



Statement by Fatah on the Ongoing Israeli Aggression against the Palestinian people

Palestine
12.10.2015

The latest aggression by the Israeli occupation forces and the terrorist colonial settler groups against the Palestinian people, have escalated to reach the level of crimes against humanity. It comes in the context of the Israeli imposed failure of the 22 year-old peace process, through the abuse of negotiations as a cover up for further colonization and control of the Palestinian people. In his address to the last session of the UNGA, the Palestinian president declared that we will no longer allow Israel to continue its control and colonial policies under the smokescreen of the "peace agreements" that Israel has long annulled.

The Palestine National Liberation Movement (Fatah) is alarmed by the level and intensity of atrocities committed by Israel. Since 1 October 2015, Israel murdered 27 Palestinians, 17 of them are women and children, and injured more than 1350 civilians. The escalation of aggression and attacks that has seen the cold-blooded assassination of several unarmed civilians, such as Fadi Alloon of Jerusalem , Hadil Hashlmon of Hebron, and Isra Abed of Affuleh, while Palestinian homes have been demolished, as an act of collective punishment, are a disgrace to humanity and international law.

In an unprecedented act, Israel barred Palestinians from entering Jerusalem's Al Aqsa mosque and the Old City. Settler invasion of Al Aqsa mosque continued, with the support of the Israeli army. These provocative actions are aimed at further entrenching Israel's control and illegal annexation over East Jerusalem. These actions continue to enflame tensions while shifting the conflict from a political one that could be resolved to a perpetual religious confrontation.

Settler attacks on Palestinian villagers include shooting and beating of Palestinian civilians, vandalizing homes, obstructing Palestinians' movement, including through blocking streets, and burning olive orchards and other crops. The Israeli mayor of Jerusalem asked all Jewish residents of the city to carry arms and use them against Palestinians.

More than 650,000 Israeli settlers are currently present in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, in Israeli colonial settlements, mostly built during the period of the Oslo peace process since 1993. Notably, such a transfer of civilians is illegal under the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention and considered a war crime under the Rome charter of the International Criminal Court.



The alarming excessive use of force is the outcome of 1) the Israeli government decision in September to allow its occupying forces the use of lethal weapons, with live ammunition against civilians; 2) unprecedented warmongering and the culture of hate and racism among extreme groups in Israel who are now in the government, 3) impunity and absence of accountability for the deaths Israel causes, not one perpetrator has been brought to justice, including the Jewish settler terrorist group who burned the house of the Dawabsheh family, causing the death of the parents and their 18 month old baby. Shortly after this terrorist attack, the Israeli defense minister announced that he knows the group who committed the crime but for “national security reasons” decided not to take action.

The Israeli government continues to claim that all its actions are motivated by security. In reality, it is Palestinians who need security and protection the most. We are the only nation in the history of mankind where the occupier continues to demand protection from the victim.

We call upon you, our friends and allies, to take action to stop the Israeli army and colonial settlers 'attacks on Palestinians, and invasion of the holy places including Al-Aqsa Mosque.

- Please cry out for a halt to Israeli targeting of our children.
- Call for an end to Israeli siege of Palestinian towns and villages of the west bank and Gaza.
- Call for an end to the Israeli settlement project on the Palestinian territories.

These are immediate measures needed to stop the escalation.

* For longer term measures, we need international protection, an embargo on all military exports to Israel, and a ban on the trade of illegal settlement products.

* Finally it is time that the international community mobilizes all efforts to end the Israeli occupation of our land, and move seriously to achieve real peace in the Middle East.

Thank you very much for your support and solidarity.

Sincerely

Dr. Nabeel Shaath

Commissioner General