



London Institute of Peace Research

May 2021 Newsletter

Unprecedented human rights violations by Israeli forces in Gaza: 60 Palestinians killed



Israel continued to impose institutionalized discrimination against Palestinians living under its rule in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT). It displaced hundreds of Palestinians in Israel and the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, as a result of home demolitions and imposition of other coercive measures. Israeli forces killed 31 children, in the OPT. Many were unlawfully killed while posing no imminent threat to life. Israel maintained its illegal blockade on the Gaza Strip, subjecting its residents to collective punishment and deepening the humanitarian crisis there. The Israeli authorities arbitrarily detained in Israel thousands of Palestinians from the OPT, holding hundreds in

administrative detention without charge or trial. Torture and other ill-treatment of detainees, including children, were committed with impunity. Israel demolished 848 Palestinian residential and livelihood structures in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, displacing 996 people, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).



A report by the Human Rights Watch (HRW) has assessed that acts and policies of Israeli authorities amount to international law crimes of apartheid or persecution. The HRW concludes that the Israeli government has displayed intention for Jewish Israelis to dominate over Palestinians across Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT). The international community must step in immediately and use its leverage to force Israel to change its policy, before it claims even more victims

Madagascar facing famine

Madagascar is facing the worst drought in 40 years. The rights of more than a million people are currently threatened in Southern Madagascar, with



Starving Malagasy forced to eat leaves, locusts for survival

thousands at risk of starvation and more than a million struggling to access sufficient quantities of food. The crisis is unfolding after the region has seen three consecutive years of drought, causing the worst drought the country has experienced in 40 years. Dozens of deaths have been recorded in some villages, but there are no precise estimates of famine related deaths. Survivors of hunger have told the organization how they are trying to do everything to avoid dying, including skipping meals and eating cactuses and clay. Madagascar urgently needs US\$ 74 million over the next six months to offset the impact and the risk of famine.

KASHMIR MISHAPS

India police jail 21 Kashmiris amid pro-Palestinian rallies

Police in Indian-controlled Kashmir have arrested at least 21 people for expressing solidarity with Palestine and rallying against Israel's military offensive against Gaza

Staunch anti-India Kashmir politician dies in police custody

A prominent politician in Kashmir, Mohammed Ashraf Sehrai, who challenged India's rule over the disputed region for decades has died while in police custody. He was 78.

J&K eases Covid restrictions, but weekend curbs to remain

Educational institutions, gyms, cinema halls to remain closed till June 15

Twitter Suspends Official Account of Jammu & Kashmir LG

Manoj Sinha

The official Twitter account of Jammu & Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha was suspended by the micro-blogging platform. An anonymous top source expressed the hope that it was just a glitch.

Encounter breaks out in Warpora area of Sopore

This is the second such incident. Earlier, a militant was killed in an encounter by security forces in Shopian district.

Which countries are the most peaceful in the world?



Peacefulness across the world has improved for the first time in five years, but it is less peaceful than a decade ago, according to a major report.

Iceland remained unchallenged as the most peaceful country in the world, a title it has held since 2008.

It is followed by New Zealand and Portugal, a new entry into the top spots.

At the bottom of the list, Afghanistan replaced Syria as the least peaceful country. Syria is now the second least peaceful country, followed by South Sudan and Yemen.

The average country score improved by 0.09 per cent, with 86 countries getting better and 76 deteriorating. Bhutan is the most improved country in the top 20, rising 43 places in the past 12 years.



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A Voice for Peace and Justice

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