

Global Screening Day for Gaza

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Global action against war and for the demilitarisation of Palestine

One year on from operation “Cast Lead” in which the Israeli army carried out mass bombings on the Gaza strip, we, the anti-militarisation movement wish to encourage you all to participate in a global action against war and for the demilitarisation of Palestine, an action that, through the screening all over the world of *To shoot an elephant*, a documentary filmed in situ during the bombings, will serve to strengthen the popular and non violent struggle for a free and demilitarised Palestine, in which every person has equal rights, be it on a civil, political, social or cultural level and where every person has access to resources (land, water, health...), regardless of their religious or ethnic origin.

The screening of *To shoot an elephant* is another example of the possibilities of a global mobilisation in support of the Palestinian people, that it is possible, using grass roots initiatives, to break through the blockade on information that the state of Israel and the mass media imposes around the mass violations of human rights and the popular movements that arise as a result of their aggressive and militaristic practices. At the same time it's an example of the possibility of the dissemination of cultural productions outside the margins of the established markets, of copyright, who's enrichment comes at a cost to common cultural heritage.

Our aim through taking part in this Global Screening day for Gaza, as the movement against wars and militarism is:

- To denounce the cruellest aspects of this war. *To shoot an elephant* is basically a chronicle filmed from the very heart of the war, from the inferno of an existence filled with uncertainty, suffering and the impotence of seeing oneself, on a daily basis exposed to the lethal lottery of the bombardments. An existence in which such basic activities such as sleeping in one's own home, doing the shopping, working the land or the burial of loved ones can mean death.
- To establish communication with the thousands of men and women who continue to survive beneath the bombs, converting the pain and anger into a permanent show of solidarity, of resistance, of dignity and of freedom. In short, *To shoot an elephant* is a war documentary which shows us how those who suffer from rather than those who make wars live. And how this suffering gives rise to a resistance based on solidarity, and a good example of which are the personnel of the Red Crescent.

- To highlight the efforts of the thousands of people who's struggle is against the war and the Zionist apartheid through civil disobedience and non violent direct action. The ISM(International Solidarity Movement) is one of these networks, normally silenced by the mass media, the work of these men and women from Palestine, Israel and from all over the world through direct action, risking and sometimes losing their lives before the bulldozers which demolish people's homes, on the checkpoints or against the wall in.....

- To give incentive to, through self organisation and a global mobilisation, a world campaign pressing for a stop to the selling of arms to Israel and to put into practice a policy of non collaboration and a boycotting of the political and administrative structures of a state such as Israel, which are based on segregation and ethnic cleansing.

For all of these reasons, we of the *Alternativa Antimilitarista – Iruñeko KEM-MOC* encourage this wide and diverse global network of anti military collectives and pacifists to actively participate in this Global Day of Action for Gaza. For all organisational matters, and for the diffusion and purchase of DVD's of the film, you can contact the *Alternativa Antimilitarista* collective of Pamplona/Iruñea (kemiruna@noalaguerras.org) or contact directly with the team working on the documentary (toshootanelephant@eguzkibideoak.info).

We also urge you to make your screenings public via the website (www.toshootanelephant.com), so that between all of us we can fill the world map with mirrors which reflect and transmit these images of resistance and dignity.



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