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## QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, INCLUDING PALESTINE

## Letter dated 12 October 2000 from the Permanent Observer for Palestine to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Israeli occupation forces and Jewish settlers continue their massacres against the Palestinian people, using all forms of killing, including the use of internationally banned weapons.

Only yesterday, 11 October 2000, Israeli troops and settlers killed three Palestinians, Nazir Nayef al-Haj Ali, 23 years old, in Nablus, Maher Mohamed Motalak, 24 years old, in Salvit village and Sami Hassan Salim in Tolkurm.

Settlers also attacked the Palestinian Mohamed Fathi al-Najar, 21 years old, in Khan Younes, stabbing him with a knife 13 stabs and the Palestinian Abd-Allah Ramadan Fayad, 22 years old, stabbing him 30 stabs in Khan Younes. This is how Palestinians are killed for no reason except for their being Palestinians, which affirms the crime of genocide of the Palestinian people at the hands of Israeli occupation forces and their settlers.

Israel has forbidden entry of medical supplies to Palestine and has prevented the injured, who were heading towards neighbouring Arab brother States for cure, from crossing Allenby bridge. Scores of these injured have run out of oxygen and medical supplies and they are still on the bridge, yet Israel is still denying them any movement.

The Israeli occupation forces have intensified their policy of closure of Palestinian cities and villages and have closed the safe passage between Gaza and West Bank municipalities to prevent the passage of individuals and goods, thus persevering in its practice of imposing collective punishments on the Palestinian people.

The Israeli occupation authorities have burnt Palestinian trucks at the Karni crossing point, they have prevented the entry of equipment necessary for Gaza port and are still forbidding planes from landing at Gaza international airport.

Moreover, the occupation forces have forbidden Palestinian banks from providing Palestine and its traders with the necessary liquidity to face up to demands by depositors concerning their deposits in Jordan.

The city of Nablus, as is the case in other Palestinian regions, is subject to a total closure; no one is allowed to bring in food or medicine. Through such measures, Israel is putting all obstacles in the way of any possibility of any political movement.

We are enclosing with this letter the names of martyrs for the period starting from 29 September to 7 October 2000, bearing in mind that the number of wounded exceeds 2,500.

We would be grateful if you could have the text of this memorandum, its enclosures\* as well as our letters to Your Excellency of 2, 4 and 10 October 2000\*\*, circulated as official documents of the special session of the Commission on Human Rights, to be held on 17 October 2000, as well as of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights under agenda item 8.

- \* Reproduced as received, in English only.
- \*\* Issued in documents <u>E/CN.4/2001/109</u>, <u>E/CN.4/2001/110</u> and <u>E/CN.4/2001/111</u>, respectively.