



Hamas Urges Donors to Pay for Palestinian Resistance Via Bitcoin

GAZA (Anadolu) – Palestinian Islamic resistance movement Hamas has called for financial donations to the Palestinian resistance through the digital currency Bitcoin. "It is now possible to directly donate to the Palestinian resistance through Bitcoin," al-Qassam Brigades, Hamas' military wing, said in a statement. The call comes amid rising Zionist aggression and violations against the Palestinians across the occupied territories, including forcible removal of Palestinian Muslim worshippers from inside al-Aqsa Mosque. Bitcoin and other virtual currencies do not have a serial number and are not subject to the control of governments and central banks. They are only dealt with via the internet, without physical presence.

VOL NO: LV 11952 TEHRAN / Est.1959

Tuesday, April 11, 2023, Farvardin 22, 1402, Ramadhan 20, 1444

Zionist Troops Kill Palestinian; Settlers Storm Al-Aqsa, March to Illegal Outpost

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – A Palestinian child has been killed by Zionist troops in the Aqabet Jaber refugee camp in Ariha. Mohammad Fayeze Balhan, who was 15 years old, was shot in the head, chest and stomach.

The official Palestinian news agency Wafa reported that confrontations broke out soon after Zionist troops raided the Aqabat Jaber refugee camp on Monday morning, with dozens of armored vehicles and special forces, to arrest activists.

The report added that the troops fired shots indiscriminately at local residents, hitting one in the head, chest and stomach. He later succumbed to his serious gunshot wounds. Two other Palestinians were struck in the lower parts of the body.

Local sources said Zionist troops had surrounded the camp from all sides before entering it to detain activists.

This came at a time when the occupying regime's army was guarding thousands of Zionist settlers marching on Monday to the abandoned illegal outpost of Evyatar



The funeral procession of 15-year-old Mohammad Fayeze Balhan, who was shot dead on 10 April by Zionist troops in Jericho's Aqabat Jaber refugee camp, 10 April, 2023.

near the occupied West Bank city of Nablus to call on the Zionist regime to 'legalize' the outpost and to "denounce the increased attacks on settlements in recent weeks".

Thousands of settlers took part in the march, heavily protected by Zionist troops who closed the march's path from 10:30am to 5pm.

At least 27 cabinet members and Knesset members attended the march.

The Palestinian Ministry of For-

eign Affairs said it considers the march "a dangerous escalation and provocation of the Palestinian people, and an extension of the incitement calls of the Israeli right and the fascist right to deepen settlement at the expense of Palestinian lands, and it has dangerous repercussions on the situation in the arena of conflict".

The ministry added that it is studying with legal experts the best ways to confront the settlement

process, including filing a complaint with the UN Security Council, Human Rights Council and Permanent Commission of Inquiry as well as the relevant international courts.

Meanwhile, more than 1,500 Zionist settlers broke into the courtyard of the Al-Aqsa Mosque through the Moroccan Gate, also known as the Mughrabi Gate, and toured it under the protection of the regime's forces.

The Zionist settlers also provocatively performed rituals in the sacred site.

Media reports said the occupation forces had earlier stormed the mosque, and removed the Palestinian worshippers from the holy site to pave the way for the settlers' incursions.

Hardline Israeli officials and settlers regularly storm the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the occupied city, a provocative move that infuriates Palestinians. Such mass settler break-ins almost always take place at the behest of Tel Aviv-backed temple groups and under the auspices of the Zionist police in Al-Quds.

'Tel Aviv Encircled by Fire' Hezbollah Says to Remain in Front Line of Palestine Defense



Hezbollah fighters march as they hold flags of the resistance movement and Lebanon during a rally to mark Al-Quds Day, in a southern suburb of Beirut, Lebanon, April 29, 2022.

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – A senior Hezbollah official has reiterated the Lebanese resistance movement's support for Palestine, saying the resistance movement will remain at the forefront of the campaign defending the oppressed nation.

