



United Federation for Middle East Peace

Connecting Continents for Peace

Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC and DPI of the United Nations, Non-Profit Organization; 501(c) (3)

USFMEP PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The El-Houleh Massacre

New York, NY, May 30, 2011 - United Federation for Middle East Peace (“USFMEP”) President and Staff were shocked and appalled by the massacre that occurred last week in El-Houleh, Syria. Militant forces launched a vicious attack on the civilian population of the village of El-Houleh specifically targeting innocent women, children and elderly persons of the poor farming community. As confirmed by the Security Council, the militants launched artillery and tank shellings into the residential village, causing a mural dismemberment and bloodshed in the streets of El-Houleh. Other civilians were shot dead, after militants invaded and gunned down victims in their homes, annihilating entire families. The attacks have resulted in the gruesome death of more than 108 innocents and the severe wounding of hundreds of men, women and children. Almost half of the bodies found butchered and slain were young children while one third of the bodies found were those of innocent women. USFMEP President Sally Kader and staff are deeply troubled and upset by these occurrences and demand that the Syrian Government make every effort in its capacity to stop the atrocities and quell the mayhem.

The brutal acts constitute indiscriminate and disproportionate use of force, which are clearly defiant of international law and the Syrian Government’s commitments under the United Nations Security Council resolutions 2042 (2012) and 2043 (2012) condemning the use of heavy weapons in populated centers. USFMEP President Sally Kader and staff echo the sentiments of the United Nations Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon, and the Joint Special Envoy, Kofi Annan, demanding the Syrian Government take steps to cease violence against the Syrian civilian population and urge the militants to back off. In addition, USFMEP calls upon the Syrian government to investigate, identify, and punish the actors responsible for these horrific acts.

President Kader stated that “we stand in solidarity with the Syrian people and the peaceful marchers in the cities across Syria who have taken to the streets to denounce the massacre in Haoula.” USFMEP reiterates its pledge to uphold United Nations principles and emphasizes its commitment to advocate for international peace and justice. President Kader also asserted “we strongly condemn violence on all fronts and we encourage the Syrian Government safeguard and protect the fundamental human rights of the Syrian people who have suffered great tragedy at the hands of the militant forces.”

Media contact:

Mrs. Sally (Salwa) Kader (info@usfmep.org)

Phone: +1973-568-8384

###