

# National Black Church Initiative

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**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **THE NATIONAL BLACK CHURCH INITIATIVE HAS DENOUNCED THE ISRAELI RAIDERS AS MURDEROUS THUGS**

*The raid on the innocents will not contribute to an overall  
peace in the Middle East*

**Washington DC-** The National Black Church Initiative, a coalition of 34,00 African American churches, adds its voice to governments and human rights organizations all over the world and strongly condemns the Israeli actions of killing 9 innocent people in their act to aid the humanitarian disaster that is occurring in Gaza and the West Bank. The Israeli government seems emboldened to take advantage of an administration that does not have a clear comprehensive policy toward the Middle East. The Israeli raid constitutes evil in the modern world. How can they expect that the Black church, born out of the ashes of brutal slavery, discrimination, and prejudice, not to speak with a voice of condemnation towards human rights abuse? Does the Israeli government truly believe that they can act with impunity when it comes down to what they believe is terrorism? Is it not terrorism that the Israeli government inflicts on the Israeli people every day of their lives to cut them off from their families, commerce, and worship?

Ever since the war in Lebanon began, the Israeli government has been brutal. Why do they act in a manner that reminds the world of the brutality that was inflicted upon them by Nazi Germany during in the Second World War? Could it be that those who have been systematically abused and annihilated through a holocaust are determined to abuse their enemies in a like matter? If this is the case, then God forbid.

The Black Church will not be silent on this issue, because we have never been silent on any case of abuse or murder because we have often been the victims of these acts. There has been a litany of abuses by the Israeli army. Because of their recent battle in Gaza, the

Israeli government is now being investigated for war crimes. And its insistence of continuing to build in East Jerusalem is a clear example of the arrogance of the Israeli army toward the Palestinians and even their citizens. The National Black Church Initiative joins with all human rights organizations in and outside of Israel with a single message, “Stop your murderous ways toward the Palestinians and seek peace.”

The Right Most Reverend Anthony Evans, President of the National Black Church Initiative states, “I can no longer in good conscience support the state of Israel and their continuous human rights abuse toward the Palestinians or anyone who gets in their way. I want to clearly separate my deep love for Israel and their right to exist from the murderous ways of this current government. All of their actions, within the last two years, have been to alienate themselves from the world community by brutally murdering Palestinians. I can honestly say that the current policies by this government constitute an apartheid style regime.

NBCI is committed to working with human rights groups in and outside of Israel to forge a lasting peace based upon existing UN resolutions and peace initiatives. But that is for tomorrow. Today we must use our moral voices to condemn Israel and their racist, murderous ways. I am urging all of our member churches to denounce the Israeli government and its army from their pulpits for this brutal attack on the innocents of all humanity and the killing of those nine individuals.

### **About NBCI**

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African-American and Latino churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI’s mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches and the public. The National Black Church Initiative’s methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science.