

# Palestinians: Past, Present & Future

## Speaker Bios

November 2018

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### **Ibtesam Al Atiyat**

#### *The Palestinian Nakba : A Story and Reflections on the Right to Return*



**Ibtesam Al-Atiyat** is a professor of sociology at St. Olaf College. Ibtesam is a native of Jordan, and has received her BA and MA degrees in Sociology from the University of Jordan. Her PhD was received from the Freie Universitaet Berlin Germany. At St. Olaf since 2010, she teaches *The Arab World, Introduction to Sociology, Sociological Theory* and *Global Interdependence*.

In her presentation she retells the story of her family fleeing the village of Zir'in near Jenin in Palestine in 1948. The story of her family is one among many that represent the Palestinian Nakba. While telling their story, she reflects on the different resolutions offered to end the conflict. She asks what does it really mean, and what does it really take to liberate the Palestinian and free Palestine?

### **Jonathan Kuttab**

#### *Human Rights, International Law and the Question of Apartheid*



**Jonathan Kuttab**, leading human rights lawyer in Israel and Palestine, is a recognized authority on international, human rights and Palestinian and Israeli affairs.. He was born in West Jerusalem, but after the Six Day War, his family moved to the United States. After practicing with a Wall Street law firm for several years, he returned home to co-found the Palestinian Center for the Study of Nonviolence, Al-Haq (lawyers and others who assist with human rights issues), and the Mandela Institute for Political Prisoners. Jonathan was the Head of the Legal Committee that negotiated the Cairo Agreement in 1994 for the Oslo II Accord. He has been active in peace and justice issues for many years. He is licensed to practice law in Palestine, Israel, and New York

He will address the present Palestinian reality of apartheid. He will examine how Israel's imposition of two different legal systems -- a civilian system for Israelis and a military system for Palestinians -- as well as other privileges for Israelis in the West Bank meet the international definition of apartheid.

### **Dalit Baum**

#### *Boycott-Divest-Sanction: The Promise and the Challenge of the BDS Movement*



**Dalit Baum**, PhD., is the director of Economic Activism for the American Friends Service Committee. She is a BDS activist and a feminist teacher – teaching about militarism and about the global economy from a feminist perspective. As an Israeli activist, she co-founded Who Profits from the Occupation research center ([www.whoprofits.org](http://www.whoprofits.org)) and the Coalition of Women for Peace ([www.coalitionofwomen.org](http://www.coalitionofwomen.org)), Israeli ngos.

In her presentation she will ask / answer: How can people of conscience around the world take on the large corporations that maintain the occupation and repression of Palestine... and win? What are the challenges and limitations of outside pressure? What is the role of Israelis in a Palestinian movement? How does BDS intersect with other social justice movements? Can BDS liberate Palestine?