



To:

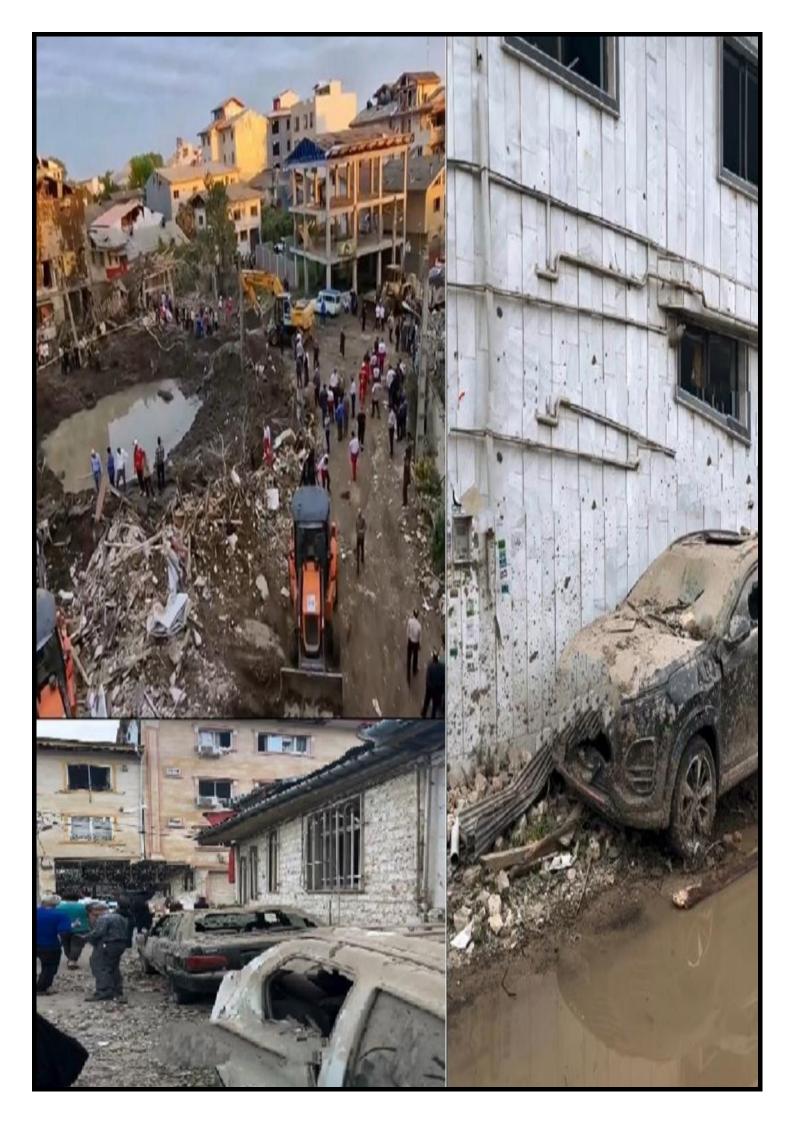
Ms. May Sato, Special Rapporteur on Human Rights, United Nations

1. Introduction

Over past decades, Israel has repeatedly violated the airspace and territorial integrity of several Middle Eastern states, including Palestine, Lebanon, Syria—and now Iran. These actions have prompted widespread condemnation from international bodies. The escalation of military hostilities in Gaza since Y·YY raised serious concerns among human-rights organizations, who repeatedly warned of civilian casualties and damage to vital infrastructure. The recent incursion into Iranian territory is consistent with this broader pattern of aggression, facilitated by global inaction and inadequate response to such unilateral acts. The present report examines specific violations of international humanitarian law (IHL), human-rights law, and jus cogens norms committed by Israel during its military actions against Iran.

Y. Absence of Legal Justification for Pre-emptive Self-defense and Use of Force

Israel has claimed that its actions were a pre-emptive defensive response to an imminent threat from Iran. However, under international law, the doctrine of pre-emptive self-defense holds no legal validity. Article • \ of the UN Charter clearly provides that the right to self-defense applies only in the event of an armed attack against a UN member. Furthermore, in the ICJ's *Oil Platforms* case (Iran v. United States), the Court held that even an armed attack must reach a certain threshold of intensity to justify lawful self-defense.



