

EXTRA

THE HARVARD CRIMESON

من العية للعية | VOLUME II, NO. 1 | CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS | MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2024

BUSINESS AS USUAL

WELCOME TO COLLEGE. EVERYTHING IS NORMAL
ALL THE POLITICAL CONTROVERSY IS BEHIND US
HARVARD BACKS AND BANKROLLS
PALESTINIAN GENOCIDE
HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT



PHOTO COURTESY OF NAMAN PATEL

Why were Harvard students suspended and prevented from graduating for demanding that the University **disclose and divest from its investments in the Israeli war machine**? What precisely were they calling for? More importantly, *how do we achieve it*? What kind of fucked shit has Harvard been pulling for the last 400 years? How have students managed to fight it before? **How can you be a part of that fight**? Why are there so many police officers on campus now? Are you really not allowed to say the word Palestine? *What are they so afraid of*? A zine by the Harvard Crimeson.

Harvard Re-orientation

Congratulations on becoming an official Harvard undergraduate! While you do learn a few things at Convocation, the University won't reveal how power really works around here. Here's our attempt to reorient you.

President Alan Garber

Alan Garber, the evasive new president of Harvard University, is a “public figure” in name only. Relish today as one of the only times he shows his face on campus. When he's not hiding behind a facade of “institutional neutrality,” he may surface at your iftar at Ramadan to tell you that divesting from the Israeli slaughter of more than 40,000 Palestinians “lacks moral clarity.” You'll see his reputation on campus in the thousands of Harvard graduates who walked out of his Commencement speech this May, or the hundreds of faculty who threatened a “rebellion” over his decision to prevent 13 pro-Palestine seniors from graduating.

Dean Rakesh Khurana

Dean Khurana spends his days on the Khuranagram, posting selfies or photo ops with smiling undergraduates. Sometimes perceived as a cheery figure in an otherwise apathetic institution, Khurana, in reality, functions as a middleman who “hears” but never acts on student concerns. When students have asked him about Harvard's complicity in Israel's genocidal military campaign, he's hit back with his favorite catchphrase: “I'm sorry, but my hands are tied.” Dean



Khurana is the first to extol the virtues of “dialogue” — but when he refuses to utter the word “Palestine,” throws a tantrum over student protesters' suspensions being reversed, or ignores the rape and death threats sent to leaders of the Palestinian Solidarity Committee, he unveils what he really is: weaponized incompetence embodied. It'll be a pleasure to see him go.

Civil Discourse

A term administrators employ to silence pro-Palestinian speech. If only protesters were speaking politely instead of protesting! But Harvard has made no attempt to hold “civil discourse” in “good faith” with students questioning its investments in a genocidal state. Instead, it places pro-Palestinian organizers on probation and suspension. The “conversations” that administrators offer are a pacifier, intended to stall for time and prevent fur-



ther protests. By introducing more and more restrictions on free speech — this year, you could be disciplined for writing on the ground with chalk — Harvard creates a culture of fear around discussing Palestine.

Community

Last year, the University described the following things as a “significant risk to the educational environment of the University”: a Palestinian flag on campus; the testimony of Palestinian students who have lost loved ones in Gaza; the reading aloud of the names of 14,000 martyred children; the demands of University faculty not to withhold students' degrees for peacefully protesting; the presence of any tent; the public display of information about Harvard's investments in weapons technology; the existence of students who refuse to quietly attend an institution complicit in genocide.

Why You Should Organize

We are living through an inflection point in history. While people toil away working multiple jobs just to put food on their family's plates, the U.S. and its institutions invest billions of dollars in the destruction of Palestine. Here in Harvard Square, while the University continues to gentrify the area and purchase land all over Boston, they invest that same money into the occupation of Palestine. The same people who ravage our families here are genociding our siblings in Palestine.

The interconnections between the struggle here and the struggle in Palestine are clear. In moments like this, there are two paths one can take: willfully close one's eyes to these injustices or rise up and join the movement. We know the power that the student movement especially holds. The Black Panther Party started on a campus in Oakland, California; the struggle against the Vietnam War was led by student activists; South African apartheid was toppled as students established encampments across the nation's universities.

The oppression that we, the people of the world, are facing both here and abroad reflects a decaying system, the dying screams of the old world as a new world attempts to emerge. There are two conflicting histories warring against one another:

one where the people of the world remain under the boot of oppression and one where we are truly liberated. So who has the power to decide history? It is us, from our siblings in Palestine, to the students at Harvard, to the mother in the Port and the father in Roxbury. So

join the student intifada by joining organizations such as the Palestine Solidarity Committee (PSC), Jews for Palestine (J4P), Artists for Palestine (A4P), and the African and African American Resistance Organization (AFRO). Together, we will help birth a new world.

A History of Harvard Protests

Harvard wants you to believe that the only way to create change within the University is by standing down and asking politely. In reality, nothing could be further from the truth. Throughout this issue, read about successful campaigns waged by student protestors via disruptive action.



