WEST BANK (Dispatches) - The Zionist regime's occupation forces destroyed two Palestinian homes in Ariha on Tuesday, the Palestinian Information Centre has reported. Local sources said that occupation forces escorted heavy machinery into he village of Nuwaima and demolished two houses owned by Mohammed Omar. They noted that the occupation regime has served more than 70 demolition notices in Nuwaima and another village called Duyuk Al-Fawqa, both of which are in the Ariha area. Moreover, Zionist troops and settlers wreaked havoc on ten acres of farmland in Nuwaima just two days ago and destroyed the water network there. All of Israel's settlers and the settlements in which they live across the occupied Palesnian territories are illegal under the Fourth Geneva Convention

Kayhan International

Thought for Today

If you overpower your enemy, then pardon him by way of thankfulness to Allah, for being able to

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

VOL NO: LV 12421 TEHRAN / Est.1959

Wednesday, December 18, 2024, Azar 28, 1403, Jamadi as-Sani 16, 1446

Almost 13,000 Palestinian Students Killed Since Start of Gaza War

GAZA (Dispatches) – Palestinian Ministry of Education says 12,799 students have been killed and 20,942 injured since the beginning of the Zionist regime's aggression on the Gaza Strip and the West Bank on October 7, 2023.

The ministry said in a statement that the number of students who were killed in the Gaza Strip since the beginning of the aggression reached more than 12,681, and those who were injured reached 20,311, while in the West Bank 118 students were killed and 631 others were injured, in addition to the arrest of 538, WAFA news agency reported.

It affirmed that 598 teachers and administrators were killed and 3,801 were injured in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, and more than 158 were detained in the West

The ministry pointed out that



Nearly 13,000 students have been killed and 21,000 injured by Israel in Gaza and the West Bank since the start of the war, according to new reports.

425 government schools, universities and their buildings, and 65 affiliated with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), were bombed and vandalized in the ning of the aggression, while most

Gaza Strip.

It also confirmed that 788,000 students in the Gaza Strip are still deprived of attending their schools and universities since the beginstudents suffer from psychological trauma and face difficult health conditions.

Furthermore, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights decried the Zionist regime's strikes targeting schoolsturned-shelters in Gaza, including a shelter for displaced Palestinians in an area designated as a "safe zone" by the Israeli military.

"At least 69 Palestinians were killed in these attacks including children and women. A mother and her two-day-old newborn daughter are reportedly among the fatalities," OHCHR said in a statement.

"Almost every Palestinian in the strip has been displaced multiple times in search of safety. But there is no safety and nowhere left to go," it added.

These attacks have repeatedly resulted in a "distressingly high number of fatalities", it said.

WFP Warns 2mn in Gaza Face Severe Hunger



A Palestinian girl holds a bowl of beans before an iftar meal in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip.

WEST BANK (Dispatches) - The World Food Programme (WFP) has warned that two million people in Gaza are suffering from "acute hunger" as humanitarian aid struggles to reach those in need.

In a post on X, Cindy McCain highlighted the dire situation, wrote "2M people are facing acute hunger across Gaza."

She noted that last month only one-third of trucks carrying WFP aid managed to enter the besieged enclave.

"North Gaza was hit hardest - just two trucks reached thousands of hungry people," she stated, underscoring the immense challenges aid agencies

McCain called for "safe, unfettered access at scale" to prevent famine and save lives, as international concern grows over the worsening humanitarian crisis caused by the Zionist regime's blockade and aggression.

North Gaza has been under an all-out siege for nearly two months and people there have been ordered to evacuate.

However, the Palestinians trying to go south have been targeted by Zionist snipers and

McCain called for "safe, unfettered access at scale" to save lives and avert famine.

Israel launched a genocidal war on Gaza on October 7, 2023 after the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas waged the surprise Operation Al-Aqsa Flood 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 45,028 Palestinians, mostly women and children, and injured more than 106,962 others. Thousands more are also missing and presumed dead under rubble.

The Israeli military has been constructing infrastructure and large facilities in Gaza as it plans to remain in the besieged Palestinian territory at least until the end of 2025, according to media reports.

Report: Quarter of Israelis Face Food Insecurity

WEST BANK (Dispatches) -A quarter of people in the Israeli-occupied territories live with food insecurity, including 34 percent of the children in the occupied territories, a new report has revealed.

The Alternative Poverty Report issued by the nonprofit organization Latet revealed that 28.7 percent of Israelis -2,756,000 people – including 39.6 percent of children, live in poverty, warning that families in the lower middle class face the risk of deteriorating into poverty.

The report indicated that the economic situation of 65 percent of families who receive support from charitable organizations had deteriorated during the past year, and half of the families receiving this support were forced to give up formula milk, or to consume less than the recommended amounts while 80 percent of families did not have the money to buy enough food.

