

Palestinian Organizations Strongly Criticize Netanyahu UN Speech



Ramallah, October 1 (RHC)-- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's speech at the United Nations General Assembly has infuriated Palestinian organizations in the Gaza Strip and occupied territories.

Addressing the General Assembly on Monday, Netanyahu compared Israel's battle against Palestinian resistance movement Hamas to that of the U.S.-led campaign against the ISIL militants in Iraq and Syria.

The Israeli prime minister is considered by Palestinians a war criminal for the atrocities that were perpetrated by his forces during the 50-day war on Gaza, which ended a little over a month ago, and the eight-day war in 2012.

"The Zionist Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu shouldn't even give speeches the UN, because he is a war criminal and he must be tried for the crimes his forces perpetrated against us," said war victim Ahmad Zaeem.

The al-Mezan Center For Human Rights, a non-governmental organization based in the Jabalia Palestinian refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, says the international community is working together with Tel

Aviv by allowing Netanyahu to deliver a speech at the UN.

"Netanyahu's forces carried out systematic killing of Gazan children and women and wanton destruction of civilian infrastructure. Netanyahu addressing world leaders only asserts the complicity of the international community in Israeli war crimes against the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip," Samir Zaqqout of the rights group said.

Hamas also slammed the Israeli premier's speech, calling it a speech of hatred and incitement. "Hosting Netanyahu in international venues is a major error. He is a war criminal and he must be tried in an international criminal court. He only belongs in prison." Hamas spokesman Fawzi Barhoum said: "Netanyahu used his speech at the UN to incite sentiments against Hamas and the resistance and compare them to the ISIL."

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