

Medical Aid for Palestinians works for the health and dignity of Palestinians living under occupation and as refugees.

MAP
MEDICAL AID FOR PALESTINIANS

GAZA UNDER FIRE



WITNESS

AUGUST 2014



DEAR READER

It has been another terrible few months for Palestinians.

In July, we watched in disbelief as the people of Gaza – imprisoned by Israel’s blockade – were bombarded by thousands of tons of explosives from land, sea and air. Thousands have been killed or injured of which a high number are children. For any child over six it will be the third war of their short lives.

The civilian population has borne the brunt of Israel’s indiscriminate attacks on the most vulnerable, including women, children, older people and people with disability. UN shelters and medical facilities including hospitals have also been hit; those seeking refuge, patients and medical staff have been injured and killed. There has been serious damage to housing, water, sanitation and electricity infrastructure, posing further threats to public health.

What madness is this? What further proof is needed of the futility of Israel’s policy towards Gaza over the past decade – an illegal policy of siege and collective punishment which has devastated Gaza’s economy, imprisoned its population and denied them the possibility of a normal life. There has to be a better way. There can be no return to the status quo when the fighting finally stops.

Our staff in Gaza have worked throughout the bombardment despite the terrible conditions and risks. The hospitals are under the most impossible strain, flooded with patients and acute shortages of supplies. MAP was able to respond within hours of the escalation by releasing our prepositioned emergency supplies to the hospitals. You can read more of how MAP was leading the response on the features inside.

MAP was also at the forefront of speaking out in the media, in Parliament and on our website, calling for concerted action by the UK government and international community to secure:

- The protection of civilians, medical facilities and personnel;
- A complete and enduring ceasefire, with parties held to account for violations of international law;
- Lifting of the blockade of Gaza together with a realistic plan for sustainable redevelopment;
- Renewal of peace negotiations which recognise Palestinians’ right to self-determination and the territorial integrity of the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza and which ensure a just and fair solution for all.

This edition of Witness focuses on the tragic situation in Gaza including access to healthcare and the many initiatives to support the population of Gaza.

I would like to say a special thank you to MAP’s many supporters, donors and volunteers for their tremendous generosity and hard work over these terrible weeks. Your support has never been more vital.

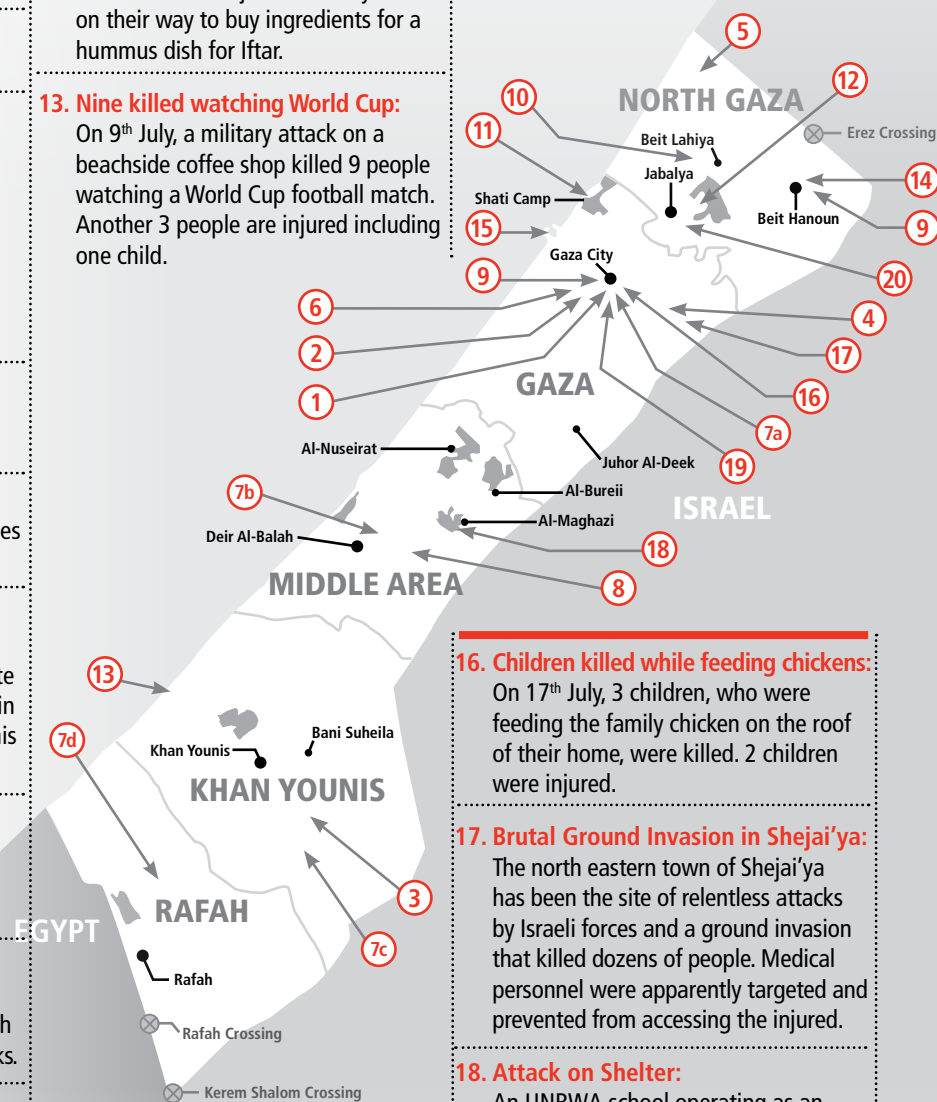
TONY LAURANCE
Chief Executive Officer
Medical Aid for Palestinians

