

# Introduction

The Israeli bombardment of the Gaza Strip has turned a large part of the besieged Palestinian enclave into a pile of rubble, with people in desperate need of water, fuel and life-saving necessities, amid a total blockade of the enclave. Thousands of buildings, including hospitals, mosques and churches, have also been damaged or destroyed in Israel's relentless air and ground attacks on the besieged enclave.

This report, available in English and Arabic, provides daily facts and statistics about Israeli massacres in the Gaza Strip in the period between December 16 - 18, 2023.

It also sheds light on the political and humanitarian aftermaths along with the human loss and material damage inflicted on the besieged enclave as a result of the unabated strikes and Israeli siege, impeding Gazans' access to humanitarian assistance.



## 1. Daily Scenes

Saturday

16 December 2023

More than 260 Palestinians have been killed and 750 injured in renewed Israeli onslaughts on the Gaza Strip, bringing the death toll since Oct. 7 to 18,800 and the injured to over 51.000.

More than 8,000 people are missing under the rubble from Israel's incessant bombardment of Gaza, about 70 percent being women and children. Gaza's Health Ministry has called for inquiry into witness reports that Israeli bulldozers buried civilians alive at Kamal Adwan Hospital in northern Gaza. At least three Palestinians have been killed in Israeli military raids in the occupied West Bank.

Mohammad Awad, a local journalist from Beit Ummar, said earlier Israeli forces stormed the town located north of the city of Al-Khalil in the occupied West Bank during heavy gunfire.

Aziz Abd al-Rahim Aziz Khalil was wounded by live ammunition in clashes that broke out, and he was taken to Al-Ahli Hospital in Al-Khalil, where he succumbed to his wounds.

Meanwhile in Tulkarem, the health ministry said Salim Nasser Salim Hajar, 25, a resident of the Shweika suburb, was killed after he was shot in the head by Israeli forces. Witnesses said at the time he was with his brother, who was arrested west of the town of Deir al-Ghusun, north of Tulkarem.

Synday

17 December 2023







Israeli aggressions on different areas of the Gaza Strip have claimed the lives of more than 250 people and left 900 others wounded in less than 24 hours, bringing the death toll since Oct. 7 to nearly 19,450. At least 16 massacres have reportedly been committed by Israeli forces through ground and air attacks randomly unleashed on the besieged enclave. 151 victims and 313 wounded people arrived to Gaza's hospitals. Hundreds have remained trapped under rubble piles.

Gaza's Health Ministry said at least 90 people have been killed in the latest Israeli attacks on the enclave's Jabalia refugee camp. The strikes hit a residential block belonging to the Al-Barsh and Alwan families

An Israeli attack on Nasser Hospital's maternity ward in southern Gaza kills at least one child and injures three others.

In what was once the courtyard of Kamal Adwan Hospital in northern Gaza, Palestinians waded through the rubble, searching for corpses.

Israeli forces are accused of crushing to death Palestinians sheltering outside the hospital using bulldozers.



Israeli troops stormed the hospital during a days-long siege, the Gaza's health ministry says. Israel's army claims Hamas used the facility as a command centre. It has made similar accusations about other hospitals that have proven untrue.

The UN's WHO team describes the emergency department of Al-Shifa Hospital - the largest hospital in Gaza - as a "bloodbath" with patients filling the floor. The pope describes an Israeli sniper attack that killed a mother and

daughter at a Catholic Church in Gaza as "terrorism". At least 12 members of the Radi and Shawa families were killed in a bombing on the densely populated Shawa Square in the Al-Tuffah neighbourhood in Gaza City.

Elsewhere, more than 54 bodies arrived at Al-Shifa Hospital after Israeli warplanes targeted the neighbourhoods of Sabra, Sheikh Radwan, and Remal in the capital city.

Israeli forces killed at least five Palestinians in the occupied West Bank's Tulkarem on Sunday morning, taking the toll in Israeli raids, including drone strikes, in the occupied territories to seven in the last 24 hours. Two of the victims were killed in drone strikes while several others were injured in the large-scale military offensive in Tulkarem. Another young man was killed in Jenin. The victims are Jihad Aarneh, 25, Mahmoud Samer Jaber, 22, Ghayth Yasser Shahada, 25, Waleed Asaad Zahra, 22, and Asaad Asad Zahra, 33.

#### Monday

18 December 2023

At least 200 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli attacks in Gaza in one day with hundreds of others wounded, the health ministry says.

A member of the Salem family says at least 100 of his relatives have been killed after the Israeli army fired four missiles on the house they were sheltering in, near Al-Jalaa Street in Gaza City.

