

Gaza Writes Back, Memorial Edition

Short Stories from Young Writers in Gaza, Palestine

Editor: Refaat Alareer • Foreword by Ali Abunimah

Gaza Writes Back is a unique anthology of short stories from fifteen young writers in Gaza. Their experiences, especially during and following Israel's 2008–9 offensive known as "Operation Cast Lead," have fundamentally impacted their lives and their writing. The stories in this book take us into the homes and hearts of moms, dads, students, children, and elders striving to live lives of dignity, compassion, and meaning in one of the world's most embattled communities.

This anthology was chosen and edited by the Gazan writer and English literature professor Dr. Refaat Alareer, who also included three of his own pieces of short fiction and one of his poems. In 2023, the Israeli military assassinated Alareer, sending shockwaves of horror among all who loved and respected him around the world. This memorial edition is dedicated to his memory and also contains a new foreword by Ali Abunimah of the Electronic Intifada.

The stories in *Gaza Writes Back* strikingly evoke the deep sense of longing of many of their characters, in particular a yearning for their long-cherished family homes and properties after decades in exile. Social differences within Gaza are also astutely explored. These stories are acts of resistance and defiance, proclaiming the endurance of Palestinians and the continuing resilience and creativity of their culture in the face of ongoing obstacles and attempts to silence them.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

Refaat Alareer, a son of Shijaiyeh in Gaza, gained an MA in English Literature from University College, London, and a PhD from the University of Malaya. He was a beloved professor of English literature and literature in English at the Islamic University of Gaza and a leader in the We Are Not Numbers educational organization. In December 2023 the Israeli military killed him in a targeted operation, leaving behind his wife and six children, one of whom was also killed in early 2024 along with her newborn child.

Ali Abunimah, a Palestinian American leader in the campaign for Palestinian rights, is the founding director of the Electronic Intifada website and the author of *One Country: A Bold Proposal to End the Israeli-Palestinian Impasse*. He gained his BA from Princeton University and an MA from the University of Chicago. His commentaries have been widely published on many platforms.

ACCOLADES

"In a land where hope is the most precious commodity passed down through the generations, these stories provide a tangible platform for silenced voices to be heard and means towards gaining some dignity for a wounded nation."

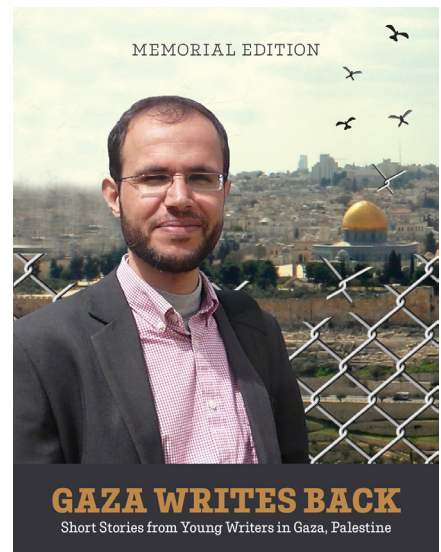
—Ramzy Baroud, author of *My Father Was a Freedom Fighter: Gaza's Untold Story*

"These are intimate tales of devastation—sharp as a knife and unforgettable. Families, playmates, or the writers themselves, are maimed or killed in a flash by Israeli firepower, but this new generation is writing as a form of resistance."

—Victoria Brittain, author of *Shadow Lives: The Forgotten Women of the War on Terror*

"These Gaza short stories should be required reading for all because they create awareness and awareness leads to understanding and understanding leads to change."

—Michelle Cohen Corasanti, author of *The Almond Tree*



Refaat Alareer, PhD, Editor
Foreword by Ali Abunimah

SUBJECT CATEGORY

Fiction: Historical, Palestine, Muslim
Literary Collections: Middle Eastern

PRICE

\$19.95

ISBN

979-8-88744-230-3

PAGE COUNT

208

SIZE

5.5 x 8.5

FORMAT

Paperback

PUBLICATION DATE

01/12/2027

US DISTRIBUTION

Publishers Group West
1-866-400-5351

www.pgw.com • ips@ingramcontent.com

CANADA DISTRIBUTION

Publishers Group Canada
1-800-663-5714

customerservice@raincoast.com

EUROPE DISTRIBUTION

IPS_International.Orders@ingramcontent.com

UK DISTRIBUTION

Turnaround Publisher Services Ltd
020-8829-3000 • orders@turnaround-uk.com

PM PRESS

P.O. Box 23912 • Oakland, CA 94623
www.pmpress.org • info@pmpress.org
510-703-0327

PM

PM Press is an independent, radical publisher of critically necessary books for our tumultuous times. Our aim is to deliver bold political ideas and vital stories to all walks of life and arm the dreamers to demand the impossible. Founded in 2007 by a small group of people with decades of publishing, media, and organizing experience. We're old enough to know what we're doing and young enough to know what's at stake.