Prior to the Israeli attack, Iran had committed no armed aggression against Israel. Senior Iranian officials were targeted at their private residences, which clearly demonstrates the absence of any immediate threat from Iran to Israeli territory. No credible evidence supports the assertion of an imminent nuclear or other major attack by Iran against Israel or the United States. Therefore, no legal grounds exist to justify Israel's—and by extension, the United States'—use of force.

The United States joined Israel by conducting precise airstrikes against Iran's civilian nuclear facilities. Since Israel's use of force lacked legal justification, the U.S. actions also violate **Article** (ξ) of the UN Charter. The legitimacy of U.S. force depends entirely on Israel's justification, which is legally unfounded.

T. Targeted Assassinations of Military Commanders and Nuclear Scientists

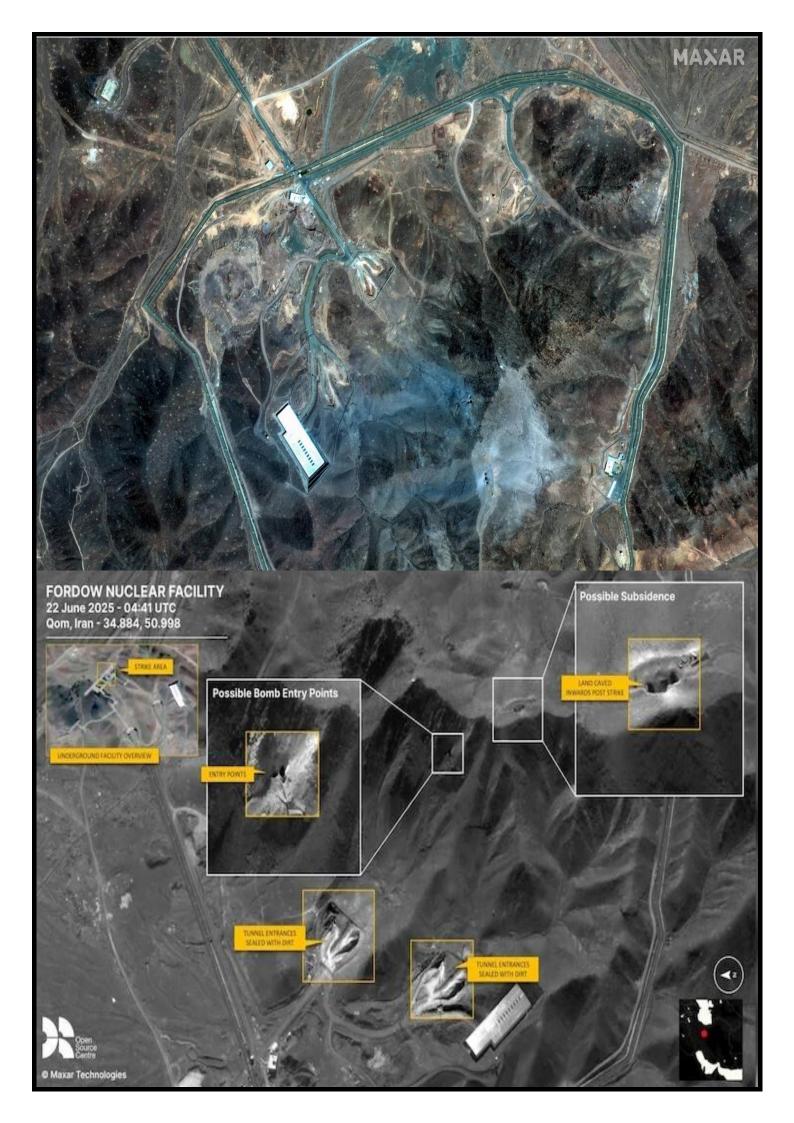
Israel's policy of targeted killings has been a fundamental aspect of its approach since its founding. Over recent decades, military, political, and scientific figures—including in Egypt, Syria, Iraq, and Iran—have been systematically targeted.

During the 'Y-day aggression against Iran, this policy was implemented in a coordinated and systematic manner. These acts constitute grave violations of the right to life, protected under Article \(^v\) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article \(^v\) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Significant nuclear scientists were specifically assassinated, including: Mohammad-Mehdi Tehranchi, Akbar Matlabi-Zadeh, Ahmadreza Zolfaghari, Seyed Amir-Hossein Fehghi, Abdol-Hamid Minouchehr, Fereydoun Abbassi, Saeed Borji, Mansour Asgari, Ali Baghayi Karimi, Ali Bokoui, and Mohammad-Reza Sadeghi Saber. These civilians were residing in family homes at the time, and their deliberate targeting exemplifies **state terrorism**.

