

“Tel Aviv Beach” in Paris Sparks Outrage a Year after Gaza Slaughter

By [Ali Abunimah](#)

Global Research, August 10, 2015

[The Electronic Intifada](#) 7 August 2015

Region: [Europe, Middle East & North Africa](#)

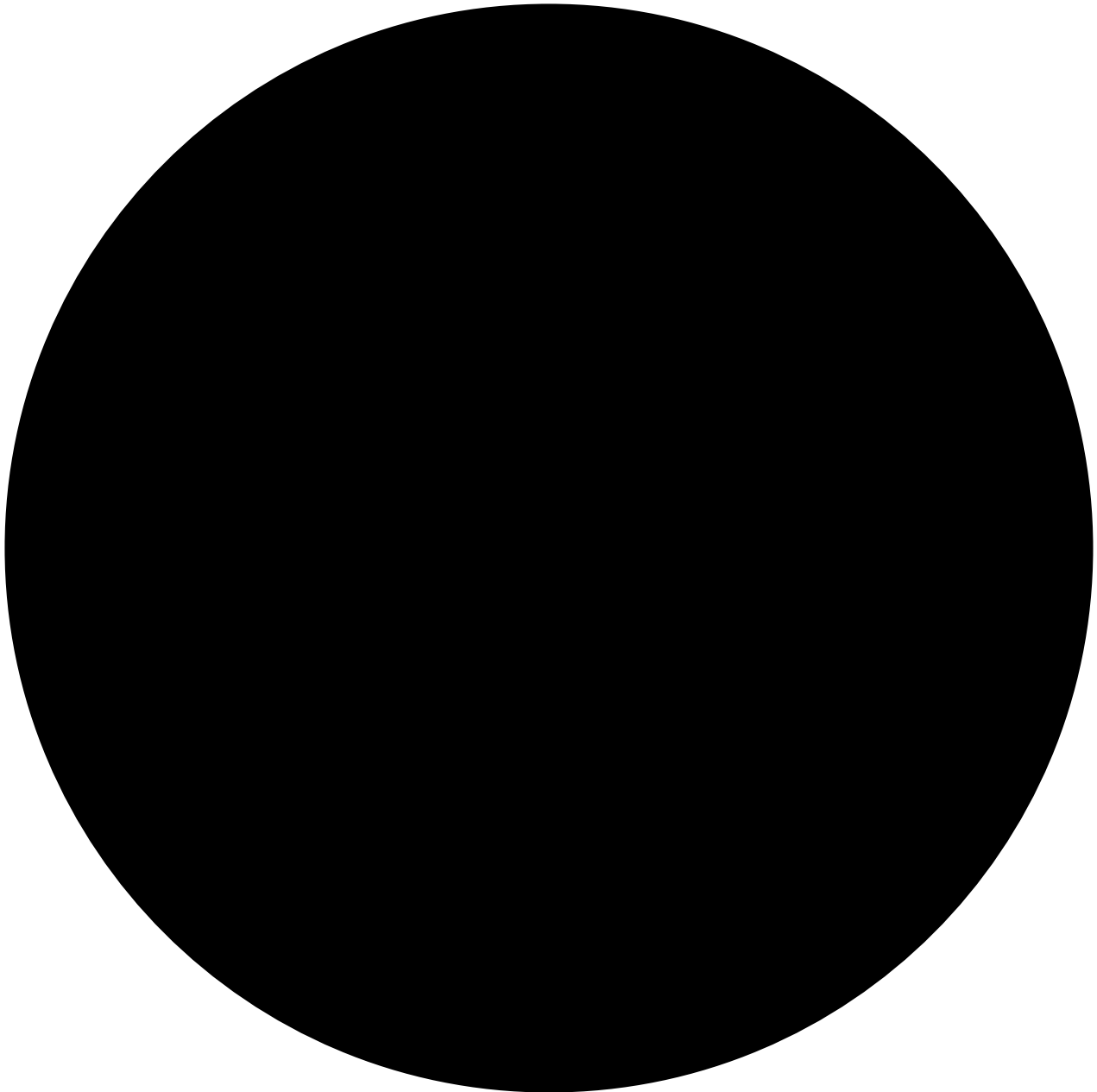
Theme: [Crimes against Humanity](#)

In-depth Report: [PALESTINE](#)

Palestine solidarity activists in France are expressing outrage that a “Tel Aviv beach” is being created in Paris to promote Israel.

