

Resist, My People, Resist Them**Resist, my people, resist them.****In Jerusalem, I dressed my wounds and
breathed my sorrows****And carried the soul in my palm****For an Arab Palestine.****I will not succumb to the “peaceful solution,”****Never lower my flags****Until I evict them from my land.****I cast them aside for a coming time.****Resist, my people, resist them.****Resist the settler’s robbery****And follow the caravan of martyrs.****Shred the disgraceful constitution****Which imposed degradation and humiliation****And deterred us from restoring justice.****They burned blameless children;****As for Hadil, they sniped her in public,****Killed her in broad daylight.****Resist, my people, resist them.****Resist the colonialist’s onslaught.****Pay no mind to his agents among us****Who chain us with the peaceful illusion.****Do not fear doubtful tongues;****The truth in your heart is stronger,****As long as you resist in a land****That has lived through raids and victory.****So Ali called from his grave:****Resist, my rebellious people.****Write me as prose on the agarwood;****My remains have you as a response.****Resist, my people, resist them.****Resist, my people, resist them.****- Dareen Tatour,****POET GETS JAIL IN ISRAEL
FOR POETRY**

An Israeli Arab poet was sentenced at July's end to five months' imprisonment for social media posts, including a video of a poetry reading expressing support for Palestinian resistance against Israeli occupation. In October 2015, **Dareen Tatour**, 36, posted a YouTube video showing Palestinians clashing with Israeli forces in which she reads her poem, **“Resist My People, Resist Them”** (above)

She was sentenced in Nazareth District court after being convicted in May of incitement to violence and supporting a terrorist organization. Tatour said she was not surprised by the sentence. *“I never expected justice from the Israeli courts,”* Tatour said in response to the May verdict. *“I knew that I would be convicted of the accusations... I will... keep writing.”*

“There is serious discrimination here,” Gaby Lasky, Tatour's attorney, told the court. **“If she was Jewish, there would be no case.”**

Brett Wilkins

an editor-at-large based in San Francisco, his work covers issues of social justice, human rights and war and peace.

'Freedom Flotilla' Seized by Israeli Soldiers

Israeli soldiers in international waters boarded the ship *Al Awda* headed to Gaza to deliver relief supplies on Sunday, detaining everyone on board after beating and tasing some passengers, according to an eyewitness account. 22 on board were arrested.

Zohar Chamberlain Regev, A passenger and Israeli citizen, contested an **Israeli Defense Force (IDF)** statement that the ship had been captured *“without exceptional incident.”*

“People on board were tasered and hit by masked IOF soldiers. We did not get our passports or belongings before we got off the boat. Do not believe reports of peaceful interception,” Regev said in a statement to the organizers, the Freedom Flotilla Coalition. Regev referred to the **IDF** derogatorily as the **Israeli Offense Force**.

He said he saw **“blood on the deck of the Al Awda the last participants were being dragged off the ship,”** according to the coalition's statement. Regev and a second Israeli passenger, who has not yet been identified, were charged with attempting to enter Gaza and conspiracy before being released.

“A military attack on a civilian vessel is a violent act and a violation of international law,” the flotilla organizers said in its statement. **“Taking 22 people from international waters to a country which is not their destination constitutes an act of kidnapping, which is also unlawful under the international Convention of the Law of Sea.”**

Consortium News has been following the progress of the flotilla in two reports by passenger Elizabeth Murray. Murray left the *Al Awda* (*The Return*) before it approached Gaza and was not onboard when it was seized by Israeli forces.

“We call on national governments, civil society and international organizations to demand that Israeli authorities immediately release our boat so that we can deliver our much-needed medical supplies on Al Awda and the fishing boat itself to the rightful recipients in Gaza,” the organizers said.

“Our second boat Freedom will follow Al Awda within a day or two, and the Freedom Flotilla will continue until the blockade ends and Palestinians of Gaza regain their full freedom of movement,” they said.



Joe Lauria
consortiumnews.com

**Dear Banksy,**

I'm writing this illegal letter to you from a dungeon which has history of bloody tortures, in a town with a lot of bans, in a denied country. The letter is illegal, because I have a “communications ban” that forbids me from sending letters of [sic] making phone calls so I'm writing and delivering this letter in clandestine ways.

First of all, I'd like to tell you about the atmosphere here, We [sic] were getting furious because of the horrible sounds of dozens of fighter jets that depart for bombing our beautiful lands, mountains and cities. We know that every fighter jet is killing our sisters, brothers, relatives and animals in a short distance.

It's very hard to describe the feeling of reading that someone you know is killed from the newspapers, nearly every day. It was a day like this we heard that the daughter of a friend in our prison was killed in **Afrin**. The same day, we learned that another prisoner killed herself by “hanging herself with a shoelace”. [sic] It was a day full of deaths. In days like these, one can't endure living. During our daily debates, we were saying “No one sees that we are right and we are being crushed, destroyed by massacres. Even if they see, no one does anything and everyone stays silent. We are living a lie in a fictional life”. [sic]

Moments later, a friend got the newspapers that are delivered and we saw your artwork about **Nusaybin** and me, that protests the whole imprisonment. In a moment of pessimism, your support made me and my friends here enormous happiness [sic]. Far away from me and our people, it was the best reply to the crooked regime that can't even tolerate a painting.

What makes this country, that slaughters the people who stand up against oppression, fears [sic] the most is showing the reality just like a mirror to them. And with your support, my painting now accomplished its mission of showing the atrocities. I was surprised when they accused me by [sic] “Leading the people to rebellion, rage and hatred” because of my painting. But now, I say “This painting was worth my time in prison because I managed to show the reality of Nusaybin.”

People hear me more than ever and while the rulers in these lands that speak the same language with me (because they forced us to learn Turkish) doesn't [sic] understand me, the people in different lands that speaks [sic] different languages understand me. Art is a meaning of communication far beyond language.

I can't thank you and Barf [sic] enough. I couldn't imagine that my painting will be projected in a city like New York. I spend 12 hours a day imagining and this is even beyond my imagination. I feel stronger and now I'm painting Afrin. **Because it's worth it.**

Zehra Doğan

Turkish-Kurdish artist and journalist, Zehra Doğan thanks to British street artist Banksy regarding the recent mural in New York that drew international attention to her case. Doğan was imprisoned in 2016 partly for painting an image of the destruction of the Kurdish-majority city of Nusaybin by Turkish government forces. Doğan painted an image of Nusaybin in ruins with Turkish flags flying above.

She was accused, on the basis of her journalism and social media posts, of illegal “organization membership” and “propaganda for the organization.”