

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



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**RESOLUTION ON THE DEPORTATION OF BIR ZEIT UNIVERSITY
LIBRARIAN OMAR AL-SAFI**

RESOLVED, That the American Library Association protests the deportation of Omar al-Safi from his homeland. Al-Safi, a librarian at Bir Zeit University in the Israeli-Occupied West Bank, is being subjected to an "administrative deportation", under which the Israeli military authorities are not required to present any evidence or afford the accused the right to a trial. We note that such deportations are strictly prohibited by the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 by a foreign occupier. We call on the Israeli Supreme Court and the Israeli Attorney General to stop or reverse all deportation proceedings against our colleague, and to either release him from "administrative detention" or afford him the right to a formal trial with the public presentation of any evidence against him.



**ADOPTED BY THE
COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (ALA)
July 1, 1992**

Peggy Sullivan

**Peggy Sullivan
Secretary to ALA Council**

COUNCIL MINUTES
Annual Conference
June, 1992

RESOLUTION ON HR 1300 AND S. 2320, THE UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE ACT (CD#57). Councilor Bernard Margolis, Resolutions Committee Chair, presented CD#57, and Council then

VOTED, That the American Library Association endorse H.R. 1300 and S. 2320, the Universal Health Care Act; and that copies of this resolution be sent to Representative Russo, Senator Wellstone, and the library press.

RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE COUNCIL TO REAFFIRM ALA'S OPPOSITION TO LOYALTY OATHS AND TESTS (CD#58). Councilors Regina U. Minudri and Gordon Conable moved, and it was

VOTED, To substitute CD#58 with CD#18.1.2.

Council then

VOTED, That we, the American Library Association, protest conditions of employment predicated on inquiries into library employees' thoughts, reading matter, associates, or membership in organizations. We also strongly protest compulsory affirmations of allegiance as a condition of employment in libraries. We call on libraries not to impose loyalty tests or oaths as conditions of employment.

RESOLUTION ON THE DEPORTATION OF BIR ZEIT UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN OMAR SAFI (CD#59). Council wanted to know whether Mr. Al-Safi was a librarian. Council granted David Williams, sponsor of the resolution, an opportunity to answer the question. Mr. Williams said that each country determines its own criteria for what constitutes a librarian, and in the occupied West Bank of Gaza, a person holding a masters degree in Arabic qualifies. He said that Mr. Al-Safi had been employed as a librarian at the Bir Zeit University for ten years.

Council then

VOTED, That the American Library Association protests the deportation of Omar al-Safi from his homeland. Al-Safi, a librarian at Bir Zeit University in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, is being subjected to an "administrative deportation," under which the Israeli military authorities are not required to present any evidence or afford the accused the right to a trial. We note that such deportations are strictly prohibited by the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 by a foreign occupier. We call on the Israeli Supreme Court and the Israeli Attorney General to stop or reverse all deportation proceedings against our colleague, and to either release him from "administrative detention" or afford him the right to a formal trial with the public presentation of any evidence against him.

RESOLUTION ON ISRAELI CENSORSHIP (CD# 60). The Council granted Al Kagan, Member-at-Large, SRRT Action Council, an opportunity to speak on behalf of the resolution. Kagan said that the SRRT supported the resolution and felt that it was factual. He said that SRRT also thought the resolution was very important because Israel gets more money per capita from the United States in aid than any other country in the world, and, therefore, the U.S. could have some effect upon the struggle for human rights and upon censorship in Israel.

Beverly Lynch, Councilor and International Relations Committee Chair, moved that Council reaffirm last year's Resolution on Censorship in the Middle East including Library Closures (1990-91 CD#43.3) and substitute that action for the proposed CD#60. After several Councilors spoke in opposition to the reaffirmation, the motion was defeated. The Council then returned to the original motion, and

VOTED, That the ALA calls upon the government of Israel to end all censorship and human rights violations in the Occupied West Bank and Gaza, and in Israel itself; and, that the ALA encourages representatives of the Israeli and Palestinian people in the quest for a peaceful and just solution of their conflict; and that ALA encourages its members to develop ways to support librarians, journalists, educators and others working for peace, human rights and

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ALA MEMBERSHIP MEETING I
Monday, June 29, 1992, 8:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Marriott, Buena Vista

INTRODUCTIONS. President Patricia Glass Schuman introduced newly elected 1992-93 President-Elect Hardy R. Franklin, Treasurer-Elect Ann K. Symons; 1991-92 President-Elect Marilyn L. Miller, Parliamentarian Edwin C. Bliss, Executive Director Peggy Sullivan, ALA staff members assisting with these meetings, and guests.

President Schuman also announced that ALA Honorary Membership had been bestowed on Joseph Becker. Mr. Becker worked to involve ALA in two World's Fairs (Seattle in 1962 and New York in 1966) and played a crucial role in developing concepts for ALA's participation in the design of the exhibits. He was also instrumental in incorporating computer technologies into them and in obtaining participation of corporate partners. Mr. Becker played a similar role in gaining corporate participation in the 1979 White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services. He has authored several books introducing computer-based library and information operations and services to the field and to the general public. Recently, he has played an important role in the development of the National Information Network, now coming to fruition in NREN. He has been a member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science and has served the profession in positions of responsibility in several library and professional associations.

QUORUM. A quorum was established at the beginning of each meeting.

AWARDS. Diane Gordon Kadanoff, chair, ALA Awards Committee, conducted the awards presentation. A list of the award recipients follows:

David Clift Scholarship

Donna Marie Majchrzak, part-time employee for WNED-TV in a Children's Educational Television Program, "Reading Rainbow," West Seneca, NY; and Paul Scott Piper, technician at the University of Montana Mansfield Library, Missoula, MT.

RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE COUNCIL TO REAFFIRM ALA'S OPPOSITION TO LOYALTY OATHS AND TESTS (MD#5, Exhibit 26C). ALA Member Bill Fisher moved that "We, the membership of the American Library Association, strongly encourage the Council of the American Library Association to reaffirm its opposition to loyalty oaths and to prohibit recruiting at the placement centers by employers who require loyalty oaths." The motion was amended to read: "...and to prohibit recruiting at the Placement Center *and advertising in association journals* by employers who require loyalty oaths." The resolution was **ADOPTED** as amended.

RESOLUTION ON THE DEPORTATION OF BIR ZEIT UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN OMAR SAFI (MD#6, Exhibit 26E). ALA Member David Williams moved and it was

VOTED, That the American Library Association protest the deportation of Omar Al-Safi from his homeland. Al-Safi, a librarian at Bir Zeit University in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, is being subjected to an "administrative deportation," under which the Israeli military authorities are not required to present any evidence or afford the accused the right to a trial. We note that such deportations are strictly prohibited by the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 by a foreign occupier. We call on the Israeli Supreme Court and the Israeli Attorney General to stop or reverse all deportation proceedings against our colleague, and to either release him from "administrative detention" or afford him the right to a formal trial with the public presentation of any evidence against him.

ADJOURNMENT. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m.