

(Make a copy of the letter in order to edit it and adapt it to your needs)

FORM LETTER: APPEAL TO RECOGNIZE NAKBA DAY

Dear Rev. _____ and/or Worship Committee,

Friday, May 15, 2026 is the 78th Anniversary of the Nakba. UU congregations across the United States are asked to recognize Nakba Day this week. "[The Nakba, which means "catastrophe" in Arabic](#), refers to the mass displacement and dispossession of Palestinians during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war."

We, members of your congregation who are supporters of UUs for Justice in the Middle East (UUJME), ask to lead the congregation in an act of witness by reading aloud the attached short statement (either the 30-second or 2-minute version, page 1 of the attachment) from the pulpit on May 10 or 17, during an appropriate moment in the Sunday service. We believe that part of the spiritual journey of UUs in this century is to learn about the century-long struggle of Palestinians for justice. Lack of awareness of the role of the United States in this history of oppression has contributed to a series of ill-founded wars (decade after decade) in the Middle East, and horrors such as the 17-year siege of Gaza; the resulting Hamas attack of October 7, 2023, and Israel's forced removal of Palestinians from the West Bank and genocide in Gaza, both of which are ongoing.

After the service, we will host a small literature table with page 2 of the attached flyer and other materials, such as those from the Apartheid-Free Communities initiative, to which 12 UU congregations and 14 UU groups, including the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, have signed on. We'd be happy to work with you on providing other resources or events such as listening sessions, curricula, or films with discussion.

We hope that you recognize, as we do, that UUs can be leaders in bringing about the changes that humanity needs if we are all to survive the days to come.

In justice that is bound by love,

_____,
Your congregants and supporters of UUJME