

President of UN General Assembly

**Mr. Dennis Francis**

Copy: Member States of the UN General Assembly

United Nations

New York, NY 10017, USA

**Subject: Urgent Appeal to Declare Israel's Atrocities in Gaza a Genocide in the Making**

**11 December 2023**

Dear Mr. Francis,

Excellencies, Representatives of Member States of the UN General Assembly,

Greetings,

We, a group of human rights advocates and experts from across the Middle East and North Africa, are writing to you today to request your immediate action to recognize and declare Israel's atrocities during its military assault on Gaza as constituting a genocide in the making.

As you know, the number of Palestinian non-combatant civilians killed in Gaza in two months has surpassed 23,000, including more than 9,000 children and more than 4,600 women. This figure includes about 7,000 stuck under the rubble of their homes. In addition, about 46,000 people were wounded.

This unprecedented number of casualties in Gaza is taking place alongside vast and systematic destruction and targeting of almost all kinds of civilian infrastructure including schools, universities, hospitals, ambulances, mosques, churches, cultural centers, homes, residential high-rise buildings, shelters, media offices, private businesses, industrial facilities, agricultural lands and greenhouses, international organizations, and even United Nations' facilities and premises.

This is all in addition to forcibly displacing hundreds of thousands of Gazans and imposing a full siege on the entire enclave that includes cutting off all electricity and fuel supplies and banning the entry of food, water and medicine except to a fraction of a bare minimum.

What these acts together are rendering Gaza uninhabitable and constitute a clear genocide in the making aimed at destroying a group in part or whole; creating conditions that would bring about the group's collapse; and inflict serious physical or mental damage on the group.

There are clear and unquestionable features of Israel's genocidal action in Gaza:

- Mass killing,
- Forced displacement,
- Deliberate mass starvation,

- Destruction of vital infrastructure,
- Denial of life saving and urgent critical health care,
- Large volume of children killed,
- Exponentially growing genocidal speech of incitement to kill and dehumanize the Palestinian population in Gaza (and elsewhere).

As members of the United Nations General Assembly, you have the duty to uphold the UN Charter and fulfill its mandate through the prevention of actions that aim to destroy the existence of a group of people in whole or in part.

There is no shortage of international legal frameworks that mark Israel's action as a genocide in the making, including the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. The events transpiring in Gaza align with the two of criteria outlined in the Convention, indicating a pressing need for the international community to address this crisis urgently. These criteria are "causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group" and "deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part".

We reject that Israel's lethal attacks on Gaza are "indiscriminate" or that they cause "collateral damage" to a significant extent. These are targeted attacks by precision-guided bombs and rockets. They intend, mean and are designed to kill as many as possible of the Palestinian population in Gaza. Simultaneously, no collateral damage could still be considered as such when it becomes a regime of action; a system and methodology to conduct warfare.

We recall the statement of scores of UN Special Rapporteurs on 16 November 2023, in which they called upon the international community to stop a genocide in the making, one that you are observe taking place in Gaza right now.

Members of the international community must come forward with a clear stance on the issue of Israel's genocidal actions in Gaza. First, they must declare these actions as such, and provide means to put an end to the atrocities committed by Israel, while aiming, also, at affirming Palestinians inalienable rights to exist, survive, live, and prosper as any other nation on earth deserves. We urge you to demand and work proactively to end the Israeli military assault on Gaza immediately, as well as ensuring the provision of international mechanisms to monitor, observe and ensure Israel's compliance.

We thank you for your urgent attention to the matter.

Sincerely,

(List of Signatories to this letter below)

