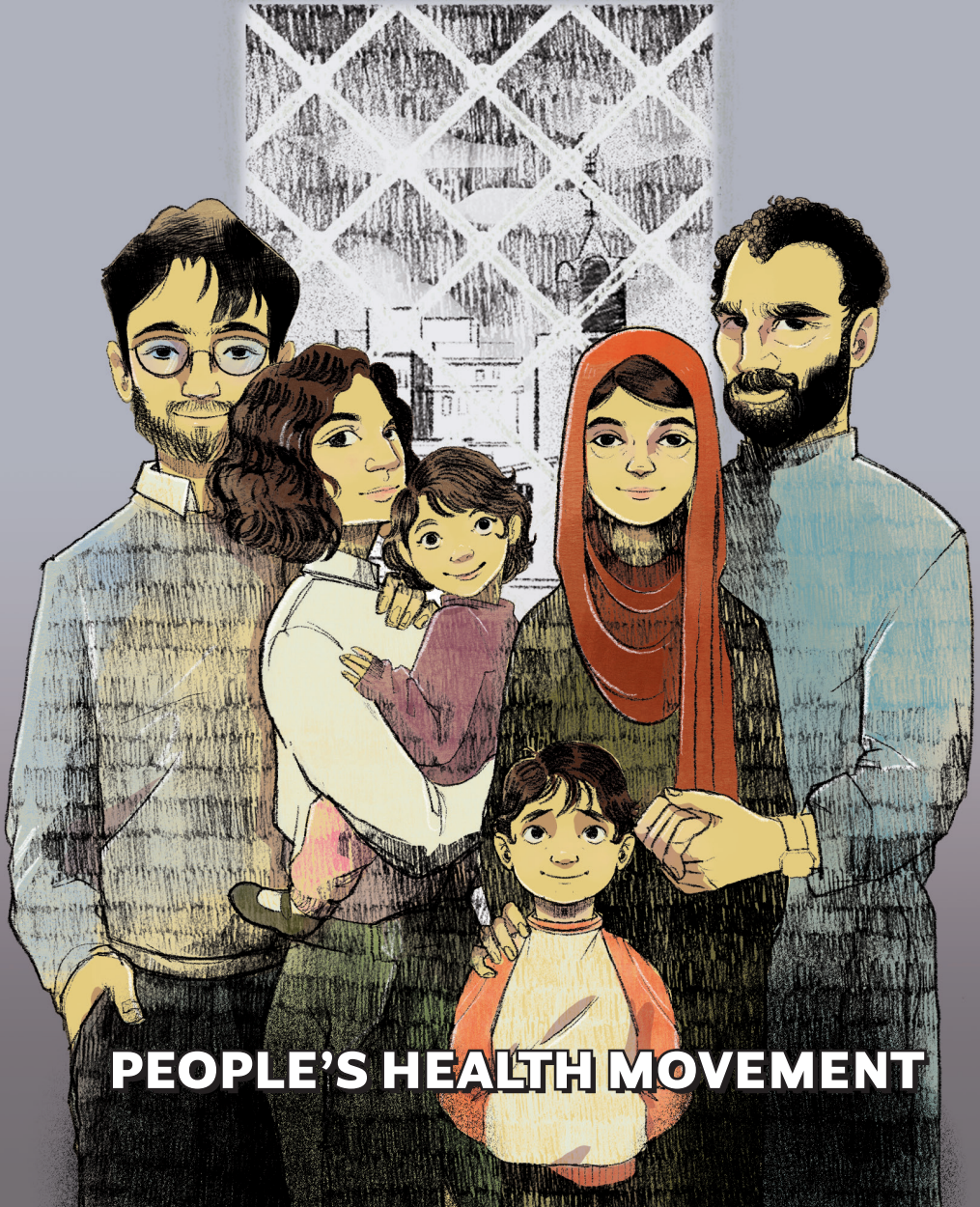


RESISTING FORCED MIGRATION AND WAR



PEOPLE'S HEALTH MOVEMENT

In 2000, concerned activists, academics and health workers got together for the first People's Health Assembly, where the People's Charter for Health was developed and the People's Health Movement (PHM) was born. Today, PHM is a global network bringing together grassroots health activists, civil society organizations and academic institutions from around the world, particularly from low and middle income countries.

