

Julie Dachtler

From: Abolghasem Edalati <gedalati@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 11:35 AM
To: Clerkoftheboard
Subject: Gaza Ceasefire on the agenda

Dear Yolo County Supervisors,

With thanks to those of you support putting on the agenda the Ceasefire Resolution, We are now in the 16th week of the war on Gaza. More than 25,000 lives lost and many unaccounted for under the rubble. More than 15,000 of those killed are children. All international organizations have described the situation in Gaza as catastrophic and made several calls for a ceasefire and the deployment of humanitarian aid consisting of basic needs such as food, water, and medicine. Women are delivering on the floor, and amputations are done without anesthesia since all hospitals are now not operational. There is an increase of miscarriages by 300% and many newborn infants are dying due to the unsanitary conditions and the cold weather. The people in Gaza who are now displaced had homes, they had jobs, they had family and kids who went to school. Within days they lost their homes, earnings, many family members, all their belongings and are now living in tents with barely some clothes that they were able to carry with them. This is not a war, because in wars people are allowed to find refuge in other countries. In wars people are not sieged, starved and denied medical assistance, while being bombed. Many are eating once a day on alternating days as Israel is allowing only a tenth of the food to enter Gaza. This is a cruel and intentional infliction of suffering on a whole population. A collective punishment on a sieged population that could not escape the bombardment and could not seek shelter anywhere.

On December 29, 2023 South Africa, a country that had suffered many years of apartheid, filed a lawsuit with the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against Israel on charges of committing crimes of genocide against the Palestinians in Gaza. Recently, Indonesia has also filed a lawsuit against the Israeli occupation of Gaza at the ICJ. At the United Nations general assembly a Ceasefire resolution had 153 votes in favor. There is a worldwide consensus that Israel is committing a genocide and ethnic cleansing while disconnecting communications and banning international organizations and journalists from entering Gaza so it has a free hand in proceeding with its crimes.

I am not sure what more evidence do the Yolo County Supervisors need to include "Ceasefire in Gaza" as an item on the agenda. How many more men, women, and children need to be killed so it warrants having this item on the agenda? This is an issue impacting the majority of Yolo County residents. There are, here in the country those who have family in Gaza and there are many who do not want their tax money be used to pay for genocide and thus be complicit in these crimes. The genocide in Gaza is a litmus test for our humanity. It is critical for our leaders to stand for what's right and just, to take action and not be silent. Therefore, I urge you to include a ceasefire resolution on the agenda and have it be passed.

Thank you for listening to me and the rest of your constituents thinking regarding this humanitarian concerns

Regards,

Ghasem Edalati

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