

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. 15 : MONDAY APRIL 27, 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.

2 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 20* "As long as the looting continued—carried out by armed gangs the Zionists were funding—the siege could be laundered through a story about Palestinian chaos: warring clans, lawless streets, a society supposedly incapable of feeding itself without Western supervision. Meanwhile, the price series and the truck ledger refute that story. The numbers show a market whose every distortion traces back to Western imperialist destruction and the Zionist blockade, and an aid pipeline that started working the moment Palestinians dismantled the Israeli-armed gangs preying on it. It's so important to reiterate: governance in Gaza was never the problem." "How To Launder a Siege," [GoodShepherdCollective](#)

'This is real. This is loss'—Arab-American group in Dearborn plans lawsuit over destroyed Lebanon homes. [MLive](#)

"Sit and Stay Seated? Walkouts at One State's Public Universities Could Soon Be Banned": Tennessee's HB 176 attempts to police protests at public universities, including "staging walkouts" during an event or an invited speaker's remarks. It defines walkouts as "considerable disruption or distraction or the need to pause the event for any period of time, however short." If a student or faculty member violates the walkout provision, they may be subject to disciplinary probation, followed by suspension and expulsion for subsequent violations. HB 1476 also prevents colleges from disinviting speakers due to their beliefs or in response to opposition from students or faculty. [Chronicle](#)

British universities paid security firm led by ex-military intelligence officials to spy on pro-Palestine students. "Horus Security Consultancy Limited trawled through student social media feeds and conducted secret counter-terror threat assessments on behalf of some of Britain's most elite institutions." [AlJazeera](#)

SL faculty member Joel Swanson: "Congress thinks my college is failing on antisemitism. My Jewish students disagree." [Forward](#)

Karim Makdisi, "Lebanon on the Brink": "And so the genocide that's taking place, the ethnic cleansing that's taking place, these attacks in Lebanon, in Syria, on Iran, all of this is taking place because they know this is the last big moment that they have where they can get away with it scot-free. And so there needs to be enough of a resistance at any level, whether it's military or other kind of resistance, to stop the Israelis from achieving their objectives.

"And in that sense, strategically speaking, it's not what I like, what I don't like. Do I like the Iranian regime? Do I not like the Iranian regime? Do I want Iran to win or not? It is simply factual that Iran stands now in the way of an Israeli domination which will allow them to become a great power, not just in the region, but if they control the Gulf directly, basically, this means war with Turkey eventually, and it means total submission in our entire area. And this would be horrendous for all of us, horrendous news for all of us here.

"And so there needs to be a settlement eventually where the United States understands that it's lost

the war in Iran, strategically speaking. It needs to accept it. And it needs to be able to deal with Iran. And dealing with Iran means having a regional settlement in which Israel does not dominate. And if Israel does not dominate, then it can't dictate Lebanon or Syria or these other places. And you end up with a new dynamic that will be spread. I think this is what's riding on this regional war that's taking place today...I don't see the violence ending anytime soon. But I do see the Israeli project coming to its final stages, violent as it is, but into its final stages." [Turbulence](#)

"The news of Maha Abu Khalil's martyrdom has gone somewhat unnoticed; she was killed three days ago in the Israeli bombing in Tyre. Nearly 60 years of struggle. For Maha, whom some called the elegant fighter, there is not even a note on Wikipedia." [Rahma Cristina](#)

- **Tuesday April 21** 16-year-old Muhammad Al-Jaabri dies after being run over by convoy of Israeli Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir in the town of Beit Ainun, north of al-Khalil/Hebron. [Anas Al-Sharif](#)

Likud comptroller Shai Galili: "We need to do exactly what we also should have done in Gaza. Put a siege on all the villages... move the border to the Litani...In all arenas, it's the same solution...Expel the population." [Linda Mamoun](#)

Philadelphia Congressional candidate Ala Stanford, when asked at a debate last night why she had to that point refused to call Israeli actions in Gaza a genocide, and had even compared doing so to using anti-Black racial slurs, said doing so is "hurtful" for Israelis being accused. [James Ray](#)

