### Kayhan

### MIDDLE EAST

# **Zionist Troops Martyr 111 Palestinian Journalists in 2024**

GAZA (Dispatches) - A Palestinian Institution on Monday reported that 111 journalists were martyred by the criminal Zionist regime's forces in Gaza Strip in 2024.

The Palestinian Journalists and Reporters Association in a report pointed to targeting media persons in 2024 who were martyred by the Zionist regime's forces and stated that 111 Palestinian male and female journalists were martyred by the occupying regime of Israel in this year, Shahab News website reported.

With martyring 111 Palestinian journalists, the total number of journalists martyred in Gaza Strip since October 7, 2023 has reached 220.

Since the beginning of the Gaza war, 145 arrests and detentions of journalists and reporters have been recorded, about 60 of these



Mourners and colleagues holding 'press' signs surround the body of Al Jazeera journalist Ismail al-Ghoul, on July 31, 2024.

journalists are still in detention, the report added.

Journalist Mohammad Hijazi was killed on Sunday in an Israeli attack.

The Israeli regime forces killed the Palestinian writer, poet and journalist in an airstrike on northern Gaza's Jabalia refugee camp, according to his family.

He was among nearly 90 other Palestinians killed in Israeli bombardment across the besieged territory in the last 24 hours, ac-

lines, but similar accusations

by Palestinians against Zionist

troops have received minimal at-

Similarly, other gruesome

claims, such as babies being be-

headed or burned in ovens, were

widely discredited but continued

Despite the lack of evidence, Gaz

has maintained hardline views,

claiming that those detained in

connection with the October 7 at-

The absence of evidence has

fueled skepticism about Israeli

narratives surrounding the Octo-

ber 7 operation, often employed

tacks "have no right to live."

to circulate in political rhetoric.

cording to a Gaza Health Ministry statement on Sunday.

"I don't know if I will write to you again. I keep what I have written and am writing. Maybe it will come to light one day. I refuse a cheap death. I curse the murderer," Hijazi wrote in a post on social media in August 2023.

"Let us in this bottom that we have finally reached, arm ourselves with patience and prayer, and count the days we have lived as a historic achievement while awaiting what is coming with a broken heart, an extinguished eye, a head held high, and a spirit that fights until the end of the road."

Since the Israeli killing machine imposed a military siege of northern Gaza in early October intensifying its bombing attacks on the Jabalia camp, hundreds of people have been killed.

## No Rape Allegations Filed From Oct. 7, Admits Israeli Prosecutor

tention.

GAZA (Dispatches) -Zionist regime authorities have admitted that no allegations of rape or sexual assault have been filed from the October 7 operation by Palestinian resistance factions, despite extensive investigations.

Moran Gaz, a former lead prosecutor in southern district prosecutor's office and member of Team 7.10, disclosed the findings in an interview with Ynet. The team is responsible for cases involving captured Palestinians linked to the operation.

Gaz stated that her department has found no evidence of sexual violence. "In the end, we don't have any complainants. What was presented in the media compared to what will eventually come together will be entirely different," she said.

Moreover, women's rights organizations contacted by her office also reported no cases brought to their attention. "We approached women's rights organizations and asked for cooperation. They told us that no one had approached them," Gaz added.

The Zionist regime's unsubstantiated claims of mass rape by Palestinian resistance fighters have dominated global head-

to justify the Zionist regime's Gaza.

The occupation army has continued a genocidal war on Gaza that has killed more than 45,800 people, mostly women and children, since 7 October 2023, despite a UN Security Council resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire.

In November, the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued arrest warrants for Zionist prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, and former war minister, Yoav Gallant, for war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza.

ongoing military onslaught in

### West...

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The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) called the operation a "powerful message" to the Israeli occupation.

It called for escalating resistance operations in the West Bank "to confuse the occupation's calculations and weaken its security system."

The Popular Resistance Committees termed the operation "a natural response" to Israel's genocidal war in Gaza and the Judaisation and annexation plans in the West Bank.

