WEST BANK (Dispatches) - A number of websites belonging to maor universities in the Israeli-occupied territories came under cyberattack on Tuesday, according to local media, Anadolu News Agency reports. The attack targeted the websites of Tel Aviv University, the Hebrew University of Al-Quds, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Haifa University, Weizmann Institute of Science, Open University of Israel and Reichman University, The Jerusalem Post reported. A group of hackers calling themselves "Anonymous Sudan" claimed responsibility for the cyber-attack in a statement on its Telegram account.

Kayhan International

Thought for Today

How true it is! Our declaring that we belong to Allah indicates that we accept Him as our Master, Owner and Lord. And when we say that our return is towards Allah indicates that we accept our mortality.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

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Zionist Army Intelligence Head Warns Regime of Weakening Strategic Position

WEST BANK (Dispatches) -The Zionist regime's strategic position has worsened over the past several months due to the judicial overhaul plan proposed by the premier, warned the occupying regime's army intelligence directorate's research division.

In its latest report sent to Zionist prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu, war minister, Yoav Gallant, and the so-called national security adviser, Tzachi Hanegbi, it highlighted the risk of the regime's opponents, including Iran, identifying a weakness in the internal divisions due to the planned changes.

It noted the recent moves by the Secretary-General of Hezbollah resistance movement, Hassan Nasrallah, who held talks last month with the Lebanese group, Hezbollah, on developments in the occupied territories.

Moreover, it noted the danger of the Zionist regime's deteriorating relations with the United States which could impact the relationship with the occupying regime's 2020 U.S.-brokered so-



Hezbollah fighters pose with the resistance movement's flags during a ceremony to lay the foundation for a site to train resistance fighters, in the Janta region in the east of Lebanon.

called Abraham Accords which normalized its relations with the UAE, Bahrain, Morocco and Suthat they could bring with them a better relationship with the U.S.

"If in the past they moved closer to Israel because of its strong bond with the U.S. ... The current rift between the two sides has pushed those same friends toward Iran. This has been evi-

dent in the restoration of full diplomatic relations between Tehran and Riyadh (as well as dan based on the understanding Bahrain), but also in the warm welcome given to Iran's Foreign Minister when he arrived in Cairo," the memo stated, according to Israel Hayom.

> U.S. President Joe Biden apparently threatened that the head of the occupying regime's cabinet will be excluded from the

U.S. Summit for Democracy if he does not stop his judicial review immediately.

According to the sources, this message from Biden to Netanyahu reveals the growing tension between the allies, and how closely Biden was involved in efforts to persuade the Zionist prime minister not to proceed with the changes.

The report further warns that the Palestinian Authority will capitalize in international forums on the divide, including the International Court of Justice at The Hague.

The latest report by the regime's army intelligence directorate's research division could also be the cause of Gallant's criticism against the planned judicial reforms which resulted in him being fired by Netanyahu, reported Israel Hayom.

Netanyahu has faced weeks of mass protests after his coalition pursued changes to the judiciary that would give his cabinet sway in choosing judges and limit the supreme court's power to strike down laws.

Rights Groups Urge UN Not to Adopt IHRA Anti-Semitism Definition



Employees from Alphabet Inc, its Google unit and members of Jewish and Palestinian organizations protest against cloud computing work by Google and Amazon for the Zionist regime, during a rally outside Google offices, in San Francisco, California, U.S.

WEST BANK (Al Jazeera) -Dozens of rights groups have urged United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres not to adopt the controversial International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism, saying it has been used to suppress criticism of the Zionist regime.

In a letter, 60 human and civil rights organizations said the UN should not use the definition in its action plan against anti-Semitism and subsequent activities.

It went on to ask the UN to ensure that its efforts to combat anti-Semitism do not "inadvertently embolden or endorse policies" that undermine fundamental human rights, including the right to speak and organize in support of Palestinian rights.

"The IHRA definition has often been used to wrongly label criticism of Israel as antisemitic, and thus chill and sometimes suppress, nonviolent protest, activism and speech critical of Israel and/or Zionism, including in the U.S. and Europe," the letter said.

U.S.-based Human Rights Watch (HRW), American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Israeli rights group B'Tselem, and the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR) were among the signatories.

According to the IHRA's working definition, "Anti-Semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."

The statement said the definition has been used to target professors. students and grassroots organizations that express support for Palestinian human rights.

Citing the example of the United Kingdom, where the definition was adopted nationally, the letter highlighted two instances where universities in 2017 banned several activities planned for "Israel Apartheid Week", citing the IHRA definition.

The organizations noted that leading experts of anti-Semitism, and academics specializing in Holocaust and Jewish studies have also criticized the IHRA's definition, "arguing that it restricts legitimate criticism of Israel and harms the fight against anti-Semitism".

Instead, the groups said two definitions that have been put forward since 2021, the Jerusalem Declaration on Anti-Semitism and the Nexus Document, were better alter-

"While acknowledging that criticism of Israel can be anti-Semitic, these alternative definitions set out more clearly what constitutes anti-Semitism and provide guidance surrounding the contours of legitimate speech and action around Israel and Palestine," they said.