1969: Students mobilized in response to Harvard's extensive military ties to the Vietnam War. Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) and the Harvard-Radcliffe Association for African and Afro-American Students demanded that the University abolish its contractual ties to ROTC. The latter group also championed a demand for the establishment of an Afro-American Studies department. In 1969, hundreds of Harvard students staged a multi-day occupation of University Hall to force University President Pusey to listen to their demands. Instead, Pusey sent 400 police officers into the building, where they brutalized, injured, and arrested protestors. Students launched a 2,000-person strike to protest, and soon after, the University agreed to curtail its ROTC program and create a Black Studies department.

Distorted Rhetoric: A Dictionary for Discussing Palestine

The language of the movement for Palestinian liberation is distorted by bad-faith campaigns to appear violent, inflammatory, and antisemitic. These distortions rely on falsified meanings that flatten Palestinian history through racist caricature. Why not ask Palestinians and pro-Palestinian protestors ourselves what our language means?

Zionism is a political ideology and ethno-cultural nationalist movement that emerged in the late 19th century to establish a Jewish state. The movement manifested in the colonization of Palestine, partly a response to the antisemitism Jews encountered in Europe and an answer to the “Jewish question.” Modern Zionism’s goal — to form a Jewish majority state in the land between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea — involved the marginalization and dispossession of indigenous Palestinians, sparking the Nakba in 1948 and the following seven decades of Israeli expansion, which violently persists.

Nakba, Arabic for “catastrophe,” is the violent dispossession and ethnic cleansing of Palestinians, exemplified by Zionist military forces’ destruction of 530 Palestinian villages, massacre of 15,000 Palestinians, and displacement of 750,000 refugees from 1947-1949. Phrases like the “ongoing Nakba” or “the Nakba never ended” allude to Palestinians’ continued experience of dispossession.

Genocide refers to the intentional destruction of a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group, “in whole or in part.”

This year the International Court of Justice concluded that Israel is committing acts of genocide against Palestinians in Gaza. They’ve pointed to the incitement of and encouragement to genocide made by Israeli politicians, the forced displacement of Gazans from their homes, the elimination of humanitarian aid, and the refusal of access to medical care.

Apartheid describes a system of institutionalized racial segregation and discrimination, epitomized in the policies of the Israeli government that create and maintain separate legal systems and unequal rights between Jewish Israelis and Palestinians. This is most pronounced in the West Bank, where Palestinians live under military law while Israeli settlers live under civilian law. The term also applies to the blockade and siege of Gaza, and to Israel, where there are 65 national laws that discriminate against Palestinians.

Occupation refers to Israel’s use of military force to control its territory. In the West Bank, a series of Israeli checkpoints, roadblocks, and barriers restrict Palestinian mobility. Israel encourages settlers to seize land and

forcibly remove Palestinians from the West Bank, in violation of international law. Although Israel disengaged from the Gaza Strip in 2005, it still controls Gaza’s airspace, offshore territory, border crossings, and the flow of goods and people.

BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions) is a nonviolent movement founded in 2005 to end international support for Israel’s ongoing oppression of Palestinians. In the legacy of the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa, BDS organizes boycott campaigns against companies complicit in Israeli occupation, including HP, Siemens, AXA, Puma, Sodastream, Ahava, and Sabra. It pushes for banks, companies, and institutions to divest from business in Israel. The movement calls on governments to fulfill their obligations to international law and impose sanctions on Israel.

The **right of return** is the political right of Palestinians — both first-generation refugees displaced by the 1948 Nakba and the Six-Day War and their descendants — to return to and reclaim the land they have been forced to leave. United Nations General Assembly Resolu-

tion 194 (1948), Article 11 affirms this right.

The **right to resist** presents a moral or legal justification to oppose oppression, occupation, and colonization, including through protest, civil disobedience, and armed struggle. This right is enshrined in the United Nations’ affirmation of the “legitimacy of the struggle of peoples for independence, territorial integrity, national unity and liberation from colonial domination, apartheid, and foreign occupation by all available means, including armed struggle.”

The **one-state solution** is a proposed resolution envisioning a pluralist, democratic, secular state in all of historical Palestine to accommodate the rights and livelihoods of Israelis and Palestinians alike. In this proposal, all inhabitants — Jewish, Palestinian, Muslim, Christian or other — would be given equal citizenship and civil rights. The primary concern for Zionists in the scenario is the loss of a Jewish demographic majority; for Palestinians, it is whether they will actually have their rights guaranteed in such a state, given the existing power relations.

The **two-state solution** is a proposed resolution that establishes the sovereignty of both the State of Israel and an independent State of Pal-

estine, dividing historical Palestine between the two nations. While this solution is popular amongst the international community, including the United States, Israel staunchly rejects it, arguing that an independent Palestine and Palestinian self-determination would pose an inherent threat to its security.