A group of artists and writers announces the launch of [92NO](#), a protest directed at the 92NY (formally known the 92nd Street Y). In October 2023, [92NY cancelled a scheduled talk](#) with Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Viet Thanh Nguyen after Nguyen signed a [letter](#) calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. The ousting led to widespread outcry, including cancellations from [other cultural figures](#) slated to speak at 92NY. But CEO Seth Pinsky defended the decision at the time, and went on to organize "a series of public events boosting [cultural](#) and political support for Israel." In July 2024, the company implemented a policy [banning political expression](#) for all public facing employees. The new protest group is calling on all artists to refuse to allow their names and works to be used to launder the reputation of 92NY. [LitHub](#)

Gazan journalist Wael al-Dahdouh: "At that time, we felt we were acting on behalf of the entire world in our work as journalists—on behalf of our colleagues around the world, on behalf of all of you—to secure humanity's right to know what was happening in Gaza.

"This certainly added enormous burdens to us. But in return, we felt that these sacrifices, this price—that the world, and first among them our journalist colleagues and press institutions, should meet it with a form of reciprocity, a return of the favour, if that's the right expression: solidarity, engagement, and far greater action than we saw.

"But the truth is, we sometimes felt the world had left us on our own—watching as we were targeted

and killed, us and our families. This hurt us deeply. We were expecting colleagues to take steps: to pressure unions, press guilds, parliaments, governments, and the United Nations, to stop this genocide.

"This genocide—yes, we are living through it. But truth itself is also being annihilated. Journalism, the message of journalism, the human values of journalism, the human values we all share despite our different colours and languages—those are what are being annihilated. We were messengers of truth and messengers of humanity. We were trying to defend those things.

"Some steps were taken, but they never came close to what we hoped for—what we expected from humanity, and certainly from our colleagues." [TheNerve](#)

Happening NOW: Heavy Israeli artillery shelling and tank fire east of Al-Zaytoun neighbourhood, southeast of Gaza City. [Motasem Dalloul](#)

• **Wednesday April 22** Israel and the United States murder Lebanese journalist Amal Khalil.

"The Israeli enemy army is besieging our colleagues Amal Khalil and Zainab Faraj in the town of Al-Tayri and preventing the Red Cross and the Lebanese army from heading to them. After more than two hours since the attack that occurred near their car, the American embassy (through the Mechanism Committee) has not granted permission for the Red Cross to move toward our colleagues." [Hasan Illaik](#)

"Urgent appeal: Our colleague Amal Khalil remains trapped under the rubble, and Red Cross teams have been unable to rescue her. This follows another Israeli military strike after the rescue of our colleague Zainab Faraj and the recovery of two martyrs from a nearby location. Faraj was taken to the hospital for treatment after sustaining injuries. It should be noted that our colleague Amal Khalil had previously received threats from the Israeli enemy, and therefore the Union holds the enemy fully responsible for her life, and considers what is happening a heinous crime." [Ali Rida Sbeity](#)
Red Cross vehicle transporting wounded journalist reportedly came under fire in southern Lebanon. [AlJazeera](#)

"Jesus Christ. They are hunting her down." [Barry Malone](#)

"The full story: They were bombed by Zionists when they were together. IOF did not allow medics or the army to reach them. US ambassador responsible for overseeing the ceasefire 'mechanism' did not react. The Red Crescent advised them to take shelter in or near a house.

"Zionists bombed them again. Medics were allowed in, they found Zeinab in critical condition. They couldn't find Amal. IOF did not allow a bulldozer to reach the bombed site as it is suspected Amal is now under the rubble. US ambassador still not taking any kind of action."

