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زبانهای اروپایی

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## ***Israel cannot imprison two million Gazans without paying a heavy price***

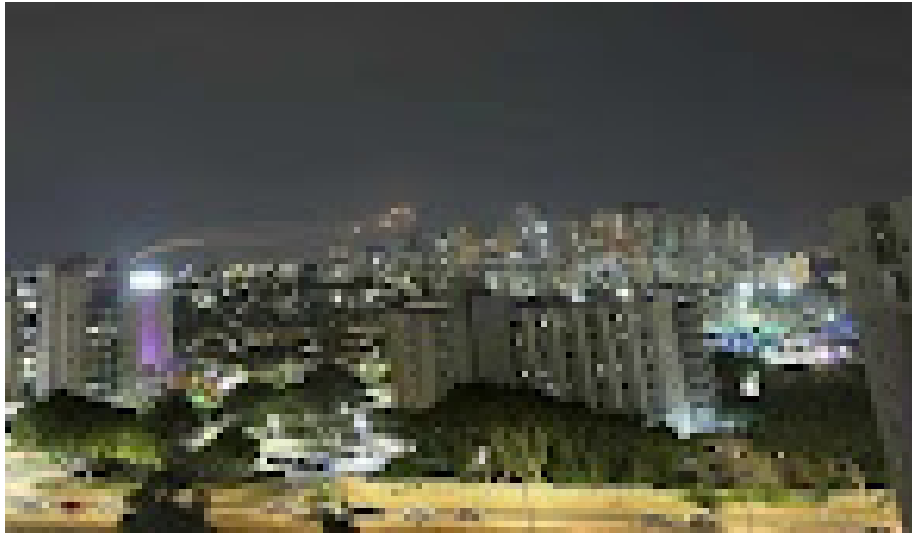
Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu bears a great deal of responsibility for what has happened, and he must pay the price, but this did not start with him and will not stop once he is gone. We must now weep bitterly for the Israeli victims, but we should also weep for Gaza.



*Behind all this lies Israeli arrogance, the idea that we can do whatever we want, that we will never pay the price, and that we will never be punished for it. We will continue to be undisturbed.*

We will stop, kill, harass, dispossess, and protect the colonists entangled in their pogroms. We will visit Joseph's tomb, Othniel Ben Kenaz's tomb and Joshua's altar in the Palestinian territories and, of course, the Temple Mount – more than 5,000 Jews just for the holiday of Sukkot.

We will shoot innocent people, gouge out their eyes and smash their faces, expel them, confiscate, steal, trap people in their beds, ethnically cleanse and, of course, continue the unbelievable siege of the Gaza Strip, and everything will be fine.



The Iron Dome firing missiles at rockets over Ashkelon on Saturday. We thought that we could continue to arrogantly reject any attempt at a diplomatic solution. Photo: Ilan Assayag

We will build a terrifying barrier around Gaza – the underground wall alone cost 3 billion shekels (€000 million) – and we will be safe. We will rely on the geniuses of the army's cyberespionage unit 720 and the agents of the Shin Bet security service, who know everything. They will notify us in time.

We will transfer half an army from the Gaza border to the Huwara border in the West Bank, just to protect the far-right MK Zvi Suktot and the settlers. And all will be well, both in Huwara and at the Erez border crossing into Gaza.

Even the most sophisticated and expensive barrier in the world can be pierced by a smoking old bulldozer when motivation is high. This arrogant barrier can be crossed by bicycle and moped despite the billions that have been invested in it and all the famous experts and big contractors.

We planned to continue going down to Gaza, hand out a few crumbs in the form of tens of thousands of Israeli work permits – always conditional on good behavior – and keep Gazans in prison. We will seal peace with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, and the Palestinians will be forgotten until they are annihilated, as many Israelis wish.

We will continue to detain thousands of Palestinian prisoners, sometimes without trial, most of whom are political prisoners. And we will not agree to discuss their release, even when they have been imprisoned for decades.

We will tell them that only by force will their prisoners know freedom. We thought that we would continue to arrogantly reject any attempt at a diplomatic solution, just because we don't want to deal with all this, and that everything would go on like this forever.

Once again, this was proven not to be the case. A few hundred armed Palestinians crossed the barrier and invaded Israel in a way that no Israeli could have imagined. A few hundred people proved that you can't incarcerate 2 million people forever without paying the price. Just as the old, smoking Palestinian bulldozer tore down the world's smartest fence on Saturday, it also tore down Israel's arrogance and complacency. He debunked the idea that the occasional suicide drone attack on Gaza — and its sale to half the world — is enough to maintain security.

On Saturday, Israel saw images it had never seen before. Palestinian vehicles patrolling their cities, cyclists entering through the gates of Gaza. These images call into question his arrogance. Palestinians in Gaza have decided that they are willing to pay any price for a moment of freedom. Is there any hope left? Will Israel learn its lesson? No.

On Saturday, they were already talking about razing entire districts of Gaza, occupying the Strip and punishing Gaza "as it has never been punished before." But Israel has never stopped punishing Gaza since 1948, not even for a moment.

After 75 years of abuse, the worst-case scenario awaits him again. Threats to "raze Gaza" only prove one thing: we have learned nothing. Arrogance is there to stay, even if Israel once again pays a heavy price.

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Gaza, most of whose inhabitants are refugees created by Israel. Gaza, which has not known a single day of freedom.

*Gideon Levy*

*Original: [Israel Can't Imprison Two Million Gazans Without Paying a Cruel Price](#)*

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*Translated by CMBL*

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