

Palestine Filed Complain at ICC: Accuses Israel of War Crimes

By Press TV

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Theme: Crimes against Humanity, Law and

<u>Justice</u>

In-depth Report: PALESTINE

Two senior Palestinian officials have filed a complaint against Israel at the International Criminal Court (ICC) at The Hague.

Palestinian Justice Minister Saleem al-Saqqa and Gaza court prosecutor Ismail Jabr have accused Israel of war crimes in the lawsuit.

The Israeli regime, under the ICC statutes, was accused of crime of apartheid, attacks against civilians, excessive loss of human life and crime of colonization.

The Palestinian officials started legal proceedings against the Israeli regime through a Paris-based lawyer over the past few days as the war on the Gaza Strip raged on.

French lawyer Gilles Devers has confirmed the move, saying the complaint covers war crimes committed by the Israeli military in Gaza in June and July 2014.

"Israel, the occupying power, is carrying out a military operation which in principle and form violates the basis of international law," Devers told a press conference in Paris.

"Every day new crimes are committed and over 80 percent of the victims are civilians. Children, women, hospitals, UN schools... the Israeli soldiers respect nothing. This is a military attack against the Palestinian population," Devers stated.

The complaint came as the Palestinian death toll from the Israeli aerial and ground assaults has passed 880, with more than 5,700 Gazans injured. While Israel confirms 37 Israelis have been killed in the war, Hamas sources put the number at about 90.

Israeli warplanes have been carrying out incessant airstrikes on Gaza since July 8. Thousands of Israeli soldiers launched a ground invasion into the densely-populated strip on July 17.

The UN says over 80 percent of the fatalities have been civilians, including more than 200 children.

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