

# LIVE BLOG: As Gaza Ceasefire Holds, Israeli Occupation Forces and Settlers Escalate Repression in West Bank – Day 472

January 20, 2025 Blog, News



Palestinians walk back to Rafah after the withdrawal of Israeli troops. (Photo: via QNN)

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**By Palestine Chronicle**



### **Staff**

The freed Palestinian female prisoners from Jerusalem have started arriving at their homes in East Jerusalem, amid a heavy presence of Israeli occupation military forces.

The World Food Programme (WFP) announced it is striving to reach one million people in Gaza as quickly as possible after the crossings reopened under the ceasefire agreement.

According to Gaza's Ministry of Health, 46,876 Palestinians have been killed, and 110,642 wounded in Israel's ongoing genocide in Gaza starting on October 7, 2023.

**This blog has been discontinued. [Click here for the new blog.](#)**

Tue, Jan 21, 3:32 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Trump Revokes Biden's Sanctions on West Bank Settlers**

US MEDIA: The White House announces that former President Donald Trump has lifted sanctions imposed by the Biden administration on settlers in the West Bank who were accused of committing violence against Palestinians.

Tue, Jan 21, 2:49 AM (Palestine Time)

## **Clashes Renew Between Resistance Fighters and Authority Security Forces in Jenin Refugee Camp**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Clashes renewed between resistance fighters and security forces of the Palestinian Authority around the Jenin refugee camp. Palestinian news sources reported that the Palestinian Authority security forces opened fire on Palestinian homes in the camp.

Tue, Jan 21, 2:49 AM (Palestine Time)

## **Settlers Attack Palestinian Vehicles in the Northern West Bank**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Palestinian news sources reported that settlers attacked Palestinian vehicles on the “Yitzhar” road, south of Nablus in the northern West Bank.

Tue, Jan 21, 2:49 AM (Palestine Time)

## **Shock in Israel After Seeing Female Prisoners Released from Gaza Two Days Ago**

ISRAELI MEDIA: Israeli Broadcasting Authority (KAN):

Israeli officials were shocked when they saw hostages walking out in a crowd, surrounded by Hamas fighters in central Gaza.

Israeli officials will inform mediators that the scene of the hostages' release in this manner is unacceptable.

Tue, Jan 21, 2:49 AM (Palestine Time)

## **21 Injured in Settler Attack on Two Villages in the West Bank**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: The Palestinian Red Crescent reported that 21 Palestinians were injured due to beatings and gas inhalation during the settler attack on the villages of Al-Funduk and Jinsafut, east of Qalqilya.

Tue, Jan 21, 2:49 AM (Palestine Time)

## **Hamas: Settler Violence Must Be Confronted with a Massive Uprising in the West Bank**

STATEMENT: The Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas):

The escalating settler terrorism in the West Bank requires the intensification of resistance in all forms.

The settler terrorism, supported by the extremist Zionist occupation government, is clear evidence of the terrorist nature of the occupation.

The rising settler terrorism confirms the urgent need for action in all West Bank provinces to launch a furious uprising.

Tue, Jan 21, 2:49 AM (Palestine Time)

## **Occupation Forces Close Several Streets in the West Bank**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Israeli occupation forces closed many checkpoints, gates, and bypass roads in the West Bank. Palestinian news sources reported that all cities in the West Bank were

separated from each other, and thousands of Palestinians remain trapped on West Bank roads. The restrictions include:

- Full closure of checkpoints, entrances, and exits of Ramallah.
- Full closure of all entrances to Hebron.
- Full closure of all entrances to Qalqilya.
- Full closure of all entrances to Salfit and its villages.
- Full closure of all entrances to Bethlehem.

Tue, Jan 21, 2:49 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Settlers Attack Several Villages and Towns in the West Bank**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Palestinian news outlets reported that settlers attacked several villages and towns in the occupied West Bank. They include villages and towns in Qalqilya, Jit Junction near Tulkarm, villages near Nablus, areas near the Ramin Plain in Tulkarm district.

Tue, Jan 21, 2:49 AM (Palestine Time)

### **Witkoff: Gaza Agreement a Milestone Demonstrating Trump's Leadership Strength**

US MEDIA: Trump's Middle East envoy, Steve Witkoff:

Trump's policies have already achieved significant successes, such as the release of hostages in Gaza.

The Gaza ceasefire agreement is an achievement that shows the strength of President Trump's leadership and the global respect he commands.

The Gaza deal is another example of Trump's ability to deliver results in the most complex and challenging situations.

