



Sabeel Wave of Prayer

April 18th, 2019

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.

Hundreds of Palestinians took part in the 'Great March of Return' along the Gaza/Israel border on Friday, the 12th of April. One teenager, 15-year-old Maisara Shallouf died from Israeli live fire, while 93 civilians, including 17 children, four women, three paramedics, and a journalist, were injured.

• Lord, we pray for the family of Maisara as they mourn their loss. We pray for an end to the killings at the border and the injuries sustained by the people of Gaza week after week. We pray for an end to the blockade and the right for refugees to return to their homes. Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayer.

This week's Kumi Now initiative focuses on the work of Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association. Addameer is a Palestinian institution which works to support Palestinian political prisoners held in Israeli and Palestinian prisons. It has also launched a global campaign to stop administrative detention. This procedure allows the Israeli military to hold prisoners indefinitely on secret information, without charging them or allowing them to stand trial.

• Lord, we thank you for the work of Addameer which seeks to support prisoners, especially those who have no right to plead their case. At Easter time we remember how our Lord Jesus was arrested, and suffered mocking and beatings while in prison, abandoned by even his closest friends. Help us to remember those who suffer in prison. Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayer.

Over 100 Palestinian prisoners entered their fifth day of hunger strike on Friday, the 12th of April, following the failure of talks with the Israel Prison Service (IPS) over worsening conditions in Israeli prisons.

• Lord, we pray that the authorities will respect the human rights of Palestinian prisoners and reconsider the harsh new regulations. Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayer.

Benjamin Netanyahu rallied his right-wing base to deliver the votes he needed to form a new coalition government. In the final days of the election Mr Netanyahu announced that any government led by him would annex Israeli settlements in the West Bank. These settlements are considered illegal under international law.

*Oh Lord, we pray for Israel as we see it being transformed into an apartheid state where Israeli citizens enjoy full rights, while Palestinians lack political and other human rights. We pray that international lawmakers will act over the illegal annexation of Israeli settlements.
Lord, in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.*

On Tuesday, the 9th of April the Israeli Civil Administration distributed notices to Palestinian residents in the Tubas area, informing them that they plan to seize 384 dunams, (95 acres) of Palestinian-owned land. The seizure of the land is for the purpose of building Israeli-only roads between settlements.

*• Lord, we pray for those whose land is seized and who have no recourse to justice. We pray that this Israeli land-grab will cease.
Lord in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.*

Sabeel Jerusalem organised a retreat in Jericho for six groups of women, totalling one hundred women altogether, on Friday, the 12th of April.

*• We thank you Lord, for this precious opportunity for Palestinian women to meet together in your name to worship and to prepare themselves for the Easter celebrations.
Lord, in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.*

In Jerusalem this Easter week thousands of Christians from around the world will be joining worshippers in the city to process for Palm Sunday and Good Friday and to celebrate the Resurrection in many churches, including the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

*• We praise you Lord and thank you for how you made your light shine upon us: 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' Psalm 118:26.
Lord in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.*

*• We join with the World Council of Churches in their prayers for the countries of Belarus, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine.
Lord in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.*