

STUDENTS OF THE FLOOD

A Paper Bridging the International and Local Struggles Against Imperialism



Why We Are Here

*by Anonymous members
of SUPER UW*

We, as students and community members, have occupied the Shaban al-Dalou Building, formerly known as the Interdisciplinary Engineering Building (IEB). This as a specific tactic, to further the student intifada that has spread outwards from Palestine. This occupation is not the end goal, but a calculated escalation that was born from long months of analysis of past tactics used on campus - The sit-in in Gerberding in 2023, the Liberated Zone (LZ) encampment in the Quad in 2024, and months

of marches, speeches, and political education. We have realized that, while divestment is a worthy goal, the path towards divestment is littered with bureaucratic obstacles and undemocratic decision-making. One of the major setbacks of the LZ was that the deal that was signed did nothing to address UW's closest connection to the genocide in Palestine: their bloodied relationship with Boeing. Even had the divestment process continued successfully (the Board of Regents, an unelected body of

corporate puppets, voted against establishing a committee to merely *consider* divestment from companies linked to "Israel's" genocide in Palestine), it would not have touched the relationship with Boeing. This is because UW does not invest in Boeing, but Boeing invests in UW. Taking advantage of the fact that, on the federal and state level, funding for public education has been cut, Boeing pumps millions of dollars into UW - money made explicitly from the murder and killing of Palestinians.

In return, UW has given this multi-billion dollar corporation control of public education. We see a clear link between UW's increasing reliance upon corporate funders and donors, and the massive staff cuts being threatened in the College of Arts and Sciences, the raising of tuition, and cutting of funding for valuable educational programs. Ceding control of our education to multi-billion dollar weapons manufacturers will not solve these issues, but it will increase private, corporate control over what is supposedly a public educational good. The IEB and its goals to facilitate future and current genocide are an unacceptable and horrid expansion of this blood-stained partnership. Through Boeing's initial \$10 million donation toward the construction of the IEB and the promise of \$40 million more over the next five years, UW has granted Boeing control over the engineering curriculum, built an AI lab in Boeing's name, and promised to establish a "pipeline" of students into the Boeing workforce.

WE MUST BE CLEAR - the construction of the IEB is an act of war. It is indescribably vulgar to use stolen Indigenous Duwamish land here, in Seattle, to establish weapons research facilities that will be used to kill and displace Indigenous people in Palestine. After the dystopian and sadistic use of the "Where's Daddy" AI targeting system, designed to track Palestinians in order to target them when they arrive home to their families, the establishment of a Boeing-funded AI lab is particularly atrocious. Over 50% of Boeing's revenue comes from weapons technologies and it is one of the top suppliers of

weapons to "Israel" and has been for many years. We know, as it has often been reported, that "Israel" cannot survive or uphold its existence, occupation, and apartheid without weapons from the U.S. Empire. We refuse to allow our campuses to become militarized corporate outposts, assisting in the violent maintenance of the Zionist entity.

We are inspired by the current revolutionaries and resistance fighters in Palestine, as well as the rich history of struggle and revolution here in the United States. In 1968, the Black Student Union, including members of the Marxist-Leninist Black Panther Party, occupied Gerberding Hall with the goal of forcing UW to create an education that met the needs of the people. After four hours of threats, followed by the removal of protesters by approximately 75 riot police, the acting UW president signed a statement agreeing to work toward BSU's goals. We are also deeply inspired by the occupation and reclamation of what was formerly known as Fort Lawson. Now called Discovery Park and the Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center, it was transformed through a three month occupation by Indigenous activists in an action that included multiple occupations of the land as more than 100 protesters were repeatedly removed by the U.S. Army and military police.