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SITUATION OVERVIEW AND MAP’S RESPONSE

- 1. Al Shifa hospital:**
MAP supplies delivered.
- 2. Al Karama hospital:**
MAP supplies delivered.
- 3. Al Nasser hospital:**
MAP supplies delivered.
- 4. Al Wafa:**
The Al Wafa rehabilitative hospital in Shuja’iyeh is severely damaged after being attacked twice by Israeli forces. This hospital is the only one in Gaza that specialises in providing care for people with severe and complex impairments.
- 5. Al Awda hospital:**
MAP supplies delivered to the blood bank.
- 6. Central Drug Store:**
Receiving and distributing MAP supplies to Gaza’s hospitals.
- 7. Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS):**
MAP is working with PRCS to distribute mattresses, blankets and hygiene kits in the Middle Area, Gaza City, Khan Younis and Rafah.
- 8. Al Aqsa hospital:**
On 21st July, reported shelling kills 5 patients and 2 doctors and injured at least 70 people at the hospital.
- 9. Beit Hanoun hospital:**
The hospital had a direct hit. By the end of July, 6 hospitals and 10 primary health care clinics had been damaged in attacks.
- 10. Israeli military attack on disability centre:**
A missile attack on Mebareet Palestine for the Disabled Centre on 12th July killed 2 women. The centre, for people with complex disabilities has been destroyed. Another 3 women with disabilities and a staff member were injured.
- 11. Hospital director’s house destroyed:**
Al Shifa’s director’s home is destroyed by Israeli forces. The director said, “I got my family out with seconds to spare.”
- 12. Attack on children going to shop:**
On 8th July, a drone fires a missile at 3 children on a street in Jabalia. One of the children is killed on the spot; the other 2 are injured. The boys were on their way to buy ingredients for a hummus dish for Iftar.
- 13. Nine killed watching World Cup:**
On 9th July, a military attack on a beachside coffee shop killed 9 people watching a World Cup football match. Another 3 people are injured including one child.
- 14. UNRWA Shelter:**
On 24th July, UNRWA’s Beit Hanoun Elementary School, serving as a shelter for displaced families, was hit by explosive projectiles, causing 15 fatalities and 200 injuries. The attack followed three previous incidents over 4 days of UNRWA shelters being hit by explosives.
- 15. Playing children killed by Israel:**
4 children are killed while playing on the beach near Gaza City port on 16th July. Another 2 are injured.
- 16. Children killed while feeding chickens:**
On 17th July, 3 children, who were feeding the family chicken on the roof of their home, were killed. 2 children were injured.
- 17. Brutal Ground Invasion in Shejai’ya:**
The north eastern town of Shejai’ya has been the site of relentless attacks by Israeli forces and a ground invasion that killed dozens of people. Medical personnel were apparently targeted and prevented from accessing the injured.
- 18. Attack on Shelter:**
An UNRWA school operating as an emergency shelter for approximately 1,000 forced out of their homes, was attacked by Israel.
- 19. Al Jazeera attacked:**
On 22nd July, Al Jazeera staff report attacks on their office by Israeli forces.
- 20. Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) forced to move:**
A PRCS operations office was hit by Israeli forces on 9th July, injuring 3 medics and the director. Operations transferred.