Guided by the People's Charter for Health, PHM works on various programmes and activities and is committed to Comprehensive Primary Health Care and addressing the Social, Environmental and Economic Determinants of Health. Equity, ecological well-being and peace are at the heart of PHM's vision for a better world: a world in which a healthy life for all is a reality; a world that respects, appreciates and celebrates all life and diversity; a world that enables the flowering of people's talents and abilities to enrich each other; a world in which people's voices guide the decisions that shape our lives.

In April 2024, PHM will hold its fifth People's Health Assembly (PHA5) in Argentina, bringing together activists from all over the world to share analysis, struggles and strategies around 5 axes that are key for the health of people and the planet:

1. Towards the transformation of health systems
2. Gender justice in health
3. Ecosystem health: food, energy, climate
4. Resisting forced migration and war
5. Promoting ancestral and popular knowledges and practices

This booklet is meant to prepare and accompany the discussion of axis 4 "Resisting forced migration and war"



Health for All Now!
People's Health Movement



<https://www.phmovement.org>



People Tree Studio is an independent graphic design and art studio working with graphics, comics, murals, textiles and visual storytelling. It is based in Goa, India and is founded by artist Orijit Sen and curator Gurpreet Sidhu.
<https://www.peopletreestudio.com/>

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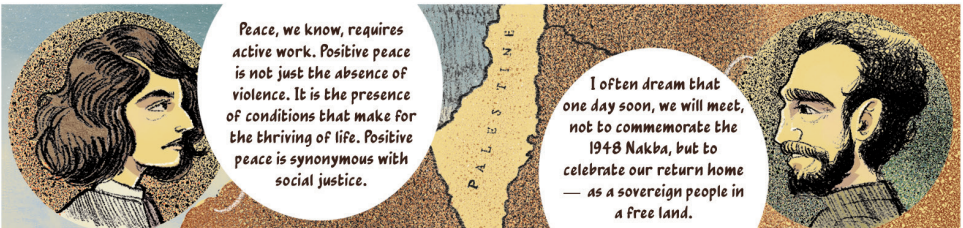
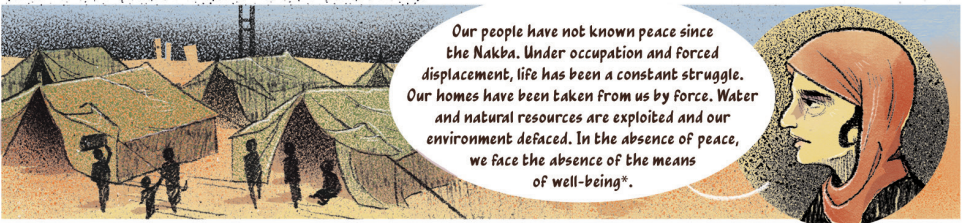
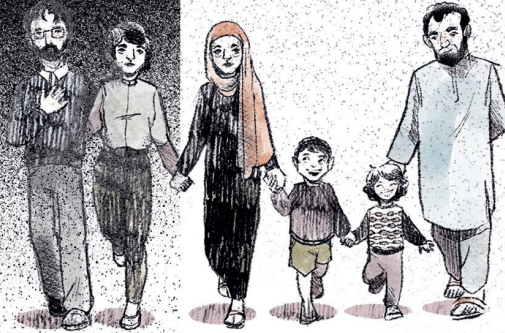
Darren D'Souza is a graphic designer & music producer based in Goa.

RESISTING FORCED MIGRATION AND WAR

WRITTEN BY CORDELIA B. FRANCIS. ILLUSTRATED BY PIA ALIZE HAZARIKA. EDITED BY ORIJT SEN.

Migration today is a growing and complex phenomenon. In mid-2020, 80 million people worldwide were forced out of their homes due to social, environmental, political and economic reasons. Of these, 26.3 million refugees were forcibly displaced across international borders, 45.7 million were internally displaced and 4.2 million were asylum seekers. Alarming, the number is over one billion today. That's more than one in eight, who are either internally displaced or living as migrants in foreign lands.

