



PRESS RELEASE

No Embargo

10 November 2021

AL JAMA-AH rejects political statement by Miss SA to compete in apartheid Israel

The Al Jama-ah party outrightly rejects the ludicrous statement released by the Miss SA organization vowing to compete in the Miss Universe Pageant to be held in apartheid Israel this December.

The politically charged statement released yesterday chose to disregard the fundamental human rights of the dispossessed and oppressed people of Palestine, and rather chose to support and endorse an apartheid state.

We remind Miss SA that the country she claims to represent is a beneficiary of an international solidarity movement, during the struggle against apartheid. We further remind Miss SA Organisation of its political history that had previously discriminate against contestants based on the colour of their skin. One would have hoped that the history of this country and the organization will be mindful of how it conducts its affairs by considering the plight of Palestinians.

Palestinians face similar forms of discrimination; arbitrary arrests; restrictions in movement; as well as restrictions on where they live and where they work. Palestinians to this day must carry around documents similar to the abhorrent 'dompasses' South African black people were forced to carry during apartheid.

We fully support the call made by Palestinians to respect and support their cultural boycott campaign, recognizing the role those cultural institutions play in the efforts to normalize the system of apartheid in Israel. These cultural events serve to whitewash Israel's violation of human rights against the indigenous Palestinian people and are part of the institutional support that allows for settler colonialism and apartheid.





Al Jama-ah will be joining any upcoming demonstrations organized by the Palestine solidarity activists to send a clear message that we do not support or condone the decision by the Miss SA organisers to send a representative to Israel.

The participation of Miss South Africa in the pageant in apartheid Israel is against government policies. While the party does not have interest or promote these type of competitions, we categorically note that the intention of Miss SA attending the event in Israel is unpatriotic and non-compliant with government's stand against the illegal occupiers in Palestine.

Al Jama-ah will ask the Minister of Home Affairs in a written Parliamentary question to withdraw Miss SA's passport as the visit is non-compliant with government's position on Israel.

Issued by Al Jama-ah (Gauteng)

Thapelo Amad – Chairperson

Cell: 065 881 7456