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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the
rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council Seventy-seventh year

Identical letters dated 25 October 2022 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

The escalating Israeli aggression against the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, demands the urgent attention and action of the international community, foremost the Security Council in respect of its duty under the Charter to maintain international peace and security.

Immediate measures are needed to protect the Palestinian people from the brutality of the Israeli occupying army, including the settler militias, and to pursue full accountability for the all the war crimes that are being perpetrated against our people. This is the only way to stem the unravelling of the situation on the ground, to save civilian lives and to chart a path to bring an end to this illegal colonial occupation and apartheid regime, for as long as they exist peace and security will never be possible for the Palestinian and Israeli peoples and for the Middle East region as a whole.

Carrying on with its now two-week siege of Nablus and collective punishment of the entire Palestinian civilian population there, Israel, the occupying Power, escalated its military assaults on the city today, 25 October. Using live ammunition, the Israeli occupying forces attacked civilians, killing five young Palestinian men and injuring over 20 other civilians. Those murdered by the Israeli occupying forces in this lethal assault were Ali Atar, of 26 years of age, Mishaal Zahi Baghdadi, of 27 years of age, Wadi al-Houh, of 31 years of age, Hamdi Qayyim, of 30 years of age, and Hamdi Sharaf, of 35 years of age.

Also today, 19-year-old Qusai Tamimi was killed by the Israeli occupying forces in the village of Nabi Salih, north of Ramallah, where attacks by the Israeli occupying forces on protesters have claimed many victims. Young Qusai was shot directly in the chest by Israeli soldiers assaulting the defenceless civilian protesters.

Today's killing spree was preceded by the killing of several other Palestinians in attacks by the Israeli occupying forces across Occupied Palestine in daily military





raids into our own cities, towns, villages and refugee camps and into the homes of Palestinian families, who are being terrorized and traumatized by this criminal occupation.

On 17 October, the Israeli occupying forces shot and killed Mujahid Daoud, of 31 years of age, from Haris village, in the northern West Bank.

On 19 October, the Israeli occupying forces committed the extrajudicial killing of a young man, Udai Tamimi of the Shu'fat refugee camp in Occupied East Jerusalem, hunting him down for the alleged shooting at an Israeli checkpoint on 8 October.

On 21 October, Salah Briki, of 19 years of age, was killed by the Israeli occupying forces in yet another predawn raid on Janin.

On 22 October, Rabi Arafah Rabi, of 32 years of age, was shot in the head and killed by Israeli soldiers manning a checkpoint in Qalqilyah as he was on his way to work. Rabi was killed in cold blood just days before his wedding.

On 23 October, Tamer Al-Kilani, of 35 years of age, was killed in a targeted assassination by the Israeli occupying forces in Nablus.

These killings bring the total number of Palestinians killed by the Israeli occupying forces and settler militias since the start of year to 183 Palestinians, 51 of them in the Gaza Strip. It is a fact: every single day, Palestinians, especially young men, are targeted and victimized by Israel, the occupying Power.

Facing this horrific reality and absent any form of international intervention or protection to stop the bloodletting, Palestinian civilians continue to protest the occupation and its brutality throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

As usual, the Israeli occupying forces continue to fire on the civilian protesters, including women and children, injuring dozens, many suffering critical wounds.

In parallel with the attacks by the Israeli occupying forces, extremist Jewish settler militias and gangs continue their attacks against Palestinians, no doubt emboldened by the criminality of the Israeli occupying forces and the blatant disregard for Palestinian life routinely displayed. Just over the past 10 days, more than 100 settler attacks have been reported. The majority of these attacks have occurred in the northern West Bank, where settlers are rampaging near and around Nablus, and are being perpetrated in the presence of the Israeli occupying forces, with Israeli soldiers accompanying the extremist settlers' invasions.

Attacks also continue elsewhere in Occupied Palestine, including in the Shaikh Jarrah neighbourhood of Occupied East Jerusalem, where settlers, encouraged by fanatic and racist Israeli politicians, are continuing their harassment and intimidation of Palestinian families, assaulting residents, shouting profanities and hate speech, breaking glass and tearing down Palestinian flags in violent, targeted attacks. Moreover, settlers also continue to assault Israeli and international solidarity volunteers, including the recent stabbing last week of a woman solidarity activist and the breaking of her leg as she accompanied Palestinian farmers harvesting their olives.

The international community cannot normalize such attacks on civilians. The Israeli Government, military and settler militias are every day violating all international norms and must be held to account for their crimes. The international community must ask: why are the Israeli occupying forces raiding Palestinian towns, villages and refugee camps, why are they present on Palestinian land, killing and maiming, tormenting and terrorizing our people?

It is obvious and undeniable. All of this is being done blatantly and flagrantly to maintain this illegal foreign occupation, to forcibly impose it by use of all military

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weaponry and of all repressive and violent means and measures against the civilian population, all in grave breach of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law as well as criminal law, as enshrined in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Men, women and children are being targeted by Israel solely for who they are – Palestinians – in an ongoing ethnic cleansing campaign by this belligerent occupier and apartheid regime. And yet, they continue to be deprived not only of international protection but of their right to resist this violent, illegal occupation, to defend and protect themselves, and to pursue their liberation and freedom through all legitimate means.

The Security Council must act; it cannot remain a silent bystander to this dangerous escalation and unlawful situation that is endangering innocent civilian lives and threatening peace and security in the region. The Security Council must demand a halt to the Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people and act forthwith, in accordance with international law, including its own resolutions, among them resolutions 904 (1994) and 2334 (2016), to ensure protection to the Palestinian people and accountability for all the crimes that have been perpetrated against them.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 768 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 14 October 2022 (A/ES-10/916-S/2022/763) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Riyad Mansour Minister Permanent Observer

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