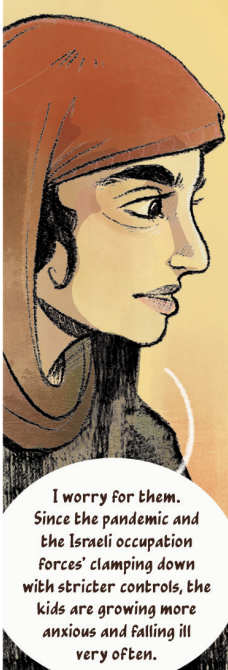
Amina and Salwa are two sisters from Palestine. On 15th May, they came together, along with their families, at Amina's house in a refugee camp in Gaza. It was to commemorate the Nakba of 1948, when the creation of the Jewish State of Israel violently forced more than **700,000** Palestinians out of their homes and lands in more than 400 villages. Israel continues to expand its occupation of land once belonging to Palestinians, while Palestinians do not have a state of their own.



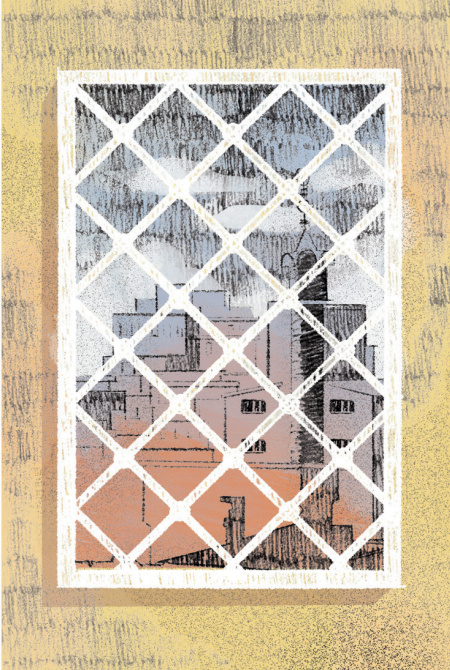


Little Hamid and Fatima were very quiet today. How are they doing?

Since 1948, nearly one-third of the registered Palestinian refugees live in 58 recognized refugee camps managed by United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Most of the camps are a locked-in perfect storm for pandemic spread: crowded conditions, limited water or sanitation facilities.



I worry for them. Since the pandemic and the Israeli occupation forces' clamping down with stricter controls, the kids are growing more anxious and falling ill very often.



Things are only becoming more perilous, Amina. Right wing populism is on the rise, and conflicts and proxy wars are only worsening in the region. Peace is under threat and with it, health is being undermined.



I am going to miss little Fatima. You'll come and visit us, soon, no?

We are trying Al Rahim. For the sake of the children. Inshallah.

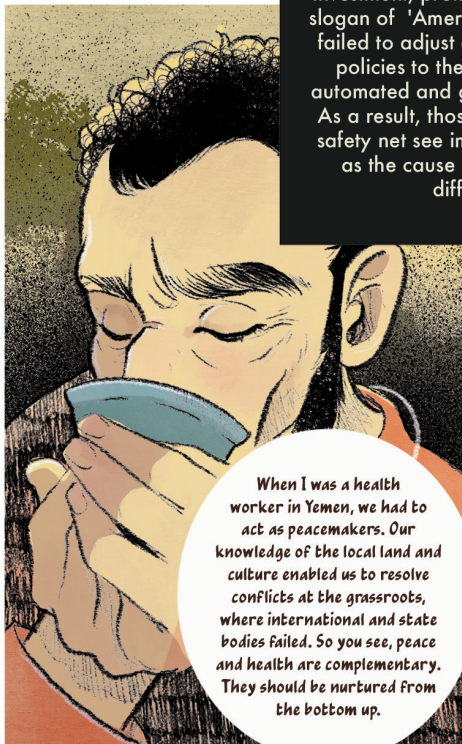


We will try our best to get all of you to the UK. But things are getting very difficult.



