



After Five Palestinians Killed in Mass Shooting

Two Palestinians Martyred in Gaza, Ramallah

GAZA STRIP (Dispatches) – The Palestinian Health Ministry announced on Friday that a Palestinian citizen was martyred by Zionist troops at the Rantis checkpoint northwest of Ramallah, while an elderly in Gaza also succumbed to wounds sustained in a raid by Zionist troops.

According to the Palestinian Authority Health Ministry it was notified of the martyrdom of the 29-year-old Mahdi Samir Muhammad Bayadsch on Friday morning.

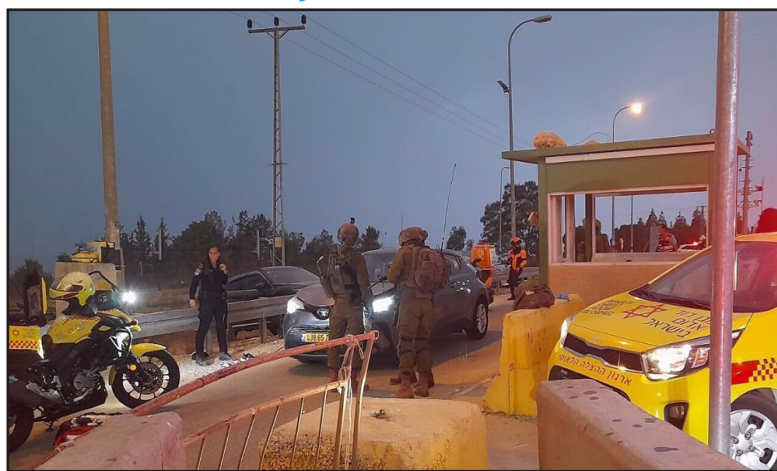
The Zionist regime’s media, citing the regime military’s statement, said that a Palestinian man was shot dead at a checkpoint in the West Bank early Friday morning.

The Zionist regime’s military claimed that the Palestinian young man was shot dead after allegedly assaulting a soldier and attempting to snatch his weapon.

Meanwhile, an elderly Palestinian citizen, who was wounded in the recent attack by the regime on the Gaza Strip, succumbed to his wounds on Friday and was martyred.

Furthermore, Palestinians have announced general strikes and protests against the Zionist regime’s police’s “inaction” after a mass shooting left five people killed on Thursday.

The attack, which comes amid a record-high murder rate in Palestinian towns and villages inside the occupied territories, is one of the deadliest crime-related shootings witnessed in



Medics and security forces at the Rantis Checkpoint in the occupied West Bank, after a young Palestinian was shot dead on June 9, 2023.

recent years.

The High Follow-Up Committee, an umbrella civil society organization representing Palestinians, called for strikes and demonstrations on Friday and Saturday across Palestinian towns.

“We hold Israeli authorities fully responsible for the alarming increase in crime in our society, as it is the official body that bears the responsibility and has the ability to eradicate this terrible phenomenon,” the committee said in a statement on Thursday.

Two of the shootings on Thursday happened near Nazareth, in the north of the country, and two more were reported in Kafr Qasim and Umm al-Fahm.

The worst shooting took place in the village of Yafia Nazareth, which

claimed the lives of five people, including a 15-year-old. It is believed to be part of a crime family feud.

Another person was killed in Kafr Qasim and a shooting in Kafr Kana village left two people wounded, including a three-year-old toddler who was seriously injured.

Tensions have been running high in the occupied West Bank over the past year, with the Zionist regime’s military conducting violent raids under the pretext of detaining what it calls “wanted” Palestinians.

As a result of these attacks, 157 Palestinians, including 28 children, have lost their lives and many others have been arrested in 2023.

In a recent incident, Zionist troops

deliberately shot a Palestinian photo-journalist in the head as he was covering the demolition of a Palestinian-owned home during a military raid in the occupied West Bank.

Momen Samreen was hit in the head by a rubber-coated steel bullet despite wearing press attire in the West Bank city of Ramallah on Thursday, after the regime’s military stormed the area and started to demolish the four-story house of Palestinian prisoner Islam Froukh, displacing its residents, Palestine’s official Wafa news agency reported.

Samreen was covering the demolition process when he was shot and transferred to the hospital in serious condition.

A commission affiliated with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights accused the occupying regime of targeting Palestinian human rights groups in order to “delegitimize them and silence civil society”, Anadolu news agency reported.

