REVOLUTIONARY LEADERSHIP

Our leaders are not separate from the people. They are born in refugee camps, prisons, and ghettos, forged in the fires of struggle. They do not stand above the masses but rise from within them, shaped by love for their people and an unwavering commitment to the cause. They did not seek fame. They only ever sought to push history one step closer toward justice.

The great anticolonial leaders of our time—Sinwar, Nasrallah, Deif, Jackson, Hampton, Lumumba, Cabral—are unrelenting forces against the genocidal world manufactured by Western imperialism. In stark contrast to Western imperialist leaders whose only values lie in self-interest through war and domination, our leaders represent a just and moral cause. The people support these leaders not because of fear or idolization of the person, but because they personify their cause for justice and liberation. Despite the cowardly Zionist Imperialist tradition of assassinating our great leaders, the cause they embody outlives them. For every martyred leader, new ones are born more steadfast and more determined.

Many of our leaders died as they lived—on the frontlines, among their people. While we mourn them, we must remember that their sacrifice is among countless others in this long protracted struggle. Our revolutionary leaders move history forward. They lift our heads and put fire in our soul. But they are ultimately only human, and we must see ourselves in their example. Their fight does not end with them: we must carry their commitment and sacrifice forward. It's not enough to celebrate these leaders. We must follow them in practice.

Abu Ibrahim Yahya Al-Sinwar

Yahya Sinwar, "Abu Ibrahim", the prisoner, the fighter, the martyr, the one who wrote the first line in the war of liberation and the end of the occupation. Born in 1962 in Khan Younis refugee camp in Gaza, a refugee in his own land. Sinwar joined the struggle as a young man and was from the founding generation of the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas. He sacrificed his youth as a prisoner in the occupation's dungeons for more than 23 years before he was released with his head held high in a prisoner exchange. He spent his years in captivity learning Hebrew and studying the enemy. As soon as he was freed, he continued on the path of resistance, building the movement's military, uniting the resistance fronts, and leading the movement in Gaza. His strategic vision laid the foundation for the historic **Al-Aqsa Flood Operation.**

Yahya Sinwar embodied Palestine, he resisted, he was liberated, he terrorized the enemy, he fought, he loved the children of his land, he revolted, he did not waver, he was martyred. His final stand came in the besieged Tel al-Sultan area of Rafah, martyred on the battlefield, clashing with the enemy until his last moments. In this final scene, Palestine was embodied. **He died standing with a weapon in his hand, after 12 months of breaking an entire army with a few motorcycles, handmade guns, and confronting all the intelligence agencies in the world alone.**

**GLORY TO THE NAMELESS LEADERS
WHO WE MAY NEVER KNOW
THERE IS NO VOICE IN
THIS WORLD ABOVE
THAT OF THE
RIFLE**

"Settle your quarrels, come together, understand the reality of our situation, understand that fascism is already here, that people are already dying who could be saved, that generations more will die or live poor butchered half-lives if you fail to act. Do what must be done, discover your humanity and your love in revolution. Pass on the torch. Join us, give up your life for the people."

GEORGE JACKSON

THE GUEST, THE MARTYR, MOHAMMED DEIF

Mohammed Deif, "Abu Khaled," "The Guest," was resistance personified: from the people, for the people. Born in Khan Yunis refugee camp in 1965, he was captured by the occupation at age 24 and detained without trial for 16 months on charges of working with Hamas' military wing. He was arrested again in 2000 by the Palestinian Authority but managed to escape imprisonment following the outbreak of the Second Intifada. Deif was appointed commander of the Al-Qassam Brigades in 2002 and established a military training and development academy.
Under Deif's command, the Al-Qassam Brigades transformed their arsenal from primitive rockets with a few kilometers' range to missiles capable of reaching every occupied Palestinian city. He survived seven assassination attempts by the occupation—in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2006, 2014, and twice in 2021. In 2014, an attempt on his life killed his wife Widad Deif, his three-year-old daughter Sarah, and seven-month-old son Ali. But Deif remained committed to resistance.

Despite never revealing his face to the public, Deif became one of the most beloved and respected figures in the resistance. **"Put the sword before the sword—we are the people of Mohammed Deif!"**

He was nicknamed "The Guest" because he slept in a different house every night for decades, avoiding detection and assassination. The occupation threatened to kill him, but the people answered: "Our homes are yours."

Abu Khaled, the Guest, master of every home and every heart.

