



Sabeel Wave of Prayer

September 2nd, 2021

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.

This week's Kumi Now online gathering focused on how different Palestinian artists express their non-violent resistance to the Israeli occupation. Next week's Kumi Now on Tuesday, the 7th of September will consider Education Funding and Policy in Palestine/Israel. Israel runs a separate and unequal school system for Jewish Israeli pupils and for Palestinians. While all Israeli schools receive tax support, the government schools for Israel's Christians, Muslims, and Druze receive a lower subsidy than the Jewish schools. The Israeli government has also made drastic reductions to subsidies to non-Jewish private schools in the last decade.

- **Lord, we pray that the Israeli government will be challenged over its inequitable funding of schools. We pray that every school pupil in Palestine/Israel would be given the opportunity to achieve their potential, no matter their religion or ethnicity. Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayers.**

Nadia Habash has been elected as the first female union leader in Palestine. She will head up the Palestinian Engineers' Union. She has taught architecture as a professor at Birzeit University and set up an award-winning practice, Habash Consulting Engineers, with her brother in 1998.

- **Lord, we give thanks for the outstanding gifts of Nadia Habash and recognise her courage and sense of duty to serve as a union leader in a male dominated profession. Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayers.**

Iyad Shalabi is deaf and has been a wheelchair user since the age of thirteen and yet he has overcome his disabilities to win a medal at the Tokyo Paralympics. On Wednesday, the 25th of August, he became the first Arab Israeli to be awarded a gold medal at the Paralympics, winning the 100-metre backstroke final.

- **Lord, we give thanks for the determination of Iyad to overcome his disabilities and to compete successfully in the Paralympics. We pray that he will inspire other young people facing physical challenges to persevere and improve their strength and fitness. Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayers.**

The village of Tabgha lies on the shores of Lake Galilee. Tradition holds that this is the site where Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes. There is a monastery at this site which is run by German Benedictines. On Wednesday, the 18th of August, vandals removed a wrought iron cross which was anchored to an outdoor stone altar on the same site.

• Lord Jesus, we pray for those seeking to tear down the symbols that others hold dear. We ask Lord that you would guide them on the path of love and respect for the faith of other people.

Lord, in your mercy...*hear our prayers.*

A protest tent was set up in the Sarona Market in Tel Aviv from Wednesday, the 25th of August until Friday, the 27th of August. The protest organisers were calling on the Israeli public to recognise the abuse faced by Palestinians from settlers and Israeli soldiers who are trying to force them from their land.

• Lord, we pray that more and more people in Israel and around the world will see that the Palestinians suffer oppression under the Israeli occupation. We pray that many will have the courage to challenge the Israeli government over its apartheid policies.

Lord, in your mercy...*hear our prayers.*

Ahmed Salima, a young Palestinian from East Jerusalem, had just finished his shift at a restaurant in Jerusalem's Mahane Yehuda market when he was attacked on the night of Thursday, the 19th of August. A group of five young Israelis set upon him and stabbed him.

He was taken to hospital with multiple stab wounds.

• Lord, we pray for Ahmed's full recovery from this brutal attack. We pray that his assailants will be brought to justice. We pray for a halt to the frequent outbreaks of inter-racial violence and hatred breaking out across Israel/ Palestine.

Lord in your mercy...*hear our prayers.*

The new school year for students in the West Bank and Gaza started in August and for schools in occupied East Jerusalem and Israel, schools started on 1st September

• Lord, we pray that young Palestinian students will begin and persist with their studies, even though many face disruption and turmoil caused by the Israeli occupation and Covid-19.

Lord, in your mercy...*hear our prayers.*

• We join with the World Council of Churches in their prayers for the countries of Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, and Senegal.

Lord, in your mercy...*hear our prayers.*