



Friends of Sabeel--North America Voice of the Palestinian Christians

REPORT: 900 attend Sabeel conference in Boston with Desmond Tutu, Naim Ateek, Noam Chomsky, Anat Biletzki, Phyllis Bennis, Jeff Halper, and others.

So many people stood in line to register at the last minute for the Saturday sessions of the Boston Sabeel conference that for the first time, Sabeel turned people away. **SOLD OUT** signs were posted on the front doors of the Old South Church in Boston. Inside was packed to the rafters with folks from 30 U.S. states and from five countries.

The Apartheid Paradigm in Palestine-Israel: Issues of Justice & Peace

October 26-27, 2007. Old South Church, Copley Square, Boston, MA

This is the largest conference to be held by Sabeel in the U.S. The event drew opposition from pro-occupation and pro-Zionist groups in the wider Boston area. The Boston Globe published a number of pre-conference editorials (including one by Archbishop Tutu below) and several post-conference articles as well (though the Boston Red Sox were getting most of the front page). The Sabeel conference was supported by Jewish Voice for Peace which sponsored a solidarity rally in Copley Square immediately following the end of the Sabeel conference, coinciding with a scheduled massive anti-war march put on by United for Peace and Justice. 10,000 people protesting the U.S. occupation of Iraq and the ongoing war marched through Copley Square, greeted by hundreds of Sabeel conference participants protesting the Israeli occupation and apartheid policies.