



World Council of Churches

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The Most Rev. Hosam Naoum
The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & the
Middle East
St George's Cathedral Close
Nablus Road, Box 19122
Jerusalem 91191

Geneva, 18 October 2023

Dear Archbishop Hosam,

Greetings and peace be upon you in the name of our Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

With a heavy heart and profound sorrow, I felt deeply shaken, shocked, and outraged upon hearing the news of the Israeli strike on Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza. The magnitude of the tragedy, with the loss of thousands of innocent lives – predominantly women, children, and the elderly who sought refuge within the hospital's walls – is beyond comprehension. My heart aches for the grieving families, the injured survivors, and all those plunged into mourning.

Al Ahli Hospital has consistently stood as a symbol of hope, compassion, and healing for countless people in Gaza. Throughout blockades, violent clashes, and wars, its doors remained open, offering solace, medical assistance, and unwavering support. To witness such a bastion of hope and care transformed into a scene of devastation is truly heart-wrenching and unacceptable.

In these moments of profound grief and disbelief, I extend my sincerest condolences to you, the Palestinian community, the dedicated staff, and the patients of Al Ahli Hospital. I fervently pray for strength, healing, and comfort for all those affected, and yearn for a lasting peace to envelop the region.

Please know that I stand unwaveringly in solidarity with you, the Anglican community, and the broader communities of Palestine and Israel during this trying time.

With deepest sympathy and solidarity,

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Prof. Dr Jerry Pillay
General Secretary