"Amal was found under the rubble. She is a martyr killed by Zionists." [Hussein of the South](#)

"Farewell, Amal. You were true to your roots & loyal to our South, & for that we can only thank you. Our land will miss your honesty, your service, & your integrity. Journalists of your kind are rare even in Lebanon, & 'Israel' is stealing you all from us. I am heartbroken." [@trhxianl](#)

"In addition to being the voice of the people on the borders and in the camps, she was the voice of the prisoners in the occupation's prisons, and her reports have formed the most important source about them in the Lebanese media. I've been following her since her beginnings, and I was and still am convinced that she is one of the bravest women I've known in my life. May God have mercy on you, Amal, and accept you." [Najlaa](#)

[Hala Jaber](#): "A journalist colleague, [@loffredojeremy](#), reached out to the number that had sent death threats to Lebanese journalist Amal Khalil, asking for comment. This was the response:

12:14

5G 61

< 9



+972548695113



Hi,

My name is Jeremy Loffredo. I'm a journalist for the American publication Drop Site News and I'm wondering if you have any comment on the threat you sent to Lebanese journalist Amal Khalil.

12:06 PM ✓✓

1 unread message

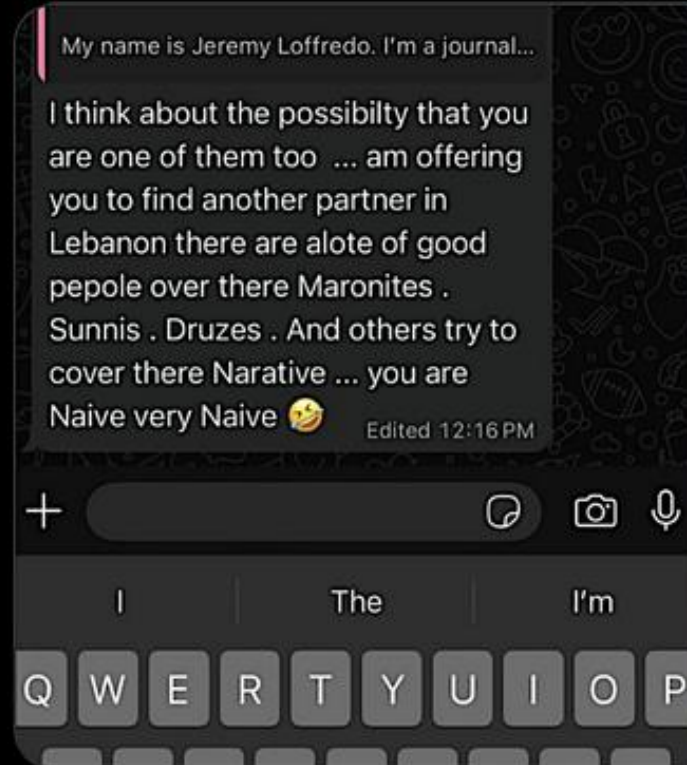
These are not innocent people. The journalists affiliated with Hezbollah that Israel eliminated were also spies for Hezbollah, approaching our soldiers and then informing the



Sulaiman Ahmed @ShaykhSulaiman · Apr 22



IDF just threatened American journalist [@loffredojeremy](#) for reporting in South Lebanon





Paramedics of the Lebanese Civil Defense in Rmeish, south Lebanon, treated a wounded resistance fighter who arrived from Bint Jbeil, before contacting the Lebanese Red Cross in Rmeish to transfer him to an area outside of Israeli control. According to *Al Akhbar*, Israeli occupation forces in the southern Lebanese town of Debl became aware of his presence and, in a phone call with the paramedics, demanded that he be handed over to them, threatening to target the ambulance if they refused. The paramedics refused. The resistance fighter then decided to proceed on foot to Debl to surrender himself, in order to protect the lives of the paramedics and local residents. [TheCradle](#)

New Zealand's High Court rules that \$53 billion sovereign wealth fund is operating under unlawful ethical investment rules, after activists challenge investments linked to Israel's military occupation of Palestinian land. [Ali Abunimah](#)

Tehran's embattled Jewish community endures despite Israeli bombing of synagogue. [Guardian](#)

Zachary Foster: 'I'm Jewish. Many of my closest friends are Jewish. I love them all. My family is Jewish, I love them all too. My community is Jewish. Love them too. I love Judaism. I host shabbat dinners, celebrate Jewish holidays, sing Jewish prayers, study Torah & Talmud, and love Jewish culture, history and expression. But I'm not a Zionist. I'm an anti-Zionist.