Under occupation our people have learnt to organize locally and build strong bonds of solidarity and cohesion. This gives us strength to resist the threats of war and displacement.

Some countries cautiously accept refugee claimants and asylum seekers. But over 65 nations are busily building walls to keep them out. During the 2016 American presidential election, Donald Trump's campaign drew heavily on opposition to immigration, trade, and foreign investment, promoting the nationalist slogan of 'America First'. The US has failed to adjust economic and trade policies to the new reality of an automated and globalized economy. As a result, those who have lost the safety net see immigrants and trade as the cause of their economic difficulties.



When I was a health worker in Yemen, we had to act as peacemakers. Our knowledge of the local land and culture enabled us to resolve conflicts at the grassroots, where international and state bodies failed. So you see, peace and health are complementary. They should be nurtured from the bottom up.

That's partly true, Ali. I would say a complementary relationship from the top down and from the bottom up has proven to be highly effective in building health and peace — like building blocks, one on top of the other.



Come, we must leave now if we are to reach the airport on time and pass through the many check-points and tight security.



Israel
retaliates
swiftly!



GENOCIDE ... ETHNIC CLEANSING ... COLLECTIVE
PUNISHMENT ... TERRORIST ACTS OF HAMAS ...
ISRAEL HAS THE RIGHT TO DEFEND ITSELF ...

Amina and Ali's house is hit!

Hamid...fatima...

...my babies.

...where are you?

...Ali?

There's no clear path for the ambulance. The hospitals are packed. There are shortages of food, fuel, medicines.

There is chaos and panic all over Gaza.

Behind me is the recent destruction of residential homes. There is a growing humanitarian catastrophe and total siege on Gaza. According to WHO, civilians in Gaza are threatened by heavy aerial bombardment by the Israeli military. There have been several attacks on healthcare facilities, ambulances, and medical staff.

Hamid... Fatima...
where are you?

Israeli forces are attacking hospitals. It seems their aim is to destroy infrastructure and health services, making it impossible to live in Gaza. It's about destroying any possibility of return. It's about evicting people.

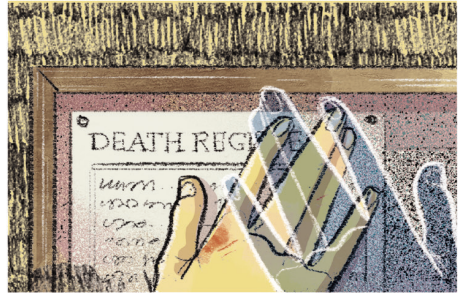
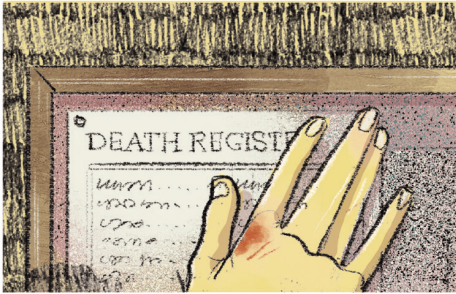


With the poor sanitation and overcrowded wards, we are worried about the possibility of the spread of infection.

The number of children killed in Gaza is more than all the children killed in all wars in the past century including World War 2.



FATIMA	7y/o
HAMID	9y/o



BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP...



