



Palestinian Resistance to racist settlers: ‘Leave stolen land!’

By Monica Moorehead

On July 3, a 20-year-old Palestinian Abdelwahab Khalayleh, who is from Samu’ in Al-Khalil, located in the occupied West Bank, carried out a stabbing attack. Called “Operation Sacred Revenge,” this act in Tel Aviv resulted in the wounding of 10 Zionist settlers. Khalayleh was martyred following his heroic efforts.

This operation was not an isolated incident but part of a much larger ongoing and justified response against the fascist settlers, who are an armed extra-legal terrorist extension of the occupation force and the apartheid, settler-colonial state of Israel.

Haaretz, a left-center Israeli publication, reported that Palestinian farmers located in Turmus Ayya, a town north of the West Bank city of Ramallah, accused settlers of setting fire to lands used for farming and olive groves. Settlers threw stones at homes in the West Bank village of Madama and set fire to an olive grove, according to a Yesh Din investigation.

The Popular Resistance Committees in Palestine reported on July 4: “The decision of the zionist government to approve the construction of approximately 5,300 new homes in settlements in the occupied West Bank is a practical application to annex the West Bank to the zionist entity, Judaize it and empty it of its original inhabitants and displace them.

“The decision of the extremist zionist government to build new homes in the settlements is part of the genocide and ethnic cleansing being carried out by the zionist gangs supported by the American administration across the land



Funeral and protest for four Palestinians killed by Israeli settlers, near Nablus, in the occupied West Bank, on October 12, 2023.

of Palestine.” (Resistance News Network)

Ever since the Nakba in 1948, Palestinians have been driven off their ancestral lands by heinous tactics carried out by these armed vigilantes, with massacres, beatings and arson. In many instances, Palestinians are forced out of their homes at gunpoint to make room for these fascist settlers, many of whom originate from the U.S. and other parts of the Global North. Palestinian lands have been illegally deemed “state lands” and put up for sale at cheap prices for settlers to acquire.

October 7 changed everything

The Al-Aqsa Flood initiated by Hamas on October 7 has brought about a new stark reality for these settlers despite the ongoing horrific genocide of the

Palestinian people that has spread from Gaza to the West Bank.

Due to the air strikes carried out by the Lebanon-based Hezbollah, an integral part of the Axis of Resistance, settlers throughout the West Bank are being rightfully targeted, forcing thousands of them to flee Israel on a daily basis.

The Israeli regime has reported that at least 260,000 settlers have been “displaced” in northern occupied Palestine since October 7 and that 39% of them are now living in hotels. Some of these settlers have established their own “refugee” camp.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a war criminal, has been forced to cut \$500 million shekels (the equivalent to over U.S. \$135 million) from some governmental ministries to pay for the evacuation of the settlers due to the resistance.

The resistance has shown that there is no safe place for these racist settlers to reside peacefully on stolen Palestinian lands even as their ongoing atrocities continue.

Auctions being held by Zionist institutions in the U.S. to sell off Palestinian lands are being met with protests, leading to some of them being shut down.

Hamas stated: “The zionist occupation authorities’ approval of the construction of 5,300 new settlement units in the settlements of the occupied West Bank is a clear expression of the zionist extremist government’s disregard for all international laws and resolutions that criminalize settlement and an affirmation of its continued work to seize more Palestinian land at a time when it is unleashing herds of criminal settlers to continue their aggression against our Palestinian people in the cities and towns of the West Bank, with full protection from the terrorist occupation army.

“We in the Hamas movement affirm that these fascist decisions will only add to our stationed people’s and their valiant resistance’s adherence to the option of remaining steadfast on this land, the escalation of resistance and clashes with the occupation on all axes, until the sweeping of their aggression from our land and sanctities.

