

“...When Israel's Channel 10 prepared to check in with (Dr. Izzeldin) Abuelaish as hopes for a cease-fire began to become reality, viewers were gripped as a personal tragedy played out live on their evening news...the Palestinian doctor's family calamity touched a nerve.”

– from McClatchy News Article on 2/18/09

We are honored to present a conversation with

Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish

***Bridging Gaza and Israel:
A Palestinian Physician's Quest to Heal Israeli-Palestinian Relations***



Thursday, April 23rd, 7:30 PM

Westside Jewish Community Center – 5870 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles

RSVP encouraged: apnwest@peacenow.org or 323-934-3480

Join us for an opportunity to meet this unique individual who transcends politics, and who an Israeli medical colleague calls a “magical, secret bridge between Israeli and Palestinians”

Dr. Abuelaish, a physician from Gaza who also works in Israeli hospitals, has been a longtime peace activist, committed to the belief that Israelis and Palestinians must work together. On January 16, 2009, his home was hit by Israeli fire – later determined by the IDF to be in error – and three of his daughters and a niece were killed. As a result of the drama of this event and what then unfolded live on Israeli television, Dr. Abuelaish has become an icon of hope for peace and reconciliation.

Despite his personal tragedy, he looks forward and refuses to give up in his ambition to heal the divide. Recent news reports say he has been nominated for the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize, to which Dr. Abuelaish's response is he would dedicate it to both the Palestinian and Israeli peoples.

“There is a future in front of us and there is hope...We were created for the future, not the past.” (Jerusalem Post, April 4, 2009)

Dr. Abuelaish is visiting Los Angeles during a three-week U.S. tour, partly sponsored by Americans for Peace Now