

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

There's been much reference made to the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms over the last few years on social media and general conversation. Therefore, a look into the actual documents may help inform us and clarify what is actually in these vital treaties that guide us as Canadians and World Citizens. The official condensed version of The UN Declaration is copied here from the official United Nations website at this address: https://www.un.org/en/

The November issue will feature the White Poppy campaign and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The <u>Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)</u> is a milestone document in the history of human rights. Drafted by representatives with different legal and cultural backgrounds from all regions of the world, the Declaration was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris on 10 December 1948 (<u>General Assembly resolution 217 A</u>) as a common standard of achievements for all peoples and all nations. It sets out, for the first time, fundamental human rights to be universally protected and it has been <u>translated into over 500 languages</u>. The UDHR is widely recognized as having inspired, and paved the way for, the adoption of more than seventy human rights treaties, applied today on a permanent basis at global and regional levels (all containing references to it in their preambles).

Preamble

Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.

Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people,

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Whereas it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law,

Whereas it is essential to promote the development of friendly relations between nations,

Whereas the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Whereas Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in co-operation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Whereas a common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of the greatest importance for the full realization of this pledge,

Now, therefore,

The General Assembly, Proclaims this Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction.

Article 1: All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Article 2: Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.

Article 3: Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person

Article 4; No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms. (Continued page 2)

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Article 5: No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 6: Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

Article 7; All is equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

Article 8: Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law

Article 9: No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 10: Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.

Article 11

- 1. Everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which he has had all the guarantees necessary for his defence.
- 2. No one shall be held guilty of any penal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a penal offence, under national or international law, at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the penal offence was committed.

Article 12: No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, or to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Article 13:

- **1.** Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state.
- 2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 14:

- 1. Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.
- 2. This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Article 15:

- 1. Everyone has the right to a nationality.
- No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality.

Article 16:

1. Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and a family. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.

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- 2. Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses.
- **3.** The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State. **Article 17**:
- 1. Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others.
- 2. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property.

Article 18: Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

Article 19: Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 20:

- **1.** Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.
- **2.** No one may be compelled to belong to an association.

Article 21

- **1.** Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives. Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country.
- **2.** The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.
- **Article 22:** Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.

Article 23;

- . 1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.
- **2.** Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.
- **3.** Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection.
- **4.** Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.
- **Article 24:** Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.

Article 25;

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care

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Our Mission

The Boundary Peace Initiative represents people of diverse backgrounds officially brought together in 2002 because of our mutual concern for the rise in world conflict. Our mandate is to participate in multilateral non-violent conflict resolution in support of global human rights, ecological and environmental sustainability and international law through education, sharing of information, dialogue and activism locally and globally. We encourage and seek your participation in our mutual work for true peace based on social justice, equality, accountability, integrity, honour, respect, etc in order to build a better world today and future generations.

BPI web site: www.boundarypeaceinitiative.org For info contact Laura at (250) 444-0524 or (250) 442-0434 or email L4peace@telus.net.

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and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

2. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Article 26:

- 1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.
- 2. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.
 - **3.** Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

Article 27: Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.

Article 28: Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this **Article 29:**

- 1. Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible.
- 2. In the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society.
- **3.** These rights and freedoms may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Article 30: Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein.







With Your Support, Ambulances on their way to Gaza! #VotePalestine

The Canadian Boat to Gaza would like to express its appreciation for the generous contributions of our supporters! With the help of people like you, we were able to contribute 10,000 US dollars, our commitment towards the purchase of one of these much needed new ambulances for Gaza. *{Ed.*}

Note: The BPI donated towards this worthy cause}

Through this collaboration with Miles of Smiles and our Freedom Flotilla partners, 25 ambulances are being outfitted and prepared for travel to Gaza from Egypt, with 10 more ambulances to follow soon from Jordan. (Please visit here in order to view Miles of Smiles in its original Arabic). Watch and share this video of Miles of Smiles organizer Dr Essam Mustafa showing the preparation of the ambulances.

Visit this post from one of our Freedom Flotilla partners to find out more about the recent arrival of truckloads with vital medical aid for Gaza. As you will see there, these efforts were made possible by people and organizations from 15 countries. Thank you once again for your support in making the Canadian Boat to Gaza campaign part of this effort!

in solidarity
The CBG Team

Those of you in Canada: our campaign endorses the #VotePalestine initiative, to make Palestinian human rights an election issue. Please visit https://votepalestine.ca/ to learn more and share these messages widely.

Please continue to help us spread the word about our campaigns:

Twitter: @CanadaBoatGaza @GazaFFlotilla www.facebook.com/CanadaBoatGaza www.facebook.com/BateauCanadienGaza

www.facebook.com/FreedomFlotillaCoalition

Together, we can help end the blockade! Canadian Boat to Gaza: www.canadaboatgaza.org email: canadaboatgaza@gmail.com

Bateau canadien pour GAZA: www.canadaboatgaza.org courriel: canadaboatgaza@gmail.com

There's a world of difference between truth and facts. Facts can obscure the truth.

