

UNC: END ALL STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS & ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION IN OCCUPIED PALESTINE



أففاض في موقع القرية. المشهد كما يبدو للناظر إليه من جهة الشمال الغربي (أيار/مايو ١٩٨٧) [ياقوق]

Image from *Palestine Remembered: A historical overview of the village of Yaquq*

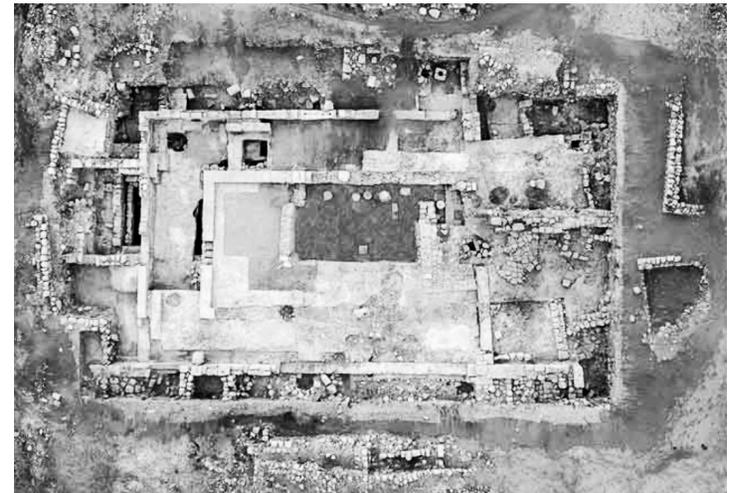
Posted by [abu seiwd](#) on December 17, 2007

My name is Yousef Hussein Ibrahim Abu-Sweid .I'm originally from Yaquouq .My father used to tell me about he lost paradise that we had in Palestine many fields any many orchards

PalestineRemembered.com

For decades, the zionist entity (“israel”) has used archaeology as a propagandist pretext to legitimize the seizure of land and displacement of Palestinians. Through exclusive claims of “heritage” and “cultural preservation,” settlers and the israeli state seize, damage, and securitize land while threatening, displacing, arresting, and attacking the Palestinians who live there.

By appropriating israeli narratives of Jewish history, israel continues ethnically cleansing Palestinians while simultaneously destroying non-Jewish cultural heritage and history through botched excavations, bombing campaigns, and negligence.



Volume 131 Year 2019, Huqoq - 2018 by Jodi Magness, Shua Kisilevitz, Dennis Mizzi, Jocelyn Burney, Karen Britt and Ra'anan Boustan. 19 December 2019.

UNC's involvement? study abroad?

The University of North Carolina System is implicated in this project through its archaeological exchange programs. (UNC Chapel Hill in Yaquq and UNC Charlotte in Al-Quds).

Yaquq

UNC-Chapel Hill participated in and directed excavations in Yaquq near Galilee from 2011-2023, when study abroad programs were paused for student safety. Contributing archaeologists have participated in excavations in the Occupied West Bank and across Palestine.

Zionists established a settlement near Yaquq in 1943. Shortly afterward they "depopulated" (i.e., ethnically cleansed) Yaquq during the Nakba in 1948.

According to historian Walid Khalidi in his book *Lest We Forget*, he wrote of Yaquq:

The fate of the inhabitants of Yaquq was either deliberate expulsion during this period or being forced to flee as a result of the campaigns that were being waged in the north and south. It is possible that they initially sought refuge in other areas of the Galilee, like other inhabitants of the region.

UNC's excavation project in Yaquq is contributing to the creation of revisionist histories which seek to erase Palestinian existence and whitewash zionism's genocidal history. Take the following excerpt from the 2011 Preliminary Excavation Report of the Yaquq program authored by UNC Chapel Hill archaeologist, Jodi Magness:

that Huqoq flourished during the Late Roman and Byzantine periods. The ancient settlement is covered partly by the modern Ottoman (twentieth century) village of Yakuk (c. 10 dunams), which was abandoned in 1948 and bulldozed in 1968. Pottery from the

In a 2023 WUNC interview with Magness, she describes that archaeological finds are the property of the state of Israel and that they plan to develop the site for tourism.

Q: These programs have been temporarily paused for concerns of "safety"; is that not enough?

The fact that these programs have been paused for this reason highlights a violent contradiction from UNC.

UNC holds contracts with companies that assist israel's occupation and invests in assets and ETFs that support the military-industrial complex, **creating these conditions of unsafety for Palestinians**, and then **prioritizes the safety of students**.

By temporarily pausing these programs, UNC makes their intentions clear: to resume these programs when the violence 'stops' (passive voice intended) — when the people of Palestine are completely annihilated.

ANYTHING LESS THAN A COMPLETE ACADEMIC BOYCOTT OF APARTHEID IS NOT ENOUGH.

PHONE ZAP: Call the study abroad office at 1-919-962-7002 & tell them to cut ties with israeli institutions and study abroad programs:

"I am calling to ask that UNC immediately cancel all study abroad programs to Israel. Although they are currently paused, a complete stop to the UNC-Israeli partnerships through the archaeological exchange programs is needed to prevent complicity in Israeli apartheid and genocide. Temporarily pausing these programs to protect UNC students, but not for the Palestinian lives affected is an explicit disregard for Palestinian life. I hope you utilize your position to advocate for an end to this inhumane abetment of Israel's terror."