#### Egypt Ramps Up Crackdown on Exiled Human Rights Defenders

CAIRO (Middle East Eye) – Egyptian security forces are escalating their persecution of exiled human rights defenders in an attempt to quash dissent abroad, a new report has revealed. The report, which is based on interviews with 10 human rights activists who fled Egypt between 2017 and 2020, details how Egyptian authorities have used a range of methods to intimidate and harass them, including issuing sentences in absentia, launching judicial investigations and placing them on designated terrorism lists. Those affected reported being denied consular services and even having their citizenship revoked, making their legal status precurious. According to the report, jointly published Monday by the Egyptian Human Rights Forum and the Egyptian Front for Human Rights, security services track and monitor activities of exiled activists and intimidate their families by frequently summoning them for questioning or arbitrarily detaining them.



### Thought for Today

There is no greater wealth than wisdom, no greater poverty than ignorance; no greater heritage than culture and no greater support than consultation.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

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# Report: More Women, Children Killed in Gaza Than in Any Recent Conflict

LONDON (Dispatches) – A combined analysis by Oxfam and Action on Armed Violence (AOAV) revealed Tuesday a sharp rise in civilian deaths in Gaza over the past year, surpassing numbers from any other conflict in the last two decades. According to the report, more than 6,000 women and 11,000 children have been killed by the Zionist regime's military aggres-

vilian casualties in conflict zones. These figures eclipse previous records, including the 2,600 women killed in Iraq in 2016 and the 4,700 children killed annually during the early years of the foreign-backed war in Syria.

sion, setting a grim record for ci-

The data highlights the devastating toll of the Israeli military campaign in Gaza, which has continued without pause. Explosive weapons have hit civilian infrastructure at an average rate of every three hours since the conflict began.

AOAV's findings point to the widespread destruction of homes, shelters, schools, hospitals, and critical aid distribution centers. This unrelenting assault has left



Study shows over 17,000 women and children killed in Gaza, surpassing past conflict records.

thousands of families grieving and hundreds of thousands displaced, with many so-called "safe zones" becoming targets of military strikes.

Dr. Iain Overton, executive director of AOAV, described the situation as "appalling," condemning the lack of international intervention: "The scale of devastation in Gaza should be a wake-up call. The continued bombardment of homes, schools, and hospitals with such frequency shows a clear dis-

regard for human life and international law." The ongoing conflict has sparked

widespread condemnation over violations of International Humanitarian Law (IHL). Civilians have been repeatedly displaced, often to areas that were later bombed.

Oxfam's data suggests the true death toll could be much higher. According to a study published in The Lancet, unidentified victims buried beneath rubble, along with those dying from starvation or the

collapse of healthcare services, could push the death toll above 186,000.

Meanwhile, the humanitarian crisis continues to escalate. More than 25,000 children have lost a parent or become orphans, with many also suffering life-altering injuries and disabilities. Women, disproportionately affected, are now leading households in the midst of destruction, while pregnant and breastfeeding mothers struggle to survive amid a failing healthcare system.

Dr. Umaiyeh Khammash, the director of Juzoor, an Oxfam partner, emphasized the immense suffering: "The trauma experienced by children—many of whom have lost limbs or are dealing with deep emotional distress—is indescribable."

Sally Abi Khalil, Oxfam's Middle East and North Africa Director, urged immediate international action: "The international community's failure to hold the Zionist regime accountable, combined with continued arms supplies, has enabled the atrocities we are witnessing. A permanent ceasefire is urgently needed."

# **UN: Two Thirds of Structures in Gaza Damaged**

GAZA (Dispatches) – An analysis conducted by the United Nations Satellite Center (UNOSAT) shows that two thirds of the total structures in the Gaza Strip have sustained damage in the Zionist regime's ongoing genocidal war on the besieged territory.

Citing high-resolution satellite imagery captured on September 3 and 6, UNOSAT said 163,778 structures sustained damage in Gaza, which accounts for 66% of ly damaged, 35,591 possibly damaged and 56,710 moderately affected.

The Gaza governorate is the most impacted region overall, with 46.370 structures affected, followed by Gaza City, with 36.611 structures destroyed.

Another report by UN-OSAT, done in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), found that about 68% of the permaThe satellite imagery-based analyses conducted by UN-OSAT document the widespread destruction caused by the Israeli aggression on Gaza and highlight the impacted population's need for support.

"Our objective analyses have been vital for humanitarian response efforts and improving the global community's understanding of the conflict's impact on civilian infrastructure," said Israel launched the war on Gaza on October 7 after the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas waged the surprise Operation Al-Aqsa Storm against the occupying entity in response to the Israeli regime's decades-long campaign of bloodletting and devastation against Palestinians.

The regime's bloody onslaught on Gaza has so far killed at least 41,615 Palestinians, mostly women and

# Multiple Rockets Hit U.S. Base in Baghdad



Iraqi security sources said a series of rockets targeted a U.S. base in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, on Tuesday morning.

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – The Islamic Resistance in Iraq has launched a series of rockets targeting a U.S. base in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad.

Multiple Katyusha rockets were fired near Baghdad International Airport, two Iraqi military officials told Reuters early on Tuesday,

Three rockets were fired at a base, housing U.S. troops at Baghdad International Airport.

