LIVE BLOG: Gaza Ceasefire Begins – Day 470

January 18, 2025 Blog, News



Despite the announcement of a ceasefire, Israel continued to carry out massacres in Gaza. (Photo: via QNN)

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Israel has agreed to release 737 Palestinian prisoners in a high-stakes swap deal, amid hardline opposition from Itamar Ben-Gvir.

Meanwhile, a missile from Yemen triggered sirens across central Israel while Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for a rocket fired towards the Gaza envelope.

According to Gaza's Ministry of Health, 46,876 Palestinians have been killed, and 110,642 wounded in Israel's ongoing genocide in Gaza starting on October 7, 2023.

This blog has been discontinued. Click here for the new blog. Sun, Jan 19, 8:46 AM (Palestine Time)

Celebrations Erupt as Palestinian Resistance and Police Take Charge in Gaza

AL-MAYADEEN: Palestinian resistance fighters and vehicles are visible in various Palestinian cities and refugee camps. Gaza police have swiftly emerged to take responsibility for maintaining order across different localities. Victory celebrations are unfolding throughout Gaza, as people mark this significant moment.

Sun, Jan 19, 8:39 AM (Palestine Time)

Ceasefire Begins After 471 Days of Genocide

PALESTINE CHRONICLE: After 471 days of relentless massacres of innocent Palestinians by Israel, alongside legendary steadfastness and resistance, a ceasefire in Gaza officially begins.

Sun, Jan 19, 5:41 AM (Palestine Time)

Israel to Exile Some Palestinian Prisoners Abroad

ISRAELI MEDIA: Netanyahu confirms some released Palestinian prisoners will be exiled outside Palestine.

Sun, Jan 19, 5:41 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Forces Begin Withdrawing from Rafah

ISRAELI MEDIA: Israeli military starts pulling out from central Rafah to the Philadelphia Corridor in southern Gaza.

Sun, Jan 19, 5:41 AM (Palestine Time)

US Airstrikes Target North of Sana'a, Yemen

YEMENI MEDIA: 4 US airstrikes hit the Azraqeen area north of the Yemeni capital.

Sun, Jan 19, 5:41 AM (Palestine Time)

Gaza Awaits Ceasefire to Take Effect in Hours

PC: Gaza anticipates the ceasefire starting at 8:30 AM local time, with hopes to end Israeli airstrikes after 470 days.

Details of Gaza Ceasefire Agreement

Ceasefire starts at 8:30 AM.

Israeli forces to withdraw from residential areas.

12-hour Israeli flight ban over Gaza.

Partial return of displaced people.

600 aid trucks to enter Gaza daily.

Prisoner exchange begins at 4:00 PM local time.

Sun, Jan 19, 2:02 AM (Palestine Time)

Yahya Saree: We Targeted the US Aircraft Carrier Harry Truman

YEMENI MEDIA: The military spokesperson for Ansar Allah (Houthi movement) announced:

We targeted the US aircraft carrier Harry Truman in the northern Red Sea with drones and missiles.

This marks the eighth targeting of the US aircraft carrier since its arrival in the Red Sea.

We warn hostile forces in the Red Sea against any aggression on our country during the ceasefire period.

Sun, Jan 19, 2:02 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Warns Palestinian Prisoners' Families in Jerusalem Against Celebrations

AL-JAZEERA: Israeli police have warned the families of six Palestinian prisoners in East Jerusalem, who are expected to be released today, against holding celebrations.

Sun, Jan 19, 2:02 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Nahal Brigade Withdraws from Gaza

ISRAELI MEDIA: Israeli Army Radio reported that the 932nd Battalion of the Nahal Brigade has withdrawn from Gaza as part of the ceasefire arrangements.

Sun, Jan 19, 1:56 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Army Prepares for Gradual Withdrawal from Parts of Gaza

US MEDIA: CNN reported that Israeli military sources confirmed preparations for a gradual withdrawal from certain areas in Gaza. This move is part of the redeployment of Israeli occupation forces in line with the ceasefire agreement.

Sun, Jan 19, 1:55 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Bombing North of Nuseirat Camp in Gaza

PALESTINIAN MEDIA: Israeli occupation forces targeted residential buildings north of Nuseirat camp in the central Gaza Strip early this Sunday. Additional airstrikes were reported on Gaza City, and artillery shelling hit areas west of Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip.

Sun, Jan 19, 1:40 AM (Palestine Time)

Trump's Advisor: US Reaffirms Commitment to Gaza Agreement

AXIOS: Sources told Axios that National Security Advisor to President-elect Donald Trump reassured families of US detainees that Washington remains committed to implementing all stages of the Gaza agreement, set to begin Sunday morning.