The Human Rights Council’s “Commission of Inquiry” said in its annual report that the Zionist crackdown on the groups was “unjustified and violated fundamental human rights, including the rights to freedom of association, expression, opinion, peaceful assembly, privacy and the right to a fair trial.”

The commission, led by a three-member team of human rights experts, was established in 2021 following the 11-day Israeli war on Gaza.

Report: Zionist Regime Sent Arms to Myanmar Amid Rohingya Genocide

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – An arm manufacturer in the Israeli-occupied territories exported equipment to Myanmar despite a U.S. and European Union embargo imposed over the country’s genocide against the Rohingya Muslim people, according to a new report.

A report published by the rights group Justice for Myanmar says the shipments were made in 2019. The report includes a letter by Zionist attorney Eitay Mack that was sent to the regime’s attorney general Gali Baharav-Miara.

According to the report, in July 2019 the Zionist arms producer CAA Industries shipped equipment to manufacture arms to a supplier of the Myanmar military. The two-ton ship-

ment included molds for injecting plastic polymers which could be used to manufacture rifle parts like grips and handles.

Middle East Eye reached out to CAA Industries for comment on this report but they did not respond by the time of publication.

“CAA Industries has a responsibility to respect international human rights and humanitarian law. Under international human rights standards on business and human rights, CAA Industries has a responsibility to conduct due diligence and prevent or mitigate and remedy any negative human rights impacts linked to the end-use of their products and services,” Justice for Myanmar said in a statement.

“Justice for Myanmar calls for CAA Industries to immediately halt any collaboration, including shipments of accessories for specialized machinery and injection moulds, to Myanmar.”

The rights group published images of rifles manufactured by the Myanmar military’s arms industries, including assault rifles, sniper rifles, and light machine guns, and have identified grips and stocks with the identical design that CAA sells.

Human rights groups and Myanmar officials reported in 2017 that the Zionist regime continued to sell Myanmar weapons and arms as thousands of Rohingya refugees fled the military’s brutal crackdown in the Rakhine state.

The United Nations has described the Rohingya people as the most persecuted minority in the world.

In 2017, a bloody campaign in Myanmar’s Rakhine state sent some 740,000 Rohingya fleeing across the border into neighboring Bangladesh, carrying accounts of rape, mass killings and arson.

The Rohingya are still denied citizenship and freedom of movement in Myanmar, with reports indicating tens of thousands have now been confined to squalid displacement camps for a decade.

The Rohingya case is now the subject of separate proceedings before the International Criminal Court and for “acts of genocide” before the International Court of Justice.

ANKARA (AP) – Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan appointed a former U.S.-based bank executive to head the central bank Friday, sending the strongest signal yet that the newly reelected leader might pivot from his unusual economic policies that many blame for worsening a cost-of-living crisis.

Hafize Gaye Erkan, 41, is Princeton-educated and will become the first woman to lead the Turkish central bank. She briefly served in 2021 as co-chief executive of First Republic Bank, which last month became the second-largest U.S. bank to fail as its wealthy clients pulled their money during wider turmoil in the sector.

Her nomination follows last week’s appointment of Mehmet Simsek, an internationally respected former banker, as treasury and finance minister. He was a former finance and deputy prime minister under Erdogan and returned after a five-year break

from politics.

The choices for two key financial roles have raised hopes that Erdogan, reelected last month to a third term, will move away from his insistence that lower interest rates will fight Turkey’s staggering inflation. The rate peaked at 85% in October, and people are struggling to afford food, housing and other necessities.

Critics blame the cost-of-living crisis on Erdogan’s unorthodox approach, which runs contrary to conventional economic thinking — that raising rates will combat inflation. Central banks from the U.S. Federal Reserve, European Central Bank and others worldwide are hiking borrowing costs to bring down spikes in consumer prices.

Erkan’s appointment “is an important step toward more credible economic policies and provides encouragement that President Erdogan will loosen his

grip on the central bank,” said Liam Peach, senior emerging markets economist at Capital Economics.

“Recent policy appointments will now need to turn into policy action for investors to be confident that this shift towards orthodoxy is the real deal,” he said.

The next steps are critical as the economy struggles with a crashing currency and inflation at a still-high 39.5%. The central bank will meet later this month to decide on interest rates — a key indicator of the course Turkey’s economy will take.

In recent years, Erdogan has fired three central bank governors for failing to fall in line with his rate-cutting policies.