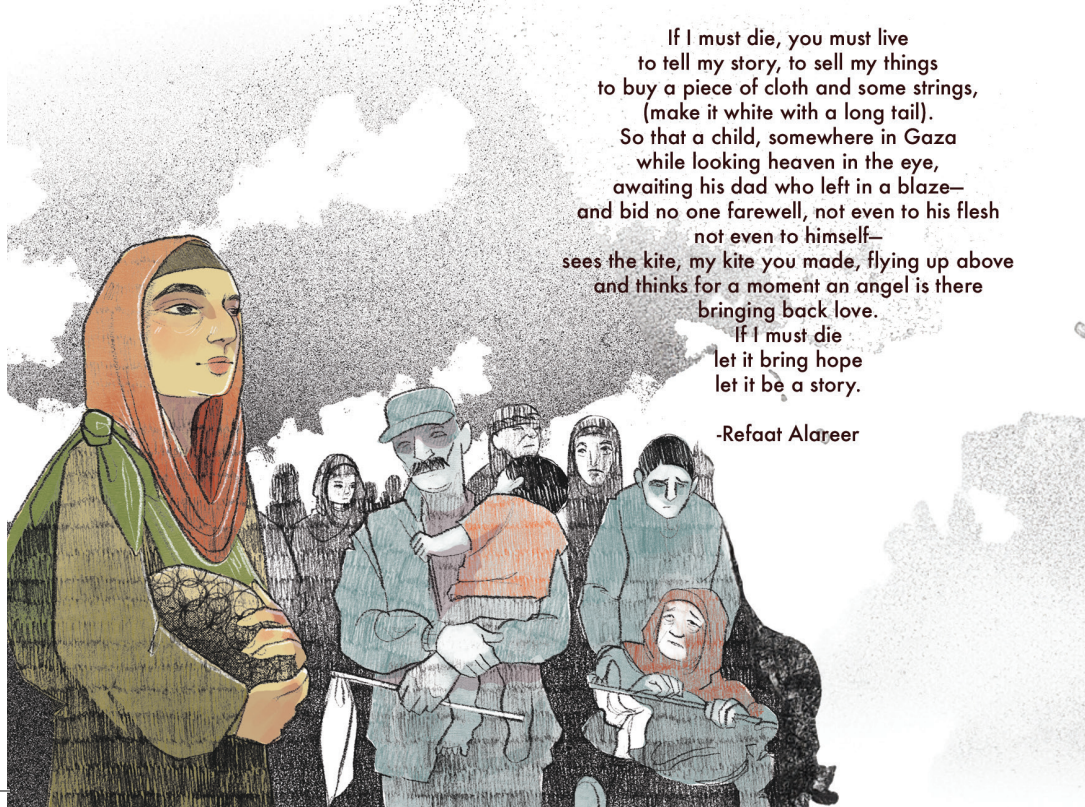
The international community has not only failed to mediate the conflict, but some parties have actively contributed to prolonging it, by licensing arms sales and vetoing a ceasefire. They are offering humanitarian assistance, whilst profiting from commercial trading of arms. Health is impossible without peace.



Amina, you must live in hope. As long as we defend health and humanity, and connect our struggles nationally and internationally into a respectful movement of equals, we can change the world.

My niece, nephew and brother-in-law have been killed in the recent bombings in Gaza.

I am here to ask, what has happened to the global frameworks and goals outlined by governments and the international community? Weren't these goals intended to be universal? Aren't countries supposed to uphold their obligations and be held accountable for the effects of their actions abroad?



If I must die, you must live
to tell my story, to sell my things
to buy a piece of cloth and some strings,
(make it white with a long tail).
So that a child, somewhere in Gaza
while looking heaven in the eye,
awaiting his dad who left in a blaze—
and bid no one farewell, not even to his flesh
not even to himself—
sees the kite, my kite you made, flying up above
and thinks for a moment an angel is there
bringing back love.
If I must die
let it bring hope
let it be a story.