We look to these movements for strength and inspiration as we occupy the IEB. The ripples of those who struggle for a better world, one that exists beyond the bounds of capitalist and imperialist exploitation, are felt by us every day. The martyrdom of

tens of thousands of Palestinians, the steadfastness of leaders like Yahya Sinwar, the strength and resilience of Yemen, Lebanon, Palestine, and all those who refuse to sell out their people for an American/Zionist check move us to act. We can only hope our actions moves others to act as well as we occupy and hold this building until our demands are met:

1. Boeing out of UW
2. Repurpose the IEB to support education for the people

**LONG LIVE THE INTIFADA!
LONG LIVE A FREE
PALESTINE!!**



Why this Paper?

by Students of the Flood Editors
SEATTLE, May 2nd

We dedicate this paper to Hossam Shabbat, who was assassinated by an "Israeli" airstrike on March 24th, 2025. In a statement he wrote in the event of his death, he said:

"If you're reading this, it means I have been killed — most likely targeted — by the Israeli occupation forces...By God, I fulfilled my duty as a journalist. I risked everything to

report the truth, and now, I am finally at rest — something I haven't known in the past 18 months,"

This paper is a direct result of the world-changing Al-Aqsa Flood operation on October 7th, which showed the world that not only is the resistance in Palestine growing, not only are they capable of striking a blow against the most well-supplied and technologically advanced army in the Middle East, but they are capable of defeating them militarily. Led by Hamas' Al-Qassam Brigades, the resistance in Palestine destroyed "Israel's" myth of invincibility and brought about the restoration of armed resistance as the primary answer to occupation. This paper sets out to bridge our struggle on campus with the one in Palestine, to affirm the need for an international cradle of resistance in the face of U.S./Zionist imperialism, and to honor the martyrs in Palestine. In particular, the journalists who sacrificed their lives to "shine the light of truth" upon "Israel" and to reaffirm the steadfastness of the Palestinian people. Their sacrifices demand that we write with clarity and an uncompromising politic.

18 months on, and we have been witnessing the Zionist entity's barbaric attempts to crush the resistance, and their catastrophic failure to do so. We have seen their attempts to destroy the Palestinian journalists documenting their own genocide, and note with bitterness the apathy and cowardice of Western journalists, including those within the journalism department here at UW who have remained silent rather than stand firmly with their martyred colleagues in Palestine. 232 journalists have been killed in Palestine in 18 months. These are inexcusable crimes.

We are moved, half a world away, by the weight of this sacrifice. We hope to continue to serve their mission by fighting on the media front for the Palestinian cause - uplifting the Palestinian resistance, exposing the corruption and evil rampant in all those connected to the Zionist entity, and amplifying popular support for liberation.

We must state clearly that Western media has long served as a tool of imperialist plunder and genocide abroad, and of exploitation and violence at home. Think of the propaganda spread in response to the Al-Aqsa Flood — myths of beheaded babies, mass rape, and torture. Biden falsely claimed to have seen images of beheaded babies that do not exist. And, despite a complete debunking of the myth of mass rape, many Western media platforms like the New York Times still parrot it as fact. We are reminded of the myths used to justify lynchings and slavery that were rampant through U.S. media - the claim of rape, of savage men, and the endangerment of white innocence was the ideological excuse used by the American public to either celebrate or ignore the racial terror of lynchings and slavery. We also remember the joint military-media effort that attempted

to manufacture consent among the American people for the invasion of Iraq — in particular, the myth of "weapons of mass destruction". Nearly half a million Iraqis paid for these lies with their lives.

Imperialist violence manifests not only in the bullet but also in print — and so does the resistance. The journalistic and literary work of comrades like Ghassan Kanafani, Claudia Jones, and Ida B. Wells show the need for writing that is unapologetically on the side of the people. There is no need to compromise or cede space to the genocidal forces of Zionism, imperialism, or white supremacy. It is our duty to speak clearly, to cut through imperialist ideology, and reaffirm the humanity and the righteousness of the resistance fighters in Hamas, the PFLP, the PIJ, Hezbollah, Ansarallah, and all those struggling for freedom across the region. They are not only soldiers but family members, workers, students, and teachers who are fighting to liberate their homelands. The U.S. empire has tagged these groups as terrorists in an attempt to delegitimize and criminalize them. This is an old tactic — Nelson Mandela was on the terrorist list until 2008 for his work dismantling South African apartheid. Assata Shakur and the



Black Liberation Army still are, and Shakur currently lives as a political asylee in Cuba. But we are clear — these designations are discriminatory and illegitimate attempts to quash resistance to U.S. military and economic domination. We hold that Western journalists have a right and a duty to speak freely about the resistance in the Arab region; to read, understand, and converse with resistance groups is essential to understanding this region.

