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PRESS RELEASE

ANIC Strongly Condemns Recent Violence Against the Palestinian People at the Hands of the Israeli Forces

As the Muslims around the world are about to celebrate the beginning of the Holy Month of Ramadan, it is with great frustration and sadness that we continue to hear of the horrific acts of violence unfolding against the Palestinian people at the hands of the Israeli forces. According to the most recent report, 59 people have been killed by the Israeli military as a result of protests that erupted along the Gaza border, also coinciding with the opening of the US embassy in Jerusalem.

In addition to these overly-hostile strikes, 2700 Palestinian demonstrators were also reportedly injured on Monday (at least 1350 by gunfire). According to local health officials, this level of bloodshed has not been seen since the most violent days of Israel's 2014 war in the territory.

The Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) strongly condemns such actions and disregard for human life committed by the Israeli occupying forces who have used disproportionate firepower against innocent people.

The Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) would also like to emphasise that the decision to move the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem is a provocative act which has caused further instability in the region. Such a move is also considered to significantly lack regard for the Palestinian people who view Jerusalem as their capital city. This is also the sentiment shared by many across the Arab and Muslim world who regard Jerusalem as home to some of the holiest sites in Islam.

We call on all fair-minded people from within the Australian government to put an end to such excessive forms of violence and to condemn the barbaric acts committed by the Israeli Regime. We similarly request from all fair-minded individuals from within the broader Australian community to openly discuss these recent massacres in order generate greater awareness on the plight of the Palestinian people and the Palestine cause.

Lastly, we call upon all Australian Muslims to utilise the sacred month of Ramadan to pray for their brethren locally and abroad.

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