



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Registration No. 2795/2012

OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

When is enough.....ENOUGH???

'According to the UN, Yemen could become the worst humanitarian disaster in half a century, with as many as 76% of the population in need of humanitarian aid'



Batool Ali, a severely malnourished Yemeni child

The war in Yemen has officially entered its fourth year accompanied by the deafening international silence!

Here's a look at the war's astounding toll in numbers:

- + More than 10,000 killed, around 50,000 wounded, and more than 2 million displaced most of whom are children and women, according to UN reports.**
- + More than 22 million people, including 11 million children, are in need of humanitarian assistance, according to U.N. officials and the International Committee of the Red Cross."**
- + An estimated 17.8 million Yemenis are considered "food insecure," not knowing when and from where their next meal will come, according to the U.N.**
- + More than 400,000 children are suffering from acute malnutrition, according to the World Food Program**

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- ✚ **Around 15.7 million Yemenis lack access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation services, according to the ICRC**
- ✚ **Some 16.4 million Yemenis lack access to adequate health care, according to the U.N.**
- ✚ **Another 24.3 million lack access to public electricity, according to the ICRC**

Saudi led military coalition is carrying out a devastating air bombardment campaign in Yemen that could amount to war crimes. The coalition airstrikes which have struck civilian infrastructure including health facilities, schools, factories, power facilities, bridges and roads is a clear violation of the Law of the War. More often than not such strikes have been disproportionate or indiscriminate and in many cases they appear to have directly target civilians and, or civilian objects.

To illustrate, since the start of the war campaign Human Rights Watch has documented 87 unlawful attacks by the Saudi-led coalition killing thousands of civilians and targeting homes, markets, hospitals, schools, and mosques which amounts to war crimes

A third of air raids have targeted non-military sites, with at least 1,491 air raids targeting residential areas.

"My parents and all three sisters were killed by an air strike in our neighborhood. I don't know if the world is aware of what is going on here, I miss them too much. They are always on my mind. This area has turned bleak without them." said Abu Bakr, a 17-year-old in Yemen's coastal city of Hodeidah.

"Most of the bombings in al-Hodeidah have targeted innocent civilians. Most of the victims are women and children," Manal Qaed Alwesabi, a Yemeni journalist from Hodeida who documented Abu Bakr's story.

There are similar stories of indiscriminate bombings from within Yemen's capital Sanaa. This war is taking a toll on innocent Yemeni civilians who live in a constant state of fear.

Of note, the Saudi led coalition imposed blockade is having a "disproportionate impact" on civilians stopping life-saving medication being flown in, and preventing approximately more than 20,000 Yemenis accessing specialist medical treatment abroad.

Civilians in Yemen continue to suffer, absent any form of accountability and justice, while those responsible for the violations and abuses against them enjoy impunity. Such a manifestly, protractedly unjust situation must no longer be tolerated by the international community.

However despite this painful fact, the international community, in particular the relevant UN human rights bodies have refused to publicly criticize the country, thus giving such intolerable act a free pass time and again.

International law clearly bans attacks on civilian homes or buildings, targeting medical facilities, launched from civilian areas. The Saudi led coalition has done it all and also used cluster munitions, lethal explosive weapons banned under international law thereby committing serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, including war crimes. Yet despite several reports of the devastating impact of the Saudi led war in Yemen, countries like the US and UK continue to supply coalition members with huge amounts of advanced military equipment. These arms have been used by the Saudi Arabia-led coalition to kill

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and injure civilians and shatter the livelihoods of Yemenis. To no one's surprise the US senate just rejected a bill to withdraw the country's support for the Saudi led war in Yemen, meaning the US will therefore continue to help commit war crimes in Yemen.

ICSFT urges US and UK to stop supplying the Saudi led coalition with weapons, munitions, military equipment, and fueling the war which is the only significant way to relieve the suffering of the Yemeni people.

ICSFT along with other international human rights organizations demands that Saudi Arabia disband their coalition and immediately cease the war on the people of Yemen and end their 'humanitarian' bombing campaign which is creating catastrophic humanitarian disaster in Yemen.

We call on the UN, in particular the United Nations Security Council to put an end to Saudi war against Yemen so that they can have the opportunity to find their way to a comprehensive political reconciliation and settlement.

ICSFT condemns in the strongest term the war crimes carried out by the Saudi-led forces and their western allies over the past three years and calls for the UN and international community to put an end to the genocide in Yemen.

ICSFT calls up on the international institutions including UN human rights organs to do their job which is to stand for justice and peace. Therefore the UN needs to condemn and put an end to Saudi led war. Such a step will heal the wounds and deter further senseless violations of fundamental human rights.

Most importantly ICSFT urges the international community, in particular the UN human Rights Council to establish an international, independent body to carry out comprehensive investigations in Yemen and refer the perpetrators of these violations to International Criminal Court - there is no excuse not to stand for human rights now. Accountability should no longer take the back seat to selective and politicized agenda at the expense of innocent Yemeni civilians.