



FURQAAN  
ACADEMY  
A DIVISION OF AL-FURQAAN FOUNDATION

Online

THE COAST TO COAST NETWORKED SCHOOL  
FULL-TIME ISLAMIC SCHOOL WITH INTEGRATED HIFDH

# Furqaan Academy Online Quarter 2 Newsletter

Newsletter edited by Jenna A. 11th Grade Faduma A. 9th Grade

## The History of Palestine

### Early History of Palestine

Palestine is one of the most important places to Muslims. It is the home place of Al-Masjid al-Aqsa in Jerusalem. It contains the Dome of the Rock, which is where the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) did the Night Journey. It is extremely important for all Muslims to respect and love Palestine. The early history of Palestine is very rich and deep. It is mentioned in the Quran, where it is referred to as "Al-Ard Al-Muqaddasah" or "The Sacred Land." All Muslims should have a good and strong connection to Palestine.

### Islamic Rule

After the Islamic conquests in the 7th century, Palestine came under Muslim rule. The Umayyad and Abbasid rulers played a significant role in developing the region. The Crusades in the 11th century led to a temporary loss of control, but Muslims eventually regained control over the land. They built multiple Masajid during this time period.

### Ottoman Empire

In the 16th century, the Ottoman Empire took control of Palestine. The Muslims were freely allowed to practice their religion, and they promised them the protection of their Masjids built in the early Islamic period.

### Modern Era

Right now, Palestine is going through a lot of problems, as we all know. The problems all started after World War I. Palestine was taken over by the British through the League of Nations Mandate. The creation of Israel led to conflicts between the two over the stolen territory in 1948. Ever since then, the conflicts have been growing and becoming more serious.

Please do not forget to make dua for our brothers and sisters in Palestine :)

Omar I. 8th Grade

فلسطين



Upcoming

Events!

**November 3rd 2023**

**Parent Teacher  
Conference**

**December 11-15th 2023**

**6-12th Midterms**

**December 22nd 2023**

**Qtr. 2 ends/ Sem. 1 ends**

**December 25-29th 2023**

**Winter Break**

**January 1-5th 2024**

**Winter Break**

**FAO CLUBS**

**Mondays - 6-12th Newsletter  
club**

**Tuesday, Wednesday - 6-12th  
Homework club**

**Tuesday - Elementary  
Reading Club**



# PALESTINIAN CULTURE

Palestinian culture is filled with a rich tapestry of traditions and memories that have been passed down through generations. My culture has been shaped by our history, traditions, and values. We value hospitality, family, and community, and our culture is expressed through our vibrant music, cuisine, and art. Our traditional clothing adorned with intricate embroidery and elegant keffiyehs is a beloved aspect of our culture. The delicious aroma of our cuisine filled with flavorful spices like falafel, hummus, shawarma, and maqluba, is a testament to our heritage. We also have a long history of having deep appreciation for poetry and literature. Palestinian culture is a beautiful tapestry woven together by our history, traditions, and values.



Donyia R. 10th Grade



# My experience in Palestine as a child

I was the only one of my siblings who was born in Palestine. A few years later, I moved to Palestine and lived there for 5 years. I experienced Israels attacking my hometown. When I was ten, I was at my grandparents' house. I was playing with my cousins until the aunt looked over to the window and saw the real car. Driving around my grandparents' house at the moment, I didn't know what was going on until I and everybody else in the room started to panic, and my mom led me and my siblings to a room and hid my coach. There was another time when the Israelis took my cousin. They came at 4 a.m. in the morning and forcefully took my cousin, who had been taken for 3 years. Israel also took my grandma's land; they took her land just to make a road so they could go in and out of our hometown. They did not pay or make a deal; they just took it with no permission. Also, when my grandma was younger, she was shot by the Israelis in Ramallah. Badly, she got hit by her hip; it's something that hurt her badly.

Huda A. 10th Grade



# Why is Palestine Important for all Muslims?

Palestine is important because a lot of muslims live there and are being affected by the war. Many people have lost their jobs or became homeless. Kids starve. The war has destroyed a lot of buildings and homes. Many people then became homeless or dirty. The war is between Israel and Palestine. Israel is attacking Palestine and stealing/destroying their land. Muslims are trying to free Palestine to save their loved ones and themself from any danger from the war. The place in Palestine where the war is taking place is in Gaza, Palestine. Israel is attacking Palestine and has killed an unknown number of civilians.

Sakinah M. 6th Grade

# Children's Life in Gaza

Life for kids in Palestine, especially in Gaza, isn't normal at all. There's this ongoing fight and lots of tough stuff they have to deal with, like warplanes flying overhead and not having enough food or water because of the blockade. It's really tough on them, and a lot of kids are getting hurt or even killed.

The situation in Gaza is getting worse because of the blockade. There's not enough electricity, gas, food, or water, and it's making life even harder. Kids should be playing and having fun, but instead, they're struggling to find clean water and stay safe from bad weather. It's not easy for them at all.

