

In the name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful.

THE TRINIDAD MUSLIM LEAGUE INC.

Representing the Ghair Mukallid Muslims of Trinidad and Tobago

Our Guide:
The Holy Quran
And the Authentic Ahadith



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17th May, 2021

The Honourable Dr. Keith Rowley
Prime Minister
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Dear Hon. Dr. Rowley,

The Trinidad Muslim League Inc. (TML) is one of the oldest Islamic Organizations existing in Trinidad and Tobago. Over the more than seventy (70) years of our presence in the landscape of Trinidad and Tobago we have demonstrated our commitment and dedication towards building a society on the principles of respect for each, obedience to God (Allah), equality of treatment, justice and protecting each other. God Almighty has made us His representative on earth and as such we have a God-given responsibility to worship Him alone, to protect each other and to remove oppression and hardship facing humanity.

It is with a great sense of sadness that we are witnessing the immense hardship facing the people of Palestine. To date as reported by their international media over thirty-one Palestinians, including children have been killed and nine Israelis have been killed. The army of the Israel is bombarding the people of Palestine destroying lives and infrastructure. Both sides have lost lives however, the Palestinians have overwhelmingly suffered the greatest hardship, death of its people, loss of land, homes and other resources.

On September 13, 1993, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Negotiator Mahmoud Abbas signed a Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, commonly referred to as the "Oslo Accord", giving rise to the Two State agreement – Palestine and Israel. Both states living side by side and having International recognition and sovereignty. To date the provisions of the agreement have not been realized and there is continued expansion of Israeli lands at the expense of the Palestinians' land, increased number of settlers in the occupied territories and the Palestinians continue to be oppressed. The situation is very similar to the former apartheid system in South Africa where the black Africans and other non-whites were refused their basic human rights to live in dignity.

Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 was adopted on 23 December 2016. It concerns the Israeli settlements in "Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem". The resolution passed in a 14–0 vote by members of the U.N. Security Council (UNSC). Four members with United Nations Security Council veto power, China, France, Russia, and the United Kingdom, voted for the resolution, but the United States abstained.

The resolution states that Israel's settlement activity constitutes a "flagrant violation" of international law and has "no legal validity". It demands that Israel stop such activity and fulfill its obligations as an occupying power under the Fourth Geneva Convention.

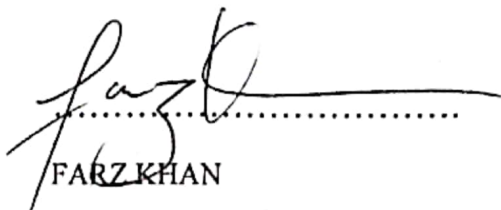
United Nations General Secretary António Guterres told the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People meeting in New York, that the Organization supports an end to the decades-long conflict on the basis of numerous "resolutions, international law and bilateral agreements" that have been made, with "recognized borders on the basis of the pre-1967 lines". He cited the expansion and acceleration of illegal settlement activities in the occupied West Bank, ongoing demolitions, seizures of Palestinian-owned property and evictions, as continuing cause for concern.

For more than 40 years the government of Israel has continued its military occupation of East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and Gaza and the seizing of more and more Palestinian land for illegal settlements in direct violation of UN resolutions. The most recent uprising began after the Palestinians were being evicted from their ancestral home in East Jerusalem and the total disrespect and physical disruption by physical means of persons praying in the sacred house of God – Al-Aqsa Mosque (the third holiest house of worship for Muslims).

We fully understand the complex nature of the conflict and the difficult road ahead in bringing this international humanity suffering under some kind of control whereby both people can live side by side. As constituents of Trinidad and Tobago, we are seeking a bi-partisan approach and that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago make a public statement in Parliament as to the government's position on this matter supporting the United Nations Declaration, support of the two state approach and an end to the current onslaught on the Palestinian's population by the Israeli army as well as the termination of the rocket fire from the Palestinian controlled region. The immediate cessation of the disproportionate use of power and military might by the Israeli military and the call for the International Community to intervene to bring the suffering and hardship to an immediate end.

Honourable Prime Minister we ask you, as the leader of this great nation of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, to express the government's disapproval of the current situation in Palestine. An immediate cessation of the bombing of the people of Palestine and the rocket fire from Gaza. An end to the illegal occupation by Israel and a return to the Oslo accord and implementation of the different UN Declarations by all parties, both Israel and Palestine.

Lives of the Palestinians and Israelis must be saved and protected and there must be equality of treatment and adherence to all resolutions and legal agreements.



FARZKHAN

PRESIDENT GENERAL – TRINIDAD MUSLIM LEAGUE INC.