

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. 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
Combatants for Peace
Parents Circle - Families Forum
Wi'am Palestinian Conflict Resolution Center

Other Voice (Sderot)
Women in Black
Tent of Nations
Holy Land Trust

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.

Jerusalem Center for Women
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



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

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.

Masawa: Center for the Rights of the 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 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).

ALTERNATIVE ISRAELI VOICES

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. In doing so, we include the important voices of Israelis who demand peace and justice for Palestinians.

Coalition of Women for Peace
Rabbis for Human Rights
Physicians for Human Rights

Hebrew University Students
Gvanim Association (Sderot)
Kibbutz Zikim (North of Gaza Strip)

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
The Association for Ethiopian Jews
Bedouin communities in Israel and the West Bank

Palestinian Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons
The Palestinian Fair Trade Association and Farmer's Collectives
Druze communities in the Golan Heights
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
office@ifpb.org • 202.244.0821 • www.ifpb.org