

October 8th, 2023

Yalies4Palestine stands in unwavering support of the Palestinian people's right to return to their land and resist over 75 years of colonization.

Palestinians made history this Saturday morning when they broke down the wall which has imprisoned Gaza for 17 years.

For the past two decades, millions of Palestinians have lived in the open-air prison that is Gaza, where they have suffered a land, sea, and air blockade that restricts movement and amounts to collective punishment and blatantly violates international law. The events of October 7th are not an isolated event but the inevitable outcome of a decades-long apartheid and suffocating blockade, in addition to a year of escalated settler violence against civilians in the West Bank.

The resistance is the consequence of the longstanding and ongoing Zionist colonization. In 1948, 247 villages in southern Palestine faced ethnic cleansing at the hands of British-backed Zionist forces. In this time period, approximately 190,000 Palestinians were pushed into what is now the Gaza Strip.

The word "intifada" in Arabic means "to shake off." After suffering under the settler colonial regime for generations, the Palestinian people are fighting to shake off the grip of the Zionist occupation and reclaim their country and homeland. We are now witnessing the Intifada enter a new stage as the era of Oslo comes to an end, facilitated by increased colonial repression at the hands of the Zionist entity and its international allies.

Yalies4Palestine and the undersigned organizations stand in unwavering support of the Palestinian people's right to resist colonization and return to their land. Previous peaceful acts of resistance through boycotts, strikes, and non-violent protests have only ever met with criminalization, repression, and murder. Breaking out of a prison requires force, not desperate appeals to the colonizer or the "international community" which has maintained the status quo as long as it is Palestinians paying the price. We stand with all colonized people fighting for their liberation from Palestine, to Armenia, to Kashmir, to Turtle Island, and beyond.

On Monday, October 9, we call on our allies and the Yale community to join us for Indigenous Peoples' Day to uplift the calls of the resistance, stand firm against colonialism, and rally at 3:00 PM at New Haven City Hall.