



Birzeit University's Institute of Women's Studies' 7th annual conference

Prisons, Repressions and Solidarities: Palestinian, Indigenous and 3rd World Resistance Movements in Palestine & USA

Panels & speakers

Panel 1: This panel focuses on structure of power and relations of subjugation; speakers will analyze the intersections of colonialism, racism, and the regulation of gender and sexualities that resistance movements have had to confront and contend with.

Chair: Rania Jawad

1. Soledad, St Quentin, and Pelican Bay: How US Social Prisoners become Organizers for Justice/ Manuel La Fontaine, All of Us or None & Pelican Bay Hunger Strike Solidarity Committee
2. **Palestine:** A Carceral Nation/ Rema Hammami
3. Shared Stories of Criminalization of Resistance: Constructions of “White” Hegemony under Settler Colonialism/Rana Barakat
4. Challenging Colonialism and Racism from the Young Lords Party to Mumia Abu Jamal/Johanna Fernandez, Mumia Abu Jamal Defense Committee, Baruch College-CUNY

Panel 2: This panel discusses ways and modes of resistance developed to combat the oppression of life under colonial racist regimes. Drawing on Fanonian and other anti-colonial paradigms, the panel will critically examine armed struggle and revolutionary violence as strategies to dismantle and disrupt colonized “business as usual” life, as well as strategies that create an alternative world through communal solidarity, cooperation, and collectivity that sustains and is sustained by the struggle for freedom.

Chair: Rami Salameh

1. A Struggle for Life/Amira Silmi
2. What does Solidarity Mean? Contesting Racism and Zionism in Settler Colonial Societies/Laura Whitehorn, Former US Political Prisoner
3. Reflections on the capacity of Palestinians to endure and resist settler colonialism/Rita Giacaman
4. Black Panthers Party: Naming Criminal States, Shifting Narratives, Legitimizing Resistance/Hank Jones
5. Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions as a Resistance Strategy/Samia Al-Botmeh

Panel 3: This panel examines state violence and anti-insurgency. A main strategy deployed against both movements by the Israeli and U.S. colonial regimes has been mass incarceration and the creation

of racialized carceral societies. The focus will be on the parallels, shared experiences, continuities and ruptures of incarceration as anti-insurgency as well as the counter-resistances employed by prisoners' movements and communities to them.

Chair: Alaa Al Azzeh

1. The Philosophy of Confrontation in Colonial Prisons/Lena Meari
2. Critical Resistance: Framing the Abolition of the Prison Industrial Complex/Rachel Herzig, Soros Justice Fellow
3. Contextualizing Genocide, Slavery and Settler Colonialism Resisting COINTELPRO/Claude Marks, Freedom Archives
4. The Conditions of Current Palestinian Captive Movement/Nidal Abu Akar, A Palestinian Struggler, was imprisoned 17 times and spent 14 years in Israeli colonial prisons
5. The dialectic of Hunger Strike and Popular Mobilization/Faihaa Shalash, A Journalist. Led the campaign to support her husband's hunger striker-Mohammad Al-Qiq

Plenary

Facilitators: Rabab Abdel Hadi & Eileen Kuttab

Resisting Incarceration, Building Solidarities-USA and Palestine conclusions/recommendations

Comments: US Prison and Labor Solidarity Delegation to Palestine