



Sabeel International Conference November 17th-21st, 2024

“Challenging Religious Extremism”

I. Conference Purpose Statement:

With increasing violence, as well as systematic violations of basic human rights in Palestine-Israel the 2024 international Sabeel conference will aspire to challenge supremacism, apartheid and religious extremism through a biblical, liberationist approach to theology by ecumenical and interfaith collaboration. The plenaries, workshops and visits will seek to promote Christ-centred, non-violent, peace-making initiatives with the aim of assisting in the achievement of liberation, justice and peace in Palestine-Israel.

II. Conference Principles:

Facilitate Constructive Interfaith Dialogue: The conference will provide a platform for open and constructive interfaith dialogue specifically focused on addressing religious extremism and its impact on justice issues in Palestine. It will encourage representatives from Jewish, Christian, and Muslim communities to engage in meaningful discussions, fostering understanding and cooperation from different religious perspectives.

Promote Human Rights and Justice in Palestine-Israel: Emphasize the importance of human rights and justice as the means to achieve peace and reconciliation. The conference will aim to raise awareness about the impact of religious extremism on the denial of human rights, including issues such as land rights, access to resources, freedom of movement, and the right to self-determination. Participants will explore strategies to counter extremism while advancing justice and equality for all.

Challenge Misinterpretations of Religious Texts: Address the misinterpretation of religious texts that perpetuate religious extremism and contribute to violations of human rights in Palestine-Israel. Prominent scholars, theologians, and experts will examine specific instances where religious teachings are manipulated to justify discrimination, violence, or occupation. This analysis will aim to debunk misinterpretations and promote interpretations that support justice, peace, and the dignity of all people.

Empower Grassroots Activism and Advocacy: Focus on empowering grassroots activists and human rights defenders who are working on justice issues in Palestine-Israel. The conference will aspire to provide a platform for sharing best practices, strategies, and success stories from individuals and organizations engaged in advocacy and activism. Participants can explore ways to mobilize communities, raise awareness, and promote international solidarity in support of human rights and justice in Palestine.



Strengthen Collaborative Networks: Encourage collaboration and networking among human rights organizations and activists involved in justice issues in Palestine-Israel with special attention to faith-based activism. The conference will aspire to facilitate the establishment of partnerships and networks that can enhance collective efforts to counter religious extremism, promote human rights, and advocate for justice. Practical steps will be identified to foster ongoing cooperation, knowledge exchange, and joint initiatives aimed at addressing the root causes of extremism and advancing human rights in Palestine.