

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. 14 : MONDAY APRIL 20, 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.

3 MORE ISSUES OF KITE! FOR
THIS SEMESTER,
FINISHING VOLUME 5 ON
MONDAY MAY 11.

WE'LL RESUME WITH
THE SUMMER'S BIWEEKLY VOLUME 6
ON MONDAY JUNE 1.

AS ALWAYS, CONTRIBUTIONS
ARE WELCOME.

Since our last newsletter:

- *Monday April 13* US begins naval blockade of Iranian ports. [Guardian](#)

Hours after the Islamabad talks collapse, IRGC commander-in-chief Ahmad Vahidi says publicly: "The supreme leader isn't even buried yet, and yet Ghalibaf is already shaking hands with those who killed him." [Shanaka Anslem Perera](#)

Israel murders Palestinian journalist Islam Qannita in Gaza. [Motasem Dalloul](#)

"Israel's vicious attack on Lebanon after last week's ceasefire quickly disappeared from the news cycle; kudos to the *FT* for properly covering it over the weekend: 'Lebanon reels from deadly 10-minute bombardment that set nation ablaze.'" [Nicholas Guyatt](#)

'Everything is gone': Israel destroys entire villages in Lebanon. [Guardian](#)

How 51 Seconds at a Pro-Palestine Protest Could Send a Muslim Student to Prison for 34 years. [DropSite](#)

"In 1956, when Israel first invaded Sinai, it began renaming occupied areas with Hebrew names within days. Ben-Gurion ordered this done swiftly—though that bet ultimately failed, as Israel was forced to withdraw. The erasure of place names is not incidental; it is a deliberate first step in the playbook of occupation and annexation. We are also living in an era when the [Gulf of Mexico became the Gulf of America on Google Maps](#)—simply because Donald Trump willed it so. If a sitting president can redraw the nomenclature of a centuries-old body of water on the world's most used mapping platform overnight, the idea that Apple Maps might quietly erase Lebanese village names in an occupied zone is not a conspiracy theory. It is a question that deserves a straight answer." [@Zeinobia](#)

"Another genocide behind walls": New report documents testimonies of rape and sexual violence in Israeli prisons. [EuroMed](#)

- **Tuesday April 14** Lebanese government officials meet in Washington to negotiate with Israel and oppose Hezbollah fighters defending against Israeli invasion. [@trhxianl](#) "While Lebanese heroes sacrifice everything to defend the homeland, Lebanon's Western-backed 'leaders' sell them out to the genocidal Zionist invader." [Ali Abunimah](#)

Yechiel Leiter, Israel's US envoy leading talks with Lebanon, according to Israeli media reports, was involved with the Jewish Defense League (JDL) in his youth, a US-based far-right pro-Israel group founded by Rabbi Meir Kahane that was later classified by US authorities as a "terrorist" organisation. The JDL has been linked to several violent attacks on US soil, including the assassination of Palestinian-American [organiser Alex Odeh](#) in California in 1985 and recent [threats](#) to the life of Within Our Lifetime co-founder Nerdeen Kaswani. [AlJazeera](#)

Ezra Klein: "I have immense sympathy for Israel's war against Hezbollah. They're defending themselves in a way any state would...Israel's security challenges are very real. Its horror, its fear, its trauma after Oct. 7 is very real. Its determination to make sure that never happens again is what any state and any people would do. Its right to reprisal against Hamas and Hezbollah is undeniable." [NYT](#)

"One thing that struck me about this is 'trauma' is mentioned four times but never about Palestinians, not after a horrific genocide in Gaza or programs and violent ethnic cleansing in the West Bank. This dehumanizes Palestinians." [Leila Al-Arian](#)

"If Zionism dies it will be despite Klein & the NYT's best efforts. The whole point here is to save Zionism, not end it. And to save face for years of complicity in genocide by doing what guys like Klein do best: peddling obvious fact as profound revelation." [Max Granger](#)

