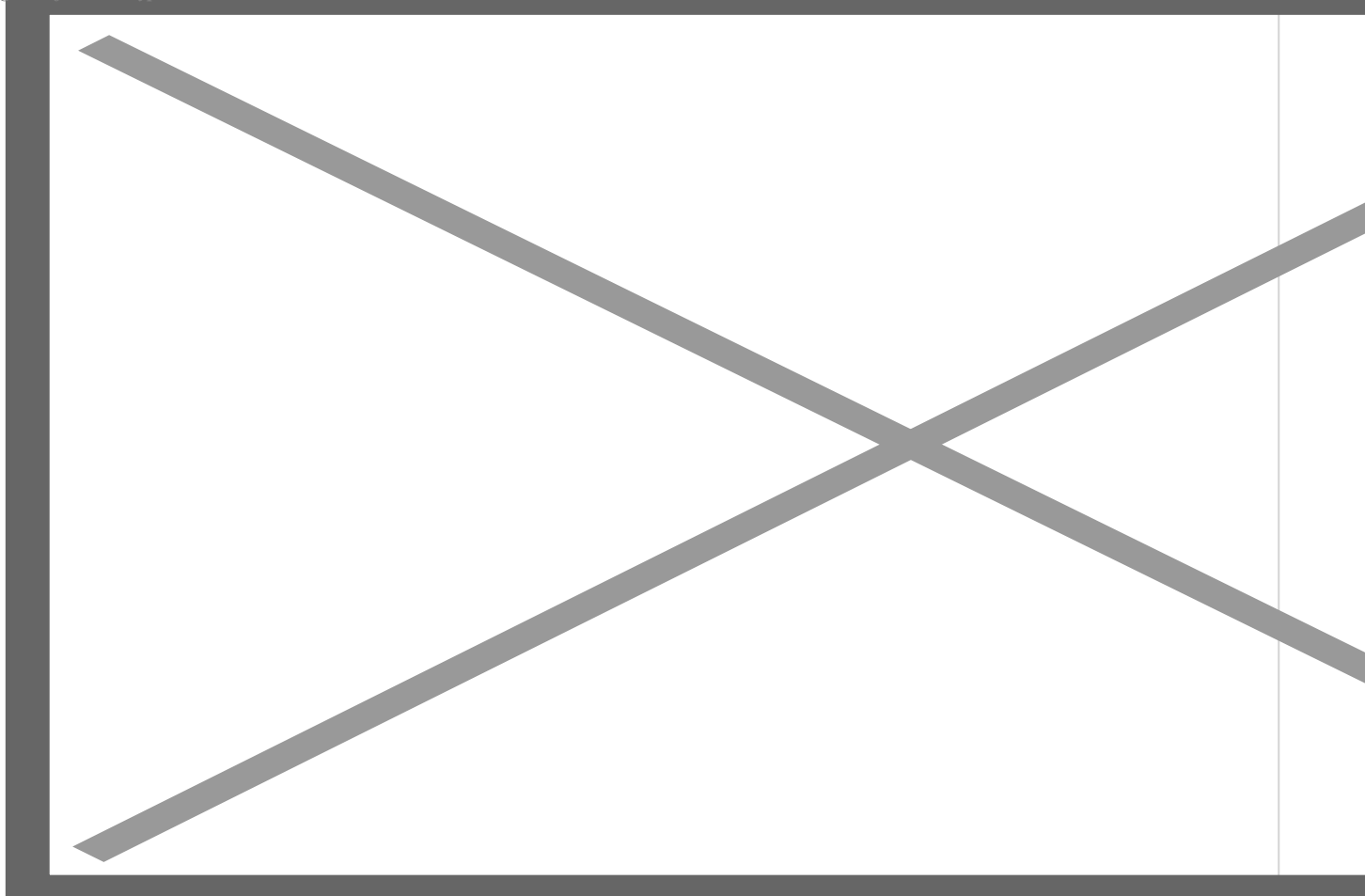


*Iranian foreign minister says
Muslim world should take drastic,
collective efforts to stop Israeli
crimes in Gaza*

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Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (R) and his Saudi counterpart, Prince Faisal bin Farhan

Tehran, March 23 (RHC)-- Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has strongly condemned the Israeli regime's atrocities against the defenseless Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, emphasizing the urgent need for unified and immediate action by Muslim countries to halt these crimes.?

The top diplomat made the remarks in a telephone conversation with his Saudi counterpart, Prince Faisal bin Farhan on Saturday, urging Muslim countries across the world to take "drastic and collective" efforts to confront the Israeli aggression.

Araghchi was pointing to the Israeli regime's resumption of its genocidal war on Gaza since Tuesday in outright breach of Tel Aviv's ceasefire agreement with the coastal sliver's Hamas resistance movement.

The fresh genocidal campaign has claimed the lives of more than 1,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children, in addition to the roughly 48,000 people that the brutal military onslaught had already killed.

Amid the deadly atrocities, the Israeli regime's minister for military affairs, Israel Katz threatened to annex parts of Gaza unless Hamas released the Zionist captives, who remained in the Palestinian territory.

Katz said the Israeli military had been ordered to "seize more territory in Gaza," warning that the more Hamas "refuses" to let go of the remaining captives in one batch, "the more territory it will lose, which will be annexed by Israel."

Hamas that has released many of the captives under the first phase of the ceasefire deal has, however, rejected the regime's demands, warning that there were no guarantees that Tel Aviv would keep its side of the bargain by ending its genocide, withdrawing from Gaza, and releasing thousands of Palestinian upon the movement's releasing the Zionists. It has also cited the regime's resumed genocidal efforts against the coastal sliver as a clear instance of its lack of commitment to its obligations.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Araghchi denounced the underway military aggression by the United States and the United Kingdom against Yemen, highlighting the resulting casualties among innocent women and children, as well as the destruction of the country's infrastructures.

[SOURCE: PRESS TV]

He underscored the shared responsibility of the global Muslim community to support their fellow Muslims in the violence-wracked and impoverished Arab Peninsula country. The United States has escalated its fatal attacks against Yemen, with President Donald Trump pledging to "annihilate" Yemen's Ansarullah popular resistance movement as a means of trying to stop the pro-Palestinian operations that Sana'a has been performing in support of the Gazans.

For his part, Prince Farhan reiterated Riyadh's firm stance in condemning the Israeli regime's deadly aggression. He stressed the necessity for coordination and close cooperation among regional countries to prevent escalation of the crisis.?

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