

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 Amy Goodman - Denis Moynihan

12.02.2024

Biden's Support for Israel's Attack on Gaza May Cost Him Re-Election



Sources: Democracy Now!

Israel continues to bomb the Gaza Strip, while Palestinians trapped there share real-time videos of their own extermination. The estimated death toll from Israeli bombardment of Gaza since 7 October has exceeded 28,000, including 11,500 children, and some 8,000 people who have been reported missing are presumed to have died and are buried in the rubble. The number of injured also stands at 67,000. Despite the International Court of Justice on 26 January ordering Israel to take all measures at its disposal to prevent a genocide in Gaza, Israeli attacks have intensified.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken's diplomatic efforts to achieve a pause in hostilities in exchange for the release of all Israeli hostages held in the Palestinian enclave were rejected by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who vowed to fight for

"absolute victory" over Hamas in Gaza. Netanyahu is facing increasing pressure from the families of the hostages and allies of his cause, many of whom are in favor of such a deal. During a press conference held by several former Israeli hostages, a 72-year-old woman named Adina Moshe addressed Netanyahu and said, "I fear that if you continue down this path of destroying Hamas, there will be no more [Israeli] hostages to liberate."

Meanwhile, the United States is seeing the political fallout from President Joe Biden's unconditional support for Israel's attack on the Gaza Strip.

Last week, Secretary of State Antony Blinken participated in a meeting on Gaza in Washington, D.C. Among the guests was Dr. Tariq Haddad, a cardiologist and member of the Virginia Coalition for Human Rights. Haddad, who grew up in Gaza, decided at the last minute not to attend the meeting.

Instead, he sent Blinken a harrowing twelve-page letter that began as follows: "Having looked at the matter many times, I have come to the conclusion that, knowing that the policies of this Administration have been responsible for the deaths of more than 80 members of my family, including dozens of children, From the suffering of the hundreds of members of my family who are still alive, from the famine to which my family is currently subjected, and from the destruction of the homes of all members of my family, my conscience does not allow me to meet with you today."

By the time Tariq Haddad [spoke to Democracy Now!](#) several days after writing the letter, the number of his dead relatives had risen.

During that conversation, in which he had a lump in his throat more than once, Haddad said: "Right now about a hundred members of my family have lost their lives, including doctors, pharmacists, lawyers, engineers, dozens and dozens of children, and several small babies. [...] On October 25, ten members of my family, the three generations on one side of my family, died. My cousin Jamal El-Farra; his physician son, Dr. Tawfiq El-Farra; his wife, who was pregnant; two of their beautiful daughters, Reem and Hala; Jamal's brother, Esam; his wife Semad and their daughters, Rusul, Tuqa and Nadian. All, several generations were killed in an Israeli bombardment. Tuqa, one of the youngest women in the family, died on her wedding day."

This column does not have enough space to include the full list of Tariq Haddad's relatives who have died in Gaza since October 7. His letter was illustrated with photographs of many of his dead relatives, which had been taken while they were still alive. In the

photographs, they can be seen smiling, celebrating marriages, births and academic achievements, all despite Israel's brutal siege of Gaza in 2006.

However, Haddad is not the only one suffering from anguish. Michigan, a state that is swing the U.S. presidential election, is home to one of the largest Arab-American communities in the country. Many members of this community, who have always voted Democratic, now say they cannot endorse Joe Biden in the Feb. 27 primary. Biden's campaign advisers are increasingly concerned about this issue.

At the end of January, in the state of Michigan, the mayor of the city of Dearborn, Abdullah Hammoud, who is also the first Muslim to be elected to that position, refused to meet with Biden's campaign manager, Julie Chávez Rodríguez.

[During a chat with Democracy Now!](#), Mayor Hammoud said, "People feel betrayed. In 2020 we were promised a president who would restore decency to the White House, who would lead humanely. And what we've seen since October 7 is quite the opposite. We have seen an alignment with Benjamin Netanyahu and the most right-wing government in Israel's history. We can't, try as we might, understand why."

Mayor Hammoud is leading an initiative aimed at pressuring Biden to demand an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. The initiative's website, ListenToMichigan.com, published a statement signed by more than thirty Democratic elected officials, which read: "Michigan voters are sending Biden a clear message: Don't count on us in the February 27 Democratic Party primary. We will select the 'NOT COMMITTED' option because we firmly reject Biden's funding of the war and genocide in Gaza. [...] Biden will need to drastically change policy to win our vote." The "UNCOMMITTED" option indicates that voters support the party, but are not in favor of any of the candidates listed on the ballot.

On Thursday, the White House sent a delegation led by U.S. Agency for International Development Director Samantha Power to Michigan to meet with members of the state's Arab-American and Muslim community.

If Biden wants to halt his loss of electoral support, all he has to do is stop the bloody loss of Palestinian lives in Gaza, stop arming Israel, and demand an immediate ceasefire in the Strip.

© 2024 Amy Goodman

Spanish translation of the [original column in English](#). Edition: [Democracy Now!](#),
spanish@democracynow.org

Amy Goodman is the host of Democracy Now!, an international newscast that airs daily on more than 800 English-language and Spanish-language radio and television stations. She is co-author of the book "Those Who Fight the System: Ordinary Heroes in Extraordinary Times in the United States", published by Le Monde Diplomatique Southern Cone.

Source: https://www.democracynow.org/es/2024/2/9/el_apoyo_de_biden_a_el

Rebellion 10.02.2024