

New Unity Movement



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STATEMENT BY THE NEW UNITY MOVEMENT IN REACTION TO CHARGES LAID AGAINST RETIRED JUDGE SIRAJ DESAI BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION

The South African Zionist Federation (SAZF) has laid charges against retired judge of the high court, Siraj Desai.

The SAZF complains to the Judicial Conduct Committee that judge Desai is guilty of actions and conduct “entirely unbecoming of a judicial officer”. Because of this, they also find him unfit to be Legal Services Ombudsman, a position he was appointed to after his retirement.

Their dissatisfaction stems from judge Desai’s public support for the struggles of the people of Palestine against the unlawful occupation of Palestinian territory and the continued eviction of Palestinians from their property to make way for settlement by Israeli citizens, reminiscent of the activities of the Apartheid government of South Africa. Would the SAZF rather have appointed as ombud for legal services a judge that takes kindly to acts akin to those committed by DF Malan and HF Verwoerd who were the diabolical architects of and laid the foundation for untold misery in South Africa?

The callous indiscriminate bombing by the Israeli Defence Force of Palestinian areas where there are schools, houses and hospitals is a crime against humanity. Similarly, their contemptuous attack of worshippers at the Al Aqsa mosque, disrespect of the highest order, is a grave violation of human rights. Any judge speaking out against such crimes should be lauded. Judge Desai did no less.

The saying goes, “If you wish to beat a dog, you will find a stick”. By laying spurious charges against Judge Desai, the Zionist Federation shows its desperation to justify Israel’s continued disregard for the rights of the people of Palestine. The majority of the members of the United Nations have condemned the activities of Israel towards Palestine and it is only by the support of the United States of America in the UN Security Council, that Israel has escaped sanction for its deeds.

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