

LIVE BLOG: Israel Strikes Iranian TV | Iran Vows ‘Decisive Response’ | Gaza Aid Massacres Continue – Day 618

June 16, 2025 Blog, News



Bodies pile up in the streets of Tel Aviv following Iran's retaliatory response. (Photo: video grab)

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By Palestine Chronicle



Staff

At least eight Israelis were killed and dozens injured in what has been described as Iran's most powerful and destructive attack to date.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces continued to target Palestinian civilians in Gaza, killing and wounding scores.

Since October 7, 2023, Israel has killed 55,315 and injured 128,741 others, the majority of whom are women and children, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza.

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

Mon, Jun 16, 9:17 PM (Palestine Time)

Iranian TV: Iran issues warning to evacuate the offices of Israeli Channels 12 and 14

IRANIAN MEDIA: Iranian television reported, citing sources, that Iran had issued a warning to evacuate the central offices of Israeli channels 12 and 14.

Mon, Jun 16, 9:17 PM (Palestine Time)

Washington Rejects G7 Draft Statement Urging De-Escalation

BLOOMBERG: Bloomberg, citing sources, reported that the United States has refused to support a proposed G7 statement calling on Iran and Israel to de-escalate. The report added that President Trump wants to continue pressuring Iran to prevent it from acquiring a nuclear weapon. It remains possible that Trump may agree later to a revised version of the G7 statement.

Mon, Jun 16, 9:17 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Official: US Focused Solely On Protecting Its Own Forces

ISRAELI MEDIA: Israeli Channel 13 quoted an Israeli official as saying that the US administration is currently focused solely on protecting its own forces.

Mon, Jun 16, 9:17 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Foreign Minister: I Told EU Israel's Operation In Iran Is Not Over

ISRAELI FM: Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar stated that he informed the EU foreign policy chief that Israel has not yet completed its military operation in Iran.

Mon, Jun 16, 9:17 PM (Palestine Time)

Iranian Envoy to UN: Our Strikes On Israel are Self-Defense

IRANIAN UN MISSION: Iran's representative to the UN Security Council affirmed that Iran's strikes on Israel are an act of self-defense under the UN Charter. He said: "Our response is proportionate and directed solely at Israeli military targets and related infrastructure."

Mon, Jun 16, 9:17 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Army: Air Force Destroyed Two Iranian F-14 Fighter Jets In Tehran

ISRAELI ARMY: The Israeli army announced Monday that the Israeli Air Force struck and destroyed two Iranian F-14 fighter jets at an airport in Tehran earlier in the day.

Mon, Jun 16, 9:17 PM (Palestine Time)

Iran Says It Downed Israeli F-35 Over Tabriz

TASNIM NEWS AGENCY: Tasnim News Agency reported that Iranian armed forces' air defense systems shot down an F-35 fighter jet over the city of Tabriz in northwestern Iran.

Mon, Jun 16, 9:17 PM (Palestine Time)

European Ministers To Hold Call With Iran's Araqchi Today

REUTERS: Reuters quoted a European diplomat saying that the foreign ministers of France, Germany, and the United Kingdom will hold a phone call this evening with their Iranian counterpart, Abbas Araqchi.

Mon, Jun 16, 9:17 PM (Palestine Time)

Iranian Official: Our Response Will Be Extremely Decisive This Time

CNN: An Iranian official told CNN that Iran's response "will be extremely decisive this time if Israel targets our citizens."

Mon, Jun 16, 9:17 PM (Palestine Time)

Netanyahu: Targeting Khamenei Would End The Fighting

ABC NEWS: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told ABC News that "targeting Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei would end the fighting and would not escalate it." He added that "it is in the interest of the United States to support Israel in its effort to eliminate Iran's nuclear program."

Mon, Jun 16, 8:16 PM (Palestine Time)

Impact in Haifa

SOCIAL MEDIA: A fire broke out in Haifa following the impact of an Israeli missile.

Mon, Jun 16, 8:16 PM (Palestine Time)

Air Raid Sirens Sound in Israel

ISRAELI MEDIA: Air raid sirens cover the Galilee region, from the Sea of Galilee to the Haifa Coast.

Mon, Jun 16, 6:38 PM (Palestine Time)

Broadcast Building In Tehran Targeted

IRANIAN MEDIA: Iranian media reported that the headquarters of Iran's state radio and television in Tehran was targeted.

Mon, Jun 16, 6:38 PM (Palestine Time)

G7 Draft: Israel Has Right To Defend Itself

REUTERS: According to Reuters, a draft statement from the G7 affirms Israel's right to defend itself. The draft also declares that Iran must never acquire a nuclear weapon and calls on both Israel and Iran to de-escalate and avoid regional destabilization.

Mon, Jun 16, 6:38 PM (Palestine Time)

Israel Reveals Death Toll From Iranian Strikes

ISRAELI EMERGENCY SERVICES: Israel's emergency medical services announced that the number of Israelis killed in the Iranian strikes has risen to 11, with 187 others injured.