Sun, Jan 19, 12:07 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Army Prepares Gradual Gaza Withdrawal

CNN (citing Israeli military officials): The Israeli army is preparing for a gradual withdrawal from parts of the Gaza Strip. This adjustment in troop deployment aligns with the terms of the ceasefire agreement.

Sun, Jan 19, 12:07 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Nahal Brigade Withdraws from Gaza

ISRAELI ARMY RADIO: The 932nd Battalion of the Israeli Nahal Brigade has withdrawn from the Gaza Strip as part of ceasefire-related arrangements.

Sun, Jan 19, 12:07 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Army on High Alert Over Rocket Fire from Gaza

ISRAELI MEDIA: The Israeli army raised its alert level for air defenses, fearing rocket fire towards Gaza's border areas.

Sun, Jan 19, 12:07 AM (Palestine Time)

Palestinian Prisoners to Be Transferred Ahead of Release

ISRAELI PRISON SERVICE: The Israeli Prison Service announced that Palestinian prisoners set for release tomorrow are being transferred to the facility from which they will be freed.

Sun, Jan 19, 12:07 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Army Leadership Set for Dismissals

ISRAEL HAYOM: The Israeli political leadership has agreed on plans to dismiss top army officials soon.

Sun, Jan 19, 12:07 AM (Palestine Time)

Hind Rajab Foundation Files Another War Crimes Complaint

CHANNEL 12: The Hind Rajab Foundation has filed a war crimes complaint in Barcelona against an Israeli soldier.

Sun, Jan 19, 12:07 AM (Palestine Time)

Prisoner Exchange to Proceed as Planned

HAARETZ: Haaretz cited Israeli officials affirming that the prisoner exchange deal will proceed as scheduled, despite delays in receiving the names of three captives.

Sun, Jan 19, 12:07 AM (Palestine Time)

Jenin Resistance Accuses PA of Breaking Promises

JENIN RESISTANCE: Despite our efforts to ease tensions, the Palestinian Authority (PA) failed to honor agreements. The PA has not lifted the siege on the camp or withdrawn from agreed-upon locations. Arbitrarily detained individuals have not been released, some held without charge for 45 days.

Sun, Jan 19, 12:07 AM (Palestine Time)

Trump: Netanyahu Must Do What's Necessary

NBC INTERVIEW WITH DONALD TRUMP:

Hostage releases will happen soon and must proceed.

I told Netanyahu to continue doing what is necessary.

A good government ensures the ceasefire holds.

If respected, the ceasefire will last; if not, chaos will follow.

Netanyahu must end the war but also take the necessary actions.

Sun, Jan 19, 12:07 AM (Palestine Time)

Islamic Jihad Claims Soldier Sniped in Gaza

AL-QUDS BRIGADES: The Al-Quds Brigades claimed responsibility for sniping an Israeli soldier east of Gaza City this evening.

Sat, Jan 18, 9:06 PM (Palestine Time)

Netanyahu: Committed to Achieving War Goals

NETANYAHU:

"We make it clear to the world that when the Israeli people unite, no force can break them."

"We are determined to complete our mission of bringing back all detainees."

"Under the agreement, 33 detainees, mostly alive, will be returned."

"We will continue to meet all war objectives: retrieving detainees and dismantling Hamas."

Sat, Jan 18, 9:06 PM (Palestine Time)

General Eiland: Hamas Won, Israel Failed

ISRAELI ARMY RADIO: Retired Israeli General Giora Eiland, architect of the "Generals' Plan," declared that Hamas emerged victorious, and Israel suffered a resounding failure.

Sat, Jan 18, 9:06 PM (Palestine Time)

Givati Brigade Withdraws from Gaza

CHANNEL 14: After nearly 15 months, the Givati Brigade departed Gaza today. Reports indicate no orders were given for preparations to resume combat.

Sat, Jan 18, 9:06 PM (Palestine Time)

Ministers Cried During Prisoner Deal Approval

ISRAELI ARMY RADIO: Several Israeli ministers, government officials, and the government secretary reportedly cried during yesterday's meeting to approve the prisoner exchange deal. Mossad's chief described the deal as "terrible but necessary" given Israel's current situation.

Sat, Jan 18, 9:06 PM (Palestine Time)

Ben Gvir's Party to Resign from Government

JEWISH POWER PARTY STATEMENT: The "Jewish Power" party, led by Minister Itamar Ben Gvir, announced it will resign from the government tomorrow in protest of the recently approved prisoner exchange deal.

Sat, Jan 18, 9:06 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Army Reinforces West Bank with More Troops

ISRAELI ARMY RADIO: Israeli army Chief of Staff Herzi Halevi ordered the deployment of two additional battalions to the West Bank, increasing the total to 20 battalions starting Sunday.

