

Arab League to Int'l Community: Help End Zionist Crimes Against Palestinian Children



Palestinian children react, as another round of violence intensifies mental health crisis for Gaza children.

DOHA (Dispatches) – **The Arab League has called on the international community to intervene to end the Zionist regime violations against Palestinian children and ensure the protection of their rights and safety.**

Arab League Assistant Secretary-General Haifa Abu Ghazaleh’s remarks came during her statement at the virtual regional conference on preventing severe crimes against children in armed conflicts, which was co-hosted by Qatar.

She emphasized the significance of the conference topic, citing conflicts and humanitarian crises throughout the Arab world that have had a devastating impact on children.

She noted the steps countries in the region have taken to address this issue, citing the 18th meeting of the Arab League Committee on Violence against Children and the implementation of its recommendations.

The secretary-general said that in

order to prevent further violations against Palestinian children and promote justice, the international community must hold the perpetrators of these crimes accountable for their actions and ensure that they are prosecuted.

The remarks came as dozens of extremist Zionist settlers, heavily guarded by the regime’s forces, once again broken into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the occupied Old City of Al-Quds.

The extremist settlers entered the

courtyards of the holy site through the Moroccan Gate, also known as the Mughrabi Gate, under protection and strict security measures of Zionist on Sunday morning.

Some of the settlers performed rituals and Talmudic prayers in the mosque’s courtyards, as others received lectures from rabbis about the Temple Mount during their tour at the holy site.

Extremist Zionist 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 Israeli police in Al-Quds.

The al-Aqsa Mosque compound, which sits just above the Western Wall plaza, houses both the Dome of the Rock and the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The Jewish visitation of Al-Aqsa is permitted, but as part of a decades-old agreement between Jordan – the custodian of Islamic and Christian sites in Al-Quds – and Israel in the wake of the regime’s occupation of East al-Quds in 1967, non-Muslim worship at the compound is prohibited.

Saudi Delegation in Syria to Discuss Embassy Reopening

DAMASCUS (RIA Novosti) – **A Saudi Arabian technical delegation has arrived in the Syrian capital of Damascus to handle the reopening of the Persian Gulf monarchy’s embassy as the two countries have agreed to resume the official relations following an over a decade pause, the Saudi Foreign Ministry has announced.**

“The Saudi technical team

responsible for the reopening of the embassy of the kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the Syrian Arab Republic arrived in the capital Damascus, in implementation of the decision of the Kingdom to resume the work of its diplomatic mission in Syria,” the ministry wrote on Twitter, RIA Novosti reported.

Last month, Saudi Arabia

and Syria agreed to resume diplomatic ties.

Saudi Arabia’s Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan met with President Bashar al-Assad in Damascus on April 18. His visit came days after Syrian Foreign Minister Faisal Mekdad visited the kingdom.

On May 9, Saudi Arabia said that it will allow its diplomats to resume work in Damas-

cus, more than a decade after withdrawing them over the foreign-backed war in Syria.

Syria was reinstated in the Arab League after a 12-year suspension in May.

Assad attended the League’s 32nd summit in Jeddah last week where he hailed the meeting as a “historic opportunity” to address crises across the region.

Anger in Iraq After Jordan Renews Credentials of Saddam’s Ba’ath Party

BAGHDAD (Middle East Eye) – **Jordan’s decision to allow the local branch of the Ba’ath Party to renew political activities in the country has sparked outrage in neighboring Iraq.**

The Independent Electoral Commission in Jordan has approved the participation of 27 new political parties, including the Arab Socialist Ba’ath Party, the Jordanian branch of the Pan-Arab nationalist

movement associated with the former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

In Iraq, the Islamic Dawa Party, one of the Ba’ath Party’s most vocal opponents and to which Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani belongs, branded the move as a “hostile and provocative act”.

“Iraqis were surprised, shocked, and outraged by the news of the Jordanian government’s permission for the [Saddam’s Ba’ath] par-

ty to engage in political activities,” the party said in a statement.