The Euro-Mediterranean Monitor has said about two-thirds of Gaza's population is experiencing extreme hunger, with humanitarian organizations saying aid deliveries continue to remain woefully inadequate. Several distress calls from families stuck in their homes in Gaza City have been shared on WhatsApp, revealing bloody details of the Israeli army's actions.

An Israeli raid has targeted a house west of the southern city of Khan Younis, killing at least 12 people and wounding dozens more, reports Al Jazeera's Wael Dahdouh. The house belonged to the Hamdan family, where tens of displaced Palestinians were taking shelter.



"Until now, 12 people have arrived at Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital, but dozens more remain under the rubble," he said, adding that he saw torn limbs at the hospital. An Israeli attack on Deir El-Balah killed 13 people and wounded dozens. The home, which belongs to the Abu Aisha family in central Gaza, is located in the Bishara neighbourhood.

Dozens of displaced people have been killed and injured in an Israeli bombing in the vicinity of the Abu Tammam School in the town of Beit Lahia in the northern Gaza Strip. One of the last remaining hospitals in the northern Gaza Strip stopped operating after being stormed by Israeli troops.

Its director Fadel Naim said Israeli soldiers attacked the Ahli Arab Hospital and arrested doctors, medical staff and patients, destroying part of the building's grounds.

Israel's raid "put the hospital out of action", said Naim. "We can't receive any patients or injured", adding that at least four people wounded by Israeli fire on Monday died on Tuesday after being injured in the Ahli assault.

MSF said Israeli forces have taken control of al-Awda Hospital after besieging it for 12 days. Males 16 years old and above were taken outside, stripped, bound and interrogated - six MSF staff among them. After the interrogations, most were sent back into the hospital and told not to move.

"Al-Awda Hospital still has dozens of patients inside, 14 of whom are children. The hospital is now out of essentials like general anaesthetic and oxygen," the group said.

At least four young Palestinians were killed as Israeli forces raided the Al-Far'a refugee camp near the city of Tubas in the occupied West Bank. The raid marked the second such incident within two weeks.

The Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) said that its teams provided medical assistance to six seriously injured people in the Al-Far'a camp and that they have been rushed to hospitals.

## 2. Political & Humanitarian Repercussions

Speaking with Al Jazeera after travelling with an aid convoy to al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City, OCHA representative Gemma Connell said many civilians remain in the city in dire need of aid.

"It's a reminder that Gaza City and the northern part of Gaza still have thousands upon thousands of civilians who are in desperate need of food, of water, of shelter. They are still there. They are still surviving and they are doing everything they can to get through every day," she said.

"They are right to be frustrated with the international community. And they are right ... to be frustrated with us," Connel said. The UN agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) says a communication blackout in Gaza has persisted since Thursday night local time: "Once again, Gazans find themselves completely isolated - cut off from their loved ones and from the rest of the world."

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) condemned the Israeli military's repeated attacks on civilians during its war on Gaza, including its own captives. "The killing of unarmed, shirtless Israelis waving a white flag is deadly confirmation that Israeli troops are shooting anything that moves in Gaza," said CAIR National Communications Director Ibrahim Hooper. "Despite the daily evidence of the far-right Israeli government's ongoing campaign of ethnic cleansing and genocide in Gaza, our nation continues to rush taxpayer-funded weapons to Israel to accelerate the slaughter - even bypassing congressional approval to do so."

Responding to Israel's killing of captives, US legislator Ilhan Omar said in a post on X: "Shooting someone with a white flag is a war crime, not a mistake."

The progressive congresswoman described the killing of three Israeli captives by Israeli forces as "a reminder that Netanyahu and his cronies' cruel siege of Gaza is only putting Israeli and international hostages' lives at more risk, along with the 2+ million Palestinians in Gaza who are being terrorised".

Israeli forces are accused of crushing to death Palestinians sheltering outside the Kamal Adwan Hospital in northern Gaza using bulldozers. In what was once the courtyard of Palestinians waded through the rubble, searching for corpses.



Israeli troops stormed the hospital during a days-long siege, the Gaza's health ministry says. Israel's army says Hamas used the facility as a command centre. It has made similar accusations about other hospitals that have proven untrue.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus says he is "appalled" by attacks on the Kamal Adwan Hospital in northern Gaza.

"Gaza's health system was already on its knees and the loss of another even minimally functioning hospital is a severe blow," the WHO chief wrote. Israeli forces besieged and shelled the hospital for several days last week, with men and boys sheltering inside rounded up during raids. On Saturday, witnesses said Israeli forces bulldozed tents housing displaced Palestinians near the hospital, crushing people inside to death.

lyad Maghari, mayor of the Nuseirat refugee camp, called on the UN refugee agency to "strengthen their role and assume their moral responsibilities". "The shelter centres in the camp lack the most basic necessities of life," he said. "We warn of the dangers of the spread of diseases and epidemics due to the accumulation of large quantities of waste and sewage in the streets."

