

RIYADH (Middle East Eye) – Saudi Arabia's revenue in October from crude oil exports and products such as diesel, fell to the lowest figure since February, the kingdom's statistics office says. The office reported that in the month of October, the kingdom's revenue from oil exports was \$25.5bn, the lowest since hitting \$24bn in February, the month that Russia launched its war on Ukraine - a move that sent the price of oil skyrocketing. The fall in revenue reflects how a weakened global economy and widespread inflation have impacted the price of oil. Global inflation hit a record 12 percent in October, according to Moody's, a financial credit rating business.

One, who acquires power cannot avoid favoritism. One, who is willful and conceited will suffer losses and calamities and one who seeks advice can secure advantages of many counsels.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Zionist Troops Martyr More Palestinians

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Zionist troops have killed a young Arab man from the city of Kafr Qasem as unchecked crimes against Palestinians rage on in the deadliest year in the occupied territories since 2005.

Mahmoud Naim Badir, 23, was killed as the Zionist troops claimed he was carrying out an alleged shooting and ramming attack, injuring two occupation forces.

The Zionist troops said the suspect phoned in a false report of a violent incident in Kafr Qasem – northeast of the city of Tel Aviv in the occupied territories - to draw first responders and then opened fire when they arrived.

However, the family of the slain Palestinian man said “the Israeli forces killed our son Naim Badir in cold blood, and the Israeli story on our son carrying out an attack on Israeli forces is a false claim.”

Naim's family went on to say that “the police, after killing our son, stormed the house and destroyed it completely in front of children, who screamed, cried, and were terrified by the Israeli violent behavior.”

On Thursday, Zionist troops shot dead a Palestinian footballer overnight during a raid in the occupied



Zionist troops surround a building in the city of Kafr Qasem where a Palestinian man was fatally shot.

West Bank city of Nablus.

Ahmad Atef Daraghama, 23, was killed by the Zionist troops' gunfire, as Palestinian crowds went to the streets to confront an army-protected settler incursion to the religious site of Joseph's Tomb.

Daraghama, from the nearby city of Tubas, was a professional football player who played as an attacking midfielder with Thaqafi Tulkarm football club.

He was killed during street confrontations and armed clashes between Palestinians and the Zionist army.

Daraghama's friend, Ahmed Rajoub, mourned his death in a Facebook post as a “sad day for Palestinian sport”.

“The dreams and hopes of a Palestinian football star have been stolen by a racist and fascist occupation,” Rajoub said.

‘Under 1% of Army Probes Yield Prosecution’

Zionist troops accused of harming Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip over the last five years have been indicted

in less than 1% of the hundreds of complaints against them, an Israeli rights group reported. The watchdog said that the regime's military systematically fails to conduct a credible prosecution of itself.

Between 2017 and 2021, the occupying regime's military received 1,260 cases of offenses by Zionist troops against Palestinians, including 409 cases involving the killing of Palestinians, according to military data obtained by the group Yesh Din and released Wednesday after a freedom of information request.

The regime's military opened 248 criminal investigations into instances of possible misconduct in response to those complaints — just 21.4% of the total, Yesh Din said. Only 11 investigations during that five year period have yielded indictments. In those cases, the Zionist regime's military prosecutors acted with leniency toward convicted soldiers, the group added, with those sentenced for killing Palestinians serving only short-term military community service.

“This conduct demonstrates the military law enforcement system's complete disregard for Palestinians' lives (and) precludes any possibility of deterrence,” Yesh Din said.

Chile Plans to Open Embassy in Palestine



Chile plans to open an embassy in the Palestinian territories, President Gabriel Boric says.

WEST BANK (Al Jazeera) – The Palestinian foreign ministry has welcomed Chile's plans to open an embassy in the occupied territories, a move that Chilean President Gabriel Boric said will signal a demand that “international law be respected”.

Chile's foreign minister, Antonia Urrejola, confirmed the plan on Thursday.

Boric, a left-wing politician and former student activist who took office in March, had announced the decision on Wednesday evening during a private ceremony in the Chilean capital, Santiago, hosted by the city's large Palestinian community.

“I am taking a risk [saying] this,” he said at the ceremony. “We are going to raise our official representation in Palestine from having a charge d'affaires. Now we are going to open an embassy.”

The Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates “strongly commended the move”, the official Palestinian news agency Wafa reported on Thursday.

The decision, the ministry said, “affirms the principled position of Chile and its president in support of international law and the right of the Palestinian people to establish their independent state”.

Chile's Palestinian community is estimated to include more than 300,000

people, many of whom come from families originally from the Bethlehem area of the West Bank, including the villages of Beit Jala and Beit Sa-hour.

In 1998, Chile opened a representative office to the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank city of Ramallah. And in 2011, the country also recognized Palestine as a state and supported its entrance into UNESCO.

On Wednesday, Boric said the proposed embassy in the occupied Palestinian territories also was meant to give Palestinians the representation they deserve. He did not specify where exactly the embassy would be located.

Since the 1967 “Six-Day War”, the Zionist regime has occupied the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Al-Quds, which the Palestinian Authority wants as the capital of a future Palestinian state.

The Zionist regime later unilaterally annexed East Al-Quds in a move that remains unrecognized by the international community.

Against that backdrop, the location of embassies and other diplomatic posts remains contentious.

In 2017, then-United States President Donald Trump drew the ire of Palestinians when he recognized the regime's claim to an “undivided” Al-Quds and, a year later, moved the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to the holy city.

