



MARCH FREEDOM RIDE

RESISTING ISRAEL'S ETHNIC CLEANSING CAMPAIGN IN AREA C

The people of the Jordan Valley and South Hebron Hills invite you to join them in their struggle against on-going theft of traditional land

Over a period of 13 days, students, artists and activists from across Palestine and abroad will join Palestinian farmers and shepherds at risk of forced expulsion from a homeland they have inhabited for generations. In particular the March Freedom Ride will include building and reconstruction work, protective presence activity, guided walks, home-stays, interactive workshops, educational talks and cultural events. Through Playback Theatre, residents of the Jordan Valley and South Hebron Hills will also share personal accounts about the realities of life and struggle under settler colonialism, military occupation and state-sanctioned apartheid

ITINERARY

17 March 2013

Orientation at The Freedom Theatre, Jenin Refugee camp

18 – 21 March 2013

Solidarity stay in the Jordan Valley. The stay will include **building and reconstruction work, tree planting, guided walks, discussion groups, Playback Theatre performances, live music, dabke** and other cultural events

22 March 2013

Walk for Water Justice in the Jordan Valley: The program will include a **day-long guided walk, community visits, interactive community theatre** and an **evening concert**

23 March 2013

Rest day

24 March 2013

Guided walk in Battir

25 – 28 March 2013

Solidarity stay in the South Hebron Hills. The stay will include building and **reconstruction work, protective presence activity, guided walks, discussion groups, Playback Theatre performances, live music, dabke** and other **cultural events**

29 March 2013

Solidarity Walk in South Hebron Hills

ORGANIZERS

The Freedom Theatre (www.thefreedomtheatre.org) in partnership with Jordan Valley Solidarity (www.jordanvalleysolidarity.org) and South Hebron Hills Popular Committee

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE JORDAN VALLEY AND SOUTH HEBRON HILLS

Under the Oslo II Accord of 1995, the West Bank was divided into 3 administrative regions know as Area A, B and C. Area C includes 61% of the West Bank and falls under complete Israeli civil and military control

International law prohibits land appropriation, resource exploitation and population transfer by an occupying power. However since the 1970's, Israel has confiscated the vast majority of Palestinian land in the Jordan Valley and South Hebron Hills (both of which are currently located in Area C.) In the Jordan Valley for example 50% of the land has been illegally taken for the exclusive use of 36 settlements and their agriculture. A further 45% of land has been taken for military bases, 'closed military zones', and so-called 'nature reserves.' In addition, life for Palestinian residents of the South Hebron Hills and Jordan Valley is characterized by home demolitions, confiscation of livestock, restricted access to farming land and daily harassment from settlers and the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF). Most communities lack basic services including schools, clinics, electricity, telephone lines, running-water, or a sewage system, and infrastructure built to meet these needs is frequently demolished under orders issued by the Israeli Civil Administration. Despite these egregious human rights violations, Palestinian communities in the Jordan Valley and South Hebron Hills have exerted their right to exist and survive on their traditional lands

FURTHER RESOURCES

The Last Shepherds of the Valley: <http://youtu.be/GHcFqNICoJM>
Jordan Valley Solidarity: <http://www.jordanvalleysolidarity.org/>
Al Mufaqarah R-Exist: <http://almufaqarah.wordpress.com/>