Cover photograph by Gianluca Panella

GAZA CRISIS AND MAP'S RESPONSE

Thousands have been killed and injured in the full-scale Israeli military offensive on Gaza which began on 7th July. Many are children and most are civilians. Over 215,000 people have been displaced from their homes. The attacks on Gaza's homes, schools, emergency shelters and hospitals mean that no one and nowhere is safe. As Witness went to press at the end of July, international efforts to prolong a 12-hour ceasefire had failed and the already critical situation was becoming even more desperate.

ORIGINS OF THE ATTACKS

After President Sisi seized power in Egypt, there was a breakdown in relations between Hamas and the Egyptian Government and most of the tunnels from Egypt into Gaza, which had acted as a lifeline for the blockaded population, were closed. This put further pressure on Hamas to reach an accord with Fatah. On 23rd April, the two parties signed a landmark reconciliation agreement. In June, President Abbas formed a government of 'technocrats' without representatives of either party. The US, EU and UN announced they would work with the Unity Government – but this prompted angry condemnation by the Israeli government who objected to the reconciliation deal.

Not long after this, three Israeli teenagers disappeared in the West Bank and were found murdered after a huge search operation conducted by the Israeli military. Several Palestinians, including children, were killed by Israeli forces, hundreds more were injured and there were hundreds of arrests. There were attacks on Palestinians by Israeli individuals and groups, and, later, the abduction and murder of a 16-year-old Palestinian boy in East Jerusalem. His 15-year-old cousin was then brutally beaten by Israeli police, denied medical attention for hours, and put under house arrest.

In response to these developments, rockets were fired from Gaza into Israel and Israeli forces increased airstrikes on Gaza. Israel declared the start of 'Operation Protective Edge' on 8th July.

HEALTH SYSTEM UNDER IMPOSSIBLE STRAIN

The health system in Gaza was in a dire state after eight years of blockade even before the escalation of hostilities. The isolation of Gaza from the rest of the world, the political split between Gaza and the West Bank, the lack of training, maintenance and investment, had all taken a heavy toll. MAP staff on the ground reported that 28% of essential medicines were at zero stock and another 16% were at less than 12 weeks supply. Shortages of disposable medical equipment were reported at 54% of needed items, including basic items such as sutures and materials for bone injuries.

With the thousands of casualties from Israel's bombardment of Gaza, hospitals were placed under impossible strain. The Ministry of Health (MOH) put out a call for help, particularly for essential medicines and disposables.

For the first five days of the conflict, MAP was the only UK charity to respond to the urgent needs on the ground. We immediately activated our coordinated and carefully planned emergency

response to provide desperately needed support and supplies. MAP has continued to be a key responder to the crisis. At the time of writing MAP had delivered more medical aid to Gaza's hospitals than any international aid agency.

MAP's response included supplying urgently needed equipment, such as breathing tubes, surgical gauze and needles to the Gaza's hospitals. Within hours of an urgent request from Al Shifa, the largest hospital in Gaza, MAP supplied anaesthetics and antibiotics, as well as surgical disposables. MAP also responded swiftly to a call from Al Awda hospital in the north of Gaza for emergency supplies, providing essential drugs and disposables including syringes, sterile gloves and saline.

Since the start of the emergency situation, MAP has released over 200,000 items of essential medicine and disposables medical equipment across Gaza. MAP continues to react to the emerging crisis by releasing additional funds for the procurement and delivery of medicines and supplies.

"Going back to the status quo won't solve the problem, it will only defer it for another day. It will not stop the bloodshed, it will make it even worse the next time the cycle rolls over the people of Gaza and plagues the people of Israel. Gaza is an open wound and Band Aids won't help. There must be a plan after the aftermath that allows Gaza to breathe and heal".

UN Secretary General,
Ban Ki-moon, 21 July 2014



Emergency case rushed into Al'Shifa Hospital

STATISTICS

20 members of the same family were killed including **11 CHILDREN** in one attack on 26th July

1 child was killed in Gaza every hour during 2 days of heavy fighting in July

BLOOD BANK CAMPAIGNS

The increasing number of casualties has led to a severe shortage of blood and blood products in the hospitals and health clinics. MAP is facilitating much needed blood transfusions and resupply of blood stocks to stabilise and treat the injured population. MAP has supported the blood bank of Al Shifa and Al Awda hospitals to collect blood donations. Brave members of the public in Gaza are queuing up to donate blood to help with the hospitals' emergency response.

