

Contact: Grace Batchoun
Canadians for Justice and Peace in the Middle East
Telephone: (514) 745-8491

Israeli Occupation on Trial Panel Events with Canadian Lawyer for Palestinian Village

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TORONTO, September 18 – Canadians for Justice and Peace in the Middle East (CJPME) is proud to present a series of panel events entitled, “Israeli Occupation on Trial,” to be hosted in Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa. The events will discuss the implications of a July, 2008 lawsuit launched by the Palestinian village of Bil’in in Quebec Superior Court, and will feature the Canadian lawyer for the village, Mr. Mark Arnold.

The events will take place as follows:

- Toronto: Thursday, Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m., Steelworkers Hall, 25 Cecil Street.
- Montreal: Friday, Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m., McGill University, New Chancellor Day Hall, 3644 Peel Street
- Ottawa: Saturday, Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m., Sandy Hill Community Centre, 250 Somerset St. E.

The lawsuit to be discussed at these events accuses two Montreal companies (Green Park International and Green Mount International) of constructing homes on village land seized by the Israeli Army in violation of international law. The village of Bil’in has become internationally known because of its unceasing protests against the activities of the Israeli Army and Israeli colonists in its vicinity. This suit is an unprecedented test of Canada’s resolve to enforce international law through its legal system, and has provoked attention not only in Canada, but worldwide.

Mark Arnold, the Canadian legal representative for Bil’in Village, will be the featured panellist at all three events. More information on all events can be found at www.cjpme.ca.

CJPME strongly supports the legal rights of Bil’in Village and its efforts to seek redress through international law in Canadian courts. “Canada is a nation that respects international law and human rights. The very idea that two Canadian companies could possibly be contributing to the worsening of the Israel-Palestine conflict for profit is contemptible, and it demands court review,” CJPME's Wendy Phillips said Monday.

#####

About CJPME

CJPME is a pan-Canadian grassroots advocacy organization uniting Canadians of all backgrounds who believe in justice, peace and security for all people in the Middle East. CJPME values Canada’s historical role as a neutral broker in the Middle East, and wants to foster a better understanding among Canadians of Middle Eastern issues and dynamics.

For more information, please contact:
Contact: Grace Batchoun
Canadians for Justice and Peace in the Middle East
Telephone: (514) 745-8491
www.cjpme.ca