

Pakistan condemns Israeli airstrike on Gaza school, calls for accountability

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ISLAMABAD:

Pakistan on Sunday condemned in the strongest possible terms the Israeli attack on Al-Tabeen School in eastern Gaza, which resulted in the deaths of over 100 civilians, including women and children, and left many more injured. In a statement, the Foreign Office Spokesperson denounced the attack on the overcrowded school, which was sheltering displaced persons and occurred as they were performing morning prayers. The Spokesperson described the assault as a "horrific, inhuman, and cowardly act." "The indiscriminate targeting of civilian populations and facilities is a grave violation of international humanitarian law and constitutes war crimes," the Spokesperson stated. She further emphasized that Israel must be held accountable for these war crimes and the ongoing genocide in Gaza. "We call on the international community, especially the United Nations and backers of Israel, to take immediate steps to bring an end to the Gaza genocide and to protect the people of Gaza," she added. On Saturday, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif strongly condemned the Israeli strike, calling it "an open aggression and barbarity which had no precedent in history." He stated that Israel had "crossed all limits in its open aggression," following the early morning attack. The Prime Minister urged the international community, including the United Nations, to take concrete steps to halt the ongoing Israeli aggression. He reiterated Pakistan's stance that the leadership of Israel and its armed forces must be held accountable for the genocide of Palestinians and for committing war crimes. "Israel should face strict punishment for its gruesome crimes," he added, emphasising the need for the implementation of an International Court of Justice (JCJ) verdict against Israel.