"The paper is not 'critical, contested terrain,' it is functionally a state apparatus for generating consensus. No genuine opposition can/will ever be printed in it." [NewYorkWarCrimes](#)

Israel makes mass arrests in West Bank town of Bal'a, east of Tulkarm. [Mustafa Barghouti](#)

"The 6 new settlements in the northern West Bank will completely encircle Jenin—which strongly suggests the plan is to kill the city entirely. The 2- state solution is already dead. The struggle now is to prevent Israel's ethnic cleansing of the West Bank." [Khaled Elgindy](#)

"Just minutes ago, Israel committed a new massacre in Gaza on Al-Nafaq Street." [Omar Hamad](#)

Jailed Palestinian leader Marwan Barghouti violently [assaulted](#) 3 times in recent weeks, including beatings & a dog attack, while being denied medical care. His lawyer & son warn that escalating abuse are a serious risk to his life. [Fatima AbdulKarim](#)

"The world watched as Israel razed Gaza to the ground. Now the world is watching as Israel razes Lebanon to the ground. War crimes beget war crimes—and the failure to bring Israel to justice for genocide has emboldened it to destroy human life with total impunity." [Jeremy Corbyn](#)

"The detention in Kuwait of award-winning Palestinian-American and Kuwaiti journalist Ahmed Shihab-Eldin, simply for reporting on an incident in the US-Israel aggression on Iran, is a shameful attack on press freedom, an act of arbitrary detention, and a gross violation of Kuwait's obligations under the ICCPR. Ahmed must be freed, and the Kuwaiti government must finally commit to human rights at home and in its foreign policy. [Craig Mokhiber](#)

How to chill your First Amendment rights to protest. [ProPublica](#)

Two protesters arrested at Ohio State pro-Israel event featuring IDF soldiers. [ColumbusDispatch](#)

British MP [Zarah Sultana](#): "The most draconian proposal being debated today—Lords amendment 312—would require the police to consider the 'cumulative disruption' of repeated protests when deciding whether to impose restrictions...The UN special rapporteur on freedom of assembly warned MPs that she has never encountered legislation like this anywhere in the world and that it could serve as a blueprint for authoritarian Governments globally.

"Let me describe the pattern of repression that this amendment joins. Palestine Action, a non-violent direct action group, was unlawfully proscribed by this Labour Government using counter-terrorism legislation. The High Court threw that out. What did this Labour Government do? They lodged an appeal and sent the police back on to the streets. Last week, over 500 people were arrested in London

for holding placards that read, 'I oppose genocide. I support Palestine Action.' The Met has still not explained why it reversed its own policy after that ruling. Since last year, more than 3,000 people have been arrested for holding a placard—not a knife, not a weapon, but a placard. "Six Palestine Action activists face retrial after being acquitted in February following a year in prison. If convicted, they and 18 others will be sentenced as terrorists, but [the jury will not be told that](#). The jury could convict them on criminal damage charges with no idea that terrorism sentences will follow. Not a single terrorism charge has been brought forward. The proscription has been ruled unlawful, and the defendants themselves have been banned from telling the jury that they acted to stop genocide under threat of contempt charges. This is what a stitch-up looks like, and it is part of the same pattern: a Labour Government that will do whatever it takes to silence dissent, protect Israeli death factories and escape accountability.

"Every advance in our history—whether it was votes for women, workers' rights, LGBT rights, or racial justice—was won through sustained, repeated, disruptive protest. The logic of 'cumulative disruption' would have crushed every one of those movements. I remind Labour Members opposite that their constituents sent them here to defend and strengthen their democratic rights, not erode them. Vote to disagree with Lord amendment 312 and vote against the roll-up motion."