"Please don't conflate Judaism—that has existed for thousands of years—with your modern, fascist anti-Jewish political ideology founded on the principles of forcible displacement & genocide. Judaism will last as long as there are humans on the planet. Zionism is imploding in real time."

"As the Metropolitan Police rolls out [facial recognition](#) nationwide, remember that the software is from Israeli firm Corsight AI and was used as part of the Gaza genocide first." [Lowkey](#)

"Britain is becoming a surveillance state—and this is yet another example of the draconian crackdown on Palestinian solidarity. Universities are meant to encourage students to learn, not intimidate them into silence." [Jeremy Corbyn](#)

Deadly Israeli settler attack on school kills two in Ramallah. [AlJazeera](#)

"We apologize for canceling the wedding of my son, Abduljaleel Junaid, scheduled for Frida...he was killed this morning in an Israeli airstrike on Gaza." [GazaNotifications](#)

• **Thursday April 23** Dave Zirin on the WNBA's Natasha Cloud: "Then, like many public figures inside and outside the sports world, Cloud began to see the similarities between the oppressed social position of Black people in the United States and that of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. And yet unlike most of them, Cloud chose to say something. 'We understand the struggle,' Cloud said. 'There are so many similarities in the Palestinian struggle and the African American struggle here in the United States. If we can't see that and if we can't care about other people, how do we expect

people to fight for us when we're saying Black Lives Matter, right?' Cloud has also never been shy about asking her league and her teammates to look in the mirror on this question. She even critiqued the NBA's selective humanity in speaking out for Israeli lives while saying nothing about the Palestinian genocide." [Nation](#)

A policy push in the US would extend legal protections to Americans who serve in the Israeli armed forces, via a bill to amend federal law "to provide for the eligibility of United States citizens who serve in the Israeli Defense Forces for certain protections relating to such service." Under current law, US veterans' benefits are tied to service in the US armed forces. The proposal in HR 8445 would move away from that framework. [Military.com](#)

[DropSite](#) investigation exposes the 5 Israeli-Americans responsible for the doxxing website Canary Mission.

"Dr. Alex Sinclair was sitting in a café in Modiin. Another customer noticed that on his kippah there were Israeli and Palestinian flags together, a symbol of peace, and called the police. The police arrived and informed him that 'his kippah was against the law.' When he refused to remove it, the kippah was forcibly taken from him, and it was returned to him after the Palestinian flag was cut off it." [Alon Lee Green](#)

Israeli soldier tackles student at 'heated' tabling event at Stanford. [StanfordDaily](#)

"Against University Complicity in Fascist Times: Coalition Politics and Campus Struggles," sponsored by Jewish Voice for Peace & the [Coalition for Action in Higher Education](#)

- **Judith Butler:** "We have seen a dazzling number of universities and colleges comply with Title VI investigations of anti-Semitism that have led to the loss of employment, suspension, detention, abduction, and deportation of members of academic communities. These investigations seek to impose a definition of anti-Semitism in line with the IHRA over-broad definition that construes anti-Zionist positions as definitionally anti-Semitic--even though as we know there is a long and continuing Jewish tradition of anti-Zionism. These investigations also persecute without legal redress those who dare to name the crimes against humanity committed in the course of sustained Israeli violence against Palestinians, against those who name that violence as genocide in accord with international legal definitions and sound political analysis, and against those who describe the structure of the Zionist state as racist...This current regime and its various forms do what they can to escalate racism, to activate systemic racism. A word we are not supposed to use and therefore should use."

- **Eman Abelhadi:** "For so many of us, and I think I count myself among them: we are coming to terms with the structure of the university and the problematics of the structure of the university too late—in the sense that a place like the University of Chicago has had a destructive relationship with its neighbors and its neighborhood for a really long time. And we have mostly ignored or remained

ignorant of that, right? We have, you know, believed in this idea that these are citadels of freedom and liberalism, when in fact they haven't operated that way, whether they are universities built by slaves or built on displacement or uh are continuing to displace their neighbors, while taking up a lot of resources and failing to give back to their communities...And it's only because we allow the university to be like this that we end up here. So for me it's about imagining an alternative, a radical alternative, even if we're not going to get there tomorrow."

