

# Counting up the Olive Tree

## A Palestine Number Book

**Golbarg Bashi • Illustrated by Nabi H. Ali**

*Counting up the Olive Tree: A Palestine Number Book* is a rhythmic adventure where little Palestinian football (soccer) players—boys and girls—work together to save an olive tree in a race against time.

Following on the extraordinary success of *P is for Palestine: A Palestine Alphabet Book*, Golbarg Bashi teamed up with the gifted artist Nabi H. Ali to create *Counting up the Olive Tree* to help young readers practice counting numbers and learn the power of cooperation.

### ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

**Golbarg Bashi** was born in Iran, raised in Sweden, and educated in the UK and US. For over a decade, Dr. Bashi has designed and taught interdisciplinary courses on various aspects of medieval and modern history of west Asia, as well as Islamic art, critical methodologies in a wide range of disciplines. After a full-time career as an academic, she is now focused on diversifying children's media and empowering children from underrepresented and marginalized countries and communities with positive, environmentally conscious, and fun stories that inform all the interconnectedness of world cultures. She lives with her family in New York.

**Nabi H. Ali** is a Tamil-American illustrator who enjoys creating diverse works that showcase an array of cultures and people. His interest in illustrative works started when he realized he could help create representation in the arts and in media for minorities, and he is very passionate about working with characters that he would have liked to see when he was a kid. He is the illustrator of several picture books, including *Laxmi's Mooch*. His other illustrated picture books include *Beautifully Me* and *We Move the World*. Nabi lives in California.

### ACCOLADES

"Uplifting storyline, cheerful illustrations, delightful, empowering, inspiring."

—Dr. Nada Elia, co-editor of *The Revolution Will Not Be Funded: Beyond the Non-Profit Industrial Complex*

"*Counting up the Olive Tree* is a jamboree of colors and childhood exuberance rooted in the heart of Palestine. An infectious delight for young readers and parents alike."

—Remi Kanazi, is a Palestinian-American performance poet, writer, and organizer

"Golbarg Bashi cleverly uses the game of football, that is unifying to the world, that is relatable and fun ... while still giving the readers an insight to the reality of what life is like in Palestine ... showcasing their bravery and their courage, to resist in ways that are peaceful and full of promise and hope."

—Joudie Kalla, author of *Palestine on a Plate: Memories from My Mother's Kitchen*

"Golbarg Bashi brilliantly and whimsically uses football ... Makes me wish I could have read it with my friends as a kid."

—Ahmed Shihab-Eldin, Emmy-nominated journalist and producer

Uplifting storyline, cheerful illustrations, delightful, empowering, inspiring ... —Dr. Nada Elia

## COUNTING UP THE OLIVE TREE A PALESTINE NUMBER BOOK

By  
**GOLBARG BASHI**  
Illustrated by  
**NABI H. ALI**



### SUBJECT CATEGORY

Juvenile Fiction

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