Mon, Jun 16, 6:38 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Officials: Our Air Defense Is Not Impenetrable

WALL STREET JOURNAL: The Wall Street Journal quoted Israeli officials as saying that, although Israel's air defense is among the best in the world, it is not impenetrable. They added that Iran launched 370 ballistic missiles at Israel, 30 of which hit their targets.

Mon, Jun 16, 6:38 PM (Palestine Time)

US Aircraft Carrier Leaves Indo-Pacific Region

AL-JAZEERA: A US official told Al Jazeera that the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz is joining the USS Vinson to reinforce protection of US forces. The Nimitz is leaving the Indo-Pacific region on a mission that was not pre-planned.

Mon, Jun 16, 6:38 PM (Palestine Time)

Iran: Preparing A Very Large Strike for First Time

FARS NEWS AGENCY: Fars News quoted a senior Iranian security official saying that Iran is preparing to launch a very large strike for the first time since the beginning of the Israeli aggression.

Mon, Jun 16, 6:38 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Army: We Do Not Aim To Change The Iranian Regime

ABC: An Israeli army spokesperson told ABC News that Israel does not plan to change the Iranian regime. The aim is to eliminate the nuclear and ballistic missile threats, as well as Iran's regional terrorism network. Strikes on Iran will continue as long as necessary.

Mon, Jun 16, 6:38 PM (Palestine Time)

Russia Warns Of "Extremely High Risks" At Bushehr Nuclear Plant

RUSSIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER: Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister warned of very serious threats to the Bushehr nuclear power plant on the Gulf coast, describing the risks as extremely high.

Mon, Jun 16, 6:38 PM (Palestine Time)

Israel: Iran's Missiles Are No Longer A Regional Threat

ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTRY: The Israeli Foreign Ministry stated that Iran's missile program is no longer just a regional threat, saying the most dangerous regime in the world now has missiles capable of reaching Europe.

Mon, Jun 16, 6:38 PM (Palestine Time)

Pezeshkian Warns Of "More Painful Action"

IRNA: Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian warned that "if the United States does not restrain the Zionist regime, we will be forced to take a more painful action," according to Iran's official news agency IRNA.

Mon, Jun 16, 3:32 PM (Palestine Time)

Three Israeli Drones Shot Down In Lorestan, Western Iran

TASNIM: Tasnim News Agency reported that three Israeli drones were shot down in the city of Malayer, Lorestan province, in western Iran, amid ongoing Israeli attacks.

Mon, Jun 16, 3:32 PM (Palestine Time)

Netanyahu: We Are On The Path To Victory

ISRAELI GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel is on track to achieve two main objectives: eliminating the nuclear threat and the Iranian missile threat. He added that the Israeli Air Force is in control of Tehran's skies, stating, "We are on the path to victory."

Mon, Jun 16, 3:32 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Adviser: War With Iran Costs \$300 Million Per Day

THE ECONOMIST: The Economist quoted an adviser to the Israeli government saying that the daily cost of fuel and munitions in the war on Iran amounts to \$300 million.

Mon, Jun 16, 3:32 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Minister: US Strike On Embassy Would Encourage American Participation

ISRAELI MEDIA: The Israeli Minister of Science said that if the US embassy in Tel Aviv were hit, it would help push Washington to later join the attack on Iran.

Mon, Jun 16, 3:32 PM (Palestine Time)

Erdogan And Putin Agree Diplomacy Must Prevail

TURKISH PRESIDENCY: The Turkish Presidency announced that President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Russian President Vladimir Putin agreed in a phone call on the need to end the conflict between Iran and Israel and give diplomacy a chance as soon as possible. Erdogan reiterated that the only solution is a return to nuclear talks.

Mon, Jun 16, 3:32 PM (Palestine Time)

Drone Workshop Discovered In Isfahan, Four Arrested

IRANIAN AUTHORITIES: Police in Isfahan announced that security forces dismantled a drone manufacturing workshop on the outskirts of the city and arrested four individuals.

Mon, Jun 16, 3:32 PM (Palestine Time)

Iranian Government Temporarily Closes Tehran Stock Exchange

IRANIAN GOVERNMENT: The Iranian government said that while banks and financial institutions remain operational, the Tehran Stock Exchange has been temporarily closed to protect citizens' financial assets.

Mon, Jun 16, 3:32 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Army Withdraws 98th Division From Gaza

ISRAELI MEDIA: Israeli media reported that the Israeli army has withdrawn the 98th Division from the Gaza Strip and redeployed it to other fronts.

Mon, Jun 16, 3:32 PM (Palestine Time)

Iran's IAEA Envoy: No Justification For Non-Proliferation Commitments Under Aggression

IRANIAN MEDIA: Iran's representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency said there is no justification for fulfilling non-proliferation treaty commitments while under Israeli aggression.