Think the Iran war is a disaster? Blame these 4 DC think tanks first: the Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD), the Hudson Institute, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy (WINEP), & the American Enterprise Institute (AEI). [ResponsibleStatecraft](#)

• *Wednesday April 15 Ha'aretz* quoting an Israeli military source: "We are operating in the villages of southern Lebanon exactly as we did in Gaza, and our success is measured by the number of buildings we demolish each day." [Mustafa Barghouti](#)

"The only country bombing Lebanon for the last two years is Israel. The only country forcibly displacing over a million people is Israel. The only country killing children, paramedics and journalists is Israel. The only country committing egregious acts of ecocide with white phosphorus is Israel. The only soldiers who have threatened me and my colleagues for telling the truth are Israeli soldiers. I am a witness. I have photos and video of all of it. NPR, do better. Your correspondent in Beirut knows what's actually happening. Let them say it." [Courtney Bonneau](#)

UN Experts Call for Global Halt to Arms Transfers to Israel Amid Lebanon Attacks: "This is not self-defence. It is a blatant violation of the UN Charter." [Truthout](#)

Belgium seizes arms shipment sent from Britain to Israel. Brussels has banned aircraft carrying military equipment for Israel from stopping in the country or using its airspace. [MiddleEastEye](#)

European petition exceeds one million signatures to suspend EU-Israel agreement. [MiddleEastMonitor](#)

• **Thursday April 16** Israeli military orders all residents south of the Zahrani River in Lebanon to flee their homes immediately. This area includes the historic coastal city of Tyre and dozens of Lebanese villages and towns. [DropSite](#)

Israel escalates attacks on medics in Lebanon with deadly 'quadruple tap.' Lebanese health ministry says killing of 91 healthcare workers shows 'total disregard' for international law. [Guardian](#)

Three key reasons Zionists were forced into the 10-day ceasefire: Hezbollah and the people's resilience. Iran's ultimatum. The epic failure in Bint Jbeil. [Hussein of the South](#)

"All they will find is sand": Eyal Weizman on the demolition of Gaza : "After the First World War the unprecedented facial injuries caused by high-explosive shells destroyed soldiers' sense of identity. The territorial equivalent of this is the disorientation that Palestinians feel when exposed to the places that used to be their homes. A new form of psychological torture emerged. Blindfolded Palestinian captives were taken back to their old neighbourhoods, now a sea of rubble. 'When we took the cloth off their eyes,' Zerbiv reported, 'they were completely disoriented, they did not understand where they were.' Zerbiv, who is also a rabbinical court judge, has been chosen to light a torch at Israel's Independence Day celebrations." [LRB](#)

[Huda Fakhreddine](#), "A House of Poetry": "The house we lost in South Lebanon in the fall of 2024 was not a house so much as the dream of a house. It was always in the making, growing like a tree. Since my parents first dreamed of it in 1985, it rose and fell in whichever direction the winds of war blew. It sat in the middle of an ancient fig orchard on land the villagers called 'the rooftop,' an incline on the shoulder of the hill. Wherever you looked, the sky was within reach, and the hills of Jabal Amil rolled into scattered villages, old oak trees, and olive groves. You could see as far as your sight could travel

in all directions. The most beautiful view was to the southeast, toward Mount Hermon, wrapped in his white cloak, as a crisp breeze carried your gaze to Palestine." [TheKey](#)

Two medical students from Gaza managed to restore the library of one of the oldest mosques in Gaza, which was bombed by Israel. [WarfareAnalysis](#)

Israeli soldiers march through Auschwitz. Weaponization of the Holocaust tragedy to justify Israel's apartheid and genocide. [Hend Amry](#)

"This young man received a call from the Israeli military saying he could either die alone or in the car with his family. He ran into a field alone and was murdered by one of their drones. This is the future Israel wants for the entire world. They cannot have it." [Fatima Bhutto](#)

- **Friday April 17** Group in France sets fire to four brand-new Caterpillar D930 loaders in a warehouse. The firm supplies the Israeli military with bulldozers, which are then armoured and equipped with machine guns. The bulldozers are used to murder Palestinians and demolish their homes. [Aftershock](#)

