

## "United for Justice: PIFA's Call for Students' Continued Action in Support of Gaza"

PIFA expresses its unwavering solidarity with students worldwide who are advocating for an immediate cease-fire in Gaza and the cessation of genocidal crimes against civilians, coupled with divestment from the apartheid regime.

The relentless aggression by the Israeli occupation in Gaza, characterized by aerial, naval, and ground bombardments, has inflicted dire conditions upon residents. The 203 days of ongoing genocide massacre, that been implemented with different strategies which is the direct bombing, killing of people in Gaza, displacement, starvation and deprivation of any kind of resource.

Shortages of medications, electricity, potable water, and sustenance persist, disproportionately affecting the most vulnerable, notably women and children, and those with heightened susceptibility to infectious diseases and malnutrition

The figures are staggering: a direct death toll surpassing 34,356, mostly women and children; over 77,368 individuals sustaining injuries; 8,000 individuals reported missing; and approximately 1.7 million people grappling with displacement amidst perilous circumstances.

Moreover, Israel's scholasticide of Gaza's education sector has thus far resulted in:

- 625,000 students are enduring a lack of educational access.
- Over 6,417 students and 296 educational staff have been killed (source: Ministry of Education, as of April 23, 2024).
- Nineteen universities have incurred substantial damage and none are functioning (source: Ministry of Education).
- Approximately 73% (408 out of 563) of school buildings have been destroyed, faced direct hits or major damage from Israeli attacks, with 29% being UNRWA schools.

- Around 60% (320 out of 563) of school buildings have served as shelters for internally displaced persons (IDPs) - 65% of these have been destroyed, directly hit or damaged.

Amidst this crisis, PIFA commends the resolute efforts of student movements in the USA, which fervently champion justice and peace in Palestine. Your steadfast solidarity and activism are catalyzing global consciousness and support for the plight endured by Gaza's students and civilians alike.

PIFA urges students worldwide to join in solidarity with those in the USA and across the globe who advocate for divestment from the apartheid regime, an immediate cease-fire in Gaza and the cessation of genocidal crimes against civilians.

As students, your collective voice is powerful and instrumental in effecting change. By standing together, we can amplify our demands for justice and peace in Palestine and compel the international community to take decisive action to end the occupation.

Join us in raising awareness, mobilizing support, and advocating for the rights of Gaza's students and civilians as we strive towards a future where all individuals can live in dignity, free from violence and oppression. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to you worldwide for your unwavering support and solidarity. Please, continue your advocacy efforts and urge your universities to actively advocate for immediate reconstruction in Gaza, breaking the sole image of destruction. Let us actively advocate for and support the rebuilding and reconstructing of universities and schools, ensuring that Gaza emerges from the devastation with strength, resilience, and a brighter future for its students.

Solidarity knows no borders. Let us stand united against the genocide of the Palestinian people.

Palestine International Friends Alliance "PIFA"

