



# Rockets Fired From Gaza After New Israeli Carnage

GAZA STRIP (Dispatches) – The Israeli military reported three rockets fired from the Gaza Strip on Friday, where Palestinian rescuers said Israeli airstrikes killed more than two dozen people, including children.

The rockets were the latest in a spate of launches by resistance fighters in the devastated Palestinian territory.

After more than 14 months of Israel's brutal war on Gaza, such launches still continue. They have intensified since late December as Israel continues a three-month major land and air onslaught in the territory's north.

Earlier in the day, Israel said another rocket fired from Gaza had triggered sirens near Beerli, opposite central Gaza.

In Gaza, first responders said they recovered the bodies of 26 Palestinians, several of them children.

The strikes occurred on Gaza City, the central Maghazi refugee camp and the southern city of Rafah, said Mahmud Bassal, spokesman for Gaza's Civil Defense.

"Friday was a harsh day for the residents of Gaza, particularly in Gaza City, due to the continuous Israeli bombardment," he told AFP.



Al-Maghazi refugee camp in central Gaza was among areas where the territory's Civil Defense rescuers said Israeli strikes occurred.

Several of the fatalities occurred in strikes and shelling on northern and central Gaza, and two were in the south, he said.

Three children were martyred in Israeli shelling in Gaza City's Zitetun neighborhood, while an airstrike killed two people in the southern area of Rafah, Civil Defense said.

Bassal said the Zionist military were "preventing food and drinking water from reaching dozens of medical staff, patients, and the injured" at

the Indonesian Hospital in the town of Beit Lahia in the northern Gaza Strip.

He said his agency had received distress calls from the hospital since Thursday, adding that the facility is now "just a pile of rubble and walls. There's no hospital."

On Sunday, a United Nations aid team visited the Indonesian Hospital. "Around me there's nothing but rubble and destruction," said Jonathan Whittall, a UN aid official in

a video released after he visited the hospital.

A report published Tuesday by the United Nations Human Rights Office said "insufficient information" has been made available to substantiate "vague" Israeli accusations of military use of hospitals.

The Zionist army has conducted intense raids in Gaza's north since October 6. United Nations rights experts on Monday said the north Gaza "siege" appears to be part of an effort "to permanently displace the local population as a precursor to Gaza's annexation".

Bassal estimated that 10,000 people remained in the northern towns of Jabalia, Beit Lahia and Beit Hanoun, down from between 150,000 and 200,000 before the war.

Earlier this week, war minister Israel Katz warned that Israel would step up strikes in Gaza if the rocket fire did not stop and if captives still held in the territory are not released.

Israel's aggression has so far martyred at least 45,658 people in Gaza, the majority civilians, according to the territory's health ministry, figures which the United Nations considers reliable.

## Zionist Lawmakers Demand Army Destroy Energy, Food, Water Sources in Gaza



Palestinians, carrying empty pots, line up to receive meals, distributed by charity organizations, as people struggle with hunger due to embargo imposed by Israeli forces in Khan Yunis, Gaza on January 02, 2025.

GAZA (Dispatches) – Eight members of the Zionist regime's Knesset's Foreign Affairs and War Committee have demanded war minister, Israel Katz, instruct the Zionist regime's occupation army to "destroy all water, food and energy sources" in the Gaza Strip "to achieve the war goals", Haaretz reported.

The letter to Katz was signed by MKs Amit Halevi, Nissim Vaturi, Ariel Kallner and Osher Shekalem from the Likud Party, Zvi Sukkot and Ohad Tal from the Religious Zionism Party, Limor Son Har-Melech from the Otzma Yehudit Party, and Avraham Bezalel from the Shas Party.

The lawmakers claimed "the Israeli military's operations were failing to achieve the political objectives set for the war."

Despite the regime's complete siege on the strip and the reduction in aid being allowed into the enclave, the lawmakers argued that the current plans to

displace north Gaza residents to the south are not being implemented "properly".

They claimed the military was not treating those who remain as enemies, "as is customary in international law and in all Western countries, and thus once again poses a danger to the lives of our soldiers when they enter the populated and thorny area."

The Knesset members urged Katz to reevaluate war strategies, asserting that after besieging northern Gaza and displacing its residents, the military should destroy all energy, food and water sources in the area. They also called for the killing of anyone who moved within northern Gaza without surrendering by waving a white flag.

These measures should not be limited to northern Gaza, they said, but extended to other areas.

They made no mention of the Zionist regime's captives being held in Gaza, Haaretz noted.

## 'Netanyahu Hinderling Deal' Israel Sending Negotiators to Qatar to Resume Gaza Ceasefire Talks

DOHA (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime's prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has approved a delegation to resume Gaza ceasefire negotiations in Doha, Qatar, even as the Zionist regime continues to rule out a permanent end to the war, according to reports.

"Prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has approved the professional-level delegation of the Mossad (spy agency), the IDF (military) and the ISA (internal security agency) to continue the negotiations in Doha," the statement from Netanyahu's office said on Thursday.

Hamas and the Zionist regime were in negotiations in December to reach a ceasefire deal, but the Palestinian group accused Israeli negotiators of putting forward "new conditions" that delayed reaching a deal.

