

AKADEMI PROFESOR MALAYSIA CONDEMNS SCHOLASTICIDE IN GAZA

1. Akademi Profesor Malaysia (APM) strongly condemns the Israeli Regime's assassination of university professors, academics, scientists and researchers in Gaza, an intentional effort to comprehensively destroy the Palestinian tertiary education system.
2. Based on press release by the Gaza Authorities on Thursday May 16 2024, a list of 104 names of university professors, academics, scientists and researchers have been killed by Israeli forces since the Regime's bombardment of Gaza on 7 October 2023 including Prof Sufyan Tayeh, the President of the Islamic University of Gaza (IUG) and Professor Adnan al-Barsh, Head of Orthopaedic Surgeon at Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City, to name a few.
3. It is clear that the Israeli Regime aims to completely annihilate university professors, academics, scientists, researchers and personnel in the educational sector in Gaza. With more than 80% of schools in Gaza have been damaged or destroyed, the systemic obliteration of education is also undertaken through the arrest, detention and killing of teachers, students and staff in addition to the destruction of educational infrastructure.
4. There are reports that Israel has expanded its military operation to Rafah in the Southern Gaza Strip, an area where the vast majority of displaced Palestinians had been told to seek refuge, an area declared as a safe zone. The Rafah crossings have been closed and as a result, humanitarian aids have been prevented from being delivered into Gaza, including life-saving medical supplies needed in hospitals in addition to food, drinks, clothing, tents and fuel.
5. The latest casualty figures as of May 20 2024, at least 35,562 people in Gaza, mostly children and women, have been killed and 79,652 injured and more than 10,000 missing in addition to the grave dangers caused by the mass malnutrition and spread of disease all with the backdrop of shelling and military attacks.
6. Akademi Profesor Malaysia (APM) calls on the free countries of the world, universities, organisations related to higher education worldwide and people from all walks of life committed to humanitarian cause to condemn this heinous crime and to pressure the occupation regime to stop with immediate effect the ongoing genocide and ethnic cleansing of the Palestinians.

Thank you.

**COUNCIL OF AKADEMI PROFESOR MALAYSIA
MAY 21, 2024**