

## Four Killed in Zionist Airstrike on Golan Heights

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Four people have been killed in a Zionist air raid on the occupied Golan Heights, close to the border with Syria.

The victims of the Sunday night attack, which took place near the town of Majdal Shas, were yet to be identified.

According to the regime's military, the victims were attempting to plant a bomb in the vicinity.

The example of the world is like a serpent. It is soft in touch but its inside is full of venom.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

# Thousands Attend Funeral of Palestinian Youth

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Thousands of Palestinians have participated in the funeral of a West Bank youth shot dead by Zionist regime forces outside the Ibrahim Mosque in al-Khalil for allegedly stabbing an Israeli soldier.

The funeral procession for 20-year-old Mahmoud Abu Jheisha was held on Sunday at the Amari Mosque in his hometown of Idhna, west of al-Khalil, where relatives and friends paid their final tributes, before his burial at the local cemetery, Ma'an News Agency reported.

Those attending the event reportedly chanted slogans condemning persisting crimes by the Israeli regime forces.

Speaking at his funeral, Abu Jheisha's father Yahya denied that his son had stabbed the Israeli soldier and called on Palestinian authorities to refer his son's shooting death to the International Criminal Court.

The Ibrahim Mosque, believed to be the burial site of Prophet Abraham, is of religious significance to both Muslims and Jews, and has historically been a flashpoint between Palestinians and Israelis, particularly after a US-born Jewish



Palestinians in the West Bank city of al-Khalil attend the funeral of a 20-year-old youth killed by Zionist troops.

settler massacred 29 Palestinians inside the mosque in 1994.

Nearly 700 settlers live in 80 homes in the city center of al-Khalil,

surrounded by nearly 200,000 Palestinians.

The settlements -- illegal under international law -- are protected by

the Israeli regime's military forces in the tightly controlled city, where many streets are off limits to Palestinians.

## Flooding Kills 20 in Pakistan's Peshawar

ISLAMABAD (AP) – At least 20 people have died in flooding caused by heavy rains in the capital of the northwestern Pakistani province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, a police official says.

Mian Syed, a senior Pakistani police official, said on Sunday that approximately 100 others suffered injuries as a result of the flooding in Peshawar.

The police official said dozens of houses collapsed due to the heavy rains and winds in the city.

Several main roads were also reportedly blocked with fallen trees and mobile phone towers in the city.

Reports added that the depth of flood waters reached three feet (one meter) in some parts of the city.

Riaz Khan Mehsud, a senior local government official, confirmed the casualties, saying the number of the dead and injured people was expected to rise.

Rains and flash floods hit the Pakistani province of Punjab and the disputed Indian-administered Kashmir in September 2014, claiming the lives of hundreds of people, washing away crops, damaging tens of thousands of houses, and affecting a total of over a million people.

## Blast Kills 5 Civilians in Southern Afghanistan

KABUL (Press TV) – A bomb explosion inside a house in Afghanistan's southern Zabul Province has killed at least five civilians including two children and a woman, officials say.

The head of the Zabul provincial council, Atta Jan, said Monday that the explosion took place last night in the province's Shinkay district.

According to a spokesman for the Zabul governor, the explosive material in the house belonged to 'armed

elements by any group, including the Taliban, regarding the deadly incident.

On Monday, Afghanistan's Ministry of Defense released a statement saying 72 militants and five government soldiers have been killed in separate military operations in the past 24 hours.

General Zahir Azimi, a ministry spokesman, said the five soldiers were killed in an explosion and

the Taliban launched its so-called annual spring offensive dubbed "Azim" (Resolution) on April 24 against targets described by the group as Afghan government forces as well as foreign embassies.

Afghan Interior Minister Noorul Haq Ulumi and the deputy to Defense Ministry spokesman, Brigadier General Dawlat Waziri, have dismissed the Taliban spring offensive, saying the country's security forces are capable of foiling the militants' attacks. "Our enemies don't have the capability to collapse any province or district," Waziri said.

Afghanistan faces a security challenge years after the United States and its allies invaded the country in 2001 as part of Washington's so-called war on terror. The offensive removed Taliban from power, but some provinces are still witnessing violence, which threatens stability.

At least 13,500 foreign forces remain in Afghanistan despite the end of the US-led combat mission, which came on December 31, 2014. The forces, mainly from the United States, are there for what Washington calls a support mission. NATO says the forces will focus mainly on counterterrorism operations and training Afghan soldiers and policemen.



