

# LIVE BLOG: ‘Exceptional Incident’ by Qassam in Khan Yunis as Israel Amasses Troops to Invade Gaza City – Day 686

August 21, 2025 Blog, News, Slider



Israel committed horrific massacres in Gaza. (Photo: via QNN)

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## Staff

The Al-Qassam Brigades announced a multi-phased operation against a newly established Israeli military position in southern Gaza, while Israeli media acknowledged a “significant” attack and troop casualties.

Meanwhile, Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz and Chief of Staff Eyal Zamir approved plans to occupy Gaza City.

Since October 7, 2023, Israel has killed 62,122 and injured 156,758 others, the majority of whom are women and children, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza.

**[Click here for the previous blogs.](#)**

Thu, Aug 21, 11:00 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Al-Qassam Brigades Target Israeli Soldiers and Vehicles on Salah al-Din Axis**

AL-QASSAM BRIGADES: The Al-Qassam Brigades continued their field operations, announcing on Thursday that they targeted a gathering of Israeli soldiers and vehicles on the Salah al-Din axis with short-range Rajoum rockets. This marks the second announcement today from the brigades, which earlier said they struck a command-and-control site and a gathering of soldiers and vehicles west of Rafah, in southern Gaza.

Thu, Aug 21, 11:00 PM (Palestine Time)

### **United Nations Reveals Israel’s Refusal to Allow Monitors at Gaza Crossings**

UNITED NATIONS: A deputy spokesperson for UN Secretary-General António Guterres said Israel has refused the UN request to deploy monitors at Gaza crossings, all of which are under Israeli control. The official added that this refusal prevents the UN from independently verifying the

volume of aid entering Gaza. The UN also reported that Israel bombed a displaced persons site near an OCHA facility in Deir al-Balah.

Thu, Aug 21, 11:00 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Axios: Israel to Negotiate End of War on Its Own Terms**

US MEDIA: Axios quoted an Israeli official as saying that the Israeli delegation will negotiate over all living and dead captives, and on ending the war according to Israel's conditions.

Thu, Aug 21, 11:00 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Al-Qassam Brigades Strike Israeli Command Site and Forces in Rafah**

AL-QASSAM BRIGADES: The Al-Qassam Brigades announced they fired Rajoum rockets at a command-and-control site, as well as a gathering of Israeli soldiers and vehicles west of Rafah in southern Gaza.

Thu, Aug 21, 11:00 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Israel Estimates Gaza City Takeover Could Take Two Months**

ISRAELI MEDIA: According to the Israeli Broadcasting Authority, military estimates suggest that operational control over Gaza City could take about two months, amid preparations for intensified ground operations inside the city.

Thu, Aug 21, 11:00 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Israel Will Not Send Negotiation Team to Cairo or Doha**

ISRAELI MEDIA: Channel 12 reported, citing a senior Israeli government official, that Israel will not send a negotiating team to Cairo or Doha at this stage. Since October 7, 2023, Israel — with US backing — has waged a genocidal war on the population of Gaza, involving killing, starvation, destruction, and forced displacement, while ignoring international calls and ICJ orders to halt the war.

Thu, Aug 21, 11:00 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Netanyahu Announces Start of Negotiations to Return Captives and End the War**

ISRAELI MEDIA: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced that he has issued instructions to immediately begin negotiations aimed at securing the return of Israeli captives in Gaza and ending the war under conditions deemed "acceptable" by Israel.

Thu, Aug 21, 7:53 PM (Palestine Time)

### **'Flagrant Attack' – ICC Condemns New US Sanctions against Court Officials**

The International Criminal Court (ICC) has condemned the US government's new designations for sanctions against four judges, calling it "a flagrant attack" on the court's independence.

"These sanctions are a flagrant attack against the independence of an impartial judicial institution which operates under the mandate from 125 States Parties from all regions," the ICC said in a statement on Wednesday. "They constitute also an affront against the Court's States Parties, the rules-based international order and, above all, millions of innocent victims across the world."

Thu, Aug 21, 7:52 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Ministry of Health Warns Against Transfer of Medical Resources to the South**

GAZA HEALTH MINISTRY: The Ministry of Health in Gaza announced its categorical rejection of the occupation authorities' request to transfer health system resources from Gaza Governorate to the southern part of the Strip. The ministry said it rejects any step that would undermine what remains of the health system after the systematic destruction carried out by the occupation.

Thu, Aug 21, 7:52 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Forces Carry Out Fire Belts in Jabaliya**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Israeli occupation forces launched intensive fire belts in the Jabalia area in the northern Gaza Strip as part of the ongoing military escalation on the enclave.

