

If you are greeted then return the greetings more warmly. If you are favoured, then repay the obligation manifold; but he who takes the initiative will always excel in merit.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Amazon, Google Employees Demand Firms Cut Zionist Military Contracts

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Hundreds of workers at tech giants Amazon and Google have released an open letter, calling on their employers to pull out of a \$1.2bn contract with the Zionist regime and cut all ties with the regime's military.

More than 300 Amazon and more than 90 Google employees anonymously signed the letter demanding the termination of Project Nimbus, which will see the two tech companies provide cloud services to the Zionist public sector and the military.

"We condemn Amazon and Google's decision to sign the Project Nimbus contract with the Israeli military and regime, and ask them to reject this contract and future contracts that will harm our users," the workers said in the letter published in the Guardian newspaper.

"The technology our companies have contracted to build will make the systematic discrimination and displacement carried out by the Is-



Zionist troops patrol along in the village of Muqebila near the West Bank town of Jenin, 12 September 2021.

raeli military and regime even crueler and deadlier for Palestinians." The group of anonymous tech workers says the contract will deliver cloud services to the Zionist regime that will help illegally collect data on Palestinians, which could be used to further policies described by rights groups, including Human Rights Watch, as crimes of apartheid.

"This contract was signed the same week that the Israeli military attacked Palestinians in the Gaza Strip – killing nearly 250 people, including more than 60 children," said the "employees of conscience," referring to the Zionist regime's latest war on Gaza which occurred in May and lasted for 11 consecutive days.

In another opinion piece posted hours later on NBC, two workers at the tech giants updated the number of signatories, saying that nearly 1,000 anonymous signatories at Amazon and more than 600 at Google have joined the campaign.

"Since we have no ability to guarantee that the technology we build won't be used to commit human rights abuses against Palestinians, cutting the contracts entirely is the only ethical option left for our companies," Gabriel Schubiner, software engineer and researcher at Google, and Bathool Syed, content strategist at Amazon, wrote in the article.

Yemen's War-Wounded Unnecessarily Amputated in Saudi-Funded Hospitals



A man with an amputated leg walks on a street in Taiz in 2016.

SANA'A (Dispatches) – Unnecessary amputations were performed on young children and others injured during the Saudi-led war in Yemen at private hospitals funded by a Saudi regime aid agency, according to doctors and health officials.

An investigation by Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism (ARIJ) for Middle East Eye raises serious questions about dozens of operations at three hospitals in the southwestern frontline city of Taiz between 2016 and 2018.

All three hospitals - Al-Buraihy, Al-Safwa and Al-Rawda - received financial support from Saudi Arabia's King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center (KSrelief).

The investigation, backed by testimonies from doctors, health officials and patients and their families, found that proper procedures were not followed by medical staff authorizing and performing the operations.

It discovered that the qualifications of one foreign doctor involved in at least 44 amputations were not recognized in his own country.

And it found that KSrelief continued to fund two hospitals even after concerns were raised by local officials and through KSrelief's own monitoring of their work.

Saudi Arabia, backed by the U.S. and regional allies, launched the war on Yemen in March 2015, with the goal of bringing the government of former Yemeni president Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi back to power and crushing popular Ansarullah resistance movement.

The war has left hundreds of thousands of Yemenis dead, and displaced millions more. It has also destroyed Yemen's infrastructure and spread famine and infectious diseases.

Yemeni armed forces and allied Popular Committees, however, have grown steadily in strength against the Saudi-led invaders, and left Riyadh and its allies bogged down in the country.

In the latest developments in the country, Yemeni sources reported that the country's army and popular committees continued to advance in Ma'rib province and took control of the city of al-Juba and surrounding areas in the province.

According to the reports, Yemeni army forces and popular committees took control of al-Juba city center and surrounding areas and forces affiliated with ousted and fugitive Yemeni former president Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi and Saudi-affiliated Al-Islah Party fled the country.

A senior member of the political bureau of Yemen's Ansarullah resistance movement says the liberation of the strategic central province of Ma'rib will mark an important "milestone" in the battles to expel the occupiers and retake the country's energy resources seized by the Saudi-led military coalition and its allied militants.

"The liberation of Mari'b will have significant impacts on [efforts to] expel occupation forces and return oil wealth" to the country, Mohammed al-Bukhaiti told Lebanon-based Arabic-language al-Mayadeen television news network on Tuesday night.

The official said the Saudi-led coalition of aggressors runs a key command center in Ma'rib, which is tasked with directing the operations against the Yemeni armed forces and "that is why the liberation of the rest of Ma'rib constitutes a major objective for Yemen and will mark a milestone and the start of a new phase" in the Yemeni army's liberation struggles.

Hezbollah: U.S. Meddling in Lebanon's Port Probe

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – Hezbollah said on Wednesday the U.S. is interfering in Lebanon's investigation into last year's massive explosion at the Beirut port, with the aim of implicating the resistance movement and its allies.

Hezbollah lawmaker Hassan Fadallah's response to criticism from a State Department spokesperson comes amid a developing crisis engulfing the domestic probe. The investigation was temporarily suspended Tuesday amid legal challenges from defendants against lead investigator Judge Tarek Bitar.

