

افغانستان آزاد – آزاد افغانستان

AA-AA

چو کشور نپاشد تن من مباد بدین بوم و بر زنده یک تن مباد
همه سر به سر تن به کشتن دهیم از آن به که کشور به دشمن دهیم

www.afgazad.com

afgazad@gmail.com

European Languages

زبانهای اروپایی

By María Elena Álvarez Acosta

30.10.2023

Gaza, when death and pain become numbers

Sources: Rebellion

On October 7, Hamas – an organization classified as terrorist by Israel, the United States, the European Union, the United Kingdom and other Western powers – launched an unprecedented operation against the Israeli army. The "Al-Aqsa Storm" broke all previous patterns: it managed to penetrate the border area that was believed to be hermetic. Tel Aviv's response was immediate. Operation Iron Blades began. The Zionist defense minister claimed that "they will change Gaza for the next fifty years."

The Israeli government was cutting water, electricity, and the entry of food and fuel into the Gaza Strip; The deadly attacks began thousands of people were being displaced, while a threat of a "Total siege." The next phase of the The Israeli operation would be an attack by land, sea and air.

For the October 10, more than 180,2 people packed into Gaza's U.N. shelters as the Israeli Defense Forces aviation was punishing the territory inhabited by 3.<> million people. ^[1]

The Israeli army warned more than a million people living in the north Gaza to *evacuate their homes*, amid signs of what was to come. They call it *a retaliatory* offensive. Just 12 hours after the first warnings, hundreds of thousands of people had taken to the roads or had been forced to Leave their homes because of the airstrikes. However, *many citizens* They decided to stay and face the Israeli incursion.

The The reasons they gave were that there was nowhere safe to go in the south. In addition, they would be far away from their friends and friends. family members, and great part of the roads that could be used as evacuation routes, in On many occasions, they had been the target of Israeli air strikes. ^[2]

Why should they move south? Where are the inhabitants of the Gaza Strip going to go? The Israeli government knows that Egypt has already declared that it will not accept the entry of that number of refugees. What is the real goal? The answer is to expel them, annihilate them? Slaughter them? The reality is that the Palestinians have nowhere to go, but other questions arise: *do they want to leave? That's their territory, that's Palestine.*

Then the Figures. If the Israeli offensive unfolds as they propose, what will be the future of the Israeli offensive? balance of lives? Let's keep in mind that, according to CNN, the victims caused by The occupation forces over the last eight days exceed the number of victims of Operation Protective Edge, which It lasted 51 days in 2014. According to the newspaper El País, on October 15 there were 1.1 million displaced and there were more than 2,670 people who had died in the bombings and at least 9,600 had been wounded. In Israel, 1400 people have died in the attacks of Hamas. According to France24^[3]

The The Israeli army reported on October 26 that its troops entered during the early morning to the Palestinian enclave, where they attacked "selective" targets before returning to his country. Israel says it was an action "preparatory" for their announced ground intervention. In the face of a possible action on Gazan soil, the troops intensify their air strikes, which increasing the number of Palestinian casualties killed: at least 7,028 people, including more than 2,900 children.

The tragedy of Gaza: Inhabitants and pretexts

Gaza has been the scene of systematic bombings and civilian deaths, there were two events that "*facilitated*" violent actions, in many cases described as genocide, by Israel over the Gaza Strip:

– **The disengagement from Gaza.** It was announced by Ariel Sharon in 2003 and approved by the Israeli parliament in 2005, the On September 11 of that year, the Israeli flag was lowered in Gaza. This it meant the withdrawal of the army and Jewish settlers from that area. Around 8000, <> Israeli settlers were evacuated from their homes and camps. According to Juan Miguel Muñoz^[4] It was a disconnection plan that *disconnects as little as possible*. It wasn't a After the withdrawal, Israel continued to monitor Gaza's borders, controlled the airspace, the 30 kilometers of its coastline towards the Mediterranean Sea and also it would have a military presence between Gaza and Egypt. The first section of the plan states that, once the evacuation, "*no responsibility for the evacuation can be held of Israel in any way.*" *Palestinian people.*"

Sharon looked like was beginning to respond to the peace plan of the Madrid Quartet and the Hoja de Proposed route. However, Arafat's spokesman considered it a hoax to

circumvent negotiations, but there was one *detail* that might have happened unnoticed or did not have the terrible significance that it later had. To From that moment on, *there were only Palestinians in Gaza.*

– **The triumph of Hamas.** A year later, in In January 2006, an unexpected event took place, the Hamas Resistance Wins Absolute Majority in the *Palestinian* legislative *elections*. A crisis erupted in June 2007 in Gaza between Hamas and Fatah, the former seized power in the Strip. To split From that point on, Tel Aviv imposed a tight blockade land, air and sea on the Gaza Strip that reaches our days; Palestinians are also not allowed to come and go freely. as well as goods and services. Even more difficult times lay ahead for the inhabitants of Gaza. With the arrival of Hamas in the power, Israel would have "reasons" to harden control measures towards the Gaza Strip; In addition, he could take any *retaliatory action*, there was no danger of any Israeli life, *they were just Palestinians.*