Thu, Aug 21, 7:07 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Qassam and Al-Quds Brigades Launch Coordinated Operations in Gaza**

PALESTINE CHRONICLE: The Al-Quds Brigades, the military wing of the Islamic Jihad movement, published footage showing Israeli vehicles falling into a complex ambush prepared in cooperation with the Qassam Brigades, the military wing of the Palestinian Resistance Movement Hamas, near the Sheikh Radwan Mosque in the Sheja'iyya neighborhood east of Gaza City on July 7.

Thu, Aug 21, 7:07 PM (Palestine Time)

### **41 Palestinians Killed by Israeli Fire since Morning**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Medical sources in Gaza hospitals reported that 41 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli army fire in various areas of the Strip since dawn today, including 11 who were waiting for humanitarian aid, amid the continued Israeli military escalation against civilians.

Thu, Aug 21, 7:07 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Britain Summons Israeli Ambassador**

REUTERS: Reuters reported that Britain summoned the Israeli ambassador to protest Tel Aviv's approval of a new settlement plan in the occupied West Bank. The Israeli government yesterday approved a major settlement plan in the West Bank under the sponsorship of far-right Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, with the settlement committee authorizing the implementation of the "E1" plan, first promoted in the 1990s.

Thu, Aug 21, 7:07 PM (Palestine Time)

### **21 European States Condemn Israeli Settlements**

AL-JAZEERA: Twenty-one European countries issued a joint statement condemning Israel's approval of a settlement project in the "E1" area east of Jerusalem, calling it a dangerous step that undermines security and stability in the region. The European states urged Israel to immediately reverse the decision, warning that unilateral measures such as this fuel violence and block aspirations for security and prosperity in the Middle East.

Thu, Aug 21, 7:07 PM (Palestine Time)

### **1.3 Million at Risk If Israel Invades Gaza**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Mohammad Abu Salmiya, director of Al-Shifa Medical Complex, told Al Jazeera that 1.3 million people are at risk if Israel invades Gaza City, and the medical system cannot serve them. He expressed fear for the lives of medical staff and patients, noting that hundreds had already been killed inside hospitals. He said there is no space to receive new wounded, the morgues are full, and the war must stop immediately.

Thu, Aug 21, 3:48 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Gaza Death Toll Rises to 62,192**

GAZA HEALTH MINISTRY: The Ministry of Health in Gaza said that hospitals in the Strip received 70 bodies and 356 injured people within the last 24 hours. The ministry added that the total death toll from the Israeli aggression has risen to 62,192, with 157,114 wounded since October 7, 2023.

Thu, Aug 21, 3:48 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Kuwait Specialist Hospital Sounds the Alarm**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: The Kuwait Specialist Hospital warned of an acute shortage of medicines and medical supplies due to the closure of crossings. It said that shortages exceed 90 percent of drug stocks, threatening the lives of thousands of patients and wounded.

Thu, Aug 21, 3:48 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Three Killed While Waiting for Aid in Rafah**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: The Nasser Medical Complex reported that three Palestinians were killed by Israeli fire while waiting for aid near a distribution center north of Rafah in southern Gaza.

Thu, Aug 21, 3:48 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Sheikh Ikrima Sabri: Israel Seeks to Impose Control Over Al-Aqsa**

AL-JAZEERA: The Imam and preacher of Al-Aqsa Mosque, Sheikh Ikrima Sabri, told Al Jazeera that Israeli authorities are seeking to impose sovereignty over Al-Aqsa Mosque. He said the aim of the settler incursions is to strip the Waqf of its authority. He noted a recent escalation in both the frequency of incursions and the profile of participants, including government ministers.

Thu, Aug 21, 12:19 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Minister Strook Vows to Continue War, 'Even If It Kills Hostages'**

PALESTINE CHRONICLE: A far-right Israeli minister states she would vote to continue the war in Gaza, even if it meant the death of Israeli hostages, drawing fierce condemnation from the families of the captives.

Thu, Aug 21, 10:43 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Hamas Calls for Serious Arab and Islamic Action to Protect Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa**

HAMAS STATEMENT:

The occupation has no legitimacy over Al-Aqsa, whose identity will remain purely Islamic despite the enemy's crimes and schemes.

Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa will continue to represent the core of the struggle and the compass for the unity of our people and our nation until liberation from the defilement of occupation.

Netanyahu's statements about "Greater Israel" expose the enemy's ambitions and its threat to the security and stability of the region and the world.

We call for serious Arab and Islamic action to protect Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa and to stop the fascist aggression against our people, land, and holy sites.

Thu, Aug 21, 10:43 AM (Palestine Time)

### **One Person Killed in Israeli Strike on South Lebanon**

LEBANESE HEALTH MINISTRY: The Lebanese Ministry of Health said that one person was killed when an Israeli drone targeted a motorcycle in the town of Deir Seryan, southern Lebanon.

