

SARAH LAWRENCE COALITION FOR PALESTINE

STUDENTS • FACULTY • STAFF • ALUMNI

KITE

FROM KIMBALL

A newsletter from the
**SARAH LAWRENCE COALITION
FOR PALESTINE • VOLUME 5
SPRING SEMESTER 2026**



VOL. 5 NO. 11 : MONDAY MARCH 30, 2026

*Welcome to our weekly newsletter KITE, from
the Sarah Lawrence Coalition for Palestine.*

*KITE is open to contributions from within and beyond our
Sarah Lawrence community. If you or someone you know would like to contribute—an event
announcement, an event report, an opinion piece,
a response to something we've published, a quote, a poem—
please send to sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.me.*

Copy deadline is Sundays at noon. Thank you.

We'll publish 6 more issues of KITE this semester, finishing Volume 5 with our issue of Monday May 11.

We'll resume with the summer's biweekly Volume 6 on Monday June 1.

As usual, contributions are welcome.

Since our last newsletter:

- *Monday March 23* Israel-US assassinates Dr. Saeed Shamghadri, associate professor of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering at the Iran University of Science and Technology (IUST), with his son, his daughter, and his neighbors. [Sarah Abdallah](#)

Senior White House official to [Politico](#) on Israeli-American plans for regime change and assassination in Iran: "We're in the testing phase of really trying to figure out who can rise, who wants to rise, who tries to rise. And then as people rise, we'll do a quick test, and if they're radical, we'll take them out."

Pope Leo calls for the permanent abolition of aerial bombing. [Christopher Hale](#)

Darryl Li: "We have to account for the sheer depth of emotional investment in Zionism across the American elite space, and I don't think that's reducible to geopolitics or geopolitical interests." [Sean Lee](#)

- **Tuesday March 24** Trump backs down from threats to attack Iranian power plants unless Strait of Hormuz is opened. [NBC](#)

[Wall Street Journal](#): "President Trump must put boots on the ground to open the Strait of Hormuz and demonstrate the unquestionable supremacy of American power. If he fails, his legacy will be one of American collapse."

One year since the Israeli assassination of 23-year-old Palestinian journalist Hossam Shabat in Beit Lahia. Earlier that same day, he reported on the killing of fellow journalist Mohammed Mansour in Khan Younis, before he himself was targeted hours later in what witnesses described as a direct strike on a clearly marked press vehicle. [TranslatingFalasteenHossam Shabat](#): "I ask you now: do not stop speaking about Gaza. Do not let the world look away. Keep fighting, keep telling our stories—until Palestine is free."



Wissam Shabat 🇵🇸 🇺🇸 @wissamshabat · Mar 24



My brother remembered today in New York 🇺🇸. Thank you to the organisers of this.



[Mira Mattar](#): "empire has utterly underestimated the degree to which gaza has altered forever the consciousness of anyone who let it enter their heart-mind-reality. many people have been broken & changed, they are no longer dupes & this is fundamental to building a new world, if we survive."

[Mustafa Barghouti](#): "By destroying the bridges over the Litani River, Israel is trying to turn the Litani into a new Jordan River to achieve the annexation of southern Lebanon (everything south of the Litani) to Israel, just as it occupied everything west of the Jordan River."

from article removed from [Telegraph](#) website about Lebanese Christians and Hezbollah: "How can we as Christians in this area not be with Hezbollah? They protect our churches. They helped us fight Isis. During Covid they gave us free care in their hospitals. When there was no electricity they gave us generators. They even put up a Christmas tree at Christmas. How can we not be with them now?"

War Secretary [Pete Hegseth](#): "We negotiate with bombs."

Former Secretary of State [Antony Blinken](#): "Cutting off arms, sure, that was an option. But I don't actually believe that at least in the near term, it would have changed things."

Bret Stephens in the [New York Times](#): The War Is Going Better Than You Think.