<p><b>Mr. Nabeel Rajab</b> Bahrain Former Deputy Secretary General for the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Founder and Former President, Bahrain Human Rights Center, Gulf Center for Human Rights &amp; Ion Ratiu Democracy Award, Honorary Citizen of Paris</p>	<p><b>Mr. Ahmed Abdulwaheed Qarata</b> Bahrain Vice President, Council of Representatives (Parliament)</p>	<p><b>Mr. Haytham Manna</b> Switzerland (based) President, CIHR/FH</p>	<p><b>Mr. Ramy Abdu</b> Switzerland (based) Founder and the Chairman of the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor</p>
<p><b>Ms. Linda al-Kalash</b> Jordan Founder &amp; Executive Director, Tamkeen for Legal Aid &amp; Human Rights, internationally Award-winning anti-trafficking and anti- forced labor advocate</p>	<p><b>Mr. Anwar Alrasheed</b> Kuwait Representative of the International Council for Fair Trials and Human Rights in the State of Kuwait and the Gulf Cooperation Council countries &amp; Advisor, Khiam Rehabilitation Center The victims of Torture (KRC)</p>	<p><b>Mr. Abdulnabi Alekry</b> Bahrain Advisor to Bahrain Human Rights Society, Former President of Bahrain Transparency Society</p>	<p><b>Ms. Khawla Matar</b> Bahrain Former Deputy UN Special Envoy for Syria, Expert in International Humanitarian Law</p>
<p><b>Mr. Ugab Bou Sued</b> France (based) Secretary General, Horan Rencontre pour la Citoyenneté</p>	<p><b>Dr. Issam Abdeen</b> Palestine Assistant Professor in International Criminal Law</p>	<p><b>Mr. Gamal Eid</b> Egypt Lawyer and Founder of the Arabic Network for Human Rights Information</p>	<p><b>Mr. Khaled Saleh</b> Switzerland (based) Human Rights Researcher &amp; Public Relations, Human Rights Solidarity, Geneva</p>
<p><b>Mr. Hazem Ksouri</b> Tunisia Lawyer/ Independent politician</p>	<p><b>Mr. Nasser Tlili</b> Tunisia Human Rights Advocate</p>	<p><b>Mr. Abdulrahman Fahad Alanjari</b> Kuwait Former Parliament Member</p>	<p><b>Mr. Akrem Rachid KAROUI</b> Tunisia President of "KISTASS" Peace Culture Forum</p>
<p><b>Mr. Me Abelmajid MRARI</b> Morocco/France Lawyer in international law</p>	<p><b>Ms. Naziha Rjiba</b> Tunisia Writer and Activist</p>	<p><b>Mr. Nidal Mansour</b> Jordan Founder/Board Member, Center for Defending Freedom of Journalists</p>	<p><b>Ms. Hadeel Abdel Aziz</b> Jordan Director, Justice Center for Legal Aid</p>
<p><b>Mr. Ahmad Awad</b> Jordan Director, Phenix Center for Economic Studies</p>	<p><b>Mr. Omar Da'na</b> Jordan based Human Rights Education Program Manager in MENA (former), Amnesty</p>	<p><b>Mr. Mohamd Mosa Albolushi</b> Bahrain Member, Council of Representatives (Parliament)</p>	<p><b>Mohamd Rafeq Alhusaini Bahrain</b> Member, Council of Representatives (Parliament)</p>
<p><b>Mr. Mohamd Rafeq Alhusaini</b> Bahrain Member, Council of Representatives (Parliament)</p>	<p><b>Mr. Mohamd Jasim Alolaiwi</b> Bahrain Member, Council of Representatives (Parliament)</p>	<p><b>Ms. Eman Hasan Showaiter</b> Bahrain Member, Council of Representatives (Parliament)</p>	<p><b>Mr. Jameel Mulla Hasan</b> Bahrain Member, Council of Representatives (Parliament)</p>
<p><b>Mr. Mohamed Mohamed Al Riffaei</b> Bahrain Member, Council of Representatives (Parliament)</p>	<p><b>Mr. Mohamed Husain Janahi</b> Bahrain Member, Council of Representatives (Parliament)</p>	<p><b>Mr. Mohamed Salman AL Ahmed</b> Bahrain Member, Council of Representatives (Parliament)</p>	<p><b>Mr. Hesham Abdulaziz Al Awadhi</b> Bahrain Member, Council of Representatives (Parliament)</p>
<p><b>Mr. Giumma ELOmami</b> Libya/Switzerland Based Human Rights Solidarity Organization</p>	<p><b>Mr. Ahmed El Gasir</b> Libya/Switzerland Based Human Rights Solidarity Organization</p>	<p><b>Mr. Tawfik Alhamidi</b> Yemen /Switzerland Based SAM Organization for Rights and Liberties</p>	<p><b>Ms. Latifa Jamel</b> Tunisia/Switzerland Based American Center For Justice</p>
<p><b>Mr. Falah Talaa Sadik Al-Alwsi</b> Iraq Salam Alrafidain Organization</p>	<p><b>Ms. Nour Al Emam</b> Jordan Vice President of the Jordanian Jurists Association</p>	<p><b>Mr. Abduljalil Yousif</b> Bahrain Former President of Bahrain Human Rights Society</p>	<p><b>Mr. Ahmed Hojairi</b> Bahrain President of Bahrain Human Rights Society</p>
<p><b>Ms. Fatma Bodres</b> Bahrain</p>	<p><b>Ms. Ahlam Rajab</b> Bahrain</p>	<p><b>Mr. Dr. Osama Albahrna</b> Bahrain</p>	<p><b>Ms. Dr Muna Abas Fadl</b> Bahrain</p>