Maghari went on to say more than 400,000 residents and displaced persons now live in the Nuseirat camp and face the growing threat of hunger and thirst because of the Israeli siege and military offensive. Vanessa Frazier, the permanent representative of Malta to the UN, has said the denial of humanitarian access to civilians "may amount to a crime against humanity and a war crime". Frazier, who recently travelled to the Rafah crossing as part of a UN Security Council (UNSC) delegation, made the comments in response to a video of another delegation of European Union representatives to the border who said "I have no doubt that Israel has made the strategic decision to deliberately frustrate the international humanitarian effort."

Qatari Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani discussed the ways for de-escalating and reaching a ceasefire during the call with UN chief Guterres, according to a statement from Qatar's Foreign Ministry.

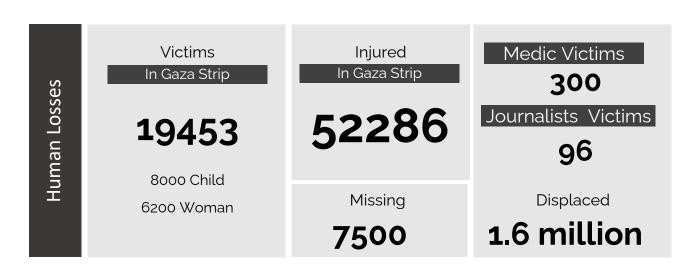
Al-Thani also discussed ways to sustainably open humanitarian corridors to ensure continued access to aid for residents of the Gaza Strip

## 3. Humanitarian Loss and Material Damage

More than 19,453 people have been killed by indiscriminate Israeli bombardment since Oct. 7, including more than 8,000 children and 6,200 women. Women and children make up 70% of the victims list.

Since Oct. 7, Israeli forces committed over 1,700 massacres in the Gaza Strip, where 7,500 people, including more than 5,000 women and children, have been missing under rubble of destroyed buildings.

More than 52,286 people have been left wounded. Over 1.6 million people have become internally displaced, with no access to food or water. The list of victims includes more than 300 medics and paramedics, 32 civil defense personnel, and 96 journalists.



Palestinian journalist Mohammed Balousha has filmed himself bleeding out after reportedly being shot in both legs by an Israeli sniper and then denied access to medics. He had been wearing a press vest. He filmed two videos - one moments after the shooting.

He then filmed a second after regaining consciousness six hours after being shot. He called for help but medics said they would not be able to reach him before the morning because of the dangerous situation.

Hundreds of victims' bodies are still missing under the rubble of buildings or are among the corpses scattered in Gaza's streets and border areas and impossible to locate or retrieve right now.

52,500 housing units have been completely razed to the ground; 254,000 units sustained partial damage; Nearly

Mosques Governmental **Completely Destroyed** Offices residential Units **197** Material Losses 126 **52.500** Churches 254,000 units sustained partial damage Completely destroyed. **Medical Sector** 90 schools and universities have been severely Health Center Hospitals Ambulance damaged. out of Services out of Services out of Services

60% of residential units in Gaza are uninhabitable. 126 government offices have been destroyed. 90 schools and universities have been severely damaged. 112 mosques and three churches have been completely destroyed; 200 mosques sustained partial damage. More than 25 hospitals and 55 health centers on the Strip have been out of service. Over 138 healthcare facilities have

been targeted by Israeli military. Israeli forces also targeted 102 ambulances, while dozens of others are out of service due to fuel shortage.

Hospitals and healthcare facilities - protected under international humanitarian law - have repeatedly been hit by Israeli attacks in Gaza since the start of the war. The military accuses Hamas of having tunnels under hospitals.

The UN has warned that its staff cannot deliver aid under a sky full of air strikes, estimating that more than 60 percent of Gaza's infrastructure has been destroyed in the war.

Gaza is by far the most dangerous place in the world to be a child, warning that without a ceasefire, more children will die from diseases than from bombing.

A study by the Geneva-based human rights Euro-Mediterranean Monitor found out that about 71 percent of the Gaza Strip's population is undergoing extreme hunger. Some 64 percent of participants admitted to eating grass and expired food items to satiate their hunger.

For the past two months, the West Bank has also witnessed repeated raids that include Israeli soldiers killing civilians, confiscating vehicles and arresting and injuring dozens of residents. Israeli forces have also sealed off the main access roads, forcing residents to take dangerous bypasses.

301 Palestinians have been killed in Israeli military raids across the West Bank since Oct. 7. As many as 3,450 people have been wounded and 4,540 arrested.

Israeli army incursions have led to the displacement of 1,836 Palestinians from their homes and the demolition of 317 structures.

