

PLANNING NONVIOLENT ACTION IN JERUSALEM – TOWARDS TWO CAPITALS TO TWO STATES

Dear friends: Many of the recipients of this email have attended a well-attended meeting that took place in March 23rd in Jerusalem. We had the participation of a significant number of local NGOs (the list of the sponsors include CDCD, Holy Land Trust, NISPED, Challenge and CAPI) and counted with the presence of a delegation of Stanford University. In the occasion of a visit by Dr. Mubarak Awad (founder before the first Intifada of the Palestinian Center for the Study of Nonviolence, later expelled by the Israeli government. Currently based in Washington DC, he teaches a class on Nonviolence at American University and is the Chair of Nonviolence International). We also welcome to the meeting several Palestinian activists, including from Gaza. Close to forty participants in the brainstorming session and using as a base a document prepared by Prof. Gene Sharp (Harvard Program of Nonviolent Sanctions). The following list was presented by individual participants and given the short time available we did not try to reach consensus or prioritize their use.

Our suggestion is to circulate the ideas as widely as possible among Jerusalem (and Bethlehem) based NGOs, each should consider which action is relevant and possible to undertake, and after a period of one month (April 30 as a deadline) to send their choices (or other additional actions not discussed in this meeting), to Walid Salem and Meir Margalit (who have volunteer to combine it into a document all suggested actions into an action plan with priorities and joining similar choices.)

TOWARDS A COORDINATED NONVIOLENT ACTION FOR TWO-STATES/TWO-CAPITALS IN JERUSALEM

- 1) Brainstorming display of Palestinian flag:
 - a) Volunteer all members of Palestinian NGO based in Jerusalem display flag at the time of Israel's Independence Day and Jerusalem Day, perhaps at a coordinated time and day (Friday mid-day). Mostly in East Jerusalem, on the Wall and surrounding areas.
 - b) Produce a large number of flags and encouraged neighbors and family to join the display the flag
 - c) In West Jerusalem, peacenik Israelis produce a joint flag (as in Intifada 1 perhaps with one next to the other or combined, stressing support for two capitals. Such flag can also be displayed in East Jerusalem.
 - d) Double flag bumper stickers, pins
 - e) Engaging similar action through Facebook
 - f) Search for a shared symbol (Old City gates?)
 - g) Get a large balloon with the two flags to display over Jerusalem
- 2) Bilingual newspaper, newsletter, free handout in Jerusalem
- 3) Explore support possibilities and ideas from Jordanian government
- 4) Careful planning of "Occupied Post Office " in Salah A-Din street –display Palestinian flag
- 5) Encourage plans for Palestinian Alternative Jerusalem and welcome training of experienced staff working (o retired) in the Israeli municipality
- 6) Jerusalem new office/center for two capitals in Jerusalem, jointly run by Israeli and Palestinian staff and volunteers:

- a) Encourage visitors from around the world, West Jerusalem and others to step by the shared Jerusalem Center.
- b) Create a flyer or information document about the alternative municipality
- 7) Forthcoming alternative Memorial Day prepared by Combatants for Peace [last year 2,500 participants) when Palestinians from West Bank barred from coming, to be represented by Palestinian (or Israeli? Replacement and read/spoke on their behalf.
- 8) Prepare song for joint Jerusalem, two states, three religions.
- 9) Find strategy to re-draw the green line- Human chain dressed on green
- 10) Well organized campaign in order to arise Israeli and international support to the demand of re-opening Orient house and other institutions.
- 11) Host banned activities in Jerusalem based Israeli NGOs
- 12) Co-author op-ed for newspapers, or interviews and other media, as a Palestinian Israeli team
- 13) Large gathering with top singers, actors, writers, for 2 capitals and peace