"In continuation of our path in resisting the occupation, in support of our people in Gaza, and in response to the massacres committed by the usurping entity against Palestinian civilians... the fighters of the Islamic Resistance in Iraq attacked targets in three areas in the heart of the entity, using a number of Al-Arqab advanced cruise missiles," the group confirmed in a statement.

Two of the rockets were reportedly shot down by the base's special defenses, while the third fell inside the airport, causing no casualties.

"All military personnel are accounted for and military forces were not targeted as had been reported,"a U.S. defense official told Reuters, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The United States has been the main supporter of Israeli genocidal attacks in Gaza and Lebanon.

Resistance forces have vowed to carry out operations against U.S. interests in the region as long as Washington backs the regime militarily.

The Islamic Resistance in Iraq said on Monday it carried out new operations against Israeli targets in the

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occupied Palestinian territories in retaliation for the Tel Aviv regime's devastating war on Gaza and its bloody onslaught against Lebanon.

"In continuation of our approach to resisting the occupation, and in support of our people in Palestine and Lebanon, and in response to the massacres committed by the usurping entity against civilians, including children, women and the elderly, the fighters of the Islamic Resistance attacked the following targets in the early hours of Monday, 30-9-2024," said the umbrella group for Iraq's resistance factions.

The Islamic Resistance in Iraq has been launching attacks on Israeli targets ever since the occupying regime started the genocidal war on Gaza in early October.

The resistance has also been hitting American military bases in Iraq and neighboring Syria in retaliation for Washington's support for the Israeli genocide in Gaza.

Israel has been waging an atrocious onslaught against the Gaza Strip, targeting hospitals, residences, and houses of worship after Palestinian resistance movements launched a surprise attack, dubbed Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, on October 7.

At least 41,600 Palestinians have been killed, most of them women and children, and another 96,210 individuals have sustained injuries in Gaza so far.

Around 1.9 million people – about 9 in 10 of Gaza's population – are estimated to have been internally displaced during the war as well.

the total structures there. The figure includes 52,564 structures that have been destroyed, 18,913 ones severenent crop fields in the Gaza Strip exhibited a significant decline in health and density in September this year. Nikhil Seth, executive director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). children, and injured 96,000 others. Thousands more are also missing and presumed dead under rubble.

## **Israel Launches Airstrikes on Syrian Capital**

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime has conducted a series of deadly airstrikes on the Syrian capital of Damascus, with Syrian media reporting three rounds of strikes in the capital area in one night.

An Israeli aircraft launched several missiles from the occupied Golan Heights on Tuesday, targeting locations southwest of Damascus.

Syrian air defenses successfully intercepted many of these missiles, according to the Syrian state media.

According to the Syrian military, the Israeli aggression led to the martyrdom of three civilians, the injury of nine others, and significant damage to private property.

The Al Mayadeen news outlet reports that local journalist Safaa Ahmad was among those killed in the attack, which hit the Mezzeh neighborhood in the Syr-

ian capital. Rescue crews are dealing with fires on the ground.

Syrian television said one of its anchors was killed in the Israeli strike on Damascus on Tuesday.

State television said in a statement that it "mourns anchor Safaa Ahmad who was martyred in the Israeli aggression on the capital Damascus."

The official SANA news agency earlier said "air defense systems are intercepting hostile targets for the third time tonight in the Damascus area," using a phrase that usually refers to Israeli aggression.

Subsequently, another wave of attacks was aimed at the suburbs of Damascus which was intercepted by air defenses. Syria has consistently called on the UN Security Council to take action against these assaults, which it views as clear violations of its sovereignty and territorial

with integrity.

Israel frequently targets military positions inside Syria, especially those of the Lebanese resistance movement Hezbollah which has played a key role in helping the Syrian army in its fight against foreignbacked terrorists.

The Tel Aviv regime rarely comments on its attacks on Syrian territories, which many see as a knee-jerk reaction to the Syrian government's phenomenal success in confronting and decimating terrorism.

Damascus has time and again called on the UN Security Council to put an end to the regime's attacks that violate Syria's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Israeli attacks on Syria come amid the regime's ongoing genocide in the Gaza Strip which has killed more than 41,600 people, mostly women and children, over the past year.

## Ahead of Rainy Season UN Asks for Unimpeded Access for Gaza Aid

NEW YORK (Dispatches) – The UN has warned that without full access to Gaza, aid organizations will be "unable to adequately prepare" for the upcoming rainy season, Anadolu Agency reports.

The UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said that "without unimpeded access to Gaza, aid organizations are unable to adequately prepare for the rainy season, during which people's needs are expected to increase further."

OCHA warned that the heavy rains and potential flooding would worsen already dire living conditions in Gaza, which it said could lead to serious health risks and displace hundreds of thousands of people.

"Many of the 215 temporary

learning spaces serving nearly 34,000 children in Gaza stand to be severely affected by flood-ing," it said.

OCHA also announced "a Winterisation Plan" that aims to tackle the most urgent needs of more than 2.1 million Gazans during the rainy season.

"This plan – which is part of the broader Flash Appeal for the Occupied Palestinian Territory – targets more than 850,000 people across nearly 50 neighborhoods in flood-prone areas," it said.

Emphasizing that this plan cannot be implemented without the "unimpeded entry of necessary humanitarian items into Gaza," OCHA further noted the need for safe humanitarian movements between warehouses and distribution points.