UNICEF is outraged by the killing of two drivers of trucks contracted by UNICEF to provide clean water to families in the Gaza Strip. The victims were killed by Israeli fire in an incident that took place early this morning at the Mansoura water filling point in northern Gaza. [UN](#)

In the 1940s, Rahm Emanuel's father was in Palestine with the Zionist terror group Irgun carrying out bombings and assassinations on British and Palestinian targets. He later participated in the Nakba to establish Israel. Now, Rahm is trying to become president. [Jeremy Loffredo](#) Rahm Emanuel got his start as a 20-year-old fundraiser for the first campaign to ever target a member of Congress for opposing Israel, in 1980. [Ryan Grim](#)

Bint Jbeil: Israeli "Desperation" to Control It and Legendary Resistance from Hezbollah to Defend It. [France24](#)

Khaled Mahajna, "Save Us From Death, We Live in Graves": "During my 40-minute visit, he described torture and abuse. This visit was one the hardest for me personally that still affects me mentally to this day. His testimony described how prisoners are handcuffed and blindfolded for months on end.

Without exaggeration. Even more terrifying and concerning were the testimonies of sexual abuse and rape and how Israel has used medical neglect as a tool of oppression and abuse." [TheKey](#)

"All the Consent
That's Fit to Manufacture"

The New York ^{WAR} Crimes

The Prisoners Edition
"The end of my words is a call:
Free the prisoner
and liberate the homeland"

VOL. IV ... No. 21

© The New York Crimes Company

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026

FREE

'UNBARRED AND FREE'

MAKING RENT IN A TIME OF GENOCIDE

By
RASHA ABOU JALAL

At the end of every month, Ahmad Madi counts what little money his family has left. He and his wife sit in the corner of their small rented apartment in Al-Naz, west of Gaza City, and spread the cash across the floor. The bills are divided by need: food, transportation, schooling for their four children. It is their rent, however, that necessitates this calculation.

Their home in northern Gaza was destroyed during the two-year Israeli genocide. "My wife and I both work. We even sell part of the aid we receive from relief organizations just to cover rent," he tells me, staring at the shallow pile of money. "Sometimes it feels like our entire life is reduced to paying for a roof over our heads."

His family's eviction is imminent. Their landlord has repeatedly raised the rent, justifying the increase by the demand and the scarcity of livable homes in Gaza. Though he's tried to fight the hikes, his pleas have proved futile. If he doesn't intend to pay, the landlord tells him, there are ten families ready to take the apartment. "And I know he's telling the truth," Madi says. "So I can't really object."

This practice has become routine for Madi's family, a desperate accounting at the end of the month that decides whether they will be forced, again, out of their home. Some months ago, his wife sold some of her gold jewelry in an attempt to avoid yet another displacement.

Inside their tiny apartment, Madi glances over at their children. "What frightens me most is not the bombing, but that there may come a day when I can no longer pay the rent, where we could end up on the street or back in a tent. The war destroyed our homes, but rent can destroy what remains of



People welcome freed Palestinian prisoners in Ramallah following the Gaza ceasefire deal, January 25, 2025. Photo by Zain Jaafar.

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

A Battle of Wills

not only changed Gaza's urban landscape; it has fundamentally shifted how people live, and ultimately, how they relate to one another.

For Madi, the hope of one day rebuilding their home, of an end to this perpetual insecurity, has been all but lost. "When the war on Gaza ended in October 2025, we felt a measure of hope for reconstruction to begin," Madi says. "But with the outbreak of the American-Israeli war on Iran, Gaza was pushed off the table, and that hope

The Arabic word for confession — *'itad* — also means recognition. A Palestinian prisoner who refuses to confess is refusing to recognize, let alone to legitimize, the colonizer's power. This is the battle of wills at the heart of every Zionist dreamer. Ahmad

ary of Zionist imagination. Every US-backed Israeli onslaught, incursion, and massacre must be understood as coterminous with the logic of the danger. The political prisoner tortured at Sde Teitan and the family buried under rubble in Dushik are not separate