Former President of Bahrain Women Union	President of Bahrain Women Union	Vice President of Bahrain Human Rights Society	Researcher on Humanities Bahrain
<b>Mr. Karim Rade</b> Bahrain Poet and Activist	<b>Mr. Dr. Mohamed Sabri</b> Palestine Member of the Board of Istiklal University, Palestine	<b>Mr. Abdulmonem Alhur</b> Libya Libya Human Rights Society	<b>Mr. Abunakr Largo</b> Morocco Moroccan Human Rights League
<b>Ms. Badrea Almarzoq</b> Bahrain Former President of Bahrain Women Union	<b>Mr. Dr. Jamal Alsayd</b> Bahrain Physician and Human Rights Defender	<b>Ms. Dr. Mariam AlShiti</b> Bahrain Physician and Human Rights Defender	<b>Ms. Fareda Darwesh</b> Bahrain Former President of Bahrain Women Union
<b>Ms. Ms Jalela Alsaed</b> Bahrain Lawyer and Human Rights Defender	<b>Mr. Dr. Hasan Rade</b> Bahrain Lawyer and Human Rights Defender	<b>Mr. Mohamd Aljishi</b> Bahrain Lawyer and Human Rights Defender	<b>Mr. Hasan Badawi</b> Bahrain President, Bahrain Bar Society
<b>Mr. Hasan Ismael Bahrain</b> Lawyer and Human Rights Defender	<b>Ms. Zainab al-Dorazi</b> Bahrain Bahrain Women Union and Human Rights Defender	<b>Mr. Sami Seadi</b> Bahrain Lawyer and Human Rights Defender	<b>Mr. Ahmad AlAjmi</b> Bahrain Poet and Human Rights Defender
<b>Mr. Jamal Fakhro</b> Bahrain Activist	<b>Mr. Dr. Nader Qadom</b> Bahrain Academic	<b>Dr. Elias Khouri</b> Switzerland Based Representative of Union of Arab Jurists- Geneva	<b>Mr. Naji Haraj</b> Switzerland Based Executive Director- Geneva International Centre for Justice
<b>Ms. Dr. Hanan A. Sharfeddin</b> Egypt, Switzerland Based Chief Executive of the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD)	<b>Mr. Mohammed Ali Allow</b> Yemen, New York Based President, Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration	<b>Mr. Sabah Al-Muhtar</b> UK Based Chairman- Arab Lawyer Association, UK, London	<b>Mr. Zahedan Alsarmi</b> Oman Human Rights Defender
<b>Ms. Radhya Almutawakel</b> Yemen Chairperson of Mwatana for Human Rights	<b>Mr. Abdulrasheed Alfaqih</b> Yemen Vice President of Mwatana for Human Rights	<b>Mr. Dr. Aziz Ghali</b> Morocco Moroccan League for Human Rights	<b>Mr. Agha MohiAldin Acad</b> Tunisia President , Tunisian Human Rights League
<b>Mr. Ala Shalabi</b> Egypt Secretary General, Arab Organization for Human Rights	<b>Mr. Mohammad Safa</b> Lebanon Alkhayam center Human Rights	<b>Mr. Dr. Salah Ghazali</b> Kuwait Former President of the Kuwait Transparency Society	<b>Ms. Zainab Khames</b> Bahrain Bahrain Human rights Society
<b>Mr. Jaleel Yousif</b> Bahrain Coordinator, Bahrain Human Rights Society	<b>Ms. Dr. Monera Fakhro</b> Bahrain Academic and Human Rights Defender	<b>Mr. Mande jafar Lutah</b> Oman Human Rights Defender	<b>Mr. Saif bin Hashel Almaskari</b> Oman Human Rights Defender
<b>Mr. Dr. Hamad Hashemite</b> Oman Academic and Human Rights Defender	<b>Mr. Dr. Ale Fakhro</b> Bahrain Arab National Conference	<b>Mr. Dr. Mansor Aljamri</b> Bahrain Journalist and Human Rights Defender	<b>Mr. Saed Sultan Hashmi</b> Oman Human Rights Defender
<b>Mr. Zaed Asbol</b> Bahrain Human Rights Defender	<b>Mr. Dr. Ghanea Ealawi</b> Bahrain ANND Bahrain	<b>Mr. Ebrahim Albaker</b> Qatar Human rights Defender	<b>Mr. Abas Hilal</b> Bahrain Board Member of Arab Jurists Union
<b>Mr. Mohamad Aljalmda</b> Jordan Lawyer and Human Rights Defender	<b>Mr. George Jabor</b> Syria Syrian League for UN, Human Rights Defender	<b>Mr. Ahmed Husain</b> Egypt Lawyer and Human Rights Defender	<b>Ms. Boshra Alkhalel</b> Lebanon Lawyer and Human Rights Defender
<b>Tarik Lamloum</b> Libya Founder, Belady Foundation for Human Rights	<b>Mr. FREJ Fenniche</b> Tunisia Former Senior Human Rights Officer/UNOHCHR	<b>Ms. Nedal AlSalman</b> Bahrain President of Bahrain Center for Human Rights	<b>Mr. Husain Rade</b> Bahrain Bahrain Center for Human Rights