Multiple Iranian military commanders were also killed in their private homes—often in the presence of family members. These actions are inconsistent with IHL, as they occurred:

- \). Outside active battlefields, in residential areas.
- 7. Resulted in civilian casualties, including family members.



Notably, *Major General Mohammad Bagheri*, Chief of the General Staff of Iran's Armed Forces, was killed along with his wife and daughter. *Major General Gholam Ali Rashid*, Commander of the Central Khatam-ol-Anbiya Headquarters, was killed with his child. Surrounding neighbors also suffered casualties from these strikes.

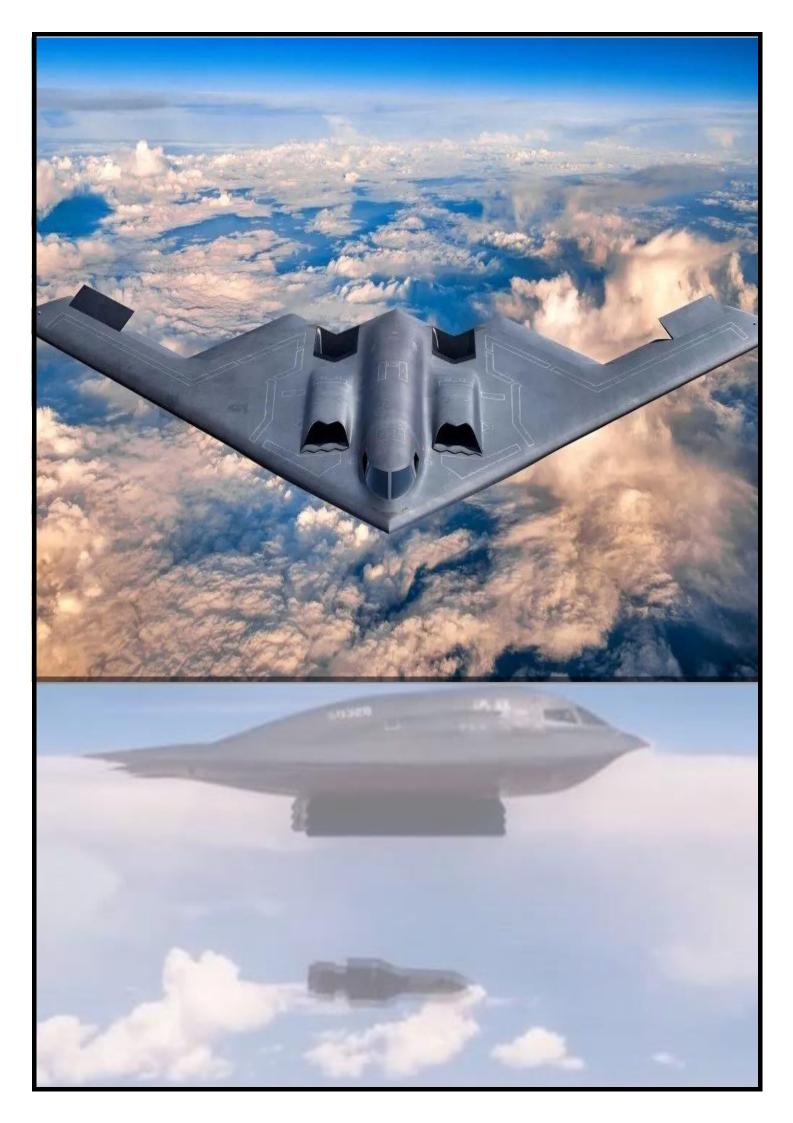
4. Attacks on Civilians and Residential Areas

By early July ''', approximately '''' Iranian citizens had been killed as a result of Israeli attacks, with estimates expected to rise. Of these, at least ''' were civilians. Under Articles ' and ' of Protocol I Additional to the Geneva Conventions, civilians and civilian objects must never be targeted.

The principle of distinction is a core rule of customary IHL, as articulated by the International Committee of the Red Cross. Moreover, **Article** ^ **of the Rome Statute** explicitly classifies direct attacks against civilian persons or property as war crimes. **Article** ^V further defines widespread or systematic attacks on civilian populations as crimes against humanity.

