



*Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran
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Statement

by

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Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran**

before

**the Fifth Session of the Human Rights Council
on " the Situation of Human Rights in the Occupied
Palestinian Territories**

Geneva- 13 June 2007

In the Name of God

We appreciate the report of Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories since 1967. We extend our appreciation to Special Rapporteur John Dugard for his dedication and integrity. Our thanks are also extended to Archbishop Tutu and Ms. Chinkin for their commendable efforts.

Mr. President,

The report of the Special Rapporteur contained in document A/HRC/5/11 reiterates that the Mission contemplated by resolution S-1/1 has not been implemented and can not be implemented as a result of the failure of Israel, the occupying power. Similarly it is regrettable that another High Level Fact Finding Mission has not been permitted to visit Beit Hanoun in implementation of resolution S-3/1 of the Council.

The Islamic Republic of Iran remains seriously concerned about the failure of Israeli regime to cooperate with two Fact Finding Missions which were supposed to be headed by the Special Rapporteur and Archbishop Tutu respectively. Unfortunately, Israel, occupying power, continues to challenge the Council authority and integrity by occupying power, as the result of impunity given by few members of the Security Council and shameful exercise of the veto by the United States, the main accomplice of Israel.

Mr. President,

The situation in Occupied Palestinian Territories is deteriorating every day. This Council is fully aware of that Palestinians have been subjected to a form of collective punishment; to economic blockades for their democratic aspirations; to frequent military incursions; to extra judicial and targeted assassinations; to demolitions of their houses and infrastructure; to restrictions on their freedom of movement; to erection of separation wall and arbitrary detention of Palestinian Ministers and Parliamentarians.

As acknowledged in the previous report of Special Rapporteur the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian Territories constitutes forms of colonialism and of Apartheid.

The situation of human rights in the occupied Palestinian territories remains a test for the Human Rights Council, a test by which its commitment to human rights is to be judged.

It is painful that few members of the Council are still trying to politicize the chronic and unique suffers of the People under decades of persistent occupation and aggression, while arguing the necessity to adopt a balanced approach, thereby, equating the occupied and the occupier.

Due to the gravity of situation in occupied Palestine, and non - implementation of the relevant decisions of this Council, it is our collective responsibility to ensure that the Council, through a separate agenda item, and the mandate of the Special Rapporteur continue to be seized of the question of situation in occupied Palestinian Territories up to end of occupation.