GAZA LIVE BLOG: Iran Orders Firm Response to Haniyeh's Assassination | Hezbollah Announces Martyrdom of Top Leader – Day 299 July 31, 2024 Blog, News



A file photo of former Palestinian Prime Minister and head of Hamas's political bureau Ismail Haniyeh in Gaza. (Photo: The Palestine Chronicle)

By Palestine Chronicle Staff

At 2 am Tehran time, an Israeli raid struck the private headquarters for war veterans where Palestinian leader Ismail Haniyeh was staying in the Iranian capital, Tehran.

The Israeli assassination of the head of Hamas' political bureau comes only hours after Israel carried out an assassination attempt believed to have targeted a top Hezbollah leader in south Beirut.

The Israeli escalation in both Lebanon and Iran has reignited fears that Israel aims at sparking a regional war in a desperate attempt to escape its

military failure in Gaza where tens of thousands of Palestinian civilians have been killed in the ongoing Israeli genocide.

According to Gaza's Ministry of Health, 39,175 Palestinians have been killed, and 90,403 wounded in Israel's ongoing genocide in Gaza starting on October 7.

This blog has been discontinued. Click here for the new blog.

Thursday, August 1, 12:00 am (GMT+2)

BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE TO UNSC: We reject Iran's attempts to exploit the suffering of the people of Gaza as a justification for further violence.

EGYPTIAN-JORDANIAN STATEMENT: We condemn political assassinations and warn against the region sliding into a comprehensive regional conflict.

CHANNEL 12: The director of the Shin Bet issued exceptional instructions regarding Netanyahu and the ministers in preparation for the Iranian response to the assassination of Haniyeh.

ALGERIAN REPRESENTATIVE TO UNSC:

Israel has adopted a policy of bloodshed and a scorched earth doctrine.

The Israeli attack is a blatant and malicious assault on the foundations of diplomatic relations and the sanctity of state sovereignty.

CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE TO UNSC:

We call on Israel to immediately comply with Security Council resolutions.

The reason we are in this situation now is the inability to reach a ceasefire in Gaza.

We explicitly object to the Israeli attacks on the southern suburbs of Beirut.

We strongly condemn the assassination of political leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran.

The assassination of Ismail Haniyeh was a clear attempt to sabotage peace efforts.

UN UNDER-SECRETARY GENERAL: "Iran has accused Israel of a serious violation of Iran's sovereignty and international law".

UNSC: The UN Security Council began an emergency session to discuss developments following the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh.

US DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE TO UNSC:

A wider war is neither imminent nor inevitable.

Israel is defending itself against repeated Hezbollah attacks.

The United States had no role in the Israeli response on July 30 in Lebanon.

We have no knowledge or connection to the killing of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh.

Wednesday, July 31, 11:30 pm (GMT+2)

FM: "Haniyeh's killers should not forget that by assassinating him, they also killed peace."

IRANIAN FM:

The martyrdom of the leaders of the resistance front makes it stronger and more determined in its war against Israel.

The assassination of Fouad Shukr is a flagrant violation of international law and Lebanon's sovereignty and unity.

The assassination of Hezbollah's senior leader Fouad Shukr in Beirut is a sinful Zionist act that the world must condemn.

FARS NEWS AGENCY: An Iranian military advisor was killed in the raid carried out by the Zionist entity on the southern suburb of Beirut.

UNITED AIRLINES: Our daily service to Tel Aviv has been suspended for security reasons.

NYT:

The Iranian leader ordered a direct strike on Israel in response to the assassination of Haniyeh.

Among the options is a coordinated attack by Iran, Yemen, Syria and Iraq to achieve maximum effect.

GERMAN FM: It is of paramount importance to prevent a regional war from breaking out and plunging the entire region into chaos.

Wednesday, July 31, 10:00 pm (GMT+2)

AL-AZHAR: Haniyeh's assassination is a heinous crime carried out by the treacherous occupying entity.

HAIFA MAYOR: I call on the city's residents to stay near the shelters during the coming period.

AL-QASSAM BRIGADES: The Al-Qassam Brigades mourned the death of Hezbollah military commander Fuad Shukr, and praised his central role in supporting the Palestinian people and their resistance.

ANSARALLAH: "We offer our condolences for the martyrdom of the great jihadist leader Ismail Haniyeh and the jihadist leader Fouad Shukr."

