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**LIBYA: CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY**

**Washington – Feb. 22, 2011** -- Libyans are under siege. Each and every Libyan knows that protesting is a death sentence yet they continue to take to the streets.

The Gaddafi regime has declared war against the people of Libya, stating that it would fight to the very last bullet. As of February 21, 2011, the International Coalition Against War Criminals has reported 519 deaths, 3,980 wounded and at least 1,500 missing in Libya since the start of demonstrations a few days ago. The numbers being reported by Libyans on the ground are much higher, with thousands more injured.

As the *Libyan Deputy Ambassador to the United Nations Ibrahim Dabbashi* declared, “*the regime of Gaddafi has already started the genocide against the Libyan people. We are sure that what is going on now in Libya is a crime against humanity and a crime of war...We find it is impossible to stay silent and we have to transfer the voice of the Libyan people to the world*”.

The UN Security Council needs to mobilize immediately. Nations around the world have a moral imperative to stand on the right side of history—the side of the people heroically, peacefully protesting for their freedom and dignity against Gaddafi’s tyranny, terrorism, and oppression.

**We ask all nations to stand with the Libyan people by:**

1. Establishing a no-fly zone to prevent Gaddafi from using the air-force against the Libyan people.
2. Calling on the United Nations Security Council to take decisive action and invoke Chapter 7 to stop the massacre of innocent civilians, and deployment of International Peace-keeping troops.
3. Facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid and relief supplies such as medicine, blood, food, and other basic provisions to the people of Libya.
4. Freezing the international assets of the Gaddafi family as well as senior officials.
5. Indicting Gaddafi for crimes against humanity and trying him in the International Criminal Court.
6. The immediate deployment of U.N. troops to confirm reports of crimes against humanity.