



Australian Federation
of Islamic Councils

AFIC Demands Immediate Cessation of Hostilities in Lebanon Amid Escalating Violence

Monday, 30th September, 2024

The Australian Federation of Islamic Councils (AFIC) expresses its grave concern and vehement condemnation of the ongoing escalation of violence in Lebanon. Reports indicate a dire situation where families are huddled on the streets of Beirut amidst relentless bombings. This aggression mirrors the catastrophic events that unfolded in Gaza, with potential to lead Lebanon towards a similar fate.

Dr. Rateb Jneid, President of AFIC, stated, "We are witnessing a horrifying escalation of violence in Lebanon that risks the annihilation of an entire nation. The international community, including the Australian Government, must step up and demand an end to this aggression. The current response of weak rhetoric is unacceptable and inadequate."

The crisis in Lebanon has intensified, with civilian areas facing continuous bombardment, leading to a humanitarian disaster of immense proportions. The lack of decisive action from Western governments, including Australia, is deeply troubling and complicit in the devastation being inflicted upon the Lebanese people.

"The parallels to the tragedy in Gaza are clear and deeply distressing. We cannot allow Lebanon to suffer the same fate. It is imperative that the world acts now to prevent further loss of innocent lives," added Dr. Jneid.

AFIC calls for an immediate and unconditional end to the Israeli aggression and urges the international community to convene and enforce measures that will end the hostilities. We also urge the Australian Government to lead with moral clarity and advocate forcefully for peace and the protection of civilians.

"Inaction is complicity. We must not be silent bystanders as another region is brought to the brink of destruction. The time to act is now, to save lives and to pave the way for peace," Dr. Jneid emphasised.

Authorised by
Dr Rateb Jneid
President of AFIC