

# Open Letter to the Prime Minister on Gaza

The Rt. Hon. Gordon Brown MP  
Prime Minister  
London SW1A 2AA

31st December 2008

Dear Prime Minister,

The illegal and inhumane bombardment of the Gaza Strip by Israeli forces has shocked us all. The images beamed around the globe show the horror of death and destruction unleashed against an Occupied People, contrary to all humanitarian standards. The mass outrage expressed on the streets of Britain is yet to be reflected in the actions of our government, and this is unacceptable.

While Gaza mourns its dead the deafening silence of our Prime Minister and government is a source of great bewilderment. Is it not time for a firm intervention that brings relief to the thousands of injured? We can only imagine conditions in the beleaguered hospitals where the most basic medicines were exhausted before the attacks, because of the inhumane blockade imposed on the million and a half inhabitants of the strip.

Since 2006, humanitarian conditions have deteriorated to unprecedented levels. Parents have watched their babies die; 600,000 children now suffer from post traumatic disorder as a result of Israeli state terror and international sanctions. It is time to stop this brutality and allow the Palestinian people to live in peace and dignity.

A few weeks ago, it was notable how you rightly rushed to Islamabad and New Delhi in the wake of the Mumbai attacks in order to calm all parties, avert escalation and further bloodshed. One wonders if you intend to visit Tel Aviv and make clear to the Israeli leadership that nothing can excuse nor justify targeting charities, hospitals, medical stores and pharmacies, mosques and universities, causing maximum casualties. Will you then proceed to Gaza and console the orphans and widows of this brutal campaign?

Prime Minister, this is your hour with history and we urge you to take the first step. We expect nothing less of our government than an unequivocal condemnation of Israel's actions, as it has condemned similar brutalities committed by various states around the world. We urge you to ensure:

- **An immediate end to Israel's military assault on Gaza**
- **An immediate end to the blockade and siege on Gaza**
- **An end to Israel's violation of International Law**
- **An end to Israeli Occupation**

Muslim Council of Britain • British Muslim Forum • Al-Khoei Foundation • British Muslim Initiative  
Council of European Jama'ats • Friends of Al-Aqsa • Federation of Student Islamic Societies • Dawat ul Islam  
Islamic Human Rights Commission • Islamic Forum Europe • Islamic Society of Britain • Muslim Association of Britain  
Muslim Directory • Palestinian Forum in Britain • Palestinian Return Centre • Palestinian Solidarity Campaign  
Sri Lanka Islamic Forum UK • Stop the War Coalition • Respect • UK Islamic Mission • World Ahlul-Bayt Islamic League

## End Israel's barbarity: Free Palestine

### **National Demonstration on Saturday 3rd January '09 in Central London. Assembly at 12.30pm at Embankment**

**For further information visit:**

**[www.stopwar.org.uk](http://www.stopwar.org.uk) • [www.bminitiative.net](http://www.bminitiative.net) • [www.palestinecampaign.org](http://www.palestinecampaign.org) • [www.prc.org.uk](http://www.prc.org.uk)**