

State of Palestine

Association of Palestinian  
Local Authorities



الاتحاد الفلسطيني للهيئات المحلية  
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دولة فلسطين

الاتحاد الفلسطيني  
للهيئات المحلية

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### Gaza: Social Justice Under Siege

As the world observes the **World Day of Social Justice** on 20th February 2024, Palestinian people are still subjected to horrific violations of human rights and principles of international humanitarian law by Israeli occupation forces, which have so far resulted in the death and injury of more than 100,000 civilians, which emphasizes the imperative for social justice even more.

The ongoing assaults on Gaza, marked by more than 30,000 fatalities, 70,000 injuries, and 1.7 million internally displaced individuals (representing 70% of Gaza's population), starkly opposes the global call for social justice. As social justice advocates for addressing pressing issues like poverty and inequality, the crisis exacerbates disparities, with a complete electricity blackout, 70,000+ housing units destroyed, and over 60% of housing units severely affected.

**Children**, the most vulnerable in any society, face unimaginable challenges in Gaza. With a million in need of mental health support, 17,000 unaccompanied or separated, and surgeries performed on children without anesthesia, the distressing plight of Gaza's kids starkly contradicts social justice principles calling for the safeguarding of children's rights and ensuring opportunities for a healthy, secure upbringing. **Education**, a cornerstone of social justice, is severely impacted, with 100% of students having no access to education.

The looming risk of **famine** for 2.2 million people directly contradicts social justice principles advocating for equitable access to necessities, including food. Border closures hindering consistent food supply further stand in opposition to the call for fair and unrestricted access to essentials.

The data paints a grim picture of the crisis, with only 17% of primary healthcare centers functional, exacerbating challenges faced by the wounded who often lack opportunities for treatment. This neglect contradicts the advocacy for equal access to **healthcare for all**, ignoring the principles of social justice.

As we commemorate the World Day of Social Justice, it serves as a poignant reminder that true justice necessitates addressing root causes and collaborative efforts to ensure the well-being and dignity of every individual. It is a collective responsibility to stand in solidarity with the people of Gaza, advocate for their rights, and work towards a future where social justice prevails over wars.

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