

SUNDAY MAY 16 2010, OAK PARK, ILLINOIS

We Stand With Gaza

THE NINTH ANNUAL
WALK FOR A JUST PEACE IN ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

The suffocating siege of Gaza, imposed by Israel after Operation Cast Lead, is an ongoing humanitarian catastrophe for Gaza's 1.5 million inhabitants, half of whom are children. The war-ravaged territory, already impoverished by sanctions and blockades imposed in 2007, has been denied the materials to rebuild after the devastating bombardment and invasion suffered during Israel's assault, over a year ago. Since then, the governments of Israel and Egypt have ignored calls by the United Nations and over 80 humanitarian and international human rights agencies to allow building materials, foodstuffs, and medical equipment into Gaza.

The Ninth Annual Walk for a Just Peace in Israel and Palestine is dedicated to the people of Gaza, their resiliency, and their right to basic human freedoms. We stand determined to keep the plight of the Gazans before the public and to highlight the complicity of the U.S. government in perpetuating the siege.

In the absence of diplomatic action and relief from their governments, courageous and determined individuals around the world have banded together in the spirit of the Berlin Airlift to develop alternative lifelines to the beleaguered Gazans. The Walk celebrates the accomplishments of the Jewish Fast for Gaza, Gaza Freedom March, Viva Palestina, Free Gaza Movement, and other international solidarity activists working in support of Gaza's suffering population.



PROGRAM 1:00 pm
Sanctuary, First United Church of Oak Park, 848 Lake Street

WALK 2:30 pm
a one-mile route through downtown Oak Park

ADVOCACY BUFFET/POTLUCK 3:30 pm
Centennial Hall, First United Church of Oak Park, 848 Lake Street



BILL FLETCHER JR., executive editor of BlackCommentator.com and senior scholar with the Institute for Policy Studies, will offer a searing political critique of the intentionally-provoked "unnatural disaster" that afflicts Gazans.



MEDEA BENJAMIN, cofounder of CODE-PINK and the international human rights organization Global Exchange, will speak about her experiences as an organizer and participant in the December, 2009 Gaza Freedom March.



LARA ELBORNO, a Palestinian law student who participated in the Gaza Freedom March, will give a Palestinian perspective on the March and deliver a compelling report on the living conditions of her family and others in Gaza.

COMMITTEE *for a* JUST PEACE
in ISRAEL *and* PALESTINE

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PALESTINIANS AND ISRAELIS. TWO PEOPLES. ONE FUTURE.