
Venezuelan President Receives 119 Palestinian Youths on a “Historic Day”

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“We receive you into our homeland on this very special and historic day. Palestine is here; the future of Palestine is here, in its youth,” the president said at a welcoming ceremony Thursday in the Venezuelan capital.

“Palestine has not allowed itself to be eliminated. It has refused to die, it has resisted, and Palestine will live,” Maduro added.

The president asked the 119 students, who are from different areas of Palestine and include 16 young women, to consider Venezuela as their home and assured them that the Venezuelan people were very happy to have them as their guests.

“The voice of Venezuela is always, and will always be, at the service of truth and the struggle of the Palestinian people. You will see, sooner or later, that we will celebrate the fall of the Israeli Wall together. Down with the Israeli Wall!,” Maduro said.

During the event, the Palestinian ambassador to Venezuela said that her country had no words to thank Venezuela and presented Maduro with a handmade shell olive tree sent by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

More than 100 students, including 36 from the Gaza Strip, will attend the Dr. Salvador Allende Latin American School of Medicine in Caracas under the Yasser Arafat Scholarships program 2014, coordinated by Gran Mariscal de Ayacucho Foundation.

Maduro has on said that plans call for 1,000 youths from the Gaza Strip to become doctors in Venezuela.

At the height of the Israeli offensive in Gaza in July, the president announced his country would create a shelter for Palestinian children and orphans, and even suggested the possibility of Venezuelan families adopting them.

Venezuela is one of the first countries to help Palestine with humanitarian aid.