On top of everything else, the mental health of Palestinian kids is suffering too. Many of them are feeling sad, scared, and upset because of all the bad things happening around them. School isn't safe anymore, and they have to do evacuation drills because they're worried about attacks. But even with all this, the kids are showing how strong they are in the face of everything going on.

Faduma A. 9th Grade



# "Al-Israa Wa Al Miraj"

The event of Al-Israa and Al-Miraj is a big deal in Islam. It's about when the Prophet Muhammad (SAWS) had this really cool journey. First, he went from Mecca to Jerusalem, where Al Aqsa Mosque is located, on a special creature called Buraq. Then he prayed with the other Prophets in Jerusalem ( In the Al Aqsa Mosque ).

After that, he went to heaven through 7 levels and met different Prophets along the way. At the highest level Allah SWT spoke to him and ordered that Muslims should pray 50 times a day. However Prophet Muhammad (SAWS) asked Allah SWT if it could be fewer than that because it might be hard for the Muslims to pray 50 times a day. Therefore, Allah SWT reduced it to 5 times a day. Muslims celebrate the event of Israa wal Al-Miraj on the 27th day of the month Rajab

Noor K. 7th Grade



# Palestinian Flag

The Palestine flag is broken down to three colors green, white, and black horizontal stripes that radiate from a red triangle that is positioned at the hoist of the flag. The shared ancestry of those flags accounts for the striking resemblance to the designs of numerous other countries. The Pan Arab flag, from which the Palestine flag originated, gave the flag its meaning. The Khawarij movement is represented by the red part; Muhammad at the Rashidun Caliphate is symbolized by the black stripe; the Umayyad Caliphate is represented by the white section; and the Fatimid Caliphate is represented by the green stripe.



Jenna A. 11th Grade



# What is Currently Going on in Gaza

## Introduction:

The ongoing conflict between Palestine and Israel has garnered significant attention worldwide. This article aims to provide an overview of the situation in Palestine and Gaza, shedding light on the Palestinian perspective and their struggles. It is important to approach this topic with sensitivity and respect for all parties involved.

## Historical Background

The roots of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can be traced back to the early 20th century when tensions arose over competing national aspirations in the region. The establishment of the State of Israel in 1948 led to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians, creating a deep sense of injustice and dispossession.

## Current Situation

In recent years, the situation in Palestine and Gaza has been marked by ongoing violence, political disputes, and humanitarian crises. Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip face numerous challenges, including restricted movement, limited access to basic services, and economic hardships. The Israeli occupation and settlement expansion have further complicated the situation, leading to increased frustration and resentment among Palestinians.

## Gaza Strip

The Gaza Strip, a densely populated coastal enclave, has been particularly affected by the conflict. Since 2007, when Hamas took control of the territory, Israel has imposed a blockade on Gaza, severely restricting the flow of goods and people. This has resulted in a dire humanitarian situation, with limited access to clean water, healthcare, and education. The frequent outbreaks of violence have further exacerbated the suffering of the Gazan population.

## Palestinian Struggles

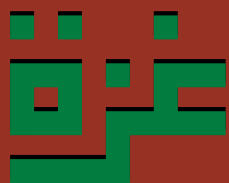
Palestinians continue to face challenges in their pursuit of self-determination and statehood. Many Palestinians argue that their rights to land, freedom, and dignity have been systematically violated. They seek an end to the occupation, the right of return for refugees, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

## International Response

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has drawn international attention and efforts to find a peaceful resolution. Various peace initiatives, negotiations, and UN resolutions have been proposed, but a for human rights, and a negotiated settlement that addresses the legitimate aspirations of both Israelis and lasting solution remains elusive. The international community has called for an end to violence, respect for Palestinians.

Jacob W. 8th Grade

# CEASE FIRE NOW



# Children's Life in Gaza, Palestine

For those who don't know, about 50% of the Gaza population are children under the age of 18. These kids live in constant fear of what could happen at any moment. Many children speak up that they are aware of the fact that they may not grow up. They grow up in a place of constant violence. They have lost their homes, stores, schools, and families.

According to a report over 75 Palestinian lineages have been completely removed from the face of the earth. Thousands of Palestinian children have died throughout the years of occupation, and only this week it has been reported that over 700 Palestinian children have been killed due to the Israeli bombings. Thousands of young children have lost their beloved siblings because of these unholy and evil acts of the Israeli government.

These children also suffer from severe poverty, and just a few days ago, the Israeli government cut off all water, food, electricity, and fuel supply to these children. Children are being starved to death and the Israeli government will continue to not supply these children with these common necessities for life.

Numerous families are finding it difficult to meet their basic needs such as food, clothing, and shelter. The education system in Gaza is in a crisis. Schools have been destroyed by airstrikes from the IDF (Israeli defense forces). Many students cannot go to classes regularly due to this. This is made worse because many teachers have left or have even been killed due to the violence and instability. As a result, children in Gaza are not getting the education they need to have a better future. This may sound scary, but Allah will always be with the Palestinian people, and he will always protect them.

