

LIVE BLOG: Evacuation Order for Zaytoun | Israel Gears up for Invasion | New Resistance Video – Day 681

August 16, 2025 Blog, News, Slider



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

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By Palestine Chronicle



Staff

The Israeli army has forced thousands of residents from the Al-Zaytoun neighborhood, southeast of Gaza City, to evacuate their homes.

Meanwhile, the Al-Quds Brigades, the military wing of the Islamic Jihad movement, released footage on Friday showing the remains of Israeli military vehicles it said were destroyed with explosive devices along the front lines east of Gaza City.

Since October 7, 2023, Israel has killed 61,827 and injured 155,275 others, the majority of whom are women and children, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza.

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

Sat, Aug 16, 11:54 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Shelling Targets Area Around Baptist Hospital in Gaza

AL-JAZEERA: The Israeli army targeted the area around the Baptist Hospital in Gaza City with artillery shelling.

Sat, Aug 16, 11:54 PM (Palestine Time)

Islamic Jihad Calls on Free Peoples to Reject Israeli Policies

ISLAMIC JIHAD: Islamic Jihad stated that Israel's plan to move displaced people to tents in southern Gaza is contempt for international law and UN institutions.

Sat, Aug 16, 11:54 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Army Says Gaza Residents Will Be Relocated South

ISRAELI ARMY: The Israeli army announced that it will begin providing tents to Gaza City residents starting tomorrow, to move them from combat areas to the south.

Sat, Aug 16, 11:54 PM (Palestine Time)

Katz: Plan in Place to Defeat Hamas and Free Captives

ISRAELI MEDIA: Defense Minister Yisrael Katz said that Israel is preparing a “coherent and strong plan” to defeat Hamas and free captives.

Sat, Aug 16, 8:46 PM (Palestine Time)

Microsoft Orders External Review over Unit 8200 Use of Cloud to Store Palestinian Calls

PALESTINE CHRONICLE: Microsoft has opened an “urgent” external review into allegations that Israel’s Unit 8200 used its Azure cloud platform to store millions of intercepted Palestinian phone calls.

Sat, Aug 16, 8:44 PM (Palestine Time)

Haaretz: US Pressures UN over 'Gaza Foundation'

ISRAELI MEDIA: The Israeli newspaper Haaretz reported that the United States is pressuring the United Nations to ease its criticism of the so-called “Gaza Humanitarian Foundation.”

Sat, Aug 16, 8:44 PM (Palestine Time)

German Police Arrest Pro-Gaza Protesters

AL-JAZEERA: German police arrested several participants in a demonstration in Berlin calling for an end to the war on Gaza.

Sat, Aug 16, 8:44 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Army Prepares to Displace Gaza City Residents

ISRAELI MEDIA: The Israeli army announced that it will resume bringing tents and shelter equipment into the Gaza Strip tomorrow to move the population southward, in accordance with directives from the political leadership. The army said that the tents and equipment will be brought in via the United Nations and relief organizations after undergoing inspection.

Sat, Aug 16, 8:44 PM (Palestine Time)

Ehud Barak: Trump Doesn't Understand Military Matters

ISRAELI MEDIA: Former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak said that Netanyahu is fighting a futile war to avoid his trial and the crisis over the military conscription law. He claimed that Netanyahu misled Trump and his close associates, convincing them there were only two options: surrender to Hamas or continue the military operation until the last fighter is killed.

Barak added that Trump “doesn’t understand a thing about military matters” and relies on Netanyahu, giving him approval to continue this futile war. He also warned that the continued war benefits Hamas as Israel will sink deeper into the quagmire without eliminating the movement.

Sat, Aug 16, 8:44 PM (Palestine Time)

Katz: We're Still Working on a Plan to Defeat Hamas

ISRAELI MEDIA: Israeli Defense Minister Yisrael Katz stated that they are developing a “plan to defeat Hamas and bring back the hostages,” promising it will be a “cohesive and strong plan to accomplish the mission.”

Sat, Aug 16, 6:48 PM (Palestine Time)

Gaza Death Toll from Starvation Reaches 251 as Israel Prepares to Accelerate Offensive

PALESTINE CHRONICLE: Israeli forces have intensified airstrikes and advanced plans to occupy Gaza City as starvation deaths and amputations among children surge under the ongoing blockade.

