**

Israel's present borders were set after their military campaign of 1948. But for the Israeli regime the ethnic cleansing of Palestine is unfinished business.

## **2022 – A DEADLY YEAR**

The United Nations have declared 2022 the deadliest year on record for West Bank Palestinians.

Across the West Bank and Gaza, Israeli soldiers and racist settlers

- **killed over 250 Palestinians.**
- **injured over 9,000 Palestinians** in attacks that are encouraged by the authorities.
- **demolished over 950 buildings**

– homes, schools, solar panels, water supplies – to force Palestinian West Bank residents into smaller and smaller areas. At the same time there was a massive increase in Israeli settlements, towns that are built on stolen Palestinian land.

## **NEW RULERS, OLD IDEAS**

The outcome of Israel's fifth election in three years is a government coalition dominated by racist settler parties. The new regime's opening statement states a clear intention to expand illegal settlements on the West Bank at the expense of the present inhabitants and to downgrade the rights of Palestinians in 'all areas of the land of Israel'. **The apartheid rulers are going for broke.**

## **75 YEARS OF DOMINATION**

World opinion has been shocked by the overt racism on display in the Israeli Parliament, but Palestinians have seen all this before. This year marks 75 years since the Israeli military campaign known as the 'Nakba' (catastrophe) in which over 400 villages were destroyed and 750,000 Palestinians were made permanent refugees.

Ever since then they have been pushed further and further back and moves towards a full Palestinian state have always been thwarted.

## **THE CALL FOR SANCTIONS**

The United Nations has been heavily critical and recently referred Israel's occupation of the West Bank to the International Court of Justice. But the USA consistently prevents any action by the all-important Security Council.

Other rich countries sit on their hands and Israel enjoys privileged trading status with the EU and Britain.

Since 2005 there have been public campaigns for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions to isolate Israel and get a fair deal for the Palestinians. Artists and athletes have refused Israeli sponsorship. At the recent World Cup the stadia were full of Palestinian flags.

## **ISRAELI APARTHEID**

In June 2020 the Israeli organisation **Yesh Din** reported that 'the crime



*against humanity of apartheid is being committed in the West Bank.'*

In January 2021 the Israeli organisation **Btselem** reported that 'the Israeli regime's rationale and the measures used to implement it are reminiscent of the South African regime'.

In April 2021 the influential **Human Rights Watch** concluded that 'the Israeli Government has pursued an intent to maintain the domination of Jewish-Israelis over Palestinians'.

In February 2022 **Amnesty International** produced a lengthy report concluding that Israel is practising the crime of apartheid.

**Surely it is only a matter of time before the people with power wake up and insist on change.**

**We will continue to campaign for the Palestinians and invite you to join us whenever you can.**

## **What you can do**

- Urge your MP to speak out in support of the Palestinians
- Join the Palestine Solidarity Campaign and Liverpool Friends of Palestine. Get in touch (details below) and come to our meetings on the first Wednesday of each month and other events
- Boycott Puma, Hewlett Packard and Israeli goods and services.

Liverpool Friends of Palestine, email [liverpoolfriendsofpalestine.20@gmail.com](mailto:liverpoolfriendsofpalestine.20@gmail.com)  
facebook.com/liverpoolpalestine, twitter @Livfop, website [fop.co.uk/](http://fop.co.uk/)