

Zionist Police, Palestinian Worshipers Clash in al-Aqsa

AL-QUDS (Dispatches) – Clashes erupted between Muslim worshippers and Zionist police in East al-Quds's holy site on Sunday, which drew condemnation from the Palestinian government.

A video footage taken by the al-Quds Islamic Waqf, an Islamic religious trust that controls and manages the Al-Aqsa Mosque, showed the police fired stun grenades at worshippers there. Ikrima Sabri, a preacher at the scene, told Xinhua by telephone that the Israeli police "stormed into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and tried to evict worshippers out of it by force."

The Palestinian Red Crescent said at least 14 Palestinians were injured as the Zionist regime's police stormed the mosque.

The Arab League condemned the occupying regime's violent and brutal attack on al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the occupied Old City of East al-Quds following the Eid al-Adha prayers.

Palestinians, facing off with Zionist police in the packed compound, chanted, "With our soul and blood, we will redeem you, Aqsa." According to Palestine Red Crescent Society, 61 Palestinians were wounded, 15 of whom were taken to nearby hospitals for due treatment.

Zionist troops also arrested a number of Palestinian worshippers.

In a statement released on Monday, Secretary-General of the Arab League Ahmed Aboul Gheit said what had been committed against Palestinians at the behest of the Zionist regime revealed "a systematic Israeli policy aimed at normalizing the Jewish presence in al-Haram



Zionist troops detain a Palestinian at the al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the Old City of al-Quds on August 11, 2019.

al-Sharif and reducing the Muslim presence there, even on the holy days when Eid prayers are performed."

He also held Tel Aviv fully responsible for the worrying escalation of the situation at the mosque. The Arab League chief said the regime committed such crimes in order to please ultra-Orthodox Jewish groups.

The compound is usually closed to non-Muslim visitors during Muslim holidays, but as the

holidays overlap with those of the Jews - the fasting and mourning day of Tisha B'Av - this year, some Israeli organizations had appealed to the regime to allow Jewish visitors into the site.

The Jewish visitation of al-Aqsa is permitted, but, according to an agreement signed between Israel and the Jordanian government after the regime's occupation of East al-Quds in 1967, non-Muslim worship at the compound is prohibited.

'Zionist Regime Preparing War Against Lebanon'

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – Hezbollah MP Mohammad Raad says the Zionist regime is preparing to start a war against Lebanon, the National News Agency reported.

"The Israeli enemy is preparing to wage a war against us but the resistance is ready to face it with our men, society and capacity," Raad was quoted as saying during a ceremony held in Harouf, South of Lebanon.

Raad said that the occupying regime is totally wrong if it thinks it can defeat Hezbollah and the resistance has the capacity to paralyze the enemy's existence.

"We will never take it at ease

with an enemy that threatens our existence and role. We offer a lot of concessions internally but we never lose sight of our enemy's strategic movements and we will teach Israel a lesson that threatens its existence if it ever thinks of waging a war against our nations," he said.

The secretary general of the Lebanese Hezbollah resistance movement said last month all of Israel is within the range of the missiles of the group, adding that the resistance movement is stronger than ever despite Western sanctions.

Sayed Hassan Nasrallah made the remarks during a tele-

vised interview with Hezbollah's al-Manar television on the occasion of the 13th anniversary of the Second Lebanon War in 2006. "Once we said that we could strike targets south of Haifa. Today, we can say that if Israel has sites south of Eilat, then we can also hit them. All of Israel is under the range of our missiles," he said.

The Hezbollah leader, while presenting the group's developed capabilities, warned that in case of any confrontation, the Zionist entity would be brought to the "verge of vanishing, and it knows this."

"We have a larger number of

missiles and we have precise missiles that we did not have in 2006. We also have a large and powerful branch of UAVs," Hezbollah's chief further said.

Then, he held up a map of Israeli-occupied territories to the camera, pointing to potential targets for Hezbollah's attacks.

"There is an area 70 kilometers long and 20 kilometers wide ... we can destroy it all," Nasrallah said.

Nasrallah also said that he had deep hope that "we will pray in al-Quds [Mosque compound]" and that he was "certain of victory in any future war, God is with us."

'Saudi Dissident Dies in Jail Due to Torture, Deliberate Medical Negligence'

RIYADH (Press TV) – A dissident Saudi activist has reportedly died in prison due to various forms of torture he was subjected to in jail and deliberate medical negligence, amid a crackdown led by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman against pro-democracy campaigners, Muslim preachers and intellectuals in the country.

London-based and Arabic-language Nabaa television news network reported on Sunday that Ahmed Abdullah Abdulrahman Shaa'yi passed away at Tarfiya prison in Saudi Arabia's north-central city of Buraydah on August 9.

The report added that Shaa'yi's body has been handed over to his family, and a funeral procession was held for him on Saturday.

The rights group Prisoners of Conscience, which is an independent non-governmental organization seeking to promote human rights in Saudi Arabia, also confirmed the report in a post on its official Twitter page,

stating that the circumstances surrounding the dissident's death remain unknown.

It noted that Shaa'yi had been kept in prison for a year and a half.

On August 3, dissident Saudi cleric Sheikh Saleh Abdulaziz al-Dumairi died of health complications he had developed at Tarfiya prison.

Dumairi was apparently suffering from heart problems, and was being kept in solitary confinement.

He had been detained on several occasions in the past over his political activism, and support for prisoners of opinion.

Saudi Arabia has lately stepped up politically-motivated arrests, prosecution and conviction of peaceful dissident writers and human rights campaigners.

Over the past years, Riyadh has also redefined its anti-terrorism laws to target activism.