Sat, Aug 16, 6:01 PM (Palestine Time)

Gaza Hospitals Face Critical Shortages

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: The spokesperson for Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital said that Gaza’s hospitals are facing a severe shortage of medicines and medical supplies, which is significantly hindering treatment.

The spokesperson highlighted the dire situation, stating:

The hospital is receiving patients with severe head injuries and amputated limbs.

The lack of supplies is making it extremely difficult to provide adequate care.

Patients’ families are unable to feed their relatives, which is contributing to an increase in the number of deaths in the Strip.

Sat, Aug 16, 5:58 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Official Arrested in U.S. on Sexual Crime Charges

ISRAELI MEDIA: Israeli media outlets have reported that US police in Las Vegas have arrested the head of the Israeli cybersecurity division on suspicion of committing sexual crimes against minors.

Sat, Aug 16, 5:54 PM (Palestine Time)

Aharon Haliva: Palestinians Need a Nakba from Time to Time to Feel the Price

ISRAELI MEDIA (Cited in Al-Jazeera): According to a leaked recording obtained by Israel’s Channel 12, the former head of the Israeli military intelligence directorate (Aman), Aharon Haliva, made a series of statements:

We planned to assassinate Sinwar and Deif before October 7th.

Netanyahu is a coward and failed the test.

Everyone who held a position on October 7th must leave and make way for others.

I failed on October 7th, and I certainly will not be forgiven.

We and the political echelon should have provided protection for our citizens, but we did not.

50 Palestinians must be killed for every Israeli killed on October 7th, and it doesn’t matter if they are children or women.

Palestinians need a Nakba from time to time to feel the price.

Nasrallah made a mistake by engaging in a small battle and did not expect to be killed.

Sat, Aug 16, 5:48 PM (Palestine Time)

Hamas: We Are Facing a New, Brutal Chapter of Violations Against Civilians in Gaza

STATEMENT (Cited in Al-Jazeera): The Palestinian Resistance Movement Hamas has issued a statement outlining its position on the ongoing genocide in Gaza:

The group accuses Israeli forces of the systematic destruction of the Zeitoun neighborhood as part of a “savage war of annihilation.” It claims that the crimes of Netanyahu’s government are being committed with premeditation and public announcement for all the world to see.

Hamas points to Netanyahu’s repeated references to the “Dresden attack” as confirmation that a “new and brutal chapter of violations against civilians” is unfolding. It asserts that these crimes would not continue without a “green light” from the US administration, which it considers an “active partner in a war of annihilation.”

The movement calls on the US administration to reconsider its policies, and urges the international community and the United Nations to break their silence and work to stop the “fascist occupation’s crime.”

Finally, Hamas calls on Arab, Islamic, and all people of the free world to rise up in solidarity with Gaza and to reject the crimes and massacres of the occupation.

Sat, Aug 16, 2:58 PM (Palestine Time)

Body of Journalist Recovered in Gaza 44 Days After Home Was Bombed

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: A source at the Baptist Hospital in Gaza reported the recovery of the body of journalist Marwa Muslim, 44 days after her home in the Al-Tuffah neighborhood was bombed.

Sat, Aug 16, 2:23 PM (Palestine Time)

Political Leadership's Failure Makes 'Defeating Hamas' Impossible - Israeli Media

PALESTINE CHRONICLE: Israeli analysts say that Israel is stuck in a long-term war of attrition and that the political leadership lacks an alternative strategy, and that defeating Hamas is

impossible. ([”Political Leadership’s Failure Makes Defeating Hamas’ Impossible— Israeli Media” by Palestine Chronicle Staff, August 16,2025](#))

Sat, Aug 16, 2:09 PM (Palestine Time)

Two Killed, 15 Wounded in Israeli Strike on Khan Yunis

GAZA EMERGENCY SERVICES: Emergency and ambulance services in Gaza reported that two Palestinians were killed and 15 others wounded in an Israeli strike on a displaced persons’ tent in the Al-Mawasi area of Khan Younis, southern Gaza Strip.

Sat, Aug 16, 2:09 PM (Palestine Time)

Civil Defense in Gaza: What Is Happening in Al-Zaytoun Is Genocide

GAZA CIVIL DEFENSE: The spokesperson for Gaza's Civil Defense told Al Jazeera that what is happening in the Al-Zaytoun neighborhood constitutes a genocide. He said Israeli forces are using robots to detonate homes in the area, and rescue crews are unable to reach the wounded. According to the spokesperson, Gaza City residents have nowhere left to flee, with no means of life remaining, describing the situation as dire and catastrophic. He added that Israeli forces are annihilating Gaza City and that Civil Defense has no capacity to protect civilians.