Maya Angelou

A riot is the language of the unheard.

Martin Luther King Jr.

WHAT'S UP?

October Designated UN Days: October 2nd: International Day of Non-Violence

October 11th: International Day of the Girl Child

October 18th: International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

October 24th to 31st: International Disarmament Week.

In Canada:

September 30th: Canadian Day for Truth and Reconciliation. What did you do? How should we honour this day next year and every day until then?

October: Women's History Month.

Never idealize others. They will never live up to your expectations. Don't over-analyze your relationships. Stop playing games. A growing relationship can only be nurtured by genuineness."

Leo F. Buscaglia

Voice your opinion to the Prime Minister and all MPs. Free postage: {Name of MP}, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6 Go to the Government of Canada website for MP contact information at http://www.canada.gc.ca

The BPI welcomes your input. Articles may not be common consensus of members. To submit articles contact Laura at 250-444-0524 or 250-442-0434 or email L4peace@telus.net.

The BPI is an affiliate of Fellowship of Reconciliation, Peace Pledge Union, Stop Ecocide Canada, Abolition 2000 & CNANW and works with local and global peace, social justice and environmental groups.

Boundary Peace Initiative Newsletter—Page 4

Canadians support Palestinians' determination to pursue justice and full rights in their

By Khaled Mouammar From: One Democratic State May 22, 2021 Unparalleled public outcry in major cities across the globe forced the U.S. government, Israel's main backer, to order Israel to end its 11 days bloody assault against the indigenous Palestinian people which started in Jerusalem, then spread to the West Bank and Israel proper, and then on to the Gaza Strip.

The thousands of deaths, injuries and arrests, and the ethnic cleansing and destruction inflicted is the latest in an on-going aggressive 73-year settler-colonization project by Israel against the indigenous Palestinian people in historic Palestine.

For too long the headlines and news bulletins have misled and confused the public about what is transpiring in historic Palestine, hence, settler-colonialism becomes a "conflict," on-going ethnic cleansing becomes "evictions," attacks by police and armed colonists on civilians becomes a "clash."

Such an ambiguous narrative erases the difference between occupiers and occupied, and ignores a campaign of violence and persecution waged by a military goliath, that possesses nuclear weapons and whose army is more powerful than Canada's military, against a fragmented and overwhelmingly defenseless Palestinian people who have no state, no army, no air force, no navy, and an almost non-existent civilian infrastructure.

It was thus left up to social media to slowly awaken the world to Israel's crimes against the Palestinian people, thus resulting in the huge outpouring of support for the indigenous Palestinian people.

As ever the truth will come out, and when it does it is hard to argue against it. Israel's Basic Law affirms supremacy of Jews by stipulating that the State of Israel is the nation-state of only Jewish people; that only Jewish people have the right to selfdetermination; that the state shall be open only for Jewish immigration; and the state shall promote and strengthen only Jewish communities.

I, like 6 million Palestinian refugees, have been denied for 73 years the right to return to my hometown Nazareth in historic Palestine because I am a Christian, while any Jew, or convert to Judaism, may move there and obtain citizenship.

B'Tselem's, a leading Israeli human rights organization, published a report in January 2021 calling Israel an "apartheid regime of Jewish supremacy from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea."

Then along came the compelling report in April 2021 by Human Rights Watch (HRW), a prominent mainstream human rights group based in New York, calling Israel a regime of "Jewish domination" guilty of committing the "crimes against humanity of apartheid and persecution".

HRW also called on the Trudeau government to take action against "crimes against humanity" committed by the Israeli government, which it labelled an "apartheid" state.

It should be pointed out that successive Canadian governments and journalists routinely rely on and cite HRW in speeches, tweets, press releases, news stories and columns to assail the human rights violations of China, Russia and other international offenders.

Ironically, the HRW report has elicited no response from the Canadian government so far or caused a noticeable change of its stand towards apartheid Israel. The Trudeau government continues to refer to Israel as an ally and justifies its "right to defend itself" while Israel is "committing the crimes against humanity of apartheid and persecution" and violates both Canadian law and international law.

For 73 years Canada has funded, enabled and defended, both domestically and internationally, Israel's crimes against the Palestinian people.

From now on Israel's crimes against the Palestinian people have been exposed by HRW and cannot be washed away, and Canadians must therefore ensure that they are not repeated.

The indigenous people of Palestine, both the 7 million in historic Palestine and the 6 million refugees in the diaspora, are more united and determined than ever in their quest for nothing less than freedom, justice and full rights in their homeland.

Canada must come to the aid of the long-suffering Palestinian people by ending its complicity in aiding and abetting Israel, and must heed the call from HRW to impose arms and trade sanctions against apartheid Israel and to support the International Criminal Court's on-going prosecutions against it.

By doing so the Trudeau government will help in dismantling apartheid Israel as the Conservative government of Brian Mulroney did, by imposing sanctions on apartheid South Africa in 1986 which contributed to the dismantling of its apartheid regime by 1994.