

AFIC Condemns the Extension of Aggression to Lebanon by Israel

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The Australian Federation of Islamic Councils (AFIC) vehemently condemns the recent escalation of violence by Israel, now extending its military aggression to Lebanon. This follows nearly a year of devastating attacks against Gaza, which have tragically claimed over 40,000 lives and caused more than 100,000 injuries.

Dr. Rateb Jneid, President of AFIC, stated, "The relentless bombings in Lebanon over the past three days represent a grave escalation of conflict that risks further destabilisation of the region. The international community, including the Australian Government, must not stand by as it did during the Gaza catastrophe."

The recent airstrikes have reportedly targeted various regions in Lebanon, leading to significant casualties and forcing residents to flee their homes. This aggressive stance by Israel not only jeopardises the lives of countless civilians but also violates international laws aimed at protecting human rights.

"History is repeating itself with the bombings in Lebanon just as it happened in Gaza. How many more lives must be lost for the world to intervene? The Australian Government and the international community have a moral obligation to act decisively to prevent further loss of life" Dr. Jneid added.

AFIC calls on the global community to condemn these attacks unequivocally and to take immediate steps to halt the aggression. We urge all parties to return to diplomatic negotiations and work towards a sustainable peace that respects the sovereignty and safety of all nations and peoples involved.

"Let us be clear: inaction is complicity. We must not fail the people of Lebanon as we failed the people of Gaza. It is time for the international community to uphold its responsibility and actively support efforts to restore peace," concluded Dr. Jneid.

Authorised by **Dr Rateb Jneid** President of AFIC