

# *American Muslim advocacy group demands action to halt Israeli genocide in Gaza*

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The photo, provided on March 27, 2024, shows the aftermath of Israeli forces setting fire to the

## **surgery ward at Shifa Hospital in Gaza City.**

Washington, January 2 (RHC)-- An American Muslim advocacy group says a new UN report detailing Israeli attacks on Gaza's healthcare system is further proof of genocide in the besieged Palestinian territory.

"It is time the world community, and the genocide-complicit Biden administration takes concrete action to stop Israel's slaughter, forced starvation, mass destruction, and ethnic cleansing in Gaza," the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) said on Wednesday.

"Every day, new evidence of the ongoing genocide in Gaza by the far-right Israeli government comes to light," said CAIR National Executive Director Nihad Awad in a statement.

The report – released on Tuesday by the UN human rights office – said Israeli strikes targeting hospitals and their surroundings in the Gaza Strip have pushed the territory's healthcare system "to the brink of total collapse with catastrophic effect on Palestinians' access to health and medical care".

"The destruction of the healthcare system in Gaza, and the extent of killing of patients, staff, and other civilians in these attacks, is a direct consequence of the disregard of international humanitarian and human rights law," the 23-page report said.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk said, "As if the relentless bombing and the dire humanitarian situation in Gaza were not enough, the one sanctuary where Palestinians should have felt safe in fact became a death trap."

CAIR, the largest Muslim civil rights organization in the US, recently demanded that the American Medical Association (AMA) call for the release of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya, the director of Kamal Adwan Hospital in Gaza, who has been abducted by Israeli forces and is reportedly held in a detention center notorious for torturing prisoners.

Over the weekend, CAIR also called on the Biden administration to demand the release of Abu Safiya, who was reportedly assaulted before being detained.

Euro-Med Monitor reported that survivors of the Israeli attack on Kamal Adwan Hospital said Israeli troops carried out "deliberate killings, field executions, as well as sexual and physical assaults on women and girls" in and near the medical facility.

Israel has slaughtered more than 45,500 people in Gaza, mostly women and children, since October 2023.

The World Food Program now says Israel is forcibly depriving over two million people of access to food, water, and shelter in the blockaded Palestinian territory.

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