



SABEEL 9TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
THE BIBLE AND THE PALESTINE-ISRAEL CONFLICT
Program

Day 1, November 19, Tuesday

- 10:00-2:00 **Registration** in the lobby of Notre Dame Hotel
- 2:00 Depart for Melkite Church, Old City
- 2:30-3:45 **Opening Worship**, the Rev. Dr. Naim Ateek, preacher
- 4:00 Depart for Notre Dame
- 4:30-5:30 **Film "The Stones Cry Out"** – Notre Dame Conference Center
- 5:30-6:45 **Dinner at respective hotels**
- 7:00-7:15 **Orientation** – Notre Dame Conference Center
- 7:15 **Welcome** given by Vice President of Sabeel,
Ambassador Hind Khoury (Palestine)
- 7:30-8:30 **Presentation by Dr. Mustafa Barghouti** on the status quo
in Palestine and Israel
- 8:30 **Refreshments**

Theme: The Occupation of the Bible

Day 2, November 20, Wednesday

- 6:30-8:15 **Breakfast**
- 8:30-8:45 **Prayer and Song**
- 9:00-10:30 **Biblical Authority:** Panel Discussion with Dr. Gary Burge (USA),
the Rev. Dr. Nancy Cardoso Pereira (Brazil),
and the Rev. Dr. David Mark Neuhaus, SJ (Israel),
moderated by Rev. Emanuel Furbacken (Sweden)
- 10:30-11:00 **Coffee Break**
- 11:00-12:30 **The Occupation of the Bible:** Panel Discussion
with the Rev. Dr. Gregory Jenks (Australia),
the Rev. Dr. Yohanna Katanacho (Palestine),
and the Rev. Dr. Nancy Cardoso Pereira (Brazil),
moderated by Ms. Kathy Bergen (Canada)
- 12:45-1:45 **Lunch at Notre Dame**

- 2:00-3:30 **The Bible and the Occupation of Palestine:** Panel Discussion with Mr. Joakim Wohlfeil (Sweden), Dr. Deborah Weissman (Israel), and Ms. Jean Zaru (Palestine), moderated by Ms. Abla Nasir (Palestine)
- 3:30-4:00 **Coffee Break**
- 4:00 **Celebrating 25 Years**
- 4:15-5:45 **“The Land of Promise”:** Panel Discussion with Mr. Munther Isaac (Palestine), the Rev. Dr. Nancy Cardoso Pereira (Brazil) and the Rev. Dr. Pietro Kaswalder, OFM (Israel), moderated by Ms. Radia Qubti (Israel)
- 6:00-7:00 **Dinner, followed by small group debriefing and devotions at respective hotels**

Theme: Transitioning to International Law
Day 3, November 21, Thursday

- 6:30-8:15 **Breakfast**
- 8:30-8:45 **Prayer and Song**
- 9:00-10:30 **Does the Bible Have a Future?** Panel Discussion with the Rev. Dr. Peter Du Brul, SJ (Palestine), Dr. Gary Burge (USA), and the Rev. Dr. Gregory Jenks (Australia), moderated by Rev. Pat Clegg (UK)
- 10:30-11:00 **Coffee Break**
- 11:00-12:30 **Perspectives from Palestine and Israel:** Panel Discussion with Dr. Mads Fredrik Gilbert (Norway) and Dr. Hala Khoury-Bisharat (Israel), moderated by Rev. Alan Martin (Ireland)
- 12:45-1:45 **Lunch at Notre Dame**
- 2:00 **Celebrating 25 Years**
- 2:15-3:45 **International Law and Religion:** Panel Discussion with Ms. Diana Buttu, JD, (Palestine), and Mr. Jonathan Kuttub, JD (Palestine), moderated by Rev. Dr. Richard Toll (USA)
- 3:45-5:30 **Free Time**
- 5:30-6:45 **Dinner at respective hotels**
- 7:00-8:00 **International Law and the Palestine-Israel Conflict**
 Public Lecture with Professor John Quigley, LLB (USA), moderated by Rev. Dr. Lynn Holmes (USA)

