

Turkish Man Shot Dead by Dog During Hunting Trip

ANKARA (Middle East Eye) – A Turkish man was shot dead by his pet dog during a hunting trip in Samsun province in Turkey's northern region of the Black Sea. Ozgur Gevrekogulu, 32, was loading kit and hunting equipment into the back of his vehicle, following a trip to Kizlan Plateau, when his dog jumped in the boot and stepped on the trigger of a loaded shotgun, firing a bullet that killed him. Turkish police had detained Gevrekogulu's friend who had accompanied him on the trip, before he was released pending an investigation. Gevrekogulu suffered from a severe bullet wound in his stomach and died before paramedics arrived at the scene.

VOL NO: LV 11857 TEHRAN / Est.1959

Wednesday, November 30, 2022, Azar 9, 1401, Jamadi al-Awwal 5, 1444

Two Brothers Among Four Palestinians Martyred

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Four Palestinian men, including two brothers, have been martyred by Zionist troops' fire during separate incidents in the occupied West Bank.

The two brothers killed on Tuesday were identified by the Palestinian Wafa news agency as Jawad and Dhafir Rimawi, aged 22 and 21. Wafa said they had been killed during clashes with troops near the village of Kafr Ein, west of Ramallah.

Palestinian Civil Affairs Minister Hussein al-Sheikh described the killing of the two brothers as an "execution in cold blood".

The report added that Jawad, a new Business Administration graduate from Birzeit University, was shot in the pelvis. His brother Dhafir, a fourth-year Technology student also at the same university, was shot in the chest.

Another Palestinian man fell victim to the regime's violence in the occupied West Bank on Tuesday. Zionist troops shot dead the man in an alleged car ramming near Ramallah.

The killings came only a few hours after Zionist troops shot



Mourners gather around the bodies of Palestinians martyred during clashes with Zionist troops, in the city of Ramallah in the occupied West Bank.

dead another Palestinian, named as Mufeed Mohammad Ikhilil, during confrontations in Beit Ummar town, located eleven kilometers northwest of Al-Khalil.

The 44-year-old was shot in the head and died.

Nine others were shot by live bullets as well. One was hit in the chest while the rest were struck in the upper and lower parts of their bodies. They were taken to nearby hospitals, and are said to be in sta-

ble condition.

The Palestinian Hamas resistance movement has strongly denounced the death of the Palestinians, stating that the Tel Aviv regime's crimes will be met with an upsurge in retaliatory attacks and acts of resistance.

Hazem Qassem, a spokesman for the Gaza-based group, said the occupying regime is desperately seeking to suffocate the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian nation

to recover their land and enjoy freedom by means of killings and assassinations.

Meanwhile, Russia and China strongly denounced Zionist regime's excessive use of force against Palestinians amid heightened tensions in the occupied territories.

Speaking at a UN Security Council briefing on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian issue, Russia's deputy UN ambassador Dmitry Polyanskiy slammed the Israeli regime's "disproportionate use of force" in the occupied Palestinian territories.

He also warned that the regime's "unilateral steps", including expansion of settlements, seizure of Palestinian property, demolition of Palestinian-owned housings, arbitrary arrests, violation of the status quo of Al-Quds' holy sites continue to create "irreversible facts on the ground".

Speaking at the same meeting, China's Ambassador to the UN envoy, Zhang Jun, also expressed his country "deep concern" about the deteriorating security situation in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Undercover Zionist Soldier Flees Qatar Hezbollah: Support for Palestine in World Cup Means Rejection of Zionists



The sight of the Palestinian flag has become common during the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – A senior official of Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement says Arab fans' refusal to speak with Zionist media reporters at the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 indicates rejection of the occupying regime's existence and normalization deals, stressing that all forms of resistance will lead to Palestine's victory.

Hezbollah Deputy Secretary General al-Sheikh Naim Qassem made the remarks in a string of Arabic-language tweets as anti-Zionist sentiments are running high at the international sports tournament, with the occupying regime's reporters saying an atmosphere of hatred and hostility is encouraging soccer fans to wave Palestinian flags in the Qatari stadiums amid refusal to speak to Israeli media. "The scene of Arab citizens refusing interviews with Israeli correspondents in the World Cup in Qatar is an indication of the people's refusal to normalize [ties] with the enemy," Qassem wrote in the tweet.

"The youths' resistance to normalization is an expression of the outright rejection of the existence of the Israeli entity in our region. The concerted efforts of the military, cultural, media and youth resistance will achieve victory and liberation for beloved Palestine," he added.

Israeli media reporters and journal-

ists have on multiple occasions confessed to being boycotted and yelled at by fans, locals, and officials at the World Cup in Qatar since the beginning of the international sports extravaganza.

In various videos and media clips, local and non-locals are seen standing behind Zionist reporters and raising Palestinian flags to protest against the occupying regime.

Former Zionist soldier, Guy Hochman, escaped Qatar on Monday after a video posted on Twitter revealed his past and participation in the Zionist regime's army unit that killed thousands of Palestinians.

Hochman entered Qatar posing as a comedian with the goal to make funny videos. He claimed in one of his videos posted on Facebook that he travelled to Qatar to make peace.

But Palestinian-American journalist, Samar Dahmash-Jarrah, posted a video on her Twitter disclosing his past as a Zionist trooper.

Dahmash-Jarrah, a former CNN contributor, has 171,000 followers on Twitter. The video showed a message in Arabic: "Expose them. Criminals." The video was widely seen viewed and shared.

The journalist said in the video that Hochman introduces himself as a "peacemaker while he is actually a killer soldier."

