

At the beginning of 2009 the world witnessed mass slaughter by Israel of hundreds of innocent Palestinians in Gaza. This atrocity was only possible because Western leaders supported Israel while pretending to work for a just peace. If we let this go on, Palestinian society will be destroyed and the chance of peace in this volatile part of the world will be buried for generations. It's time to stop appeasing Israel.

From 2005 to 2008, according to the United Nations, Israel killed more than 1200 Palestinians in the densely populated Gaza strip, 222 of them children. Throughout 2007 and 2008 Israel subjected Gaza's 1.5 million people to a merciless siege. Our government joined in, saying Israel is "a democracy" while Hamas is "a terrorist organisation". In fact Hamas is a political movement which in 2006 won democratic elections to the Palestinian parliament. It has deep roots in Palestinian society based on years of providing services for the people and defending their national rights.

In Israel there is no real democracy as long as it defines itself as a Jewish state, excluding the non-Jewish 20 percent of its population from full citizenship. It refuses to allow the return of millions of Palestinian refugees expelled since Israel was created in 1948 and its "democracy" is meaningless to the four million Palestinians suffering military occupation in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. The rockets used as Israel's excuse for attacking Gaza were fired by desperate people denied any hope of justice.

If Israel is not stopped, Palestine will be reduced to a few divided enclaves, like native American reservations. More young people around the world will be misled by Zionist claims that Israel represents all Jews, and there will be more hatred and strife.

As Jews who insist on the humanity of all, regardless of race or creed, we support those courageous Israeli individuals and groups who work against the occupation and for full Palestinian rights.

Palestinian civil society, represented in the Boycott Divestment and Sanctions National Committee, has called for an end to investment, trade, cultural, sporting or academic contact with institutions connected with the Israeli state. We ask all individuals and organisations that uphold human rights – trade unions, churches and other faith groups, corporations, local authorities and NGOs – to respect that call.

Such a non-violent boycott campaign was justified as long as apartheid existed in South Africa. It is equally justified as long as Israel maintains its illegal occupation, expropriation and settlement of Palestinian land.

It's Kosher to Boycott Israeli Goods!

See other side for what you can do

Join the boycott!





- Refuse to buy goods produced in Israel or illegal West Bank settlements. Check the label and if the origin is not clear, demand an explanation
- Tell your supermarkets and local traders you don't want them stocking Israeli fruit, vegetables, herbs, flowers, clothing or other goods
- Don't holiday in Israel or fly El Al
- Avoid Israeli-made computer products. Press computer manufacturers to end research partnerships with Israel
- Boycott Israeli films, theatre companies, dance groups and orchestras. Tell the management of theatres and cinemas why
- Make sure your trade union, church group or other organisation is not investing in Israeli firms
- Check the latest information on the Boycott Israeli Goods (BIG) website <u>www.bigcampaign.org</u>

BOYCOTT ISRAELI GOODS

Don't buy the fruits of injustice

Contact Jews for Boycotting Israeli Goods PO Box 64002 London E17 0HD

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