Trump's leadership has redefined what is possible in the pursuit of progress and stability in the Middle East.

Real progress requires tough talks and bold decisions.

Mon, Jan 20, 11:51 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Policeman Shoots Settlers Mistaken for Palestinians**

CHANNEL 12: An Israeli policeman shot two settlers, mistaking them for Palestinians. The settlers, who were masked and armed, had reportedly fired shots near the village of Al-Funduq.

Mon, Jan 20, 11:51 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Katz: No Celebrations for Released Palestinian Prisoners**

ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER – YISRAEL KATZ: Katz instructed the military to prevent celebrations marking the release of Palestinian prisoners in the West Bank and to target any armed individuals attending such events.

Mon, Jan 20, 11:51 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Ambassador: Trump's Team Played Key Role in Gaza Talks**

AXIOS: The Israeli ambassador to Washington credited Trump's team for its involvement in Gaza ceasefire negotiations. Expected actions include lifting the freeze on 2,000-pound bombs for Israel, canceling sanctions on settlers, and taking steps against the ICC.

Mon, Jan 20, 11:51 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Poll: 21% of US Voters Support Hamas**

HARVARD-HARRIS POLL: 21% of US voters expressed support for Hamas. Additionally, 87% of Democrats and 81% of Republicans supported the Gaza ceasefire. Opinions on why Hamas agreed to the deal were split, with 57% attributing it to Trump and 43% to Biden.

Mon, Jan 20, 11:51 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Israel Deploys Military Reinforcements in West Bank Village**

ISRAELI ARMY: Reinforcements were sent to the village of Al-Funduq after reports of unrest in the area.

Mon, Jan 20, 11:51 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Two Israelis Seriously Injured in West Bank**

HAARETZ: Two Israelis sustained serious injuries near a site where settlers had previously attacked Palestinian property in the village of Al-Funduq.

Mon, Jan 20, 11:51 PM (Palestine Time)

### **PFLP: Israel Failed to Achieve Goals in Gaza**

JAMIL MAZHER – PFLP DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL: Israel failed to accomplish its objectives in Gaza. The aftermath will reflect Palestinian resilience, free from occupation plans.

Mon, Jan 20, 11:51 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Israel Imposes Unprecedented Measures in West Bank**

AL JAZEERA SOURCES: Israeli authorities have imposed strict measures in the West Bank, installing iron gates and soil barriers at the entrances to numerous towns and cities.

Mon, Jan 20, 11:09 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Hamas: Second Prisoner Exchange to Proceed as Scheduled**

HAMAS STATEMENT: Hamas confirmed that the second phase of the prisoner exchange will take place as planned next Saturday.

Mon, Jan 20, 11:09 PM (Palestine Time)

## **137 Bodies Recovered from Rafah Since Truce Began**

GAZA CIVIL DEFENSE: The number of bodies recovered from under the rubble in Rafah has risen to 137 since the Gaza ceasefire began. Following Israel's withdrawal from northern Gaza, bodies were found in the streets, with recovery efforts resuming after being forcibly halted in late October.

Mon, Jan 20, 11:09 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Released Israeli Detainees Learned Arabic During Captivity**

KAN: The three Israeli detainees released on Sunday spent 471 days in captivity, during which they learned Arabic. Al-Qassam Brigades reportedly moved them between various locations, including underground facilities, before relocating them to an apartment in Gaza City.

Mon, Jan 20, 11:09 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Israeli Forces Arrest 60 Palestinians in Azzun**

ANADOLU AGENCY: Israeli forces arrested over 60 Palestinians, including children and elderly people, during a raid in Azzun, east of Qalqilya, before withdrawing from the area.

Mon, Jan 20, 8:39 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Israel Closes and Tightens Checkpoints across the West Bank**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA SOURCES: Israeli forces have closed dozens of checkpoints and iron gates at town and village entrances, tightening restrictions across all West Bank governorates.

Mon, Jan 20, 8:39 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Freed Prisoner's Home Raided a Day After Release**

PALESTINIAN INFORMATION CENTER: Israeli forces raided the home of freed prisoner Janin Amro in Dura, south of Hebron, a day after her release in a prisoner exchange deal. Her family was threatened against holding celebrations or posting on social media.

Mon, Jan 20, 8:39 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Israel Dismantles Netzarim Axis Ahead of Withdrawal**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA SOURCES: Israeli forces began dismantling parts of the Netzarim Axis as part of their withdrawal under the Gaza ceasefire agreement.

