

Israeli Ground Invasion Kills 28 More Palestinians, Israeli Forces Fire Unknown ‘White Poisonous Gas’

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Twenty-eight more Palestinians have been killed since Israeli military forces launched a ground invasion into Gaza, according to Ma’an News Agency.

“Targeted shelling” apparently [killed](#) three children in a home in northern Gaza. The three children killed in their bedroom were: 14-year-old Ahmad Ismail Musallam, his 13-year-old sister, Alaa, and his 15-year-old brother, Muhammad.

Nine people were killed when a home was shelled in Khan Younis. And, in Rafah, “three people were killed and 11 others wounded by Israeli forces, who fired foul-smelling gas during the operation.”

A toxic gas is being fired at Palestinians. “Dozens of Palestinians, including children, arrived at hospitals suffering from suffocation after inhaling a white poisonous gas fired by the Israeli army in the northern Gaza Strip and in the Shawkah neighborhood near Rafah, to the south,” Dr. Ashraf Al-Qidra, a spokesperson for the Health Ministry in Gaza, [stated](#).

Doctors are not sure what the gas happens to be but cautioned Palestinians to not panic and cover themselves with “tarpaulin coats or nylon clothes” if they start to inhale the gas.

Israeli Defense Forces data provided to Haaretz claimed 17 “Palestinian militants” had been killed and “some 150 targets hit” since the ground invasion started on Thursday night.

Altogether, the death toll for Palestinians is now 267, according to Haaretz. At least 47 children [have been killed](#), including the four children who were bombed on a Gaza City beach right in front of a hotel where international journalists are staying.

More than 80 percent of deaths in Gaza since Israel’s assault began more than ten days ago have been civilians.

Ma’an reported that the army had announced, “Israel approved the call-up of another 18,000 reservists, taking the total number approved to 65,000 for an operation aimed at protecting Israeli lives and striking ‘a significant blow to Hamas’s terror infrastructure.’”

Hamas’ response has been to posture itself as ready to take on whatever force Israel engages in. Hamas chief Khaled Mashaal apparently declared, “What the occupier Israel failed to achieve through its air and sea raids, it will not be able to achieve with a ground offensive. It is bound to fail.”

Physicians for Human Rights [urgently warned](#) Israel's defense minister, Moshe Ya'alon, not to bomb a hospital after "warning missiles" had struck the hospital on Friday. It was the only hospital that specialized in treating disabled and comatose patients in Gaza. The IDF did not apparently care and issued a notice to evacuate.

The nursing building was bombed. Seventeen patients who could not be evacuated remained in the building, along with foreign activists who refuse to leave the hospital as long as patients remain there.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs [reported](#) on the emergency situation in Gaza. Over 1,764 have been injured by Israel's assault so far. More than five hundred are children.

The assault has displaced 22,900 people and fifty percent of "sewage pumping and treatment centers" no longer are operating.

Palestinian militant groups have continued to fire rockets into Israel. Primarily, those rockets have only killed one person and maybe injured 26 people. Most have been landing in open areas or have been intercepted by the US-funded Iron Dome system.

It is estimated that 96,400 Palestinians are now in need of "shelter assistance" because of destruction or damage to their homes.

On July 14, Norwegian doctor Mads Gilbert, who is in Gaza, [told](#) "Democracy Now!" about the staff at the Al Shifa Hospital, where many children attacked by Israel are being brought.

He described:

...The Palestinian hospitals are denied a constant supply of energy, of water, of disposables, medical drugs—all the items you need to run a university-level hospital. And on top of this, on top of this total drainage of resources from the siege, they are now exposed to this constant and very large flow of very severely injured. And they are not crippled. On the contrary, they stand tall. They have doubled or tripled their shifts. They do 24-hour shifts. Everyone is extremely tired and exhausted, but they don't yield. They don't leave their positions. And yesterday, the hospital director in Shifa, Dr. Nasr's home was completely bombed and destroyed by the Israeli forces. And we have, of course, nurses and doctors and other ambulance drivers being injured and even killed. So, I think it's important to understand that the Palestinians, yes, they are suffering, but they are not begging. Yes, they are oppressed, but they are standing extremely strong together in this time of crisis...

If one can imagine, the crisis has deteriorated even further.

Medical Aid for Palestinians [published an update](#) yesterday, which indicated how the head of the burns unit at the hospital was struggling:

Dr. Nafiz and his team of nine doctors are working in 24-hour shifts as they try to deal with the influx of patients but they are struggling to cope due to severely limited resources and the dangerous journey to the hospital. One of the burns team has already been prevented from working because the airstrikes make it too unsafe for him to travel from his home in the south. Only one bed is empty in the burns unit and the shortages in medical items have

become even more severe in recent days. The unit has only received about 30% of the basic items they have asked for. "We never had this shortage in the most basic items before," Dr. Nafiz says, "In the past, what we ask for we get." At this point the burns unit will run out of the most essential medical supplies in just one week.

Yet, again, it has only gotten worse since the ground invasion began yesterday.

This could all easily be stopped. The United States government could pressure Israel to withdraw forces and stop its assault on Gaza. However, it won't. It has given full support to Israel, even going along with the propaganda that any carnage that happens now is primarily Hamas' fault because the group rejected a ceasefire proposal.

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