Sat, Aug 16, 1:20 PM (Palestine Time)

Homes Destroyed in Zaytoun Neighborhood

STATEMENT: According to the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor, Israeli forces have destroyed approximately 400 homes in the Zeitoun neighborhood and used robots to demolish residential blocks.

Sat, Aug 16, 1:20 PM (Palestine Time)

11 Deaths from Starvation in 24 Hours

STATEMENT: The Gaza Ministry of Health announced that 11 Palestinians, including a child, have died from starvation and malnutrition within the last 24 hours.

Sat, Aug 16, 1:20 PM (Palestine Time)

25 Killed in Gaza Since Dawn

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Hospital sources in Gaza have reported that 25 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli forces in various parts of the Strip since this morning. Among the victims, 12 were people waiting for aid.

Sat, Aug 16, 12:41 PM (Palestine Time)

Al-Shifa Hospital Overwhelmed

STATEMENT: The director of the Al-Shifa Medical Complex in Gaza reported that hospitals are critically overcrowded with wounded people from the continuous Israeli bombing. He added that there has been an increase in amputations due to the ineffectiveness of antibiotics against bacteria. He also stated that more than 200 patients' lives are at risk due to a severe shortage of medicine and malnutrition.

Sat, Aug 16, 6:48 PM (Palestine Time)

UK to Prosecute 60 Over Support for Banned Group Palestine Action

PALESTINE CHRONICLE: British authorities plan to prosecute at least 60 people for supporting the recently banned group Palestine Action, amid criticism from rights organizations over mass arrests and threats to free expression.

Sat, Aug 16, 11:14 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Intelligence Forms "Legitimization Cell" to Justify Gaza War Crimes

ISRAELI MEDIA: Israel's Military Intelligence Directorate (Aman) established a special "Legitimization Cell" after the Palestinian resistance launched the Al-Aqsa Flood operation on October 7, 2023. The unit is tasked with finding pretexts to legally and publicly justify Israel's

genocide in Gaza, including aiding in the targeting of journalists documenting the war, and defending the military's storming and bombing of hospitals and schools under claims they were used by resistance forces.

Sat, Aug 16, 11:14 AM (Palestine Time)

Palestinian Shot by Israeli Forces East of Jerusalem

PALESTINIAN RED CRESCENT: A Palestinian was injured by Israeli fire in the Sheikh Saad area of al-Eizariya, east of Jerusalem.

Sat, Aug 16, 11:14 AM (Palestine Time)

Six Killed from Same Family in Al-Bureij Camp Bombing

GAZA AMBULANCE SERVICES: Six Palestinians from the same family, including four children, were killed when Israeli forces bombed a house in Al-Bureij refugee camp, central Gaza.

Sat, Aug 16, 11:14 AM (Palestine Time)

Sirens Sound in Nahal Oz

ISRAELI MEDIA: Rocket alert sirens were activated in Nahal Oz settlement, near the Gaza border, early Saturday amid reports of rocket fire from Gaza.

Sat, Aug 16, 11:14 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Forces Fire on Eastern Gaza City's Zeitoun Neighborhood

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Israeli armored vehicles opened fire on the eastern areas of the Zeitoun neighborhood in Gaza City.

Sat, Aug 16, 11:14 AM (Palestine Time)

Artillery Shelling Hits Gaza's Al-Sabra Neighborhood

AL-AQSA TV: Israeli artillery shelled the Al-Sabra neighborhood in Gaza City, while Israeli aircraft bombed a house in the Al-Bureij refugee camp.

Sat, Aug 16, 11:14 AM (Palestine Time)

Microsoft Investigating Alleged Israeli Use of Company Technology to Monitor Palestinians

THE GUARDIAN: The Guardian reported that Microsoft has launched an urgent investigation into allegations that Israel used its technology to monitor Palestinians. The probe focuses on claims that Israeli intelligence Unit 8200 used a Microsoft platform to store intercepted Palestinian calls, with concerns that such recordings were used to target sites in Gaza.

