



Sabeel Wave of Prayer

Jan 16th, 2025

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.

Sabeel is hosting two international delegations this month and is anticipating 1-2 delegations each month for the coming year. The delegations to be planned are comprised of a diverse variety of activists, professionals, and leaders. Like past pilgrimages and delegations in 2024, Sabeel's goals with international delegations are to shed light on the current reality in the Holy Land and to encourage participants in creative advocacy for justice and peace.

- **Lord of justice and truth, we lift Sabeel's upcoming delegations, praying for safe travels and transformative experiences for all participants. May these pilgrimages ignite a movement for change and inspire us to be prophetic agents of your love. Grant wisdom and strength to the staff at Sabeel as they continue to be servants of your will and to walk humbly with you.**

Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer

Later this month, Sabeel's friend and partner Save The ArQ will be on the East Coast of the United States on an advocacy tour to save the Armenian Quarter in Jerusalem. Launched in May 2023, Save the ArQ is dedicated to preserving and protecting the Armenian Quarter of Jerusalem. The movement was initiated after the discovery of a controversial 98-year lease signed by the Armenian Patriarchate with a company named Xana Gardens without following the internal laws of the Church. Armenian community claims that this lease threatens the treasured and historic Armenian Quarter.

- **Gracious God, we pray for the success of Save The ArQ's advocacy tour in the United States as they work to protect the historic Armenian Quarter and the diversity of Jerusalem. Strengthen their voices as they proclaim justice and expose corruption. May their advocacy awaken hearts and stir leaders to act with righteousness. Let this work serve as a testimony to the power of truth and the steadfastness to protect what is holy and just.**

Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer

Israel recently admitted, under international pressure, to detaining Dr. Hussam Abu Safiyyah, director of Kamal Adwan Hospital, who was abducted by Israeli forces on December 27, 2024. Reports indicate he is being held and tortured at the notorious Sde Teiman camp. During his detention, Dr. Hussam's mother passed away from a heart attack, as Israel continues to withhold updates on his condition. Palestinians have highlighted the targeting of healthcare workers by Israeli forces, including the imprisonment of Ahmed Muhanna, director of Al-Awda Hospital in northern Gaza, who has been held for over a year.

- **Dear God, we cry out to you for Dr. Hussam Abu Safiyyah and all who endure imprisonment, torture, and oppression. Comfort them in their trials, and bring justice to their situation. Lord, protect all healthcare workers who risk their lives to serve others and be present with the people of Gaza. Holy Spirit, guide us to keep our eyes and hearts open so that we may never be complacent in the face of oppression, but rather, be strengthened in our resolve to act against injustice. Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer**

Across the West Bank, settlers continue to wreak havoc across towns. Last week alone, settlers committed several arson attacks across villages east of Hebron, a farm in Ramallah, and Palestinians' tents and livestock east of Bethlehem. Meanwhile, the Israeli military continues to abduct Palestinians in the West Bank and kill and injure Palestinian civilians. Just last week, two children aged 8 and 10 were killed by the Israeli military in Tubas.

- **Holy God, we cannot keep track of the deaths and lives lost due to the injustice and cruelty carried out in the West Bank. We grieve the havoc wrought by settlers and the suffering inflicted upon innocent lives. We lament the loss of children in Tubas and all in the Holy Land whose futures are stolen by oppression and tyranny. Amidst this violence, help us to see your life-giving presence in the West Bank and ignite in the world a resolve to denounce injustice and work for liberation. Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer**

For the last month, Jenin Refugee Camp in the West Bank has been under siege and assault by the Palestinian Authority who seek to weed out armed groups in coordination with Israel. Since the start of the assault on Jenin, innocent civilians have been killed by the PA, including 21-year old female journalist Shatha al-Sabbagh. Shatha was killed in the same refugee camp where journalist Shireen Abu Akleh was assassinated by the Israeli regime in 2022.

- **Holy God, we grieve the violence and oppression that besieges our people. We lift before you in prayer for the family of Shatha al-Sabbagh. We lament that her death echoes the loss of Shireen Abu Akleh, another truth-teller taken from us too soon. May their sacrifice not be forgotten but illuminate new ways of solidarity and action across the world. Grant strength to those living amidst fear and destruction, and peace to the families who mourn. Heal the wounds of this broken community, and let your spirit of justice and compassion move through those with power to bring an end to this suffering. May Jenin and all of our lands know freedom, dignity, and peace in their land. Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer**
- **We join with the World Council of Churches in their prayers for the countries of Iran, Iraq, and Syria. Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer**