

REGISTRATION

Tickets are \$10, \$5 for students. For tickets write to: workshop_2001@hotmail.com.

Same-day registration will be available, but seating cannot be guaranteed.

DIRECTIONS

Columbia Law School: corner of 116th St. and Amsterdam in Manhattan. Take the 1 or 9 trains to 116th & Broadway.

Walk through Columbia University gates to Amsterdam. Signs will be posted.

TIMETABLE

11am–12:00pm Registration

12:00–1:30pm Opening panel on

Oslo–Why the peace process failed

1:30–2:30pm Lunch

2:30–4:30pm Five Workshops

- Stealing Palestine: How Israel was created
- Media war on Palestine
- Palestinian Diaspora: What is the right of return?
- Why the U.S. Supports Israel
- Intifada Past and Present

4:30–6:30pm Dinner and activist
workshop on

Organizing a solidarity committee

6:30–7:00pm Break

7:00–9:00pm Evening panel on

**Freedom and Justice for Palestine:
Which way forward?**

Endorsements (list in formation): Al-Awda, Arab American Action Network, BMCC Arab & Muslim Clubs, City College Arab & Muslim Clubs, Hunter College Arab & Palestinian Clubs, International Socialist Organization, Jews Against the Occupation, Turath-Columbia University, Vieques Support Campaign

“If we thought that instead of 200 dead there, 2,000 dead would end this issue at once, then we would use much more force.”

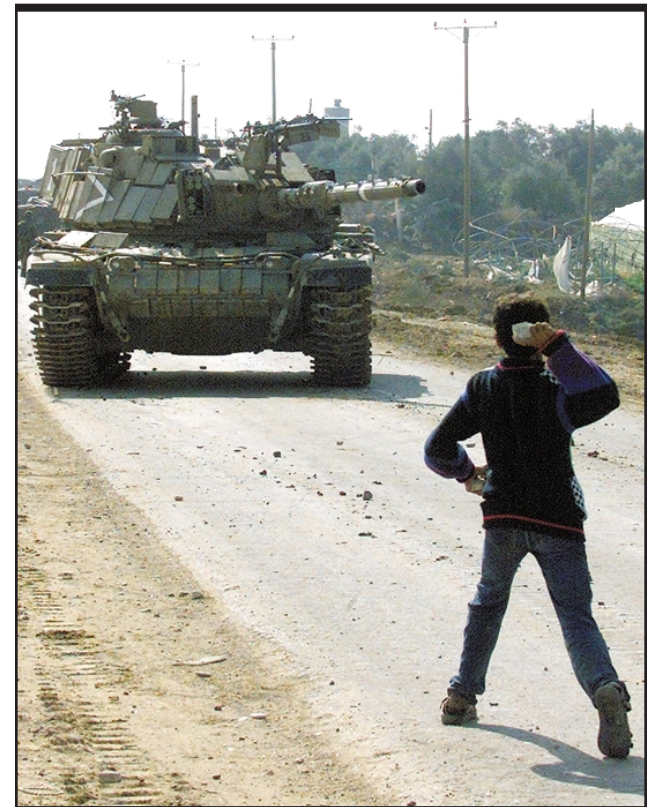
—Former Israeli
Prime Minister
Ehud Barak

“And what does it mean to speak of peace if Israeli troops and settlements are still present in such large numbers?...Has the world been deluded, or has the rhetoric of peace been in essence a gigantic fraud?”

—Edward Said,
December 2000

FREEDOM AND JUSTICE FOR PALESTINE

A conference on the history and future of the Palestinian struggle for liberation



**Saturday, March 31, 2001
at Columbia Law School**

Sponsored by Qanun, Columbia Law School,
North African & Middle Eastern Club

THIS CONFERENCE was inspired as much by the new Intifada as by the failures of the Oslo “peace process.” With the election of right-wing extremist Ariel Sharon as Israeli prime minister, “peace” through official channels seems all the more remote.

There is an urgent need for people in the U.S. to learn the truth about the history and current state of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. What is this conflict really about? What will bring a just peace?

The answers to these questions can form the basis of a new movement to stop U.S. support for Israel and build solidarity with the struggle for Palestinian self-determination.

