



FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF MR. UBAI ABOUDI

At 3 a.m. in the morning of Wednesday, November 13th, 2019, one of Scientists for Palestine's (S4P) closest collaborators was brutally abducted by the Israeli Army. Mr. Ubai Aboudi was forcefully taken from his home. This terrified his children and wife, who were also at home at the time of his forceful arrest. The raid happened in the Palestinian village of Kufur Aqab. Following the arrest, Mr. Aboudi, who is an American citizen, appeared in front of the Israeli military tribunal on Thursday, November 14th, 2019, but he was not released despite having no charges brought against him. The next hearing is scheduled for Monday, November 18th, 2019, meaning that Mr. Aboudi will have to spend the weekend in jail with no charges. S4P and the undersigned supporters condemn this brutal action in the strongest possible terms and call for Mr. Aboudi's immediate release from jail.

Ubai Aboudi is the director of the Ramallah-based Bisan Center for Research and Development. The Bisan center is a key player in Palestinian civil society and has worked tirelessly, under the remarkable leadership of Mr. Aboudi, to support Palestinian rights to education. In particular, Bisan has coordinated and hosted many meetings among the most prominent Palestinian scientists to help prepare S4P's Third International Meeting for Science in Palestine, which will be held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mr. Aboudi has been absolutely instrumental in initiating discussions on how to strengthen Palestinian science and has made future plans to help organize upcoming S4P scientific workshops in Palestine.

An organization like S4P, which is concerned about building scientific collaborations and strengthening those that already exist, should not be put in the position of writing statements of this kind. However, Mr. Aboudi's brutal arrest is a direct attack to anyone attempting to help elevate Palestinian science and education. We also fear that it is particularly directed towards those with strong relations with international organizations, such as S4P, which could help implement change in Palestine.

We call on anyone concerned about human rights and the enforcement of the universal right to education to also take immediate action.

Signatories:

Scientists for Palestine - Central Committee.

Ahmed Abbas, Directeur de recherche au CNRS, Paris.

Ivar Ekeland, FRSC

Former President, University of Paris-Dauphine,
Former Director, Pacific Institute of Mathematical Sciences.

Michael Harris, Professor of Mathematics, Columbia University.

Assaf Kfoury, Professor of Mathematics, Boston University.

Haynes Miller, Professor of Mathematics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Joseph Oesterlé, emeritus professor at Sorbonne University, Paris.

Sana Odeh, Clinical Professor of Computer Science, New York University.

George P. Smith, Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences, University of Missouri, 2018 Nobel Chemistry Laureate.

Franz-Josef Ulm, Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.