

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC ADDRESS

Speaker

**Prof. Mazin Qumsiyeh**, University of Bethlehem

Topic

*How Could Palestine Become an Economically Viable State?*

Date & Time

**Wednesday 5 June, at 6 pm**

Location

**Lecture Theatre 029, Old Arts Building** [the “Clocktower building”], University of Auckland, Princes Street, Auckland. This theatre is in the southern end of the Building, on the basement level (below the street). Choice of masks is **Respected**.

Synopsis

The Washington Post published on 20 May 2024 an opinion piece by David Ignatius *The USA Assembles The Pieces Of A Possible Gaza War Endgame*. Parallel to the current armed conflict, the diversity of religious belief, and the variety of ethnicity in the area, Palestine’s actual and potential economy is a critical factor in the region’s geopolitics.

Prof. Qumsiyeh can bring to his analysis of economic matters his expertise in science, his experience in biodiversity and sustainability, his background as a scholar in the United States, and his particular perspective as a member of a religious minority.

Biographical Details

Prof. Qumsiyeh is a Professor at the University of Bethlehem, where he is the Founder and Director of the Palestine Museum of Natural History and Palestine Institute of Biodiversity and Sustainability.

His area of academic expertise is Cytogenetics. (Said by Wikipedia to be “A branch of genetics...that is concerned with how the chromosomes relate to cell behaviour, particularly to their behaviour during mitosis and meiosis”). He holds degrees from each of the University of Jordan, the University of Connecticut, USA, and Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, USA.

He is a part-time Professor at the University of Bethlehem, in the Biotechnology Program (in collaboration with the Polytechnic University in Hebron), and adjunct Professor at Birzeit University, in Birzeit, Palestine. His prior academic appointments include a period from November 1999 to December 2004 as the Director of Cytogenetics Services and as Associate Professor, Department of Genetics, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

He is the author of the scholarly publications *Mammals of the Holy Land* (Texas Tech Press, 1996) and *Bats of Egypt* (Texas Tech Press, 1986).

*The Forum provides a space and an opportunity for discussion and consideration of topics of international affairs. The meeting is open to the public, without charge or seat reservation.*