- *Wednesday March 25* Iran bombs ICL Rotem chemical complex in the Negev, occupied Al-Naqab, following Iran's missile strike on the area earlier today. ICL is the sole supplier of white phosphorus to the US military. [Cradle](#) Documenting the use of white phosphorus by Israel on civilian areas in southern Lebanon. [Ali Rida Sbeity](#) "George W Bush bombed Fallujah with white phosphorus and depleted uranium in 2004. Fallujah now has the highest rate of birth defects in the world. Higher than Hiroshima and Nagasaki after the US dropped atom bombs on them." [Shailja Patel](#)

Israel kills photographer Hussein Hammoud in southern Lebanon. [Steve Sweeney](#)

Israeli MK [Yitzik Kroizer](#) on the killing of a Palestinian family by the Israeli army in Jenin: "There are no innocent civilians in Jenin, there are no innocent children in Jenin. I support the IDF soldiers in every situation, even if the incidental cost is children or women...In Jenin there are no innocent civilians, no innocent children. Those who were born in 2006 are the Nukhbas of 2026."" [Ihab Hassan](#)

Handala Hacking Group leaks sensitive data from former Mossad chief Tamir Pardo, linking him to the direct ordering of assassinations against Iranian scientists, such as Dariush Rezaei Najad and Mostafa Ahmadi Roshan. [PressTV](#)

Pro-Palestinian activists in Berlin occupy a facility of German arms giant Rheinmetall AG, one of Israel's key weapons suppliers during the genocide in Palestine. They demand an immediate halt to arms exports to Israel and an end to Germany's complicity. [Hüseyin Dogru](#)

Israeli Ambassador to the UN Danny Danon: "Israel is a stabilizing force in the region. We want peace." [UN](#)

Philosophy professor Idris Robinson sues Texas State University for violating his constitutional rights when it terminated his contract under pressure from pro-Israel activists. [Guardian](#) Pal Legal's Chloe Truong-Jones: "The university's complicity in war and in the genocide in Palestine is essential to understanding what is happening today to faculty, which is essentially a cheapening and deprioritization of the value of their pedagogy, to the point where faculty are considered expendable if their politics and scholarship threaten the interests of the corporate university or bring about scrutiny by the Trump administration and Zionist lobbies."

900 days since October 7, 2023.

Former Sarah Lawrence faculty member June Jordan, 1983: "Who will we become if we remain the silent partners to this white arrogance?" [BlackAgendaReport](#)

- **Thursday March 26** London police arrest British Palestinian Dr. [Rahmah Al-Adwan](#) for the fifth time, for breaching bail conditions by posting things on social media that were allegedly supportive of proscribed groups. This marks the fifth time that Al-Adwan, a 31-year-old trainee trauma and orthopaedic surgeon, has been arrested. She has previously faced allegations that she posted antisemitic content and expressed support for violent action and proscribed organisations on social media. Last November, a medical tribunal suspended her for 15 months despite no patient complaints against her. The tribunal said that her posts "may impact on patient confidence" in both her and the medical profession, while patients could be "discouraged" from seeking treatment from her. [TheNewArab](#)

Israel tries to kill Pakistani ambassador in Tehran. [MSN](#)

Israeli citizen arrested in Las Vegas after police found a cache of weapons, lab equipment, and more than 1,000 samples of unknown liquids at a home tied to a widening biosecurity investigation, the *Los Angeles Times* reports. [DropSite](#)

[Omar Sakr](#) in response to BlackRock CEO Larry Fink's statement that a "cessation of war" without destroying the state of Iran will lead to "global recession": "Translation: if we don't get to loot the country, steal its resources, and control the Strait of Hormuz at the end of this, we cannot recoup our losses."

- **Friday March 27** [Nerdeen Kiswani](#), co-founder of Within Our Lifetime, one of New York's most active pro-Palestinian protest groups: "Late last night the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force informed me that a plot against my life that was 'about to' take place, and that agents had conducted an operation in Hoboken related to this plot. For months, Zionist organizations like Betar and politicians like Randy Fine have encouraged violence against my family and me. I will have more to say as additional details come to light. I will not stop speaking up for the people of Palestine." Noura Erekat: "Zionist slander &

racism against Palestinians, Arabs, and Muslims permitted by govt & media made this plot against Nerdeen Kiswani possible. The same forces that led to the assassination of [Alex Odeh](#) in 1985—a murder that no one has been held to account for, to date.” The [man accused](#) of planning to assassinate Kiswani and flee to Israel, Alexander Heifler, belonged to a branch of the Jewish Defense League.

[Mohamad Safa](#), Executive Director and Main Representative of Patriotic Vision A at the United Nations, resigns: “After much reflection, and after it became clear to me that some UN seniors are serving a powerful lobby and not the UN, I have decided to suspend all my duties as PVA Main Representative at the UN and from all UN committees/groups of which I am a member. I cannot in good conscience be part of or witness to what is happening at a time when the UN is preparing for possible nuclear weapon use.”