A whooping 70.8 percent of citizens receiving support from charitable organizations said they had to give up buying necessary medications or medical treatment due to their economic situation.

In light of the economic hardship of the past year, 70.9 percent of charities that distribute

food reported a decline in donations, while the minimum cost of living for a family of two parents and two children rose by 6.9 percent in that period, from 12,735 shekels (\$3,535) to 13,617 (\$3,780) shekels this year.

According to the Multidimensional Poverty Measure (MPM), which takes into account several factors in order to measure whether a family lives in poverty or serious poverty, the expenditure of families who receive support is 1.7 times higher than their monthly income, and 78.8 percent of these families have debts, while this percentage drops to

26.9 percent among the population as a whole.

In light of the economic hardship, 69.5 percent of the supported families were forced to give up repairing serious damage to their homes. While 84.8 percent suffer from "energy shortages" and face difficulties in heating their homes in winter and cooling them in sum-

The electricity was cut off from 22.1 percent of the supported families in the last year, due to non-payment of the electricity bill.

As many as 22.8 percent of children in these families dropped out of school.

UN Savs One Million Syrians May Return in First Half of 2025

GENEVA (Dispatches) - The United Nations said Tuesday it expects around one million people to return to Syria in the first half of 2025, following the collapse of president Bashar al-Assad's rule.

Assad left Syria just over a week ago, as his forces abandoned tanks and other equipment in the face of a lightning offensive spearheaded by the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham

The developments prompted many to begin returning to their war-ravaged country.

"We have forecasted that we hope to see somewhere in the order of one million Syrians returning between January and June of next year," Rema Jamous Imseis, the Middle East and North Africa director for the UN refugee agency UNHCR, told reporters in Geneva.

She said the recent developments had brought "a tremendous amount of hope... for the largest displacement crisis we have on planet Earth to finally be resolved".

But she stressed that "we also have to recognize that a change doesn't mean that there is an end to the humanitarian crisis already there".

Pointing to "immense challenges", she called on countries that have been hosting the millions of Syrian refugees to refrain from hastily sending them back.

"No one should be forcibly returned to Syria and that the right of Syrians to maintain access to asylum must be preserved," Im-

A number of European countries said they would freeze pending asylum requests from Syrians, while far-right parties have been

pressing for the deportation of refugees back to Syria.

"What we're saying to governments that have suspended asylum proceedings is... please continue to respect the right to access territory, to lodge an asylum claim," Jamous Imseis said.

"People simply cannot after 14 years of displacement, pack a bag overnight and return to a country that has been devastated by conflict," she said.

"Give us and Syrian refugees time to assess whether it's safe to go back... It's simply too early to see how safe it's going to be."

At the same time as many people are returning to Syria, Jamous Imseis pointed out that more than a million people had become newly displaced in Syria in the past three weeks, "mostly women and children".

Report: Zionist Regime Seeks Prisoner Exchange Deal With Hamas by Month's End

AL-QUDS (Dispatches) -The Zionist regime is aiming to finalize a prisoner exchange deal with the Palestinian resistance group Hamas before the end of the month, local Israeli media reported.

Israel's Yedioth Ahronoth daily cited an unnamed senior official with the Zionist regime who expressed optimism about a potential agree-

The claim aligns with earlier statements from the Israeli Public Broadcasting Corporation (KAN) which described "unprecedented progress" in indirect negotiations and called this week "crucial" for a deal.

The Zionist regime currently holds more than 10,300 Palestinians in its prisons, while Hamas is detaining

around 100 captives in Gaza.

The group has previously said that dozens of the captives were killed in indiscriminate airstrikes.

"Our goal is to secure an agreement to release the abductees in Gaza by the end of this month," the unnamed Israeli official told the newspaper, indicating that while most terms of the deal are clear, sticking points remain over the number of captives to be released in the first phase.

"There are significant differences over the number of captives to be freed. Hamas is willing to release a small group, but Israel is pushing to double that figure," the official said.

Negotiations are focused on the number and identities of the captives to be exchanged, he added.

Separately, Zionist foreign

minister Gideon Sa'ar and war minister Israel Katz met privately Monday with Adam Boehler, U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's incoming captives affairs envoy. Boehler requested confidentiality regarding the meeting's details, according to local media.

Hamas has not yet commented on the reports but has repeatedly indicated its willingness to negotiate. In May, the group accepted a proposal by U.S. President Joe Biden, but Zionist prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu later rejected it, insisting on continuing military operations in

Hamas has maintained that any agreement requires a complete ceasefire and the Israeli military's withdrawal from Gaza.