ECAASU Condemns Israel's Ongoing Settler Colonial Occupation of Palestine

content warning: imperialist violence

Washington, DC - The East Coast Asian American Student Union (ECAASU) firmly condemns Israel's settler colonial occupation of Palestine and the government’s ethnic cleansing of Palestinians. While the news cycle of coverage ends with the so-called cease fire on May 20, we must remain vigilant as this is an ongoing occupation by the Israeli government. We are in full support of Palestinian liberation.

On May 10, 2021, Israel launched military attacks against the Palestinian people in the occupied Gaza Strip. This came after weeks of escalating Israeli attacks against the Palestinian people in East Jerusalem, particularly as Zionist courts ruled to forcefully displace Palestinian families from the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in favor of the settler associations that openly work for a complete Judaization of Jerusalem and the evacuation of its Palestinian residents. Israel’s brutality has only become more violent as they launched a bombardment campaign against the besieged Gaza, causing widespread destruction and an increasing number of casualties among civilians. As of our release of this statement, at least 248 Palestinians have been killed, including 66 children.

Zionist settler occupation and violent colonization and apartheid of Palestinian land has been in motion for centuries with the ultimate goal of the complete removal of Palestinian people. This violence has only escalated with the official establishment of Israeli occupation in 1948, as state-sanctioned violence enabled the massacre, expulsion, and exile of Palestinians. We are outraged by the brutality Israel has unleashed on Gaza through its siege by land, sea and air, since the start of the blockade of the Gaza Strip in 2007. We are enraged by Israel's targeting of homes, schools, shelters, mosques, ambulances, and hospitals.

We affirm the rights and practices of Judaism, which remains fundamentally distinct from the beliefs of political Zionism. To properly oppose, tackle, and dismantle anti-semitism requires that we properly oppose, tackle, and dismantle the settler colonization of Palestine; these liberations are linked. Anything but will ultimately replicate and affirm settler colonization. Now is not the time to divert attention from calls for Palestinian liberation against the violent backdrop of murder;
anti-semitic claims have been weaponized by the Israeli government to prevent global and individual criticism of their actions.

ECAASU vehemently opposes the unwavering financial, military, and political support that the United States has offered to Israel to facilitate violence. As of May 17, 2021, President Joe Biden approved a $735 million arms sale to Israel, directly endorsing and resourcing the continued violence in Palestine. As young Asian/Americans living in the imperial core—many of our own families have been personally impacted by the violence of western imperialism in Asia—ECAASU recognizes that we must speak up and advocate for Palestine and Palestinian liberation. From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free.

Resources:
- Decolonize Palestine
- http://tinyurl.com/read4palestine - Google Drive of books on Palestine
  - From @danielmcgreevy
- Instagrams
  - @we_are_not_numbers
  - @hiddenpalestine
  - @mohammedelkurd
  - @theimeu
  - @eye.on.palestine
  - @palestinianyouthmovement
  - @middleeasteye
  - @nouraerakat
  - @sanabelrahman
- Twitters
  - @USCPR
  - @theIMEU
  - Adalah Justice Project (@AdalahJustice)
  - mohammed el-kurd (@m7mdkurd)
  - Noura Erakat (@4noura)
  - مريم البرغوثي (@MariamBarghouti)
  - Jehad Abusalim (JehadAbusalim)
  - Omar Ghraieb (@Omar_Gaza)
  - @Mondoweiss
  - George Abraham (@IntifadaBatata)
  - Palestinian Youth Movement (@palyouthmvmt)

Actions:
- Boycott:
- Academic Boycott | BDS Movement
- Get Involved in BDS Movement: What to Boycott
  - Global Calendar of Resistance: Join these events to defend Palestine!
  - Rise Up With Palestine: Tell Congress to Sanction Israeli Apartheid
  - Stop Israel's forced displacement of Palestinians from East Jerusalem!
  - Support HR 2590 The Palestinian Children & Families Act Today!
  - Sign now to end Israel's forced displacement of Palestinians
  - US - Write to #VaccinatePalestinians

Donate:
- BDS Movement
- Palestine Children's Relief Fund
- iF Charity