

## Israel's Friday Bloodbath. Washington absolves Israel of Blame

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In-depth Report: PALESTINE

Israel is more killing machine than nation – a ruthless Arab-hating monster. On Friday, it continued murdering Palestinians in cold blood, another five lethally shot, the death toll now at 38 since October 1 alone, around 2,000 others injured, 300 on Friday alone, many thousands more from toxic tear gas.

Palestinians have no heavy weapons, mostly stones, their bare hands and passion to be free from a heavily armed brutal occupier. International law affirms their right to resist – heroically struggling for decades for freedom, deserving it as much as Israelis and everyone else, getting virtually no world community support.

Friday saw clashes throughout the West Bank. Security Council members met in emergency session to discuss ongoing violence, accomplishing nothing. US veto power assures no resolution or other action condemning Israeli high crimes.

Palestinian UN envoy Riyad Mansour called for immediate UN intervention against Israeli violence. At the same time, his PA leadership openly collaborates with its state terror.

Washington absolves Israel of blame, complicit with its viciousness, blaming Palestinians for ongoing violence. An entire population is being raped and held responsible for its own suffering.

Amnesty International's Middle East/North Africa director Philip Luther said "(w)e are seeing a dangerous pattern of deliberate attacks on civilians and unlawful killings."

Israeli forces have used excessive force on a large scale and intensified restriction on movement and have vowed to increase illegal punishments such as home demolitions.

Security measures must respect international law. Collective punishment of the Palestinian population can never be justified.

On Friday, Obama showed which side he's on. During a press conference with South Korean President Park Geun-hye, his comments surprised no one, saying:

We condemn in the strongest possible terms violence directed against innocent people and believe that Israel has a right to maintain basic law and order and protect its citizens from knife attacks and violence on the streets.

No mention of premeditated, cold-blooded Israeli murders, extreme brutality against a long-oppressed people, terrorizing them ruthlessly – with full US support and encouragement.

There's no ambiguity about what's ongoing, a continuation of decades of occupation harshness – unaccountable because of full US support, echoed by one-sided media reports, blaming Palestinians for Israeli high crimes.

Murder is self-defense when its security forces commit it – terrorism when Palestinians defend themselves heroically. Longstanding injustice condemns them to endless misery, the cross they continue to bear.

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