

Pro-Palestine protest calls for peace

Terrace Standard

February 22, 2024

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Byline: Prabhnoor Kaur

Body

A group of pro-Palestine protesters gathered outside the Terrace City Hall at noon today (Feb. 13, 2024) as a sign of solidarity in holding signs reading 'Free Free Palestine' and 'No to Genocide' while demanding an end to the ongoing conflict in Gaza.

"I'm disturbed by what is going on. I just couldn't sit at home and not do anything, so here we are, standing up for humanity," said one participant. She held a sign declaring 'I stand for humanity.'

The protesters called for the Canadian government to stop sending arms to Israel and to provide food and medical supplies to Gaza Strip residents.

Another participant, Brenda Wesley, questioned Canada's position, saying "I'd like to know why Canada continues to send arms to Israel. They say they want peace in Gaza. You can't say one thing and do another. Almost 30,000 children have been killed, it has to stop."

Another participant, who described himself as a Palestinian Jew, said Israel's intentions of clearing the Gaza Strip area were clear four months ago "whether by murdering them or simply pushing them into Egypt."

Even if Egypt was to reverse its stand and accept Palestinian refugees, he said they actually deserve a right to return to their homeland.

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Cricket fans enraged after PSL 'bars' pro-Palestine banners at stadiums

Dawn (Pakistan)

February 22, 2024 Thursday

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Body

The Pakistan Super League (PSL) has been getting a lot of flak online after news broke that pro-**Palestine** banners have allegedly been banned in stadiums during matches. That, coupled with concerns about the league's sponsors being on anti-**Palestine** lists, has riled people up and led to calls for a boycott.

Social media users have been sharing pictures of brand logos on players' jerseys as well as on signboards at stadiums, urging fellow netizens to steer clear of supporting the event and in turn, companies that may be on the BDS list or linked to a company that is.

Most recently, the event came under fire for allegedly disallowing pro-**Palestine** banners into the stadium. After an attendee revealed on X that she was barred from carrying one into the Gaddafi Stadium on Monday night - during the match between the Lahore Qalandars and Quetta Gladiators - many on the micro-blogging site lambasted both the PCB and PSL.

'They acted like I'm carrying a weapon with me,' Faryal wrote on X. The attendee revealed that she was in possession of a banner declaring, '**Palestine** Will Be Free'. In a conversation with Dawn a day later, Faryal held that the guards were clear about it not being 'allowed' inside.

'This is a political message, it is controversial and may hurt some people. If you want to go inside, you've to leave it here,' they said, as per Faryal. How the guards behaved, Faryal said, 'scared my younger siblings who were accompanying me and I chose not to argue'.

While the guards may have been abiding by one of the terms and conditions printed on the PSL tickets - 'Posters, banners, or placards, depicting religious, political, or racial discrimination in the form of text or pictures are strictly prohibited' - whether the statement on Faryal's banner was 'discriminatory' to any religion, country or race is debatable.

Moreover, it wasn't the discrimination that the guards pointed towards rather, the 'controversy' it would create - a sentiment eerily similar to the half-baked justification provided across the world to silence those speaking against the oppression of Palestinian people at the hands of Israel.

Cricket fans enraged after PSL 'bars' pro- Palestine banners at stadiums

Images hasn't been able to verify whether the condition has always been a part of the PSL events conducted over the years or whether it was recently introduced or rephrased so as to prevent attendees from making 'political statements'. The PCB did not respond to Dawn's earlier request for a comment.

Writer Fatima Bhutto was one of many people calling out the PSL on X. 'If you are not a free space where fans can show their love and solidarity for a people under brutal assault, why should anyone sit in your stands and pay for your tickets and take pictures in your t-shirts and give you their attention, time and money?' she asked.

'Pro-Palestine banners and posters barred at PSL matches, Islamic Republic of Pakistan for you all!!' mocked a user. 'This is from Purdue. Yet, you can not raise your voice in Pakistan (a Muslim country, or is it?)' asked another.

Another user shared a video of Turkish footballers brandishing pro-Palestine banners at weekend match. 'This is unfortunate. This shows how serious we are towards the sufferings of innocent Palestinians. PCB really disappointed me. They should have learned something from Turkiye.'

Several others called for a boycott of the PSL.

This doesn't bode well for the rest of the season.

Load-Date: February 23, 2024

End of Document

OIC info. ministers urge world to recognize Palestine state

Arab News Digest

February 25, 2024 Sunday

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Length: 362 words

Body

25 Feb 2024 (Kuwait News Agency (KUNA)) Information Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) have called on all world countries to recognize the State of **Palestine** and to halt the devastating Israeli occupation war on Gaza.

The ministers made the call in a final communique adopted at the end of the Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held in Istanbul in Turkiye on 24 February.

They reiterated support for the Palestinian people's legitimate struggle to liberate their occupied territory and to fulfill all their inalienable rights, especially their right to self-determination and to live in their independent state, along the borders of June 4, 1967, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif (Jerusalem) as its capital.

They emphasized that resolving the **Palestine** Question on the basis of the two-state solution is the only way for durable, comprehensive, and lasting peace and security in the region, according to the document.

The OIC information ministers also condemned and warned against the disinformation campaigns run by the occupying Israeli authorities to legitimize the occupation and justify the barbaric mass atrocities and war crimes in the Gaza Strip.

They, further, held the Israeli occupation responsible for the killings, arrest, and censorship of journalists as well as the murder and targeting their family members, recalling that Israel's intentional attacks on journalists have killed over 120, with numerous others sustaining injuries or disappeared.

Kuwaiti Minister of Information and Culture Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi attended the gathering, held Under the theme: "The Israeli Occupying Authority's Disinformation and Hostilities against Journalists and Media Outlets in the Occupied Palestinian Territory" The Kuwaiti minister addressed the meeting by restating his country's unwavering and relentless support for all Islamic issues, chiefly the Palestinian cause.

He pointed out the firm role of the Kuwaiti leadership, government and people in throwing much weight behind all regional and international efforts to highlight and support the Palestinian issue in political, media and humanitarian domains. (end) ta.mt

Load-Date: February 26, 2024

Security Council meeting today on Palestine

Arab News Digest

February 22, 2024 Thursday

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Length: 230 words

Body

22 Feb 2024 (Maan News Agency) Bethlehem - Together - Today, Thursday, the United Nations Security Council will hold its monthly session on the situation in the Middle East, especially the Palestinian issue, followed by a consultation session.

Members are scheduled to listen to a briefing from the General Secretariat on the latest developments in Gaza and the West Bank, including occupied Jerusalem.

On Tuesday, the UN Security Council failed to adopt a draft resolution calling for an end to the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip, after the United States used its veto.

Thirteen countries voted in favor of the draft resolution submitted by Algeria on behalf of the Arab Group, while the United Kingdom abstained from voting, and the United States used its 'veto' to thwart the resolution.

The draft resolution rejects the forced displacement of the Palestinian civilian population, calls for adherence to international law, and renews its call for full, rapid, safe and unhindered access of humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip and all its parts and for the provision of sufficient humanitarian aid urgently, continuously and in the appropriate size to Palestinian civilians.

The project reaffirms its firm commitment to the vision of a two-state solution under which the democratic states of Israel and **Palestine** live side by side in peace and within secure and recognized borders.

Load-Date: February 24, 2024