

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – Universities in Syria, which had been closed since Dec. 8 due to uncertainty following the fall of the Bashar al-Assad government, resumed education on Monday. After suspending education for two weeks on Dec. 8, universities remained closed due to the Christmas holiday. Following a break of approximately one month, education activities have resumed, with many students returning to campus to take their final exams.

A wise man first thinks and then speaks and a fool speaks first and then thinks.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

'Will Not Stop Retaliatory Operations'

# Yemen Warns Israelis: Go Back to Your Countries of Origin

SANA'A (Dispatches) – A high-ranking member of Yemen's popular resistance Ansarullah movement advised the illegal settlers in the occupied Palestinian territories to leave those areas for where they came from as Yemen will not cease its retaliatory anti-Israeli operations.

Hizam al-Assad, member of Ansarullah's Political Bureau, made the remarks in a post on X on Monday, Press TV reported.

"Whoever wants to get to sleep comfortably has to leave for either Cyprus or their own country," he said.

The official insisted that Yemen's Armed Forces would sustain their pro-Palestinian strikes as long as the Israeli regime kept up its war of genocide against the Gaza Strip, and did not stop the attacks that it has been carrying out against Yemen to try to stop the Arab Peninsula nation's operations.



Yemen's Ansarullah resistance group holds a military parade in September 2023 in the capital Sana'a.

"We will not leave Gaza alone," he said.

The official had earlier underlined that the regime would keep being faced with surprise military strikes on the part of the Yemeni forces as long as it retained its

aggressive approach towards his country. "Our military operations will keep targeting the heart of the occupied territories," he had stated. "These surprises will last until the regime ceases its aggression and siege against Gaza," Assad had

noted, referring to a simultaneous smothering blockade that Tel Aviv has been deploying against the coastal sliver.

The Yemeni troops began launching their operations against Israeli targets in October 2023 in support of the Gaza Strip and Lebanon, which have respectively come under a war of genocide and escalated deadly assaults by the Israeli regime.

The successful strikes were both preceded and followed by intensified deadly aggression by the regime and the United States, its biggest ally, against the Yemeni territory.

The forces have been responding by ramping up their strikes against strategic and sensitive Israeli and American targets, including the US warships and aircraft carriers that are deployed off Yemen's coastline.

## 50 Complaints Filed

## Israel Publishes Guide for Troops to Avoid Int'l Arrest

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Israeli news outlet Ynet has published a guide for soldiers on how to avoid being arrested while travelling abroad amid growing pressure on countries to detain Israelis suspected of war crimes.

The guide, entitled "Here's how to act if arrested abroad and what to check before flight", features advice from Nick Kaufman, a defense lawyer at the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague.

He says that "any detained Israeli - whether a civilian or a soldier - is entitled to consular assistance".

"Soldiers who post videos online provide hostile organizations with potential evidence to support suspicions against them," he warns.

Describing videos of Zionist troops singing "racist songs" as "seemingly minor content", he advises soldiers to "avoid posting photos or videos from their service, especially content showing destroyed buildings, even if there's a military justification".

The guide warns soldiers and officers in the military to consult an international criminal law expert before travelling anywhere, warning that "even friendly nations like the UK, France and Spain" may conduct arrests.

It further notes that insurance companies do not provide coverage "for arrests abroad related to alleged criminal acts".

Pro-Palestinian organizations have filed 50 complaints in courts around the world against Zionist troops for committing

war crimes in Gaza, Israeli media said on Monday.

"About 50 complaints have been filed against reserve soldiers, 10 of which have been investigated without any arrests recorded so far," the public broadcaster KAN said.

KAN did not name these countries. However, the Israeli daily Haaretz said South Africa, Sri Lanka, Belgium, France, and Brazil saw complaints filed against Israeli soldiers.

KAN, citing the army's information security department, said Zionist troops publish nearly one million posts every day on social media platforms that document their involvement in war crimes in Gaza.

In a relevant development, as many as 620 lawyers in Chile

have demanded the arrest of a discharged Zionist soldier from Battalion 749 for his involvement in crimes against humanity and genocide in the Gaza war, local media have reported. Saar Hirshoren is currently travelling in the South American country.

The complaint accused Hirshoren of "deliberately destroying residential neighborhoods, cultural sites and essential facilities in Gaza, committing inhumane, cruel and degrading acts, causing ethnic cleansing and forced displacement of the population."

The complaint was supported by the testimony of a Palestinian woman living in Chile, whose family members are victims of the Israeli occupation army's operations since October 2023.

## Hamas Says Ready to Free 34 Captives Under Ceasefire Deal, Reports



Family members of a captive demonstrate in Tel Aviv on January 4, 2025, calling for action to secure a deal with Hamas.

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Hamas has said it is ready to release 34 captives as part of a ceasefire deal with the Zionist regime, the Reuters and AFP news agencies have reported, citing an official with the Palestinian resistance movement.

