

KABUL (AFP) – Twenty people, including children, drowned when a boat sank during a river crossing in Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar province on Saturday, a provincial official said. "A boat with women and children on board sank on Saturday morning at 7 am (0230 GMT) in the river in the Basavul area of Moman Dara district" of eastern Nangarhar, said Quraishi Badloon, the head of the province's information department, in a post on social media platform X. He said five people survived the accident, the cause of which was being investigated. The Nangarhar Information and Culture Department said the authorities had sent a medical team and ambulances to the area, in a message shared with media.

If you do not know a thing, never hesitate or feel ashamed to learn it.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Anti-Israel Protests Continue Across World

JAKARTA (Dispatches) – Thousands of pro-Palestinian supporters amassed in front of the U.S. Embassy in the Indonesian capital Jakarta on Saturday to condemn the Zionist regime's ongoing violation of international law amid heavy bombardment of the Rafah refugee camp.

The protest, titled "A Billion Curses for Zionist Israel," was organized to show solidarity and support for Palestinians, particularly following an Israeli airstrike in Rafah on May 26 that killed at least 45 Palestinians, including many women and children, the local daily Jakarta Globe reported.

The hashtag #alleyesonrafah has been shared over 47 million times on social media, attracting global attention.

A crowd gathered in front of the embassy at 6:00 a.m. (local time), many of whom were carrying Palestinian flags and chanting anti-Zionist and anti-U.S. slogans.

Several religious leaders, celebrities, and politicians delivered speeches from atop a command vehicle, including Mardani Ali Sera of the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS).

"The turnout is extraordinary.



Pro-Palestinian protest continued at the front US Embassy in Jakarta

May our commitment to defending Palestine continue to thrive and remain steadfast, and may we soon witness Palestinian independence," Mardani said.

He also urged the crowd to voice their support on social media and thanked them for their enthusiasm. Following his speech, the crowd responded with chants of "Allahuakbar (Allah is Great!)" and other slogans.

Other speakers urged the crowd to continue boycotting Israeli products and to avoid purchasing goods from companies associated with or supporting Israel. They also criticized Washington for failing to curb Israel's actions.

The Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI) stressed the government to rally military aid from other countries to support Palestine in ending Israel's atrocities.

"Considering the heinous mass killings and evident genocide in Gaza, the Indonesian government must initiate military aid with other nations, especially Islamic countries (OIC), to stop the brutality and barbarity of Zionist Israel," said MUI Fatwa Chairman Asrorun Niam Sholeh in a statement on Friday.

Meanwhile, pro-Palestinian activists stormed the Brooklyn Museum in New York on Friday, clashing with police as they pro-

tested against Israel's genocidal war in Gaza, which is nearing its ninth month.

Protesters broke into the Brooklyn Museum, as they unfurled large banners and chanted slogans inside the lobby.

One banner hung atop the facade read "Free Palestine, divest from genocide," while another protester held a sign saying "Save the children of Rafah," referencing the southern Gazan city currently besieged by the Israeli army.

A group of activists scuffled with police outside the museum before officers entered the lobby and made arrests.

Hundreds of people in France reacted to a French channel's interview with Zionist prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Hundreds of Palestinian supporters gathered in front of the French channel LCI, owned by the TF1 group, as it broadcast an interview with Netanyahu.

The demonstrators, mostly high school and university students, chanted slogans such as "Israel is massacring, TF1 is complicit", "Netanyahu is guilty, Macron is complicit" and "Israel is massacring Palestinian children".

Haniyeh Calls for Widespread Mobilization to Seize Al-Aqsa Flood Opportunity



Palestinians in Khan Yunis atop an Israeli military vehicle seized during Operation Al-Aqsa Flood.

GAZA (Dispatches) – The head of Hamas Political Bureau Ismail Haniyeh has called for popular mobilization to seize the strategic opportunity provided by Al-Aqsa Flood to rally the Arab position in the face of the fascist Israeli enemy and to participate with the Palestinian people in their resistance against the policy of normalization.

Haniyeh noted during his speech at the Arab National Security Conference that he had developed an integrated plan of action in all areas related to the ongoing conflict based on the concept that the post-7 October phase is different to what came before.

The head of the Political Bureau praised the role of the Arab parties and forces participating in the Arab National Security Conference, as well as their role in supporting Gaza and the resistance and protecting the Palestinian cause, which he considered the focus of joint Arab action.

During his speech at the conference held in Beirut, the movement's leader affirmed that Al-Aqsa Flood had raised the Palestinian issue to an unprecedented level globally and opened the door to the recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people. Haniyeh expressed that the most important right is the Palestinian right to their own state on their land: "Which is what all diplomatic and political efforts have failed to do."

He pointed out that Operation Al-Aqsa Flood dealt a "Blow to the occupation's strategic value as a policeman for the region and made it lose the deterrence advantage that it had prided itself on."

"The occupation failed to achieve the goals it sought, most notably displacement, eliminating the resistance and recovering its hostages by force. This is only due to the valiant resistance and legendary steadfastness of our people, the unity of the resistance arenas and fronts and the performances at the level of the Arab elites."

Haniyeh directed his message to those discussing the day after the battle, saying, "They will be suffocated by the rope of their illusions, and they will not find anyone among our people who will accept an alternative to resistance."

Regarding talk of a new Israeli stance on the exchange and ceasefire deal, the movement's leader confirmed: "The resistance once again informed the mediators that the established rules for the resistance factions' position could not be given up. These rules are the permanent cessation of aggression, the comprehensive withdrawal of the occupation army from Gaza, the lifting of the siege, reconstruction and an honorable deal to exchange prisoners, all on the path to fulfilling the rights and aspirations of our Palestinian people for freedom, return and independence."