KIRBY: We continue to work to support Israel with what it needs to defend itself.

REUTERS: The United States raises its travel warning to Lebanon to level 4 or do not travel.

YEDIOTH AHRONOTH: Foreign airlines are canceling their flights to Israel.

KAN: Israel is preparing for a joint retaliation launched from Iranian, Lebanese and possibly Yemeni territory.

Wednesday, July 31, 8:30 pm (GMT+2)

HEZBOLLAH: The leader Fouad Shukr has been martyred.

AL-MAYADEEN: An upcoming speech by the Secretary-General of Hezbollah, Hassan Nasrallah tomorrow at five o'clock Jerusalem and Beirut time.

AL-MAYADEEN: Shortly. A statement of obituary for the martyr leader Fouad Shukr to be issued by the media relations of Hezbollah.

NETANYAHU: We dealt crushing blows to Iran agents.

IRAN (Secretary of Iran's National Security Council): "We will not give up our right to avenge the blood of Ismail Haniyeh, and the Zionist entity will receive an appropriate response."

AL-JAZEERA (Statement):

Al-Jazeera condemns in the strongest terms the assassination of its correspondent in Gaza, Ismail Al-Ghoul, and photographer Rami Al-Rifi.

The occupation deliberately targeted Ismail Al-Ghoul and Rami Al-Rifi during field coverage from Al-Shati refugee camp in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli occupation targeted the car carrying Ismail and Rami with a guided missile, killing them immediately.

IRAN (Delegate to the United Nations): "Haniyeh could not have been assassinated without permission and intelligence support from the United States."

Wednesday, July 31, 6:30 pm (GMT+2)

EU: The European Union called on Wednesday on "all parties" to exercise "the greatest restraint" and avoid "any new escalation", after the assassination of Hamas political bureau chief Ismail Haniyeh in a strike that Iran attributed to Israel.

AL-QASSAM BRIGADES: "We carried out two shooting operations in Hebron, near the Kiryat Arba settlement and near the Ibrahimi Mosque, in response to the assassination of Haniyeh."

AL-JAZEERA: Al Jazeera correspondent Ismail al-Ghoul and photographer Rami al-Rifai were killed in an Israeli attack.

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Israeli shelling targeted a short while ago the vicinity of Ismail Haniyeh's house in the Shati refugee camp in Gaza.

KHALIL AL-HAYYA:

We, Iran, the region and the world do not want war, and the one who ignited the region is responsible.

The absence of another leader does not divert the movement's compass from its performance.

When we say we want to stop the aggression, it is for the sake of our people, not weakness.

We await a full investigation by the Iranian authorities into the assassination.

Wednesday, July 31, 5:00 pm (GMT+2)

AL-JAZEERA: A popular gathering is taking place in Palestine Square in central Tehran to mourn Ismail Haniyeh.

CHIEF OF STAFF OF IRANIAN ARMED FORCES:

The Resistance Front will soon avenge the blood of the martyrs of the liberation of Palestine from the Zionist entity.

Confronting the Zionist entity will continue with greater determination.

IRAN: The Iranian Attorney General has ordered the appointment of a special team to investigate various aspects of the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh.

AXIOS: Israeli Defense Minister told his American counterpart that Israel does not intend to escalate but is prepared to respond to any Hezbollah attack.

Wednesday, July 31, 4:00 pm (GMT+2)

ISRAELI GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN: Iran will bear responsibility for any escalation resulting from its actions, and we will work to restore security in northern Israel. We will not comment on the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh.

IRANIAN PRESIDENT: Haniyeh was our official guest and the crime is a violation of international laws.

IRAQI HEZBOLLAH BRIGADES: The assassination of Ismail Haniyeh reflects the enemy's inability to confront the resistance on the battlefield.

ISLAMIC JIHAD: We mourn the leader Haniyeh and affirm our solidarity with Hamas in the resistance.

Wednesday, July 31, 3:00 pm (GMT+2)

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Demonstrations continue in several cities in the West Bank, including Ramallah, Hebron, Nablus and Tulkarm, condemning the assassination of Hamas political bureau chief Ismail Haniyeh.

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Four citizens were killed as a result of shelling on a car at the entrance to the Al-Zawaida area, near the electricity company in the central Gaza Strip.

Wednesday, July 31, 2:10 pm (GMT+2)

NEW YORK TIMES (Citing US Secretary of State Antony Blinken): The United States did not know in advance of the attack on Haniyeh.

