

LONDON (IRNA) – Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi has slammed the collective punishment of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip which he says is being done in an organized manner.

In a letter addressed to world leaders on Tuesday, Raisi said that the Zionist regime's killing of thousands of people in Gaza, including many women and children, its destruction of hospitals, mosques, churches, houses and critical infrastructure as well as its refusal to lift a blockade that has led to a shortage of water, electricity and (Continued on Page 7)

PARIS (Dispatches) – Around 10 French ambassadors to West Asia and North Africa have criticized the pro-Israeli stance adopted by President Emmanuel Macron. The French daily, Le Figaro, which first reported the news, described it as an "unprecedented" rebellion in the recent history of French diplomacy in the Arab-speaking region. Their note to Macron said: "Our position in favor of Israel is misunderstood in the Middle East and it breaks with our traditionally balanced position between Israelis and Palestinians." (Continued on Page 7)

**Viewpoint**

**Cameron's Return to Resurrect Israel**

**FM Amir-Abdollahian: World Must Press Zionists to End Gaza Onslaught**



**Sitting Volleyball Team Sweeps Past Algeria at World Cup**



**World Leaders Voice Support for Palestinians Amid Israeli Massacre**



## Houthi: Ansarullah to Target Israeli Ships in Red Sea

SANAA (Dispatches) – Yemen's Ansarullah leader said on Tuesday his forces would make further attacks on Israel and target Israeli ships in the Red Sea and the Bab al-Mandeb Strait.

The movement launched several missile and drone attacks against Israel. Ansarullah, at war against a Saudi-led coalition since 2015, has emerged as a major military force in the Arabian Peninsula, with tens of thousands of fighters and a huge arsenal of ballistic missiles and armed drones.

The group controls northern Yemen and its Red Sea coasts.

"Our eyes are open to constantly monitor and search for any Israeli ship in the Red Sea, especially in Bab al-Mandab, and near Yemeni regional waters," Abdulmalik al-Houthi said in a broadcast speech.

He also called on Arab countries and the Muslim world to adopt a clear stance against Israel's ongoing atrocities in the besieged Gaza Strip.

In a televised speech broadcast live to commemorate the anniversary of "Martyrs" in the Yemeni capital, he said the Zionist regime is committing genocide in Gaza and the Muslim world has shown a "weak and limited" stance on the occupying regime's atrocities.

"Gaza is experiencing genocide and cold-blooded killing of its people even at the mosques, schools, hospitals, and the international organizations in which they take shelter," he said.

"In the face of the major tragedy that the Palestinian people have been facing for more than 70 years, a limited and weak stance has been shown by over a billion Muslims," he lamented. "Arab regimes are losing seriousness and do not have the will to act seriously towards Gaza."

Houthi underlined that the Gaza Strip is subjected to a joint Israeli-Arab siege, and the neighboring countries are

not seriously trying to deliver food, medicine, and humanitarian aid that the blockade area needs.

The Ansarullah chief also expressed his disappointment with the final statement issued by the Arab-Islamic Summit in Riyadh at the weekend.

"Although the Arab-Islamic Summit was an emergency meeting of 57 countries, it did not come up with a position or practical action, and this is shameful and sad," Houthi said.

"The summit that claimed to represent all Muslims only produced statements with no practical stance. Is this capability of over a billion and a half Muslims?" he said. "Fifty-seven Arab and Islamic countries, with all their ... capabilities, came out with a statement that could have been issued by a primary school and by one person."

The Ansarullah chief said the outcome of the summit was a very ordinary statement that was "ridiculed by the Israelis."

## Amid Israeli Siege and Shoot-to-Kill Policy,

# Bodies Buried in Mass Grave at Shifa Hospital



At least 179 people have been buried in a mass grave inside the Shifa Hospital premises in Gaza City.

GAZA CITY (Dispatches) – The director of Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza's largest hospital, on Tuesday said that at least 179 people have been buried in a mass grave inside the hospital premises.

"We were forced to bury them in a mass grave," said Muhammad Abu Salmiya, adding that seven babies and 29 patients from the intensive care patients are among those

buried, Al Jazeera reported.

The hospital, in a statement, said that the bodies were buried after the hospital's fuel supplies ran out and were in a state of decomposition.

Orthopaedic surgeon Fadel Naim, based in Gaza, said that the patients with injuries "up to the moderate level" have to undergo surgery without anesthesia because of a lack of

medical supplies.