“We call on the United Nations and the international community to take effective steps to deter this terrorist entity, to stop its brutal war on our people in Gaza and the West Bank and its frantic attempts to change the facts on the ground and to hold it accountable for the ongoing war crimes it is carrying out in full view of the entire world.” (Resistance News Network, July 4) □



Left: Resist NATO conference, Washington, D.C., July 6. Right: Members of United National Antiwar Coalition and Bronx Anti-War Coalition join protests against NATO summit in Washington, July 7.

Support for Zionism collapsing on all fronts

Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant's July 1 admission — that his country's army needed 10,000 more soldiers immediately — might have shocked the world even one year ago. But since Hamas launched the Al-Aqsa Flood operation on October 7, the Zionist apartheid state has been beset by a multitude of crises. In the past nine months, about 900 officers in the Israeli military "have requested to review the release of their contracts." (palestinechronicle.com, July 1)

It may not be that every one of these 900 officers is motivated by conscience. But whatever the motive, these figures point to the fact that Israeli military morale is at an all-time low.

To meet the need for soldiers, Israel's Supreme Court ruled unanimously against the exemption from conscription of ultra-orthodox Haredi Jews. This ultra-orthodox community comprises about 13% of the population. It has been a base of support for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. And it wants to keep its long privilege of being free from conscription and forced service in the military.

The Netanyahu regime has cracked down on every expression of dissent, which includes Haredi protests against conscription. It includes demonstrations by families of the October 7 hostages demanding the prime minister agree to a ceasefire and prisoner exchange agreement

with Hamas. It includes forces within Israel that are publicly expressing opposition to the war.

That's what happens during an illegal and unwinnable war.

Of course, the repression against Israeli citizens pales in comparison to the ongoing genocide in Gaza, which Netanyahu continues to insist is necessary to "free" the hostages captured by the Palestinian Resistance on October 7. At least 38,000 Palestinians have been martyred, but the actual number of people slaughtered by Israel could be many times that.

Global solidarity — a part of resistance

The collapse of Zionist support extends beyond the Israeli military. In the first six months after October 7, some 550,000 Israeli citizens migrated out of the country. Migration into Israel has fallen.

Across the globe, support for Israel has plummeted. Workers in various countries have obstructed the production or blocked shipments of weapons destined for the apartheid state. The student intifada, started with an encampment at Columbia University, drew in students across the U.S. and in many other countries.

Even U.S. unions, some with a history of backing Israel, have called for a ceasefire in Gaza and are discussing divesting from Israel Bonds. This is not close to what they should be doing, but it nevertheless represents a sea change — one that clearly threatens U.S. and Israeli hegemony in West Asia.

If Israel ever was a stable "democracy" in the region, those days are gone. There is no going back.

Youth Against War and Fascism, at one time Workers World Party's youth group, formed the Committee to Support Middle East Liberation around 1969. Its signs and buttons read: "U.S. out of the Middle East! Palestine will win!"

Today, we could not be more proud of the Palestinian Resistance for creating the possibility of that slogan becoming a reality. □



Workers' actions like this port shutdown in Genoa, Italy, in November 2023, to block weapons shipments to Israel, demonstrate the collapse of support for the Zionist state.

PHOTO: BDS

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Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the never-ending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQ2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people's movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the

streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you're interested in Marxism, socialism and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP branch near you. □

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The People vs. the State

By Sue Harris

The following is a report on discussions between political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal and five student activists from encampments for Palestine Liberation during a webinar July 3 titled “The People vs. the State.”

Shena Sood of the Campaign to Bring Mumia Home pointed out that many of the students in the encampments had heard about Mumia there for the first time. She also said that Mumia’s failing health was due to medical neglect by the prison system as is true of many political prisoners.

Next came a brief statement by Johanna Fernandez of the Campaign and professor of history at Baruch College, of the City University of New York, who went over some of the legal chicanery committed by the state in originally convicting Mumia.

Fernandez shared a clip of Mumia speaking to the City College of New York student encampment. He sounded wonderful despite poor health. He said the students must speak out against the terrorism afflicting Gaza, “with all of your might, with all of your will ... that it’s time right now, this day, hour, moment to be heard! ... so the people of Gaza, Rafah, the West Bank can feel your solidarity.”

