

al majdal aims to raise public awareness and support for a just solution to Palestinian residency and refugee issues

International Day of Solidarity
with the Palestinian People 29 November 1999

51st Anniversary of UN Resolution 194 11 December 1999

- Statement by Internally Displaced and Refugees in West Bank and Lebanon

- Refugee Campaign Update

- EU Discussion Paper - Refugees

- Statement by PLO Popular Service Committees

- Update: Final Status Negotiations

- Profile: Palestinian Refugees in Syria

- Exiled after the Nakba: Palestinian Refugees from the Demilitarized Zones

- Palestinians in Lebanon: Under the Hammer of the Syria-Lebanese Preparations for Negotiations

- UNRWA Update: 1998-1999

- New Opinion Polls on Refugees

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- If South Africa Had Taken the Road to Oslo

- Jerusalem ID Card Confiscation

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Implementation of the Right of Return of Palestinian Refugees - A Condition for a Just and Durable Peace in the Middle East

A joint Statement issued by Organizations and NGOs of Internally Displaced Palestinians and Palestinian Refugees in Palestine and Lebanon

51 years after the massive eviction of the Palestinian people by the Zionist forces, the Palestinian refugee question remains unresolved. Israeli governments, past and present, have obstructed the return of the Palestinian refugees and maintained exclusive Jewish control of refugee lands and properties by means of racist laws and policies. As a result, some five million Palestinian refugees, i.e. some 70% of the Palestinian people, have been forced to remain in exile. Others have remained in their homeland as internally displaced persons, deprived of access to their homes and properties by Israel. Lacking social and political security, Palestinian refugees continue to demand their right to return home, regain access to their properties, and receive adequate compensation for material losses and damages, as well as for the psychological suffering inflicted upon them.

51 years ago, the international community accepted full responsibility for the implementation of a just solution of the Palestinian refugee question. UN *Resolution 194* (11 December 1948) calls for the Palestinian refugees' right to return to their homes and properties and to receive adequate compensation. It provided for the establishment of the UN *Conciliation Commission for Palestine* (UNCCP), the international body mandated with the implementation of a just solution for the refugee question.

In the course of the past five decades, the international community provided additional and special assistance and protection to Palestinian refugees via the establishment of the special UN *Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees*/UNRWA (UN Resolution 302/1949). The rights of refugees, including Palestinian refugees, are also enshrined in the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), the *Fourth Ge-*

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for Palestinian Residency & Refugee Rights
PO Box 728, Bethlehem, Palestine
tel/fax. 972-2-274-7346, tel. 277-7086
email: info@badil.org, url: www.badil.org