

Dear Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey,

We hope this email finds you well.

We write to you now out of a sense of hope and fairness to ask that you review what we believe to be an injustice directed at a group of us who have long participated in the Twitter community but who now, inexplicably, find our accounts suspended or banned for unknown and, we believe, arbitrary reasons.

We are a group of Palestinian and pro-Palestinian women and men who have been very active for years in an honest and peaceful exchange of ideas using various social media platforms, including Twitter, to enhance and expand the range of knowledge and information to all about one of the most compelling issues of social justice of our time: the plight of millions of stateless Palestinians, including some two million who live under a siege now entering its fourteenth year in the Gaza Strip.

Although there are those who disagree with our message none can challenge our commitment to the embrace of peaceful communications that seek nothing more than to maintain and expand a fair and free passageway of information about the plight of Palestinians.

We understand that Twitter itself has been subjected to unfair accusations about the role that it plays in maintaining a marketplace of ideas, one where strangers can hear the voice and ideas of others and to make decisions for themselves about a wide range of issues of our time. For this very reason we hope that you will take the time to review the circumstances surrounding the suspension or banning of these accounts.

Briefly stated, at the end of October, Twitter suspended dozens of these accounts without any prior notice, warning or tailored specifics to provide these account holders a reasonable and necessary idea of what, if anything, they may have done to trigger such a harsh sanction. In short, the users were shocked to see their accounts suspended or banned with no opportunity of consequence to participate in that decision making process; with no chance to answer any unfair accusations. It is in that vacuum that the mission of Twitter, namely to expand the exchange of belief and ideas among diverse and distant communities has also suffered a great injury.

We the undersigned users of the suspended/banned accounts did nothing wrong. We simply provided others an opportunity to see our lives as human beings under occupation and siege, making many friends – political and otherwise—along the way. As an American long protected under the First Amendment we hope you share our concern that our international rights to freedom of expression are no less valuable or protected. Millions of people worldwide have been beneficiary of a glimpse into the history, tradition and plight of Palestinians and been empowered themselves to play a role in assisting us through the peaceful expression of support for our rights and legitimate aspirations. Much of this

exchange has simply been making new friends with the healthy exchange of our daily stories, political and not.

Having long been isolated and, at times, censored throughout the world, we Palestinians are very careful to pay attention to the rules and policies of various social platforms which we join. Because such platforms often provide the only ability of Palestinians to participate in the broader world community we are especially sensitive to rules and regulations such as those established by Twitter and do our best not to violate them.

In this light we ask you to take a personal interest not at our plight, but the suspensions that have tamped down on our ability to participate in the exchange of ideas throughout the world and to do so in a lawful, peaceful and informative manner. We are sure that a review of our counts will result in their restoration. We ask for nothing more than to cooperate with all people on the globe to create a better and more peaceful & prosperous world.

The suspended accounts are the following:

@NaimBasem2020

@NaimBasem

@ShehabAgencyEn

@BCP_Palestine_E

@BCP_Palestine

@BCP_PAL

@BoycottFrench

@AfnanB16

@PalestinRespond

@KarimNK96

@Nesma97m

@Nesma_97s

@Diana97z

@Haneen_Gaza1998

@ner_pal

@Nada_Gaza2020

@ahmedshameya

@gazaonline995

@awsh995

@aedws2020

@ahmedsham995

@amaalesam
@Jannamahmoud0
@Lubna636
@jannaMah98
@BudierReeham
@AmalMohamed_199
@SaraAhmed_1999
@adhammigdada
@PalestinianVoices
@cpdspal
@PalObserver
@VPalestineT
@Reem_Gaza96
@WomenForPal
@PalestinePost24
@Reem_Haddad96
@Reemaaaa97
@WafaaPal98
@HalaPal96
@RaPal99
@Haifaa912020
@Alice50309517
@falastinvoicess

If you or any of your staff have any additional questions feel free to reach out to us and we will do our best to answer any concerns as fully and fairly as soon as possible. If your review points to any particular inadvertent missteps on our part we can assure you it will not again be a problem.

These are difficult times for the world community as a whole with the onset of COVID. For us, in the best of times, there is a painful sense of isolation and loss. Twitter has gone a long way in providing an invaluable megaphone for our voice and source of education and friendship with others in far off and distant places.

Thank you for your time and consideration.