Theme: On the Ground
Day 4 November 22, Friday

- 6:30-7:45 **Breakfast**
- 8:00-9:00 **Bible Study, “The Promise”**- the Rev. Dr. Naim Ateek at Notre Dame
- 9:00 Leave for Freres School
- 9:30-10:30 **Focus Groups: Current Issues**
Mapping Wars inside Syria –
 Mr. Jonathan Kuttab, JD
Present and Future Challenges for Christians in the New Middle East –
 Dr. Sami El-Yousef
The Ideologies of Different Islamic Movements –
 Dr. Mohammad Dajani Daoudi
Liberating the Oppressed Through Art, Dance and Theater –
 Ms. Rania Elias Khoury
The Future of Jerusalem: Facts on the Ground and International Law –
 Mr. Raffoul Rofa
Women’s Issues in the West Bank –
 Ms. Maha Abu Dayyeh
Overview of Jewish Religious Views and the Political Situation in Israel –
 Rabbi Arik Ascherman
The Militarization of Israeli Society –
 Mr. Moriel Rothman
“Jewish and Democratic”: The Impossible Plan for Israel –
 Dr. Jeff Halper
Current Legal Issues in the Conflict –
 Professor John Quigley, LLB
Christian Zionism –
 Dr. Gary Burge
Humanitarian Situation in the West Bank and Gaza –
 Ms. Catherine Cook
- 10:30-11:00 **Coffee break**
- 11:00-12:00 **Focus Groups: Current Issues** (repeat)
- 12:30-2:00 **Lunch at Notre Dame**
- 2:00-2:30 **Breaking a Generation: Children in Israeli Military Detention –**
 Mr. Gerard Horton, Lawyer
- 2:45 Leave for vigil at Ofer Prison
- 5:30-6:45 **Dinner at respective hotels**
- 7:30 **Reflections and Closing Devotions** at Notre Dame

Theme: Sumud (Standing Fast)

Day 5, November 23, Saturday

- 6:30-8:15 **Breakfast**
Departure times for excursions:
- 8:00 – **The Negev** visit to the Bedouin community that is under the threat of eviction since the passage of the Praver Plan
- 8:30 – **Hebron Old City** and refugee camp
- 8:30 – **Bethlehem/Tent of Nations**
- 6:00-7:15 **Dinner at respective hotels**
Free evening

Theme: Living Waters

Day 6, November 24, Sunday

- 6:30-7:30 **Breakfast**
- 8:00 Depart for Mt. of Olives
- 9:00-10:15 **Communion Service** at Augusta Victoria, Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Ascension, the Rev. Dr. Don Wagner, preacher
- 10:30 Depart for the Jordan River Baptismal Site
- 11:00-12:00 Time for Reflection and Song
- 12:30 **Lunch – Jericho Intercontinental Hotel**
- 2:00-4:30 **Celebration of 25 Years of Palestinian Liberation Theology**
(Intercontinental Hotel)
- 5:00 Depart for Jerusalem
- 6:00 **Dinner at respective hotels**
- 7:30-9:30 **Celebration of 25 Years of Palestinian Liberation Theology**
(Notre Dame Conference Center)
- 9:30 **Refreshments**

Day 7, November 25, Monday

Conferees Depart

- 8:30 - **FOS Officers' Meeting** with Sabeel Jerusalem and Nazareth Leadership
"location TBA"

Speakers and Focus Group Leaders

Sabeel's 9th International Conference The Bible and the Palestine-Israel Conflict

Rabbi Arik Ascherman served for fifteen years as Executive Director of Rabbis for Human Rights and currently works on special projects and strategic thinking for the organization. RHR advocates for socioeconomic justice for Israelis and human rights for Palestinians, the Bedouin, and African asylum seekers.

Rev. Dr. Naim Ateek is co-founder and Director of the Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center in Jerusalem. As early as 1989, he articulated a Palestinian theology of liberation in *Justice and only Justice: A Palestinian Liberation Theology* and again in his more recent book, *A Palestinian Christian Cry for Reconciliation*.