Students of the Flood will bridge the US student movement to with international perspectives on anti-imperialist resistance. As journalists, students, artists, and writers, we must sharpen our material analysis, expand our ability to recognize and dismantle Western propaganda, and fight with uncompromising clarity on behalf of the people.



A still frame from "Red Army/PFLP: Declaration of World War". The opening lines of the film are "ARMED STRUGGLE IS THE HIGHEST FORM OF PROPAGANDA"

What Does it Mean to be a Student in a Revolutionary Context?

by Anonymous Students in
the Sha'Ban Al-Dalou Occupation
SEATTLE, May 1st

Education, ideally, is about understanding. We study physics to understand the laws of the universe, we study medicine to understand the body, and we study aviation to understand flight. Almost all of us study these things to put them into practice - to attain knowledge that helps us understand something, and therefore be able to affect and change it. However, in America, and all capitalist societies, there are strict parameters set up as to what is deemed worthy (or even legal) to study and practice. The focus is often on careerism, and securing a stable future for yourself, never mind the consequences for the rest of the world.

Those of us occupying this building have seen how quickly our classes lose their meaning when bombs rain down upon Gaza.

When there are parents who receive 40 lb plastic bags of assorted body parts to bury instead of their child because it was impossible to

decipher who was who in the rubble of Zionist destruction, how can we continue with our studies?

We can only do so if we redefine what it means to be a student.

To do this, we need to turn toward the rest of the world, look past the capitalist myth of the "end of history" and burst the bubble of U.S. propaganda. We have named this paper "Students of the Flood" because we witnessed the Al-Aqsa Flood operation, and it changed us. We have seen the immense sacrifices of the Palestinian people in their struggle for sovereignty and freedom, and we have seen the wins of the resistance as Palestinians are freed from Zionist prisons, celebrate Eid in the rubble of Gaza and as Hezbollah forces "israel" to retreat like a dog with its tail between its legs. U.S. imperialism, the wealthiest and most well-equipped military force in the world has been stopped in its tracks. They cannot break them - because

the resistance comes from the people. As students who desire a better world, Palestine shows the way.

As students, we need to look back to history to understand what has happened and forward to the national liberation struggles happening today to understand our current context. To change these systems, we first need to understand how these systems have functioned in the past and use a materialist analysis to move through the slog of propaganda and understand how these systems are functioning now. Things repeat, rhyme, and continue - The indigenous genocide in America was admired by Hitler, and now their shared rhetoric of savagery and dehumanization is spoken by the Zionists as they genocide the indigenous people of Palestine. In the 1960s, the CIA destabilized and backed the killing of Patrice Lumumba of the Congo - and now their tactics of destabilization are beginning again as the traitor General Michael Langley, head of AFRICOM, accuses Captain Ibrahim Traoré of stealing gold as he moves Burkina Faso towards self-sovereignty. Obama's 2011 dirty war in Syria was completed under Biden as Assad was pushed out and Julani, an Al-Qaeda-linked Western puppet moved in, selling out his country to "israel" and the U.S., and doing nothing as they continue to bomb Syria.

And beyond study, the student must also act.

Our study of history and theory is useless if it does not lead to action, and that action must then refine the theory. We must put into practice the lessons that we have learned from the resistance in Palestine- that opposing imperialism in Palestine is

a part of opposing imperialism everywhere. Palestine also teaches us that the struggle is generational - these martyrs fight and die, not for themselves, but for the hope that their children or grandchildren may grow up on liberated Palestinian soil. Palestine teaches us that true power comes not from the state but from the people themselves and that no amount of money, brutality, or technological advancement can destroy a true people's movement.