Mumia added: “It is not enough to demand ceasefire! Demand cease occupation!” The shrill prison recording sounded every three minutes throughout his talk. It only served to intensify his message.

The students were then introduced. They included: Hadeeqa Arzoo Malik, CCNY; Besan Ahmad, Temple University; Safiyyah Ogandipe, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Steff Reed, Union Theological Seminary (UTS); and Nicolas Brown, Columbia University. Though they came from different universities, the students were unanimous in their response



Screenshot of panelist on webinar: The People vs. the State, July 3, 2024.

to Mumia’s message and in their views towards the struggle.

Hadeeqa Arzoo Malik said, “Everyone is aware of the connection between prisoners of war and people dying in Gaza.” She said the role of the students is to be “breaking down the barrier between students and the community” to unite the movement.

Besan Ahmad, who had participated in the Gaza encampment at the University of Pennsylvania, stressed the quality of “steadfastness” that she saw in Mumia, how despite 42 years of imprisonment, he is still going, just like the people of Gaza. Students have a tradition of protest, she added.

Nicholas Brown said that hearing Mumia reminded him of his ancestry, his family and the bond of connection among people at the encampment.

Safiyya Ogandipe, too, pointed out that she felt immense trust in the others at the encampment, in their ingenuity and commitment.

Arzoo Malik said she felt great pride in CCNY and their tradition of struggle. She stressed that CCNY is in Harlem, a community rich in activism, “where the lines between the students and the people of the community are blurred.” She said that the activism didn’t stop after the encampment

ended, and that having built connections, they continued struggling, because “if you love what you do, it’s energizing.”

Ahmad said she never felt what she was doing was a sacrifice: “I was continuing the work my grandparents died doing in Palestine. ... We need to do this. It’s not a burden! I chose it.” She added they had to continue, because “genocide doesn’t stop when the bombing ends. ... We’re here to free all people!”

Steff Reed said that he had to acknowledge his own privilege as a student but expressed satisfaction with UTS beginning to divest and his role in making that happen.

Arzoo Malik ended by saying she was delighted that all the students felt united about the encampments: “Nothing matters when you pursue something righteous. ... Life is bigger than you. ... I feel proud of being labeled as a domestic terrorist!”

Mumia praises ‘unity’

And then Mumia came on the call. In answer to the students’ questions, he said he was honored to be on the call with them. “You act with class and class consciousness.” He was thrilled about the arrested Columbia students demanding

that the arrested CCNY students be treated with the same respect as they were. “You responded as human beings! You’re on the right path of history.”

Answering Reed’s question about the role of music in the struggle, Mumia said: “Every movement needs music to move people. ... Find what turns you on.” He said it felt wonderful speaking to the students. It took him back to the 1960s and the Vietnam War — which “was also a war of settler-colonialism.” He added, “It’s clearer now with Gaza, that is an open air prison.”

Mumia ended by saying that the watchword was “Unity!”: “You are rocking this country. ... People are studying this movement all over the world, because it’s a moment of freedom within repression!” He quipped, “If Huey [Newton] and Eldridge [Clever] had had your media, we would’ve won!” But then he added: “Don’t rely on corporate media. You have your own. So people outside of the circle of students should hear it. I commend you.”

The prison recording ended the call, and when it did, the students called out triumphantly, “We did it!”

Note on videos

This report was based on two videos. The longer version included an introduction by Tg, a Mumia Campaign representative who gave a tribute to the ancestors. He said that political prisoners are all prisoners of war in this global struggle, whether they are Palestinian, Sudanese, Haitian, from the United States or anywhere — and we cannot turn our back on them. He also mentioned that Mumia was in his 42nd year of incarceration and in that time has written 13 books important to the struggle. (youtu.be/IytJJz-GXZo)

The shorter version of 14 minutes shows only the final 14-minute actual discussion between Mumia and the students. (youtu.be/UlqVHLxzn_4) □

Voters in France block racist National Rally

By G. Dunkel

Much to the surprise of many observers of France’s parliamentary election, young people who supported the leftist New Popular Front coalition could joyfully celebrate the July 7 result. They told the fascist National Rally, known for its racism, Islamophobia and fascism, to “f**k off!” That was the best result from a still unresolved class struggle in France.

