
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE 242/94

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NEWS SERVICE ITEMS: EXTERNAL - **ISRAEL AND THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES** (This item is being sent to media by the research team)

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Algeria - 25 October - PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE. SEE NEWS SERVICE 137/94

APEC - 3 November -SEE NEWS SERVICE 212/94

** Peru/Committee against Torture - 9 November** - News release to coincide with Committee against Torture hearing on Peru

Iraq - 29 November - SEE NEWS SERVICE 212/94

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Burundi - 21 October - SEE NEWS SERVICE 230/94

Turkey - 24 OCTOBER - SEE NEWS SERVICE 181/94

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ISRAEL AND THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL APPEALS FOR AN END TO ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS

Amnesty International condemns the killing of 22 people and the wounding of about 45 others when a bomb exploded on a bus in central Tel Aviv on 19 October.

The Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), who have claimed responsibility for this attack, have also claimed responsibility for similar recent attacks against civilians and Amnesty International fears that Hamas may carry out further attacks against civilian targets.

"We strongly condemn such deliberate and arbitrary killings, which violate fundamental principles of humanitarian law. Respect for such principles must be unconditional," Amnesty International said.

The human rights organization is also calling on the Israeli Government and the Palestinian Authority to adhere strictly to international human rights and humanitarian standards in any measure they may take in response to such attacks. Human rights abuses by opposition groups can never justify the abandonment of these fundamental principles.

The Israeli authorities told the family of the Hamas member alleged to have placed the bomb on the bus that their house would be demolished. The family have appealed to the High Court, which now has 48 hours to rule on the decision.

Amnesty International opposes the destruction or sealing of houses when it is used as a punishment by governments.

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