

## Press Release from the Islamic Medical Association of South Africa

19<sup>th</sup> October 2023

The Islamic Medical Association of South Africa (IMASA) strongly condemns the barbaric attack on the innocent people of Gaza. The current retaliation against the civilian population of Gaza with daily air strikes deliberately destroying homes, mosques, hospitals and civilians causing untold deaths, severe injuries and destruction is a direct contravention of the Geneva Convention and constitutes a war crime. The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs – Protocol III – Incendiary weapons, prohibits the use of weapons primarily designed to set fire to objects or cause burn injuries against civilians.

The use of white phosphorous is banned under the Geneva Convention and is a further indicator of the level of war crimes being committed. It has been a feature of Israel's bombing campaign from the outset to deliberately target health care facilities and healthcare workers. The barbaric and deliberate bombing of the Al Ahli Baptist hospital at which civilians, driven from their homes by Israeli bombs, took shelter, is only surpassed by the gall of the Israelis trying to shift the blame for the bomb on HAMAS.

The unapologetic and arrogant stance of the Israelis is in keeping with the Zionists agendas to drive Palestinians out of occupied Palestine and Gaza, and ethnically cleanse whomever does not flee into refugee camps in neighbouring countries.

The world medical fraternity must isolate the Israeli medical fraternity and impose sanctions and boycotts on them.

Even at its worst, the apartheid regimes oppression of black South Africans pales into comparison with the barbarism of the Israelis.

Kind Regards

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
ISLAMIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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