Others expressed their anger at Jordan on social media, while a protest was held in Baghdad on Sunday to denounce the decision.

The Iraqi parliament overwhelmingly voted in 2016 to officially ban the Ba’ath Party from any political activity in the country.

The party was previously banned by the U.S.-propelled Coalition

Provisional Authority in 2003, which was put into power following the American invasion of Iraq and the removal of Saddam from power.

The Ba’ath party came to power in 1968 following a coup led by Saddam, who was the party’s assistant general secretary at the time.

The party and its former leader remain largely reviled across Iraq.

UAE Releases Lebanese Detainees After Death in Custody Raised Mistreatment Concerns

BEIRUT (AP) – **A group of Lebanese citizens detained in the United Arab Emirates have been released, Lebanon’s foreign ministry has announced.**

Lebanon’s ambassador to the UAE notified the ministry of the release of 10 Lebanese detainees who had been arrested there about two months ago, the ministry said in a statement.

The release comes after the death earlier this month of a Lebanese man who was detained in the UAE on unknown charges. A committee of family members of Lebanese citizens detained in the UAE alleged in a statement that Ghazi

Ezzedine, 55, had died under torture, and rights groups raised concerns about the Emirati government’s lack of transparency regarding Ezzedine’s case and the linked detentions.

Emirati authorities have not commented on the case or on the release of the other detainees.

Afif Shouman, head of a group of Lebanese families with relatives detained in the Persian Gulf country, said seven Lebanese citizens remain detained in the UAE, none of whom have been convicted of a crime, and called for their release.

UAE authorities have detained dozens of Lebanese in the past.

In 2019, the UAE sentenced one Lebanese national to life in prison and two to ten years in prison.

Amnesty International said in a statement at the time the trial of the men “failed to meet international fair trial standards,” as the evidence included confessions that were “extracted under duress, and the defendants were detained incommunicado for months and denied access to lawyers during interrogation and investigation.”

Iran... (Continued From Page One)

with Iranian officials in Tehran would achieve the goals of the people of the two countries.

“I hope the meetings between the two leaders would open more opportunities in the fields of trade, scientific and medical cooperation between the two countries,” Razaghi told the Omani media.

“Iran aspires for increasing the size of the exchange of trade with Oman to \$5 billion. This is possible as there are great opportunities for trade between the two countries. Iran does not view Oman as an economic market but as a vital strategic partner.”

He further said that boosting joint investments and setting well-established mechanisms for accelerating the executive procedures for investment would achieve sustainability of the trade relations.

“The joint investments and cooperation, currently witnessed by businessmen, is the result of the strong relationship set by the governments of both the countries during the past years,” the official said.

Mohsen Darabi, former president of the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA), said that the economic cooperation is one of the results of the strong relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

“We hold great aspirations, mainly with the presence of economic agreements and vital border posts between the two countries. ICCIMA supports the Iranian and Omani companies in both countries and works to facilitate investments,” he was quoted as saying.

Ali Najafi Khoshroudi, ambassador of Iran to Oman, was quoted as saying by the Omani media that Sultan Haitham’s visit to Tehran and his meeting with the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei “will foster an unprecedented level of partnership and cooperation between the two nations.”

Khoshroudi also praised the concerted efforts made to enhance air and sea connectivity between Oman and Iran, saying these “improvements are expected to have a significant impact on boosting trade and economic exchange between Tehran and Muscat.”

Apart from the economic point of view, the visit of the Sultan of Oman is also of great importance for the development of multilateral diplomatic relations and the strengthening of regional integration.

Sultan Haitham’s visit to Iran comes just one week after his trip to Egypt. The Sultan of Oman and Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi met in Cairo to talk about “overall regional and international developments,” according to Oman’s official news agency.

In March, Saudi Arabia and Iran agreed to resume relations in a China-brokered deal. While the deal was finally reached in China, Oman and Iraq mediated the tension-easing negotiations for two years.

