

Maayon Inon and Sima Awad

Parents Circle-Families Forum

Wednesday, October 14 at 7 pm



Maayon Inon is an Israeli and Sima Awad is a Palestinian. Both lost family members to the violent conflict between Israelis and Palestinians. Both have decided to transcend their understandable anger and instead reach out to the other to try to forge a new path. Through their work with the Parents Circle-Families Forum, they have learned to share their stories of pain and loss and discuss what they learned from one another.

This program is open to the community and will be streamed to our synagogue's website ldorvdor.org, YouTube channel and Facebook page.



Maayan Inon is an Israeli mother of two daughters, with over 25 years of experience in therapy and healing methods. She holds a Bachelor's degree in physical therapy and specializes in Chinese medicine and reflexology. On October 7, 2023, both her parents were killed by Hamas in their home in Netiv HaAsara by Hamas. Despite her profound loss and grief, Maayan, along with her siblings, chose to issue a joint message calling for "no revenge" and an end to the cycle of bloodshed. Since then, she has focused her efforts on promoting dialogue that chooses life, reconciliation, and creating a shift in consciousness towards empathetic communication and understanding the narratives of others.

Sima Awad is from Beit Ummar, north of Hebron. Sima's brother, Mahmoud, was killed by an Israeli soldier when she was three years old. Eventually she came to the realization that the only way to prevent further pain and the loss of more children is through dialogue and reconciliation. Sima was raised to always know of her brother's dedication to her – his love for her, his support and his care – and it is with this love that she works for a different reality. Today she is a Young Ambassador for Peace with the Parents Circle.



The Parents Circle – Families Forum (PCFF) is a joint Israeli-Palestinian organization of over 850 families, all of whom have lost an immediate family member to the ongoing conflict. The members have undertaken a joint effort amid ongoing and escalating violence to transform their loss and pain into a public and collective demand for peace and reconciliation. PCFF's Theory of Change is rooted in the understanding that personal transformation, processing loss, grief and anger, can disrupt cycles of violence, enabling both interpersonal connection and collective action. When those who have paid the highest personal price for the conflict publicly reject the logic of endless war, they challenge dominant narratives of inevitability, revenge and dehumanization. For its extraordinary work, advancing peacebuilding through educational programs and reconciliation initiatives for Palestinian and Israeli youth and adults of all ages, PCFF has been nominated for the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize. Humbled by this nomination, PCFF bereaved members know it carries not only recognition of past work but also a great responsibility towards future impact.