

WHO WE MEET



THE PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT MAKE AN INTERFAITH PEACE-BUILDERS DELEGATION UNIQUE

Interfaith Peace-Builders' Delegation Program presents alternative images of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; images that reach deeper and give a more complete picture. IFPB privileges diverse voices that are not often heard in the United States. Voices of Israelis and Palestinians engaged in nonviolent resistance to an illegal occupation; images of cooperation, of healing, of caring, of hope and possibility. Images such as these help break the paralysis and inform us about the possibilities for a real peace.

IFPB's on-the-ground experience is designed to enrich participants' understanding of the occupation. Participants on Interfaith Peace-Builders delegations return to North America energized and transformed. Each IFPB delegation itinerary is unique; however many themes are regular features of our program.

Interfaith Peace-Builders seeks equity between Israeli and Palestinian voices on our delegations, distinguishing the IFPB experience from other delegation programs. IFPB spends more time in Israeli communities than other peace-focused delegation programs and more time in Palestinian communities than any Israel-focused programs. A typical delegation will feature meetings with some of the following people and organizations.

"Your coming to Palestine keeps us sane; thank you for coming and listening to us. In the short term our struggle will be hard, but in the long term we have hope because you are here with us."

*- Rita Giacaman
Director of Birzeit University's
Institute of Community and Public Health*



Mohammed Khatib of the Bil'in Village Popular Committee leads a tour of Israel's wall in Bil'in and speaks of the village's nonviolent struggle to stop it (photo: Keith Smith)

NONVIOLENT MOVEMENTS

To learn that Israelis and Palestinians are resisting the occupation nonviolently goes against many of our preconceptions. We encourage people to look beyond their presuppositions about the conventional uses of nonviolence and see both new realities and new possibilities. As participants on IFPB delegations discover, by observing and listening with an open mind, nonviolent action by Israelis and Palestinians is widespread, creative, and often effective.

- Bil'in Village Popular Committee
- Ni'lin Village Popular Committee
- Wi'am Palestinian Conflict Resolution Center
- Coalition of Women for Peace
- Physicians for Human Rights
- Rabbis for Human Rights
- Parents Circle - Families Forum
- Combatants for Peace

- Other Voice (Sderot)
- Tent of Nations
- Holy Land Trust



Delegates look into the Gaza Strip on a tour of Sderot organized by Other Voice, a group of residents of southern Israel committed to dialogue with Palestinians in Gaza (photo: Doug Kerr).

INTERFAITH PEACE-BUILDERS
VISIT ISRAEL/PALESTINE WITH INTERFAITH PEACE-BUILDERS!

May 25 – June 7, 2013
August 10 – 23, 2013
November 2 – 15, 2013

ANALYSIS AND ADVOCACY

There is no replacement for the analysis offered by those Israelis and Palestinians living the conflict every day. Interfaith Peace-Builders delegations meet with a wide variety of non-governmental organizations who offer direct and insightful analyses often paired with a strong call for action and advocacy. Such meetings provide delegates with analysis and access to important information for their work at home in their own communities.

Mossawa: The Advocacy Center for Arab Citizens of Israel
 B'Tselem: Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories
 Gisha: Legal Center for Freedom of Movement
 BADIL: Palestinian Center for Residency and Refugee Rights
 Adalah: The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel

Israeli Coalition Against Home Demolitions
 Alternative Information Center
 Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel
 United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
 Palestinian Hydrology Group



Rotem Mor of the Israeli Coalition Against Home Demolitions leads the group on a tour of East Jerusalem including sites of Palestinian home demolitions, Israeli settlements and the Wall (photo: Jacob Pace).



Delegates demonstrate with Women in Black at the group's weekly vigil in Israeli West Jerusalem (photo: Lois Swartz).

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP

In many ways, women lead the peace movement in Israel/Palestine. Women organize their communities, hold together families, and lead national organizations. No examination of the prospects for peace is complete without understanding the work of women and women's movements.

Coalition of Women for Peace
 Isha L'Isha
 New Profile
 Women in Black

The Jerusalem Center for Women
 Women's Center for Legal Aid and Counseling
 Palestinian Women's Collectives

DIVERSITY AND NUANCE

Israeli and Palestinian society is very diverse. Interfaith Peace-Builders makes it our priority to give delegation participants an understanding of this diversity. As a result, IFPB delegates return to their communities with a deeper and more nuanced understanding of the conflict and its multiple dimensions. Such a nuanced understanding, aids their activism and engagement with the issue. A typical IFPB delegation features programming on some of the following issues.

African-Palestinian Community
 Israeli Black Panther Party
 Israeli Settler Community in Hebron
 Hebrew University Students
 Gvanim Association (Sderot)
 Kibbutz Zikim (North of Gaza Strip)
 The Association for Ethiopian Jews

Palestinian Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons
 Bedouin communities in Israel and the West Bank
 Druze communities in the Golan Heights
 The Palestinian Fair Trade Association and farmers collectives
 Yad Vashem: The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority



Three generations of Palestinian refugees speak to delegates in the Deheishah Refugee Camp. (photo: Pat Westwater-Jong).



Building PEACE through Personal Experience
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