PROVIDING SHELTER TO DISPLACED FAMILIES

The Israeli air, land and sea bombardments have displaced hundreds of thousands people from their homes, the majority of whom are hosted at UNRWA shelters and are in need of emergency food assistance, water, mattresses and blankets.

Water supplies have also been severely affected as a result of damage to water facilities and the inability to carry out repairs due to attacks on staff. Damaged water and sewage pipes pose a high risk to public health. With the destruction of infrastructure escalating from Israel's ground invasion, the threats to public health are getting worse by the day.

MAP has released hygiene kits including sanitary and cleaning products which had been prepositioned in four warehouses across the Gaza Strip, in Gaza City, the Middle Area, Khan Younis and Rafah. The hygiene kits, blankets and mattresses are being distributed to displaced people, to the families and friends hosting the displaced and to people living in damaged homes.

MAP's programmes in Gaza also included the training of doctors and nurses to build the capacity of the Gaza health system to adequately respond to

STATISTICS

44% of Gaza, within a three kilometre wide strip, was declared as a 'No-go zone' by the Israeli military

1.2million people in Gaza have either no or limited access to water or sanitation

an emergency. This has stood them in good stead dealing with the current crisis. As Gaza's medical personnel worked round the clock in this critical situation, MAP continues to respond to the emerging needs. For the 1.7 million Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip, half of whom are children, it is vitally important that doctors and nurses at hospitals across Gaza receive the supplies they so urgently need.

We have only been able to respond so quickly to the needs in Gaza because you support us.

Thank you!

PHOTOSTORY GAZA UNDER FIRE

Here are brief accounts from our team in Gaza during the military offensive.

"It's 2:30 am and I doubt anyone in Gaza is sleeping. They are completely exhausted but they are not being allowed to sleep. Heavy bombardments are taking place everywhere, airstrikes have been intensified and there is tank and naval firing attacking the east and west of the Gaza Strip.

It's unfair that the international community is closing its eyes to all these crimes against civilians. I can't understand how killing and terrifying civilians is seen as an act of defence. Strange world."

Fikr Shaloot

"I've just come back from Al Shifa hospital, I saw some horrible things. People cut to pieces and injured kids. There are a lot of civilians, who have been attacked while they were in their home. I saw some people receiving news of their dead son or daughter. People are crying over the death of their loved ones. It's so sad, so heart breaking."

Mohamed Askari



"It's just another day. We woke up to the sound of drones and artillery bombs. The new thing today is that a school opened its doors for people who were displaced from eastern Khan Younis. We went to the school to distribute 150 hygiene kits and 160 mattresses. A girl said to me that "today is my fourth birthday but I don't want to celebrate it because there are a lot of dead people and destroyed houses."

Hitham Al Saqqa

A child whose family has been displaced by the bombing in Khan Younis with one of MAP's Hygiene kits



Hundreds of children are amongst the injured

"This afternoon, while contacting the CDS (Gaza Central Drug Store), my two-year-old son went out to the balcony. Within a moment I realised that he was outside and I called him to come back. I ran towards the balcony, and at that very moment there was a huge explosion very close. I could hear the sound of smashed glass everywhere.

I grabbed my son who was very terrified. My heart stopped for a moment and I was shivering for the next 15 minutes. There are only seconds between safety and danger here."

Huda Anan



Airstrikes over Gaza light up the night sky



MAP aid worker Mohamed met MAP supporter, Jon Snow, at Al Shifa hospital



Homes have been destroyed across Gaza



The MAP supported Gaza blood bank with volunteers donating their blood for the injured



GAZA CRISIS: RESPONSE FROM THE WEST BANK

A Palestinian flag flies over Balata refugee camp in the West Bank

SITUATIONAL UPDATE

The attacks on Gaza have provoked outrage around the world. Nowhere has this been felt more acutely than in the West Bank, so geographically close to Gaza yet unable to act to bring comfort to their Palestinian brothers and sisters living under the bombs only a few miles away.