"Hezbollah is in the front line of the campaign defending the Palestinian nation and resistance, and, undoubtedly, it will stick to the path until the end. No threats can undermine our resolve and determination," Sheikh Nabil Qaouk, deputy head of the executive council of Hezbollah, told an event in southern Lebanon.

He also condemned the occupying regime's "intolerable" continuous attacks against Palestinian worshippers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the Old City of Al-Quds.

"Every honorable Muslim should do whatever at their disposal to support Al-Aqsa Mosque... It is a moral and religious duty, and we have no hesitation to fulfill it. The Israeli enemy is having its worst days since 1984 because of the equations created by the resistance," Qaouk added.

Last week, heavily armed Zionist troops raided the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound twice, wounding dozens and arresting hundreds of Palestinians, who were praying at the third holiest site in Islam.

It triggered clashes in the West Bank and rocket fire from resistance groups as well as airstrikes, mounting fears of a wider escalation.

The violence took place during the Muslim holy fasting month of Ramadan after a year of spiraling bloodshed in the protracted Zionist-Palestinian conflict.

Many world leaders and global organizations denounced the occupying regime's violence against Palestinians, with some of them warning that it could further escalate tensions in the region.

Elsewhere in his remarks, the Hezbollah official said the Zionist regime is surrounded by fire from all fronts, inside and outside, adding that that the equations dictated by Hezbollah have made the Tel Aviv regime calculate a thousand times before thinking about a war with Lebanon.

"It is a source of pride for Lebanon and Hezbollah that the enemy's commanders admit that their army has been caught in Hezbollah's equations in Lebanon," he added.

Speaking on Friday, former Zionist minister Avigdor Lieberman acknowledged that the regime's "deterrence against [Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan] Nasrallah has been completely eroded."

Hezbollah fought off two wars waged by the occupying regime against Lebanon in 2000 and 2006, forcing a humiliating retreat upon the Tel Aviv regime's military in both cases.

The resistance movement has vowed to resolutely defend Lebanon in case of any other Israeli-imposed warfare.

UN Food Agency: \$800mn Urgently Needed for Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD (AP) – The UN food agency said Monday it urgently needs \$800 million for the next six months to help Afghanistan, which is at the highest risk of famine in a quarter of a century.

Aid agencies have been providing food, education and health care support to Afghans in the wake of the Taliban takeover of August 2021 and the economic collapse that followed it. But distribution has been severely impacted by a Taliban edict last December banning women from working at national and international nongovernmental groups.

The UN was not part of this ban but last week it said the Taliban-led government has stopped Af-

ghan women from working at its agencies in the country. Authorities have yet to comment on the restriction.

The World Food Program said women aid workers play a vital role in delivering the agency's food and nutrition assistance and that it will make "every possible effort" to keep this going, while also trying to ensure the active involvement of female staff.

"The WFP urgently needs \$800 million for the next six months to continue providing assistance to people in need across Afghanistan," the organization said. "Catastrophic hunger knocks on Afghanistan's doors and unless humanitarian support is sustained, hundreds of thousands

more Afghans will need assistance to survive."

The UN said Monday that its Afghan operations remain severely under-funded, with \$249 million reported to be confirmed for 2023, nearly one-third of the amount received for the same period in 2022.

It said Afghanistan is dealing with its third consecutive year of drought-like conditions, a second year of crippling economic decline, and is still suffering from decades of conflict and natural disasters.

"The total 'immediate' funding requirements to address critical gaps for the coming three months is \$717.4 million," according to a statement from the agency's

office for humanitarian affairs. "This is all part of an overall funding gap of \$4.38 billion across the humanitarian response for 2023."

It previously said that Afghanistan is its lowest-funded operation globally, despite being the world's biggest humanitarian crisis.

The Taliban takeover drove millions of Afghans into poverty and hunger after foreign aid stopped almost overnight. Sanctions, a halt on bank transfers and frozen billions in Afghanistan's currency reserves restricted access to global institutions and the outside money that supported the country's aid-dependent economy before the withdrawal of U.S. and NATO forces.