Protests... (Continued From Page One)

agreement to boost stipends for ultra-Orthodox men who eschew full-time employment for lifetime study in institutes catering for advanced study of the Talmud and rabbinic literature, or a traditional Jewish educational institution yeshiva for married men.

“In order to enable integration into the labor market, children should receive an education that enables this, and adults should face incentives to do so,” the economists are reported as warning.

“Unfortunately, the Israeli regime not only does not deal with this dire issue, but also chooses measures that exacerbate the problem and deteriorate the future of Israel’s economy towards the Third World.”

Relations between the ultra-Orthodox and secular communities are extremely fraught in Occupied Palestine. Tensions are said to be extremely high, so much so that the two communities are “Heading for War” according to one Israeli commentator. Secular Zionists are said to be incensed over the billions of shekels earmarked for the Haredi community and their educational institutions.

According to education ministry documents obtained by Haaretz, in 2019 more than 90,000 Haredi students – 27

percent of all ultra-Orthodox students – were excused from studying core subjects that year. Resentment is fuelled further because the Haredi community is growing at a much higher rate than any other group and only contributes two percent to the regime’s revenue from income tax.

China’s... (Continued From Page One)

production of the homegrown jet as it seeks to become self-sufficient in key technologies.

The aircraft is manufactured by state-owned Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (COMAC), but many of its parts -- including its engines -- are sourced from overseas.

Zhang Xiaoguang, COMAC’s director of marketing and sales, told state news agency Xinhua the flight was a “coming-of-age ceremony (for) the new aircraft”, adding the C919 “will get better if it stands the test of the market”.

From Monday, the C919 will operate on China Eastern’s regular route between Shanghai and the southwestern city of Chengdu, CCTV reported.

The first model of the narrow-body jet was formally handed over to China Eastern last year during a ceremony at an airport in Shanghai, hailed by state media as “an important milestone” for the country’s aircraft industry.

Zhang Yujin, COMAC’s deputy general manager, told state-backed Shanghai outlet The Paper in January that the company had taken around 1,200 orders for the C919.

COMAC planned to increase annual production capacity to 150 models within five years, Zhang said at the time.

Asia and China in particular are key targets for European manufacturer Airbus and its American rival Boeing, which are looking to capitalize on growing demand for air travel from the country’s vast middle class.

Last month, Airbus said it would double its production capacity in China, signing a deal to build a second final assembly line for the A320 in Tianjin.

The first assembly site in the northern city opened in 2008 and produces four A320s a month, with Airbus hoping to increase that to six per month before the end of the year.

Border... (Continued From Page 2)

Iran has retained its embassy in Kabul along with nearly two dozen neighboring and regional countries since the Taliban seized power nearly two years ago, but it has not recognized the new Afghan government nor has the world at large.

The Taliban’s restrictions on women’s right to education and work as well as a lack of political inclusivity in their government have deterred the international community from granting them legitimacy.

Iran’s Ground Force commander Brigadier General Kioumars Heydari on Sunday visited the border with Afghanistan in Sistan-Blouchestan province.

He said the border is completely under the control of Iran’s ground force, and fully calm.

Heidari said the presence of senior military commanders at the border does not mean that a danger is threatening the country, adding it is for making sure that security is established at the borders.

Meanwhile, an Iranian lawmaker called for a “decisive action” following the unprovoked attack by armed Taliban forces on the border outpost in southeastern Iran.

“Yesterday, the tension caused on the border with Afghanistan resulted in the martyrdom of two [Iranian] border guards,” MP Muhammad Vahidi told an open session of the parliament on Sunday.

“Of course, this issue should be investigated on the order of the parliament speaker at the National Security Committee, and according to the approach that exists at the state level, there is a need to take special measures and a decisive response,” he added.

Vahidi said bad actors see the Iranian people’s kindness and compassion and wrongly assume that they can trespass on borders and kill Iranian border guards.

He lamented “unguarded remarks” occasionally uttered by the current rulers of Afghanistan which are “not acceptable at all.”