

GENERAL DELEGATION

OF PALESTINE

DUBLIN - IRELAND



مفوضية فلسطين

العامّة

دبلن - إيرلندا

PRESS RELEASE

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The Palestinian Nakbah (catastrophe)

Annually and for the past 62 years, The Palestinians commemorate, the 15th of May, the most calamitous day in their contemporary history. In 1948, the Jewish Zionists widened their territorial control on every front and in the end commanded 78 per cent, instead of the 56% allotted to them by the United Nations' partition plan of historic Palestine. In the same short period approximately 750,000 Palestinians were driven from their homes, many forcibly, at the hands of Zionist gangs, and thus found themselves until this date, homeless and stateless refugees. More than 500 of their villages were wiped off the face of earth purposefully to make way for an expanded Jewish state in historic Palestine, by the aforementioned gangs. Most Israeli and Palestinian historians, of them The Jewish historian Illan Pappé, now agree, the Zionist gangs conducted a concerned campaign of terror and atrocities including massacres.

The protection of human lives and the civilian infrastructure at times of war and under occupation are the core principles of the International law and its bolsters the international humanitarian law and the four Geneva conventions. Regrettably, the Palestinian civilian population has never received such protection and remains highly vulnerable and exposed to the lethal force continuously unleashed by Israel, the occupying Power. The Palestinian civilians, including children, continue to be killed, wounded and maimed indiscriminately by the Israeli occupying forces in military assaults and incursions launched in densely populated civilian neighbourhoods, particularly in the Gaza Strip, where the population already suffers inordinately from the collective punishment imposed on them by the occupying Power's inhumane siege. Consequently, the Palestinian catastrophe is becoming an ongoing process.

Dr. Ajjuri, the Palestinian Ambassador to Ireland says: "The Israelis succeeded in wiping off our villages but failed to do so with our memory."

Dr. Ajjuri added by saying: "The only assurance that both the Palestinian catastrophe and the Jewish holocaust will become frozen moments in history is by granting the Palestinians their inalienable right to celebrate their independence as their Israeli neighbours do".

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