Report: Egypt Stalling Transfer of Red Sea Islands to Saudi Arabia

CAIRO (Dispatches) – The Egyptian government is apparently delaying the implementation of a controversial treaty that transfers two largely uninhabited islands to Saudi Arabia, and paved the way for the Riyadh regime to take steps toward normalizing relations with the Zionist regime.

The deal, to hand over the Red Sea islands of Tiran and Sanafir, was agreed during a visit to Egypt by Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud in April 2016. It was backed by Egypt's parliament in June 2017.

As part of the agreement, the U.S.-led multinational force of observers that have been present on Tiran for years are required to

leave the islands by the end of December.

It sparked rare protests in Egypt, with President Abdul Fattah el-Sisi being accused of “selling” the islands in return for Saudi financial aid.

Senior Zionist officials told American news website Axios that Cairo has been raising reservations, mostly of a technical nature, over the past few weeks.

Among the sticking points is the installation of cameras on the islands that were part of the agreement. The cameras are supposed to monitor activity on Tiran and Sanafir, as well as in the Strait of Tiran.

Zionist officials said the withdrawal of the multinational force

from the islands won't be implemented by the end of December due to Egyptian reservations.

The officials told Axios they believe the Egyptian government is holding up the deal due to U.S.-Egypt bilateral issues, including American military assistance.

Last week, White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan met with Sisi who was in Washington for the U.S.-Africa summit.

According to U.S. and Zionist regime sources, Sullivan raised the issue of the Red Sea islands deal during a bilateral meeting, and stressed that the Biden administration wants it implemented.

When Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Barbara Leaf, visited Cairo last October, Egyptian officials told her they expect the administration to transfer the full amount of military assistance if it really sees relations as strategic.

Back on July 14, Axios reported that the Zionist regime had approved the provisions of an agreement on the strategic islands of Tiran and Sanafir in the Red Sea, which prepared the ground for the official normalization of ties between Saudi Arabia and the Tel Aviv regime.

The report added that Washington had been “quietly negotiating” the deal between the two sides for months.

Condemnations Pour in After University Ban for Afghan Women, Taliban Defiant

ANKARA (AP/Al Jazeera) – Turkey and Saudi Arabia are the latest countries to strongly condemn the Taliban's nationwide ban on women attending private and public universities.

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said on Thursday that the ban was “neither Islamic nor humane”.

Speaking at a joint news conference, Cavusoglu urged the Taliban to reverse the decision.

“What harm is there in women's education? What harm does it do to Afghanistan?” Cavusoglu said. “Is there an Islamic explanation? On the contrary, our religion, Islam, is not against education; on the contrary, it encourages education and science.”

The Saudi foreign ministry expressed “astonishment and regret” at Afghan women being denied a university education. In a statement late on Wednesday, the ministry said the decision

was “astonishing in all Islamic countries”.

They became the latest Muslim-majority countries to do so after Qatar, which has served as a mediator between the United States and the Taliban, criticized the decision.

There has also been domestic opposition to the ban, with a dozen women staging a protest in the streets of Afghanistan's capital, Kabul, on Thursday, chanting for freedom and equality. “All or none. Don't be afraid. We are together,” they chanted.

Meanwhile, the minister of higher education in the Taliban government on Thursday defended his decision to ban women from universities.

Discussing the matter for the first time in public, Nida Mohammad Nadim said the ban issued earlier this week was necessary to prevent the mixing of genders in universities and because he believes some subjects being taught violated

the principles of Islam. He said the ban was in place until further notice.

In an interview with Afghan television, Nadim pushed back against the widespread international condemnation, including from Muslim-majority countries such as Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Qatar. Nadim said that foreigners should stop interfering in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

Earlier on Thursday, the foreign ministers of the G-7 group of states urged the Taliban to rescind the ban, warning that “gender persecution may amount to a crime against humanity.” The ministers warned after a virtual meeting that “Taliban policies designed to erase women from public life will have consequences for how our countries engage with the Taliban.” The G-7 group includes Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union.

Jordanians' Trust in Gov't Significantly Lower Than During Arab Spring

AMMAN (Middle East Eye) – Jordanians' trust in their government sank to historic lows this year, and is now 41 points lower than at the time of the Arab Spring uprisings, according to a 2022 report by Arab Barometer.

The main driver of Jordanians' loss of faith in their government is the economy, with nearly two-thirds listing it as the most critical problem facing Jordan.

The country is coping with a soaring cost of living crisis and the inability to provide jobs for many of its youth. Jordan's traditional government contract, which consisted of the ruling Hashemite family dishing out patronage jobs to the country's tribes, has fractured as state coffers run dry.

Jordan's tourism industry, a rare bright spot for the country, was particularly hard hit by the pandemic. Since 2019, total unemployment has ticked up from 19 percent to 23 percent and is currently 50 percent for the kingdom's youth. Russia's invasion of Ukraine has also contributed to

rising prices.

Jordanians from different backgrounds, regions and social levels rated the economy equally, with just 15 percent classifying it as “good”, suggesting widespread discontent within the kingdom.

The level of economic frustration and loss of faith in government is noteworthy because Jordan largely evaded the upheaval that struck its neighbors following the 2011 Arab Spring.

In December, Jordan was hit by rare protests, triggered by taxi and truck drivers striking over rising fuel prices. Last week, three Jordanian police officers were killed in a shootout as they tried to apprehend the suspected killers of a senior police chief from the southern city of Maan, which is grappling with unrest.

Jordanians are also frustrated with corruption. Of those polled, 88 percent said corruption is prevalent to a large or medium extent in the national government, a dramatic increase from before the Arab Spring when two-thirds said it was similarly prevalent.