Intifada derives from the Arabic root *nafada*: “to shake off.” An *intifada* is an uprising or resistance movement against oppression. In Palestine, “*intifada*” refers to mass uprisings against Israeli occupation, including the First Intifada (1987-1993), which began in the Jabalia refugee camp after an Israeli truck driver collided with a civilian car, killing four Palestinian workers; and the Second Intifada (2000-2005), which was triggered by the failure of the 2000 Camp David Summit, the anticipated final agreement of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process in July 2000. Critics who attempt to depict the *intifadas* as intrinsically murderous fixate upon violent elements of the campaigns and ignore the mass, nonviolent demonstrations that characterized the *intifadas* for the majority of Palestinians. The suggestion that the word *intifada* calls for annihilation is rooted in a racist distortion regarding what Palestinians believe and why they choose to resist occupation.

From the river to the sea calls for freedom, liberty, and dignity for all who live between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea. That means the ability for Palestinians throughout all of Palestine — whether in the West Bank, Gaza, Jerusalem, or Yaffa — to be able to live free of discrimination, on the land of their people, which they have inhabited for centuries.

Min al mayyah lil-mayyah, falasteen arabiyyah translates to “From the water to the water, Palestine is Arab.” The chant counters the official Israeli government posture that all of historic Palestine has an “exclusive” Jewish character. Arab Palestinians have inhabited the entirety of Palestine for over a millennium — the land cannot be divorced from its Arab character. Arab and Jewish identities have not always been perceived as diametrically opposed — historically, Jewish communities in Palestine and across the region were woven into the fabric of Arab societies. This chant thus stands in defiance of Zionism and its forced decoupling of Arab and Jewish identities.

Min al mayyah lil-mayah, falasteen hurriyyeh represents the above chant in Arabic. It translates to “From the water to the water, Palestine freedom.”

What does it mean for Harvard to be “financially complicit in Israeli genocide”?

This article is expanded from the *Crimeson's* commencement issue.

Harvard's endowment seems a black box of colossal proportion. It is nearly \$50 billion worth of opaque investments and undisclosed financial ties. In conversations with student activists, Harvard administration has acted as a voice box for the Harvard Management Company, whose influence looms over University operation and runs unchecked and unaccountable.

Harvard's financial dealings were somewhat more transparent before the 2008 financial crash. HMC used to rely more heavily on direct investments into securities that were traded — and, thus, viewed — publicly. Post-2008, HMC restructured their investment model, shifting investments from public to secretive private equity and hedge fund vehicles, a move that has, in part, made the endowment the concealed and contested entity that it is today.

What information we do have about most of Harvard's current holdings shows non-descript firms in tax havens like Delaware and the Cayman Islands, which further conceal financial decisions behind another set of confidentiality agreements. Last year, the Chief Executive Officer of HMC released these classifications of endowment assets:

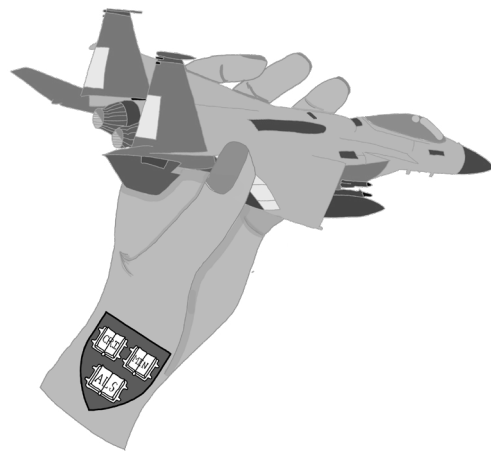
Asset Class	Allocation
Public Equity	11%
Private Equity	39%
Hedge Funds	31%
Real Estate	5%
Natural Resources	1%
Bonds/TIPS	6%
Other Real Assets	2%
Cash and Other	5%
ENDOWMENT	100%

Among the 11% of the endowment in public equity, which refers to publicly traded stocks, only 3% consists of direct investments by the HMC — that is, investments that must be publicly disclosed on Harvard's own financial filings. This 3%, \$1.5 billion in its own right, serves as a partial window into Harvard's financial abyss.

By investigating how Har-

vard chooses to place direct investments that it knows are subject to public scrutiny, we can form reasoned approximations as to where money is flowing outside of our view. Still, these can only be “best guesses.” As pro-Palestine activists have reiterated time and time again, Harvard itself can and must disclose all investments in Israel and its occupation of Palestine.

We can take, for example, one of the largest recipients of Harvard's direct public investments: Google. As of November 2023, Harvard's holdings in Alphabet Inc. (GOOGL) total more than \$227 million. In 2021, Google signed a contract to assist in Israel's Project Nimbus, a



1970: Harvard spent the 1960s buying up land in the historically Black and working-class neighborhood of Riverside, evicting the Black families who lived there to make room for what would become the upperclassman River Houses. One of its planned projects was Treeland, a 22-story graduate student housing complex that would have gentrified the area further. Organizers — longtime Cambridge residents alongside Harvard students — engaged in grassroots resistance, storming the stage during 1970's commencement. The University caved, canceling the Treeland project and curbing its expansion plans in Cambridge.

cloud computing project and artificial intelligence project for the Israeli government and military.