"It's to preserve the remaining supply of anesthesia, which is on the verge of depletion at any moment, for major and critical surgeries," he wrote on X.

Al Jazeera reported that the pain experienced by the patients during the surgical interventions without anesthesia is beyond what humanity can

endure.

The Al-Shifa Hospital was cut off from the world for over 72 hours last week after a deadly blockade by Israeli forces that included tanks at the front gates.

According to the Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor, the occupying regime of Israel has dropped more than 25,000 tonnes of explosives on Gaza since October 7, equivalent to two nuclear bombs.

Eyewitnesses at Shifa Hospital painted an apocalyptic scene at the besieged Palestinian territory's largest medical facility, which is besieged by Israeli forces who are not allowing anyone to move in or out of its buildings.

Palestinians say Israeli tanks, warplanes and snipers encircling the hospital have adopted a "shoot to kill" policy, which does not discriminate between medics, wounded Palestinians and those seeking refuge within the hospital's walls.

Mustafa Sarsour was one of the (Continued on Page 7)

## China, Iran, Arab States Blast Israel's Nuke Gaza Threat

UNITED NATIONS (Dispatches) – China, Iran and a multitude of Arab nations condemned an Israeli minister's statement that a nuclear bomb on the Gaza Strip was an option in the Zionist war on Gaza, calling it a threat to the world.

At Monday's long-planned opening of a United Nations conference whose goal is to establish a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East, many ambassadors expressed condemnations and criticisms of comments by heritage minister Amihai Eliyahu.

The occupying regime of Israel has neither confirmed nor denied its atomic arsenal. It is widely believed to possess nuclear weapons, and a former employee at its nuclear reactor served 18 years in Israeli prison for leaking details and pictures of the Zionist regime's nuclear arsenal program to a British newspaper in 1986. China's deputy UN ambas-

sador Geng Shuang said Beijing was "shocked," calling the statements "extremely irresponsible and disturbing" and should be universally condemned.

He urged Israeli officials to retract the statement and become a party to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, considered the cornerstone of nuclear disarmament, as a non-nuclear weapon state "as soon as possible."

Geng said China is ready to join other countries "to inject new impetus" to establishing a nuclear weapons-free zone in the Mideast, saying there is greater urgency because of the situation in the current region.

UN disarmament chief Izumi Nakamitsu, who opened Monday's fourth conference, didn't mention Israel. But she said: "Any threat to use nuclear weapons is inadmissible." Nakamitsu reiterated the

"urgency ... of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction," stressing that "cool heads and diplomatic efforts" must prevail to achieve peace.

Oman's UN Ambassador Mohamed Al-Hassan, speaking on behalf of the six-nation Persian Gulf Cooperation Council which includes Saudi Arabia, said the threat to use nuclear weapons in Gaza "reaffirms the extremes and brutality of the Israeli occupation against the Palestinian people" and their "disregard for innocent life." He called on the UN Security Council and the IAEA to take decisive action on the matter.

Lebanon's Charge d'Affaires Hadi Hachem also condemned the Zionist heritage minister's comments, stressing that "this self-acknowledgment of having nuclear weapons and the threat of using them by its of-

ficials, poses a serious threat to both regional and international peace and security."

He urged the occupying regime to stop "such rhetoric or posturing" and join the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty as a non-nuclear weapon state.

Iran's UN Ambassador Amir Iravani told the conference the nuclear threats directed toward Palestinians by high-ranking Israeli officials highlight the occupying regime's "pride" in having these weapons in its hands.

"The secrecy surrounding Israel's nuclear capabilities poses a significant threat to regional stability," he said. "In these critical times, the imperative to establish such a zone in the Middle East has never been more urgent."

Efforts to create a nuclear-weapon-free zone date back to the 1960s and include a call by parties to the Nuclear Non-

proliferation Treaty in 1995 and a 1998 General Assembly resolution asking countries to contribute to establishing it. The first UN conference aimed at creating a zone was held in November 2019.

Russia's ambassador to the IAEA and other UN organizations based in Vienna, Mikhail Ulyanov, told delegates Monday that given the new escalation of violence in the Middle East, a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region "is more pertinent than ever."

But he said Moscow is "extremely uncomfortable" that along with the two other sponsors of the 1995 resolution – the United States and the United Kingdom – the promise to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Mideast has not been met after almost 30 years. And for more than 20 years, "there's been almost no progress whatsoever," he said.