



AP photo

The Abed Rabbo family search through the remains of their home east of Jebalya, Gaza, which was destroyed by the U.S.-backed Israeli military strikes, January 27.



AP photo

A dead child is found in the rubble of the Al Dayah family home in Gaza City, January 6.



AP photo

Barack Obama and ultra-conservative Pastor Rick Warren at Saddleback Church, Orange County, California, August, 2008.

On the inauguration, crimes... and complicity

by Bob Avakian,
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Barack Obama delivered his inauguration speech while, in effect and all but literally, standing on the rubble in Gaza—with the piles of Palestinian bodies, including the bodies of many children and even whole extended families, blown apart and burned alive by the Israeli military, aided and backed by the U.S. government, with Obama’s clear approval and support. This on top of all the other unspeakable crimes against humanity that have been carried out, and will be carried out, throughout the world by the system of which Obama is now chief executive and commander-in-chief. Obama began his presidency less than three weeks after the wanton murder of Oscar Grant by police in Oakland, and still other brutal murders of Black men by police, just since the beginning of this year; yet Obama did not even pretend to care about this or promise to put a stop to the outrage of thousands of lives stolen by murdering police. Obama insisted on having Rick Warren—an anti-gay, woman oppressing, creationist ignorance-spouting reactionary—deliver the religious invocation at Obama’s inauguration ceremony.

To those who say “just give Obama a chance, give him some time”—take a good look around, at all the crimes being committed right now, and on a daily basis, by this system. These are the crimes Obama is now presiding over; these are the crimes being committed in your name. Do you really want to be complicit with that?



Revolution Photo

Family members of people killed by law enforcement lead a march against police brutality, Oakland, California, February 6.



Revolution Photo

Portraits of Oscar Grant, who was murdered by transit police in Oakland, California, are displayed in a protest march February 6.