Thu, Aug 21, 10:43 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Injuries Reported in Shooting Near Settlement in West Bank**

ISRAELI MEDIA: Initial reports of injuries in a shooting near Malakhi HaShalom settlement in the West Bank. One Israeli was wounded near the settlement in the central West Bank.

ISRAELI ARMY: We received a report of gunfire at several Israelis near Malakhi HaShalom, and our forces are heading to the area. We are investigating a security incident near the settlement.

Thu, Aug 21, 10:43 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Maariv: What Happened in Khan Younis Is a Nightmare for Security Establishment**

MAARIV:

Maariv quoted an Israeli security source commenting on the resistance operation in Khan Younis:

This was not the first attempt and likely will not be the last.

This is what guerrilla warfare looks like, and what happened in Khan Younis is exactly the nightmare of the security establishment.

Thu, Aug 21, 10:43 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Guterres: Immediate Ceasefire in Gaza Necessary**

UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL:

It is necessary to immediately reach a ceasefire in Gaza and the unconditional release of all hostages.

It is necessary to avoid the death and destruction that any military operation against Gaza would inevitably cause.

Israel must reverse its decision to expand illegal settlements, which will divide the West Bank.

Settlement construction in all its forms is a violation of international law.

Thu, Aug 21, 10:43 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Haaretz: Israeli Response on Gaza Agreement Currently Being Drafted**

HAARETZ: Informed Israeli sources say Israel's response regarding the Gaza agreement is currently being drafted under deliberate secrecy.

Thu, Aug 21, 10:43 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Soldier: Goal of Destroying Hamas Unachievable**

CNN (citing Israeli soldier who served in Gaza): I am shocked that we are still talking about a war that should have ended long ago. The decision to occupy Gaza is a death sentence for the captives, and the goal of destroying Hamas is unachievable.

Thu, Aug 21, 1:28 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Washington Post: US State Department Fires Senior Spokesperson for Israeli-Palestinian Affairs**

WASHINGTON POST: Washington Post: US State Department Fires Senior Spokesperson for Israeli-Palestinian Affairs

Thu, Aug 21, 1:28 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Gaza Health Ministry: Number of Starvation Victims Rises to 269**

GAZA HEALTH MINISTRY: The Ministry of Health in Gaza said the total number of victims of starvation and malnutrition has risen to 269, including 112 children.

Thu, Aug 21, 1:28 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Occupation Launches Strikes on Jabaliya Al-Balad**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Palestinian sources reported that Israeli warplanes carried out airstrikes on Jabalia Al-Balad in northern Gaza.

Wed, Aug 20, 11:20 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Hamas: Israeli Aggression Shows Disregard for Mediators' Efforts**

HAMAS STATEMENT: The new Israeli aggression is a disregard for mediators' efforts to reach a ceasefire and prisoner exchange. Netanyahu's ignoring of the mediators' proposal proves he is the obstacle to any agreement and not serious about recovering his captives.

Wed, Aug 20, 11:20 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Channel 12: Netanyahu to Arrive at Southern Command to Approve Gaza Occupation Plans**

ISRAELI MEDIA: Israeli Channel 12 reported that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will arrive at the Southern Command tomorrow, Thursday, to approve plans for the occupation of Gaza City.

Wed, Aug 20, 11:20 PM (Palestine Time)

## **ICC Condemns US Sanctions on Its Members**

ICC: We condemn Washington's announcement of new sanctions on ICC judges and officials. US sanctions are a blatant attack on the independence of a neutral judicial institution.

Wed, Aug 20, 11:20 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Israeli Army Official: We Face Shortage of 10,000–12,000 Soldiers**

ABC: We face a shortage of between 10,000 and 12,000 soldiers. The shortage of soldiers and the lack of recruitment of Haredim force us to exhaust every possible option to meet the need.

Wed, Aug 20, 11:20 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Netanyahu Thanks Rubio for Sanctions on International Judg**

ISRAELI MEDIA: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu thanked US Secretary of State Marco Rubio for the sanctions imposed on judges of the International Criminal Court.

Wed, Aug 20, 11:20 PM (Palestine Time)

## **76 Killed by Israeli Army Fire Across Gaza Since Dawn**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Hospital sources in Gaza reported that 76 Palestinians were killed by Israeli army fire in several areas of the Strip since dawn on Wednesday.

Wed, Aug 20, 11:20 PM (Palestine Time)

## **15 Killed and 105 Injured Among Aid Seekers in Northern Gaza**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Sources at Hamad Hospital in Gaza reported that 15 Palestinians were killed and 105 others injured by Israeli army fire while waiting for humanitarian aid in northern Gaza.