During July, protests against Israel's actions in Gaza were continuous and widespread in the West Bank. Demonstrations which were originally directed towards the large-scale search and arrest operations which took place following the kidnapping and killing of three Israeli youths, moved on to focus on Israel's strikes in Gaza.

Access to al Aqsa Mosque to Muslim worshippers was also increasingly restricted during the holy month of Ramadan. The UN indicated that the number of worshippers who had gained access to the mosque for Friday prayers during Ramadan had been significantly lower than the previous year. This only served to fuel protests which were already increasing in size and hostility as attacks continued in Gaza.

With the numbers of those killed and injured in Gaza rising steadily and no sign of an enduring ceasefire, protests came to a head on Thursday 24th and

on Friday 25th July as a Day of Rage was declared in the West Bank. On Thursday night, 20,000 Palestinians marched from Ramallah to Qalandia checkpoint in solidarity with Gaza. Friday night saw similar scenes as thousands took to the streets in Hebron, Bethlehem, Jenin, Nablus and other cities. Protesters burned tyres in the streets and hurled stones and molotov cocktails in scenes reminiscent of the second intifada some ten years ago.

Israel's crackdown on protests in the West Bank was swift and often violent. During protests in July, hundreds of people were injured including large numbers of children. In one 24 hour period, nine were killed by Israeli forces. One teenager was killed on his 17th birthday as well as another 18-year-old on the same day. The overwhelming majority of injuries were caused by live ammunition and rubber-coated metal bullets, while tear gas inhalation and physical assault accounted for the remainder. On Thursday 24th July alone, 120 people were treated for gunshot wounds.

GAZA CRISIS: MAP'S RESPONSE FROM THE WEST BANK

We couldn't have responded as we have to the Gaza crisis without the hard work

STATISTICS

The Gaza power plant was shelled **3 times** by 25th July

By the end of July **18** hospitals and health centres had been damaged in Gaza

of the team in our Ramallah office. As the Gaza Strip continues to experience daily attacks from the land, air and sea, the Palestinian Ministry of Health and international aid agencies in the West Bank have stepped up efforts to transfer desperately needed medicines and disposables to hospitals and clinics. Trucks carrying urgent medical supplies have been making trips to the Gaza Strip during this latest outbreak of violence. The Kerem Shalom crossing has been kept open for the transfer of urgent humanitarian supplies. However, some vital aid deliveries have been delayed either at the crossing or within Gaza due to the continued bombardment.

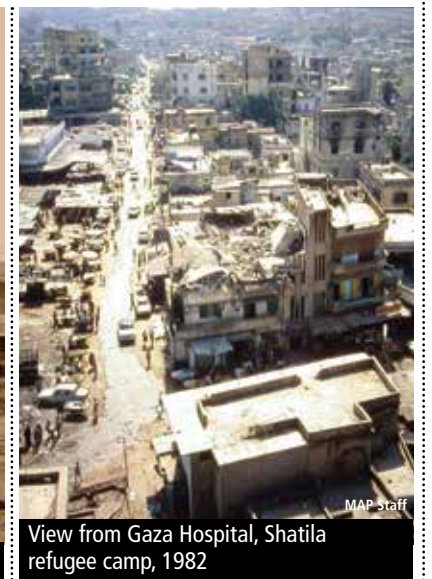


Medical disposables

THE VIEW FROM LEBANON: 'A NEW SABRA AND SHATILA'



Sabra and Shatila refugee camp Lebanon



View from Gaza Hospital, Shatila refugee camp, 1982

News and images of the Israeli bombardment of Gaza and its impact on the enclave's buildings, health services and people have been broadcast into people's homes around the world through the press and social media. For those Palestinians who fled similar scenes of destruction in Yarmouk refugee camp, Damascus, last year, and the families hosting them in Lebanon, the news provokes a grim sense of déjà vu.

Lebanon is home to more than 300,000 Palestinian refugees, around 50,000 of whom have fled violence in Syria. Many of these refugees have family and friends living in Gaza and are glued to the news, waiting fearfully to hear the location of the latest airstrike or the names of those who have lost their lives.

Our team in Lebanon gave us this view from the camps during what has been one of the most deadly periods in Gaza's history.

"For many Lebanese and Palestinians, this feels like a repeat of previous wars, with old traumas being relived; some Palestinians have equated the massacre in Shejaye'a to a new Sabra and Shatila.

People are overwhelmed by the level of violence against civilians, which adds to the

feeling of vulnerability and unpredictability affecting people's lives.