We must learn from this, as both Trump and, locally, Ana Mari Cauce, increase their twin campaigns of repression against support of Palestine. The more they threaten, the more they arrest, and the more they repress, the more we must organize, build, and fight back. The road ahead is long and arduous, but we must keep our eyes facing upward, our analysis grounded, and our morale high.

"Each generation must, out of relative obscurity, discover its mission, and fulfill it or betray it."

-Frantz Fanon



Combating Academic Liberalism

by Students Organizers at Vrije
Universiteit Brussel
BRUSSELS, April 21st

On May 13, 2023, we, students at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), began an encampment on our campus, following the example of our comrades in the United States who had been occupying universities in solidarity with Palestine. While the Zionist state, backed by American imperialism, commits genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, our supposedly free and progressive university shamelessly maintains ties with institutions and corporations that help sustain this oppression.

Our occupation was not a symbolic gesture or a moral appeal for dialogue. It was a direct confrontation with the system that enables these crimes. We refuse to be complicit any longer. Our university, which claims to be a bastion of critical thinking, in reality reproduces the ideological and material structures of colonial domination. Under the guise of "academic freedom", the atrocities in Palestine are reduced to a "complex conflict", where so-called neutrality becomes a cover for passivity and the normalization of genocide. What this reveals is the

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“By God, I fulfilled my duty as a Journalist. I risked everything to report

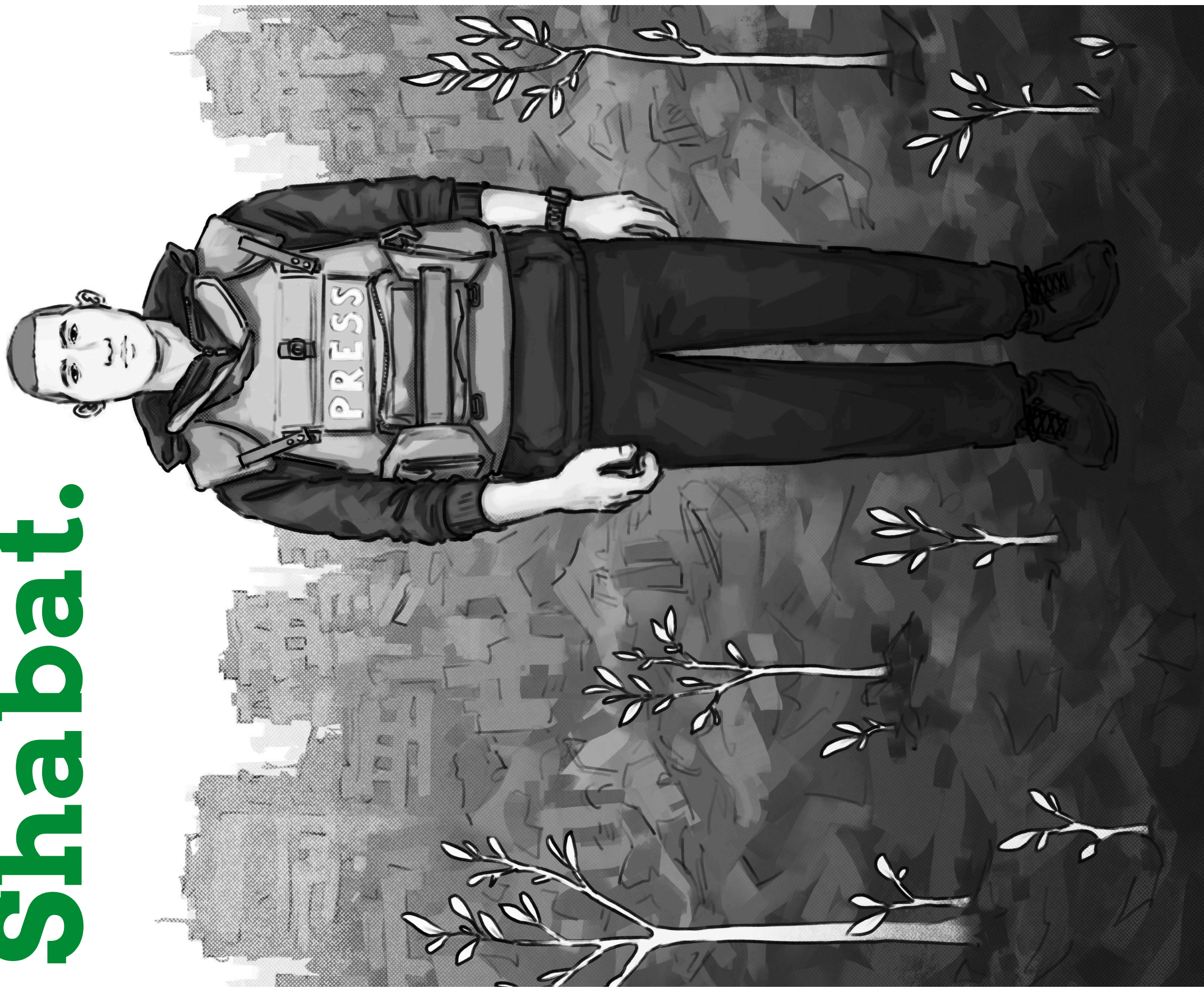
the truth, and now, I am finally at rest.”