Mon, Jan 20, 8:39 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Erdogan Calls for International Oversight of Gaza Ceasefire**

TURKISH PRESIDENT RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN: Erdogan emphasized the need for full implementation of the Gaza ceasefire agreement, uninterrupted humanitarian aid to Gaza, and international guarantees ensuring Israel fulfills its commitments.

Mon, Jan 20, 8:39 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Hezbollah Congratulates Palestinian People**

HEZBOLLAH: We congratulate the great Palestinian people and their resistance on this significant victory, which crowns their heroic resilience.

Mon, Jan 20, 4:50 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Two Killed in Rafah by Occupation Fire**

AL-JAZEERA: Two Palestinians were killed by Israeli occupation forces in Rafah, southern Gaza.

Mon, Jan 20, 4:50 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Hamas: Crimes Haven't Shaken Our Resistance**

HAMAS STATEMENT:

Over 471 days, the occupation's crimes have failed to deter our people or resistance from holding on to their land and confronting aggression.

Images of Gaza's widespread destruction expose the barbarity of this rogue regime.

International legal frameworks must be activated to prosecute Israeli leaders and military as war criminals.

Mon, Jan 20, 4:50 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Two Injured near Netzarim in Central Gaza**

AL-JAZEERA: Two Palestinians were injured by Israeli occupation forces near Netzarim in central Gaza.

Mon, Jan 20, 4:50 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Halevi: Prepare for Major Operations in the West Bank**

CHANNEL 12: IDF Chief of Staff Herzi Halevi warned: "We must prepare for major operations in the West Bank in the coming days."

Mon, Jan 20, 4:50 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Lapid: Complete the Exchange Deal**

LAPID: "The prisoner exchange deal must be fully implemented until every captive returns to their family. Our goal is rebuilding Israeli deterrence and economy, not returning to war—unlike the government's stance."

Mon, Jan 20, 4:50 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Gaza Health Ministry Announces New Toll**

GAZA HEALTH MINISTRY: 47,035 Palestinians have been killed, and 111,091 wounded in Israel's ongoing genocide in Gaza starting on October 7, 2023.

Mon, Jan 20, 1:15 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Three Children Injured by Explosive Remnants in Rafah**

AL JAZEERA: Three children were injured by the explosion of an object left behind by the occupation forces in Rafah, southern Gaza.

Mon, Jan 20, 1:15 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Four Palestinians Injured by Israeli Gunfire in Rafah**

AL-JAZEERA: Four Palestinians were injured by Israeli gunfire in central and southern Rafah, southern Gaza.

Mon, Jan 20, 1:15 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Freed British Captive in 'Better Health than Expected'**

ISRAEL HAYOM: The mother of freed captive Emily Dimari stated that her daughter is in much better health than anticipated.

Mon, Jan 20, 1:15 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Gaza Civil Defense: Over 10,000 Bodies under Rubble**

GAZA CIVIL DEFENSE:

99 personnel killed, 319 injured due to Israeli strikes.

27 members detained by Israeli forces with unknown fates.

More than 97,000 injured retrieved from strike locations.

2,842 bodies disintegrated entirely due to bombings.

Over 10,000 bodies still trapped under rubble.

Mon, Jan 20, 1:15 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Soldier Killed, Three Injured in West Bank**

ISRAELI ARMY: An Israeli soldier was killed, and three others were seriously injured in Tubas, West Bank.

Mon, Jan 20, 1:15 PM (Palestine Time)

### **Israeli Lawmakers Call for Urgent Negotiation Session**

CHANNEL 12:

Members of the Israeli Knesset demanded an emergency session to initiate the second phase of the prisoner exchange agreement.

The announcement of a ceasefire in Gaza followed months of negotiations, including warnings from U.S. President Donald Trump to halt hostilities before his January 20, 2025, inauguration.

Mon, Jan 20, 1:15 PM (Palestine Time)



## **Hammas: Commitment to Free All Captives**

HAMAS STATEMENT:

We celebrate the release of our first group of captives from Israeli prisons.

The massive turnout to welcome freed captives reflects the public's support for the resistance.

The stark contrast between the treatment of captives highlights the brutality of the occupation versus the values of the resistance.

We renew our commitment to achieving the full freedom of all captives and liberation of our land.

Mon, Jan 20, 1:15 PM (Palestine Time)

## **Smotrich Criticizes Israeli Military Leadership**

ISRAEL HAYOM: Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich claimed victory cannot be achieved under the current IDF Chief of Staff.

