

Grenade Attack Kills 11 Members of Afghan Family

KABUL (Press TV) – Nearly a dozen members of an Afghan family, including women and children, have lost their lives in a grenade attack on their house in the country's troubled east.

Officials said the assault had occurred in the eastern Afghan province of Laghman, leaving three others wounded as well.

"Eleven people were martyred after two grenades were thrown at their house by unknown gunmen in Laghman's Baad Pakh district," said Sarhadi Zwak, the local governor's spokesman. "All the victims were civilians, women and children among them."

Acquire patience and endurance because their relation with true faith is that of a head to a body, a body is of no use without a head, similarly true faith can be of no use without attributes of resignation, endurance and patience.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Zionist Regime Committing Worst Form of 'State Terror'



Lebanon's Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri addresses the 6th International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Intifada (Uprising), in Tehran, February 21, 2017.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Lebanon's Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri says the Zionist regime is committing the worst kind of "state-sponsored terrorism."

Berri made the remarks as the first foreign guest to address the 6th International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Intifada (Uprising) in Tehran.

"Settlement expansion by the Israeli regime is the worst kind of state-sponsored terrorism," he said.

The Zionist regime's parliament on February 6 rubber-stamped the

so-called "Legalization Bill," which retroactively legalized structures built on Palestinian land. The move came barely two months after the United Nations Security Council unanimously approved a resolution declaring that settlement construction "constitutes a flagrant violation under international law."

"It's time to put decisions into action and reach a consensus on a solution to the issue of Palestine," Berri said.

Addressing the issue of frequent arrests across the occupied territories by Zionist troops, he said 39

Palestinian officials were in the Zionist regime's custody.

The top Lebanese parliamentarian also described the potential transfer of the United States' embassy from Tel Aviv to al-Quds as a means of endorsing the regime's claim to the city as "the capital of its future state." The Palestinians want the eastern part of the city as the capital of their country.

Arab countries must close embassies in Washington if the U.S. proceeds with the move, he said.

Berri also urged "unity among

Palestinian groups," calling it "the most urgent issue that needs to be addressed at this point in time."

"I praise what the Islamic Republic has done for Palestine. Iran is being targeted because of its support for Palestine," the official said.

The next person to address the colloquium was the head of the Palestinian resistance movement of Islamic Jihad, Ramadan Abdullah.

"The Palestinian nation will continue resisting the Zionist regime with all that it has" and is ready to stand against "any aggression" coming from the regime, he said.

Abdullah also described the Palestinian Authority as being in cahoots with the regime, citing the Authority's security cooperation with Tel Aviv. "We reject any negotiation or security cooperation with Israel," he said.

Oman's Parliament Speaker Khalid al-Mawali, also a guest at the conference, then took the floor, calling the regime's actions a threat to the entire world.

"The international community should be aware that Israelis are ignoring and violating all international and humanitarian laws," Mawali said.

Malaysian Parliament Speaker Pandikar Amin Mulia also slammed Tel Aviv's ratification of the "Legalization Bill" as "unbelievable."

The three-day event opened in the Iranian capital earlier in the day and was officially inaugurated with an address by Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

110 Civilians Killed in Turkish Airstrikes on Syria's al-Bab



A Syrian government soldier walks near a damaged car on a road to Aleppo, Syria, on January 29, 2017.

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – A UK-based monitoring group says at least 110 civilians have been killed by Turkish airstrikes in the Daesh-held Syrian city of al-bab over the past two weeks.

The so-called Syrian Observatory for Human Rights noted that on Monday alone eleven members of one family were killed as their home was destroyed by Turkish airstrikes and shelling aimed at paving the way for advancing Turkey-backed terrorists.

"There is fierce bombardment from Turkish forces on Daesh positions in al-Bab," added the group.

It added that a large number of civilians are forced to flee their homes every day as Turkish-backed terrorists make advances in the city.

"I saw destruction -- the artillery and the airplanes shelling. There's destruction everywhere," said one fleeing civilian. "We got out safe and sound, thank God, and the town is now encircled," he added.

Al-Bab is Daesh's final bastion in the northern Syrian province of Aleppo -- second only in significance to the terrorists group's de facto capital in adjacent Raqqah.

Meanwhile, Syrian government forces, backed by fighters from allied popular defense groups, have carried out fresh operations against foreign-backed terrorists across the country, inflicting substantial losses on them.

Army soldiers and their allies shot down a Daesh reconnaissance drone over the Dayr al-Zawr Airport, located 450 kilometers northeast of the capital, Damascus, on Monday as the unmanned aerial vehicle was collecting information on the positions and movements of government troops and volunteer fighters.

An army unit targeted Daesh terrorist hideouts in Jafra Village, which lies on the eastern outskirts of Dayr al-Zawr, killing and injuring dozens of terrorists.

Syrian forces also destroyed a battle tank belonging to Jabhat Fateh al-Sham terror group, formerly known as al-Nusra Front, in the same region.