AL-JAZEERA: Demonstrations in cities in the West Bank, including Ramallah, Hebron (Al-Khalil) and Nablus, condemning the assassination of Hamas political bureau chief Ismail Haniyeh and raising slogans calling on the resistance factions to respond.

IRAN (Advisor to the Iranian Supreme Leader for International Affairs):

The Zionist entity will pay a heavy price for the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh.

Haniyeh's assassination will create the conditions for accelerating the collapse of the Zionist entity.

IRAN (Iranian Vice President): The Iranian government's strength will not be affected, and Tehran will continue to support the Palestinian people and the resistance.

AL-JAZEERA (Citing Turkish Parliament Speaker Numan Kurtulmus):

The assassination of Ismail Haniyeh is a brutal and condemned political crime.

Ismail Haniyeh was brutally attacked, and we condemn state terrorism that is contrary to international law.

We received the news of the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh with sadness, and we condemn this brutal Israeli terrorism.

Netanyahu and his government are violating international law, and there are those who support them in committing these crimes.

We are working to unite the Palestinian components to stand together against the Zionists.

Israel benefits from the fragmentation of the countries of the region, and we must leave behind our differences and work to achieve unity.

It is impossible to stop Israel with just words.

KAN (The Israel Broadcasting Corporation citing Defense Minister Yoav Galant: "We don't want war, but we are prepared for all scenarios."

Wednesday, July 31, 12:30 pm (GMT+2)

HAMAS: The funeral of martyr Haniyeh will be held in Doha.

CBS (citing a source familiar with ceasefire talks): Haniyeh's assassination may complicate mediation efforts because he was a key decision-maker in them.

WAFA: President Abbas declares one day of mourning over Haniyeh's assassination.

MALAYSIAN PM: Haniyeh's assassination is the most despicable murder.

KAN: The Ministerial Cabinet will meet today after the assassination of Haniyeh.

QATARI PM: How can negotiations be conducted in which one party kills the one negotiating with him?

Wednesday, July 31, 11:50 am (GMT+2)

IRGC: The Zionist regime's crime of assassinating Haniyeh will face a harsh response from the strong resistance front and Iran in particular.

IRANIAN GUARDIAN COUNCIL: Iran and the Resistance Front will not squander the blood of the martyr Ismail Haniyeh.

REUTERS: the Israeli government press office posted on Facebook a picture of Hamas political bureau chief Ismail Haniyeh with the caption "Eliminated."

AL-QASSAM BRIGADES: The assassination of Commander Haniyeh in the heart of Tehran is a critical and dangerous event that takes the battle to new dimensions.

IRANIAN NEWS AGENCY (citing Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei): Revenge for Haniyeh's blood is our duty because the assassination took place on our soil.

ERDOGAN: I strongly condemn the treacherous assassination of Hamas Political Bureau Chief Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran.

JORDANIAN FM: Israel's assassination of Haniyeh is a violation of international laws and an escalating crime that will lead to more tension and chaos in the region.

AFGHAN GOVERNMENT: The martyrdom of Ismail Haniyeh is a great loss for the Islamic nation and his assassination is a crime.

Wednesday, July 31, 10:30 am (GMT+2)

CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTRY: We strongly oppose and condemn the assassination of Hamas Political Bureau Chief Ismail Haniyeh.

ISRAELI ARMY RADIO: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called for security consultations this afternoon in light of the announcement of the assassination of the head of the political bureau of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh.

IRANIAN PRESIDENT: Iran mourns its partner in sorrows and joys, the leader of the Palestinian resistance, the martyr of Jerusalem, Ismail Haniyeh.

QATARI FM: The State of Qatar condemns in the strongest terms the assassination of the head of the political bureau of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh.

TASNIM NEWS AGENCY: the second statement of the Revolutionary Guards regarding the martyrdom of Ismail Haniyeh will be published in an hour.

RUSSIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER: Haniyeh's killing is an unacceptable political assassination.

HEZBOLLAH: "The martyrdom of Commander Ismail Haniyeh will increase the determination and stubbornness of the resistance fighters in all resistance arenas to continue the path of jihad."

Wednesday, July 31, 09:30 am (GMT+2)

LEBANESE CARETAKER PM MIKATI: We condemn the assassination of Haniyeh and see in this act a serious danger of expanding the circle of global concern and danger in the region.

