

Hezbollah Chief: Resistance Will Continue Until Final Victory

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – The secretary general of Lebanon’s Hezbollah resistance movement says resistance will continue until the final victory and the total annihilation of Israeli occupiers.

Sheikh Naim Qassem made the remarks in a video message to a conference titled “Qom Seminary, Islamic Revolution, and Resistance,” held at Dar al-Shafa School - a renowned seminary for advanced students - in the Iranian city of Qom.

“We have full faith in God’s promise of victory, and the resistance will continue until the final triumph and the complete annihilation of the occupiers. No power in the world can stop the will of the Islamic Ummah,” he stressed.

Sheikh Qassem also praised the efforts of insightful scholars in the Qom Seminary, which, according to the Hezbollah chief, has become “a bastion against oppression and tyranny,” and from which the Islamic Revolution of Iran stemmed and inspired liberation movements across the region.

Recalling the Israeli occupation of



Secretary General of Lebanon’s Hezbollah resistance movement Sheikh Naim Qassem

the Lebanese territories decades ago, he stressed that both the Islamic Revolution and the thought of its leader, Imam Khomeini, guided the Lebanese nation’s struggle against the Zionist occupiers.

“After our land was invaded, the Islamic Revolution and the thought of Imam Khomeini became our guiding light on the path of struggle. The Lebanese people, especially Hezbollah’s fighters, began the path of resistance by following Imam Khomeini’s lead,” Sheikh Qassem noted.

Turning to the recent massive assault by the military of the occupying entity involving some 75,000 military soldiers, the Hezbollah chief stressed that the only way to inflict a complete defeat on the regime is resistance.

“The Lebanese people, owing to their faith, historical identity, and national dignity, stood firm in the face of this assault. Experience has shown that resistance is the only path to dignity, honor, and freedom,” he emphasized.

Sheikh Qassem also noted that it is

a mistake to regard Hezbollah as a mere military group, stressing that it is “a way of thinking” that has been accepted not only across the region but also beyond as a “rational and popular strategy against colonialism and hegemony.”

Following significant losses sustained over nearly 14 months of conflict and the failure to meet its objectives in the offensive against Lebanon, the Zionist regime was compelled to accept a ceasefire with Hezbollah. This ceasefire took effect on November 27.

Since the commencement of the agreement, the occupying forces have been launching assaults on Lebanon, breaching the ceasefire, which includes airstrikes throughout the Arab nation.

Lebanon has condemned the continued presence of Israeli military forces, viewing it as a violation of the ceasefire agreement and the established timeline for withdrawal. Senior officials in Beirut have expressed their commitment to take “all necessary measures” to remove the occupying troops from the nation.

Report: Israel Dropped 100,000 Tons of Explosives Over Gaza, Wiped Out 2,200 Families

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime has dropped 100,000 tons of explosives on the Gaza Strip since launching its genocide 19 months ago, killing or leaving missing over 62,000 Palestinians and committing more than 12,000 massacres, the Gaza government media office said on Thursday.

The statement detailed key statistics of the war that began October 7, 2023. It stated that the Zionist regime’s bombardment led to over 62,000 Palestinian deaths or disappearances, including more than 10,000 still trapped under rubble with

unknown fates, the office said, Anadolu news agency reported.

The regime carried out over 12,000 massacres, including 11,926 against Palestinian household members, completely erasing 2,200 families and 6,350 people from civil registries.

The campaign also targeted cemeteries, with Israeli forces stealing 2,300 bodies from Gaza graves and establishing seven mass graves inside hospitals, 529 of whom have been recovered so far.

Regarding the health crisis, the office reported over 2.1 million cases of

infectious diseases caused by forced displacement and the collapse of Gaza’s health infrastructure, including 71,338 cases of hepatitis.

The destruction extended to religious and humanitarian infrastructure, with Zionist troops demolishing 828 mosques completely and 167 partially, targeting three churches, and destroying 19 of 60 cemeteries either fully or partially.

As part of a starvation policy, Israel struck 66 relief facilities, including 29 food charity kitchens and 37 aid centers, while blocking 37,400 aid and fuel trucks since fully closing

border crossings over two months ago.

The Israeli army has launched a brutal military onslaught on Gaza, killing nearly 52,800 people, mostly women and children, since October 7, 2023. The International Criminal Court issued arrest warrants last November for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his 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.