Separately, five terrorists were killed and several others injured as Syrian army units pounded their positions on the Ayed al-Hassoun hill in the central province of Homs.

In another development, four Russian military personnel were killed and two others sustained injuries in a bombing attack in central Syria last week, according to Russia's Defense Ministry.

The ministry said in a statement that the casualties had occurred when an army vehicle carrying Russian military advisers as part of a Syrian military convoy was targeted with an improvised explosive device (IED) en route from Tiyas airfield area to the central city of Homs.

"Four Russian servicemen died when their car exploded on a radio-controlled IED on February 16, 2017, in Syria," the statement said. "Two more were injured. Russian military medics are trying to save their lives."

The ministry said the bomb had been detonated remotely.

No group or individual has so far claimed responsibility for the attack, but blame is likely to fall on the Daesh terrorist group holding the ancient city of Palmyra nearby.

The recent deaths have raised the total number of Russian combat casualties in Syria to 27.

Since March 2011, Syria has been gripped by terrorism it blames on some Western states and their regional allies.

Protesters Clash With Regime Forces in Bahrain

MANAMA (Dispatches) – Skirmishes have broken out between Bahraini regime forces and dozens of demonstrators, who had taken to the streets to protest the death in custody of a young pro-democracy activist.

Scores of people staged a rally on Sitra Island, located five kilometers south of the capital, Manama, evening to voice outrage at the killing of 21-year-old activist Abdullah al-Ajouz earlier in the day.

The protesters chanted slogans against King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifah as regime forces fired tear gas canisters to disperse the crowd.

A number of the demonstrators suffered breathing difficulties as tear gas smoke covered the area.

Elsewhere, in the Bilad al-Qadeem suburb of Manama, people marched along the streets and held up Ajouz's pictures. They shouted "Our martyrs are immortal" and other slogans.

The authorities broke the news of the 21-year-old man's death to his parent.

Pictures circulating on social media networks showed a heavy presence of military vehicles and heavily-armed troops near Salmaniya Medical Complex,

where the corpse of the young man is being kept in the morgue.

The slain activist's parents have published photos of blood stains that Bahraini regime mercenaries had covered with sand to conceal their crime and the extrajudicial killing.

The latest death brings to seven the number of political dissidents killed at the hands of Bahraini regime forces since the beginning of this year.

Thousands of anti-regime protesters have held demonstrations in Bahrain on an almost daily basis ever since a popular uprising began

in the kingdom in mid-February 2011.

They are demanding that the Al Khalifah dynasty relinquish power and allow a just system representing all Bahrainis to be established.

Manama has gone to great lengths to clamp down on any sign of dissent. On March 14, 2011, troops from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates were deployed to assist Bahrain in its crackdown.

Scores of people have lost their lives and hundreds of others sustained injuries or got arrested as a result of the Al Khalifah regime's crackdown.

Over Alleged Links to Gulen Turkey Fires Over 200 Judges, Prosecutors



Turkish riot police detain demonstrators during a protest outside a university campus in Ankara on February 10, 2017, against the dismissal of academics from universities following a post-coup emergency decree.

ANKARA (Dispatches) – The Turkish government has dismissed 227 more judges and prosecutors over alleged links to an outlawed movement, as Ankara continues with its crackdown following last July's failed putsch against President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Mehmet Yilmaz, the deputy chairman of the Supreme Board of Judges and Prosecutors (HSYK) said to date 3,886 judges and prosecutors have been relieved of duty since the mid-July coup attempt.

Turkish officials say over 240 people were killed and more than 2,100 others injured in the failed

coups, which was swiftly put down as tens of thousands of people flooded streets across Turkey to support the government.

Yilmaz further said that 200 judges and prosecutors, who were previously sacked from office, would be returned to their jobs, adding that there was a large number of others who remain under investigation.

Ankara has since accused Fethullah Gulen, a U.S.-based Turkish cleric and opposition figure, of orchestrating and masterminding the coup. He is also accused of being behind a long-running campaign to

topple the government via infiltrating country's institutions, particularly the army, police and the judiciary. Turkey has also outlawed the Gulen movement, his large organization, in the country and has branded it as "Fetullah Terrorist Organization (FETO)."

In another development, nearly 1,600 people have been detained in Turkey over the last week for suspected links to militant groups launching terror attacks in the country.

The Turkish Interior Ministry said that 1,589 people had been apprehended for questioning over

alleged links to the Daesh terrorist group and the militants with the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK).

Among the detainees, a total of 1,067 people were suspected of links to the PKK, and another 21 people over connection with Daesh.

Turkey has declared the PKK a terrorist organization and has banned it. The militant group has been seeking an autonomous Kurdish region since 1984.

A shaky ceasefire between the PKK and the Turkish government collapsed in July 2015. Attacks on Turkish security forces have soared ever since.