“By God, I fulfilled my duty as a Journalist. I risked

everything to report the truth, and now, I am finally at rest.” “By God, I

We will honor all our martyrs

Hossam Shabab.



face of liberalism: a system that hides violence behind procedures, that frames oppression as debate and that tolerates genocide in practice under the label of “objectivity” and “neutrality.” Like so many other liberal institutions, the VUB places itself above the struggle, claiming moral distance while refusing any real form of solidarity. As the Zionist entity, fully supported by the West, carries out daily massacres, the university administration calls for “respect for both sides” and “dialogue.” This is not neutrality, it is active complicity. The international student intifada tears down the liberal façade. The occupation or rather liberation of our universities represents a radical break with the belief in procedural neutrality, questions the legitimacy of mediation, and rejects the idea that an occupier and the occupied should be treated as equals. By turning university spaces into places of resistance, we expose liberalism for what it truly is: an ideology of stability in service of the status quo. Imperialism does not have “two sides.” Decolonial resistance must no longer be reduced to just another voice in a debate. We are not asking for a seat at the table, we are overturning the table. No more false dialogue with the oppressor, but divestment, boycott, and active solidarity. The struggle for Palestine is a struggle against liberalism itself - the very system that legitimizes and sustains colonial violence.

At the VUB and beyond, we make this clear: resistance begins where liberalism ends. For the liberation of Palestine and for our own liberation from this system of organized complicity. From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free.



Culture of Resistance

by Mohammed Khatib

SEATTLE, April 25th

The following is a shortened transcription of a speech by Khatib, Palestinian activist and European coordinator of Samidoun.

Of course, what we witness today is a very tough and harsh moment. What we see coming from Gaza and all of Palestine, but also the Palestinian people, we and many of you have been living this much before 1948. Our people in Jordan contributed to the struggle of Palestine with blood. Our people in Syria contributed to the struggle for the liberation of Palestine with blood. Our Palestinian people in Lebanon, and the Lebanese people, along with the Yemeni, the Moroccan, the Egyptians, the Algerians, the Tunisians, internationalists from all over the world, contributed to the liberation of Palestine, with the blood and suffering, and imprisonment, and torture, and rape, and all many different forms of oppression and repression. But all of these forms of oppression and oppression exist because we resist and we dare to

