



**The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Australia
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Quakers have a long-standing testimony to Peace. We seek to "take away the occasion for war" and deny that warlike activities can have any long-term benefit. We continue to support all those who seek peace and social justice in the Israeli and Palestine region.

As such we deeply regret the attack of Hamas on Israeli civilians and the consequent attack by the Israeli military on Palestinian civilians both of which caused massive death, destruction and injury.

It is important to acknowledge the humanitarian disaster in Palestine caused by the ongoing Israeli occupation of the West Bank, the continual expansion of illegal settlements, eviction of Palestinians and the blockade of Gaza. We believe that peace is unlikely in the region while these injustices continue.

We acknowledge the imbalance of power between Israel and Palestine and ask that both sides use United Nations processes to establish justice and work towards a lasting peace in the region.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Henry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Bruce Henry
Presiding Clerk
The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Australia