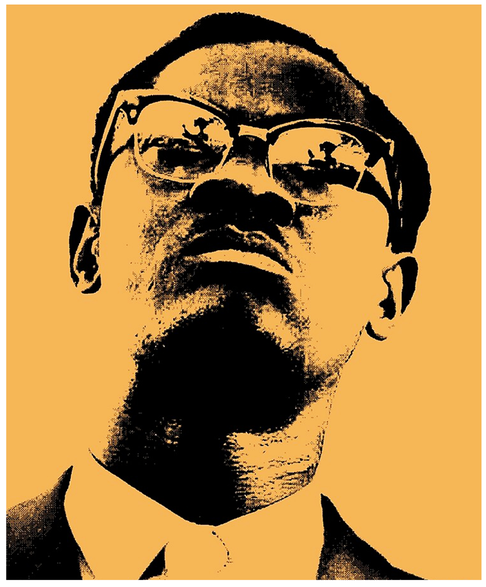
Thomas Sankara was a revolutionary leader who served as president of Burkina Faso from 1983 to 1987. He rose to power on August 4, 1983, through a revolutionary coup d'état, launching the Popular and Democratic Revolution to implement land reforms, promote gender equality, expand education, and reduce foreign dependence. His socialist Pan-African ideals made him a threat to both domestic elites and international powers, particularly France. On October 15, 1987, he was assassinated in a coup aiming to halt his radical transformation of Burkina Faso.

Today, Sankara's legacy continues to inspire liberation movements, with Burkina Faso leading the contemporary Pan-African struggle against imperialism as part of the Alliance of Sahel States (AES).

CABRAL IN THE FIELD

Amilcar Cabral led the independence struggles of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, becoming one of Africa's most influential anticolonial leaders. On September 19, 1956, Cabral founded the PAIGC and served as its general secretary. Marrying dialectical analysis and decolonial theory, Cabral became a leading anti-imperialist thinker, transforming abstract theory into concrete action and mobilizing his people toward liberation.

Though he was assassinated on January 20, 1973 by the Portuguese, his death did not delay his people on their path toward victory. Guinea-Bissau declared independence later that year on September 24, 1973, with Cape Verde following in 1975. His leadership not only advanced the fight for African independence from colonial rule, but also set a model for future Pan-African revolutionaries and decolonial movements worldwide.



PATRICE LUMUMBA

The Democratic Republic of Congo endured 80 years of Belgian colonial rule before Patrice Lumumba, a proud African nationalist, became its first democratically elected leader in May 1960. Loved by the Congolese people, he embodied their aspirations for a sovereign nation, free from Western control. His push to nationalize Congo's vast mineral wealth and gain real independence terrified Belgium and the U.S., who saw him as a threat to their imperialist economic interests. As his leadership strengthened, these forces conspired to orchestrate his kidnapping and assassination in 1961—one of the most tragic acts of imperialist intervention in Africa, with consequences that still affect the Congolese people today.

MARTYR OF A NATION...

يا شهيدَ العزِّ ما زلتَ فينا
رايةً تعلي جبينَ السماء
سوف نمضي دربَكَ الحرَّ حتى
نكتبَ النصرَ بدمِّ الفداء

Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah was a great Arab, Islamic and international leader, a lifelong struggler, a brilliant revolutionary strategist, an anti-imperialist, anti-colonial icon, a beloved of the oppressed, a military and political commander, and a tireless and victorious fighter.

Leading the Islamic Resistance in Lebanon for 33 years, Sayyed Hassan was firm and principled in his commitment to Palestine, defying Zionist and American genocidal plans for the region, and reaffirming time and time again that the path of resistance is the only way to achieve liberation. He united the resistance with the people of Gaza, never abandoning Palestine and the duty of ridding the region of this genocidal occupation.

Nasrallah and the honorable people of South Lebanon endured great sacrifices in defense of their homeland and the people of the region. In 2000, South Lebanon witnessed a historic victory when the resistance expelled the defeated Zionist army after 15 years of occupation. Two days before liberation, the torturous Khiam prison was emptied by the resistance, through a culmination of over 30,800 operations against Israel and its collaborators.

A life of deep sacrifice, he was a man of the people, the same people who carried him to his resting place, who lift their fists in defiance, who carry forward his oath. Sayyed Hassan was martyred in a **savage massacre by 83 one-ton U.S.-made bombs** dropped in the southern suburbs of Lebanon on September 27th, 2024, killed amongst his beloved people of Lebanon. He joined his son Hadi in martyrdom, who gave his life in battle in 1997. Nasrallah's assassination is a great crime that will only inspire more resistance and struggle, until the liberation of Palestine and the defeat of Zionism and its imperialist partners - until victory. **Our loss of strategic intelligence is only matched by our loss of a heart that loved Palestine.**

FRED HAMPTON, the 21-year-old chairman of the Illinois Black Panther Party, was murdered on December 4, 1969 as he slept in his apartment, in a coordinated raid by the Chicago Police, the FBI, and Cook County. Hampton was a revolutionary leader and organizer, he built free breakfast programs, health clinics, and multiracial class solidarity through the Rainbow Coalition. His assassination was part of the FBI's COINTELPRO strategy to disrupt and destroy Black liberation movements. Revolutionary leadership providing real direction to the people was too explosive for the fascist Amerikkkan state to tolerate.

"I don't believe that I'm going to die in a car wreck. I don't believe I'm going to die slipping on a piece of ice; I don't believe I'm going to die because I got a bad heart; I don't believe I'm going to die because of lung cancer. I believe that I'm going to be able to die doing the things I was born for... I believe that I will be able to die as a revolutionary in the international revolutionary proletarian struggle. And I hope that each one of you will be able to die in the international proletarian revolutionary struggle or you'll be able to live in it."