Harvard also has \$21,875,000 in direct public investment in the chipmaker and trillion-dollar-tech company NVDA/NVIDIA. NVIDIA partners with Siemens, a corporation placed on the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) list for enabling “illegal settlements on stolen Palestinian land to benefit from Israel-EU trade of electricity produced from fossil gas.” In May 2023, NVIDIA announced that it

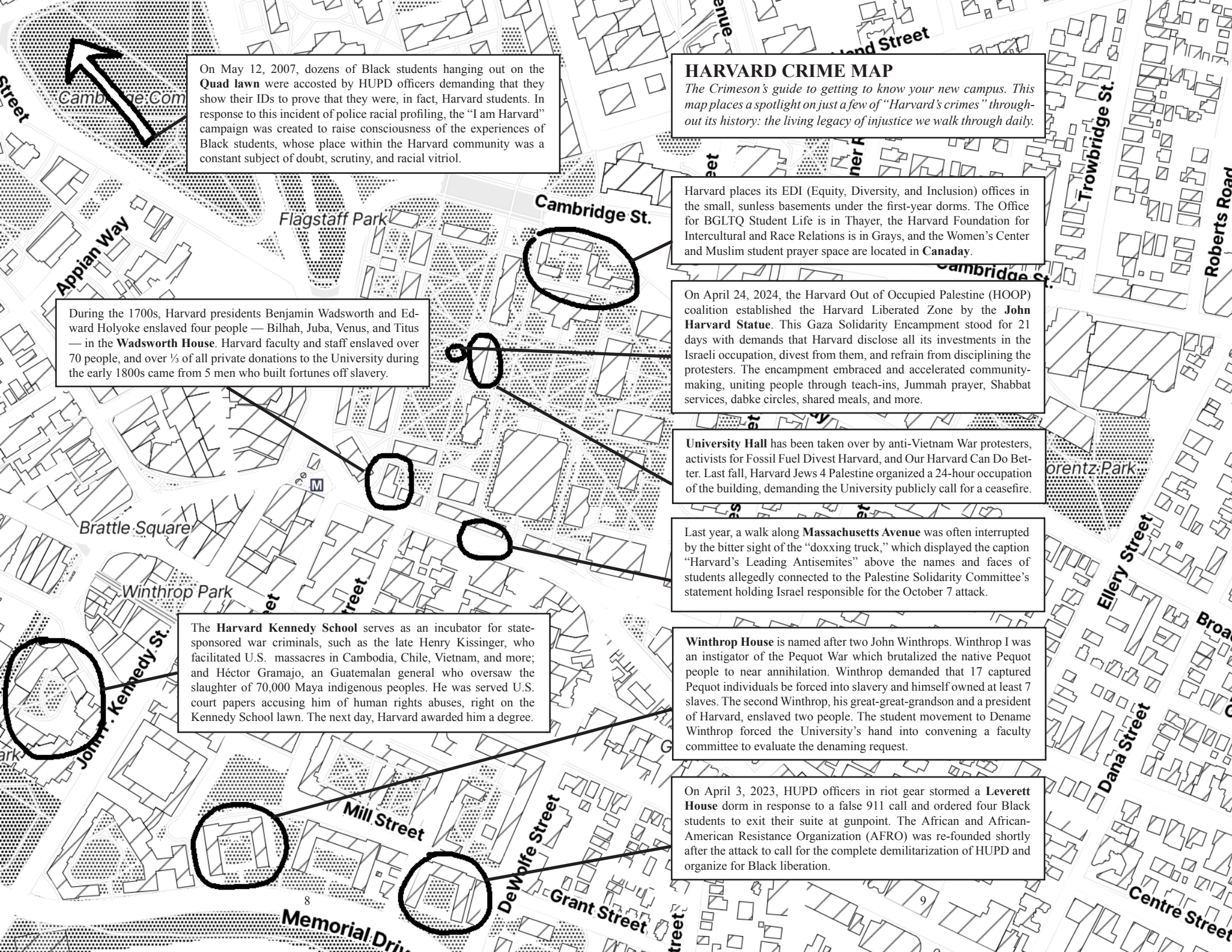
would invest millions in developing an AI supercomputer for the Israeli government, and their CEO reaffirmed this March that NVIDIA has no plans to halt its investments in Israel.

Furthermore, the AI Google and NVIDIA provide is a weapon of mass destruction in the hands of the Israeli Occupation Forces. AI allows Israel to collect data on and surveil Palestinians more closely than ever before. Using Google Photos, the IOF has instituted systems of facial recognition which restrict Palestinians' move-

ment across checkpoints such as those in the West Bank. Most recently, technologies developed by companies like Google and NVIDIA have enabled Israel's deployment of AI systems like Lavender AI and “the Gospel” that automate ongoing targeted bombings in Gaza.

These two companies are just the start of fathoming just how deep Harvard's ties to Israeli occupation and settler violence run. Due to the opaqueness of Harvard's investments, calls for transparency through the full disclosure of Harvard's endowment are more important now than ever.

