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Morris Will Welcome Award-Winning Scholar, Author, and Activist Mazin Qumsiyeh

Summary: Morris will welcome award-winning scholar, author, and activist Mazin Qumsiyeh on Friday, October 26, at 1 p.m. in the Student Center's Moccasin Flower Room.

(October 22, 2012)-The University of Minnesota, Morris will welcome Mazin Qumsiyeh on Friday, October 26, at 1 p.m. in the Student Center's Moccasin Flower Room. Professor Qumsiyeh is an award-winning scholar, author, and activist. The title of his lecture is "Sharing the Land of Canaan—Human Rights, the Environment and the Israeli-Palestinian Struggle." This event is sponsored by the Political Science Discipline and is open to the public.

Professor Qumsiyeh speaks with a fresh perspective on the origin and progression of the Zionist-Arab conflict with emphasis on a little discussed aspect—Palestinian popular nonviolent resistance. He will explain why this area of the world is frequently mentioned in the news as well as the relevance of the conflict to people in the United States and why its resolution based on human rights and international law will be of importance to people worldwide. Professor Qumsiyeh will also explain the method through which a durable peace can be built on justice and human rights via the only mechanism available to the Israeli and Palestinian people: one democratic state for all its people in historic Palestine.

Professor Qumsiyeh teaches and conducts research at Bethlehem, Birzeit, and Al-Quds Universities in Palestine. He also serves as chairman of the Palestinian Center for Rapprochement Between People and as a member of the board for Al-Rowwad Children's Theater Center in Aida Refugee Camp. Professor Qumsiyeh previously served on the faculties of the University of Tennessee as well as Duke and Yale Universities. He has published several books including Sharing the Land of Canaan: Human Rights and the Israeli/Palestinian Struggle and Popular Resistance in Palestine: A History of Hope and Empowerment and has an activism book published electronically on his web site. His primary interest is media activism and public education. Professor Qumsiyeh has given hundreds of talks and interviews throughout the world and has published over 200 letters to the editor and 100 op-ed pieces.

Qumsiyeh's honors include the Peace and Justice Studies Association's 2011 Social Courage Award and the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee's Alex Odeh Memorial Award. Professor Qumsiyeh has also been recognized by Arab World Books as one of "the writers who have enriched our pages with their creative writings and enlightened us with their progressive thinking" as well as the Connecticut chapter of the American Friends Service Committee.

For more information on the event, please contact Sheri Breen, assistant professor of political science, at 320-589-6206.

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