flip the status quo, and we dare to break the laws of imperialism and capitalism and reactionary Arab regimes. We learn from the Palestinian people to be steadfast. We learn from our people in the prisons and in the west bank, in Jenin and Tulkarm, and in Shuja'iyya and all over Palestine, to be brave and strong and resilient. We learn from our people in Lebanon that we never give up our culture and our heritage, and because if we do so today, we are in the front of a very important task as a Palestinian diaspora. We have to rebuild our mass institutions and our mass organizations. We have to rebuild our community and to put all of our capacity and privileges and will in the path of the liberation of Palestine. We have to take up our duty to defend our people in Palestine, but also to be part of the liberation program, of the liberation project, to be an active part of the Palestinian resistance, and this is our duty and our right. We shouldn't give up on our right to mobilize for Palestine, to raise the flag of Palestine, to say Palestine will be free from the river to the sea, but also we shouldn't hesitate to join the Palestinian resistance, to join the fight for Palestine, to join and to follow the Zionist entity, who exists not only in Palestine but all over the world.

This Zionist entity is a Western colonial entity, was established in Basel and in Europe, and it should be buried in Basel and in Europe, and it should end in Palestine, and our people definitely will be victorious, organizing in the culture of resistance, in the campuses, in the unions, in every movement we are part in. If we are not organized, we must and we should be organized. We should build the bridges with our people in the refugee camps in Syria and Lebanon and Jordan and

in Palestine, we should unite the Palestinian diaspora under the slogan - free Palestine from the river to the sea. We should be united behind the Palestinian resistance and its leadership, and we should trust the leadership of the Palestinian resistance, and we should trust the leadership of the Palestinian student and the Palestinian prisoners, but we should stand against the Palestinian Authority who is part of the liquidation project, normalization, and security coordination with the Zionist state of Israel.

We shouldn't hesitate to build the alliance of Palestine with the Philippines, with Venezuela, with Colombia, with the Black community, with the indigenous community, and to bring Palestine back in its right place as the lead force in confronting imperialism and capitalism. And as our people in Palestine will definitely be victorious, as we will celebrate inshallah one day a resistance festival in Jerusalem and in Gaza. One day also, we will celebrate in a free Turtle Island from oppression and from fascism, and we will witness the defeat of Trump and Netanyahu, and those puppets.

We promise our people in Palestine, we promise our people in Gaza that Trump, and Netanyahu and Ben Gvir, and all of these people will be taken to court in Jerusalem, in the capital of Palestine, and they will face justice, the justice of the people, and we will not forget our blood and suffering, but we will build a free, democratic Palestine from the river to the sea, where everyone can live in equality and justice, and, most importantly, in dignity and peace. Thank you so much.

Gaza's Choice: Surrender or Victory

by Khaled Barakat

BEIRUT, April 24th

Palestinian writer and member of the Executive Committee of the Masar Badil, the Palestinian Alternative Revolutionary Path Movement

No one should deceive themselves that because “Israel” is continuing its mass killings, massacres and destruction, that the Zionist regime could actually win this genocidal war. The Western colony (“Israel”)

is in fact in a deep internal crisis even as it continues the bombings, assassinations, and targeting of schools, hospitals and refugee camps. It is perhaps more clear than at any point in history that there is no place for “Israel” in Palestine or anywhere in our region.

Recognizing this reality does not mean that we take lightly the horrific reality on the ground for Palestinians in Gaza under the bombs and under the siege. The bombings and massacres are accompanied by the tightening of the harsh siege under which Palestinians in Gaza have lived for 18 years, to the point where 52 days have passed under a total blockade of aid, food, and other basic necessities. The genocide is being

By Kevin “Rashid” Johnson Minister of Defense,
Revolutionary Intercommunal Black Panther Party, 2003



carried out not only with one-ton bombs and Al targeting, but also with the vicious and cruel weapon of starvation and deprivation: a total siege of genocidal destruction.