A man walks by a house damaged in a blast in a village in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

opponents', an apparent reference to the Taliban militants. However, he did not reveal whether the family had relations with militants or not.

There were no immediate com-

militant gun attacks. In addition, 48 militants were wounded in the operations and three others were arrested.

The military operations come as

## Iraqi Forces Make Gains Against ISIL in Karmah Town

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – The Iraqi army has reportedly made considerable gains over a large area in the town of Karmah in the western Anbar province as it continues the battle against Takfiri ISIL terrorists.

The Sunday advance by government troops backed by volunteer militia forces came as they established control over a large part of the town, located between the capital Baghdad and Fallujah, which remains an ISIL stronghold in Anbar province.

This is while another military operation was further launched by Iraqi forces to recapture the water control station on a canal in the key town.

The operation aimed at liberating al-Karmah pressed ahead amid a number of deadly terrorist bombings in Baghdad and Diyala province, which have left at least 30 people dead and dozens more injured.

The deadliest attack struck a busy commercial area in central Baghdad, where at least five people were killed and 15 more wounded.

Separate blasts also targeted the cities of Muqadiyah and Baqubah in eastern Diyala province which claimed the lives of 18 civilians.



Iraqi army vehicles are stationed near a dam on the Euphrates river north of al-Karma town, near the city of Fallujah, west of Baghdad.

Meanwhile, head of Baghdad Operational Command Lieutenant General Abdul Amir al-Shammari announced late last week that Iraqi forces killed more than 250 ISIL terrorists during an operation that led to the recapture of the old al-Karma road, located nearly 50 kilometers west of Baghdad.

Iraqi forces also recaptured three villages north of the city besides killing a large number of ISIL extremists in the fighting.

The offensive inflicted heavy damage on the Takfiris as Iraqi troops destroyed a bomb-making plant run by the ISIL terror group.

Terrorists with the Takfiri ISIL group have reportedly executed at

administration of the Yemeni fugitive former president, Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi, has dismissed a recent call for peace talks among all sides involved in the conflict in the impoverished country.

Riyadh Yaseen told a news conference in London on Sunday that the request made by former Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh was "unacceptable" after all the destruction he has caused in the Arab state.

"There can be no place for Saleh in any future political talks," he said.

Yaseen and Hadi have both sought refuge in Saudi Arabia and have backed the Riyadh's ongoing airstrikes against Yemen.

On Friday, Saleh urged all warring parties, including the Ansarullah fighters of the Houthi movement and the forces loyal to Hadi, to "return to dialogue," adding that he was ready to reconcile with all Yemeni political factions.

The 73-year-old former Yemeni leader, who stepped down in February 2012, further called on the army and security forces to come under the control of local authorities in each province.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia pushes ahead with its deadly air raids against neighboring Yemen.

In latest developments, Saudi jets attacked the southwestern Yemeni city of Taizz, targeting the presidential palace, a special forces base, a school, and a security center.

## Amid Saudi Raids UN's New Yemen Envoy Aims to Revive Talks

SANAA (Press TV) – UN's newly-appointed UN special envoy to Yemen has begun looking for ways to initiate peace talks in the war-ravaged country, as Saudi Arabia's aerial assaults against the Yemeni territory continue unabated.

The Sunday development came as the country's Houthi Ansarullah Movement has demanded an end to the destructive Saudi airstrikes against the nation's industrial, civilian and military targets as a key condition for the UN-sponsored talks.

The deadly Saudi air raids, however, persisted on Sunday as dozens of people were reported killed and many more injured when the kingdom's war planes bombarded several areas across the impoverished nation, including the presidential compounds in al-Nahdain and Jabal al-Naqam neighborhoods of the capital, Sana'a.

Saudi warplanes also fired a number of missiles into Faj Attan and al-Hafa military bases on the western outskirts of Sana'a, as well as al-Arqoub military camp, which lies east of the Yemeni capital.

The UN confirmed Mauritanian diplomat Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed as the new special envoy to Yemen on Saturday, replacing Moroccan Jamal Benomar, who resigned last week following what diplomats referred to as strong criticism of his performance by Persian Gulf Arab monarchies allied with the Saudi regime.

### Minister Rejects Call for Dialog

The foreign minister for the