



CAIRO INSTITUTE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES
Institut du Caire pour les études des droits de l'homme
مركز القاهرة لدراسات حقوق الإنسان

13 years of world failure in combating terrorism

Persistent denial of Palestinians rights and disregarding human rights violations in the Arab World is a promise of continuing failure

**United Nations Human Rights Council: 27th Session
Item 2: General Debate- High Commissioner Update
Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS)
8 September, 2014**

Delivered by Mr. Jeremie Smith

Thank you Mr. President,

The Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies would like to warmly welcome his Excellency, High Commissioner Al Hussein in his new role. We greatly look forward to working with you and your office in the years to come.

Mr. High Commissioner, as you recognized this morning, you come at a critical and perilous time for the human rights movement in the Arab world. One characterized by ever increasing restrictions and repression of rights defenders and democracy activists by some of governments and non-state terroristic groups.

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13 years ago the world was called to launch a global war against terror. Because war ignored the root causes of terror, we are confronted now with much more brutal and bloody terror threat. The continuity of ignoring the legitimate rights of Palestinian people and the massive and systematic violations of human rights in most of the countries would result only in more extremism in the region and other parts of the world.

We are greatly encouraged that today you recognized that the current humanitarian and human rights catastrophes unfolding in the Occupied Palestine Territories, Syria, Iraq and Libya are the bi-product of decades of brutal repression and unchecked corruption carried out by state institutions. We humbly ask you Mr. High Commissioner to continue to

remind the world that continued repression and corruption will almost surely lead to the unfolding of further catastrophes and rise of fanatic extremism.

Like you, we believe a better future is possible if governments begin to treat their citizens not as threats to the rule of a few, but as partners and individuals that deserve to be treated with dignity and afforded a fair chance in democratic participation.

With admiration for your past accomplishments, we greatly look forward to working with you and your office on the challenges before us.

Thank you Mr. President.