-Refaat Alareer

MAP OF PALESTINE - 1947



National Geographic

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EFZxhMX5O_E

United Nations

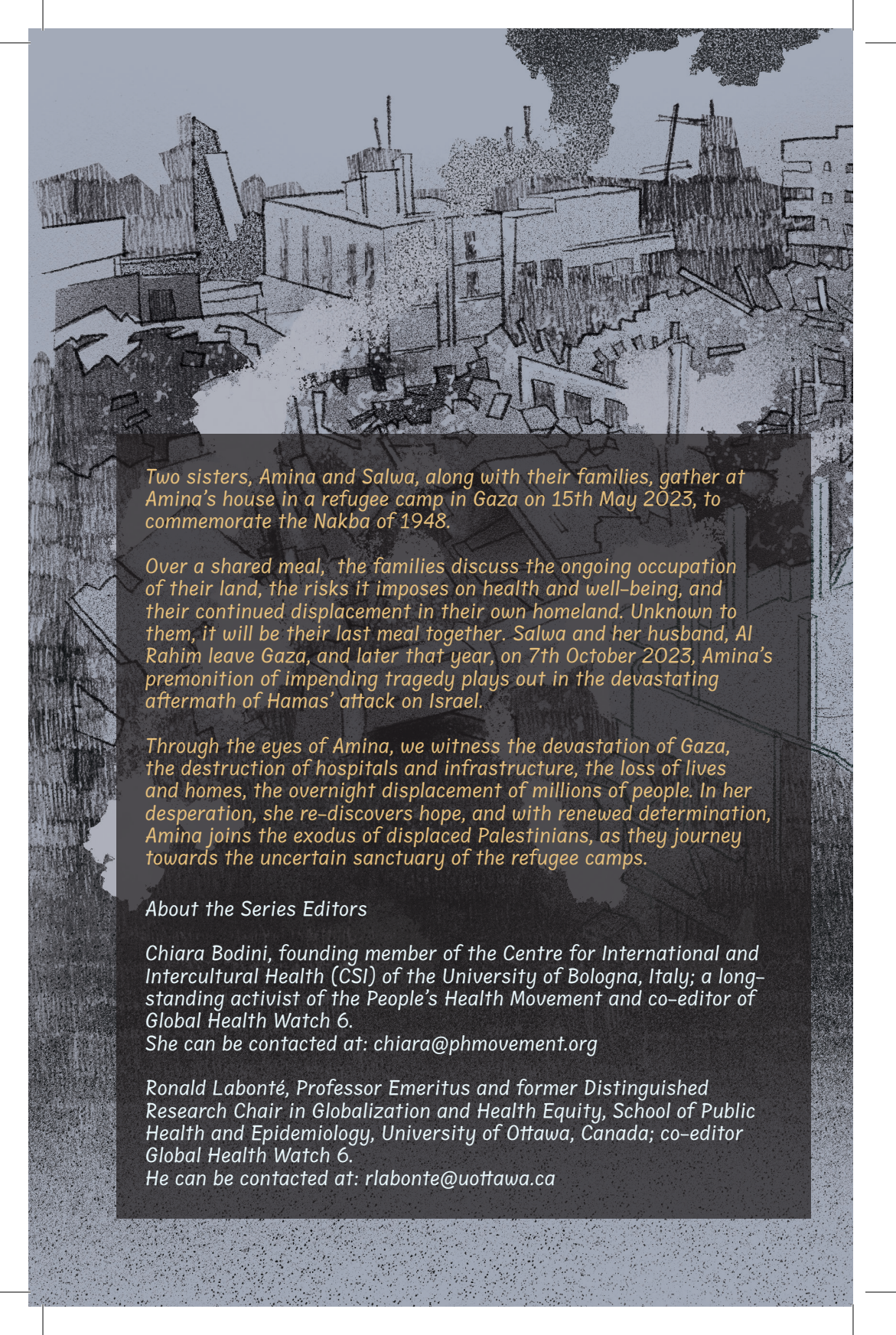
<https://www.un.org/en/>

PHM webinars on Palestine

<https://phmovement.org/>

UNHCR – The UN Refugee Agency

<https://www.unhcr.org/about-unhcr>



Two sisters, Amina and Salwa, along with their families, gather at Amina's house in a refugee camp in Gaza on 15th May 2023, to commemorate the Nakba of 1948.

Over a shared meal, the families discuss the ongoing occupation of their land, the risks it imposes on health and well-being, and their continued displacement in their own homeland. Unknown to them, it will be their last meal together. Salwa and her husband, Al Rahim leave Gaza, and later that year, on 7th October 2023, Amina's premonition of impending tragedy plays out in the devastating aftermath of Hamas' attack on Israel.

Through the eyes of Amina, we witness the devastation of Gaza, the destruction of hospitals and infrastructure, the loss of lives and homes, the overnight displacement of millions of people. In her desperation, she re-discovers hope, and with renewed determination, Amina joins the exodus of displaced Palestinians, as they journey towards the uncertain sanctuary of the refugee camps.

About the Series Editors

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