In urging Harvard to divest, we follow the call of hundreds of Palestinian organizations to adopt the non-violent Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) strategy. As students at Harvard, we are uniquely positioned to pressure the wealthiest university in the world to divest from the genocide in Gaza and the ongoing occupation of Palestine. Over the last several decades, as universities have behaved increasingly like corporations, endowments have become some of the largest institutional investors in the United States. When we advocate for divestment from corporations that kill Palestinians, we fight back against “business as usual,” where the University pursues financial gain above all else.



On May 12, 2007, dozens of Black students hanging out on the **Quad lawn** were accosted by HUPD officers demanding that they show their IDs to prove that they were, in fact, Harvard students. In response to this incident of police racial profiling, the “I am Harvard” campaign was created to raise consciousness of the experiences of Black students, whose place within the Harvard community was a constant subject of doubt, scrutiny, and racial vitriol.

HARVARD CRIME MAP
The Crimeson's guide to getting to know your new campus. This map places a spotlight on just a few of “Harvard's crimes” throughout its history: the living legacy of injustice we walk through daily.

Harvard places its EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) offices in the small, sunless basements under the first-year dorms. The Office for BGLTQ Student Life is in Thayer, the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations is in Grays, and the Women's Center and Muslim student prayer space are located in **Canaday**.

During the 1700s, Harvard presidents Benjamin Wadsworth and Edward Holyoke enslaved four people — Bilhah, Juba, Venus, and Titus — in the **Wadsworth House**. Harvard faculty and staff enslaved over 70 people, and over 1/2 of all private donations to the University during the early 1800s came from 5 men who built fortunes off slavery.

On April 24, 2024, the Harvard Out of Occupied Palestine (HOOP) coalition established the Harvard Liberated Zone by the **John Harvard Statue**. This Gaza Solidarity Encampment stood for 21 days with demands that Harvard disclose all its investments in the Israeli occupation, divest from them, and refrain from disciplining the protesters. The encampment embraced and accelerated community-making, uniting people through teach-ins, Jummah prayer, Shabbat services, dabke circles, shared meals, and more.

University Hall has been taken over by anti-Vietnam War protesters, activists for Fossil Fuel Divest Harvard, and Our Harvard Can Do Better. Last fall, Harvard Jews 4 Palestine organized a 24-hour occupation of the building, demanding the University publicly call for a ceasefire.

Last year, a walk along **Massachusetts Avenue** was often interrupted by the bitter sight of the “doxxing truck,” which displayed the caption “Harvard's Leading Antisemites” above the names and faces of students allegedly connected to the Palestine Solidarity Committee's statement holding Israel responsible for the October 7 attack.

The **Harvard Kennedy School** serves as an incubator for state-sponsored war criminals, such as the late Henry Kissinger, who facilitated U.S. massacres in Cambodia, Chile, Vietnam, and more; and Héctor Gramajo, an Guatemalan general who oversaw the slaughter of 70,000 Maya indigenous peoples. He was served U.S. court papers accusing him of human rights abuses, right on the Kennedy School lawn. The next day, Harvard awarded him a degree.

Winthrop House is named after two John Winthrops. Winthrop I was an instigator of the Pequot War which brutalized the native Pequot people to near annihilation. Winthrop demanded that 17 captured Pequot individuals be forced into slavery and himself owned at least 7 slaves. The second Winthrop, his great-great-grandson and a president of Harvard, enslaved two people. The student movement to Dename Winthrop forced the University's hand into convening a faculty committee to evaluate the denaming request.

On April 3, 2023, HUPD officers in riot gear stormed a **Leverett House** dorm in response to a false 911 call and ordered four Black students to exit their suite at gunpoint. The African and African-American Resistance Organization (AFRO) was re-founded shortly after the attack to call for the complete demilitarization of HUPD and organize for Black liberation.

Brattle Square

Winthrop Park

Flagstaff Park

Cambridge St.

Mill Street

DeWolfe Street

Grant Street

Memorial Drive

Trowbridge St.

Forentz Park

Ellery Street

Dana Street

Centre Street

Roberts Road

Broad Street

Cambridge.Com

Appian Way

Street

et

ner F

AS

et

reet

G

street

9

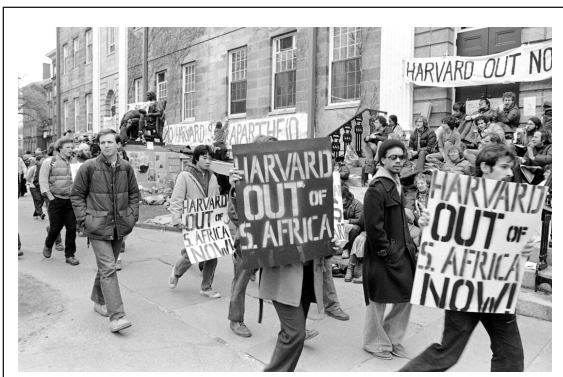
8

Dispatches from the Gaza Solidarity Encampment

The following reflections were written by students who encamped or who supported the encampment during the Harvard Out of Occupied Palestine (HOOP) coalition's 21-day occupation of Harvard Yard this spring. This piece is excerpted from the *Crimeson's* commencement issue.