Doniya R. 10th Grade



## What does Palestine Stand for?

### PALESTINE

- Perseverance
- Agile
- Life
- Everlasting
- Still standing
- Together
- Intellectual
- Noble
- Equal

### PALESTINE

- Patient
- Amiable
- Labor
- Embattled
- Soulful
- Territorial
- Inspiring
- Nostalgic
- Enduring

Hanifa S. 7th Grade

Noor K. 7th Grade



### PALESTINE

- Proud land, ancient and free,
- A haven of culture and history,
- Longing for peace, your story untold,
- Endurance shines in your spirit bold.
- Struggle and hope, intertwined,
- Travel through time, resilience defined.
- In your heart, echoes a resilient tune,
- Noble land under the shining moon,
- Everlasting dreams, beneath the sun.

Rayann S. 10th Grade



### PALESTINE

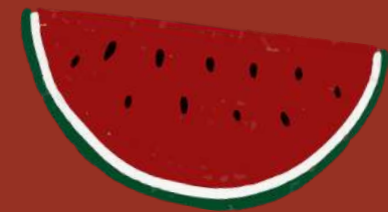
- People
- Agriculture
- Liberty
- Economy
- Stereotypical
- Teaching
- Image
- News
- Enemy

### PALESTINE

- People are dying and suffering
- Allah saving them and helping them
- Losing everything
- Eating loss because they can get food
- Striving for their happiness they once had
- The people that they lost
- Iman is stronger than ever
- Never losing their hope for an end
- Everyone praying for freedom

Waleed R. 7th Grade

Yamin M. 6th Grade



## What is happening in Gaza?

Palestine is teaching the world the meaning of what real war is. People are being killed on a daily basis by the thousands and still Palestinian do not want to leave their homelands like Israel is asking them to do. Children here are crying because they don't have a phone while kids in Gaza are crying because they don't have a home. The IMF (Israeli Military Forces) Didn't allow ambulances to carry the wounded so they bombed them. Israel and America found out that the AN ( Arab Nations ) sent numerous trailers and trucks of Medical supplies, Food and Water, Clothes, and many more useful objects. They denied the fact that Gaza was getting support from the AN (Arab Nations) and they refused to let them enter Gaza strip.

Waleed R. 7th Grade

## What does Palestine Stand for?

### PALESTINE

- Precious
- Aspire
- Lovely
- Elegant
- Special
- Thoughtful
- Inspirational
- Nice
- Enchanting

### PALESTINE

- Peace
- Admirable
- Land
- Ethnic
- Solidarity
- Tolerance
- Independance
- Nation
- Empowerment

Aya A. 9th Grade

Doniya R. 10th Grade

## How can you bring attention to what's happening in Gaza, Palestine?

You might ask what is Gaza, it's a place in Palestine that is being attacked by Israel. This war has been going on since May 14th 1948 till this day. That is really long, almost a century. Gaza Strip is one of the most spoken about topics right now.

What are some of the ways we could bring this topic up more? Some ways could be by protesting in different cities, by writing letters to the government representatives in our areas. We also can donate money to the organizations that helping to ease people's live in Palestine. Some other ways could be posting on social media about what is happening because the Tv and Radio news only talk about one perspective Israel's, so we tell people the truth about Palestine. If most of us write letters to people in the government that could be effective. We will ask them to help Palestine by supporting the Cease Fire resolution. We need to take action not just sit down and watch the Genocide taking place on the daily news.

Israeli people have been killing Palestinians like women, and children. Israeli occupied forces have been taking lands, houses, killing civilians for a while now. The Palestinian land is being violently assaulted and we have to help in any way possible because Allah will reward us graciously.

Faisal H. 7th Grade





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ACCREDITED BY\*



\*Using the same accredited curriculum as our Academy  
in Bolingbrook, Illinois

## THE ISLAMIC SCHOOL REIMAGINED

INTRODUCING THE FURQAAN ACADEMY ONLINE (FAO) NETWORKED LEARNING CENTERS (NLCs)

Every community in the USA can now have a Full-Time Islamic School

# ENROLLMENT OPEN

## YEAR ROUND FOR GRADES 1-12

### LIVE INSTRUCTION DAILY

8:00 AM - 4:15 PM CDT | 9:00 AM - 5:15 PM EDT | 7:00 AM - 3:15 PM MDT |  
6:00 AM - 2:15 PM PDT

- Balanced Educational Program – Knowledge of Both Deen and Dunya
- Daily Live Instruction in All Subjects
- Builds Foundational Skills in Reading, Writing and Math in Addition to Academic Excellence in Science and Social Studies
- Comprehensive Islamic Education that includes Quran, Arabic and Islamic Studies (Fiqh, Aqeedah, Hadith, Tafseer & Islamic History)
- Hifdh with Focus on Tajweed and Correct Pronunciation
- Academic Credit Recovery Program for High School Students
- Character Education with Daily Assembly
- Engaging Extracurricular Activities and Clubs



HYBRID  
CLASSES



SELF  
PACED



LIVE  
INSTRUCTION



GRADES  
1<sup>st</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>



FULL  
TIME



NATIONWIDE  
STUDENTS



### TO FIND OUT MORE

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