

North Wales-wide peaceful demo calling for ceasefire in Palestine to take place

North Wales Pioneer

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Byline: Suzanne Kendrick

Body

RESIDENTS from across North Wales are being invited to take part in a large-scale demo calling for peace in Palestine.

This will take place in Rhyl on April 13.

Over the past five months, groups from Caernarfon to Llangollen have been protesting for a ceasefire in Palestine, urging leaders to represent their views within councils, the Senedd, and Parliament.

Catherine Platt, Chair of Prestatyn-s Voices for Peace, said: -All across North Wales, we have seen small groups springing-up and bringing communities together to raise awareness of the situation in Palestine.

"These groups have led peaceful marches and demos, in order to campaign for a ceasefire and to end this terrible conflict.

-Now these groups are coming together for a North Wales-wide demo, to raise awareness and a united voice for peace.

-We welcome all residents to join our march, regardless of age, ethnicity, religion and political beliefs."

The event will begin at Rhyl Station at 11.15am. The procession kicks-off at 11.30am, where members of the public will walk along Rhyl High Street, before heading to the Rhyl Events Arena on the Promenade to listen to a number of guest speakers.

Anna Jane Evans, of the Planning Group for the Caernarfon vigil, said: -The conditions in Palestine are ever worsening, with citizens now facing starvation as well as direct threat of attack. We call for a permanent and lasting ceasefire, as well as the immediate release of the hostages held in Gaza and all those held under administrative detention in Israeli prisons."

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Libby Nolan, Co- Chair of Stop the War Cymru, said: -The death and destruction continues unabated in Gaza and we must redouble our efforts for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, an end to the occupation and for a lasting peace.

MORE NEWS: Gaza war: 150 join march in Prestatyn calling for ceasefire

-The huge global protests against the slaughter in Gaza are having an impact on public opinion and political action. The United Nations' security council vote for a ceasefire must now be enforced and aid must be given safe passage to reach the starving people of Gaza.-

Paul Penlington, a former Prestatyn councillor, said: -The Israeli government's genocidal actions have caused mass deaths and casualties, and now millions face famine. Babies in Palestine no longer cry tears, as they are dying from dehydration. Despite this, the UK persists in supplying arms to Israel and ignoring war crimes.

-A recent letter signed by a handful of MPs and Lords calling on the government to cease arms sales was ignored by the cabinet and shadow cabinet. The UK government's refusal to act makes them complicit in the genocide. It's way beyond time for decisive action to halt this catastrophe.-

For more information, visit search Prestatyn's Voices for Peace on Facebook.

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Pope Francis urges politicians to negotiate peace in Ukraine, Israel, Palestine

CE Noticias Financieras English

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Body

In a message of hope and support, Pope Francis called on politicians to stop and negotiate for peace in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine. During his address from the window of the Apostolic Palace, the pontiff expressed his solidarity with those who work tirelessly to reduce war tensions in these regions.

Pope Francis asked all the faithful not to stop praying for a just and lasting peace. In particular, he mentioned Ukraine, Palestine and Israel as places that urgently need divine intervention to achieve stability and harmony. From St. Peter's Square, the Pope conveyed his wish that God enlighten and support those who strive to ease tensions and promote dialogue.

The importance of negotiation

The leader of the Catholic Church urged political leaders to pause and devote time to negotiation. Recognizing that peace is not achieved overnight, Pope Francis called on the ability of leaders to seek peaceful solutions and reach agreements that benefit all parties involved.

A message of hope

In the midst of a global landscape marked by violence and conflict, Pope Francis offered a message of hope and encouragement. His call for peace and negotiation is a reminder that there is always room for dialogue and reconciliation, even in the most difficult of times.

Source: EFE

The post Pope Francis urges politicians to negotiate peace in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine first appeared on Periódico La Patria.

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Pro-Palestinian demonstration draws thousands; Marchers jam downtown streets for peaceful protest

Pro-Palestinian demonstration draws thousands; Marchers jam downtown streets for peaceful protest

The Toronto Star

April 7, 2024 Sunday

ONT Edition

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Byline: Joshua Chong and Reanna Julien Toronto Star With files Abhiraj Lamba

Body

A pro-Palestinian rally in downtown Toronto on Saturday afternoon drew thousands of demonstrators and led to one arrest, and comes after a week of heightened tensions between demonstrators and police.

Toronto police confirmed one person was arrested at about 4:15 p.m. for breach of peace and was unconditionally released. Video on X appears to show the person was a counterprotester who was part of a small group that appeared to confront pro-Palestinian demonstrators, as observed by the Star.

The roughly half-dozen counterprotesters arrived less than an hour into the rally, which began at 3 p.m., and inserted themselves into the crowd before being pulled out by police officers on bikes.

