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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 2 December 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

As the international community gathered on 29 November to commemorate the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, and amid the global pledges to bring an end to this historic injustice, Israel, the occupying Power, insisted, once again, on marking the day by asserting its rejection of peace and its domination and persecution of the Palestinian people, brazenly asserting its intent to carry on with its grave breaches of international law.

As warned in my previous letter, as the Security Council remains paralysed and as accountability remains elusive, more Palestinian lives have been lost and more families devastated, deepening grief and despair and heightening tensions and anger to dangerous levels in occupied Palestine, including East Jerusalem.

On 29 November, two young Palestinians, brothers only one year apart in age, were murdered in cold blood by Israeli occupying forces in an overnight raid into Kafr Ayn, north-west of Ramallah. Israel's execution of Jawad Rimawi, aged 22, and his brother Thafer Rimawi, aged 21, left their parents traumatized and bereft and their community and country in mourning. Jawad was a new graduate in business administration from Bir Zeit University and Thafer a fourth-year technology student, their potential killed by an illegal, colonial occupier that has tormented and hunted down Palestinian youth, generation after generation, in its blatant attempts to destroy the future of our people.

On the same day, Israeli occupying forces killed a Palestinian man, Mufeed Ikhlil, aged 44, during a predawn raid on the town of Bayt Ummar, north of Al-Khalil (Hebron). Mufeed leaves behind his six children and wife, whose lives have been shattered by his loss. In another military raid that day, on Mughayyir village, east of Ramallah, Israeli occupying forces killed Raed Ghazi Na'ssan, aged 21. Young Ghazi was shot directly in the chest with several bullets and died despite efforts to save his life at a nearby hospital. Also, on 29 November, Israeli occupying forces shot and killed Rani Mamoun Fayez Abu Ali, aged 45 and the father of five children.





On 30 November 2022, Mohammad Tawfiq Badarna, 26, was killed by Israeli occupying forces in Ya'bad town, south of Janin, during a raid on the town by Israeli soldiers and undercover agents. On 1 December, another two young Palestinian men, Naeem Jamal Zubaidi, 27, and Mohammad Ayman Saadi, 26, were killed by Israeli soldiers raiding Janin city and refugee camp.

Today, an Israeli soldier executed, in broad daylight, another Palestinian youth, 22-year-old Ammar Mefleh, in the town of Huwwarah, near Nablus. Soldiers then prevented medical assistance from reaching Ammar, leaving him on the ground to bleed to death.

This is the daily reality in occupied Palestine, where Israeli occupying soldiers and settlers are carrying out the agenda of successive Israeli governments that have systematically degraded and dehumanized the Palestinian people and inculcated in the occupying forces an absolute disregard for Palestinian lives and a belief that no Israeli will ever be held accountable for killing Palestinians, including children.

This abhorrent reality underscores once again the urgent need for international protection for the Palestinian people, as called for repeatedly by the Palestinian leadership and by countless other countries and people of conscience across the globe. We thus reiterate our abiding appeal to the Security Council to act, in line with its duties under the Charter of the United Nations and its own resolutions, including resolution 904 (1994), to ensure the protection of the Palestinian people from this ruthless occupier that is proving, every single day, its hatred and disregard for Palestinian lives.

Today, I must also draw your attention to the decision by Israel, the occupying Power, to deport Salah Hammouri, aged 37, after revoking his Jerusalem residency. We have raised the plight of Mr. Hammouri, a renowned lawyer and human rights defender, whose work has focused on justice for Palestinian prisoners, in prior communications regarding Israel's illegal practice of administrative detention, by which it has imprisoned thousands of Palestinians across the years, including children, and by which it has repeatedly detained Mr. Hammouri, depriving him of his liberty and rights.

Salah's deportation to France is now imminent as the occupying Power insists on stripping him of his right to live in his ancestral homeland and in his city of Jerusalem, executing this deportation on the basis of "secret evidence". We call upon the international community to condemn this decision and to demand that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind it and respect its obligations under international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention, which prohibits such deportations.

Expressions of outrage and the denunciation of Israel's crimes and impunity are not enough; they must be matched by resolute action in accordance with international law, including humanitarian and human rights law. States must act resolutely, collectively and individually, to uphold their international legal, political and moral responsibilities, including through measures of accountability, to advance the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including to self-determination and to return, and the realization of a just peace and lasting security.

In this regard, we reiterate the imperative for all legitimate political and legal measures to be undertaken, including through the Security Council, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the International Criminal Court and the International Court of Justice, to bring an end to this historic and grave injustice against the Palestinian people and against humanity at large.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 770 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

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(A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 28 November 2022 (A/ES-10/918-S/2022/879) 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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