“Erkan needs to be given the freedom to raise interest rates sharply,” Peach said. “A large interest rate hike from 8.5% to 20% or so would send a very strong signal that this is a credible policy shift.”

‘MbS Threatens Economic Pains on Washington’ Saudi Arabia Turns Down U.S. Demands During Blinken Visit



U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken attends a joint news conference with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on June 8, 2023.

RIYADH (Dispatches) – Saudi officials have snubbed the U.S. secretary of state’s latest push for the kingdom to normalize relations with the Zionist regime and his bid to win further concessions on oil prices and Riyadh’s recent resumption of ties with Syria and Iran during his high-profile visit to Saudi Arabia.

Speaking in a news conference alongside Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud in Riyadh on Thursday, the visiting Antony Blinken reiterated that Washington will continue to play an integral role in expanding normalization between the Zionist regime and Saudi Arabia.

Blinken, who was in the kingdom as part of a U.S. push to defuse rows that have touched on oil prices, and Riyadh’s opening to Iran, further insisted that normalizing relations between Zionist regime and its neighbors was a priority for Washington.

The Saudi foreign minister, however, rebuffed his American counterpart, saying that the kingdom believes “normalization of ties with Israel will have limited benefit without a pathway to peace for the Palestinians.”

“The Palestinian issue was and remains the central issue for Arab countries, and it is at the top of the kingdom’s priorities,” Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman had also underlined during the Arab League summit in Jeddah ‘MbS Threatened Economic Pains on Washington’

Saudis Arabia Turns Down U.S. Demands During Blinken Visit on May 19.

“We will not delay in providing assistance to the Palestinian people in recovering their lands, restoring their legitimate rights and establishing an independent state on the 1967 borders with East Al-Quds as

its capital,” he further noted at the time.

For his part, Prince Faisal defended the landmark decision to lift Syria’s Arab League suspension, which came shortly after the start of the country’s foreign-sponsored conflict 12 years ago.

Riyadh has leveraged its growing relationships with Russia and China as the Biden administration has pushed back against some Saudi demands including lifting restrictions on arms sales and help with sensitive high-tech industries.

Riyadh has clashed repeatedly with U.S. President Joe Biden on its supply of crude oil to global markets, its willingness to partner with Russia in OPEC+ and its decision to restore full diplomatic relations with Iran in a deal brokered by China.

A classified document has revealed that Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (MbS) threatened to impose significant economic costs on Washington after Biden warned Riyadh over its decision to slash oil production last fall.

Even though the Saudi government publicly defended its actions politely via diplomatic statements, the 37-year-old de facto ruler of the country threatened in private to re-evaluate the Arab nation’s relationship with the White House and impose significant economic costs on the United States if it retaliated against the oil cuts.

According to the document, the crown prince claimed “he will not deal with the U.S. administration anymore,” and promised “major economic consequences for Washington,” The Washington Post reported.

The U.S. intelligence document was circulated on the Discord messaging platform as part of an extensive leak of highly sensitive national security materials.

Several Killed, Injured in Afghanistan Mosque Explosion

KABUL (Dispatches) – An explosion took place inside a mosque in northern Afghanistan on Thursday during the funeral of the provincial deputy governor who was killed in an attack this week, a provincial official said.

Mahzudeen Ahmadi, the head of the information office of northern Badakhshan province, said the explosion had caused casualties.

According to Sputnik telegram channel, 16 people were reported killed and over 30 were injured after an explosion hit the mosque.

There are concerns the number of casualties could rise.

The former police commander of the northern province of Baghlan, Safiullah Samim, was among the dead.

“The Ministry of Interior of the IEA condemns this brutality of the disgraced enemies,” the interior ministry run by the Taliban said in a statement.

The blast came as “a great number of compatriots” had gathered for the funeral service for Taliban’s deputy governor of Badakhshan.

The Daesh terrorist group claimed responsibility for a car bomb on Tuesday that killed the deputy governor.

Nissar Ahmad Ahmadi, the deputy governor of Afghanistan’s northern Badakhshan province was killed by a car bomb on Tuesday.

So far, Daesh terrorists have targeted Taliban administration officials, including claiming responsibility for the killing of the governor of northern Balkh province in an attack on his office in March.

The Taliban government has been carrying out raids against members of the terrorist group, which has targeted Taliban administration officials.

They also claimed the killing of the governor of Balkh province in an attack in March.