

Public Meeting

The Occupation and Israeli civil society

Speakers:

Gideon Levy (Ha'aretz)
Prof Ilan Pappé (Exeter University)
and
Dr Karma Nabulsi (Oxford University) on
Implications of the Occupation for
Palestinian civil society

Saturday 29 November, 2pm

Khalili Lecture Theatre, School of Oriental & African Studies
Malet Street, London WC1 (nearest tube: Russell Square)

- *'Today there is hardly a university [in Israel] that does not offer special courses for officers, pilots and secret agents.'*
- *'The entire nation is an army and Bar-Ilan [University] is all security.'*
- *'The universities must not allow themselves to be conscripted into safeguarding Israel's security. They must not bow down to this idol.'*

These comments from a recent article in Israel's leading daily newspaper, *Ha'aretz*, direct attention to the role played by universities in the illegal occupation of Palestine.* The author, campaigning journalist Gideon Levy, suggests that Israel's academic institutions are integral to the Occupation: that together with the media, the legal system, the health system – in fact the whole of civil society – they are part of the means by which military rule is sustained.

Israel's civilian institutions serve the Occupation. Palestinians, meanwhile, are denied the most basic resources. Under military rule they are denied access to land and water, movement is restricted, schools and universities struggle to maintain teaching, and hospitals lack basic equipment and trained staff.

You are invited to join this discussion about the recruitment of Israeli society to the service of the Occupation. What are the implications – and what can be done in Israel, Palestine and here in Britain?

* "Shin Bet's academic freedom", *Ha'aretz*, 8/9/2008, at:
www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1018912.html

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