## **Movement for Progressive Transformation, Nepal**

## **Joint Press Statement Against**

## Israel's Brutal Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing

The Nepali people are extremely outraged and saddened by the events in which the Israeli government, in retaliation for the attack by Hamas last year in response to Israel's atrocities, has taken the lives of thousands of innocent Palestinian and Lebanese civilians and deliberately displaced millions from their homeland. According to official statistics from the elected government of Gaza, since October 7 of last year, more than 42,000 innocent Palestinian civilians, including 69% women and children, have been killed solely due to Israeli attacks. From the Gaza region alone, 1.9 million Palestinians, which is 85% of the area's population, have been forced to leave their homes and places of residence. The number of children and women killed in Gaza over the past year as a result of Israeli attacks is equal to the total number of children and women killed in wars worldwide over the past twenty years. This event can be described as the largest genocide and ethnic cleansing of the 21st century. We strongly condemn and denounce this state-planned violence.

It is a historically proven fact that all of Palestine has been the ancestral homeland of the Palestinian people for centuries. However, with the aim of providing a ...countryÚ to the Jews scattered across Europe, the then British colonialism, through the support of military power, divided Palestine via a United Nations resolution and gave birth to 'Israel' in 1948, which is well known. Had Israel remained peacefully within the boundaries set at that time, despite the intense opposition of the Palestinian people, it would not have been so difficult for world opinion to eventually accept the principle of 'coexistence.' However, under the provocation and backing of the new superpower, United States of America, the Jewish government of Israel, through brutal oppression and state terrorism, systematically seized and shrunk Palestinian lands by force, displacing the Palestinian people from their own land and engaging in the expansion of its borders. Now, on the pretext of Hezbollah's attack, it has advanced to attack Lebanon as well. This conflict now seems poised to engulf not only Iran but the entire Western Asia. We believe that the primary source of today's violent conflict in Western Asia is the U.S.'s strategic military support and Israel's expansionist mindset. We express regret toward any power or superpower that supports this abhorrent expansionist project of Israel.

Respecting the territorial integrity and sovereign rights of the Palestinian and Lebanese people, and expressing deep solidarity with their just cause, we demand that Israel immediately cease its cruel and barbaric war. We also wish to draw the attention of the Government of Nepal to express the nation's stance in favor of the Palestinian and Lebanese people against this brutal violence by Israel. Due to fear for their lives, more than 500,000 Israelis have left Israel since last year. In such a situation, where the situation has become like a death trap in Israel, Gaza, and Lebanon, we sincerely urge all Nepali citizens not to go to these regions. We also appeal to the Government of Nepal to take steps to repatriate Nepalese who have gone to Israel and Lebanon for work during this ongoing war and to temporarily halt sending Nepali workers to these countries for a certain period. Additionally, we urge the Government of Nepal to adopt all diplomatic and political measures to bring Bipin Joshi back to Nepal as soon as possible. We also call for an immediate halt to Israel's attack on the United Nations peacekeeping forces. Furthermore, while supporting the global voice rising in favor of justice and peace, we appeal to the global community to take strong action against Israel's Zionist government, which is violating international laws and norms, committing war crimes, and creating a severe humanitarian crisis in Gaza,

We strongly demand that the Israeli government immediately cease all aggressive actions, brutal massacres, and acts of ethnic cleansing, allow the United Nations to carry out reconstruction and humanitarian efforts, and permit the displaced Palestinians to return to their homes. Additionally, we call upon all warring parties to halt the attacks, implement an immediate ceasefire, and resolve the issues through dialogue for a sustainable solution.

The list of signatories to this statement is as follows: Mohan Bikram Singh, General Secretary, Nepal Communist Party (Masal) Dev Gurung, General Secretary, CPN (Maoist Centre) Ghanshyam Bhusal, General Secretary, CPN (Unified Socialist) Rajesh Nepali, Head of International Bureau, Scientific Socialist Communist Party, Nepal Krishna Sharma, Spokesperson, Nepal Socialist Party Deepak Chalaune, Office Member, CPN (Majority) Lok Narayan Subedi, Coordinator, National Revolutionary Front Nepal Shyam Shrestha, Coordinator, Movement for Progressive Transformation, Nepal Dr. Mahesh Maskey, Chief Editor, Bamapanth 7724 71/18 Dr. Ganesh Gurung, President, Physicians for Social Responsibility Nepal Dr. Sharad Onta, Coordinator, People's Health Movement, Nepal J.L. Dr. Sanjeev Upreti, Brihat Nagarik Andolan (BNA) Meena Paudel,

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