Dr. Rahmeh Al-Adwan released after pleading not guilty to inciting support for proscribed group Hamas, and publishing material intending to stir up racial hatred after posting about Gaza and October 7 on social media site X. She will appear at the Old Bailey in London on April 24. She was hailed as a “hero” outside the court by supporters. “What's happening to me is state-level harassment being pushed by the Zionist lobby.” [5Pillars](#)

In 27 days of war, the US and Israel have demolished over 600 schools across Iran, martyring more than 1,000 students and teachers. [Furkan Gözükar](#)

“Israel has hit 2 of Iran's largest steel factories, a power plant and civilian nuclear sites among other infrastructure. Israel claims it acted in coordination with the US. Attack contradicts POTUS extended deadline for diplomacy.” [Abbas Araghchi](#)

Satellite images reveal that the Israeli army has built a new military site on the ruins of Al-Hajj Mohammed Cemetery in Ma’an, east of Khan Younis, after clearing and bulldozing the graves. [Ramy Abdul](#)

Iran’s University of Science and Technology (IUST) and Amirkabir University struck by US-Israeli attacks. [Omid Memarian](#)

Israel deploying Gaza playbook in Lebanon: Israeli airstrikes and ground operations over the last month have largely cut off southern Lebanon from the rest of the country, depopulating dozens of towns and damaging public services that are a lifeline for residents that remain. [Mohamad Bazzi](#)

• **Saturday March 28** “My friends and colleagues Fatima Fatouni and Hajj Ali Choeib have been killed by the Israeli army in a targeted drone strike. They were shining examples of journalistic integrity and speaking truth to power. They died in the field while documenting Israeli war crimes. May they rest in

peace." [Courtney Bonneau](#) When Fatima Fatouni managed to survive the initial strike, [a second](#) killed her. At the beginning of March she reported on Israeli forces [killing](#) 7 members of her family. When Fatouni expressed concern to [Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam](#) about her family living in the southern Lebanese village of Toul, Salam mockingly replied that she looked healthy and that there was a doctor in the room.

"Never forgot that day Fatima Ftouni held up her mic after an Israeli air strike in 2024 and called it the weapon she and colleagues were targeted for. Israel murdered her today." [Martin Asser](#)

Yemen enters the war against the US and Israel. [AlJazeera](#) "Our fingers are on the trigger for direct military intervention if any alliances join the US and Israel against Iran."

[Amanda Gelender](#): "Enough with the incessant deflection of responsibility. Jews consider ourselves a proud collective people, an unbroken lineage from generation to generation (*L'dor, vador*)—up until the cracked mirror of modern Judaism reflects back nothing but terrorism, slaughter, blood, sadism, rape, and [organ theft](#). Virtually every Jewish group supports the existence of Israel in some shape or form and we dare to point the finger at others instead of cleaning up our own filthy house?"

• *Sunday March 29* Day 30 of the US-Israeli war on Iran.

Trump contemplating the sheer folly of boots on the ground in Iran. [Guardian](#)

Iran's Revolutionary Guard tells the United States to condemn the bombing of Iranian universities by noon Monday Tehran time or face retaliation against American university campuses across the Gulf. [Shanaka Anslem Perera](#) Aaron Jakes: "Seems important now to reiterate that those of us pushing (unsuccessfully) for our universities and professional associations to condemn scholasticide have been advocating for the general principle that targeted destruction of educational institutions is always wrong everywhere."

[Mohamad Safa](#): "I don't think people understand the gravity of the situation as the UN is preparing for possible nuclear weapon use in Iran...I gave up my diplomatic career to leak this information. I suspended my duties so as not to be part of or a witness to this crime against humanity, in an attempt to prevent a nuclear winter before it is too late. Yesterday, nearly ten million people protested 'No Kings' in the United States. The possibility of the use of nuclear weapons must be taken very seriously. It's dangerous. Act now. Spread this message worldwide. Take the streets. Protest for our humanity and future. Only the people can stop it. History will remember us."

[Wissam Shabat](#): "Tomorrow, the session to approve the execution of Palestinian prisoners will begin. The failing world is silent and watching. Our prisoners, O Lord... our prisoners."