UK Denies Gaza Children Medical Treatment

LONDON (Dispatches) – The UK government allows the entry of people for medical treatment from various war-ravaged countries but denies service to Palestinians coming from the besieged Gaza Strip, in a clear indication of the country’s double standards in dealing with foreign patients.

According to reports, the UK government facilitated the evacuation of 21 Ukrainian children with cancer within weeks of Russia’s 2022 “military operation” in Ukraine and coordinated their treatment through the National Health Service (NHS).

“I am proud that the UK is offering lifesaving medical care to these Ukrainian children, who have been forced out of their home country by the Russian invasion while undergoing medi-

cal treatment,” Sajid Javid, the then-UK health secretary, said in March 2022.

This is while after only two children from Gaza were finally permitted last week to enter the UK for medical treatment after 17 months of persistent lobbying, with reports saying that the two suffered complications that had nothing to do with the Israeli war on Gaza.

“They were chosen not because they are among those most severely injured by Israel’s onslaught in Gaza; quite the opposite. Their diagnoses appear more politically neutral, involving congenital conditions not directly related to Israel’s ongoing violence in Gaza,” said the Middle East Eye (MEE) news portal.

“These are the only two Palestinian

children in need of medical care that the UK government has agreed to receive since Israel accelerated its assault on Gaza in October 2023.”

Reports said their admission came as their treatment was arranged privately, funded entirely by donations and facilitated by a coalition of doctors, lawyers and volunteers through the NGO Project Pure Hope.

“The UK government hasn’t just failed to help; it has actively blocked efforts to transfer severely injured children - those with blast wounds, amputations and burns - to UK hospitals for essential treatment,” the MME added.

The report underlined that the Home Office and Foreign Office have consistently denied visas to Palestinian patients, citing supposed logistical,

medical or security reasons, while the UK government has facilitated the transfer and treatment of children from Ukraine, Syria and Afghanistan in recent years.

“Why are injured children from Gaza being denied treatment in British hospitals?” British newspaper The Guardian asked in February 2024. “The answer is now clear: because their wounds carry political weight. Because allowing them into the country would expose the UK’s passive inaction and active complicity. Because their suffering is inconvenient.”

Former UK Foreign Office adviser, Baroness Arminka Helic, also condemned the UK government’s move, calling it a clear case of “double standards.”

Israel ‘Sending Troops to Commit War Crimes in Gaza’, Says Former Army Chief

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime military’s former chief of staff has accused his successor of “sending soldiers to commit war crimes” in Gaza and torn into the occupying regime for “losing touch with Jewish morality”.

In an interview with Israeli outlet Ynet, Moshe Yaalon, who also served as prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s war minister between 2013 and 2016, said the Zionist regime had abandoned the captives held by Hamas and was carrying out a campaign of “ethnic cleansing” in Gaza.

Yaalon attacked the current military chief of staff, Eyal Zamir, saying he was not stopping “clearly illegal orders” and was ordering “his soldiers to be war criminals”.

“Call it ethnic cleansing, call it transfer, call it deportation - it’s a war crime,” Yaalon said,

describing plans led by far-right Israeli ministers Bezalel Smotrich and Itamar Ben Gvir to occupy the entire Gaza Strip and evacuate its Palestinian population.

“Smotrich and Ben Gvir do not want to replace Hamas; they want Israeli military rule and Israeli civilian administration. Let them say it very clearly: they are going to occupy Gaza and settle it with Jews after it has been ethnically cleansed. Let them say it,” said Yaalon, who fought in the 1973 Middle East war and the 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

On Monday, Smotrich, Israel’s finance minister, said: “We are finally going to occupy the Gaza Strip.”

The former chief of staff, who resigned from the Likud party and his post as Netanyahu’s war minister in 2016 before joining the centre-right Blue and White alliance, accused the

prime minister of not taking responsibility for his own decisions and prolonging the war on Gaza to ensure his political survival.

“You send the soldiers to commit war crimes, and then you say that the [military] will stay there forever... If the cabinet decided this, then you, Netanyahu, say that and don’t hide behind your chief of staff,” Yaalon told Ynet.

“The chief of staff is a commander within the army. Netanyahu hides behind him and then blames everyone else. He has not yet taken responsibility for October 7, which is first and foremost his responsibility,” the former chief of staff said.

“Everything here is about stalling for time and holding on to this war, because the end of the war is the end of the term,” Yaalon added, referring to Netanyahu’s time in office.

Iran... (Continued From Page One)

with a hypersonic missile on Sunday. Israel accuses Iran of providing Yemeni armed forces with military assistance.

