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Focusing on the rights of minorities and effective early prevention of conflicts by

Aya Manaa

Good morning Madam moderator, special rapporteur, panelists, state representatives, minority representatives and colleagues,

- ◆ The Palestinian minority in Israel is suffering from a daily homicide, crimes and violations are operating under a very little intervention of law enforcement bodies and with a cover of the judicial systems and due to decades of neglect of crime in the Palestinian community in Israel.
- ◆ Homicides among the Palestinian minority are about 70 percent of all Israeli homicides, though we represent around 20 percent of the population. The surging crime has reached alarming figures this year with 117 victims among them 15 women, the last victim was killed yesterday morning - 28 year Mohamed Hamza Borgul (محمد حمزة برغل) from Umalfahim city مدينة ام الفحم
- ◆ Our people, especially women and kids lost their sense of safety, instead anger and rage live side by side with sorrow and sadness in our community.
- ◆ On October 1st2019, my two cousins (Ahmad and Khalil) were shot dead in the day light in my village (Majd el Kurum مجد الكروم in the Galilee north of Israel), today, 2 years later this crime is still not solved, this is due to the police and the judicial system neglect when the victim belongs to the Palestinian minority. As a matter of fact, fewer than a quarter of the cases have been solved, due to both police indifference and minority's distrust of the police.
- ◆ Ladies and gentlemen, how would we think about culture, education and development, when we feel unsafe and live under a constant threat of homicides?
- ◆ Studies prove that welfare and equality reduce crimes, unfortunately different minorities are suffering from similar grievances and atrocities and lack of inclusiveness and equality.
- ◆ During May this year and after demonstrations which took place in most of our villages, mass arrests were conducted within "Operation Law and Order", Israeli police have arrested more than 2200 Palestinian citizens of Israel, the majority of whom were released from custody without any charges filed, the law enforcement officials use of force against demonstrators was excessive and disproportionate.
- ◆ These events among others have been reported to the special rapporteur on minority issues Mister. Fernand de Vareness, and am thankful for your letter from the 1st June titled "Israel: Violence, hate speech, discrimination against Palestinian minority most stop"
- ◆ Such patterns my friends, patterns of discrimination among other human rights breaches, must be addressed to prevent future interstate conflicts.
- ◆ I would like to remind us distinguished participants and minority representatives that although our rights are embedded in the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities and in several other different UN conventions and instruments, we have also to support each other causes and be aware of

the similar challenges we encounter, so I encourage all of you to pay special attention to all the important interventions given in this forum.

- ◆ Finally, I would call Israel and member states to protect and effectively implement human rights of the minorities as the key for stability and effective early prevention of conflicts through laws which promote justice and equality.
- ◆ Peace, stability and justice my friends – are the shortest way to prevent violent conflicts – this requires addressing the core grievances of minorities associated with their exclusion, discriminatory practices in their daily life, vs. effective participation practices and accommodating their cultures, religions, languages and beliefs.

- ◆ Because

There cannot be peace without justice, as Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King.

- ◆ Thus, my Recommendation are:

1. The United Nations should establish a regional high-level advisory body on minority issues.
2. Establishment of an independent international fact-finding missions on minority issues for the Middle East.
3. Governments should ensure the participation of minorities and their representatives in the development of policies and laws for achieving their inclusiveness through affirmative actions to be sustained over a prolonged period.
4. States should ensure that minority groups safety and right to life is respected and enhance inclusive measures for their protection.

I would like to thank and greet all the minority courageous representatives who are bringing the minority issues and voices to the UN forums and to special rapporteur attention.

Wishing for all our communities' a brighter future,

Thank you- Alslam Alikom