The U.S. official's comments are a "new violation of Lebanon's sovereignty" that expose "the extent of interference aimed at controlling and steering the investigation," Fadallah said.

Hezbollah's comments are the first to directly accuse Washington of interfering and dictating how the port probe should go. Bitar is the second judge to lead the probe into what caused thousands of tons of ammonium nitrate stored in the Port of Beirut for years to explode. He has come under heavy criticism from politicians in Lebanon.

Fadallah said Washington is imposing "dictates that aim to obstruct justice and cover up the truth" against segments of the population that the U.S. considers as enemies.

Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah in a televised speech on Monday said the judge leading the Beirut port explosion investigation is being biased and politicized. He told

victims of the deadly blast "you won't get the truth".

Nasrallah said Bitar was using "the blood of the victims to serve political interests". He previously accused Bitar of "playing politics" on the anniversary of the blast in August.

"I say to the families of the victims, 'if you think that this judge will get you to the truth – he won't,'" Nasrallah said in the televised address. "We want an honest and transparent judge."

Nasrallah called for Lebanon's Higher Judicial Council, the country's highest judicial authority, to convene. It can hold a vote to remove Bitar not just from the case, but from the right to work as a judge.

"Going after specific agencies, specific ministers, and a spe-

cific prime minister is clearly political targeting," Nasrallah said, questioning why Bitar had not reached out to other former ministers who served terms during the six years the explosive material was unsafely stored at the Port of Beirut.

More than 200 people were killed in the Beirut blast on August 4, 2020, after a huge stockpile of ammonium nitrate, which had been stored unsafely at the port for years, detonated. The blast was one of the largest non-nuclear explosions ever recorded, and the most destructive single incident in Lebanon's troubled history.

About 6,500 people were injured and entire neighborhoods in the country's capital were destroyed.

Qatar FM: No Clear Path for Unfreezing Afghan Funds

DOHA (Dispatches) – There is no clear path for unfreezing Afghan government funds, Qatar's foreign minister told a conference on Wednesday, highlighting the economic challenges Afghanistan faces under its new Taliban rulers.

Qatar is hosting talks between the Taliban and Western officials and is seen as having influence over the Taliban.

Much of the Afghan central bank's \$10 billion in assets are parked overseas.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, Qatar's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, reiterated Qatar's position that recognizing the Taliban government was not currently a priority, but international engagement was important.

He added that abandoning Afghanistan following the Taliban

takeover would be a mistake "no matter who is leading the government".

"We have been saying from the beginning that an isolation will never be an answer and when we are talking about engagement, that is needed with whoever is governing Afghanistan because abandoning Afghanistan will be a big mistake," he said.

The Qatari minister also touched on the rifts between the Persian Gulf Arab neighbors, saying a three-year-long blockade on Qatar by Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain and Egypt fractured the Persian Gulf Corporation Council (GCC) but the group's six leaders are working on strengthening it once again.

In 2017, Saudi Arabia and its three Arab allies imposed a land,

air and sea blockade on Qatar, leveling accusations Doha has consistently denied.

The four nations agreed to restore full diplomatic and trade ties at a summit of GCC member states, including the other two members Kuwait and Oman, in Saudi Arabia earlier this year.

Speaking at the Global Security Forum held in Doha, Qatar's top diplomat said there was a need to find "the means for preventative diplomacy".

"We need to find a way to prevent our countries from being in such a crisis again," he said.

The Qatari official also revealed that ties between Doha and Washington experienced some "hiccups" during president Donald Trump's tenure because of "some personalities over there and some misunderstandings."

Palestinian Prisoners Announce Mass Hunger Strike

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Palestinian Islamic Jihad movement has announced the start of a mass hunger strike by its prisoners held in the Zionist regime's jails, in refusal of the measures imposed on them following the escape of six Palestinians from Gilboa prison last month.

Palestinian prisoners are divided into cells according to their political affiliation.

Most of the prisoners who belong to the Islamic Jihad, who number about 400, will participate in the strike, with the support of all other factions, that started on Wednesday.

According to a statement from the Palestinian Prisoners Club, the hunger strike is part of "the resistance program announced recently by the prisoners' National

Emergency Committee, which was based mainly on rebellion and rejection of prison administration laws".

The statement said the Islamic Jihad prisoners delivered a letter to the Zionist regime's prison administration on Tuesday, stating their demands, as well as informing them of their decision to go on a hunger strike.

There are about 4,600 Palestinian prisoners in the Zionist regime's jails, including 35 women and 200 children.

In the aftermath of the six Palestinian prisoners escaping from the high-security Gilboa prison last month, the occupying regime's Prison Service cracked down particularly hard on prisoners belonging to the Islamic Jihad, to which

five of the escapees belong.

The jailbreak triggered a massive manhunt for the group that included Zakaria Zubeidi, a former leader of the Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades armed group and the only member affiliated with the Fatah group.

Following the prison break, a number of prisoners belonging to the Islamic Jihad were transferred to solitary confinement, and leaders of the movement were transferred to interrogation cells in a bid to dismantle its structure within the regime's prisons.

The Palestinian factions then announced an escalating "struggle program" against the prison administration's suppression of prisoners and its attempt to suppress the achievements made by prisoners through past hunger strikes.