

The MAHG program stands with Palestinian victims of Israeli state violence in Gaza and across Israel-Palestine. The current violence marks an escalation of the structural discrimination and persecution against Palestinian citizens of Israel ([https://theconversation.com/protests-by-palestinian-citizens-in-israel-signal-growing-sense-of-a-common-struggle-160753?utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=bylinefacebookbutton&fbclid=IwAR0cA0KmV9sqyC4\\_68DROG3092QplYd3brz8VjQrbos5Hy0S\\_2buUcNzVqY](https://theconversation.com/protests-by-palestinian-citizens-in-israel-signal-growing-sense-of-a-common-struggle-160753?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=bylinefacebookbutton&fbclid=IwAR0cA0KmV9sqyC4_68DROG3092QplYd3brz8VjQrbos5Hy0S_2buUcNzVqY)) and Palestinians under Israeli military occupation and control in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza.

As a program involved in research, teaching, and community outreach on mass atrocities and state violence, we have posted statements recently on the systemic racism and anti-Black violence in the US and on the violence against Uyghurs in China. This statement on Israel-Palestine is no different. It is furthermore rooted in a deep concern that many people feel for that land.

The current violence against Palestinians began with the continued displacement of Palestinians in the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah by municipal and state authorities working together with Jewish settlers (<https://www.972mag.com/sheikh-jarrah-palestinian-youth/>); this cooperation is demonstrated by one of a number of examples of Jewish settlers talking explicitly about displacing Palestinians in Jerusalem: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TB0dtnQgPnA>).

The violence of Israeli security forces against Palestinian Muslim worshippers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque on 7 May added to an already very tense situation and escalated the violence across Israel-Palestine, including the Palestinian militant group Hamas firing rockets into Israel on 9 May, the Israeli army launching a deadly attack on Gaza, and violence erupting across the country. A very dangerous pattern of Israeli state violence within Israel has also emerged in the last few days, including organized attacks by Jewish settlers on Palestinians in Lod, Haifa, and other cities, aided at times by Jewish security forces ([https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/israel-palestine-armed-settlers-lod-mosque-attacked-night-curfew?fbclid=IwAR1uqv-Z57BHA1jfxU3jpCK7uxPrq2bIHWvyNcu5-dG0ae6ZCxr\\_6RvzFg](https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/israel-palestine-armed-settlers-lod-mosque-attacked-night-curfew?fbclid=IwAR1uqv-Z57BHA1jfxU3jpCK7uxPrq2bIHWvyNcu5-dG0ae6ZCxr_6RvzFg)). Additionally, dangerous statements by Israeli authorities against Palestinians (Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, for instance, told Jewish border police forces in Lod to operate without concern for investigations for their actions: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-calls-for-administrative-detentions-to-quell-arab-jewish-violence/>) only serve to intensify the violence further, as groups of armed Jewish militants, organized openly on social media, engage in attacks on those they believe to be Palestinian.

We thus join urgent calls around the world to stop and de-escalate the violence on all sides, provide international protection for Palestinians in Israel-Palestine, and support efforts to promote justice, accountability, and equality for all people in Israel-Palestine.