

Shoot Shoot!!!

The figure of Virgin Mary is a symbol target of terrorism.

Virgin Mary in Bethlehem Holy Family Hospital was exposed to assassination on Thursday 14.3.2002 by the Israeli occupation forces. It received a lot of shelling. It shows blind hatred, racism and terrorism. The damages of the shelling to the French Hospital from Israeli tanks and sniper fire are estimated 25,000\$. In all, seven hospitals were shot at.

As we struggle to gain basic rights, freedom, and recognition, we liken ourselves to the 14 Stations of the Cross. Via Dolorosa in the Old City of Jerusalem represents our daily week of suffering; pain and torture.

1. The Palestinians are condemned!
We are labeled as fundamentalist and terrorist. These prefixes are used to condemn and distort our image.
2. We are taking the heaviest Cross.
The Palestinians are called to walk in the footsteps of the humble cross-bearing Christ. Each and every one of us has his / her daily cross to bear to be worthy to share our saviour's glory!!
3. The first attack.
1948 was the first catastrophe. Automatically we have become the victims of the victims of the Holocaust. We are the indirect victims of the holocaust; 731 villages were leveled and 726000 Palestinians became refugees. The total value losses of destroyed or confiscated property are estimated at US \$209 billion.
4. Our people sought refuge in the Arab Land and everywhere.
50 % of Palestinian refugees in Diaspora are not registered with UNRWA; 3.8 million refugees were registered with UNRWA.
There are 3,874,738 refugees in 59 refugee camps. 50000 Palestinians overstayed their permits while abroad and are not

allowed by Israel to return!

5. Lebanon helps to carry our cross/ Iraqi children weep with us!
Love of God and of neighbor marks the true disciple of humanity. Lebanon was a very close neighbor who by design or default carries with us part of the cross. In spite of the wars against the Iraqi people, our tears have been wiped by Iraq to confront our sorrow, which has raised the spirit of the bereaved families.

6. International NGOs and Church Related Organizations Sponge us with Vinegar.
International NGOs and Church Related Organizations mitigate our burden through its prophetic voices and actions.

7. The Second attack!
1967 was the second catastrophe! 300,000 Palestinian were displaced and again became refugees, 3 villages were leveled.

8. The Palestinians speak to the World through the UN.
In an attempt to raise the awareness of the world to the Palestinian issue, YASSER Arafat addressed the UNITED NATIONS in 1974 asking them to implement UN resolutions and not to let the olive branch fall off our hand!!

9. The Third attack.
The Israeli invasion to Lebanon and Sabra & Shatela Massacre in 1982 was an attempt of the Israeli government to liquidate our cause.

10. We are stripped of our cloth!
Our land has been taken, our water has been usurped, and our holy places have been desecrated.

11. We are nailed to the Cross
We have been nailed to the Cross many times lately in the Al Aqsa Intifada. Figures talk louder than words!! There have been 1162 deaths including 103 assassinations. 84.5% of those deaths have

been civilian. 20,000 Palestinians have been injured with 35.7% of the injured children. Also, there have been 3 physicians killed, 1 PRCS driver killed, 116 PRCS Emergency Medical technicians injured, and 60 PRSC ambulances hit by live ammunition. 1000 Palestinians were detained from inside the Green line, 1850 Palestinian detained from Jerusalem, GS, and WB and 900 are still in prison.

12. The Palestinian people are dying on the Cross!
The West Bank is divided into 120 clusters and Gaza Strip into 3 reservations. 120 Israeli checkpoints in WB and GS divide us into 220 separate reservations. 580 houses were demolished completely and 6534 houses have been destroyed partially. 400 buildings, 30 mosques and 12 churches have received extensive damage.

13. Palestinians are taken from the Cross-to hide the Israeli Crimes.
In an attempt to silence our voice, the Israeli occupation imposes sanction and siege on our people. Total income losses to Palestinian economy: \$2.4-3.2 billion daily; domestic losses: \$6.0-8.6; total wage income loss on daily level \$59.4 million; unemployment: Gaza: 48%; WB: 31.51%. In addition, 46% of Palestinians live in poverty for less than \$2 a day. 69% of the Palestinian firms have shut down or are reduced. There has been a 51% drop in GNP. Israel prevents 125, 000 Palestinians from going to work.

14. We are laid in the Tomb!!
Sharon thought he would bury our cause! He shut down 6 schools, a further 66 schools and 10 universities were disrupted. Bethlehem University was shelled several times. 142 schools were shelled and fired at 29 schools raided, 132 students killed, 2390 injured, 1145 school days so far have been lost because of the Israeli attacks!
All UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions have been ignored.

Sharon wants to bring us to our knees; I hope his war will bring his government to its senses and not delaying the inevitable/
Palestinian State side by side with Israel.

WE ARE CERTAIN THAT THE SPIKES OF THE CROSS-WILL BE TURNED INTO SPIKES
OF WHEAT AND WE
MAY HAVE BECOME LIKE THE PHOENIX AND RISE FROM THE ASHES.