

# *Iran says world must hold Israel accountable for mass murder, targeting children*

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Men mourn by the shrouded bodies of victims killed by Israeli bombardment in Jabalia, as they

**lie at the Indonesian Hospital in Beit Lahia in the northern Gaza Strip on April 18, 2025. (Photo by AFP)**

Tehran, April 20 (RHC)-- Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson Esmail Baghaei has called on the international community to quit turning a blind eye to Palestine and hold the Israeli regime accountable for its crimes in Gaza, including the killing of children.

"This is not medieval history. This is not the Dark Ages. It has been happening for consecutive days over the past 2 years," Baghaei said, warning about the apathy towards the massacre and ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian nation. He referred to a report from the UN Children's Fund in Palestine on the ongoing genocide, pointing to the severity of the situation amid an inadequate will to put an end to the occupiers' atrocities.

"A spokesperson for the UN ... confirms: 'Since the beginning of the Gaza war, an average of 27 children have been killed each day,'" Baghaei said. The regime's forces have killed some 19,000 children, including 274 newborn babies and 876 infants below the age of one year, in Gaza since October 2023, Hamas said in a statement last week.

Despite repeated condemnations by the United Nations General Assembly, evidence of genocidal acts gathered by the International Criminal Court (ICC), and formal orders from the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to prevent genocide and punish incitement to it, the Israeli regime's killings persist unabated, Baghaei regretted.

"Children are slaughtered by relentless brutal bombardment and from cruel starvation. These are not only morally outrageous; they are the most heinous acts of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide under international law," he said, adding, "The Israeli regime, its enablers and apologists, must be held accountable."

Israel launched a genocidal war on Gaza on October 7, 2023, but it failed to achieve its declared objectives despite killing 51,065 Palestinians, mostly women and children, and injuring more than 116,505 others.

[ SOURCE: REUTERS and ASSOCIATED PRESS ]

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