For a few hours on 13 August, a section of river bank in the French capital near the Pont d’Arcole, will be turned into “Tel Aviv sur Seine” (Tel Aviv on the Seine), complete with falafel stands and “Israeli nightlife.”

[According to Coolisraël](#), a website that markets Israel to a French-speaking audience, the propaganda event is a joint project of the Paris and Tel Aviv municipal governments.



A promotional image for “Tel Aviv Sur Seine” shows what an area of Paris will look like on 13 August when it is refashioned as an Israeli beach.

A promotional image for “Tel Aviv Sur Seine” shows what an area of Paris will look like on 13 August when it is refashioned as an Israeli beach.

Tel Aviv sur Seine will be held at “[Paris Plage](#),” a simulated beach the city sets up in the summer.

Lionel Choukroun, director of Agence Culturelle, the company that is producing the event, [says](#) the idea is “to give Parisians and tourists the Tel Aviv experience without having to go anywhere.”

The Israeli embassy in Paris [is heavily promoting Tel Aviv sur Seine on its Facebook page](#) and Twitter accounts.



Elad Ratson
@EladRatson

Follow

#TelAvivSurSeine : le 13 août, la #plage de #TelAviv débarque à #Paris :-)

5:14 AM - 6 Aug 2015

68 42

Beach massacre

In August last year, Israel was in the midst of its 51-day attack on Gaza, dropping the [equivalent of an atomic bomb](#) on the besieged territory, [killing more than 2,200 people including 551 children](#) and causing utter devastation. While people were partying on Tel Aviv beaches, Palestinian [children were being slaughtered by Israeli shells a few miles away on Gaza's beach](#). A year later, Israeli bombs are still causing horror in Gaza. On Wednesday, [leftover Israeli ordnance exploded, ripping through a house near Rafah](#). Four members of the Abu Nukira family were killed by the blast; dozens more Palestinians were injured.

“Festive”

The Paris municipality is sending a form response to citizens who email Mayor [Anne Hidalgo](#) to express outrage at Tel Aviv sur Seine. The city's response, a copy of which was seen by The Electronic Intifada, states: “This festive day, open to all, underscores the strong cultural and high-tech ties between Paris and [Tel Aviv].” The city says that the project was conceived as a result of Hidalgo's visit last May to present-day Israel and the occupied West Bank. It adds – in a form of balancing [rejected](#) by the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel – that Paris plans to pursue “partnerships with Bethlehem,” in the occupied West Bank, “in the field of water management.”

“Provocation”

[BDS France](#), a national coalition that supports the Palestinian campaign for boycott, divestment and sanctions against Israel, has denounced Tel Aviv sur Seine. “One year after Israel's ‘Operation Protective Edge’ in Gaza, less than one month after the Israeli parliament

voted to authorize the force-feeding of prisoners, one week after the latest colonial violence burned alive the members of the Dawabsha family in Duma in the occupied West Bank killing 18-month old baby Ali, the incursion of Tel Aviv onto Paris Plage is a real provocation," BDS France said in a [statement](#). "Tel Aviv is not a city like others," BDS France added, "it is built on top of the ruins of seven Palestinian villages." BDS France called on the public to email Paris City Hall and to leave comments on [Mayor Hidalgo's Facebook page](#). There is perhaps one unintended irony in the event organizers' desire to give Parisians a taste of Tel Aviv without them actually going there. That might be the only way they'll experience Israel given that [tourists have been staying away from it in droves](#) since last summer's attack on Gaza. [Ali Abunimah's blog](#)

The original source of this article is [The Electronic Intifada](#)
Copyright © [Ali Abunimah](#), [The Electronic Intifada](#), 2015

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Ali Abunimah](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca
www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca