

WITH OUR THANKS

We would like to thank the photographers who generously donated the use of their images for this event:

Maysun Ali
Alison Baskerville
Dylan Collins
Cesar Gorriz
Tanya Habjouqa
Eman Mohammed
Daniel Van Moll

We would also like to thank our speakers, the musicians **Kinan Idnawi** and **Tareq Rantisi**, **Devin Atallah** for his technical expertise and all our volunteers.

We are grateful for the assistance of our host, **The Middle East Education Group at First Parish in Cambridge**, and thank all the co-sponsoring organizations:

American Friends Service Committee - New England Region, American Jews for a Just Peace - Boston, Arlington Street Church - Social Action Committee, Boston Coalition for Palestinian Rights, Faculty for Israeli Palestinian Peace, First Church in Cambridge Congregational Palestine Israel Task Team, François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University, Friends of Sabeel New England, Grassroots International, Ignacio Martín-Baró Fund for Mental Health and Human Rights at Boston College's Center for Human Rights and International Justice, Institute for Arts and Health at Lesley University, Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center, Jewish Voice for Peace - Boston, Jewish Voice for Peace - National, Mass Peace Action, Palestine Children's Relief Fund, Physicians for Human Rights Israel, Physicians for Human Rights USA, Psychoanalysis for Social Responsibility (Section 9 of Division 39 of the American Psychological Association), Psychologists for Social Responsibility, Unitarian Universalists for Justice in the Middle East - Massachusetts Chapter, United for Justice with Peace.

Gaza Mental Health Foundation
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The Gaza Mental Health Foundation presents:

INSTILLING HOPE IN GAZA: THE LEGACY OF DR. EYAD EL SARRAJ

A Memorial Tribute

October 28, 2014

First Parish in Cambridge, Harvard Square

Hosted by The Middle East Education Group
at First Parish in Cambridge



*Dr. Eyad el Sarraj greets Prof. Noam Chomsky in Gaza,
October 2012.*

THE PROGRAM

In order of appearance:

Susan Nye, *The Middle East Education Group at First Parish in Cambridge*

Hilary Rantisi, *Director, Middle East Initiative, Harvard Kennedy School*

'50 Days in Gaza' accompanied by **Kinan Idnawi** (oud) and **Tareq Rantisi** (percussion). Images taken by Maysun Ali, Alison Baskerville, Dylan Collins, Cesar Gorriz, Eman Mohammed and Daniel Van Moll and compiled by Jessica Murray.

Nancy Murray, *Co-founder and trustee of Gaza Mental Health Foundation, Inc.*

Sara Roy, *Senior Research Scholar, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University*

Stewart Ting Chong, *Former personal assistant to Archbishop Desmond Tutu*

Noam Chomsky, *Institute Professor and Professor of Linguistics (Emeritus) at Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

Jess Ghannam, *Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Global Health Sciences at the University of California at San Francisco*

Bill Slaughter, *President, Gaza Mental Health Foundation; Clinical Instructor in Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School*

Video address by Yasser Abu Jamei, *Executive Director of the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme*

Tanya Habjouqa, *photographer, introducing 'Instilling Hope.'* Accompanied by **Kinan Idnawi** and **Tareq Rantisi**.

Please join us for refreshments in the Parlor.



Eyad Rajab el Sarraj **April 27, 1943 - December 17, 2013**

Dr. Eyad el Sarraj was the first psychiatrist in the Gaza Strip. The founder in 1990 of the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme, he made helping people move beyond their personal and collective suffering to recognize the basic humanity of all human beings his life's work.

Human rights and mental health went hand in hand for a man who, as a four year old, was forced to flee with his family from Bir al-Saba' (now Beersheva) to Gaza when

the State of Israel was established.

In April 1997, when he was in Boston to receive the first Human Rights Award given by the Physicians for Human Rights USA, he told *The Boston Globe* that "I started as a physician in Gaza and did not want to be involved in politics. But many of my patients were victims of torture and I became drawn into advocacy. Defending human rights is my major obsession."

In his research, writings, talks, media interviews and meetings with world leaders, he warned of the long-term consequence for children - and the ominous implications for Israel - of the violence and trauma of the occupation. As he wrote in a *New York Times* op ed during the Israeli military invasion of 2008-9, "Israel will eventually stop the war and we may be saved, but who will save Israel from itself?"

In addition to overseeing the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme as it developed training programs and innovative ways of providing mental health services to people living in a state of chronic emergency, Dr. el Sarraj served as Commissioner General of the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens Rights in the mid 1990s. In that role, he criticized the human rights practices not just of the Israeli occupiers, but of the Palestinian Authority, which had him arrested on three occasions. After being severely beaten in prison, he later gave counseling to the guards who had participated in his beating, and who had themselves been tortured in Israeli prisons.

His courage, decency, independence of mind, wisdom and vision of a better world were to make him a beacon of moral conscience and hope for those Israelis seeking peace with Palestinians and Palestinians struggling with both the occupation and their own ruinous political divisions.

These qualities earned him the 1998 Martin Ennals Award for human rights. In 2010, when he was already ill with multiple myeloma, he was awarded both the Olof Palme Prize and the Juan José López-Ibor Prize in Psychiatry.



Eyad el Sarraj and his son Ali.