



# Sabeel Wave of Prayer

June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018

This prayer ministry enables local and international friends of Sabeel to pray over regional concerns on a weekly basis. Sent to Sabeel's network of supporters, the prayer is used in services around the world and during Sabeel's Thursday Communion service; as each community in its respective time zone lifts these concerns in prayer at noon every Thursday, this "wave of prayer" washes over the world.

An Israeli sniper shot and killed a 21-year-old Palestinian female paramedic, Razan Ashraf al-Najjar, as she was treating injured protesters during the demonstrations along the Gaza border with Israel. Since the "Great March of Return" began in Gaza on March 30th, 119 Palestinians have been killed, including children and journalists, and thousands of Palestinians have been injured.

- *Lord, may your spirit comfort us as we continue to receive distressing news from Gaza. We pray that the demonstrations remain non-violent. We long for the Palestinians to regain their freedom and be empowered to return to their land. We remember the family, friends and colleagues of Razan as they grieve for her loss.*

*Lord in your mercy...*

*Hear our prayers*

There are hundreds of Palestinian prisoners who are being held under detention by the Israeli state without trial for up to six months (renewable), for 'security reasons'. These prisoners, held under 'administrative detention', are expected this week to launch a hunger strike against this Israeli policy. Palestinian prisoners held under administrative detention continue their boycott of the law courts as they have lost hope in ever receiving a just hearing in an Israeli court.

- *Lord, we continue to pray for the Palestinian political prisoners. May your spirit give them courage to stand steadfast and to depend on your justice...*

*Lord in your mercy...*

On Thursday the 24th of May 2018, three Israeli Supreme Court justices – Noam Sohlberg, Anat Baron and Yael Willner – ruled that the state may demolish the homes of the Palestinian Bedouin community of Khan al-Ahmar and transfer its residents forcibly to a different location.

*• Lord, the decisions of the Israeli judges appear quite merciless and the court proceedings seem iniquitous. We pray for the Palestinian people of Khan Al Ahmar that they will not be overwhelmed by despair or by the coercion of the occupiers. May your spirit Lord, move the Palestinian community, together with the international community, to stand firm with the people of Khan Al Ahmar to object to their forcible transfer.  
Lord in your mercy...*

Once again, the United States has vetoed a United Nations Security Council resolution condemning Israel's use of force in seeking to stifle protests at the border with Gaza. The US Ambassador to the United Nations, Nikki Haley, rejected the Kuwaiti resolution - which sought 'measures to guarantee the safety and protection' of Palestinian civilians.

*• Lord, we give thanks for all the people who continue to pursue protection and justice for Palestinians. Dear God, grant the Palestinian people the strength to continue the struggle to achieve independence and freedom.  
Lord in your mercy...*

The Israeli government has approved the construction of 2,070 new illegal settlement units in the occupied West Bank. Since US President Donald Trump came to office, Israel has permitted the construction of more than 14,000 settlement units.

*• Lord, we pray that Palestinians may not succumb to despair over the expropriation of their land. We pray for all the people of conscience who work as advocates for the Palestinian people around the world. Renew their efforts to call upon their governments to respect and implement international law.  
Lord in your mercy...*

This week marks the fifty-first anniversary of the beginning of Israel's occupation of East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip.

*• Lord, this week we lament fifty one years of the occupation of Palestine that has brought so much loss, injustice and suffering to the Palestinian people. Please hear the cries of those who love you and who thirst for liberty. Lord, we ask that this year will be a time to speak truth to power, a time to break the silence surrounding injustice, a year for peace, a year for Palestine.  
Lord, in your mercy...*

*• Lord, we join the World Council of Churches in praying for the countries of Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland.  
Lord in your mercy*