



Since early in the 20th century, indigenous Palestinians have been suffering the Nakba, Arabic for the “catastrophe” – being forced from their homes and their land for a colonizing enterprise known as Zionism, for the purpose of first creating and then expanding a Jewish-majority state. That ethnic cleansing of Palestine is still going on today.

Now Palestinians throughout the region that was historic Palestine, in the state of Israel and in the occupied Palestinian territories, **are living under Israel's systemically racist apartheid regime.** For those in the occupied territories, it is particularly harsh: Israeli forces harass and abuse daily, humiliating, beating, arresting, and killing with impunity. Hundreds of checkpoints and other restrictions on movement often put education, jobs, family members, and a normal life out of reach. Worst of all, Israel keeps taking more and more land for illegal settlements, destroying homes, farmland, schools, businesses, and entire communities in the process.

Two million Palestinians are locked inside the Gaza Strip, sometimes called the world's largest open air prison. They have been cut off from the world by Israel's brutal blockade since 2006, receiving barely the supplies they need to survive.

“Can you help us get our freedom back? For that is the only way you can help the two peoples attain justice, peace, security and love.”

That is the urgent call of Kairos Palestine, the document and movement of Palestinian Christians. They have called out to the global church, and United Methodists are answering that call in UMKR, United Methodists for Kairos Response. **UMKR seeks, through nonviolent means and in partnership with Palestinian Christians, freedom, justice and equality for all Palestinians and Israelis.**

Learn more about our work at KairosResponse.org and join us in answering the call!



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