

One Book, Many Communities: *Things You May Find Hidden In My Ear*

The “One Book, Many Communities” project by Librarians and Archivists with Palestine aims to introduce readers to the richness of Palestinian literature, and create a broader awareness and understanding of Palestinian history and the struggle for self-determination.

Explore the media below for more about *Things You May Find Hidden In My Ear: Poems from Gaza* by Mosab Abu Toha, current events in Palestine, Gazan writers, and Palestinian poetry.

Mosab Abu Toha and the Edward Said Library

“Things You May Find Hidden in My Ear,” Poetry Foundation (2021)

Read and share the title poem of this poetry collection, courtesy of the Poetry Foundation.

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/poems/155510/things-you-may-find-hidden-in-my-ear>

“A Chat with Mosab Abu Toha,” Refaat Alareer (2022)

A video conversation between Mosab Abu Toha and the late Palestinian poet and professor Refaat Alareer, hosted on Dr. Alareer’s YouTube channel. <http://tinyurl.com/alareerchat>

“Mosab Abu Toha in conversation with Mary Karr,” City Lights Books (2022)

Hosted by the publisher of *Things You May Find Hidden in My Ear*, in this video Mosab Abu Toha speaks with fellow poet Mary Karr. <http://tinyurl.com/citylightsbooks>

“Founding the First English-Language Library in Gaza: Mosab Abu Toha on the Edward Said Public Library,” *Lit Hub* (2022)

Mosab Abu Toha writes about how the Israeli siege on Gaza blocks the importation of high-quality books and the founding of the Edward Said Library.

<https://lithub.com/founding-the-first-english-language-library-in-gaza/>

Gazan Voices

Gaza Unsilenced, edited by Refaat Alareer and Laila El-Haddad (2015)

An essay collection edited by the late poet Refaat Alareer (1979-2023) and author and activist Laila El-Haddad that features voices within and outside of Gaza in response to Israel’s 2014 assault. <https://justworldbooks.com/books-by-title/gaza-unsilenced/>



Light in Gaza: Writings Born of Fire, edited by Jihad Abusalim (2022)

This essay and poetry collection tasks Gazan writers with imagining the future of Gaza beyond occupation and apartheid. <https://www.haymarketbooks.org/books/1861-light-in-gaza>

“These are the poets and writers who have been killed in Gaza,” *Lit Hub* (2023).

Highlighting some of the poets and writers of Gaza who have been killed since October 7, 2023 in the form of short biographies.

<https://lithub.com/these-are-the-poets-and-writers-who-have-been-killed-in-gaza/>

Palestinian Poetry

The Butterfly's Burden by Mahmoud Darwish (2007)

This poetry collection contains three books by Palestine's national poet Mahmoud Darwish, presented side-by-side in Arabic with English translations.

<https://www.coppercanyonpress.org/books/the-butterflys-burden-by-mahmoud-darwish-tr-fady-joudah/>

Blood Orange by Mx. Yaffa (2023)

A displaced Queer, Trans Palestinian poet's perspective of dreaming a utopia amidst destruction and displacement. <https://www.shoppalestine.org/products/blood-orange>

Rifqa by Mohammed El-Kurd (2021)

Named for El-Kurd's grandmother, this poetry collection follows his family's displacement from Haifa to their dispossession in Sheikh Jarrah, Jerusalem. Called an “absolute marvel” by author Hala Alyan. <https://www.haymarketbooks.org/books/1744-rifqa>

Past & Present in Gaza and Palestine

Note: Since the situation on the ground is in constant flux, some resources may become quickly out-of-date.

“Gaza, explained,” *Vox* (2023)

It's hard to find a concise resource that summarizes both what's been happening in Gaza since October 7 as well as the history leading up to it, but this 15-minute video by *Vox* is a good start.

<http://tinyurl.com/voxzgaza>

“Palestinian Poet Mosab Abu Toha Decries Israel's ‘Inhumane’ Assault as Gaza Death Toll Tops 25,000,” *Democracy Now!* (2024)

Mosab Abu Toha discusses the horrific treatment of Palestinians in Gaza, international solidarity, and the killing of his dear friend Dr. Refaat Alareer. Abu Toha has been interviewed multiple times by *Democracy Now!* since October 7.

https://www.democracynow.org/2024/1/22/mosab_abu_toha_gaza

“The humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza: Facts and figures,” Gisha

This article by human rights organization Gisha contains up-to-date information about deaths, injuries, electricity, water, and humanitarian aid in Gaza since October 7.

<https://gisha.org/en/the-humanitarian-catastrophe-in-gaza-facts-and-figures/>

The Hundred Years' War on Palestine: A History of Settler Colonialism and Resistance, 1917–2017 by Rashid Khalidi (2020)

If you want a deep historical account of Palestine it's hard to do better than this book. Called “one of the best-researched general surveys of 20th and early 21st century Palestinian life” by *The Nation*. <https://us.macmillan.com/books/9781627798556/thehundredyearswaronpalestine>

Palestinian Libraries and Archives

“Israeli Damage to Archives, Libraries, and Museums in Gaza, October 2023–January 2024: A Preliminary Report from Librarians and Archivists with Palestine” (2024)

This report by LAP contains a partial list of archives, libraries, and museums in Gaza that have been destroyed, damaged, or looted by Israeli armed forces since October 7. It also names Palestinian information and cultural heritage workers who have been martyred in the same time period. <https://librarianswithpalestine.org/gaza-report-2024/>

“2023 Statement on Gaza,” Librarians and Archivists with Palestine

LAP's statement calling out the genocide in Gaza and how Israel's control and distortion of information is a tool of occupation, with links to resources and signatures from allied organizations. <https://librarianswithpalestine.org/2023-statement-on-gaza/>

“Libraries Under Occupation: A Conversation with Palestinian Librarians,” *Progressive Librarian* (Winter 2016/2017)

President of the Palestinian Library Association Randa Kamal and Diana Sayej Naser, the general coordinator of the Palestinian Library and Information Consortium (PALICO), speak about their experiences as librarians working under occupation in Palestine.

<http://www.progressivelibrariansguild.org/PL/PL45/113.pdf>

“Tool Kit: International Actions Against Scholasticide,” Scholars Against the War on Palestine (2024)

This tool kit defines scholasticide—the killing and destruction of educational systems including but not limited to students, faculty, staff, university buildings, libraries, and archives—by the state of Israel in Palestine. It also contains suggestions for action and links to further reading.

<https://scholarsagainstwar.org/toolkit/>

Where should people go? Should they
build a big ladder and go up?
But heaven is blocked by the drones
and F-16s and the smoke of death.

-Mosab Abu Toha



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