

**JOIN US ON TUESDAY (18 JAN) AT 18H00!**

**Amnesty International (South Africa) Global Day of Action on Israel**

**- Candlelight vigil commemorating the attacks on Gaza**

**VENUE:** Main Library, Wits University, Johannesburg

**DATE:** Tuesday, 18 January 2011

**TIME:** 18h00

**INFO:** [info@amnesty.org.za](mailto:info@amnesty.org.za) / 011 339 5505

**RSVP:** If possible, kindly do so by Monday 17 January

**HOSTED BY:** *Amnesty International* and the *Coalition for a Free Palestine*

**ABOUT:**

BACKGROUND

18 January 2011 marks the second anniversary of the attacks on Gaza (December 27, 2008 – January 18, 2009) that saw the killing of over 1400 people, 400 of whom were children. The subsequent UN Fact Finding Mission Report, led by South Africa's Judge Richard Goldstone, revealed war crimes and other serious human rights violations that took place during the attacks; yet, the perpetrators are still to be held accountable and the victims are still to receive justice and reparations.

INTERNATIONALLY

The Amnesty International Global Day of Action on Israel marks the beginning of a two-month campaign between January and March 2011 demanding that the United Nations Human Rights Council take concrete measures to ensure international justice for the victims.

LOCALLY

In August 2009, the Palestine Solidarity Alliance and the Media Review Network together with other applicants (including international jurist, John Dugard, former Intelligence minister Ronnie Kasrils, and Law professor Max du Plessis) lodged the 'Gaza Docket' with the National Directorate of Public Prosecutions (NDPP).

The docket, relying on the UN Fact finding Mission Report, alleges war crimes against a number of Israeli political and military figures and calls on the SA government to prosecute South Africans who served in the Israeli Defense Force during the attacks on Gaza. The NDPP has up till now failed to seriously act upon the Gaza docket. This, for a democratic South Africa, is simply unacceptable.

HOSTS:

- *Amnesty International (AI)* is a global movement of 2.8 million supporters, members and activists in more than 150 countries and territories who campaign to end grave abuses of human rights. AI's vision is for every person to enjoy all the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards.

- The *Coalition for a Free Palestine (CFP)* is a COSATU led coalition representing a wide range of civil society organizations and trade unions. Some member organizations include the South African Council of Churches, South African Young Communist League, South African Communist Party, Muslim Judicial Council, Muslim Students Association, Palestine Solidarity Alliance, Palestine Solidarity Committee, Palestine Solidarity Group and the student society, the Wits University Palestine Solidarity Committee.

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