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Islamic Society of Augusta Calls for Respect for Human Life and for an immediate ceasefire.

The Islamic Society of Augusta, Georgia (ISA) extends sympathies to the victims of violence in territories controlled by the State of Israel, regardless of their religious or ethnic affiliation. It calls for an immediate ceasefire and restoring essential services required by 2,2 million Palestinians trapped in Gaza. The Islamic Society of Augusta rejects actions which place the lives of non-combatants in jeopardy.

Retaliation against Hamas does not justify putting the life of the entire population at imminent danger without water, food, electricity, and fuel. Thousands of Palestinians have no access to the medical help they need. The Israeli attacks on Gaza have already caused severe damages and loss of hundreds of lives.

Israel and the world community should use diplomacy and adherence to international laws to hold all entities involved in human rights violations to account. The world community should not practice double standards and ignore human rights violations by Israeli army, security forces and armed settlers.

The Islamic Society of Augusta calls for the United States, which advocates for democracy and human rights all over the world, to protect the human rights of Palestinians as much as it does those of Israelis. This includes Palestinians' national right to have a state of their own where they can live in peace and dignity.

The Islamic Society of Augusta calls on the media to cease its dehumanization of Palestinians. While this takes place in numerous ways, by far the greatest dehumanization is ignoring the sufferings of Palestinians. Very rarely do media invite a Palestinian to describe his or her personal tragic story such as destruction of home or even loss of family while the same media repeatedly invite Israelis to describe their losses. Palestinians are generally not mentioned on the news except when a Palestinian kills an Israeli, giving the impression that all is well until an Israeli is harmed.