THE ABCs OF OCCUPATION & RESISTANCE
BY RACHEL MATTSON
COPYLEFT R. MATTSON 2014 (SHARE AND GIVE CREDIT)
A: APARTHEID

An Afrikaans word meaning “the state of being apart,” used to name South Africa’s system of racial segregation (1948 - 1994). Now used to describe the system of legalized separations that makes Palestinians second-class citizens of Israel, barred from attending the same schools as, and subject to harsher laws than, their Jewish counterparts.
THIS ZINE IS AN ALPHABETIC INTERVENTION. LETTER BY LETTER, IT OFFERS A PRIMER IN THE LEGAL, MILITARY, & BUREAUCRATIC DETAILS OF THE ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE—AND THE RESISTANCE THAT PALESTINIANS AND THEIR ALLIES ARE WAGING AGAINST IT.

I DRAFTED IT AFTER TRAVELING ON THE LIBRARIANS AND ARCHIVISTS' DELEGATION TO PALESTINE IN THE SUMMER OF 2013. I REWORKED IT IN MARCH OF 2014 FOR INCLUSION IN OUR BOOKLYN PORTFOLIO. FOR MORE ABOUT THE DELEGATION AND THE NETWORK THAT IS EMERGING OUT OF IT FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @Librarians2Pal OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE, LIBRARIANSANDARCHIVISTSWITHPALESTINE.WORDPRESS.COM.

THANKS TO LEAH GILLIAM FOR HER DESIGN WORK, ASHLEY BROCKINGTON FOR EDITORIAL ADVICE, AND MOLLY FAIR FOR THE NUDGE.

THX ALSO TO ALL THE INCREDIBLE PALESTINIAN INFORMATION WORKERS AND ACTIVISTS THAT WE MET ON OUR DELEGATION.
A procedure that allows the military to hold prisoners indefinitely. As of 2012, there were 284 Palestinian administrative detainees, 18 of whom were Legislative Council members.

Yaffa Youth Movement

A youth-run organization in the historic Palestinian city of Yaffa. The group organizes against illegal Israeli settlements and for Palestinian self-determination. In recent years, Israel has targeted this group, attempting to prevent them from publicly commemorating the Nakba.

Ewash, The Emergency Water Sanitation/Hygiene Group

An international body that works to improve water access in the occupied territories. Although the West Bank sits on an abundant aquifer, Israeli authorities keep most of this water for use by Jewish citizens.

Zochrot

An Israeli organization that promotes Israeli Jewish society's accountability for the ongoing injustices of the Nakba, and support for the Palestinian right of return.
Today, Hebron. Couldn't possibly describe it. If I didn't already understand how deeply this place is an Apartheid state. Hebron would explain it fucking perfectly to me. We had a great and totally devastating walking tour. I barely held my shit together. There was a lot of crying and a lot of anger. Its really really really really devastating what is happening there--- the settlers are fucking out of control, they behave like animals. Its horrific and disgusting and heartbreaking. I am emotionally exhausted so really don't have the wherewithall to go into details. But I will, oh how I will.

Rachel Mattson
June 28, 2013

There are 176 villages inside Israel that do not officially exist. Approximately 90,000 Palestinians—mostly internal refugees—live in these “unrecognized villages,” which do not receive public services including water, sanitation, and electricity.

A French multinational whose Israeli subsidiary operates segregated buses in the occupied territories. Because it profits from the occupation, Veolia is being targeted by the We Divest BDS solidarity campaign.
**The Wall**

A physical barrier supposedly meant to divide Israel from the West Bank but which does more to restrict Palestinian movement and access to their land. Sometimes referred to as the “Apartheid Wall.”

**Friday Protests in the Town of Nabi Saleh**

Each Friday, residents of Nabi Saleh hold non-violent protests against illegal Jewish settlements. Although peaceful, these protests are met with violent military repression—featuring tear gas & steel-coated rubber bullets.

**Exile**

A persistent state of being for Palestinians. In 1948, 85% of the Palestinian population was forced from their homes. They fled to the West Bank, Gaza, Lebanon, Jordan, the US, & elsewhere. Today, the Palestinian refugee and displaced population is the largest in the world.

**G: Gaza**

A narrow strip of land home to over 1 million Palestinians, most of whom are refugees. Since the early 2000s, Israel has restricted movement to and from it. Gaza residents are barred from entering Israel; meanwhile, Arab citizens and residents of Israel are rarely permitted to enter Gaza.
Keys

Palestinians displaced by the establishment of Israel in 1948 often still possess their old house keys. These keys have come to symbolize the unjust displacement of the Palestinian people.

L: Lajee Center

A cultural center located in the Aida refugee camp in Bethlehem. The center trains young refugees to tell their stories through video, photography, and other media.

R: Right of Return

The promise that Palestinian refugees (who number over 7.2 million) have the right to return to their homes and lands of origin, and to the full restitution of all their confiscated and destroyed property, in accordance with international law.
S: Settlements

Since 1967, Israel has established over 100 illegal settlements in the West Bank.

These settlements violate international law & facilitate the Israeli appropriation of Palestinian natural resources (such as water & land).

T: Tamer Institute

We look at reading as a tool that the community can use in order to express their opinions about what is happening around them.

Ruba Tutta
Tamer Institute for Community Education
Ramallah

An educational organization, initially founded during the first intifada, that works to support reading, writing, and expression among Palestinian youth.

I: Intifada

An Arabic word meaning "shaking off," often used to describe two important moments of Palestinian rebellion - the so-called "first intifada" (1987-1993) & the "second intifada" (2000 to 2005).

J: Judaization

An Israeli land policy meant to reduce the number of Palestinians living in the occupied territories, and replace them with Jewish majorities.
Mahmoud Darwish (1941-2008)

Considered the Palestinian national poet, "Here on the slopes of hills, facing the dusk and the cannon of time/close to the gardens of broken shadows," he wrote in one poem, "We do what prisoners do.../We cultivate hope."

An Arabic word meaning "catastrophe," which Palestinians use to name the terror, violence, and displacement that accompanied the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948. In 2011, Israel passed a law forbidding public commemorations of this catastrophe.

The Oslo Accords

A set of agreements signed between Israel and the PLO in 1993. Politician George Habash noted that the accords "tilted decisively in favor of Israel," and historian Edward Said called them "more flawed and less favorable for the Palestinian people than many had first supposed." For more info, see: electronicintifada.net/content/breaking-oslos-unmagical-spell/5893

He also wrote: "Resisting means assuring oneself of the heart's health"
P: Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)

An organization created in 1964 with the purpose of creating an independent state of Palestine. It has enjoyed observer status at the UN since 1974, but was only recognized by Israel in 1993, after it overtly rejected "violence and terrorism" and recognized Israel's right to exist.

Q: Al Qaws

A Palestinian LGBTQ organization working toward the liberation of Palestine by opposing both gender & sexual norms and the Israeli occupation.