



We're building a world where Palestine is liberated and all are free

This month's newsletter focuses on the village of Nabi Saleh. With its approximately 650 inhabitants, Nabi Saleh is situated about 20 km (12 mi) northwest of the city of Ramallah in the West Bank. The small town that's drawn attention for its unrelenting Friday protests sits atop a mountain with clear views of the Palestinian coast and other surrounding areas. Despite the risks and constant attacks on Palestinians by occupation forces, village residents, joined by international activists and journalists, venture out in the spirit of Palestinian resistance every Friday for demonstrations to defend their main water source, which has become threatened by the nearby Halamish settlement since 2009. It is cherished in the hearts of its residents for its lush agricultural lands, forests, olive and pine trees, and water springs, and boasts beautiful archaeological and tourist sites.



HEAR FROM THE WORLD'S YOUNGEST REPORTER: A CONVERSATION WITH JANNA JIHAD TAMIMI

By Moureen Kaki

Janna Jihad Al-Tamimi began her work in journalism and activism at the incredible age of seven years old. Most seven-year-olds are only ever troubled with spelling tests and negotiating more television time with their parents, but Tamimi was no ordinary child. As a Palestinian living under occupation in the West Bank, Tamimi's childhood has been marred by witnessing the active erasure of her home. Raised in the village of Nabi Saleh and in the context of weekly protests, she very quickly recognized the importance of raising awareness about what happens in Nabi Saleh and Palestine more broadly.

"Living under an Israeli apartheid colonial system, we are not treated like normal children around the world, even when we tried to do normal children's activities," says Tamimi. "I loved playing soccer—and still do, but when me and my friends would play in the streets, we would get shot at and harassed by Israeli soldiers. Our childhood was violated. Living through all that from the second I was born and seeing how the Israeli

apartheid system is still growing on the ground, and the way they have expanded tactics to ethnically cleanse my people directly affected my life the same way every other Palestinian teenager's life is affected. The only option left for us is to resist and we do resist. I do *want* to live a normal childhood, but with the occupation [forces] still on my land, there is no way I can live a normal life."

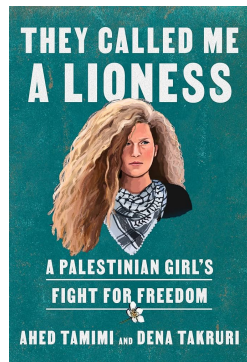
As a child, Tamimi attended the Friday demonstrations in Nabi Saleh, which has become almost a ritual for village residents. She was raised in an activist family who encouraged her and taught her that every act of resistance mattered. "I just took my mother's phone and started recording what was happening in front of me," she shares about the first time she filmed one of the protests. "After marching down the main street, the protest was getting suppressed by the Israeli occupation [forces]." A few weeks later, her mother was rummaging through her phone and found the videos that her daughter recorded and posted them to social media. Several people had commented on her mother's posts, saying things like "We never knew this what actually happens on the ground [in Palestine]." Comments like these fueled Tamimi to continue documenting the violence her small village was subjected to.

Ten years later at 17 years old, the scope of her work has expanded. "I continued doing my journalism to spread awareness, but now I do it on a broader level, along with international advocacy work." For Tamimi, the camera is a way to tell her truth and to show the world what Palestinians experience on a daily basis. Although she encourages people to continue to read, learn and share (with others), more about the Palestinian struggle, Tamimi believes visiting Palestine and witnessing for yourself is the only way to truly understand what Palestinians deal with under occupation and apartheid.

"Reading about Palestine is extremely effective in the sense of raising awareness about what is happening on the ground, but coming and living and actually witnessing what is happening from the violations of rights of movement, seeing the apartheid wall, the checkpoints, the night raids and day raids and the illegal settlements everywhere, is much more effective and allows people to speak from the point of view of what they themselves experienced. It helps us spread the truth of our experiences under occupation," Tamimi says. "So yes, I do think it's extremely important to bring international delegations from all over the world to see what is happening for themselves and to take action and raise awareness."

You can keep up with Tamimi and her work by following her on [Instagram](#).

LEARN MORE ABOUT NABI SALEH



Recommended Read: *They Called Me a Lioness*

Co-authored by the book's subject, Ahed Tamimi and AJ+ journalist, Dena Takruri, *They Called Me a Lioness* is the story of a young Palestinian woman whose defiant spirit turned her into a global icon of resistance. Tamimi dared to resist Occupation forces who broke into and raided her family home and led to the incident which is now known as "the slap hear around the world."



Recommended Watch: *Thank God It's Friday*

Thank God it's Friday is a documentary about daily life in the Palestinian village Nabi Saleh. Every week after Friday prayer the villagers protest against the occupation and are met with tear gas and rubber and live bullets. Due to the constant confrontation with violence and the consequences of the occupation the children from Nabi Saleh don't play football but prefer playing very real war games.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Be sure to stay tuned for the following programs! Click on each link to learn more about our upcoming events.

LIVE FROM THE OLIVE HARVEST

AN UPDATE AND CONVERSATION WITH OUR OLIVE HARVEST
DELEGATION ON THE GROUND IN PALESTINE

WEDNESDAY, OCT 25, 2023
12:00 PM (ET)
9:00 AM (PT)



JOIN US FOR A LIVE UPDATE AND CONVERSATION WITH OUR DELEGATES ON THE GROUND FOR THE OLIVE HARVEST. LISTEN TO PALESTINIANS ON THIS DELEGATION WHO WILL HAVE RETURNED HOME FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME!

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Scan Here
to Register



- Live from Palestine with our 2023 Olive Harvest Delegation on Wednesday, Oct. 25th at 12 noon ET

[Register here for the Live from the Olive Harvest Zoom event](#)

DONATE TO OUR UPCOMING DELEGATIONS!

You can still support our upcoming Olive Harvest & Arts as Joyful Resistance Delegations by clicking the links below!

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