1. The Gaza Solidarity Encampment was built to take up the physical, visual, and spiritual space in the Yard needed to continuously remind community members of Harvard's perpetuation of genocide. It was a necessary exposure of how comfortable the administration had become at neglecting its duty to listen to and address the concerns of students, and its basic humane duty to condemn and divest from genocide.

I always joked at camp that only this cause could convince me to sleep outdoors. But for all my complaining, I feel gifted to have been a part of such a beautiful community. From renaming buildings to honor martyrs to crowding around maqluba to learning Sudanese dances to rallying outside President Garber's house, every moment was transformative. Even when I was sleep-deprived or on sprinkler duty, I could find a shoulder to lean on and a life to learn about. When the administration suspended protestors, we found ways to protect each other. Our camp, sustained by acts of love and service, was able to bloom as a voice for Palestine, in spite of the disproportionate effort Garber put into demonizing our human rights campaign. Even as its proclaimed champion attempts to murder it, Veritas prevails.



1978: From the 1970s to the early '90s, Harvard students targeted the University's investments in financial institutions with holdings in South African apartheid. Students had formed the South African Solidarity Committee (SASC) to demand divestment. Protestors disrupted Harvard's 350th anniversary celebration, leading to its cancellation; launched a 19-person week-long hunger strike in 1983; and constructed a makeshift shanty town in front of University Hall, complete with a 16-foot "ivory tower" and a solidarity strike by Harvard University Dining Services workers. By the end of the campaign, the Harvard Corporation agreed to divest nearly \$400 million from apartheid South Africa.

2. On April 27, the third day of the Gaza Solidarity Encampment, we heard drumming from outside Johnston Gate. It was a group of Indigenous women and elders, singing and beating drums. One of our comrades had helped to coordinate their travels; some of them had come to Cambridge from as far as Chumash land, in southern California, to see us and urge us on. We were all singing, some of us cried — we held hands through the gate, exchanged prayers and well wishes. One of the elders implored us to stay steadfast in our commitment to divestment and a free Palestine. "They won't listen to us," she said, "they've never listened to us. You are Harvard students, think of the privilege you have. Maybe they will listen to you." In that moment I felt an emotion that I've only ever felt a few times, usually at protests — an overwhelming, twinned awareness of history and duty. The history of colonialism that links the suffering of Indigenous people in America with the suffering of Palestinians; my duty, as a guest on Native land, as a student at an institution that bankrolls genocide, to be angry, to shout, to protest, never to get complacent, never to go numb.

How Am I Supposed to Feel Safe at a University That Bankrolls the Slaughter of My People?

The following piece, reprinted from the *Crimeson's* commencement issue, was written by a Palestinian undergraduate.

I came to this institution eager to learn, ready to soak up all of the opportunities advertised by my Visitas tour guide. This time last year, on the first day of classes, I extended my hand to anyone in a suit, hoping to talk to every professor and dean I found. My conversations were wide-ranging, but my response to the inevitable question of where I was from — "I am Palestinian" — always elicited the same reaction: Their college brochure-like smiles quickly turned into frowns.

The dissonance only worsened once the genocide in Gaza began. For us Palestinian students, the congratulatory text messages our grandparents had sent us upon our acceptance to Harvard turned into names upon names of missing family members and images of our own being massacred. That was the true "veritas" of our tuition money.

So many questions demanded answers. How much does this institution invest in occupation and genocide? Why, last December, did the Managing Director of Investment for the Harvard Management Company go on an "exclusive" trip to Israel to explore potential investment areas? Why did he meet with the Israeli Occupation Forces and Israeli government officials? How am I supposed to feel safe at a university that bankrolls the slaughter of my



people?

Questions became chants that I screamed at protests — and the unprecedented and disproportionate retaliation from the University administration confirmed my greatest fears.

When I dropped a banner with the names of thousands of martyrs in Annenberg, professors screamed at me to "release the hostages." Now, staff members follow me into buildings whenever I wear my keffiyeh; police tail me as I leave protests.

The only semblance of comfort I found on campus was in organizations like the Harvard Undergraduate Palestine Solidarity Committee, whose members simultaneously celebrated me for my identity and saw me for more than it. I have organized with the PSC for nearly a year now. I have attended cultural events, participated in art builds, and met organizers who became some of my

closest friends. Last spring, when Harvard suspended the PSC, the only official affinity space for Palestinian students, they stole the last place we could feel safe.

Despite the University's McCarthyist crackdown on protests and its ever-looming disciplinary threats, I have drawn power from the vast network of students, faculty, staff, and community members calling for divestment and fighting for Palestinian liberation. Their solidarity will always mean more than any last-minute rule change or University-wide punitive email.

Palestinians at Harvard and on campuses across the nation are taking charge. Whether people like it or not, this University — and this country — have already begun to crumble in the face of the unavoidable call of liberation. It is no longer a question of if Palestine will be free — it is a matter of when.

UNDATED. None of this began on October 7th. Seventy-six years after the Nakba, Israel occupies Gaza, blocking air, land, and sea routes in and out and crippling Gaza's economy. Israeli settlers routinely destroy villages and kill Palestinians in the West Bank. Millions of Palestinians live in exile, many in cramped refugee camps, unable to return to their homes.

