



Bethlehem, June 25, 2020

Landesbischof Dr. Jochen Cornelius-Bundschuh  
Blumenstraße 1-7, 76133 Karlsruhe  
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Dear Bishop Cornelius-Bundschuh,

This letter will be personally delivered to you by brothers and sisters of your church.

The Church Universal has arrived at a defining moment in the struggle to end the oppression of the Palestinian people. A broad coalition of Palestinian Christians and partners around the world— theologians, church leaders, lay and clergy—has just issued *Cry for Hope: A Call to Decisive Action* (copy attached).

We write to ask you, please, embrace this *Cry*. Share it widely with members of your community. Implement and encourage the work of its seven calls to action.

The personal, cultural, economic and ecological suffering of Palestinians under a brutal occupation increases day-by-day. Soon with support from the U.S. administration, the State of Israel is expected to annex over a third of the West Bank (including our fertile Jordan Valley). If implemented, Israel will openly exercise control over the entire territory of Palestine, practically eliminating the possibility for a Palestinian state and a just peace any time in the near future.

The Body of Christ can no longer stand by as world leaders and the international community refuse to insist on the rights of Palestinians to dignity, justice and self-determination under international law.

Our *Cry* is rooted in the logic of love which has as its goal the liberation of both the oppressor and the oppressed. For the sake of justice and an end to the bloodshed, join us in this call.

We will greatly appreciate your letting us know that you have received the *Cry attached* and how you plan to share and implement it. You may respond by emailing [info@kairospalestine.ps](mailto:info@kairospalestine.ps).

Sincerely,

**Rifat Kassis**

Rifat Kassis

General Coordinator: Global Kairos for Justice