Sat, Jan 18, 9:06 PM (Palestine Time)

Israel Restricts Celebrations for Freed Prisoners

QNN: Israeli forces raided the home of released prisoner Zeina Barber in Silwan, Jerusalem, warning her family against any celebrations following her release under the exchange deal.

Sat, Jan 18, 9:06 PM (Palestine Time)

Author of Stabbing Operation Identified

ISRAELI MEDIA: The author of Tel Aviv stabbing operation was identified as Salah Yahya from Tulkarm. He was killed at the scene by an armed settler.

Sat, Jan 18, 5:23 PM (Palestine Time)

One of Wounded in the Tel Aviv Operation Was Killed

CHANNEL 13: One of the wounded in the stabbing and shooting operation that took place in central Tel Aviv succumbed to his wounds.

Sat, Jan 18, 5:21 PM (Palestine Time)

Critical Injury in Tel Aviv Shooting

ISRAELI MEDICAL SERVICES: An Israeli sustained severe injuries in a shooting in Tel Aviv. The shooter was killed.

Sat, Jan 18, 5:21 PM (Palestine Time)

Shooting Operation in Central Tel Aviv

MAARIV:

Injuries reported in a shooting on a central Tel Aviv street.

Police are investigating the circumstances of the incident.

Large police forces were called to the scene.

Sat, Jan 18, 5:21 PM (Palestine Time)

Prison Authority Seeks to Prevent Celebrations

ISRAELI PRISON SERVICE (via MAARIV):

Awaiting an updated list of 95 security prisoners to be released tomorrow in exchange for three female prisoners.

The Red Cross will not escort prisoners to avoid celebratory displays in Israel.

Sat, Jan 18, 5:21 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Think Tank: Army Exhausted by Futile Tasks

ISRAELI INSTITUTE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES:

The Israeli army was drained by missions that did not impact war-ending conditions.

The ceasefire agreement signals Israel's inability to destroy Hamas.

Hamas is expected to recover, and its future leadership will emerge from prisons.

Decisions by Netanyahu and the security establishment came at the cost of soldiers' lives and captives.

Sat, Jan 18, 5:21 PM (Palestine Time)

Ansarallah: We Stand with Gaza Resistance

ANSARALLAH SPOKESPERSON YAHYA SAREE:

The "Zolfiqar" missile hit its target accurately, a site referred to as the enemy's defense ministry in Jaffa.

The enemy's defense systems failed to intercept the missile.

Coordination with Gaza resistance continues to counter breaches during the ceasefire.

Reaffirmed solidarity with Palestinian resistance in Gaza.

Sat, Jan 18, 5:21 PM (Palestine Time)

90% of Northern Gaza Homes Destroyed

GAZA CIVIL DEFENSE:

Residents are urged to avoid returning to northern Gaza due to unexploded war remnants.

A resolution to Gaza's crisis requires an international decision to permanently open all crossings.

Ninety percent of homes in northern Gaza were destroyed partially or completely, posing serious risks.

Sat, Jan 18, 3:04 PM (Palestine Time)

Israel Failed to Break Gaza's Resolve

ANADOLU NEWS AGENCY: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan expressed support for Gaza, stating that despite Israeli genocide, the people of Gaza stood firm.

Sat, Jan 18, 3:04 PM (Palestine Time)

Abu Hamza: Israeli Bombing Injures Captives in Gaza

ABU HAMZA: Israeli bombardments are leading to casualties among Israeli prisoners, and their families should demand an end to the strikes.

Sat, Jan 18, 3:04 PM (Palestine Time)

Israel Blocks Entrances to Hebron

AL-JAZEERA: Israeli forces closed most of Hebron's main entrances with concrete barriers, amidst an expansion of operation in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

Sat, Jan 18, 3:04 PM (Palestine Time)

Gaza Death Toll Rises

GAZA HEALTH MINISTRY: 46,899 Palestinians have been killed, and 110,725 wounded in Israel's ongoing genocide in Gaza starting on October 7, 2023.

Sat, Jan 18, 3:04 PM (Palestine Time)

Türkiye Welcomes Gaza Ceasefire Agreement

TURKISH FM: Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan expressed joy over the ceasefire and the humanitarian aid reaching Gaza.

Sat, Jan 18, 3:04 PM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Drone Strikes Injure Several near Nuseirat

Several people were injured in an Israeli drone strike west of Nuseirat.

Sat, Jan 18, 12:14 PM (Palestine Time)

Hamas: We Forced the Occupation to Halt the Aggression and Withdraw

HAMAS:

We forced the occupation to halt the aggression and withdraw, despite Netanyahu's attempts to prolong the war and commit massacres.

The occupation failed to achieve its aggressive objectives and only succeeded in committing war crimes that stain humanity.