IN PALESTINE:

October 9, 2023. Israel announces a total blockade of Gaza's water, food, and electricity. Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant declares, "We are fighting human animals and are fighting accordingly."

November 1, 2023. The IOF bombs the Jabalia refugee camp, killing dozens of refugees. This bombing marks the first of continuous attacks on the camp.

November 15, 2023. The IOF raids Al-Shifa Hospital, where around 15,000 displaced Palestinians are sheltering.

December 1, 2023. The ceasefire ends after Israel rejects a hostage deal. Israel begins bombing Khan Younis in southern Gaza, where many Palestinians have fled from Gaza City.

December 15, 2023. Israel admits that it killed three of its own hostages, who were waving a white flag when they were shot.

January 27, 2024. The U.S., along with eight other countries, cuts aid to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, the only UN organization providing aid to Palestinian refugees.

March 28, 2024. The ICJ rules unanimously that Israel must immediately allow the unhindered flow of aid into Gaza.

May 5, 2024. Israel shuts down Al Jazeera's operations in the country.

May 26, 2024. In the "Tent Massacre," the IOF bombs a refugee camp in Rafah — previously designated a "safe zone" — setting tents on fire, killing 45 Palestinians, and injuring over 200 others.

August 15, 2024. Over 40,000 Palestinians have been martyred.

October 7, 2023. Hamas launches an invasion of Israel, killing 1,200 Israelis and taking 252 captive.

October 28, 2023. Israel begins a full-scale invasion of Gaza, one of the most densely populated places on earth, where two million Palestinians live.

November 9, 2023. Israel agrees to allow daily four-hour pauses of airstrikes to permit aid to enter and civilians to evacuate.

November 24, 2023. A seven-day ceasefire mediated by Qatar takes effect, in a deal between Hamas and Israel.

December 8, 2023. The U.S. vetoes a second UN resolution for an immediate ceasefire. By this point, 85 percent of Palestinians — 1.5 million people — are displaced.

January 26, 2024. The International Court of Justice issues a ruling there is sufficient evidence to conclude that Israel is committing a "plausible genocide" in Gaza, after South Africa raised the case against Israel.

February 29, 2024. In the "Flour Massacre," Israeli tanks open fire on a crowd of thousands waiting for aid trucks, killing at least 112 Palestinians and injuring 760.

April 1, 2024. The IOF drone strikes a World Central Kitchen convoy, killing seven aid workers.

May 7, 2024. The IOF launches its offensive in Rafah, which President Biden previously denoted as a "red line."

July 18, 2024. The U.S.-built Gaza aid pier is shut down after being installed just two months prior. 96 percent of Gaza's population remains food insecure.

Sept. 2, 2024. Today. There is no sign that the Zionist entity's murderous campaign will stop. Yet we also know that Palestinian existence cannot be extinguished. The future is in our hands. Palestine will be free within our lifetime.

WHAT THE FUCK HAPPENED LAST YEAR?

AT HARVARD:

October 8, 2023. The Harvard Undergraduate Palestine Solidarity Committee releases a statement cosigned by over 30 student groups, holding the "Israeli regime entirely responsible for unfolding violence."

October 12, 2023. The "doxxing truck" makes its first of many appearances in Harvard Square. It displays the faces and names of students, some of whom were not affiliated with the statement.

November 10, 2023. Gay issues a University-wide email condemning the phrase "from the river to the sea" as "imply[ing] the eradication of Jews from Israel."

December 5, 2023. Gay appears before Congress, along with the presidents of MIT and UPenn, to testify about campus antisemitism.

April 23, 2024. Harvard suspends the PSC for not registering an on-campus rally.

April 30, 2024. The Administrative Board, Harvard's disciplinary body, sends charge letters to over 60 student protestors.

May 10, 2024. Garber places at least 20 student protestors on involuntary leave of absence. They have a day to vacate their dorms and all Harvard property and lose access to campus resources.

May 18, 2024. In an unprecedented move, College disciplinary proceedings prevent at least 15 seniors from graduating. Five students are suspended and 20 more placed on probation.

Sept. 2, 2024. Today. While Harvard's primary academic operations were on pause, its endowment continues to aid the genocide of Palestinians. We as students, despite our efforts, remain complicit due to our ties to this University. We will leverage these ties, force a conscience onto Harvard, and not cower in the face of disciplinary action. We will continue to fight for a free Palestine. Join us.

October 10, 2023. Members of the PSC and other student groups face urgent safety threats and rampant doxxing.

October 18, 2023. At a PSC protest, a counterprotestor records protestors. Harvard retaliates against a graduate student who blocked the counterprotestor's camera, evicting and firing him from his job as a proctor.

November 16, 2023. Jews for Palestine organizes a 24-hour occupation of University Hall, which ends without any of the group's demands being met by administration. Nine students face disciplinary action for participation.

January 2, 2024. At the request of the Harvard Corporation, Gay resigns.