Tension has been running high across the occupied West Bank due to Israel's genocidal war on the Gaza Strip, which has martyred more than 45,800 people, mostly women and children, since October 7, 2023.

At least 835 Palestinians have also been martyred and nearly 6,700 others injured by Israeli army fire in the occupied West Bank, according to Palestinian figures.

In November, the International Criminal Court issued arrest warrants for Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former war minister Yoav Gallant for war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza.

Israel also faces a genocide case at the International Court of Justice for its war on the enclave.

# U.S. ... (Continued From Page One)

Then there is the question of the pending Trump administration and what the second term of a president known for his volatility in foreign policy will spell for Syria.

Trump has sparingly weighed in on the situation. In his characteristically nebulous style, he wrote on his TruthSocial platform in early December that Syria "is not our fight".

The statement appears to be in line with Trump's "America First" pledges to end U.S. military involvement abroad, although his past efforts to withdraw U.S. troops from Syria stalled amid robust opposition from within his own administration.

Given his appointees this time around, Trump appears to be on a similar collision course, ac cording to Salih.

"Figures such as the National Security adviser pick, Congressman Mike Waltz, and the secretary of a state nominee, Marco Rubio, stood strongly and very vocally against Turkish military operations against the SDF... and that the U.S. needs to maintain a military deployment inside Syria," he said.

#### Canadian... (Continued From Page One)

Trump has targeted Trudeau and Canada in recent days, with the president-elect appearing to joke about Canada becoming the 51st state with Trudeau as governor.

Some of Trudeau's critics have suggested he is unable to stand against Trump's economic pressure and bullying.

Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre called for an early election, while the Bloc Quebecois, leader, Yves-François Blanchet, warned that it would be "absolutely irresponsible" to remain in such an unstable situation under Trudeau's leadership.

Polls show Trudeau's Liberal Party trailing 20 points behind the Conservatives, with upcoming elections in October.

#### IRGC ... (Continued From Page One)

complex battles on any scale and is ready for the moment the order is issued to operate against the Zionist entity.

"The power and production of weapons and missiles in quantity, skills, and design have in creased day by day, and we have acquired new capabilities."

The Iranian nation should know that the enemy has never had the upper hand in any battle." "We have never suffered an intelligence defeat from the enemy. The enemy constantly creates narratives to compensate for the intelligence and military defeats suffered at the hands of the Islamic Republic of Iran.'

#### Iran ... (Continued From Page One)

Tugendhat, a former UK security minister, also predicted that Iran would collapse in a few vears.

"It's absolutely unlawful and immoral to endorse arbitrary killing and assassination," the embassy wrote. It added that calling for war and aggression against a member state of the United Nations is "extremely reckless".

"Only an ignorant and irresponsible person with a troubled background can be so low as to approve lawlessness, incite violence and suggest attacking another nation," the Iranian embassy emphasized.

### **Israeli Army Dog Mauled Pregnant Palestinian** Woman, She Lost Baby

WEST BANK (Dispatches) Tahrir Husni al-Arian, ninemonths pregnant, could see pieces of her flesh falling to the ground as an Israeli combat dog savaged her thigh.

The Palestinian mother of three was at home with her husband and children in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip when the Israeli military invaded al-Manara, their neighborhood. It was 24 October 2024.

In Khan Younis, she shared her harrowing account with Middle East Eye.

The story began when her family returned to their home after numerous displacements since the war began last year.

The area seemed safe, with no Zionist troops in sight, but that peace was shattered at around 8pm when

the bombardment began. "They suddenly started shelling the area with missiles, and flares footsteps and voices. lit up the sky," Arian told MEE. Unable to leave the building, Arian and her family took refuge in her brother-in-law's apartment on the lower floor. Nearby homes were destroyed in the bombardment, including the home of the al-Farra family, and many neighbors

lost their lives.

"We couldn't do anything. We were trapped," she recalls.

Arian, along with her husband, children, her pregnant sister, and brother-in-law, huddled together in the bathroom, keeping the lights off out of fear of being discovered or targeted.

"We were scared to turn on any lights, thinking the drones would target us," she explained. But then coming up the stairs they heard the bathroom," Arian said.

