

## The Gaza Strip: History, Future and New Directions for Research

It has been almost eight years since Israel's military blockade of the Gaza Strip began in mid-2007. During this time, repeated aerial and ground invasions have killed thousands of Palestinians – including over 2100 people in the latest onslaught of July/August 2014. These assaults, and the ongoing closure of the Strip, have generated a humanitarian disaster on a scale unprecedented since Israel's occupation began in 1967. Nonetheless, despite these enormous difficulties, Gaza remains an inseparable part of Palestine.

### Saturday 31 October 2015

**9.00**            **Registration**

**9.30 – 9.40**    **Welcoming Remarks** (Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre)  
**Adam Hanieh, SOAS**

**9.40 – 10.00** **Keynote Speaker** (Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre)  
**Sara Roy, Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University**

### **10.00 – 12.00** **Panel Sessions 1 & 2**

**Panel 1:**        **Food and Health** (Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre)

*'We Didn't Want to Hear the Word Calories': Rethinking Food Security, Food Power, and Food Sovereignty – Lessons from the Gaza Closure*  
**Aeyal Gross, Tel Aviv University/SOAS and Tamar Feldman, Association for Civil Rights Israel**

*How Does Israeli Settler Colonialism Subjugate Palestinians? A Closer Look at Starvation as a Tool of Dispossession*  
**Hanine Hassan, Columbia University**

*Rights not Privileges—The Human Right to Water and the Politics of Access under Occupation: Water Access and Water Quality in the Gaza Strip*  
**Carly Krakow, New York University**

**Panel 2:**        **Hidden Aggression against Gaza** (MBI Al Jaber Seminar Room)

*Political Economy of Siege and War*  
**Toufic Haddad, SOAS PhD Graduate**

*Networking the Occupation: How Israel 'Mows the Lawn' in Gaza and Gets Away With It*  
**Jane Jackman, Exeter University**

*Funding Gaza's Rehabilitation: Can the Donors be Trusted?*  
**Jeremy Wildeman, Exeter University**

**12.00 – 13.00** **Lunch** (Staff Common Room- SOAS Main Building)

### **13.00 – 15.00** **Panel Session 3**

**Panel 3:**        **Representations and Contestations of Gaza** (Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre)

*Proposals on Legal Harmonisation between Gaza and the West Bank*  
**Mia Swart, University of Johannesburg**

***Unmapping the Gaza Strip: Towards a Deterritorializing Anthropology of Palestine (and Self-Determination)***

Hadeel Assali, Columbia University

***The Palestinian Ruin as an Israeli Architectural Project***

Léopold Lambert, *The Funambulist Magazine*

***The Armature of Sumud: Gaza's Networks of Resilience***

Bruce Stanley, Richmond University

**15.00 – 15.30 Break**

**15.30 – 17.30 Panel Sessions 4 & 5**

**Panel 4: Media and Cultural Production** (Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre)

***Visual Arts in Gaza : a New Form of Resistance?***

Marion Slitine, EHESS (School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences) in Paris

***Conditions of (Im)possibility: Echoes of Van Gogh's Shoes in Modern Palestinian Art***

Ziad Suidan

***In the Shadow of the 'Other': The British Broadsheets' Coverage of the First Gaza War***

David Kaposi

***BICOM's Narrative Battle: the Fight for British Public Opinion during Operation Protective Edge***

Loreley Hahn Herrera, SOAS

**Panel 5: Politics Old and New** (MBI Al Jaber Seminar Room)

***Social Structures and Factional Politics in Gaza***

Yaser Alashqar, Trinity College Dublin

***Hamas Crisis: Resistance, Governance and Transformation (2006-2015)***

Ibrahim Natil, University College Dublin (UCD)

***Gaza Revisited: New Readings in the Social and Political History of Gaza***

Jehad Abusalim, New York University

**18.00 – 20.00 Post-Conference Public Panel Discussion** (Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre)

***Gaza: Strangulation and Resilience***

The Gaza Strip came under Israeli occupation 48 years ago, in 1967. It has been the target of several Israeli wars of increasing violence, the latest -- in the summer of 2014 -- being the most destructive of all. Three renowned experts on Gaza will assess the Strip's recent history and its present political, social and economic conditions, and discuss its future.

**Ghazi Sourani, Palestinian National Council and Al-Aqsa University**

**Jean-Pierre Filiu, Sciences-Po and the Paris School of International Affairs**

**Sara Roy, Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University**