The Palestinian movement, which governs the Gaza Strip, has approved the release of the captives "as part of the first phase of a prisoner exchange deal", the AFP reported, citing an unnamed Hamas official.

The initial swap would include all women, children, elderly people and sick captives being held in Gaza, the AFP reported the official as saying.

But Hamas needed time to determine their condition, he said. "Hamas has agreed to release the 34 prisoners, whether alive or dead. However, the group needs a week of calm to communicate with the captors and identify those who are alive and those who are dead," the official said.

Reuters cited an unnamed Hamas official as saying a ceasefire deal would depend on the Zionist regime agreeing to a permanent ceasefire and its withdrawal from Gaza.

The office of Zionist prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu said

on Monday that Hamas had not shared details of the 34 captives with them.

"As yet, Israel has not received any confirmation or comment by Hamas regarding the status of the captives appearing on the list," Netanyahu's office said in a statement.

The reports come as negotiations to reach a ceasefire agreement are under way in Qatar.

The administration of United States President Joe Biden, which is mediating the talks, is hoping for a last-minute breakthrough in the talks before U.S. President-elect Donald Trump takes office on January 20.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Monday that Washington wanted to see a ceasefire deal in Gaza concluded before the end of the Biden administration, but it may take longer.

"We very much want to bring this over the finish line in the next two weeks, the time we have remaining," Blinken told a press conference in South Korea, where he is on a visit. "If we don't get it across the finish line in the next two weeks, I'm confident that it will get its completion at some point, hopefully sooner rather than later."

## 2 Palestinian Prisoners Enter 33rd Year in Israeli Jails

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Palestinian detainees Nasser Abu Sorour and his cousin Mahmoud Abu Sorour have entered their 33rd year in the Zionist regime's prisons. The pair have been serving life sentences since their arrest in 1993.

In a statement released on Sunday, the Palestinian Prisoners' Club reported that Nasser was arrested on 4 January 1993, while Mahmoud was detained the following day. Both were subsequently sentenced to life imprisonment.

The statement highlighted that Mahmoud lost both his parents during his incarceration and was not permitted to attend their funerals or see them before their deaths. While incarcerated, he has earned a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's in regional studies, it added.

Nasser's father also died during his detention. His elderly mother, who suffers from chronic illnesses, continues to visit him regularly. Like his cousin, Nasser pursued his education in prison, obtaining a bachelor's and a master's degree in political science.

In addition to his academic achievements, Nasser published a poetry collection titled 'On Prison and Other Things' and a novel entitled 'The Story of a Wall', which was shortlisted by Dar al-Adab for the Arabic Booker Prize in 2023. He has also received several Arab and international literary awards.

The prisoners' rights group noted that the cousins are among 21 Palestinians who have been held in the Zionist regime's custody since before the 1993 Oslo Accords.

## Bloomberg: Cost-of-Living Crisis Hits Settlers Amid Gaza Genocide

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – The heavy toll of the Zionist regime's war on Gaza has left Israelis struggling with the cost-of-living squeeze, amid increased taxes and austerity measures, a new report by an American news outlet says.

Bloomberg reported that Zionists "face a 40-billion-shekel (\$11-billion) war bill", this year.

Last year, the occupying regime borrowed over 260 billion shekels in international and domestic markets, almost a record for the entity. That sent its budget deficit soaring to 7.7% of gross domestic product.

Amid a target deficit of around 4.5% for 2025 and efforts to bolster the Israeli administration's finances through the increase in taxes and other fiscal measures, the report said life in the occupied territories will be even costlier.

The cost-of-living squeeze has caused widespread concern among households over how

much harder things are getting.

Sharon Levin, a spokeswoman for Pa'amoni, a non-profit organization that provides guidance to households, said "Over the past weeks, the number of families approaching us has more than doubled."

"It will cost us more than 17,000 shekels a year," Adi Einbinder, a working mother of three with a husband in hi-tech, said on a recent radio show.

At 40 years old, Einbinder added, she and her husband are forced to lean on their parents. "We're supposed to be helping them right now. We feel trampled."

The report warned that more taxes, including a 1% rise in value-added tax, less disposable income and higher food, water and electricity bills "will likely deepen social and political divides."

As the austerity measures start to bite, the re-

port said more skilled Israeli workers may opt to leave the occupied Palestinian territories. The numbers of those emigrating have doubled in the past two years, according to official data.

The Zionist regime's war on Gaza and the ensuing multi-front conflict with regional resistance forces harmed Israel's \$525 billion economy, the report said, as "construction and tourism have slumped and almost all industries have experienced labor shortages with so many people being called up for reserve duty."

It is estimated "that GDP rose just 0.4% last year, making Israel one of the slowing-growing developed economies."

Still, Bloomberg said the regime's "military spending is on a long-term upward trajectory", with Tel Aviv planning to increase the military budget by an estimated annual minimum of 20 billion shekels, 1% of gross domestic product, over a decade.