MURDER BECOMES THE LAW

The Knesset seeks a final solution

Israel's new death penalty law rests on a misunderstanding of resistance

Hell and Back

Steadfastness in solitary confinement

By
HASSAN SALAMEH

Hassan Salameh was born in Khan Younis in 1971, four years into the Israeli occupation of Gaza. During the First Intifada, he rose to be a central figure in the Al-Qassam Brigades, before eventually being arrested in 1996. His 2022 memoir, *Five Thousand Days in the World of Barzakh*, provides a stunning first-hand account of the barbarous conditions he and other Palestinian prisoners are still subject to in Israeli dungeons. In particular, he recounts his long years in solitary confinement and the love that blossomed despite this isolation between him and his wife Ghafra Zamat.

The arrival of his marriage certificate at the prison in 2010 stirred indignation from the prison director who scoffed: "When did you leave your cell to be able to claim that you have been married?" Then, with cold certainty, he told Salameh: "You will live here, and will die here." For Ghafra this outrage was an affirmation that their union had fulfilled its purpose.

Zionist prisons seek to break the bonds between Palestinians and the outside world — their families, their nation, and their struggle — and solitary confinement is the highest attempt to break the morale and will of the prisoner. Salameh says: "If they could deprive us of air, they would have done so." He writes in his letters that in solitary confinement, Ghafra and his mother — who was martyred in 2024 during Israel's genocide in Gaza — became the air that he breathed.

Salameh was sentenced to 48 life terms, and denied release by the Occupation as part of the 2011 prisoner exchange deal. After decades of torture and isolation in Israeli prison, where

This piece appears in a special issue of [The New York War Crimes](#), which focuses on Palestinian prisoners. Image courtesy of the New York War Crimes.

• *Saturday April 18* "There is now overwhelming evidence of the use of dogs to rape Palestinian inmates in Israeli prisons—first reported in our Oct 2024 Al Jazeera Investigative Unit film GAZA." [Richard Sanders](#)

• *Sunday April 19* Iran rejects second round of talks with the US after Trump threatens more attacks, to try to pressure Tehran to make a deal before the current ceasefire ends Wednesday. [SkyNews](#)

Senior Iranian official to [Dropsite](#): "The Islamabad negotiations provided President Trump with an appropriate opportunity to exit the war. Should he nevertheless choose to continue the conflict, Iran will, for a prolonged period, suspend diplomatic channels and will seek, within the context of the conflict, to impose significantly greater costs on United States interests."

The Strokes perform [Oblivius](#) at Coachella with visuals exposing US assassinations, regime change operations, and genocidal campaigns from the conquista to Gaza. [Maryam Jamshidi](#): "What's so important abt the Strokes performance is that in less than 5 mins they made crystal clear that the US/Israeli war against Iran is not just happening because of Trump/Bibi. Its happening bcz this is what the US does. This is what it stands for."

["Dounana,"](#) "Without Us," Siba Alkhiana & Monkeyman. [Alkhiana](#) is a Syrian rapper living in Germany.



ریشه کردند،

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- [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.
 - [March 17, 2026 House Committee](#) releases [report](#), with [Appendix](#) including the names of Sarah Lawrence staff and FSJP faculty in partially redacted emails turned over to the Committee by the College, without a subpoena.
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• FROM THE FACULTY & STAFF •

What side you standing on

Last week Sarah Lawrence finished the last of 20 disciplinary “hearings” against student protesters, overseen by the Grand River Solutions consulting firm. In these last weeks of the semester, sometimes in their last weeks at Sarah Lawrence, students face threats of punishment ranging from loss of work and loss of study abroad to probation, suspension, or expulsion. We of FSJP are still hoping that our community may find a way to meet these students’ integrity, their refusals to allow business as usual to

proceed in a time of genocide, with something other than discipline and punishment. The decisions about to be made will