•**Dylan Rodriguez:** "So what might it mean to disabuse ourselves of the notion that either fascism or authoritarianism are horrifying exceptions to the normative conditions of the United States and adjacent nation-building projects—including and especially Israel—but instead are in fact the foundational logics of power, authority, and generally one-directional warfare on which those projects rely from their foundations and in perpetuity? I think we are making a serious mistake if we identify universities—by which I principally mean their bureaucratic planners and administrators—as merely complicit, or merely capitulating, in an accelerated moment of authoritarian state violence and fascism. I think US, Israeli, and other universities are not merely complicit in facilitating the war machine. They're also primary theaters in which the war is waged, as a matter of militarized, ideological, juridical, epistemic, and bureaucratic violence. So I'll just end these opening comments with a warning and a question. First I want to warn us that these common criticisms and expressions of outrage over capitulation to pressure from the state, whether it's the Trump White House or otherwise, underestimate the gravity of the condition. I think the long accumulated historical evidence suggests that higher education administrators are active consultants to and collaborators with state-driven counterinsurgency rather than merely craven capitulators to it. They are both. The question then that I want to ask is what might it mean for us in JVP and beyond to apprehend and treat universities as fully activated enemy institutions rather than just terrains of struggle. I think about myself working in the University of California as increasingly less and less different than working at the Pentagon."

•**Shima Shakhasari:** "I think the one of the challenges I see in thinking about this moment as authoritarianism or fascism is the disavowal of what's happening among our own very liberal colleagues. I'm not talking about the university administrators, who obviously are there to protect the university. I have been seeing this over two years of genocide and now with the war on Iran and Lebanon: the silence of our colleagues when it comes to demanding divestment from Israel or the genocide in Gaza and speaking up about the war in Iran or Lebanon, while being very vocal about the Trump administration's violations of academic freedom. Many of our liberal colleagues and I would say even leftist colleagues are very quiet when it comes to Palestine...The idea of freedom of speech and the sacred ideals of liberal democracy are enshrined, and the entanglements with white supremacy and settler colonialism and slavery are very conveniently erased. I think this is why many colleagues, not just liberals, but leftists, demand that one condemn Hamas or the Islamic Republic or Hezbollah every time one critiques Israel's settler colonial violence and genocide and aggression in the region. In my opinion it illuminates the liberal hegemony that enshrines freedom—be it freedom

of speech or academic freedom—as a sacred American value, and in a sense, you know, wanting our democracy back to what it was assumed to be before Trump, while ignoring the fact that freedom, as many scholars—such as Lisa Lowe in [The Intimacies of Four Continents](#)—have argued, is at the core of European colonial domination and the US empire. What Lowe calls “the economy of forgetting forgetting”: how freedom is very much a part and parcel of settler colonialism and slavery. Freedom is not a universal ideal that eradicated slavery. It is a construct that continues to be constitutive with colonialism, slavery and empire, and of course neoliberal governmentality.”

• **A. Naomi Paik:** “Some of the cowardice of not only the administrators but also our liberal colleagues is the outcome of decades of not only liberal but neoliberal culture, that reduces us all to the individual. So no one speaks out in the belief that their silence will protect their own jobs, and that is the only thing that certain people are interested in protecting right now. Right? Even with things like Operation Midway Blitz sweeping through...So what we're seeing is the kind of slow, silent, polite, empathetic, liberal violence that ultimately endorses, supports, and fosters a fascist state.

“I understand that rest is not resistance, it is necessary—and as people rest, because it is necessary, I don't want us to become atomized or to fall out of community, because we need to restore ourselves and can't take another meeting. This is my fourth thing today. So I understand that exhaustion. But I want to think about how can we make rest preparation. So, we rest, we restore, and we prepare to come back and we prepare to fight more, to fight harder.” [JVP](#)

Israeli Defense Minister Israel [Katz](#): “Israel is prepared to renew the war against Iran. The IDF is prepared for both defense and offense, and the targets are marked. We are waiting for the green light from the U.S., first and foremost, to complete the elimination of the Khamenei dynasty and to return Iran to the dark and stone ages by destroying Iran's major energy and power facilities. This time, our strikes will be different and more deadly, and will deliver further devastating blows to the most painful places, which will shake and collapse the regime's foundations.”

