

Censorship, Oscars and Trump

The BBC documentary *Gaza: How to Survive a War Zone* follows three children living through the Israeli genocide and military occupation. The BBC deleted it after known anti-Palestinian figures such as David Collier and Tzipi Hotovely (Israeli ambassador to the UK) complained and Culture Minister Lisa Nandy intervened.

The complaints focused only on the narrator being the son of the Deputy Agriculture Minister under Gaza's Hamas government. Hotovely is on the payroll of the Israeli government. Her boss, the Prime Minister, is accused by the ICC of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Meanwhile, *No Other Land* broke through the media silence to win an Oscar for Best Documentary Feature Film. It covers Israeli attacks on the West Bank village Masafer Yatta. As children gather their belongings, the IDF bulldoze houses. Soldiers shoot a protestor and pin an eviction notice to the local playground.

Palestinian activist Basel Adra and Israeli journalist Yuval Abraham collaborated to film from 2019 until the winter after October 7th.

Basel says the Israelis try to "make us strangers in our own land" and how "the hardest struggle is to stay on the land".

The US will not distribute the film but Channel 4 continue to host it. Watch it and see how the 'most moral army in the world' operates. The camera does not lie. The truth is ugly.

Answering Trump on Gaza

On 4 March, Arab states issued their response to Trump's plan to expel all Palestinians from Gaza. Egypt proposed to clear the rubble and bombs

and reconstruct Gaza for Gazans, none of whom would have to leave. Arab oil money would finance the \$53bn plan, while Gaza would be governed by technocrats, pending elections.

The UK, France, Germany, Slovenia and Denmark welcomed the plan. So did Hamas. Israel and the US immediately denounced it.

Direct Talks

But surprisingly, the White House confirmed an official was authorised to talk directly with Hamas about releasing US citizens held captive in Gaza.

This approach overturned US policy to refuse direct talks with anyone they consider 'terrorist'. Israel has negotiated only through intermediaries.

At the same time, Trump used his foghorn on Twitter/X, warning of "hell to pay" if all Israeli captives are not released...

Will the US choose, like Israel, to sacrifice its own citizens in another war?

What You Can Do

- **Email** David Lammy tinyurl.com/lammygaza1
- **Demos** Sundays 2pm Catholic Cathedral.
- Tell **your MP** to sign **EDM 757** against the Trump plan, demand an **immediate full two-way arms embargo** on Israel, oppose any moves to **annex the West Bank**.
- press for **Merseyside Pension Fund divestment**: tinyurl.com/mpfform1
- **Boycott Barclays**. Join us outside the bank Mondays 1:30pm. Tell the City Council to switch its account, like LJMU.
- **Boycott Israeli pharmaceutical TEVA**. Give your pharmacist a letter tinyurl.com/tevalet1

We abhor all attacks on civilians. The slaughter of Israeli civilians on 7 October 2023 by Hamas, and some by Israeli forces, does not justify the massive ongoing Israeli slaughter of Palestinian civilians.



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