

Gaza Children's Artwork Removed from London Hospital

UK Lawyers for Israel filed complaint saying artwork made some Jewish patients feel 'vulnerable and victimised'

By [Middle East Eye](#)

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A London hospital has taken down a display of artwork designed by [Palestinian schoolchildren from Gaza](#) after complaints by a British [pro-Israel](#) charity.

According to a statement by UK Lawyers for Israel (UKLFI), the hospital was compelled to remove the artwork following a complaint by the NGO on behalf of a number of Jewish patients, "who said that they felt vulnerable and victimised by this display".

The artwork contained a display of decorated plates, along with illustrations of their significance. Entitled "Crossing Borders - a festival of Plates", the display was shown by the entrance to the children's outpatients' department at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital.

It was designed by children at two schools run by UNRWA in Gaza and transferred onto the plates by children at the Chelsea Community Hospital school. The caption for one of the display plates was: "The olive branch is the symbol of peace and is used to express the wish for an independent Palestinian state."

The group said: "The drawings from Gaza all appear to be professional artwork, in the same style, and carried out by the same person," although it was said to have been designed by children at the Beit Lahia Girls' School and the Jabalia Prep Boys' A School in Gaza.

UKLFI said in the complaint that some of the artwork displayed Palestine as covering the entire area of Israel.

If you feel "vulnerable" and "victimised" having to look at a display of artwork by children from Gaza, imagine how those children feel when an Israeli soldier is pointing a gun at them. And get over yourself. <https://t.co/A29Q11Lh3X>

— Frank Owen's Legendary Paintbrush ██████████ (@WarmongerHodges)
[February 24, 2023](#)

Another description of a plate says: “The olive branch is the symbol of peace and is used to express the wish for an independent Palestinian state.”

“However, the picture on the plate accompanying the text shows the Dome of the Rock with a large Palestinian flag, implying that Jerusalem and in particular the site of what had been the Jewish Temple, would be part of a Palestinian state,” UKLFI said. The Dome of the Rock and al-Aqsa mosque are located in East Jerusalem, an area designated as Israeli-occupied territory in international law since 1967.

[Israel](#) has imposed a land, air and sea [blockade](#) on Gaza since Hamas won legislative elections in 2006. The siege and several Israeli military operations against Gaza have killed thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, and left many [suffering](#) post-traumatic stress disorders.

Update - the apartheid apologists at UK lawyers for Israel edited the text in their ludicrous article, removing “delighted” and “designed by children from Gaza”, so they can appear less unhinged.

A case study in the re-writing of history.

Original & updated. pic.twitter.com/gYVx4XQibt

— kristyan benedict (@KreaseChan) [February 24, 2023](#)

UKLFI claimed that the young students at the two Gaza schools had been taught with Hamas ideology embedded within their curriculum.

“The fact that adults could find a piece of artwork done by children intimidating, that an outfit such as the UKLFI could move to issue a complaint, and finally for the hospital to actually remove the artwork, is utterly bizarre,” said Anas Altikriti, CEO of The Cordoba Foundation, a UK-based research group.

Middle East Eye has reached out to the Chelsea and Westminster hospital for comment.

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