

March 2, 2008

A Demand for the Immediate Action to Halt Israeli Genocide in the Gaza Strip

We, the undersigned civil society organizations in Jerusalem, condemn the Israeli military aggression in the form of genocide and ethnic cleansing of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. We appeal to you, the International Committee of the Red Cross, as guardians of the Geneva Conventions, that states mainly, the protection of civilians in times of occupation. The failure to protect, as is your responsibility, will undoubtedly further exacerbate the beginning of a Holocaust, as publicly stated by the Israeli war criminal, Matan Vilnai, on February 29, 2008.

Since Wednesday, February 27, 2008, over 100 Palestinians, of which one third were children, have been brutally murdered by the Israeli occupation military forces. The atrocities continue as we write this statement to you, and the world community watches in silence.

In light of the continuing massacres in Gaza Strip as well as the West Bank, we demand the High Contracting Parties, in particular Member States of the European Union, to fulfill their legal obligations under common Article 1 of the Geneva Conventions and Article 146 of the Fourth Geneva Convention. We call upon the Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross to take the necessary measures to prosecute those responsible for grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions and to ensure that Israel, as an occupier, abide by the international humanitarian law and its legal obligations.

Based on the above we demand the following:

1. Immediate action to stop the continuous massacres in the Gaza Strip against civilians.
2. Immediate lift of the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip.
3. To ensure the availability and accessibility of medical supplies and medical care into Gaza Strip.
4. To force Israel to supply electricity and fuel immediately to the Gaza Strip.
5. To prosecute the Israeli military Generals who are responsible for the massacres in the Gaza Strip as criminals of war.

Our sit-in will continue until our demands are met.

Signatories:

Coalition for Jerusalem
Palestinian Non-Governmental Organizations Network (PNGO)
General Union of Palestinian Women
Prisoners Families Committee in Jerusalem
Palestinian Professional Associations
National and Religious Institutions in Jerusalem