



General Assembly

Distr.: General
27 March 2024

English only

Human Rights Council

Fifty-fifth session

26 February–5 April 2024

Agenda item 9

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance: follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Written statement* submitted by Iranian Elite Research Center, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[27 January 2024]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



Racial Apartheid of the Occupying Power against African Jewish People

Introduction

For more than half a century, the population of the occupied Palestinian territories has suffered under racist apartheid and their fundamental rights and freedoms have been violated under the colonial oppression of the occupying power. The continuation of systematic racial domination and oppression of Palestinians with the aim of subjugating the Palestinian people and perpetuating apartheid through racist and discriminatory policies, the deprivation of basic civil rights, the imposition of harsh conditions, arbitrary mass arrests, torture, confiscation of land and inhumane and degrading acts carried out by the Occupying Power constitutes apartheid. Occupying Power's planned discriminatory policies and the systematic demolition of Palestinian homes are a symbol and embodiment of the racism that underlies the apartheid and Occupying Power and its brutality. For decades, the Occupying Power authorities have sought to disrupt the demographic composition of Palestinians by evicting them from their homes and displacing them from their land, and to achieve their racist demographic goals.

The racist behaviour of the Occupying Power is not only directed against the Palestinians. Rather, the behaviour also includes the situation of immigrant Jews and has always been based on racist discrimination. The Occupying Power discriminates against its inhabitants, and while some have full rights, many are marginalised. The most fundamental discrimination applied by the Occupying Power against Jews from the East, and especially against African immigrants such as the Ethiopian immigrants known as "Flashes", has always been met with criticism and discontent by the citizens of the OP and has led to a wave of protests. The OP clearly favours Ashkenazi Jews (Eastern and Central European Jews who are white) in social, economic and political matters. Meanwhile, Ethiopian Jews faced terrible racism and discrimination from the Occupying Power establishment after entering Occupying Power. The discriminatory behaviour of the Occupying Power is one of the main reasons why Occupying Power is facing the phenomenon of reverse migration of Jews from the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

These Black Jews living in difficult conditions in large communities in northern and northwestern Ethiopia, like many other Jewish immigrants, immigrated to the State of Palestine not because they belonged to and believed in the Zionist movement, but only because they wanted to escape poverty and the problems prevailing in their country and were subjected to discrimination, racism and injustice in various dimensions and levels, including housing, education, labour, religion, etc. After four decades of living in the fragmented society of the Occupying Power, Ethiopian Jews have come to believe that society views them as an inferior race or second class "citizens" and therefore they are deprived of many of the facilities to which they are entitled under Jewish laws. Discriminatory behaviour towards the Flashes has increased with the presence of extreme Zionist and right-wing currents in the realm of political power. They suffer from the highest poverty rate among Occupying Power Jews and are more frequently searched, arrested and imprisoned by the police. Unemployment is also significantly higher among Jews of Ethiopian descent than among other Israeli Jews. Another notable point is the significant difference in monthly income per family between Ethiopian Jews and other Jews, and they suffer from limited job opportunities and inferior schools and housing.

Below are some examples of the Occupying Power's racist apartheid against Ethiopian Jews:

1. According to the 2023 Occupation Power's Ministry of Justice report, 90% of Ethiopians feel discriminated against and experience institutional racism and 87% said they feel discriminated against and treated in a racist manner by ordinary people. 86% of respondents have experienced discrimination and racism in services they provide to the public. The areas in which they feel discriminated against are wide ranging and include: Education (63%), employment (61%), police behaviour (42%) and government agencies (21%). In practise, 86% of survey respondents have experienced discrimination and racism in the public sector or from someone they know, mostly from police officers.

2. According to reports from 2022, the youth of Ethiopian society are rejected and marginalised in their life journey. A comprehensive survey conducted by education students at Ono Academic University revealed that about 75 per cent of Ethiopian youth have experienced racism in public spaces, with 51 per cent overwhelmingly stating that it is a "matter" that is only afforded to Ethiopians. About 13% said that the feeling of rejection at school affects their grades and behaviour. About 59% of participants reported that they do not share their feelings of marginalisation with their relatives. These young people reported discrimination, humiliation and excessive strictness towards them at school and in the army.
3. According to the Occupying Power Ministry of Justice, almost half (48%) of the 458 reported racist incidents in 2021 were directed against Arab or Ethiopian Israelis. Complaints related to racist incidents included complaints of discrimination by service providers and employers, as well as verbal attacks in public. Racism was perpetrated 23% by service providers, 11% by employers, 10% in the public sector, 7% against civil servants and police officers and 4% in educational institutions and other cases.
4. According to Ben Gurion University's 2022 findings, more than half a million people between the ages of 19 and 30 have experienced various dimensions of discrimination, including Ethiopian youth in Occupying Power who suffer severe discrimination.
5. Ethiopian Blacks live in groups and communities in some neighbourhoods and cities in the occupied countries and face the worst racial discrimination. The parents of these Jews do not allow their children to go to school because they are discriminated against in schools. But the children of these Jews go to school without their parents' permission and are discriminated against at school. Meanwhile, some schools are also refusing to accept them.
6. According to the statistics for the 2020-2021 school year, Ethiopian students are not doing well in educational indicators. For example, the percentage of students of Ethiopian origin who have graduated is significantly lower at 78% compared to 85.6%.
7. According to a 2018 report by the National Insurance Institute, Ethiopian immigrants were the group with the highest poverty rate among the Jewish population (22.8 per cent).
8. According to the latest statistics from the Occupying Power's Ministry of Welfare and Social Services, about 75 per cent of Ethiopian families live below the poverty line. Two-thirds of them in some cities and almost 90 per cent are dependent on government and charitable aid to survive. The unemployment rate among them is almost 70 per cent and only 21 per cent of Ethiopian or African teenagers meet the requirements to attend university.
9. A 2018 report by the Ethiopian Jewish Community of Occupying Power Centre on police violence against Ethiopians highlights gaps in law enforcement against Ethiopians, particularly in "public order" offences involving police officers: The proportion of police-initiated cases involving Ethiopians was 3.5% of all cases in 2018-2020, double the proportion of Ethiopians in the population of 1.7%. The proportion of open cases (suspected or criminal cases) opened for Ethiopian adults in the period 2018-2020 was 2.8% of all cases for adults and 5.8% for minors.
10. 40% of detainees in the Ofakim Detention Centre, a detention facility for juvenile offenders, are of Ethiopian origin, while Ethiopian Jews in the occupied Palestinian territories make up only 2% of the total population of these territories.
11. According to a report by Ynet in 2022, the birth and abortion rate of Ethiopian women is as follows: The percentage of births before the age of 18 is 5.68% for Ethiopian Jews and 1.79% for other Jews. The abortion rate before the age of 20 is 13.4% for Ethiopian Jews and 4.3% for other Jews.

12. The racism and discrimination against Ethiopian Jews by the Zionists has led to the blood donated by Ethiopian Jews being thrown away for use in hospitals and health centres because their blood is infected with AIDS and Ebola viruses etc., as claimed by Occupying Power politicians and doctors.

Suggestions and Recommendations:

Regarding the Occupying Power's racist apartheid against Ethiopians which violated their fundamental rights. We call on the international community to o Abolish and outlaw the Occupying Power colonial and apartheid system in accordance with international law.

- We call for an immediate end to the discriminatory acts and policies of the occupation Power through human rights institutions, as this is a clear expression of the apartheid Power and the systematic division of Palestinians.
 - Fulfil its obligations and hold Occupying Power accountable with effective measures.
-