



Sabeel Wave of Prayer

June 27th, 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.

At least 13 Palestinians were injured by Israeli forces as they took part in the Great March of Return on Friday, the 21st of June. The forces used live bullets and rubber coated steel ammunition when they shot protestors.

• Lord we pray for those who were injured in protests in Gaza this week. We pray for the lifting of the blockade on Gaza and for the return of the Palestinians to their homeland. Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayer.

The Kumi Now initiative focuses on the work of Sabeel, based in East Jerusalem. Sabeel is an ecumenical liberation theology movement among Palestinian Christians. The word 'Sabeel' is Arabic for 'the way' and also 'a spring of life-giving water'. The movement seeks to deepen the faith of the Christians in Palestine and to raise awareness of their witness and their concerns around the world.

• Lord, we pray for the work of Sabeel and we pray, too, for the holy city of Jerusalem. You see the sufferings and the deprivations of so many in this city. Strengthen, O Lord our God, the hearts of all those who work for justice here and support them with your Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayer.

The Friends of Sabeel North America, (FOSNA), are taking part in a joint action to counter Christian Zionism in Washington DC on the 7th and 8th of July. They aim to bring to light the influence of Christians United for Israel, (CUFI). This group has a membership of over 5 million in the US and it is the largest organization driving support for Israel's oppression of Palestinians. Recently CUFI lobbied the US government to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, for unconstitutional anti-BDS legislation and promotes illegal settlement expansion.

*• Dear Lord, we pray for the work of FOSNA and for their deep concern for their brothers and sisters in Israel/Palestine. We pray for those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Lord, in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.*

Al Haq is an independent Palestinian humanitarian organization, based in Ramallah in the West Bank. It monitors and documents human rights violations by all parties in the Israeli- Palestinian conflict. On Monday the 10th of June Israel's Ministry of Strategic Affairs, (MSA) claimed it had persuaded European and US banks to close down its international account, even though it doesn't have any accounts with them. It was one of 30 NGOs to be targeted by the Israeli government with unsubstantiated smears and verbal attacks.

*• Lord we pray for those in positions of political leadership that they do not abuse their power by trying to silence human rights defenders. Lord in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.*

Palestinian residents of the village of Sur Baher, south east of Jerusalem, have been given until the 18th of July to demolish 100 apartments. The Israeli authorities are using the pretext that they are too close to the security fence. The residents will have to demolish their own apartments or they will face heavy demolition costs and fines from the Israeli municipality. So many Palestinians are forced to build without permits as the Israeli authorities refuse to grant them.

*• Dear Lord, we pray for the villagers of Sur Baher who will soon have nowhere to live. Slowly but surely the Palestinians are being forced out of their homes. We pray that there would be an international outcry at the way the Israeli government is treating the Palestinian people. Lord in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.*

The water shortage in the West Bank continues. This is a result of years of Israel's discriminatory water policies. The amount of water allowed to the West Bank has not been increased since 1995, although its population has almost doubled since then. As a result, the average Israeli has access to 2-3 times the World Health Organization's recommended minimum water allowance per day, while the average Palestinian living in the West Bank has access to only 75% of that minimum amount.

*• Lord, water is a source of life, and we pray for the people living in Occupied West Bank including East Jerusalem who continue to live with restricted water supplies, especially during this hot summer, while others in the settlements have uninterrupted access to water.
Lord, in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.*

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