Examples include:

- On the first day of the strikes in Tehran, an entire apartment block in the Chamran Complex was leveled to eliminate a single target—resulting in 'civilian deaths, including 'children.
- On 'o June ''', a strike in the busy Qods Square area of Tajrish, Tehran, hit a residential building and civilian vehicles at a red light; water-line ruptures followed, and public outrage escalated upon widespread release of video evidence. Among the victims was graphical artist saleh birami.
- On '\' June, the glass headquarters of Iran's national broadcaster (IRIB) in Tehran was struck, causing substantial damage and fatalities among journalists and media staff, who are protected civilian personnel under IHL.
- On YY June Y.Yo, Evin Prison, Tehran, was attacked. More than Y. casualties were reported, including administrative staff, social workers, conscripts, medical teams, arrested individuals, and visitors.
- In the early hours of Y': June Y'Y', Iranian air defenses reported aerial strikes over Astane Ashrafieh, Gilan Province, targeting the family home



of **Mohammad-Reza Sadeghi Saber**. The house was demolished, and **Mohammad-Reza Sadeghi Saber**. The house was demolished, and **Mohammad-Reza Sadeghi Saber**.

These cases represent only a portion of the attacks documented by video, media footage, and verified eyewitness reports, including:

- Attack on Sabounchi Street, Tehran (\o June \o \o o)
- Strike in Seyyed Khoddān neighborhood, Tehran (\o June \o \o o)
- Shelling of two civilian cars in Najafabad, Isfahan (\\ June \\\ \)), killing entire families.

°. Violations of the Rights of Children and Women

By "· July '· 'o, at least " children had been killed during Israel's military campaign. The youngest victim was two-month-old Raiyan Qasemiān. IHL—including treaties and customary international law—provides enhanced protection for children. The Convention on the Rights of the Child also emphasizes the right of children to protection in armed conflicts.

7. Attacks on Hospitals, Medical Facilities, and Humanitarian Personnel

Under IHL, hospitals, medical units, and humanitarian workers must be protected at all times. The UN General Assembly resolution '\'\'o (\'\'\') and Article \'\'
of Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions reinforce this protection.

During the 'Y-day aggression, Israeli forces struck **seven hospitals** across Iran, causing significant damage. Multiple ambulances were also targeted.

Significant incidents include:

- Y June: The Hakim Children's Hospital, Tehran, was bombed.
- 17 June: Farabi Hospital, Kermanshah, was attacked.
- The central office of the Iranian Red Crescent Society ("Peace Building" building) was also struck.



• Israeli attacks hit ambulances and rescue teams in Najafabad (Isfahan), Tehran, and West Azerbaijan, resulting in casualties among medical personnel and civilians.

V. Attacks on Peaceful Nuclear Facilities

With U.S. support, Israel carried out strikes on Iran's civilian nuclear infrastructure—facilities that are subject to rigorous inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) under the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). These attacks pose serious environmental and radiological risks. Israel, which is not a party to the NPT and operates a covert nuclear program, continues to violate international norms with impunity, supported by the United States. This double standard undermines global trust and perpetuates injustice.

A. Discriminatory Rhetoric and Whitewashing of Israeli Crimes

Despite wide-ranging evidence of war crimes, some government officials around the world have publicly endorsed Israel's actions.

The **United States**, as Israel's chief backer, has provided extensive military and intelligence support and has itself launched direct attacks against Iran.

Other political leaders, such as the **Chancellor of Germany**, have publicly framed the Israeli actions as justified, while the **President of Argentina** described Israel's operations as "defending Western civilization." Such rhetoric legitimizes war crimes, promotes discriminatory narratives, and deepens global instability.



Conclusion & Requests

This report highlights only a portion of the war crimes, human-rights violations, and breaches of IHL perpetrated by the Israeli regime against Iran. Ongoing impunity and global inaction have emboldened these actions. Continued aggression threatens not only Iran's sovereign safety but also stability across the Middle East and beyond.

Therefore, the writer respectfully calls on the international community—especially the United Nations and its relevant mechanisms—to:

- 1. Issue public, unequivocal condemnation of these violations.
- 7. Initiate urgent, independent international investigations and gather forensic evidence.
- T. Hold accountable individuals and institutions responsible for these crimes under both IHL and international human-rights law.
- ². Impose provisional measures to deter further violations.
- o. Provide reparations and justice for the victims affected by the aggression.

Only immediate, coordinated global action can protect fundamental human rights and uphold international legal order.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Mahmoud Rashnavaz

Attorney-at-Law, Tehran & Ph.D. Candidate in International Law, Islamic Azad University, Dubai (UAE)