The Al-Aqsa Flood battle reflected the unity of our great people with their victorious resistance and shattered the enemy's arrogance.

The blood of our people will not be in vain and will not be forgotten. The enemy's leaders and soldiers will be pursued and prosecuted, no matter how long it takes.

Sat, Jan 18, 12:14 PM (Palestine Time)

Hamas: Lists Will Be Published Before Each Exchange Day

HAMAS:

The lists will be published before each exchange day, according to a mechanism agreed upon in the ceasefire terms.

The release of Israeli hostages will depend on the number of Palestinian detainees that Israel will release.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Army: Intercepted Missile Fired from Yemen

ISRAELI ARMY: The Israeli Air Force claimed to intercept a missile launched from Yemen.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Channel 12: Air Traffic Halted at Ben Gurion Airport

CHANNEL 12: Air traffic at Ben Gurion Airport was suspended after a missile was launched from Yemen. Firefighting teams were dispatched to Be'er Yaakov, south of Tel Aviv, following a fire caused by missile fragments.

ISRAELI EMS: Emergency teams treated several cases of panic and minor injuries from rushing to shelters.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Ben Gvir: Deep Concerns Over Prisoner Swap Deal

ITAMAR BEN GVIR: The Minister of National Security expressed heightened concerns as more details of the prisoner swap emerged.

"This is a dangerous deal, releasing prisoners to Jerusalem and the West Bank. I urge Likud ministers not to support it—it's not too late," he stated.

Ben Gvir criticized the deal as surrendering to Hamas and compromising Israeli security, saying it violates the government's red lines.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Israeli Army: Alarms Sounded Due to Yemen Missile Launch

ISRAELI ARMY: The alarms sounding in central Israel were triggered by a missile launch from Yemen.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Alarms Sound in Ashdod and Jerusalem Areas

ISRAELI CIVIL DEFENSE: Sirens sounded across northern and eastern Ashdod, as well as in Jerusalem and its western and southern suburbs.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Hezbollah: Resistance and Palestinians Foiled Israel's Plan

NAIM QASSEM:

The Gaza agreement demonstrates the resilience of the resistance, which achieved its goals while Israel did not.

The resistance and Palestinian people thwarted Israel's dangerous scheme.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Channel 13: Prisoner Deal May Harm West Bank Security

CHANNEL 13 ISRAEL:

The National Security Council head warned in a government meeting that the prisoner swap deal might negatively impact West Bank security.

The Security Cabinet made decisions to bolster security in the West Bank, especially in settlements.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Occupation Forces Remove Surveillance Crane Near Jabalia Camp

AL-JAZEERA:

Occupation forces dismantled a surveillance crane near Abu Shrekh Junction west of Jabaliya Camp.

Jabaliya, a stronghold of Palestinian resistance, has been a target for Israel's military operations aimed at subduing its residents and the resistance.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Maariv: Trump Allies Deliver Troubling Message to Netanyahu

MAARIV: Associates of US President-elect Donald Trump reportedly conveyed a message to Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu, expressing Trump's dissatisfaction despite their meetings. Leaks suggest Trump's team favors a regional peace plan but not with Netanyahu in charge.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Alarms Sound in Almon Settlement Near Ramallah

ISRAELI HOME FRONT COMMAND: Sirens blared in Almon settlement near Ramallah amid fears of an armed infiltration.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Qatari MFA: Gaza Ceasefire Starts 8:30 AM Sunday

QATAR MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

The Gaza ceasefire will begin at 8:30 AM Sunday local time.

Residents are urged to exercise caution and follow official guidance.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Occupation Forces Demolish Homes in Jabaliya

AL-JAZEERA: Israeli forces demolished homes in the heart of the Jabaliya refugee camp in northern Gaza.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Islamic Jihad Rocket Strikes Nir Am Settlement

ISLAMIC JIHAD: Our fighters launched "Badr-1" rockets at Nir Am settlement near Gaza's border.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Maariv Poll: 73% of Israelis Support Prisoner Swap

MAARIV:

A poll revealed that 73% of Israelis support the prisoner exchange deal, with 19% opposed.

Among opposition supporters, 91% back the deal, compared to only 52% of coalition supporters.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Israel to Release 737 Palestinian Prisoners

ISRAELI MINISTRY OF JUSTICE: Israel will release 737 Palestinian prisoners in exchange for the first group of Israeli captives, marking the first phase of the Gaza ceasefire agreement.

Sat, Jan 18, 10:53 AM (Palestine Time)

Israel May Be Forced to Release 5 High-Profile Palestinians

KAN: Five prominent Palestinian figures will not be released in the first phase of the deal, but Hamas insists on their freedom in subsequent phases.