

# **Sabeel – Kairos UK**

**(Leicester)**

## 'The Legacy of Sabra and Shatila'

A Medical Aid for Palestinians Presentation



by

Dr. David Toorawa

Church of the Martyrs, Westcotes Drive. LE3 0QT

July 4<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m.

All welcome. There will be refreshments and the opportunity for questions.

Donations are welcomed to cover our costs. Any surplus will be divided between MAP and Sabeel-Kairos.

Contact: [kairosleicester@gmail.com](mailto:kairosleicester@gmail.com)

**Kairos Britain**  
Taking Action for Palestine



**Friends of Sabeel UK**

## Sabra and Shatila

Until September 1982 Sabra and Shatila were like many other Palestinian refugee camps scattered around the Middle East. Homes for refugees from the conflicts of 1947-49 and 1967, now numbered in millions across the region, they were unremarkable and unremarked. Among the hundreds of thousands made homeless in 47-49 some crossed into Lebanon. Most expected to return to their homes: very few did. Some who tried, died.

As the days became weeks, then months and years, the tents provided by the International Committee of the Red Cross were replaced by concrete. Among the scores of refugee camps two in Lebanon shot to international attention in September of 1982. These were the camps Sabra and Shatila in the southern suburbs of Beirut.

Israel's invasion of Lebanon forced the evacuation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation under UN supervision leaving the women, children and elderly under the protection of a multinational UN force.

On September 16<sup>th</sup> Israel's troops surrounded Sabra and Shatila camps preventing escape. Under this protection and with support including parachute flares at night the 'Phalange'; a mainly 'christian' Lebanese right-wing militia closely allied to the Israel Defense Force, attacked the camps destroying buildings including hospitals and schools, killing as many as 3,500 unarmed and defenceless civilians and maiming many more.

The story continues ...