Gen. Salami said, “Another aspect of our display of power is correcting the enemy’s miscalculations and mistakes.”

“This is because our enemies must also become familiar with the reality of our power to some extent so that, they do not rush into miscalculations and judgments out of ignorance of the extent of our power and do not engage in actions that are detrimental to themselves.”

On Wednesday, President Donald Trump stated that he is willing to reach an agreement with Tehran that allows the United States to “blow up” Iran’s nuclear energy facilities.

“It’s that simple,” he stated during an exchange with conservative radio host Hugh Hewitt. “I would much prefer a strong, verified deal where we actually blow them up...,” Trump said, referring to Iran’s nuclear facilities.

The U.S. president added that there were only two possible outcomes, namely “blowing them up nicely or blow them up viciously.”

Earlier Thursday, Gen. Salami said while Iran prioritizes diplomacy in the nuclear issue, seeking a fair solution without threats, it remains fully prepared for war at any scale.

“The Americans should know that if they threaten us, we are prepared for war at any scale,” he told a ceremony in Mashhad.

The U.S. and Iran have held three rounds of negotiations since April 12. A planned fourth round, originally scheduled for May 3, was postponed due to “logistical reasons,” according to mediator Oman.

Gen. Salami said, “With their new threats and sanctions, the Americans have demonstrated unreliability and untrustworthiness.”

The IRGC chief stressed that Iran does not pursue nuclear weapons, and has voluntarily removed them from its defense doctrine.

Iran, Gen. Salami said, will not relinquish its vital interests. He warned that the “criminal” Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu is trying to influence the minds of American officials and draw them into an endless war.

According to Salami, the Americans have suffered grave consequences from their foreign interventions and must exercise wisdom by rejecting the “manipulative lies of the Zionist regime’s prime minister and make prudent choices instead”.

He warned Israel and other enemies that “any transgression would unleash hellfire upon them, with retaliatory strikes so severe that would eclipse Operation True Promise 1 and 2”.

Iran launched Operation True Promise 1 on October 1, 2024 targeting key Israeli military and intelligence installations with its missiles. Operation True Promise 1 was Iran’s first ever direct military strike against Israel, conducted on April 13, 2024.

“We tell the officials of the usurping Israeli regime: You, who could not even endure a single missile strike from the heroic Ansarullah of Yemen at your airport, how will you be able to endure hundreds and thousands of missiles?” he said.

The missile strike by Yemenis on Sunday bypassed four layers of air defense and landed in the heart of the main airport near Tel Aviv.

Yahya Saree, the spokesman for Yemen’s armed forces, said in a televised statement that the military operation against the key Israeli airport was conducted with a hypersonic ballistic missile and “hit its target successfully.”

India... (Continued From Page One)

and misleading” and said Pakistan had not carried out any “offensive actions”.

In Pakistani Kashmir, officials said heavy shelling from across the border killed five civilians, including an infant, and wounded 29 others in the early hours of Friday.

The fighting is the deadliest since a limited conflict between the two countries in Kashmir’s Kargil region in 1999.

In Jammu, the winter capital of Indian Kashmir that came under drone attack on Thursday night, shops and businesses began shutting at 5 p.m. (1130 GMT) on Friday and the streets were largely empty as people rushed home.

In neighboring Punjab state, authorities told people that sirens should be taken seriously and not considered drills. “Remember: Silence, darkness and discipline – these are the things that save lives,” they said in social media posts.

Sirens blared for more than two hours on Friday in the Punjab city of Amritsar, which houses the Golden Temple revered by Sikhs.

No attacks followed, but tourists fled the city by road as the airport was closed.

“We really wanted to stay but the loud sounds, sirens, and black-outs are giving us sleepless nights. Our families back home are worried for us so we have booked a cab and are leaving,” said a British national who did not want to be named.

Schools and coaching centers were closed in the Bikaner region of India’s desert state of Rajasthan, and residents near the Pakistan border said they were asked to move further away and consider moving in with relatives or using accommodation arranged by the government.

Further south in Bhuj in Gujarat, authorities said tourist buses had been kept on standby in case they needed to evacuate people near the Pakistan border.

India’s Directorate General of Shipping directed all ports, terminals and shipyards to increase security, amid “growing concerns regarding potential threats”.

Indian shares fell for a second straight session on Friday, losing about \$83 billion in market value, with both key stock indexes losing 1.1%.