What is supposed to be a festive period during Ramadan is being spent in anguish. Most Palestinians here support the idea that a return to the status quo in Gaza is simply not acceptable – the blockade must end and the regular violations of Palestinians' rights must stop. A three day mourning period announced in the camps during the bombardment was observed by everyone.

Once again people feel that the international community has failed the Palestinians. Many express anger and disappointment for the inaction of Arab and Western countries, which some perceive to be tantamount to indirect support for Israel's indiscriminate aggression.

Demonstrations are organised on a daily basis but people are disillusioned about the difference that they will actually make. People in the camps are doing lots of fundraising though, and arranging solidarity initiatives focusing around Ramadan.

The response in the UK to this situation is very encouraging, not just in terms of financial support but especially as a testimony to the general outrage that the assault is provoking. Thank you to everyone who has supported MAP during this awful period."

"Once again people feel that the international community has failed the Palestinians."

In the midst of their outrage at Israel's actions in Gaza, Palestinian refugees in Lebanon continue to face their own humanitarian crisis caused by the Syrian conflict.

Lebanon is now home to 1.3 million Syrian refugees who have fled fighting in their own country. This is placing untold strain on the country whose population was only 4.4 million before the crisis.

Palestinian refugees living in Syria have been seriously impacted by the violence and 63% have been displaced. Over 50,000 are now seeking refuge in Lebanon, the majority in the existing Palestinian refugee camps. This has exacerbated existing overcrowding and the appalling living conditions.

Our team in Lebanon have been working hard to respond to the crisis this influx has caused. The majority of Palestinian refugees from Syria arrive in Lebanon with very few possessions and are often carrying the heavy emotional burden of all that they have witnessed in Syria.

Many children arriving have been particularly affected by the conflict. MAP is working with our local partners in the Palestinian camps to ensure that there is comprehensive psychosocial support for every child that needs it. The methodology and approach we have developed in this context will no doubt be urgently required in Gaza in the recovery stage there.



Follow MAP on Twitter @ MedicalAidPal



FUNDRAISING NEWS: OVER £1 MILLION RAISED



Since the air strikes started on Gaza we have been overwhelmed by the response from MAP supporters.

From personal appeals to friends and family, to bake sales, to fundraising dinners, to mountain climbs, to concerts and netball tournaments, all of the fundraising activity has been incredible.

And we have had a global response with supporters in Ireland, Germany, USA, Pakistan, UAE, Canada, Brunei as well as the UK.

We have had so many wonderful supporters that we simply don't have room to thank everyone on these pages.

Because our supporters were so quick to start raising money for us, we were able to respond quickly to help people in Gaza. MAP was the only UK charity to respond in the first five days of the crisis. In the first two weeks of the crisis over 200 people had set up online sponsorship pages to fundraise money for MAP.

But there is still more work to be done, and we need your help. With your fundraising efforts we can support the people of Gaza as long as they need us.

Whether you are the next Mo Farah or more of a couch potato, there is always

a way you can fundraise. You can do a 5km run (or even walk it) or you can take on a cycle ride covering hundreds of miles. You can host a fundraising coffee morning or a quiz night or organise a bring and buy sale.

If you want to do something active, you can find races, swims and cycle rides near you to take part in. For those living in or near London, there are lots of events – including the London to Windsor bike ride. If you are on the South Coast, there is the Bournemouth marathon, or if a marathon is a bit too much there are 5km and 10km races. In Scotland there is the Edinburgh marathon, Scottish half marathon and the shorter Kilomathon running race in Edinburgh. The list of possible events is endless.

On the opposite page is a list of sporting challenge events in which MAP has places for runners and cyclists. But you can fundraise for MAP in any event in which you take part.

We are currently looking for runners and riders to take part in these events. If you are interested please email us: info@map.org.uk or go to our website www.map.org.uk

STATISTICS

By the end of July over **73%** of Palestinian deaths were civilians. Less than 5% of Israeli deaths were civilians

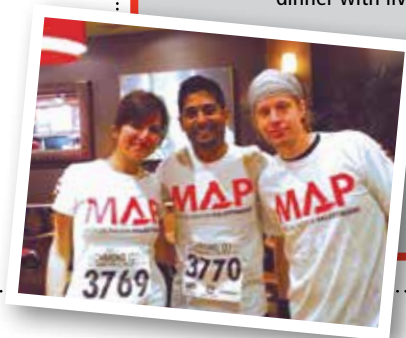
Over **6,000** homes have been destroyed or significantly damaged in Gaza

OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you!