April 24, 2024. The Harvard Out of Occupied Palestine coalition establishes the "Liberated Zone," an encampment at the heart of the University. HOOP's manifesto calls for Harvard to disclose, divest, and drop charges from student protestors.

May 8, 2024. After nearly two weeks with no communication from administration beyond disciplinary threats, more than 300 faculty and staff sign a letter urging Garber to negotiate with HOOP. Garber finally arranges a meeting with students, which results in an impasse.

May 14, 2024. HOOP ends its encampment on the condition that students placed on involuntary leave are reinstated. Garber says he will encourage the Administrative Board to evaluate cases "under existing practices and precedents."

May 23, 2024. People's Commencement 2024. Over 1,000 students walk out on President Garber, in solidarity with Palestine and their classmates — who only received their degrees months later.



1998: Led by the Progressive Student Labor Movement (now the Student Labor Action Movement, or SLAM), Harvard students began the Living Wage Campaign to demand that Harvard employees be paid an hourly wage of \$10 or more — nearly double the \$6.50 minimum wage most University workers received. In 2001, after a series of protests, sit-ins, and appeals to the administration, student protestors launched a 21-day occupation of Massachusetts Hall and an encampment in Harvard Yard, supported by hundreds of campus workers. Harvard came to a series of agreements with unions, ultimately raising 95% of employees’ wages to the living standard.



2021: Students in the organizing group Fossil Fuel Divest Harvard (FFDH) pushed for nearly a decade for Harvard to sever its ties to the fossil fuel industry. Protestors disrupted the Harvard-Yale football game in 2019, filed legal complaints against Harvard for its hazardous investments, and staged a week-long hunger strike in 2014 with 160 organizers outside of Annenberg. In 2021, Harvard announced that it would begin divesting from the industry, although there is still ambiguity surrounding the University’s present investments — further highlighting the imperative for endowment disclosure.

What is The Harvard Crimeson?

Read our publication’s mission statement, released soon after the Crimeson’s inaugural issue.

June 21, 2024

One month ago, we distributed nearly 1,000 copies of THE HARVARD CRIMESON at Harvard’s commencement ceremony. As the University inducted its new alumni into the ruling class, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians did not have a graduation. Tens of thousands of them — martyred by the Israeli Occupation Forces — will never finish school.

We founded The Crimeson out of outrage, to hold the wealthiest university on Earth accountable for its complicity in the genocidal military campaign waged by Israel against the Palestinian people. As students, we’ve seen how Harvard maintains the appearance of normalcy while functioning as an engine for colonial actions and ideologies.

On Harvard’s campus, pro-Palestinian voices are dismissed as misinformed, falsely construed as antisemitic and disruptive, and met with punishment and vicious threats to personal security and safety. Our administration refuses to respond to the persecution of Palestinian students or answer their repeated requests for dialogue. Now, with the University’s announcement that it will adopt institutional neutrality, this inaction has become official policy.

Harvard’s silence, suppression, and sponsorship of the genocide is why — in the lineage of outlets like the New York Crimes, published by ACT UP during the AIDS epidemic, and the New York War Crimes, published by Writers Against the War on Gaza since October 7 — we mimicked the form of the University’s paper of record: to illuminate the stories it conceals or fails to cover. Our newspaper intends to act as both a protest object and as a legitimate journalistic space for writing about Palestine. The first issue contains speeches, essays, and scholarship by Palestinian students; testimonies from protesters; photography from the Gaza Solidarity Encampment; and critical engagement with the black box of Harvard’s endowment.

We take aim at three targets. The first is the Israeli regime, which — backed and bankrolled by the U.S. empire — has perpetrated an ongoing Nakba against the Palestinian people for over 76 years. The second is Harvard University, which funds these atrocities through hidden private investments, upholds the Palestine exception to free speech, and ignores Palestinian suffering. The third is The Harvard Crimson, whose coverage of the “Israel-Hamas war” and its reverberations on campus has been inaccurate, unsympathetic, one-sided, and often racist.

Our targets are not equal, but they are interconnected parts of a political and media apparatus that manufactures consent for genocide. Harvard has supported apartheid states before; we know which side it’s on. But as student organizers and journalists committed to liberation, we reject its control of the narrative. We will not rest until Palestine is free.

— The Editors

Want to join the Harvard student organizations fighting for Palestinian liberation? Check out these groups:

**Palestine Solidarity
Committee (PSC): @harvxrdpsc**

**African and African American Resistance
Organization (AFRO): @harvafro**

Jews for Palestine (J4P): @harvj4p

**Graduate Students for
Palestine (GS4P): @harvardgs4p**

**Harvard Graduate Student Union
BDS Caucus (HGSU-BDS): @hgsubds**

**Law Students for a
Free Palestine: @lsfpnational**

**Harvard Out of Occupied
Palestine (HOOP): @harvardoop**



THE HARVARD CRIMESON is an anonymous publication from the belly of the empire, dedicated to illuminating Palestinian and pro-Palestinian voices. Follow the Crimeson on Instagram [@theharvardcrimeson](https://www.instagram.com/theharvardcrimeson) or online at [thecrimeson.com](https://www.thecrimeson.com).