The letter warned that if the UN were to endorse the IHRA definition "in any shape or form", UN officials working on issues concerning Israel and Palestine may find themselves "unjustly accused of anti-Semitism based on the IHRA definition".

"The same goes for numerous UN agencies, departments, committees, panels and/or conferences, whose work touches on issues related to Israel and Palestine, as well as for civil society actors and human rights defenders engaging with the UN system," it added.

The letter is the latest attempt by human rights advocates to urge the UN not to adopt the IHRA definition. In November, more than 120 scholars called on the world body to reject the definition, due to its "divisive and polarizing" effect.

Iraq, Kurdish Region Sign Accord to Resume Oil Exports

BAGHDAD (AFP) - Iraq's federal government and the Kurdistan semi-autonomous region signed an accord Tuesday to allow Kurdish oil exports to resume through Turkey after they were halted 10 days earlier.

The agreement, signed in Baghdad in the presence of Prime Minister Mohamed Shia al-Sudani and Kurdish premier Masrour Barzani, was to be implemented "today", a Kurdish regional government official told AFP.

The deal was described as temporary but signals the end of independent oil exports by northern Iraq's Kurdish regional government and marks a clear limit to its autonomy.

The agreement comes two days after Iraq, Saudi Arabia and several other major oil exporters announced a sharp reduction in their production from May that sent up global energy prices.

Barzani said on Twitter that the deal is "temporary" until Iraq's parliament agrees a new oil and gas law, but he called it "a crucial step towards ending the long-standing dispute" between Arbil and Baghdad.

Ankara had stopped handling Iraqi Kurdish oil last month after an international tribunal ruled in a nine-year-old dispute that Baghdad was right to insist on overseeing all Iraqi oil ex-

Oil exports are the key revenue source for both the federal and regional governments and their management has long been a sensitive topic in relations.

The government of warscarred Iraq is betting on earning around \$70 per barrel in its budget calculations for the next three years and has been irritated to see the autonomous region go it alone by exporting its oil via Turkey.

Persian Gulf Analyst Yesar al-Maleki, of the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES), said the deal aimed "first and foremost" at quickly re-starting exports to Turkey.

"But it also presents an oppor-

tunity for Baghdad to finally be involved in Iraqi Kurdistan's oil sector" and should also allow Kurdistan "to accrue higher revenues" in future.

Maleki hailed the deal as a "breakthrough for the two PMs" that could help both sides draft the new energy law and "resolve the existing historic disputes once and for all".

Sales of Kurdistan crude will be managed from now by the State Oil Marketing Organization, a federal government official and a Kurdish official told AFP

A joint committee formed by the federal and regional governments will supervise the export process, they added.

New Zionist Strike on Syria Kills Two Civilians

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) - An air strike by the Zionist regime on Tuesday killed two Syrian civilians, state media reported, the fourth such attack on government-held areas of the war-torn country in less than a

During more than a decade of foreign-backed war in Syria, the Zionist regime has launched hundreds of air strikes on its territory

"The Israeli enemy carried out an air strike" shortly after midnight, resulting "in the death of two civilians", Syrian state news agency SANA

reported, quoting a military

The attack came from the direction of "the occupied Syrian Golan, targeting some points in the vicinity of Damascus and the southern region", it said, adding Syria's air defenses intercepted most of the missiles.

The so-called Syrian Observatory for Human Rights war monitor gave the same civilian death toll.

The new attack came after the Zionist regime conducted a missile strike against positions across the country's central Homs province on Sunday, injuring five soldiers.

Two earlier attacks on Damascus were carried out on Thursday and Friday.

The Syrian Foreign and Expatriates Ministry reacted to the attacks saying they were an extension of the Zionist regime's "fascist" approach towards regional countries.

The Tel Aviv regime mostly keeps quiet about its attacks on Syrian territory, which many view as a knee-jerk reaction to increasing success of the country's government and its allies in confronting terrorism.

Taliban Carry Out Deadly Raid on Daesh Hideout in Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD (AP) - An overnight raid by Taliban forces in Afghanistan's northern Balkh province killed six members of the Daesh terrorist group, a Taliban spokesman said on Tuesday.

The regional affiliate of the Daesh known as the Daesh in Khorasan Province — has been the key rival of the Taliban since their takeover of Afghanistan in August 2021. The terrorist group has increased its attacks, targeting both Taliban patrols and members of Afghanistan's Shia minority.

According to Mohammad Asif Waziri, a spokesman for the police chief in Balkh, the operation late Monday night targeted a Daesh hideout in Nahri Shahi district and six members of the terrorist group were killed.

The Taliban swept across Afghanistan in August 2021, seizing power as U.S. and NATO forces withdrew after 20 years of occupation.

The international community has not recognized the Taliban government, wary of the harsh measures they have imposed since their takeover — including restricting rights and freedoms, especially for of women and minorities.

In March, a member of the Daesh terrorist group carried out a bombing that killed three people, including Daud Muzmal, the Taliban's appointed governor for Balkh. Muzmal is one of the most senior Taliban officials to have been killed since they took power in mid-August 2021.