Action takers break in and destroy equipment inside Ametek's site in Dronfield, England. The firm is a key supplier of electronics and hardware for Israel's biggest weapons producer, Elbit Systems. [Aftershock](#)

- [March 27, 2025 letter from the House Committee on Education & Workforce to 5 colleges: Pomona, Bowdoin, Northwestern, Barnard, & Sarah Lawrence.](#)
 - [June 11, 2025 letter from the House Committee to Sarah Lawrence](#)
 - [August 5 lawsuit](#) filed by 10 Sarah Lawrence students & one faculty member against the College & the House Committee, to prevent shared attempts to equate anti-Zionism & anti-Semitism & to interfere with pro-Palestine anti-genocide protest.
-



• FROM THE FACULTY & STAFF •

To destroy a university

In the early hours of Friday March 27, US and Israeli forces attacked two Iranian universities, the Iran University of Science and Technology (IUST) and Amirkabir. At the beginning of the week, US-Israeli strikes killed an IUST professor in his home, with his children and dozens of his neighbors. As anthropologist and political scientist [Nicola Perugini](#) put it, "The university-bombing-coalition is trying to make the destruction of academic institutions a normal conduct of war."

There are many ways to destroy a university, and many ways to work against its destruction. [Here](#) is a list of Palestinian academics murdered in the Gaza genocide, with maps of Gaza's neighborhoods, of where Gaza's 12 universities once stood. "This archive is produced by a group of academics," the report says, "to honor and commemorate these lives and those of the many other teachers and researchers in higher education murdered by Gaza during the genocide perpetrated by Israel and its patrons, especially the United States." The purpose of the website and the report is to resist normalization of these crimes: to remember. "On 17 January 2024, for example," the report (*Remember*

Them: Palestine Scholars Murdered in the Gaza Genocide) says, "after occupying the campus of al-Israa University since early November of 2023, Israeli forces detonated hundreds of landmines inside the university, destroying the last standing university in Gaza...The liquidation of faculty members and the destruction of the universities cannot be understood separately from Israel's colonial settler quest to erase the Palestinian presence in the country." Iran's [Minister of Education](#) has reported that the United States and Israel have so far attacked 20 Iranian universities and higher education centers, in one month of war.

We of Sarah Lawrence's FSJP are noting that the response of US colleges and universities to this genocidal wave of attacks has not been to declare solidarity with the victims, but to attack, arrest, threaten, and discipline student and faculty activists who've opposed it. We're thinking of the regrettable similarities between this collaborationist consensus and the American Enterprise Institute's [Max Eden's](#) article in December 2024, "A Comprehensive Guide to Overhauling Education" discussing "the college cartel," wondering whether Trump's nominee for Secretary of Education "will give them the body slamming they deserve." [Noura Erekat](#) has said about the *Remember Them* report mentioned above, "194 pages documenting killing of Palestinian professors & systematic destruction of universities in Gaza. This doesn't include the slain students & primary schools. Text book scholasticide that should've shaken every uni to its core, but they brutalized their students instead."

For a place like Sarah Lawrence to try to please the federal and national organizations trying to protect the state of Israel in this moment is to betray our historical clarity about the consequences of such collaboration. As Francesca Albanese put it in her June 2025 [report](#), "From Economy of Occupation to Economy of Genocide," "Universities—centres of intellectual growth and power—have sustained the political ideology underpinning the colonization of Palestinian land, developed weaponry and overlooked or even endorsed systemic violence, while global research collaborations have obscured Palestinian erasure behind a veil of academic neutrality." In the wake of the recent attacks, Iranian legal scholar and former deputy director of Yale's Law and Political Economy Project Helyeh Doutaghi wrote, "We will never forget that as the American and Zionist war criminals blatantly target universities, schools, hospitals, assassinating professors and killing children, and after 2 years or genocide, western intellectuals are still debating whether or not to pass a symbolic, non-enforceable BDS resolution." Our students deserve better from us than this.

Lawsuit brought by Sarah Lawrence Palestine activists to protect anti-genocide protest

On August 5, 2025, ten Sarah Lawrence students, past and present, joined by one member of our faculty, filed a suit in federal court to try to prevent further attempts by the College and the House

Committee on Education & Workforce to equate anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism, and to surveil, stigmatize, discipline, and prevent campus protest against the Israeli genocide in Palestine.