

As of January 1, more than 360,000 Gaza Appeals have been sent!

***Please add your voice to the thousands who are demanding:***

# **Stop the massacre in Gaza!**

Please help get the word out—pass this message along, post it on local bulleting boards & Indymedia, Sign the petition online now and get an update on growing number of emergency protests around the world:

**[www.IACenter.org/GazaPetition](http://www.IACenter.org/GazaPetition)**

**Join the online petition initiated by Ramsey Clark—**

*Winner, 2008 U.N. Human Rights Award and Founder, International Action Center*

## ***Urgent appeal for Israel to immediately cease its murderous bombing, siege and threatened invasion of Palestinian Gaza!***

*To: President George W. Bush, President-Elect Barack Obama, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State Designate Hillary Clinton, Vice President Richard Cheney, Vice President-elect Joe Biden, Congressional leaders, U.N. Secretary General Ban, U.N. General Assembly President d'Escoto-Brockmann, members of the U.N. Security Council, U.N. member states, the President, Prime Minister, Cabinet and Opposition leader of Israel, & major media representatives:*

For 60 years, Israel has persecuted the Palestinian people with impunity in defiance of United Nations General Assembly and United Nations Security Council Resolutions, orders of the International Court of Justice, International Law and fundamental human rights.

Throughout the years, Israel has proclaimed itself the victim as it grew richer, more powerful and more violent, while Palestinians were abused, impoverished, divided and demeaned.

A consistent tactic of Israel through all the years has been to divide Palestinians against their most effective organizations. Through most of the recent years Israel has attacked Fatah. Now it is Hamas that Israel attacks. But there is only one Palestinian people and there can be only one Palestinian State. This has been the guiding principle of the PLO. Israel's policy has always been to destroy the possibility of a Palestinian State. Its criminal assault on Hamas is in truth Israel's continuing assault on the possibility of a Palestinian State: divide and conquer.

Now in the waning days of the disastrous Bush Administration, the government of Israel with its Prime Minister under criminal indictment, is testing whether world opinion will permit it to escalate its isolation and impoverishment of Palestine and selective and systematic assassination of Palestinian leadership in Gaza to a genocidal, indiscriminate assault and invasion of Palestinian Gaza, knowing full well its acts will inflame passions throughout the Middle East and Arab and Muslim worlds risking conflict of disastrous magnitude in Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Afghanistan, and elsewhere, even between India and Pakistan.

Beyond crushing Gaza's capacity to resist and imposing its final solution on Palestinians, Israel is seeking confrontation that will lead to war with the U.S., the European Union, and NATO fighting for Israel against Iran, Syria, Lebanon,

Pakistan and Afghanistan to impair their ability to prevent expansion of Israel's domination of the region while the "only one President at a time" the U.S. has, George W. Bush, will support Israel, finding all fault with Gaza.

In these dangerous and difficult days and hours the undersigned call upon the United Nations, the United States, the European Union, NATO members, and European countries independently, the governments of Asia, foremost China, India, Indonesia and Pakistan, the nations of Africa, and the Americas to demand an immediate ceasefire throughout Israel and Palestine and the assurance of peace. All borders to Gaza, Israel, Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea, must be opened for humanitarian relief and a complete arms and trade embargo on Israel until it fully complies with all the requirements of permanent peace.

We call upon all the people, the ultimate power in every nation when organized and energized, to take to the streets where they live and demand that their governments do all in their power to cause Israel to stop its war of aggression against Palestine and for all parties to pursue peace and for Israel, the U.S. and other nations who have provided material support for Israel's aggression to be held accountable for the deaths, injuries and damage Israel has inflicted.

We call upon governments and humanitarian agencies to provide all needed emergency relief to Palestine - medical care, food, humanitarian supplies, shelter; and on all the media that truly seeks peace, justice and respect for the equal dignity of every child, woman and man on earth to headline the demand that Israel stop its aggression immediately. All parties must engage in continuous negotiation with all Palestinians until a one state solution is agreed or the state of Palestine as mandated not later than October 1948 in UN General Assembly Resolution 181 (1947) is created, fully implemented, and Palestine thrives.

# Solidarity with heroic Gaza

STATEMENT FROM THE INTERNATIONAL ACTION CENTER –Jan. 2, 2009

The International Action Center condemns the criminal U.S.-backed Israeli bombing massacre on Gaza, and the mass murder of over 400 and serious wounding of another 2,000+ Palestinians.

We call upon the progressive, anti-war and workers' movement in the United States to join the angry, growing worldwide protests of these latest Israeli war crimes with U.S. complicity. We refuse impunity to the Israeli state and its backers.

The rightist Zionist regime had the arrogance to announce in advance its intention to strike Gaza's embattled civilians. Like every serious Israeli move, this latest assault was done with a U.S. green light using U.S. weapons and spy services. Today, Jan. 2, after seven days of unrelenting bombing, as tanks mass at Gaza's border for a ground invasion by the Israeli military, political leaders in Washington have not raised one voice to end the carnage.

Compounding this arrogance, Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak has already said, "The operation will go on and be intensified as long as necessary," (AFP, Dec. 27) exposing his genocidal intent. The Israeli attacks—targeting civilian population centers, housing, water and electrical infrastructure, food supplies, government services, schools and universities, prisons and hospitals, and coinciding during the opening attack with the end of the school day—reveal a malicious intent to inflict as many casualties as possible, including on children.

The International Action Center stands unequivocally with the right of the Palestinian people to defend themselves by any means at their disposal and to resist this latest attempt by U.S./

Israeli occupation forces to exterminate their very existence as a people and a nation. The Jan. 1 assassination of Nizar Rayyan, a leader of the democratically elected Hamas government of Gaza, and at least 13 members of his family, including many children, by a 1,000 pound bunker-buster bomb paid for by U.S. taxpayers, was the latest grievous Israeli war crime against civilians.

Under Israeli siege for over a year, the people of Gaza had been struggling to survive with insufficient food, power and a damaged and depleted medical-care system. The world has condemned this siege as an Israeli crime against humanity. The Israelis have carried out this murderous siege without protest from their powerful allies in Western Europe and the United States. And the Palestinian people in Gaza have faced down the siege over 18 months, providing once again an example for the world's people that the criminal U.S.-Israeli alliance has grown desperate to tear down.

Like the bombing, the siege itself is a U.S.-Israeli war crime, with the billions in yearly U.S. aid used to bomb the 1.5 million Palestinians in Gaza, cut off their electricity, and kick them out of their homes. Meanwhile, back home, the same U.S. government lets banks foreclose on workers' homes, landlords evict tenants, and bosses lay off millions of workers, while tens of millions live in fear of an illness that will wipe out their savings—if the economic crisis hasn't already.

We have no interest in allowing the U.S.-Israeli genocidal attacks on the Palestinian people of Gaza. We stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people against U.S. imperialism and Israel, Washington's outpost in the Middle East.

**We demand that U.S. aid to Israel be cut to zero, and that this money be used instead for reparations for the Palestinian people, to ensure their right to return, and for homes, jobs, health care and education for working people in the U.S.**

---

INTERNATIONAL ACTION CENTER • IACENTER.ORG • 212-633-6646

55 WEST 17TH STREET, 5TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10011