Dr. Mustafa Barghouti, MD, is Secretary General of the Palestinian National Initiative and member of the Palestinian Legislative Council. He was a candidate for president of Palestine in 2005 and nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize, and he writes extensively on civil society, democracy and health policy for Palestinians living under occupation.

Dr. Hala Khoury-Bisharat has been a long-time member of the Board of Directors for Adalah, the Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel and is now also the Chairperson of the Board. She is a lecturer in criminal procedure, law of evidence, public international law and international criminal law at Carmel Academic Center-Haifa.

Dr. Gary Burge is Professor of New Testament at Wheaton College, with forty years of experience among Christian communities in Israel, Palestine and Lebanon. He has written extensively about West Asian Christians, land theology, and Zionism.

Ms. Diana Buttu, JD, is an attorney based in Ramallah. She is also Research Fellow in the Middle East Initiative of the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government as well as an Eleanor Roosevelt Fellow in the Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School. She specializes in negotiations, international law, and international human rights law and is a former spokesperson for the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Ms. Catherine Cook is Humanitarian Affairs Officer for the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in the occupied Palestinian territory.

Dr. Mohammed S. Dajani Daoudi is the head of the American Studies Program at al-Quds University and founder of the Wasatia movement of moderate Islam. He serves as a visiting scholar at The Washington Institute and is Founding Director of the Jerusalem Studies and Research Institute.

Ms. Maha Abu Dayyeh is founder and Director of the Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counseling in East Jerusalem. She serves on the board of various Palestinian human rights, peace, and women's organizations and is a staunch leader working to end human rights abuses against women and girls.

Rev. Dr. Peter Du Brul, SJ, is a professor and the first chairperson of the Religious Studies Department at Bethlehem University as well as having been the former chair of the Humanities Department.

Dr. Mads Fredrik Gilbert, MD, is a Norwegian physician and professor specializing in anesthesiology and emergency medicine. He has volunteered as a medical solidarity worker for Palestine since 1981, most recently serving in Gaza at al-Shifa Hospital during the 2008–2009 and 2012 Israeli bombardments. He is the co-author with Dr. Erik Fosse of the documentary book, *Eyes in Gaza*, which describes the situation on the ground during Israel's "Operation Cast Lead."

Dr. Jeff Halper is an anthropologist, author, lecturer, political activist, nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize, and co-founder and Director of the Israeli Committee Against House Demolition. His books are *An Israeli in Palestine* and *Between Redemption and Revival: The Jewish Yishuv of Jerusalem of the Nineteenth Century*.

Mr. Gerard Horton is a co-founder of Military Court Watch (MCW) and has worked on the issue of children prosecuted in the Israeli military court system for over six years. Gerard has authored a number of reports on the subject for non-governmental organisations and UN agencies, as well as three UN shadow reports to CAT, HRC and the CRC. Prior to co-founding MCW, Gerard worked for Defence for Children International and practised as a barrister at the Sydney bar specialising in commercial and criminal law.

Mr. Munther Isaac is Professor of Bible and the Assistant Academic Dean at Bethlehem Bible College, where he is also the Director of the Christ at the Checkpoint Conference.

Rev. Dr. Gregory Jenks is an Anglican priest, biblical scholar, and the Academic Dean at St. Francis Theological College in Brisbane, Australia. He is also the co-Director of the Bethsaida Excavations Project in Israel and Coordinator of the Jesus Database project.

Rev. Dr. Pietro Kaswalder, OFM, is Professor of Old Testament Exegesis and Archeology at the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum in Jerusalem and the author of many highly influential works such as *Biblical Archaeology and the Origins of Israel*.

Rev. Dr. Yohanna Katanacho is a Palestinian evangelical who serves as Professor of Biblical Studies and Academic Dean for Bethlehem Bible College. He is one of the co-authors of the Palestinian Kairos document and has written several books including *The Land of Christ: A Palestinian Cry*.

Ambassador Hind Khoury is an economist who is active in Palestinian domestic and international affairs. She is a PLO delegate and Palestine's former Ambassador to France (2006-2010) as well as past Minister of State for Jerusalem Affairs. She serves as the Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center.

