

according to a systematic policy which is no less repugnant than the notorious Nazi practices.

The crimes of the Israeli authorities rose to the peak with the assassination of the prominent Palestinian leader, Abu Jihad, in Tunisia at the hands of the Israeli gang - in violation of the sovereignty of an independent state - on the direct orders of the Israeli government.

Crimes are also being perpetrated against the Palestinians in Lebanon. The villages in southern Lebanon and the Palestinian refugee camps are the target of repeated Israeli shelling. Scores of members of the National Lebanese Movement and Palestinians in Lebanon are under detention. The meeting expressed solidarity with the Lebanese National Resistance Front in its struggle against Israeli occupation, and with the Lebanese people in their struggle for a full and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied Lebanese territories in accordance with the U.N. Security Council Resolutions No. 425, 508 and 509.

The meeting condemns all attempts to divide the Palestinian people as this only serves the Zionist enemy. The meeting calls for working by all means and ways to safeguard the Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and southern Lebanon.

The participants express their strong condemnation and most vehement

anger at such brutal practices and appalling crimes. They believe that such acts are directed against humanity at large and represent a flagrant violation of human rights. They demand that the criminal act must be denounced and the criminals must be severely punished.

They deplore that the US Government condones the persistent occupation as well as the acts of violence and repression perpetrated in the region by Israel, and provides Israel with all forms of material, moral, military and political support. They denounce the strategic alliance between Israel and the USA.

The participants affirmed that a just and lasting peace in the region, would only be realized if Israel withdraws completely from all the occupied Arab territories, and if the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people-including their right to self-determination, repatriation, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on their soil-were recognized. This would have to be realized through an international peace conference which would be convened under the auspices of the UN and in which all concerned parties - including the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people - would participate on a basis of equality.

The participants affirmed that all people under custody or arrest as well as all prisoners - who stood up against the Occupation and all Israeli Nazi

practices in the Occupied Territories - must be released. They salute all forces and individuals who are struggling inside Israel against the Occupation. They call for an end to all arbitrary action and brutal practices perpetrated against the Palestinian people, and appeal to all people in Israel (who love freedom, democracy and peace) to vigorously endeavour to end the massacre of the Palestinian people (which has reached the level of genocide and constituted a serious violation of all international laws and norms) and to enlighten young people in Israel on the serious implications of military service in the Occupied Territories.

They appeal to all peace and justice loving peoples, governments and forces to vigorously denounce and condemn the brutal Israeli practices perpetrated against the Palestinian people. They demand that all kinds of material, moral and political support be offered to the Palestinian people and their valiant uprising, and that it should be channeled through the PLO - thereby enabling the Palestinian people to steadfastly resist the Zionist expansionist thrust and realize the goal of their struggle, namely, freedom and independent state of Palestine.

The participants express their sincere thanks and gratitude to the people and government of Cyprus for their warm hospitality. They express their full solidarity with the struggle of the Cypriot people. ●

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## Sanaa, North Yemen

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From June 11th to 14th, one hundred Arab intellectuals, writers and artists gathered in Sanaa, North Yemen, for «The Meeting of Thought and Art to Support the Popular Revolution in Palestine.»

One participant commented that it felt like a reunion: «Suddenly we felt that we were capable of regaining our language.» He was referring to the fact that the conference assembled a group of people who had met and discussed daily in Beirut prior to 1982, only to be dispersed into new exiles after the Israeli invasion, and their cultural ties disrupted.

This reunion was created by the uprising which demonstrated the necessity of starting cultural and in-

tellectual work of a new kind, because the Arab culture had suffered a setback after the experience of Beirut, being absorbed to a great extent into the framework of the Arab regimes.

The conference concentrated on four issues:

1. The necessity of reestablishing the revolutionary atmosphere which was generated in the Palestinian arena after the 1967 defeat, but then besieged after the catastrophe of Beirut. With the

uprising, this atmosphere has been renewed.

2. Understanding fully the lessons of the uprising, especially its dimensions of democracy and national unity. The United National Leadership of the Uprising is a genuine national front grouping all around a single defined aim.

3. Giving new meaning to cultural work as a practical experience in line with the movement of history.

4. Discovering the full dimensions of the long Palestinian struggle against the Israeli occupation. The successive stages of this struggle bear evidence that it will continue and remain the main issue in the Arab world. ●