And as the Palestinian people confront the belts of fire and the knives of hunger, they face a parallel attack from the Arab reactionary regimes and the Palestinian Authority, who are escalating their repressive attacks against the Palestinian people, focusing on encouraging the displacement of Palestinians (despite their rhetorical condemnations) and upon targeting, dismantling and confiscating the weapons of the resistance, a wide-ranging attack through Gaza, the West Bank, Lebanon and beyond.

“International law,” has become a mockery as the international bodies and institutions stand by and watch, perhaps issuing a statement of condemnation, and despite the efforts by UNRWA and UN Special Rapporteurs to raise the alarm.

After more than 18 months of genocide and more than 18 months of steadfastness, the choice that Zionists and imperialists are offering is surrender, or continuation of the war - and that the choice of surrender comes with ethnic cleansing and forced deportation! The Palestinian historical experience has made clear to all that submitting our weapons and our resistance and being deceived by the illusions or negotiating tactics of the colonizers will lead nowhere except to even more severe massacres and a greater genocide.

All of these demands upon the Palestinian people are being issued at the same time as the continuous attacks on the Lebanese resistance and upon the popular cradle of the resistance in Jordan, and as the US

war crimes are escalating against brave and revolutionary Yemen. The new regime in Syria is attempting to resolve its crisis of sanctions at the expense of the Palestinian people by submitting to the conditions of the US and Europe to arrest, ban and confiscate the weapons of the Palestinian people and their resistance. Throughout the Arab reactionary regimes, even demonstrations for Gaza are banned and suppressed. In short, the Palestinian and Arab people and their resistance are forced to fight simultaneously on multiple fronts; the Arab and Muslim masses are confronting the complicity and even active participation of the Arab reactionary regimes, and the Palestinian compradors, in the destruction of Palestine.

The camp of allies of the Palestinian people are the masses of the world, national liberation movements, and all forces confronting the hegemonic domination of the United States. This is also true of the Yemeni resistance, fighting since 2004 against this very same camp, and of the Lebanese resistance, which has always clearly understood the role of US imperialism in the destruction and plunder of our region and the confiscation of its wealth and future.

Al-Aqsa Flood has weakened “Israel’s” position in the world and exacerbated the colony’s internal divisions, and no amount of war crimes has served to restore its status. Zionist media is haunted constantly by the phrase, “Israel will never be the same again,” in a way never heard before since the creation of the Zionist entity. And it is more clear than ever that the Zionist project is based upon the elimination of the Palestinian people, as we head toward yet another anniversary of al-Nakba.

In the belly of the best, supporters of Palestine - as we all see - are facing challenges: repression, bans, targeting, arrests, deportations. Of course, these challenges do not rise to the level of those of our people in Palestine; however, they speak urgently to the need to escalate the people’s resistance in the United States and the imperialist countries, to fill the role of what we call the international popular cradle of the resistance.

The enemy forces are demanding that Palestinians raise the white flag of surrender and submit, to break the promise to the prisoners who have been tortured for decades awaiting their freedom, to break the covenant of the struggle for a liberated Palestine, all of Palestine.

We are clear: the Palestinian people will not surrender.

At this pivotal moment, we emphasize that the camp of resistance is an international front that extends beyond the besieged Gaza Strip. Being part of this camp also comes with responsibilities: to act, to escalate, and not to leave the resistance alone in confronting the full brunt of the enemy assault.

