



## Deadly Exchanges: Capitalism, Militarism, Borders, and Policing

October 10, 2024

6:00 - 7:30 pm

Central Academic Building 219 (and 333 and 337)

### WELCOME

- Introductions - James Finley
- Announcements - SA Students for Palestine, Act4SA, Cut Out Caterpillar

### POETRY

### INTEREST GROUP DISCUSSIONS

- Capitalism - facilitated by Jecoa Ross - room 337
- Militarism - facilitated by Judith Norman - room 337
- Borders - facilitated by Annah Sanchez - room 219
- Policing - facilitated by Sajida Jalalzai - room 333

### POETRY

### FULL GROUP DISCUSSION

- Visiting the station of other groups
- Sharing take-aways
- Final thoughts and conclusion - Alex Birnel

Your Weight, at Birth  
Naomi Shihab Nye

Watching the Palestinian men  
emerge from the Church of the Nativity,  
I considered birth: being born into light again  
after so many cramped weeks inside,  
born into air & space,  
how we wish the best for one another when someone  
is being born, born into deportation & exile,  
born, & banished.

Across the street, their women were wailing.  
They could not greet or hug them.  
The men were shuffled onto buses  
to be sent away.  
On the white & dusty street of Bethlehem,  
where so many travelers have stood  
holding candles, wrapped in song,  
the prisoner men, in their own town.

An American TV announcer's voice sounded excited  
to be present at the births –  
over & over again  
he hailed the table of sandwiches & bottled water  
provided by Israeli soldiers  
who actually looked perplexed  
whenever the camera came in close.

One is born to wear a helmet, carry large artillery  
One is born to be thin, to wear raggedy clothes  
& be shot in the leg. And some are born  
to wonder, wonder, wonder.

## Interest Group Discussions

Each group will have a big post-it note on which it can represent both definitions and connections. What those representations look like is up to each group.

For **definitions**, please consider not only what the dictionary would say, but also what your keyword looks like, how you recognize it, what makes it significant and in what contexts, etc. Why, in other words, does it matter so much to what Edward Said has termed “the question of Palestine”? In addition to centering Palestine, please also consider local and personally-significant contexts.

For **connections**, please consider how your keyword connects San Antonio to Palestine, as well as other geographic contexts. Please also feel free to consider connections to other keywords (both those that are part of today’s event and those that aren’t explicitly named, such as health, gender, nature, etc.).

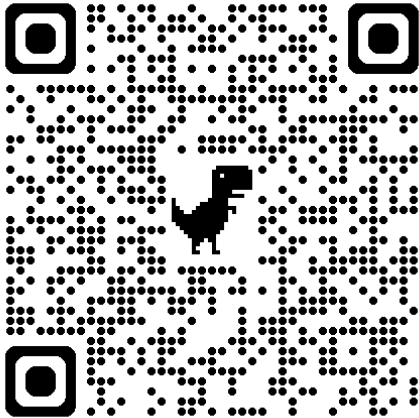
Before returning to the larger group, where you will place your post-it note on the wall next to another, blank post-it note (this will be your “station”), please sort yourselves into three roles. (Ideally, everyone in the group will have a role.)

- Travelers - will go to other interest-groups and share what your group discussed and engage in conversation with representatives from other groups. Please don’t stick with the travelers from your own group, if possible, and instead try to connect with explainers from as many other groups as possible, even if a traveler from your group has already visited that station. Travelers will have the chance to reconvene with their group and debrief at the end.
- Explainers - will stay at the station and explain your post-it note to other groups’ travelers and ask questions of the travelers.
- Note-takers - will stay at the station and capture on the other post-it note the conversations between travelers and explainers.

At the conclusion of this activity, please reconvene with your interest group and consider what is the main (or a main) take-away from your work, which someone can then share out with the larger group.

The Perplexing Smiles of the Children of Palestine,  
Marcellus "Khaliifah" Williams

despite the actions of the few  
And excessive retaliation,  
drones,  
planes,  
bombs,  
tanks,  
rubble,  
buildings demolished,  
vanished houses and neighborhoods,  
hospitals targeted,  
U.N. shelters disrespected,  
murder,  
death,  
deliberate killing of noncombatants,  
babies buried alive,  
amputations,  
hunger and political starvation,  
lack of or no water,  
strategic sanitation,  
daily terror,  
and terrorized daily,  
military maneuvering,  
moving here and there,  
to return back again to nowhere,  
trauma with all its manifestations,  
international prayers and hesitation,  
defiance to the realization of two nations,  
global aid thwarted,  
global amnesia,  
siblings and relatives gone forever,  
parental worries –  
in the face of apex arrogance  
and ethnic cleansing by any definition...  
still your laughter can be heard  
and somehow you are able to smile,  
O resilient Children of Palestine!



Feedback and reflection



We will continue the conversation on the messaging app Signal!

Please scan the QR code or visit this link to join: <https://tinyurl.com/38bk9zhw>



Link to articles, books, videos, etc, mentioned at the People's University for Palestine (updated throughout the semester)

<https://www.zotero.org/pufp-yanaguana/library>

**FREE EBOOKS FOR  
A FREE PALESTINE**