Turkey's CHP Draws Anger by Running Former Erdogan Allies on Electoral Lists

ANKARA (Middle East Eye) – Turkish political parties submitted their final lists of candidates for parliament on Sunday and the presence of various former ruling party officials on the opposition's lists has caused considerable controversy.

The centre-left Republican People's Party (CHP) struck a deal with the smaller right-wing parties in its Nation Alliance opposition coalition on Friday, and will now run the parties' candidates under its own list on 14 May, when Turkey holds presidential and parliamentary elections.

In return, the Future Party (Gelecek), Felicity Party (Saadet), Democracy and Progress Party (Deva), and Democrat Party (DP) won't join the race separately and their names will not appear on the ballot for the 600 parliamentary seats.

The CHP nominated 76 candidates from amongst its right-wing political allies, at least 30 of which are in places where their victory is likely.

It's the first time in the party's history the CHP has given space to these right-wing politicians - many of whom were once its opponents and former members of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's

ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP).

Kemal Kilicdaroglu, CHP chairman and the Nation Alliance's presidential candidate, believes in alliance-building to gain more votes and wants the opposition's smaller parties to maintain a parliamentary presence.

The right-wing parties initially wanted to create a separate joint list to obtain around 20 seats, but couldn't reach an agreement.

However, some of the right-wing candidates chosen, such as former AKP Justice Minister Sadullah Ergin, now a senior official at Deva, have drawn particular anger from CHP supporters.

"Sadullah Ergin was nominated from CHP 1st District (Çankaya). Shame on him. We haven't forgotten what he did during the 'sledgehammer trial'," lawyer Şule Nazlıoğlu Erol tweeted, referencing a 2010 alleged coup plot where former high-ranking military officers were arrested while Ergin was justice minister.

After years of trial, the suspects were acquitted and released from prison in 2015 when the evidence against them was found to have been faked.

The government accused Pennsylvania-based cleric Fethullah Gulen and his followers, who were in alliance with then-prime minister Erdogan until 2014, of infiltrating the judiciary and planting fraudulent evidence.

Many others on social media were quick to bring up a 2014 tweet by Kilicdaroglu accusing Ergin of placing pressure on judges for political means.

Another candidate, Sema Silkin Un from Gelecek, has also been the subject of negative commentary online. The former private secretary of Erdogan's wife, Emine is running under a CHP list in the city of Denizli.

"This candidacy has caused a serious disturbance in the CHP," Altan Sancar, a Turkish journalist, tweeted. "She will be one of the two candidates that the CHP cannot explain to its base. It is such a candidacy that there are even discomforts from her own party."

That the Democrat Party's Cemal Enginyurt, a Turkish nationalist who used to support the government, now running under a CHP ticket in Istanbul, is also raising eyebrows.

Reports: Daesh Land Mine Kills At Least 6 Civilians in Syria

BEIRUT (AP) – A deadly land mine explosion in Syria has killed at least six people, according to state media.

News agency SANA said the explosion hit civilians who were foraging for truffles in the countryside, and blamed the incident on a land mine planted by the Daesh terrorist group in the southern Dayr al-Zawr province. The area is a former stronghold of the terrorists.

A day earlier, SANA reported six people - also heading to search for truffles - were killed by an anti-tank mine left by Daesh in the desert of Homs' eastern countryside.

The so-called Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based war monitor, put the number killed Sunday at nine. The

monitor said the incident brings to 139 the number of civilians reported killed this year as a result of the explosion of mines and other explosive objects left over from the war, including 30 children.

The truffles are a seasonal delicacy that can be sold for a high price. Since truffle hunters work in large groups in remote areas, Daesh militants have repeatedly preyed on them, emerging from the desert to abduct them, kill some and ransom others for money.

In February, Daesh sleeper cells attacked workers collecting truffles near the central town of Sukhna, killing at least 53 people, mostly workers but also some Syrian government security forces.