The rally, which began outside the U.S. Consulate General on University Avenue, south of Dundas Street, drew an estimated 2,500 demonstrators, according to figures provided to the Star by Toronto police.

Just after 4 p.m., the northbound stretch of University Avenue, north of Queen Street, was closed to traffic.

Shortly afterward, the demonstrators began marching north on University Avenue, then east on Dundas Street and north again on Bay Street, shutting down traffic in both directions. The crowd, holding signs and waving flags, spanned several city blocks.

The crowd stopped in front of Toronto police headquarters, at Bay and College streets, where smoke bombs were released amid chants and speeches about the significance of Al-Quds Day, which fell on Friday, and is an annual event held on the last Friday of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

The day is typically marked by global rallies in solidarity with the Palestinian people, and in opposition to the state of Israel and its occupation of Palestinian territories. Critics, however, have argued that Al-Quds Day is antisemitic and supports violence toward Israel.

During the protest, leaders recited chants calling for a "free Palestine" and in support of "the armed resistance."

Pro-Palestinian demonstration draws thousands; Marchers jam downtown streets for peaceful protest

"When people are occupied, resistance is justified," they shouted.

The rally returned to outside the U.S. Consulate General and ended at about 7 p.m. after several speeches, roughly four hours after it began.

Ahead of the demonstration, Ontario MPP and Solicitor General Michael Kerzner issued a statement on X condemning Al-Quds Day.

"Engagements in demonstrations that glorify terrorist groups, acts of hatred or calls for the destruction of a nation or ethnic group will be examined to the fullest extent of the law," he wrote.

"Under the leadership of Premier Ford, and as Solicitor General, keeping the people of Ontario safe is my top priority."

The rally follows a similar event last weekend, which resulted in several arrests after violent clashes between demonstrators and police officers.

Videos circulating online after the event appeared to show tense and at times chaotic scenes.

Police later said that "demonstrators became aggressive and assaultive towards officers," alleging that one attendee threw horse manure at officials, while another allegedly used a flagpole to "spear" at an officer.

Some demonstrators, meanwhile, accused law enforcement of using excessive force.

Police Chief Myron Demkiw said in a statement Friday that officers "will continue to protect the rights of all Torontonians," and asked that protesters work with police "to ensure peaceful and orderly gatherings."

"It must be understood that when individual behaviour crosses into criminality, endangering officers or the public, we will enforce the law, as is our duty," he said.

With files by Abhiraj Lamba

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Citizens hold a rally of support of Gaza and Palestine in Sarajevo

Federalna Novinska Agencija (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

April 7, 2024 Sunday

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Length: 438 words

Body

The resistance in Gaza is legitimate. The powers helping Netanyahu in his personal war are the US administration and international allies. It is his personal war. The White House and the European Union will be responsible. They are partners in crime that is happening against the Palestinian people, said Majed Maarouf, president of the Association of Palestinian Community in Bosnia and Herzegovina, today at the protest held in support of Palestine and Gaza.

He said that there are double standards towards Palestine. Thus, while arms are being sent to Israel for Netanyahu's regime in Tel Aviv, the entry of food and medicine to the Palestinians is prohibited.

Maarouf pointed out that despite everything, the Palestinian people have shown that they can survive and have survived.

"We will defend ourselves. We will not leave the entire territory. Our hand is extended for peace. We believe that there are people among the Israeli people who are for peace," said Maarouf.

Ambassador of Palestine in Bosnia and Herzegovina Rezek Namoorah pointed out that the protests in Sarajevo are significant for the Palestinians.

"Sarajevo is the sister city of Jerusalem and practically the Jerusalem of Europe. The protests of our brothers in BiH in general mean a lot to us," Ambassador Namoorah said.

He pointed out that it is important that in a situation where the people of Palestine are exposed to genocide and forced expulsion, to raise their voice and to hear the voice of support.

The organizer of the protest, on behalf of an informal group of citizens, Emir Cosovic said that today's gathering aims to condemn not only the occupation of Palestine but also genocide.

The President of the Bosnia and Herzegovina-Palestinian Friendship Association, Avdo Hebib, pointed out that the crimes that are happening today against the innocent Palestinian people have not been recorded in the history of the world.

A doctor from Gaza also testified about the situation in Gaza, who said that there are no conditions for treatment there, how wounded people arrive every day and that medical workers cannot take care of them adequately.

He said that every form of life is being killed in Gaza and that only one of the 36 hospitals remained operating. He also said that there are no more schools or universities, that everything has been demolished.

Citizens hold a rally of support of Gaza and Palestine in Sarajevo

The aim of the protest, as emphasized by the participants of the meeting, was to raise awareness of the injustice and violence to which Palestinians and residents of Gaza are exposed, to demand respect for their basic rights to a peaceful life, freedom and justice, and to convey that Gaza is not alone.

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