

UNHRC Session #55 Item 3  
Oral Statement  
Interactive Dialogue with the SR on Adequate Housing

**Domicide as an Israeli Tool to Deny Palestinian Return**

We thank the SR for elaborating the concept of Domicide, as an international crime of its own standing, defined as the systematic and deliberate mass destruction of homes during violent conflict.

During the Palestinian Nakba of 1948, Zionist militias completely destroyed more than 500 Palestinian villages and towns, resulting in the forcible transfer of around 800,000 Palestinians. 76 years on, they and their descendants have been denied return, property restitution and compensation by Israel.

During its genocidal war on the Gaza Strip, Israel has killed over 30,000 Palestinians, systematically and deliberately demolished up to 80 percent of Palestinian homes and Gaza's infrastructure, and forcibly displaced 75 percent of the besieged 2.3 million Palestinian population. There has been no proper evacuation and no provision of safe zones or shelters, rather Israel has bombed humanitarian corridors, tent camps, and UN and makeshift shelters.

For Israel, domicide continues to be committed since the Nakba with the intention to displace the Palestinian people and deny Palestinians their rights to return, property restitution and compensation.

BADIL calls on states to recognize Israel's ongoing systematic and systemic mass destruction of Palestinian homes, denial of return, property restitution, and compensation, as domicide, and as a tool to maintain and expand Israel's colonial apartheid over the Palestinian people.

It must immediately stop the genocide and adopt a decolonial approach, taking effective measures to put an end to Israel's colonial apartheid and ensure the realization of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights to return and self-determination.