Ms. Rania Elias Khoury is Director of Yabous Cultural Centre, which supports revival of cultural life, and is also Director of the Jerusalem Festival. She is on the executive committee of the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel as well as on the board of several local organizations.

Mr. Jonathan Kuttub, JD, is a leading Palestinian human rights attorney in Israel and Palestine. He is also a co-founder of Al Haq, Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center, and the Palestinian Center for the Study of Nonviolence. He continues to serve as Chairman of the Board of Bethlehem Bible College.

Rev. Dr. David Mark Neuhaus, SJ, is an Israeli Roman Catholic priest of the Jesuit Order and serves as Latin Patriarchal Vicar for Saint James Vicariate for Hebrew Speaking Catholics in Israel. He teaches at Bethlehem University and at the Seminary of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem. His most recent book is entitled *The Land, the Bible and History: Toward the Land That I Will Show You*.

Rev. Dr. Nancy Cardoso Pereira is a Brazilian Methodist pastor, community organizer, member of the Land Pastoral Commission, and Professor of Ancient History, Porto Alegre Institute of the Methodist Church, Brazil.

Professor John B. Quigley, LLB, is the President's Club Professor of Law at Moritz College of Law at Ohio State University, where he teaches International Law and Comparative Law. Professor Quigley's numerous publications include works on human rights, international law, the United Nations, war and peace, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the State of Palestine.

Mr. Raffoul Rofa is Executive Director of the Society of St. Yves of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, which promotes human and civil rights by providing legal assistance, counsel, and advocacy to the politically oppressed Palestinian population in Jerusalem and the southern West Bank.

Mr. Moriel Rothman is an American-Israeli activist, writer and poet. He was born in Jerusalem, raised in Ohio, and now lives in Jerusalem. He was imprisoned for publicly refusing to serve in the Israeli military. He is a member of All That's Left, a diaspora collective against the occupation, and writes a regular blog.

Dr. Estephan Salameh is the CEO of Jerusalem Policy and Development consulting firm and an adjunct professor at Birzeit University in Palestine in the field of public policy. A board member of Sabeel, he has a PhD from the University of Illinois at Chicago in Urban Planning and Public Policy and served as the Senior Land Policy Advisor to the Minister of Planning and then as the Head of the Aid Management and Coordination Directorate in the Palestinian Authority. He has participated during peace talks with Israel and worked closely with over eighty donor countries and agencies to develop the capacity of Palestinian institutions in the areas of national planning and development, policy making, and budget oversight.

Rev. Dr. Donald E. Wagner is an ordained Presbyterian minister (PCUSA) and the National Program Director of Friends of Sabeel-North America. Formerly Professor of Middle Eastern Studies and Director of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at North Park University and National Director of the Palestine Human Rights Campaign, he is the author of four books on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including *Anxious for Armageddon* and *Dying in the Land of Promise: Palestine and Palestinian Christianity from Pentecost to 2000*.

Dr. Deborah Weissman is a Jewish educator, a founder of the Kehillat Yedidya Synagogue, and actively involved with feminist and peace activism. She is President of the International Council of Christians and Jews and has lived in Jerusalem since 1972.

Mr. Joakim Wohlfeil works as Policy Officer for Conflict and Justice for the Swedish NGO Diakonia. He has studied theology and human rights at the Stockholm School for Theology and has performed several studies regarding the role of both financial and religious factors in armed conflicts.

Dr. Sami El-Yousef is Regional Director of the Jerusalem field office of the Pontifical Mission for Palestine. After a long academic career, he now devotes his efforts to humanitarian projects via the churches, believing that maintaining the Christian presence in the Holy Land depends upon strengthening such institutions, which serve all Palestinians without any form of discrimination.

Ms. Jean Zaru is Presiding Clerk of Ramallah Friends Meeting in Palestine and a founding member of Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center. She is the author of the influential book, *Occupied with Nonviolence: A Palestinian Woman Speaks* and is actively involved with the World Council of Churches.



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