U.S. Marine Killed In Iraq Identified

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – The Pentagon has identified an American Marine killed in Iraq's northern Nineveh province over the weekend.

The Department of Defense announced in a statement on Sunday that Gunnery Sergeant Scott A. Koppenhafer died Saturday "after being engaged by enemy small arms fire while conducting combat operations."

The death of 35-year-old Koppenhafer, from Mancos, Colorado, is under investigation.

According to information posted with his photo on the Defense Visual Information

Distribution Service, Koppenhafer is survived by a wife and two children.

He was assigned to the 2nd Marine Raider Battalion, Marine Forces Special Operations Command, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

The Pentagon statement did not give further details about the nature of the operation but Pentagon officials have claimed that the U.S.-led international coalition purportedly combating Daesh terrorists in Iraq and Syria continue to be active despite proclaiming total victory against them months earlier.

However, U.S. press reports say that Iraqi

forces have recently launched new operations in the country's northern area to weed out remnants of Daesh terrorists, who are widely suspected among Iraqi circles of being backed by the American military and its regional allies.

The Pentagon established a joint task force in 2014 dubbed Operation Inherent Resolve with the purported objective of fighting Daesh terrorists across Iraq and Syria amid widespread reports that many of militants were trained by U.S. military forces in a scheme to overthrow the government of Bashar al-Assad in Syria.

Sheikh...

(Continued From Page One)

At the time, his son Muhammad, said that he was shocked by his father's worsening medical condition after visiting him, stressing that he needed to be immediately hospitalized as "large and dangerous quantities of lead and cadmium have been found in his blood."

Recently, a Nigerian court granted the government permission to label the IMN as a "terrorist" group, a move that many believe would give officials the opportunity to clamp down harder on it.

IMN members regularly take to the streets of the Nigerian capital to call for the release of Sheikh Zakzaky.

During the past couple of weeks, several demonstrators have been killed after Nigerian troops used live ammunition and tear gas. The IMN says it has lost at least 20 of its members during the clashes.

In 2016, Nigeria's federal high court ordered Sheikh Zakzaky's unconditional release from jail following a trial, but the government has so far refused to set him free.

Saudi...

(Continued From Page One)

former regime which resigned and then fled to Saudi Arabia in 2015.

"This weakens the coalition by exposing undeniable cracks beneath the surface," said Elisabeth Kendall, a Yemen scholar at Oxford University's Pembroke College. "It is becoming increasingly obvious that the UAE and Saudi Arabia do not share the same end goals in Yemen."

Rifts have emerged over the past 18 months between the southern separatists, backed by the UAE, and forces aligned with former president Abd Rabbuh Mansour Hadi, backed by Saudi Arabia.

The separatists, who want to split Yemen's south from its north, have long been suspicious of the former Yemeni government, ruled for decades by northerners. The separatists, and the UAE, also disapprove of Hadi's alliance with Islah party. While the Saudis consider Islah vital for its role in Yemen, the UAE is opposed to any significant role for Islah because of its ties to the Muslim Brotherhood.

Clashes engulfed Aden's streets after a missile attack on a military parade killed dozens of separatists fighters and a prominent commander last week.

The violence was a major blow to Saudi Arabia and its ambition of restoring Hadi's government. Aden had served as the government's headquarters for several years, while Sanaa, Yemen's capital, has been under the control of the Houthis.

Al-Qaeda and Daesh appear to be taking advantage of the security vacuum in Yemen's south, said Kendall, who monitors both groups. In the first week of August, Al-Qaeda undertook seven operations in as many days targeting UAE-backed forces, a significant uptick in attacks. And Daesh launched two attacks in Aden, the first time it has targeted the city in more than a year.

Despite the calls for a ceasefire, the Saudi-led coalition opted to send a warning to the separatists with airstrikes late Saturday and early Sunday. The coalition did not specify where the attacks occurred, but separatist officials and aid workers said areas in the Dar Saad and Khormaksar districts, as well as around the presidential palace, were hit.

"This is only the first operation and will be followed by others ... the Southern Transitional Council still has a chance to withdraw," Saudi state TV quoted the coalition as saying, according to Reuters.

Hadi's self-proclaimed information minister, Muammar Al Iryani, called the seizure of Aden a "coup against constitutional legitimacy".

Rouhani...

(Continued From Page 2)

and Kashmir, including a bar on non-residents buying property.

Hundreds of people shouting anti-India slogans spilled on to the streets following prayers in the neighborhood of Soura, the site of a big demonstration on Friday, but authorities largely sealed off the area and kept the protest localized.

"We want freedom, we are neither a part of India, nor Pakistan," said Asifa, an 18-year-old woman who was among those protesting after prayers at the shrine of Jinab Sahib in Soura.

"Modi is lying to his people that the removal of special status of Kashmir is good for us," she said. "We will resist it till our last breath."

The voices of protesters chanting anti-India and pro-Pakistan slogans grew louder as the sound of helicopters swelled overhead, among at least three of the aircraft that hovered over Srinagar to keep vigil.

Eyewitnesses reported sporadic incidents of stone pelting of security forces on Sunday and Monday morning.

"There have been some isolated incidents of stone-pelting," the Home Ministry said in a statement, but added they were of an "insignificant level".

Reuters reporters were among the many people stopped at roadblocks and kept from entering parts of the city on Sunday.

"In Srinagar, keeping in view the possibility of terrorists, militants and mischievous elements trying to disturb public order and peace, reasonable restrictions were imposed on large gatherings in sensitive areas," the ministry added.

People still gathered in mosques in large numbers on Monday, it added, giving media a list of attendees at mosques outside Srinagar that ran into tens of thousands.