Leading Bahraini Activist Fined Over Protesting Prison Conditions

MANAMA (Middle East Eye) – A Bahraini court has upheld two charges against one of the kingdom's most prominent human rights defenders who is already serving a life sentence and has been protesting conditions in prison, his family and rights groups have reported.

Abdul-Hadi al-Khawaja, a Danish-Bahraini national who was imprisoned in 2011 after leading peaceful protests, was convicted on Monday of insulting a prison guard and breaking a plastic chair, and fined the equivalent of £353.

Khawaja's family say he was denied his right to legal representation in the cases that are linked to protests the 61-year-old had made after he was repeatedly denied his right to call his daughters from Jau Prison.

"The court has breached its own order where our father, to this date, has been denied the right to grant his lawyer power of attorney," Maryam al-Khawaja, one of his four daughters, said. Without a lawyer, she said, her

father has been denied "his right to challenge the bogus charges leveled against him, including the most basic right of having access to information on what the charges contain".

Earlier this month, a series of fresh charges were leveled against Khawaja, who has been imprisoned for 12 years and was subjected to torture and medical neglect early in his detention that has left him with chronic pain.

Rights groups say they believe the charges are an attempt to intimidate Khawaja and other prisoners who speak up from jail.

Among the new charges brought against him was insulting the Zionist regime after he chanted against Bahrain's normalization deal, but it was not clear to his family or rights groups on Tuesday whether that charge remained among those brought against him.

Khawaja is a veteran human rights defender. He co-founded the Persian Gulf Center for Human Rights and the Bahrain Center for Human Rights, for which he also served as president.

Turkey 'Gives Russia Time to Broker Deal' to Prevent Raid on Syria

ANKARA (Middle East Eye) – Russian officials are trying to convince Damascus and Kurdish militants to withdraw from the northern Syrian city of Tal Rifaat to prevent a Turkish ground offensive, according to Al Jazeera and al-Araby al-Jadeed. Turkish officials told Al Jazeera that the Russian side is making efforts to meet Turkey's demands in northern Syria as an alternative to the military operation, adding that Ankara stipulated the withdrawal of the so-called Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) militia from the cities of Manbij, Kobane (known as Ain al-Arab in Arabic) and Tal Rifaat.

Turkey is also open to the return of Syrian government administration in some border areas as an alternative to YPG-led so-called Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), a U.S.-backed militia.

Tal Rifaat is significant due to its strategic position, sandwiched between Turkish and Syrian government forces, and has at times become a point of frustration for Ankara due to repeated deadly attacks on its positions in the area that Ankara blames on the YPG.

Middle East Eye on Friday reported that Turkey was seeking a deal with Russia to remove the YPG from Tal Rifaat in a

ground offensive in the coming days.

Moscow has been given time to meet Ankara's conditions, according to Al Jazeera's sources. The alternative would be a military operation.

Al-Araby al-Jadeed reported that the Turkish military operation in northern Syria will be conducted in stages, the first of which may start within days and include the Tal Rifaat region.

The offensive would then move to Kobane, a majority Kurdish city, and Manbij, which historically has a higher Arab population.

According to al-Araby al-

Jadeed, Turkish forces are continuing to prepare for an attack on Tal Rifaat, while also consulting with Russia, a key backer of the Syrian government.

Though predominantly controlled by the YPG and its political arm, the PYD, the Syrian government maintains some presence in Tal Rifaat.

According to the newspaper's sources, the Syrian government's forces are expected to withdraw from the area if Turkish-Russian understandings on Tal Rifaat are completed. Similarly, Turkish-backed militants have been told to prepare to take control of the area.

After Doha's Investment Review Threat

Blair: Attack on Qatar Excessive, Unreasonable

LONDON (Dispatches) – Former British prime minister Tony Blair has criticized the ongoing attack on Qatar during its hosting of the World Cup, under various pretext, stressing that the tournament has begun and appreciation must be given to the country hosting the largest event in its history.

In an interview with the British The News Agents podcast, Blair said, "I think it's not sensible of us to disrespect Qatar. This is their biggest event that they've held ... it's a huge event for the country," adding "They are allies of ours; they do invest a huge amount of money in this country."

Commenting on the protests against Qatar, he said "I think you can make the point that you hope – as I believe will happen, by the way, across the Middle East ... one of the things I can see now is there is a kind of social revolution going on across the Middle East right now."

Asked about accusations of corruption to win the organization of the World Cup, he said that "one can argue about how they got to host, but now that the event has started, it is important that now after presenting your point of view, we move forward."

The comments by the former British prime minister came a day after Qatar said it has launched a review of its investments in London after the city's transport authorities effectively suspended all advertisements from the Persian Gulf country following World Cup controversies.

Transport for London (TFL) halted ads from Qatar on buses and the underground train system following criticism of Qatar's treatment of migrant workers.

In response, Qatar has placed its future investment strategy toward London under review and is "considering investment opportunities in other UK cities and home na-

tions", a person involved in the review told the Financial Times.

The ban was "another blatant example of double standards and virtue signaling to score cheap political points around the Qatar World Cup," the source added.

In 2019, TFL said it would suspend adverts from several countries - Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen, Pakistan, Qatar, the UAE, Mauritania, and Afghanistan.

However, some Qatar ads were still allowed since then but the TFL decided to implement the ban fully on the Persian Gulf state this week.

Pressure mounted on the TFL after the World Cup started in Qatar and several adverts ran on the London transport network. The move, driven by London Mayor Sadiq Khan, has apparently annoyed Doha, which has faced fierce criticism ahead of and during the World Cup.