The period leading to that election started just after June 8 when President Joe Biden was in France for D-Day ceremonies promoting NATO’s proxy war in Ukraine. He attended a military parade along the Champs-Élysées after laying a wreath at France’s Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This was followed by a sumptuous, highly chic, glamorous dinner at the Élysée Palace that let President Emmanuel Macron pump up the NATO offensive.

European election result

The next day, when Macron got the results of the European Union election, he unleashed the crisis. The National Rally (formerly the National Front) got over 31% of the vote, more than double the vote for Macron’s party.. In response to this humiliating electoral setback that indicated massive loss of support for his regime, Macron called snap elections for June 30 and July 7 for the French Parliament, with the election campaign beginning June 16.

Whatever his reason, Macron’s decision to call the election raised the possibility

that the National Rally could win and perhaps even get a majority of seats in the French Assembly. That would have guaranteed that the National Rally would provide France’s next prime minister, with Macron remaining president.

The National Rally openly attacks workers, people of color, women, gay, queer and trans people and some of its election posters urged the murder of leftist candidates. Its main political leader, Marine Le Pen, who has attempted to polish its image to make it an acceptable party on the French electoral spectrum, focuses on bashing migrants. This party engages in demagoguery that has attracted support from some alienated sectors of society.

A group of nominally left parties — France Insoumise, which has called for recognition of Palestine, the Communist Party of France, Greens and the Socialist Party (the last two parties really support the capitalist establishment) — formed the New Popular Front (NFP) to better confront both the National Rally and Macron’s Ensemble coalition. None of these parties actively oppose NATO.

Macron himself is unpopular and for good reason. Basically, he is a banker, a servant of financial capital and lines up with the European Union bureaucracy and with U.S. and NATO foreign policy. He used police and gendarmes to brutally repress the anti-regime Yellow Vest



The leftist New Popular Front coalition celebrates the July 7 result.

movement. He raised the age for retired workers to receive full pensions and used police against workers and retirees who protested this cut.

Macron supports Israel regarding Gaza and has threatened to put NATO troops on the ground in Ukraine against Russia.

First round: Le Pen ahead

The results of the first round of voting on June 30, where many parties can run in each election district, continued the mood of the European elections. Marine Le Pen’s National Rally got over 33% of the vote. The New Popular Front alliance came in second with nearly 28%, and Macron’s electoral coalition Ensemble barely got 20% of the vote; about 60% of eligible people voted.

Because many people wanted to prevent a National Rally victory, and some were attracted to the left coalition, popular interest in the elections was much greater than

in other recent parliamentary votes. Over 3 million voters made a formal request to vote remotely — many being on vacation in July. French television showed people having political debates on the beach.

The NFP made sure that its pro-worker program shared by its parties — scrapping the 2023 French pension reform law, increasing public sector salaries and welfare benefits, raising the minimum wage by 14% and freezing the price of basic food items and energy — was well publicized. Its support for Palestinian statehood and opposition to the genocide in Gaza was more muted.

In the second round, only candidates who can get a certain minimum (12.5%) of the eligible voters in an election district can run. In most districts — over 300 of the total 577 — there were three-way races set for the second round of voting.

Second round: NFP led

Since a three-way race made it more likely the National Rally would win, the NFP and Macron’s party avoided competing in over 200 election districts, with more left candidates withdrawing. The result of this electoral maneuver: The NFP won 182 seats; Macron’s Ensemble coalition won 168; and the National Rally won 143.

For this moment, voters in France rejected a National Rally government. But none of the basic problems of capitalist society in France have been resolved. Nor has any government yet been formed. And there is little doubt that the class struggle will intensify. □