Earlier this week, The Wall Street Journal reported that Hamas had dropped one of its key demands that a ceasefire lead to a permanent end to the war in Gaza, creating the pathway for a potential truce that would pause fighting and allow for the release of captives in return for Palestinian prisoners.

But the WSJ said the Zionist regime demanded it receive only living captives in any exchange and refused to approve the release of some of the Palestinian prisoners requested by Hamas.

The U.S. and the Zionist regime have long insisted Hamas is an obstacle to a ceasefire, but analysts and regional officials say Netanyahu has shown little interest in striking an agreement.

Throughout 2024, the U.S. in-

sisted that the late Hamas chief Yahya Sinwar was the main obstacle to a ceasefire. However, more than two months after Sinwar was killed in a firefight with Zionist troops, a ceasefire remains just as elusive.

In the occupied territories, critics of Netanyahu, including relatives of some of the dozens of captives still in captivity in Gaza, have accused him of stalling a deal for his political survival.

Netanyahu's far-right coalition partners insist they will bring down his cabinet if he agrees to end the war. Netanyahu faces a corruption trial for receiving luxury gifts and performing political favors and could face an investigation into the October 7, 2023 operation on southern parts of the occupied territories.

Meanwhile, an Egyptian source has told the Al-Araby

Al-Jadeed news outlet that Netanyahu has returned to his "evasive approach" in the Gaza ceasefire talks, hindering negotiations.

The source, who was described as "familiar with the negotiations," said in the report that the change in the Israeli positions surprised mediators and slowed recent progress made in the indirect talks with Palestinian movement Hamas.

Netanyahu submitted a new list of demands, which included modifications regarding the captives Israel wants to be released, as well as additional conditions related to the timeline for the army's withdrawal during that phase of the proposed agreement, the source said.

He added that talks were "proceeding very well" until the latest Israeli changes.

## Europeans Rush to Gain Foothold in Syria, Israel Launches Strikes on Aleppo

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime has carried out fresh airstrikes on Syria, targeting positions in the northern province of Aleppo.

Several Israeli strikes hit defense and scientific research facilities in the suburbs of the city of al-Safira, southeast of Aleppo, according to Syrian media,

Residents reported huge explosions in the area, resulting in large flames and material damage.

There have been no immediate reports on possible casualties yet. Additional airstrikes were also reported in southern Syria, near Quneitra, which has been infiltrated by Zionist troops.

The regime has been conducting frequent attacks on various areas in Syria since the country's former government was toppled by militants.

The regime's strikes mostly hit Syria's military targets, including weapons and ammunition depots, which analysts believe are aimed at weakening the country's defense capabilities.

Militants, led by HTS, took control of Damascus on December 8 and declared an end to Assad's rule in a surprise offensive that was launched from their stronghold in northwestern Syria, reaching the capital in less than two weeks.

The HTS administration has repeatedly claimed they would respect the rights of all sects and religions in Syria.

The situation, however, remains very fluid and fragile, with a potential risk of further clashes as sectarian sentiments continue to boil over, amid the ongoing political instability and pressures on minority groups.

The developments come as top French and German diplomats said Friday as they visited Damascus to meet with new ruler Ahmed al-Sharaa.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot and his German counterpart Annalena Baerbock were in the Syrian capital for talks on behalf of the European Union, in the highest-level visit by major Western powers since militants toppled longtime ruler Bashar Assad last month.

Despite "skepticism" about HTS — which is rooted in the Syrian branch of Al-Qaeda and is designated a terrorist organization by numerous governments Baerbock said that "we must not miss the opportunity to support the Syrian people at this important crossroads."

France and Germany had both already sent lower-level delegations last month.

## Israel Banned Islamic Call for Prayer at Ibrahimi Mosque 48 Times in December

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Zionist troops prevented the call to prayer from being raised in the Ibrahimi Mosque 48 times in December, the Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs revealed.

Occupation forces also raided Al-Aqsa Mosque 22 times in that period, it added.

Releasing its monthly report, the ministry said that occupation forces and settlers escalated their attacks on Al-Aqsa Mosque, noting that the extremist Zionist minister, Itamar Ben-Gvir, stormed the mosque on the first day of the Jewish festival of Hanukkah while heavily guarded by occupation forces. This was the seventh time he has raided the Muslim holy site since he assumed office in December 2022.

It warned that these attacks aim to "consecrate the presence of settlers and impose a new reality, by performing Talmudic

rituals such as collective prostration, blowing the trumpet, and bringing in plant offerings, at a specific time and place."

Regarding the Ibrahimi Mosque in the city of Al-Khalil in the southern occupied West Bank, the ministry documented that "the occupation forces prevented the call to prayer 48 times, stormed it, climbed onto its roof and took some measurements, which constitutes a blatant violation of the sanctity of Islamic holy sites and an encroachment on Waqf property."

It also documented that the occupation authorities carried out excavations and extended a sewage line in the courtyards of the mosque, and assaulted the mosque's director, Sheikh Moataz Abu Sneh, at the military gates and prevented him from receiving medical treatment. Occupation forces also attempted to disrupt a Qur'an recitation event.