He stressed that eliminating Hamas takes precedence over retrieving captives. He also warned he would bring down the government if the army doesn't resume control of Gaza.

Mon, Jan 20, 10:18 AM (Palestine Time)

## **Doctors Without Borders: Aid Must Be Delivered Urgently**

DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS: Humanitarian aid that saves lives must urgently be delivered to meet needs in Gaza.

The first phase of the ceasefire agreement stipulates the entry of 600 trucks of humanitarian aid into Gaza daily and reopening the Rafah Border Crossing 7 days after the agreement takes effect.

The entry of aid through Rafah has been disrupted since May 2024, when Israel occupied the Palestinian side. Aid has since been redirected through the Kerem Shalom crossing, under Israeli control.

Mon, Jan 20, 10:18 AM (Palestine Time)

## **Iran: Gaza War a Shame for Israel**

IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY: The events in Gaza are a loss and disgrace for the Zionist entity and its supporters, exposing their false claims about human rights.

IRANIAN PRESIDENT: The Palestinian people stood with strength and dignity against the Zionist entity, achieving this great victory.

Mon, Jan 20, 10:18 AM (Palestine Time)

## **UNRWA: Ceasefire in Gaza Must Hold**

UNRWA COMMISSIONER-GENERAL PHILIPPE LAZZARINI: The ceasefire in Gaza must hold, and all agreement provisions must be implemented.

We will spare no effort to alleviate immense suffering and boost humanitarian aid delivery.

Mon, Jan 20, 10:18 AM (Palestine Time)

## **Israeli Captives' Families: End the War Now**

HOSTAGE CAPTIVES' FORUM:

We will work tirelessly to ensure no one obstructs the agreement's implementation and the return of all captives.

Extremists must not derail the agreement—it is in our hands. The public wants the war to end and the captives returned. We call for protests outside the Defense Ministry.

Mon, Jan 20, 10:18 AM (Palestine Time)

## **Health Official: No Emergency Needs Among Released Israeli Captives**

HEALTH CHIEF OF CAPTIVES' FAMILIES' COMMITTEE: The three Israeli captives do not require urgent medical attention.

The captives—Rumi Joonin (24), Emily Damari (28), and Doron Shetenber Khair (31)—were handed over by Hamas' military wing to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Gaza's Saraya Square before being transferred to the Israeli military.

Mon, Jan 20, 10:18 AM (Palestine Time)

## **Red Cross: Prisoner Exchange Complex Process**

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS: The release of three detainees from Gaza and 90 Palestinian detainees from Israel was a complex process, requiring strict security measures to minimize risks.

Our teams are ready to continue implementing the agreement to reunite more families.

Mon, Jan 20, 10:18 AM (Palestine Time)

## **WHO: Rebuilding Gaza's Health System Extremely Challenging**

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION: The ceasefire in Gaza and the release of hostages and detainees offer hope to millions whose lives were devastated.

Restoring Gaza's health system is an immense challenge requiring billions in investments. This will need unwavering support from donors and the global community.

<https://twitter.com/WHOoPt/status/1881012050765230126>

Mon, Jan 20, 10:18 AM (Palestine Time)

## **EU Official: Unrestricted Aid Access to Gaza Essential**

EU COMMISSIONER FOR EQUALITY AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT: Humanitarian aid began arriving in Gaza today. Access must remain unrestricted to alleviate suffering.

Mon, Jan 20, 10:18 AM (Palestine Time)

## **WFP: Aiming to Feed One Million in Gaza**

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME: We are striving to reach one million people in Gaza as quickly as possible after the crossings reopened under the ceasefire agreement.

Our teams are delivering flour and ready-made meals, replenishing bakeries, and providing nutrition supplements for the most malnourished children.

Mon, Jan 20, 10:18 AM (Palestine Time)

## **WSJ: Hamas' Position in Gaza Secure**

WALL STREET JOURNAL:

Hamis has lost thousands of fighters and many leaders but has recruited many more.

Despite potential exclusion from future local governance, Hamas' deep roots in Gaza and the ceasefire agreement may solidify its position.

Mon, Jan 20, 10:18 AM (Palestine Time)

## **Arrival of Freed Palestinian Prisoners to Their Homes in East Jerusalem**

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: The freed Palestinian female prisoners from Jerusalem have started arriving at their homes in East Jerusalem, amid a heavy presence of Israeli occupation military forces. Celebratory scenes have been noticeably absent due to the heightened Israeli security measures.