As the dog charged towards them, the family tried to slam the door shut, but it burst through. "It wasn't a regular dog. It was huge, like a lion, all black," she recalled. The dog broke through the door and attacked her 17-year-old sister, who was seven-months pregnant.

"It tore her prayer dress, but thankfully, it left quickly." But then, the dog came back.

The dog attack, which lasted about 10 minutes, left Arian in unbearable pain and caused complications that would last for months, ultimately leading to the loss of her newborn.

Since then, the 34-year-old has been unable to return to her own home, grappling with deep trauma.

Arian asked her husband what the sound was. "It's the army," he

said. But when the house suddenly lit

up, they realized it wasn't soldiers, but a dog, with a light and a camera on its head, entering each room in the house.

"It came straight towards us in

"I didn't see it at first, but then I felt it sinking its teeth into my right thigh, clamping down while scratching me with its claws," Arian continued.

"My husband and the others tried to pull it off, but they couldn't. It dragged me down the corridor, and I could feel pieces of my flesh fall-

ing as it bit into me."

#### Pezeshkian... (Continued From Page 2)

The Iraqi premier and Iranian president will discuss ways to promote mutual relations in various fields and the implementation of the agreements previously signed by the two countries, he added.

"The developments in the region, especially in Syria, will definitely be among the topics on the agenda of this trip given their importance and sensitivity," Baghaei explained.

Baghaei affirmed Iran's "clear" stance on the latest developments in Syria after the fall of former president Bashar al-Assad and said Tehran has always emphasized that it respects the Syrian people's decisions.

He emphasized that all regional countries should also respect the decisions being made by the people of Syria.

The spokesman said maintenance of Syria's integrity and territorial integrity is important for Iran and the whole region "while we have expressed common concerns."

"Syria must be able to make decisions about its own destiny and future without destructive interference of regional or international parties. It must not become a place for the growth of terrorism and violent extremism at all," Baghaei noted.

As Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi announced, stability, peace and prevention of any chaos in Syria will be beneficial for Iran and the entire region, he said.

In response to a question about possible negotiations between Iran and the United States, Baghaei said Tehran has never left the negotiating table and always believes in dialogue.

He added that Iran is ready for "dignified" negotiations to remove sanctions and allay concerns of the sides about the country's nuclear program and emphasized, "This is Iran's fixed stance." Baghaei, however, noted that more decisions should be made in this regard based on the oppo site side's approach and performance.

Baghaei said the international community expressed its protest over the Israeli regime's ban on the operations of UNRWA, the United Nations agency for Palestinian refugees, and called on the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to investigate the issue.

He added that the ICJ must rule on Israel's breach of its commitments to international organizations.

# **Mecca Flooded After Being Hit by Extreme Rain**

RIYADH (Dispatches) - Saudi Arabia's Mecca, the holiest city according to Islam, has been hit by extreme weather.

Footage circulating on social media showed entire neighborhoods partially submerged amid the heavy rainfall on Monday. Men were seen forming human chains to rescue children who had become trapped in the flooding in the al-Awali neighborhood, southeast of Mecca.

In another video, a man was seen rushing to the aid of a delivery driver who was toppled off his bike by floodwaters and was struggling to get up.

Multiple cars and even a tourist bus were abandoned right in the middle of a road as floodwaters gushed in unexpectedly.

Trees and debris were also seen being swept away by the raging water.

Several regions of the Persian Gulf Kingdom, including Mecca and Madinah, which attract millions of pilgrims annually for Hajj, have been hit by the freak rain.

Since the early hours of the morning on Monday, the downpour has only intensified.

The National Meteorological Center (NMC) has forecast moderate to heavy

rainfall, thunderstorms, and dust storms throughout the week.

Multiple yellow weather warnings for rain have also been issued in the last hour. It is expected that the rare rainfall will

continue until Wednesday, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

The authority urged citizens and residents to follow official instructions, exercise caution, and prioritize road safety during heavy rainfall.

The public was also asked to cooperate with ambulance teams by clearing the way for them on the roads, the SPA reported.