



The Consequences of Deportation of Masafer Yatta on Women – a 1325

UNSCR based Position Paper

On behalf of 40 Jewish and Palestinian civil society organizations in Israel - signatory to this letter - we would like to present you with a Position Paper focusing on the ramifications of the expulsion of the Masafer Yatta communities on women and girls.

In this paper, we echo the voices of 12 women who were interviewed in the different villages in Masafer Yatta area in the southern Hebron hills, by Advocate Riham Nassra. They describe their lives under the threat of expulsion and home demolition, and beside live ammunition maneuvers of the army, taking place adjacent to their houses and dwellings. Among others, the women reported grave infringements on their basic rights, and on their access to water and hygiene necessities, the harm to their ability to take part in providing for their families, the harm to theirs' and their children's education, but mainly- to their daughters'.

The need to address the unique and grave effect on women's lives stems from Israel's commitments under international resolutions, among which is SCR1325 (2000) – Women, Peace and Security.

SCR1325 requires all UN member states, inter alia, to act to incorporate a gender perspective in decision making processes concerning peace and security, and to act to protect women from all kinds of violence, out of the recognition of the grave harm inflicted on women in situations of a prolonged occupation and armed conflict.

The legal procedures taken by residents of Masafer Yatta reached a dead end in 2022, when the High Court of Justice concluded that military legislation precedes International Law. Immediately following the ruling, army forces started acting towards enforcing the expulsion. Thus, the army immediately started carrying live ammunition trainings in the villages, demolishing one school, and notifying the residents of the need for them to leave the area soon.

The call of the Palestinian women of Masafer Yatta is basic and clear: **“Stop infringing on our basic rights. Stop the expulsion. Join our struggle to protect our homes, and our children’s rights to Education, Health, Freedom of movement and Privacy and to our Right to living Safely, with Dignity and our Right to Self-Determination”**.

We adopt and support the demands of Palestinian women, and call upon each and every one of you – male and female - those in decision making positions, and those with access to and influence on decision making process- to do so.

It is only with a clear and unequivocal stand of the democratic forces – as well as the international community – that the expulsion of these communities can be actually stopped.

We would be happy to set a meeting with you to further the issue.

List of the signing organisations:

1. Itach-Maaki - Women Lawyers for Social Justice
2. Altufula Centre - Nazareth's Nurseries' Institute
3. Ad'ar - The Professional Forum to Fight the Murder of Women
4. Achoti (Sister) for Women in Israel
5. "Faraa maai" - Independent Arab Media Platform

6. "Isha L'Isha" (Woman to Woman) -feminist center in Hifa
7. Academia for Equality
8. Adva Center
9. Alentimaa Association - Tira
10. BIMKOM – Planners for Planning Rights
11. Breaking the Silence
12. Democratic Women Movement in Israel
13. Emek Shaveh
14. Equals - For Promoting Women in the Public Sphere - Van Leer Institute -
Jerusalem
15. Gun Free Kitchen Tables
16. Haqel – In Defence of Human rights
17. Her Academy- A Vocational School for Women Coming Out of Prostitution
and Abuse
18. I am Woman
19. Ir Amim
20. L.N.D Changing the Future - The Assosiation for Promoting Druze Women in
Israel
21. MACHSOM WATCH - Women for Human Rights and Against the Occupation
22. Mothers Against Violence
23. Naa'm - Arab Women in the Center
24. NA'AMAT - Central and Galilee District
25. NAA'MAT - Nazareth District
26. New Profile
27. Physicians for Human Rights

28. Rabbis for Human Rights
29. Standing Together
30. Sophie Davis Forum on Gender, Conflict Resolution and Peace
31. The Association for Civil Rights in Israel
32. The Feminist Forum - Sapir College
33. The Social Television
34. women against the occupation and for human rights
35. Women Against Violence
36. Women Against Weapons
37. Women Wage Peace
38. ZAZIM - Community in Action
39. ZULAT- Equality and Human Rights
40. The Communist Youth League of Israel

February, 2023

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