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Demanding Freedom for Kidnapped Children

"OUR LIVES BEGIN TO END THE DAY WE BECOME SILENT ABOUT THINGS THAT MATTER"

MARTIN LUTHER KING

On the morning of October 7, 2023, a coordinated attack was launched by Hamas on Israel, comprising a heavy barrage of rockets and infiltration by trained terrorists via air and land. The targets of this attack included IDF's bases and outposts, alongside civilian centers and cities surrounding the Gaza Strip, even reaching a peace festival that was being held in the area. In response, Israel initiated an airstrike, aiming to dismantle Hamas facilities and military capabilities throughout the Gaza Strip.

It is imperative to emphasize that we stand firmly against war, as we are advocates of peace. Throughout the annals of human history, wars have unfolded, but humanity has consistently drawn the line between acts of war and war crimes. No war should ever condone mass atrocities. No war normalize acts of rape and torture. Never will war permit the captivity of innocent young children in the throes of hellish confinement.

Regrettably, during the attack, Hamas kidnapped hundreds of Israeli soldiers and civilians, including children aged between 6 months and 18 years. Children should never be regarded as pawns in the theater of war. Our moral imperative is unequivocal:

Let The Children Go

In the absence of familiar parental figures, children struggle to regulate themselves emotionally and physically, especially during times of stress. This lack of emotional regulation can lead to long-term emotional, behavioral, and physical harm. It is widely acknowledged within the global academic community that while young individuals possess extraordinary powers of observation, their capacity to analyze and interpret their observations is limited and potentially hazardous. In the absence of adult guidance, children's interpretations of crisis situations consistently lean toward the grimmest and most distressing scenarios, irrespective of the actual severity of the circumstances. This stark tendency is compounded by their limited understanding of fundamental concepts such as good and evil, time, space, nations, and power dynamics. These factors transmute the prolonged captivity of children into an unspeakable moral sin, an inhumane act that remains horrifying, even when their fundamental physical needs, including sustenance and hydration, are met.

Even in the face of the most dubious assumption that Hamas, an organization that has explicitly sanctioned torture, rape, and murder within its documented operation orders, is providing kidnapped children with basic necessities, the stark reality remains unaltered: children in captivity are left vulnerable, and their time in such conditions is tragically finite.

The soul of a child differs from that of an adult. It is our sacred duty to protect the innocent and shield the vulnerable. It is our sacred duty to save our children. The distressing images and words we witness today evoke memories of darker times, times that we, humanity as a collective, had hoped to leave behind.

In the 4th Geneva Accord, which is dedicated to safeguarding civil society during times of war between nations, the term 'Children' is mentioned 19 times. The current plight of the kidnapped children far exceeds any scenario envisioned by the accord.

Let us not surrender to the moral exclusion of the world. The act of holding young children in captivity constitutes a war crime, a grievous offense against humanity itself. Our moral call is resolute:

Let The Children Go



A Hamas terrorist detaining Israeli children in captivity.



An Israeli mother holding her sons, unable to prevent their heartbreaking abduction.

Nobel Prize Laureates Signatures

1. Peter Agre, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2003
2. Harvey J. Alter, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2020
3. Barry Clark Barish, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 2017
4. Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2008
5. J. Michael Bishop, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 1989
6. Mario R. Capecchi, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2007
7. Thomas R. Cech, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 1989
8. Martin Chalfie, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2008
9. Steven Chu, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 1997
10. Aaron Ciechanover, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2004
11. Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clezio, Nobel Laureate in Literature, 2008
12. Elias James Corey, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 1990
13. Sir Angus S. Deaton, Nobel Laureate in Economics, 2015
14. Shirin Ebadi, Nobel Laureate in Peace, 2003
15. Joachim Frank, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2017
16. Sheldon Glashow, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 1979
17. Claudia Goldin, Nobel Laureate in Economics, 2023
18. David J. Gross, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 2004
19. Serge Haroche, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 2012
20. Sir Oliver Hart, Nobel Laureate in Economics, 2016
21. Leland H. Hartwell, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2001
22. James J. Heckman, Nobel Laureate in Economics, 2000
23. Avram Hershko, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2004
24. Jules A. Hoffmann, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2011
25. Roald Hoffmann, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 1981
26. Tasuku Honjo, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2018
27. H. Robert Horvitz, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2002
28. Sir Michael Houghton, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2020
29. Robert Huber, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 1988
30. Louis J. Ignarro, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 1998
31. Guido W. Imbens, Nobel Laureate in Economics, 2021
32. Elfriede Jelinek, Nobel Laureate in Literature, 2004
33. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Nobel Laureate in Peace, 2011
34. William G. Kaelin Jr., Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2019
35. Daniel Kahneman, Nobel Laureate in Economics, 2002
36. Takaaki Kajita, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 2015
37. Martin Karplus, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2013

38. Brian K. Kobilka, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2012
39. Roger D. Kornberg, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2006
40. Finn E. Kydland, Nobel Laureate in Economics, 2004
41. Robert J. Lefkowitz, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2012
42. Anthony J. Leggett, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 2003
43. Michael Levitt, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2013
44. Roderick MacKinnon, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2003
45. David W.C. MacMillan, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2021
46. Barry J. Marshall, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2005
47. Eric S. Maskin, Nobel Laureate in Economics, 2007
48. Paul R. Milgrom, Nobel Laureate in Economics, 2020
49. Patrick Modiano, Nobel Laureate in Literature, 2014
50. Paul L. Modrich, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2015
51. William E. Moerner, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2014
52. Erwin Neher, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 1991
53. Roger Penrose, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 2020
54. Arno Penzias, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 1978
55. H. David Politzer, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 2004
56. Stanley B. Prusiner, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 1997
57. Venkatraman Ramakrishnan, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2009
58. Jose Ramos-Horta, Nobel Laureate in Peace, 1996
59. Charles M. Rice, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2020
60. Adam G. Riess, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 2011
61. Sir Richard J. Roberts, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 1993
62. Michael Rosbash, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2017
63. Alvin E. Roth, Nobel Laureate in Economics, 2012
64. Jean-Pierre Sauvage, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2016
65. Richard R. Schrock, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2005
66. Gregg L. Semenza, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2019
67. Dan Shechtman, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2011
68. Vernon L. Smith, Nobel Laureate in Economics, 2002
69. Hamilton O. Smith, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 1978
70. George F. Smoot, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 2006
71. Wole Soyinka, Nobel Laureate in Literature, 1986
72. Sir James Fraser Stoddart, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2016
73. Horst L. Stormer, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 1998
74. Joseph H. Taylor Jr., Nobel Laureate in Physics, 1993
75. Kip Stephen Thorne, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 2017

76. Olga Tokarczuk, Nobel Laureate in Literature, 2018
77. Sir John E. Walker, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 1997
78. Arieh Warshel, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2013
79. Robert Woodrow Wilson, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 1978
80. David J. Wineland, Nobel Laureate in Physics, 2012
81. Sir Gregory P. Winter, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2018
82. Kurt Wuthrich, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2002
83. Ada E. Yonath, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2009
84. Michael W. Young, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 2017
85. Bert Sakmann, Nobel Laureate in Medicine, 1991
86. Johann Deisenhofer, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 1988