• **Friday April 24** “Just hours after a three week extension to the so-called ‘ceasefire’ was announced and a drone is flying low and loud over the Lebanese capital Beirut.” [Steve Sweeney](#)

“There is no ceasefire in Lebanon, unless the south no longer counts as Lebanon.” [Roqayah Chamseddine](#)

“Update: 5 Israeli airstrikes on South Lebanon, Bint Jbeil area, in less than 1 hour. Kawnin, Safad and Jmayjmeh. Many civilian casualties reported. This is happening while Israelis keep occupying many southern border towns and imposing a complete evacuation on about 50 other towns.” [Hadi Hoteit](#)

Today an Israeli quadcopter drone fell in the Nuseirat refugee camp in Gaza. When residents tried to approach it, they found it carrying large quantities of drugs, which indicates that it may have been deliberately dropped among civilians. [Ahmed Nashwan](#)

"The danger of this present moment lies in the fact that while the West's narrative has collapsed, its capacity for violence remains. The American-Israeli axis, shorn of its moral pretensions, can still inflict enormous physical harm, yet this power no longer carries the weight of authority, since the world increasingly no longer sees its own future in the mirror of America's present. There is no successor hegemon waiting to provide a fresh universalism, but a post-American future is becoming imaginable. In its place emerge the rudiments of a consciousness liberated from the vanities of the West: one that can make intelligible a freshly revealed world, and transmute the widespread despair of our age into intellectual excitement and rejuvenation." "Ghost Fleet," [Equator](#)

- **Saturday April 25** Four action takers from 'People Against Genocide' occupy the roof of an Israeli drone factory in Leicester. The team evaded security at the weapons plant and used ladders to ascend over razor-wire fencing, gaining access to the factory roof, to shut Elbit down. [Aftershock](#)

Israel assassinates Imad Miqdad, targeting his solar-powered phone charging station in Gaza. [GazaNotifications](#)

Young Jewish activist protests an invited Israeli soldier at Rutgers: "My grandmother told me about the Holocaust and about never again. This isn't never again." [Abier Khatib](#)

- **Sunday April 26** Anonymous group of activists attacks Kraken Robotics in Aberdeen, Scotland, a supplier for Israel's biggest weapons firm, Elbit Systems. The firm supplies sonar systems for Elbit's unmanned surface vessels, used by the Israeli navy during the ongoing Gaza genocide. [Aftershock](#)

Intensive Israeli bombing east of Gaza, Jabalia, Deir al Balah and southeast of Khan Younis NOW. Unfortunately, this has become a daily routine—two or three times a day. [Motasem Dalloul](#)

Since the early hours of this morning, Israeli forces have killed four Palestinians across the Gaza Strip: Huda Juma Ramadan Al-Attar, in Khan Younis; Mahmoud Saleh Jabber, near the Saqqa mosque in Al-Mughraqa, Central Gaza; Riyadh al-Ashkar and Ziyad al-Ashkar, on a motorcycle near the Kuwait Roundabout in Al-Zaytoun, Gaza City; and 14-year-old Rami Ghaben, in Sheikh Radwan, displaced from Beit Lahia, who succumbed to injuries sustained in a terrorist strike last night. [Mosab Abu Toha](#)

"14 killed in Israeli attacks today, including 2 children & 2 women, according to Lebanon's Ministry of Health. 37 injured. And still, Israel has the audacity to claim Hezbollah is violating the ceasefire, while it kills civilians under the pretext of 'operations' & 'targets.'" [Hala Jaber](#)

Israeli settlers, alongside Israeli forces, uproot more than 400 olive trees since morning in the village of Turmus Ayya in the West Bank. The uprooting is still ongoing as of 4am local time in Palestine. [Ihab Hassan](#)

-
- [March 27, 2025 letter from the House Committee on Education &](#)