We have some wonderful supporters who host fundraising events and take on challenges to raise money for MAP. Below are just a few of our supporters we want to say a big thank you to:

- **Poppy Hardee and Caroline Hamilton** did a 100km run from London to Brighton
- **Heather Bacon** walked from Chesterfield in Derbyshire to Burton-on-Trent
- **Aamir Saiyed** ran the Brighton Marathon.
- **Haringey Justice for Palestinians** has been selling Palestinian handicrafts around Haringey in aid of MAP.
- **Luc Altmann, Richard Barnett, Alistair Gibbons, Margie Harriott, Teresa Lowery and Simon Waltham-Smith** have all raised money for MAP by running the British London 10km
- **Mohammad Said** raised over £200 at his school.
- **Laurence McLean** raised money doing the Brussels 20km
- **Faiza Ambash** did the London Color Run UK.
- **Daisy Astell** did the Color Me Rad race in Leeds
- **Richard, Craig, Yarek and Facundo** decided on a whim to walk from London to Brighton
- **David Leigh** organised a street collection in Harpenden and St Albans
- **Paul O'Brien** cycled from London to Brighton
- **Alexandra Hejazi** and a group of friends raised nearly £1,000 doing the Richmond Park half marathon
- **Liz Davidson** hosted a fundraising pub quiz in Glasgow
- **Justice for Palestinians, West Midlands**, hosted a fundraising dinner with live music



DIARY DATES

■ SCOTTISH HALF MARATHON 6th September 2014

We have places in this flat race along the East Lothian coast line. For more information please go to www.map.org.uk or email info@map.org.uk

■ LONDON TO WINDSOR BIKE RIDE Sunday 7th September 2014

Join Team MAP on this exciting bike ride. Starting on Richmond Green you will be cycling all the way to Windsor. You will be spending the day following the meandering Thames and going through Thames Valley villages on your way to Windsor. There are three different length routes you can pick – 29 miles, 37 miles or 55 miles. The route is marshalled and there are refreshment, mechanic and first aid stops all the way along. Please do join the ride and raise some money to support Palestinians. For further details visit: www.map.org.uk or email info@map.org.uk

■ BOURNEMOUTH 5KM, 10KM, HALF MARATHON AND MARATHON Weekend of 4th & 5th October 2014

We have places in these coastal running races in Bournemouth and surrounding area. For more information please go to www.map.org.uk or email info@map.org.uk

■ KILOMATHON SCOTLAND 29th March 2015

This running race is in Edinburgh taking in the city's cycle path network and finishing in Murrayfield stadium. There are two different distances: 13.1k and 6.55k. For further details visit www.map.org.uk or email info@map.org.uk

■ EDINBURGH 10KM AND 5KM Weekend of 30th and 31st May 2015

We have places in these races in Scotland's capital. The course is relatively flat so really great for anyone wanting to improve their personal best or wanting to try out their first running race. For more information please go to www.map.org.uk or email info@map.org.uk

■ CYCLE RIDE IN THE WEST BANK

Support MAP by taking on the West Bank cycle challenge in October 2015. For more information contact info@map.org.uk



GAZA APPEAL

Gaza's hospitals are short of medicines and medical equipment.

MAP can get the aid in and help the people of Gaza rebuild their lives. You can be part of this emergency response.

Please donate today and help the people of Gaza to recover.

Donate now

Online: www.map.org.uk

Mobile: Text 70070 with "GAZA10 £10" This will donate £10 and will be added to your phone bill. *

Phone: 020 7226 4114

Post: Send a cheque to, Medical Aid for Palestinians, 33a Islington Park Street, Freepost ND6445, London, N1 1BR

*Can only be done on UK mobile phones.



YOUR DONATION

£25 could help pay for hygiene kits containing soap, bandages and antiseptic cream for people who have been forced to flee from their bombed homes

£50 could help buy emergency medical supplies such as antibiotics, anaesthetics, surgical gauze and gloves

£100 could help pay for specialist lifesaving treatments, such as treating a child with severe burns caused by high explosive weapons

£2,945 runs our whole malnutrition project in Gaza for a month, allowing children whose families can't afford to feed them a balanced diet to get better

MAP NEWS

■ MAP GETS THE AID IN

MAP responded within hours of the escalation by releasing prepositioned emergency medical supplies to the hospitals. There is more detail on how MAP helped lead the response inside.