Egypt Arrests Over 100 Pro-Palestinian Protesters

CAIRO (Dispatches) – A human rights organization reported that the Egyptian authorities recently arrested more than 100 people, most of them university students, due to their solidarity with Gaza.

Reuters quoted the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR) stating that the authorities arrested a number of students trying to promote boycott campaigns and solidarity with the Palestinians, in the latest sign of their unwillingness to allow for the popular movement regarding the war in Gaza despite the growing official criticism of the Zionist regime.

The students are among dozens

detained in connection with protests against the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip, some of whom were arrested in October when marches – authorized by the authorities – against the Israeli attack spread to unauthorized sites, including Tahrir Square in Cairo.

Analysts told Reuters that the authorities fear that the protests against the Israeli occupation will fuel internal political dissent, which has been suppressed in a large-scale crackdown that has lasted for over a decade.

The agency quoted the EIPR as saying: "At least 125 people have been arrested since the Gaza war began in October, 95 of whom

are still being held in pre-trial detention on charges including membership of a banned group or spreading false news."

Hosting Ceasefire Talks

The development comes as Egypt will host Israeli and U.S. officials on Sunday to discuss the reopening of the Rafah crossing, a vital conduit for aid into the besieged Gaza Strip, Egyptian state-linked media said.

Al-Qahera News quoted on Saturday a unidentified senior official as saying Cairo was demanding "a total Israeli withdrawal" from the terminal on Gaza's

southern border with Egypt.

"An Egyptian-American-Israeli meeting is scheduled for Sunday in Cairo to discuss the reopening of the Rafah crossing," the official said.

The crossing has been closed since Zionist troops seized its Palestinian side in early May, reducing aid flows into the war-torn territory to a trickle.

Since then, Egypt and Israel have blamed each other for the blocking of aid deliveries through Rafah. The Egyptian authorities have refused to coordinate with the Israelis, preferring to work with international or Palestinian bodies.

'We are Hated' Zionists Feel Isolated Amid War on Gaza

AL-QUDS (Dispatches) – A series of diplomatic setbacks, strong condemnation of a recent Gaza strike, and intense protests on Western campuses have left Israelis feeling their regime is isolated.

Israelis expected unwavering support from their allies and the international community after October 7 last year.

But as Israel's aggression against Gaza deepened, it seems to have lost the sympathy it is used to.

This loss of support intensified following last week's Israeli strike on a camp for displaced Palestinians in Rafah, which killed at least 45 people, according to Gazan officials.

The strike drew condemnations from Istanbul to Beijing and from Washington to Paris.

On social media platform Instagram, more

than 47 million posts with the hashtag "All eyes on Rafah" have been recorded since the strike.

At least 36,379 Palestinians, mostly civilians, have been killed in Gaza in Israeli bombardments and ground aggression since October 7, according to the health ministry in Hamas-run territory.

"It is a tragedy for everyone," said Nathalie, who declined to give her last name, referring also to the fate of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. "Since everybody is connected, we can see what's happening. We feel that we are hated," the 50-year-old said.

"We have the feeling that we are accused of being colonialists and imperialists. But we see ourselves as refugees," she added, echoing the feeling of many Jews who arrived during the oc-

cupation of Palestinian lands in 1948.

The Palestinians call the occupation as the Nakba — or "catastrophe" — when about 760,000 Palestinians fled or were forced from their homes by the war.

Last month, Israel faced a series of diplomatic setbacks.

While the International Court of Justice ordered Israel to stop its ongoing onslaught in Rafah, the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court sought arrest warrants for prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and war minister Yoav Gallant.

Ireland, Norway and Spain also recognized a Palestinian state in a coordinated decision on Tuesday, while Slovenia's parliament is due to vote on such a proposal next week.

UN Mission in Iraq to End After Two Decades

NEW YORK (AFP) – At the request of Baghdad, the UN Security Council unanimously decided Friday that the United Nations political mission in Iraq will leave the country at the end of 2025 after more than 20 years.

Earlier this month, in a letter to the council, Iraqi Prime Minister Mohamed Shia al-Sudani called for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) to be closed.

Al-Sudani said UNAMI had overcome "great and varied challenges" and that "the grounds for having a political mission in Iraq" no longer exist.

The UNSC resolution adopted on Friday extended the mission's mandate for "a final 19-month period until 31 December 2025 after which UNAMI will cease all work and operations."

Farhad Alaaldin, the Iraq prime minister's adviser for foreign affairs, welcomed the move, expressing on X his "thanks to UNAMI for all their work during the past two decades."

The mission was established by a UN Security Council resolution in 2003 at the request of the Iraqi government after the U.S.-led invasion and fall of Saddam Hussein.

It has about 700 staff, with key tasks

including advising the government on political dialogue and reconciliation, as well as helping with elections and security sector reform.

During the mission's previous renewal in May 2023, the Council asked the secretary-general to launch a strategic review, which was overseen by German diplomat Volker Perthes.

In a report issued in March, Perthes signaled that the closing schedule would reassure reluctant Iraqis that the transition "will not lead to a reversal of democratic gains or threaten peace and security."

Given that UN missions can only operate with the host nation's consent, Russia, China, Britain and France this month all voiced support for a transition in the United Nations role in Iraq.

"The people of Iraq are now ready to assume full responsibility for the country's political future," said Russia's deputy UN ambassador Anna Evstigneeva.

"We express our firm support for Iraq sovereignty and oppose any interference in the country's internal affairs."

The United States drafted the resolution, after initially being more wary.