



"Christmas in Palestine 2010", oil on canvas, Dora McPhee, Melbourne Australia

In memory of the Palestinians in Gaza - two days after Christmas 2008, the imprisoned population under siege and blockade were subjected to 22 days of Israel's "Operation Cast Lead" with no place to run or hide. Almost two years later, they still live in a state of devastation and ruin.

www.australiansforpalestine.com

In the Shadow of the Wall

In the shadow of the Wall,
 "Peace on Earth" and
 "Goodwill to all people"
 are but words
 caught and frozen
 in the web of Occupation.
 In the shadow of the Wall,
 Bethlehem's Star
 hangs timelessly suspended,
 While below, David's blue Star
 mocks and punishes the faithful,
 oppressing and dispossessing
 the Palestinians to oblivion.

In the shadow of the Wall,
 Kings and shepherds,
 even angels lose their way,
 their halleluiahs drowning
 in the echoes of human cries
 keening lonely and unheard
 in the world of silence.
 In the shadow of the Wall,
 there is no justice,
 there is no freedom
 and there is no peace,
 this joyless Christmas
 in Palestine.

Sonja Karkar, 2010

*A winter holiday greeting to you
 from Skip in Gaza, Occupied
 Palestine, December 2010*

DEMONSTRATION IN THE ISRAELI-DECLARED BUFFER ZONE ON THE BORDER BETWEEN GAZA AND ISRAEL. THIS ZONE CONFISCATES PALESTINIAN LAND. ISRAELI SOLDIERS SHOOT AT PEOPLE IN THE ZONE, INCLUDING THOSE OPPOSING THE THEFT OF LAND, FARMERS, AND SCRAP COLLECTORS. LED BY PALESTINIANS THE INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT ACCOMPANIES PALESTINIANS.



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