■ THANK YOU

The response from MAP supporters in July to the conflict in Gaza was incredible. In the first 3 weeks we raised £1 million in donations. Because of your rapid response MAP was able to get more medical supplies delivered during this time than any other organisation. You provided a vital lifeline to the people of Gaza when the most needed it. Thank you.

■ MAP AT THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

In May, MAP went to the 67th World Health Assembly, in Geneva and participated in a panel discussion about the health crisis facing 5 million Palestinian refugees in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. The event was organised by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), with the help of the World Health Organisation (WHO), and was chaired by Richard Horton, editor-in-chief of the Lancet.

■ CAMPAIGNING FOR PEACE

Right from the start of the conflict in Gaza, MAP has been working for the people of Gaza including for an end to the blockade. We have been campaigning for a ceasefire and a longer term solution. We have joined a briefing in Parliament and have met with the Foreign Office. We have also collected signatures from the public and notable figures for an open letter to David Cameron. The letter has been signed by Lord Patten, Primal Scream, Roger Waters, Julia Sawalha, Michael Mansfield QC, Mark Thomas, Lord Steel, Caryl Churchill, Ricky Tomlinson, Brian Eno, Glenda Jackson MP, Ken Loach and John McCarthy, just to mention a few. You can add your name at www.map.org.uk

■ NEW STATESMAN ROUNDTABLE

In April, the nine-month deadline of US-sponsored peace talks between Israel and the Palestinian Authority passed, without progress being made. Whether this diplomatic failing indicates the end of a viable two-state solution to the conflict was the subject of a New Statesman roundtable discussion, in partnership with MAP. Participants included Jack Straw, Richard Burden, Ghada Karmi, Ilan Pappé and Tony Laurant. It took place shortly after the deadline had passed. The New Statesman published a supplement summarising the discussion in June, which can be downloaded from our website: www.map-uk.org

■ NEW MAP STAFF

James Denselow was recently appointed as our new Director of Advocacy and Communications. James rejoins MAP from Crisis Action where he was Media and Campaigns Co-ordinator for the past two years. He previously worked as MAP's Media Officer. James has worked extensively across the Middle East, including for Chatham House, the United Nations and King's College London. He has written for the Guardian, the Huffington Post and the New Statesman and has appeared regularly on all forms of international media discussing events in the region.

■ MAP GIVES EVIDENCE

MAP was invited to give oral evidence to the International Development Committee Inquiry into the UK's development work in the Middle East, with particular reference to the delivery of essential health services in occupied Palestine. MAP's key message was that UK aid should be accompanied by more effective action to address the economic and political barriers to development. Visit our website to view the evidence MAP gave: www.map-uk.org

DIARY DATES

■ MAP AT THE LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE NEW STATESMAN

Date: TBC September 2014

Venue: Jury's Inn Manchester, 56 Great Bridgewater Street, Manchester

Panel discussion: 'Failed Diplomacy: Is it time to reframe the debate on Israel-Palestine?'

■ MAP AT THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONFERENCE IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE NEW STATESMAN

Date: TBC September 2014

Venue: Jury's Inn Birmingham, 245 Broad Street, Birmingham

Panel discussion: 'Failed Diplomacy: Is it time to reframe the debate on Israel-Palestine?'

■ RIPON CATHEDRAL

Come and sing Handel's Messiah with orchestra. Saturday 18th October 2014

Singers pay £14, arrive 12.30pm for rehearsal. Concert begins at 7pm, tickets £12.

To book your place and help promote this event please contact Sue Cooke by email: sue@j-cooke.net. You can donate today at www.justgiving.com/sue-cooke3

■ MAP'S GALA DINNER

Palestinian-American comedian, Maysoon Zayid joined us for an exclusive and rare UK performance together with the contemporary band Karama at our Gala Dinner. The event, which was hosted by our President, Baroness Morris of Bolton, brought together MAP friends from the past and present to celebrate a vibrant Palestinian culture that has survived decades of oppression and to raise funds for MAP's projects serving Palestinians living under occupation and as refugees.



American Palestinian comedian Maysoon Zayid performs at MAP's Gala Dinner

Donate online at

www.map.org.uk

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020 7226 4114



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