

BADIL's Oral Statement

UNHRC Session #54, Item 9:

Israel's Colonial-Apartheid Regime Must be Sanctioned

Mr. President,

BADIL calls on the Council to address Israel's colonial-apartheid regime embodied in Israel's legislation, policies, and practices against the Palestinian people, those residing in Mandatory Palestine, and in exile, such as myself.

The discourse of Israeli officials, which incites increasing hatred and violence against our people, is emblematic of Israeli racial domination and oppression policies. For example:

- The Israeli National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir publicly chanted "death to Arabs" and recently stated that his family's right to movement in the West Bank trumps the Palestinians' freedom of movement. Ben-Gvir also instructed the Israeli Prison Service to sign a decision depriving Palestinian prisoners of free dental treatment, and has been imposing even harsher discriminatory policies since he assumed office.
- Similarly, Israel's Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich publicly stated: "There is no Palestinian history. There is no Palestinian language."

This inciteful discourse is a stark component of the Israeli colonial-apartheid regime, amounting to crimes against humanity, fortified with a lack of international accountability.

BADIL calls on third-party states to fulfill their negative and positive duties, and impose sanctions against Israel to end its system of domination founded on three pillars: forced displacement and transfer, colonization, and apartheid.

The mandate provided to the Commission of Inquiry of 2021 is an opportunity for this Council to address these pillars which constitute the root causes.

Thank you.