In the actions against Gaza, the Armed Forces Israelis always raise as a cause that they defend themselves from Hamas. Shape Overall, the stated goal has been to curb rocket attacks into Israeli territory by the Islamist group. Any State has the right to defend oneself, but the actions Since Tel Aviv have been disproportionate, why are the Israeli attacks being carried out? directed against the civilian population? Do they want to cause terror, the state of insecurity? That Hamas is not supported? The most obvious question about Israel's actions would be *its actions against the civilian population of Israel? the Gaza Strip does not classify it as state terrorism?*

Gaza became the territory that was bombed to punish any action by the Palestinians against Israel, whether inside the enclave or elsewhere. elsewhere in the occupied territories. There have been several Israeli aggressions against the Gaza Strip, which have become more and more brutal, with indiscriminate and intense Bombing.

A few months after the seizure of power Hamas, in June 2006, Israel launched Operation Summer Rains. This The offensive lasted more than a month, killing 165 Palestinian civilians. Subsequently operations "Cast Lead" in 2008, "Defensive Pillar" in 2012 and "Protective Margin" in 2014 were carried out. More than 2,000 Palestinians, most of them civilians, were killed.

In May 2021, the "Operation Walls" Israel claimed was against Hamas targets in response to the massive firing of rockets against their territory; was developed the worst escalation of violence in the last seven years.

In addition to the bombing of Gaza, Israel has increased its levels of repression and the theft of the territory of the Palestinian population through through the expulsion of their lands (screeeping annexation) in the West Bank and in the neighborhoods of Jerusalem; increasing the establishment of settler settlements and the aggressiveness of the attacks and assaults to the holy sites of those who profess Islam, such as the Aqsa Mosque.

In March 2022, Israel undertook Operation Break the Wave, in this case, in the West Bank, after five Palestinian attacks in which 18 people were killed. The Actions repressive measures lasted for months and They arrested about 1,500 suspects. A year later, in July, the Large-scale "House and Garden" operation, by land and air, in Jenin.

After the onset of the so-called "Arab Spring" to the present day, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the struggle for Palestinian rights, It seemed to be forgotten. Among many other aspects, the signing of the Abraham's accords and the international stance, which was especially evident in the Western powers, to let Israel do what it wanted, it influenced the more aggressive policy of the Netanyahu government. According to [David Leonhardt](#)^[5]

(...) Netanyahu's extremism has contributed to instability between Israel and Palestinian groups such as Hamas. Yesterday, an editorial in the Israeli daily Haaretz argued: "The prime minister, who has boasted of his vast political experience and irreplaceable security wisdom, utterly failed to identify the dangers he was consciously leading Israel into by establishing a government of annexation and dispossession." Netanyahu, Haaretz added, adopted "a foreign policy that blatantly ignored the existence and rights of the Palestinians."

"How long will the horror and the Will genocide affect Palestinians in the [Gaza Strip](#)? All indicates that it will continue to be part of everyday life"^[6] Today, the death toll in Gaza continues to be counted. The news speaks of victims, of pain, since when? What has been done to solve that situation?

When death and grief turn into numbers Faces are blurred. *Why Is Israel allowed to violate everything that has been established at the international level? ¿The The powerful and the indifferent will continue to rule the destinies of these lives converted into numbers of victims of genocide? Do you prefer these faces turned into numbers to give their lives for something they have longed for and for which they have Have they always fought: their land?*

[1] Data taken from Los Angeles Times, Oct 10, 2023.

[2] *Associated Press*, October 15, 2023.

[3] Live: Israel Makes 'Preparatory' Incursion into Gaza; the The death toll in the enclave exceeds 7,000. Available in: <https://www.france24.com/es/medio-oriente/20231026-%F0%9F%94%B4-en-directo-israel-hace-incursi%C3%B3n-preparatoria-en-gaza-los-muertos-en-el-enclave-superan-los-7-000>

[4] A "Disconnection Plan" that disconnects as little as possible. Taken from El Mundo in Página 12, August 17, 2005.

[5] "The *Global Context of the Hamas-Israel War*," in *The New York Times*, October 9, 2023. Available in: <https://www.nytimes.com/es/2023/10/09/espanol/guerra-israel-gaza-hamas.html>

[6] Mary Elena Álvarez Acosta. Loop: Until when?, 11 July 2014. Available in: <http://www.cubadebate.cu/opinion/2014/07/11/gaza-hasta-cuando/>
Rebelión has published this article with the [author's permission under a Creative Commons license](#), respecting her freedom to publish it in other sources.

Rebellion 28.10.2023