OPENING PANEL: 12 pm

Oslo: Why the “peace process” failed

FAR FROM initiating a period of stability and improving living standards, the Oslo accords led to worsening conditions and increased oppression for most Palestinians. How has this happened?

Speakers: **PHYLLIS BENNIS**, Institute for Policy Studies, author, *Calling the Shots: How Washington Dominates Today's UN*; **SALIM TAMARI**, Director, Institute for Jerusalem Studies, Associate Professor of Sociology, Birzeit University; **SOUAD DAJANI**, Program Coordinator, Middle East and Horn of Africa Grassroots International

WORKSHOPS: 2:30-4:30pm

Stealing Palestine: How Israel was created

A LOOK at the history of the Zionist movement, the wars and expulsions of Palestinians which led to the formation of a Jewish state.

Speakers: **AHMED SHAWKI**, editor, *International Socialist Review* and member of the International Socialist Organization; **SAMIR AWAD**, graduate student, Political Science, Columbia University

Media War Against Palestine

THE MAINSTREAM media has failed to present a fair picture of the struggle for Palestinian economic and political rights, often relying on racist stereotypes of all Arabs as terrorists. A look at media bias and the role it plays in manipulating public opinion.

Speakers include: **LUCY MAIR**, Center for Economic and Social Rights; Second speaker to be announced

Palestinian Diaspora: What is the right of return?

THERE ARE now about 4 million Palestinian refugees living outside of Palestine and millions more who are internally displaced by the constant expansion of Israeli settlements. Find out about the causes of the refugee crisis, the conditions in the camps and why the right of return, recognized by the United Nations, is fundamental to any just peace. Is right of return still possible?

Speakers: **SAMERA ESMEIR**, Ph.D. candidate, NYU, editor, *Adalah's Review* published by the Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel; **ROGER NORMAND**, Center for Economic and Social Rights

Why the U.S. Supports Israel

ISRAEL IS by far the largest recipient of U.S. military and economic aid, and in return it acts as the U.S.'s chief ally in the region. Why is Israel so important to U.S. foreign and domestic policy? How does this effect the U.S. role as “mediator” between Israel and the Palestinian Authority?

Speakers: **DR. NASEER ARURI**, Professor of Political Science, UMass at Dartmouth, author of *The Obstruction of Peace, the U.S., Israel and the Palestinians*; **ANTHONY ARNOVE**, editor, *Iraq Under Siege*, and member of the International Socialist Organization

Intifada Past and Present

MASS UPRISINGS have been the most powerful expression of Palestinian resistance. In 1987, the Intifada forced the world to confront the Palestinian desire for freedom. What were the dynamics of this historic event, and what is the significance of the new Intifada?

Speakers: **SEIF DANA**, Professor of Sociology, De Paul University; **RONDA JAMAL**, Al-Awda Right of Return Coalition, Columbia University

ACTIVIST MEETING/DINNER: 5-6:30pm

Organizing a Palestine Solidarity Committee

THE STRUGGLE internationally against South African apartheid in the 1980s provides a valuable model for the kind of solidarity work that can be organized to support Palestinian self-determination. Hear from leading activists on how to start a divestment campaign, how to organize teach-ins, demonstrations and other consciousness-raising events. Meet with others from your campus or neighborhood to launch local solidarity committees.

Speakers: **SNEHAL SHINGAVI**, Students for Justice in Palestine, UC-Berkeley; Speaker from Al-Awda Right of Return Coalition

EVENING PANEL: 7pm

Freedom and Justice for Palestine: Which way forward?

FAR FROM ancient ethnic rivalry, the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians comes down to key questions of land and political, economic and social equality. What would a just solution to these issues be in the Middle East, and what role can a movement in the U.S. play?

Speakers: **NADIA HIJAB**, former UN consultant, author, *Women Power: The Arab Debate on Women at Work*; **DR. NASEER ARURI**, Professor of Political Science, UMass at Dartmouth, author, *The Obstruction of Peace, the U.S., Israel and the Palestinians*; **SEIF DANA**, Professor of Sociology, De Paul University; **AHMED SHAWKI**, editor, *International Socialist Review* and member of the International Socialist Organization; and a speaker from Jews Against the Occupation