Sat, Aug 16, 1:09 AM (Palestine Time)

Hamas Calls for Continued Global Mobilization against Gaza Genocide and Starvation

HAMAS STATEMENT: Hamas called on the Arab and Islamic nations, and all free people worldwide, to maintain mass mobilization against the aggression, genocide, and starvation in Gaza. It urged for global "Days of Rage" marches on Saturday and Sunday against the occupation and its backers, expanded solidarity actions with slain journalists Anas al-Sharif and Mohammed Qreiqqa,

protests outside Israeli and US embassies, and popular, student, and union pressure to open crossings and allow aid into Gaza.

Sat, Aug 16, 12:27 AM (Palestine Time)

Former Israeli Intelligence Chief: Netanyahu is a Coward and Failed the Test

AL-JAZEERA (Citing Israeli media): Channel 12, citing a leaked recording of the former head of the Israeli Military Intelligence Directorate:

We had plans to assassinate (Yahya) Sinwar and (Mohammed) Deif before October 7.

Netanyahu is a coward and failed the test.

(Hezbollah leader Hassan) Nasrallah made a mistake by engaging in a small battle and did not expect to be killed.

Sat, Aug 16, 12:00 AM (Palestine Time)

31 Arab and Islamic States Condemn Netanyahu's Statements

AL-JAZEERA: Thirty-one Arab and Islamic countries issued a joint statement strongly condemning Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's remarks regarding what he called "Greater Israel." The statement described Netanyahu's comments as a blatant and serious violation of law and the foundations of international relations

Fri, Aug 15, 10:32 PM (Palestine Time)

KAN: Israeli Army Preparing to Accelerate Occupation of Gaza City

ISRAELI BROADCASTING CORPORATION: The Israeli army is preparing to accelerate its military operation aimed at occupying Gaza City, following directives from the political leadership.

Army commanders are scheduled to hold a meeting tomorrow at the Southern Command regarding operations in Gaza.

The Chief of Staff will arrive at the Southern Command on Sunday to approve the occupation plans, which reportedly include measures to reduce the risk to captives. The method of carrying out the operation will determine the size of forces to be deployed, with efforts to limit the call-up of reservists.

Fri, Aug 15, 10:32 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Forces Force Thousands to Evacuate Al-Zaytoun

AL-JAZEERA: The Israeli army has forced thousands of residents from the Al-Zaytoun neighborhood, southeast of Gaza City, to evacuate their homes.

Fri, Aug 15, 10:29 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Fans Spark Diplomatic Crisis with Poland over 'Shameful' Banner

PALESTINE CHRONICLE: Fans of Israel's Maccabi Haifa soccer club have ignited a wave of outrage in Poland after displaying a large banner that read "Murderers since 1939" during a match against Poland's Raków Częstochowa.

Fri, Aug 15, 9:35 PM (Palestine Time)

Injuries in Strike Targeting Tent Shelter for Displaced West of Gaza

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: A source in Gaza's ambulance and emergency services reported that several Palestinians were injured in an Israeli strike targeting a tent sheltering displaced people in the Al-Rimal neighborhood, west of Gaza City.

Fri, Aug 15, 8:30 PM (Palestine Time)

Six Palestinians Injured in Settler Attacks, 15 Detained in West Bank Raids

PALESTINE CHRONICLE: Six Palestinians were injured on Friday in attacks by illegal Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank towns of Ramallah and Hebron (Al-Khalil), while the Israeli occupation army arrested at least 15 Palestinians in multiple raids across the territory.

Fri, Aug 15, 8:01 PM (Palestine Time)

'Lord is Counting on Me' – Ugandan ICJ Judge Defends Stance on Israel

PALESTINE CHRONICLE: Ugandan Judge Julia Sebutinde, who serves as vice-president of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), has claimed that "the Lord is counting on me to stand on the side of Israel."

Fri, Aug 15, 7:57 PM (Palestine Time)

Detainee Transferred to Hospital after Torture by Palestinian Authority Security

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Palestinian news outlets, citing human rights sources, reported that political detainee Mohammed Al-Hashlamoun was transferred to a hospital in critical condition after being arrested and tortured by the Palestinian Authority's Intelligence Service.

Fri, Aug 15, 7:57 PM (Palestine Time)

Report: Arrest Warrants for Ben-Gvir, Smotrich Ready at ICC

AL-JAZEERA (citing ICC): Arrest warrants are being pursued against two senior Israeli ministers on charges of apartheid, though concerns remain that the move may not be carried out due to heavy pressure on the International Criminal Court and its judges.