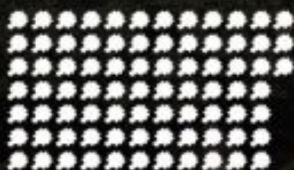


70 YEARS OF NAKBA REMEMBER, RESIST, RETURN PALESTINE

UPROOTED.

SINCE 1967 ISRAELI AUTHORITIES HAVE UPROOTED 800,000 PALESTINIAN OLIVE TREES, EQUAL TO 33 CENTRAL PARKS.

800,000
TREES UPROOTED



33x
CENTRAL PARK



\$12.3 MILLION LOST INCOME EACH YEAR TO 80,000 PALESTINIAN FAMILIES WHO RELY ECONOMICALLY ON THE OLIVE HARVEST.

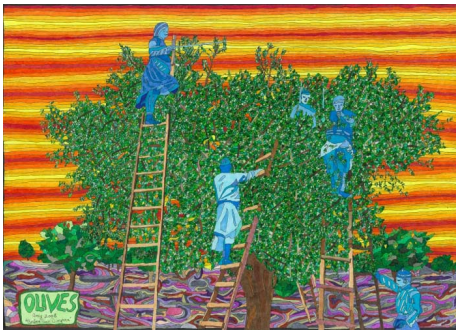
\$12.3M
ANNUAL LOSS



80,000
FAMILIES AFFECTED



SOURCES: 800,000 olive trees uprooted: Oxfam, 2011; Olive Harvest Factsheet; 24,000 trees in Central Park: Central Park, 2013; "Official Website, Frequently Asked Questions" (accessed: 31 May 2013); \$12.3 million loss = 10% of potential peak year income from the 5 million remaining trees in West Bank and Gaza: UN OCHA, 2012; Olive Harvest Factsheet & UNDP, 2008; The Olive Harvest in the West Bank & Gaza Strip; 80,000 families rely economically on olive harvest: UN OCHA, 2012; Olive Harvest Factsheet.



Deeply Rooted

Today roughly 48% of the agricultural land in the West Bank and Gaza is planted with olive trees. The trees account for 70% of fruit production in Palestine and make up around 14% of the Palestinian economy. Roughly 80,000 Palestinian families rely on the olive industry for their livelihoods. Many have trees that have passed down from generation to generation, and are considered members of the family.

Sabon Nabulsi

For generations, Palestinian women have set aside portions of each year's olive harvest for the production of soap; in the city of Nablus, the tradition of olive oil soap-making evolved into a full-blown industry and art. As early as the 10th century, the traditional olive oil soap from the city's factories was exported across the Arab world and to Europe, where it is said that *sabon nabulsi* was the soap of choice for Queen Elizabeth of England. The soap is stacked in geometric towers for air circulation that assists in drying. The towering pyramids climb to heights of over eight feet, and line the halls of the factory's drying room for 10-30 days, before being packaged and shipped.

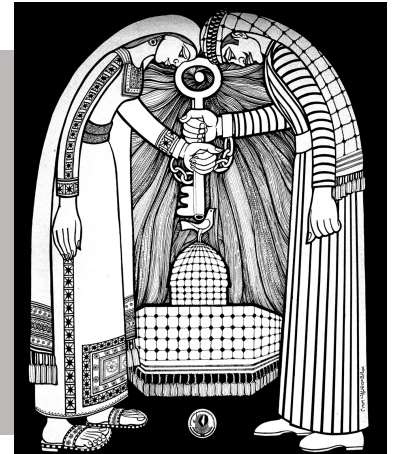


Here to Stay

800,000 Palestinian olive trees have been uprooted by Israeli authorities since 1967, equal to 33 Central Parks. Estimating the average annual productivity of an olive tree to be 70 kilos and the price of olive seeds 1.103 USD/Kilo, Applied Research Institute Jerusalem estimates that the Palestinian economy has lost about \$55,133,602 from 1967 to 2009. In recent years, much of olive grove destruction is due to construction of Israel's apartheid wall, but Oxfam estimates that since 2010, Israeli settlers have also destroyed 60,000 olive trees. Palestinians have chained themselves to olive trees, set up temporary encampments in olive groves, and laid out in front of bulldozers to prevent the uprooting and destruction of their trees.

The Right to Return Home

As a result of the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948, tens of thousands of Palestinians were forcibly displaced from their homes, and thousands more fled out of fear, only to realize they would never be able to return. Palestinians refer to this period as *al-Nakba*, the catastrophic loss of their homeland and the population of roughly 800,000 refugees that was created as a result. The largest refugee camp inside historical Palestine today is the Jabalia camp in Gaza, where nearly 110,000 registered refugees live in an area of only 1.4 square kilometres. Over 100 Palestinian protesters have been killed by Israeli forces since the beginning of April and the start of the "Great Return March" protests in Gaza. Protesters and families have gathered every Friday at the buffer region separating the Gaza Strip from Israel to commemorate 70 years of *Nakba* and to demand their right as refugees to return home, to their villages, to their orange and olive groves.



The Ongoing Nakba

On 5 September 2011, Abu Wajih, a farmer in the village of Al Walaja (home to the world's oldest living olive tree, Al-Badawi), arrived on his land to find that the Israeli authorities had confiscated six dunums and had already begun levelling it to make way for construction of the separation Wall. Since then, Abu Wajih lost about 60 olive trees, 18 almond trees, and eight hawthorn trees. If the route of the Wall is built as planned, Al Walaja will become an enclave, connected to the West Bank through a tunnel, leaving its agricultural land lying on the other side of the Wall, where villagers won't have access to it unless they obtain a permit from Israeli authorities. Many residents of Al Walaja are refugees who resettled in the village after the *Nakba*. If they lose access to their land, they will lose access to their livelihood and may, once again, face displacement.

Take Action

To support Palestinian farmers and fund the planting of young olive trees, please visit:

<https://www.classy.org/campaign/trees-for-life/c183288>

To call your legislators to demand they speak out against the violence against protesters in Gaza, visit: jvp.org/gaza-call-congress

To view this resource (including citations) digitally, visit

Adalah-NY: the New York Campaign for the Boycott of Israel online at: www.adalah-nyc.org