UN REPORT: Israel used dogs and waterboarding against Gaza detainees.

IRANIAN NEWS AGENCY: Haniyeh's assassination took place around 2 a.m. He was staying at a private headquarters for war veterans in Tehran.

HANIYEH'S ADVISOR: Taher Al-Nono, media advisor to Ismail Haniyeh, told Al Jazeera that the assassination of the head of Hamas' political bureau was considered a direct targeting and a premeditated assassination, noting that Iranian authorities will announce the details.

KAN: The head of Hamas's political bureau, Ismail Haniyeh, was targeted by a missile launched from a country outside Iran, not from Iranian airspace.

IRANIAN MEDIA: Haniyeh's assassination was carried out by a missile launched from abroad.

ISRAELI ARMY: The occupation army said it intercepted a suspicious object that was on its way to Israel from Lebanese territory.

RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY: The assassination of Hamas Political Bureau Chief Ismail Haniyeh is a completely unacceptable political crime.

IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY:

The competent authorities are still investigating the dimensions and details of the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh.

The blood of the Mujahid who struggles to get rid of the clutches of the Zionist occupiers will never go in vain.

The martyrdom of Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran will strengthen the strong relationship between Iran and dear Palestine and the resistance.

ISRAELI ARMY: The Israeli army talks about the situation in light of targeting a Hezbollah leader in Beirut and the assassination of the head of the political bureau of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, in Tehran.

TURKYEH: Turkish foreign ministry described the assassination in a statement as despicable, and said that the attack also aims to expand the war in Gaza to a regional level.

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REUTERS (citing Iranian source): Iran's highest security body will decide Iran's strategy in response to the assassination of Hamas political bureau chief Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran.

KAN: After assessing the situation, officials decided to close the airspace from the Hadera line (south of Haifa) to the north for 24 hours.

AUSTIN: If Israel is attacked, we will help defend it. We will continue to support and stand by Israel, but we will work hard to reduce tensions through diplomatic means.

Wednesday, July 31, 08:00 am (GMT+2)

AL-JAZEERA: Mosques in the West Bank and Palestinian diaspora camps mourned the head of the Hamas political bureau, Ismail Haniyeh, and called for a general mobilization.

MUSTAFA BARGHOUTI: Haniyeh's assassination is a crime that will increase our people's resolve.

NYT: The Supreme National Security Council is meeting at the headquarters of Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, in the presence of the commander of the Quds Force of the Revolutionary Guard, following the assassination of the head of the political bureau of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, in Tehran.

MAHMOUD ABBAS: We strongly condemn the assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh. The assassination of Haniyeh is a cowardly act and a dangerous development.

ISRAELI MEDIA: The office of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu issued instructions to ministers not to comment on the assassination of Hamas political bureau chief Ismail Haniyeh.

ISLAMIC JIHAD: Assassination will not deter us from continuing the resistance.

AL-AQSA TV: Fierce clashes are taking place between the Palestinian resistance and the occupation forces that penetrated the Tal al-Hawa neighborhood, southwest of Gaza City.

PFLP LEADER: Maher al-Taher, the head of international relations in the PFLP, said that Israel is crossing all red lines and pushing matters towards a comprehensive war with the entire axis of resistance.

WHITE HOUSE: The White House said it was aware of reports that Hamas political bureau chief Ismail Haniyeh was assassinated in Tehran.

AL-AQSA TV: Popular calls were issued for a general strike and demonstrations throughout Palestine after the assassination of the head of the political bureau of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, in the Iranian capital.

Wednesday, July 31, 07:00 am (GMT+2)

ANSARALLAH: The assassination of the head of the political bureau of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, is a terrorist crime and a flagrant violation of the laws.

CNN: the Israeli army declined to comment on the assassination of Hamas political bureau chief Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran.

AL-AQSA TV: Al-Aqsa TV quoted Hamas Political Bureau member Musa Abu Marzouk as saying that the assassination of the movement's Political Bureau chief Ismail Haniyeh, after he was targeted in an Israeli airstrike in Tehran, was a cowardly act and would not go unpunished.

Wednesday, July 31, 06:00 am (GMT+2)

IRGC: The Iranian Revolutionary Guard announces the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh, head of the political bureau of Hamas, and a bodyguard of his following an attack in Tehran.

(The Palestine Chronicle)