



The Palestine Poster Project Archives

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Palestine Posters Nominated to UNESCO Memory of the World Program

(Silver Spring, MD, August 11, 2014) — The nomination of a major collection of posters from the [Palestine Poster Project Archives](#) has been accepted for formal review by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization's [Memory of the World program](#). The UNESCO program's [International Register](#) inscribes library and archival holdings of “world significance and outstanding universal value.”

The nominated work, the [Liberation Graphics Collection of Palestine Posters](#), is the first documentary heritage resource ever nominated by the state of Palestine for inscription to the Memory of the World program. If inscribed, it will join a register that includes the Bayeux Tapestry, the Book of Kells, the Phoenician Alphabet, the Gutenberg Bible, Karl Marx's personally annotated manuscript of *Das Kapital*, and hundreds of other historically significant documents.

The *Liberation Graphics Collection of Palestine Posters* comprises 1,700 rare posters created by Palestinian and international artists in solidarity with the Palestinian quest for liberation, sovereignty, and the right of return. These documents cover a critical time period in Palestinian history: the second half of the twentieth century, when Palestinians organized and asserted themselves under conditions of colonization, war, exile, and occupation.

The nominated posters represent the core of the Palestine Poster Project Archives, which holds paper and/or digital images of almost ten thousand Palestine posters by more than 1,900 artists from 72 countries.

The genesis of the Archives came about in 1975 when Dan Walsh—the curator and owner—was studying Arabic as a Peace Corps volunteer in Morocco. In 2010 he wrote a [thesis](#) on the Palestine poster for his Master of Arts in Arab Studies degree from Georgetown University. Today the Palestine Poster Project Archives is the largest known body of Palestine posters in the world. About 100 historic or new posters are added each month.

Inscription of the *Liberation Graphics Collection of Palestine Posters* is sought so that the posters can be conserved, organized, and prepared for acquisition by a Palestinian national institution capable of maintaining them in perpetuity—ideally, in Palestine.

