

Genocide in Occupied Palestine and Collective Punishment for the People of Afghanistan

By [Black Alliance for Peace](#)

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Black Alliance for Peace

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With each passing month since the U.S./NATO [withdrawal](#) from Afghanistan in 2021, the catastrophic impacts of the United States' hegemonic grip over West and Central Asia, or the so-called "Middle East," continue to be evident. At the same moment U.S. officials are facilitating an [ongoing genocide in occupied Palestine](#), they're subjecting the people of Afghanistan to [collective punishment](#).

In October, a series of [powerful earthquakes](#) killed and injured thousands in Herat. One month later, the U.S.-backed interim government of Pakistan initiated [racist deportations](#) of all Afghan nationals from the country. Despite the need for immediate humanitarian relief, the United States continues to levy sanctions and freeze Afghanistan's sovereign assets. Despite the need for an immediate normalization of relations, Thomas West, U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan, maintains that this is "[not going to be possible](#)." The United States intends to continue targeting the Afghan people with impunity.

[The mission](#) of the United States Office of the Special Representative for Afghanistan is "to advance U.S. interests related to Afghanistan."

The United States was built on indigenous genocide, colonial conquest and violent repression, and the destructive humanitarian impact and economic devastation wrought by U.S. interests is plain to see—from Afghanistan, Palestine and Sudan to Haiti, Niger and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

As the conditions in Afghanistan worsen before what is expected to be another harsh winter—with nearly all Afghans unable to attain basic necessities like food, water and fuel due to the U.S.-led sanctions and asset freeze—it is imperative to connect what is unfolding in Afghanistan as a result of U.S.-led war and imperialism to the wider region and world.

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