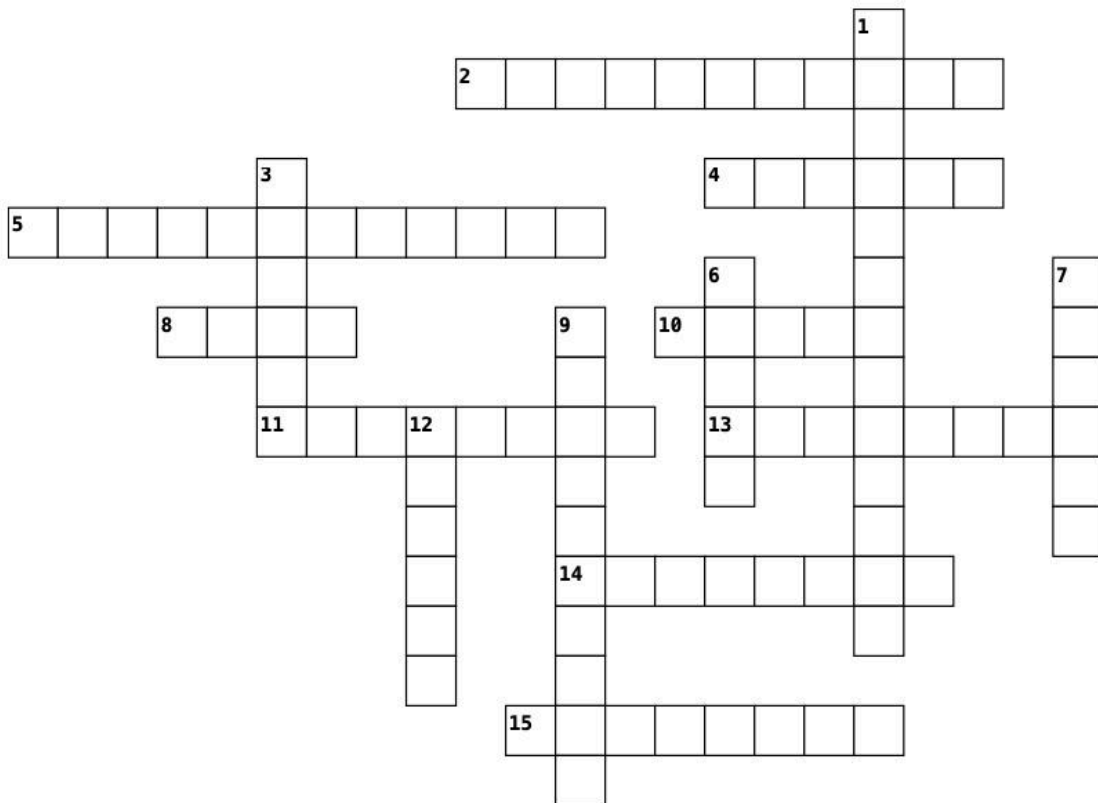
The more we escalate our resistance in North America and Europe the closer we get - not only to rejecting surrender, but to achieving victory and liberation.

**In order for me to write
poetry that isn't political,
I must listen to the birds
and in order to hear the birds
the warplanes must be silent**

-Marwan Makhoul
On Politics and Poetry



The People's Puzzle



Across

2. Historic operation on October 7th that re-centered Palestinian armed resistance
4. Orange-colored Arab dessert
5. _____ to the sea
8. Marxist-Leninist Palestinian armed resistance organization (abbreviated)
10. The Zionist entity's mass displacement of Palestinians, known as "catastrophe" in Arabic
11. People whose lands you're standing on right now
13. Ghassan _____, revolutionary Palestinian writer
14. _____ Brigades, armed resistance wing of Palestinian Islamic resistance movement Hamas
15. Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network

Down

1. Prisoner exchange achieved by the resistance which liberated over 1,000 Palestinian prisoners from Zionist prisons
3. Leila _____, famous revolutionary in the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine
6. Folk dance popular in Palestine and neighboring countries
7. Heavy investor in UW engineering that earns over 50% of its revenue from weapons technologies
9. Yemen resistance force that has shot down over \$600 million worth of US drones
12. Arabic for Jerusalem

Across: 2. Al Aqsa Flood, 4. Knafeh, 5. From the river, 8. PFLP, 10. Nakba, 11. Duwamish, 13. Kanafani, 14. Al Qassam, 15. Samidoun
Down: 1. Toufan al Ahrar, 3. Khaleel, 6. Dabke, 7. Boeing, 9. Ansar Allah, 12. Al Quds