

Israel's deadly raid on Jenin draws int'l condemnation



Palestinians vow to retaliate



Palestinian man runs for cover amid clashes during an Israeli military attack on Jenin city in the occupied West Bank, on July 3, 2023.
● JAAFAR ASHTIYEH/AFP

ugee camp to stand by each other and fight the enemy in a unified manner. The Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) also said in a statement that Israel will not achieve its goals and that Jenin will not surrender. "The aggression against Jenin will not achieve its goals, and we will remain [in] Jenin as a symbol of steadfastness," the statement said. "Our fighters are determined to confront and fight no matter the sacrifices."

It added that all options are on the table, including striking the enemy in response to its aggression in Jenin. Hamas Spokesperson Hazem Qassem also said that the aggression will not achieve its goals adding that the Zionist enemy will fail. Ismail Haniyeh, the head of the political bureau of Hamas, also called on the Palestinian people across the occupied West Bank to stand by Jenin and defend its people to thwart the enemy's plan.

Fatah political party also said the Israeli occupation is delusional about its ability to kill the resistance

spirit through its terror and incursions into the Palestinian camps.

Call for intl. action

The Palestinian Foreign Ministry strongly condemned "the barbaric aggression" and called for urgent international intervention.

The carnage, it added, is part of the official Israeli policy of using military force in dealing with the defenseless Palestinian people instead of political solutions.

The ministry also called on The Hague-based International Criminal Court (ICC) to "end its silence and start holding Israeli war criminals accountable."

Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman al-Safadi condemned the Jenin attack, calling on the international community to pressure Tel Aviv to stop its strikes before the situation "explodes."

In a telephone conversation with Palestinian Authority Civil Affairs Minister Hussein al-Sheikh, Safadi said, "The repeated Israeli attacks on Palestinian cities will only contribute to increasing tension, which is also fueled by illegal Israeli measures that undermine the two-state solution and kill hope in the chances of achieving a just and comprehensive peace."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Riots in France ease after massive police deployment



BLOOMBERG - Street unrest eased in France overnight after nearly a week of riots and looting touched off by a police officer's killing of a teenager that underscored serious tensions in the country's ethnically mixed suburban neighborhoods.

While the violence has ebbed, the shooting of Nahel, a 17-year-old of North African descent, remains a flashpoint in a crisis over racism and inequality in France that's drawing comparisons with America's reaction to the murder of George Floyd in 2020.

Moscow: 700,000 Ukraine children now in Russia



REUTERS - Russia has brought some 700,000 children from the conflict zones in Ukraine into Russian territory, Grigory Karasin, head of the international committee in the Federation Council, Russia's upper house of parliament, said late on Sunday.

"In recent years, 700,000 children have found refuge with us, fleeing the bombing and shelling from the conflict areas in Ukraine," Karasin wrote on his Telegram messaging channel.

International Desk

Israeli aircraft and ground forces conducted a massive raid on Jenin in the occupied West Bank with drones early Monday, killing at least eight Palestinians and injuring dozens, some of them in critical condition. The Palestinians and neighboring Jordan and Egypt and the 57-nation Organization of Islamic Cooperation condemned the violence.

The regime deployed hundreds of troops in the area, in an incursion that resembled the wide-scale military operations carried out during the second Palestinian uprising two decades ago.

Palestinian health officials said at least eight Palestinians were killed and dozens wounded, AP reported. Troops remained inside the Jenin refugee camp at midday Monday, pushing ahead

with the largest operation in the area during more than a year of fighting.

Black smoke rose from the crowded streets of the camp, exchanges of fire rang out and the buzzing of drones could be heard overhead as the military pressed on. Residents said electricity was cut off in some parts and military bulldozers plowed through narrow streets, damaging buildings as they cleared

the way for Israeli forces.

Vow of retaliation

Palestinian resistance factions have pledged to retaliate against the deadly act of aggression by the occupying regime against the northern West Bank city, Press TV reported.

In a statement released on Monday, the Joint Chamber of Palestinian Resistance Groups urged all resistance fighters in Jenin and its ref-

Flooding displaces 10k around China as sweltering heat hits Beijing



In this photo released by Xinhua, people clean up silt and garbage in Caotan Village of Yantouzhai Town, Hunan Province, China, on 02 July 2023.
● AP

Heavy flooding has displaced thousands of people around China as the capital had a relative respite from sweltering heat.

Beijing reported 9.8 straight days when the temperature exceeded 35 C, the National Climate Center said Monday, AP reported.

A lack of rainfall may be contributing to the heat, with the typically dry

capital receiving even less than usual this year. While temperatures have since moderated - Monday's temperature at midday was 33 C - they are expected to rise again this week to as high as 39.6 Celsius in Beijing and other parts of the country, authorities said. Meanwhile, more than 10,000 people were urgently moved to safety due to flooding in the

central province of Hunan, the Xiang'xi Emergency Management Bureau on Sunday.

Around 70 houses collapsed, 2,283 were damaged and farm fields were flooded. Losses so far have been estimated at least 575m yuan (\$79m).

To the north in Shaanxi province's Zhenba county, authorities reported the worst flooding in 50 years had washed out roads and damaged homes. No deaths have been reported from the floods thus far.

Blasts in Khartoum amid army's new call for volunteers

Explosions again rocked Sudan's capital Khartoum on Monday as the army rallied civilians to take up arms against a renewed onslaught by its paramilitary foes.

The sound of artillery fire shook the dawn in northwest Khartoum and progressed towards the centre and east of the city, witnesses told AFP.

The fighting "began at 4:00 am and is still going," one resident said. The war-torn capital barely saw a few hours of respite after heavy clashes on Sunday between troops loyal to army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

The army announced Monday it was ready to "receive and prepare" volunteer fighters, after Burhan last week urged Sudanese "youth and all those able to defend" to join the military.

Social class differences stoking riots in France



By **Abdolreza Faraji-Rad**
Ex-Iranian envoy in Norway

OPINION EXCLUSIVE

France has long been a focal point of protests and street unrest in Europe. The recent events following the fatal shooting of a 17-year-old by the police serve as another example of the ongoing trend of street demonstrations and riots. The socioeconomic disparities within the country are particularly noticeable when compared to other European nations. These disparities are particularly

pronounced among immigrant populations. Consequently, immigrants, even those who hold legal French citizenship, often harbor a sense of neglect from the government.

In parallel, right-wing movements have gained significant traction in recent years, particularly in their promotion of stringent immigration policies. Eric Zemmour, the leader of one such right-wing party, has expressed his stance by stating: "If I were in a position of power, I would stop immigration first. I would put an end to granting citizenship based on place of birth and family reunification through citizenship. Additionally, I

would drastically reduce the influx of students and deport individuals deemed harmful, including convicted criminals after their sentences have been served, as well as the long-term unemployed exceeding a six-month period."

In recent days, incidents lacking clear organization and leadership, like the one we have witnessed, often escalate swiftly into crises and riots. Unlike labor or union protests, these movements lack avenues for dialogue with the government, further fueling discontent among disaffected French citizens.

Meanwhile, it is predominantly the youth - both immigrants and native French

-who exhibit higher levels of dissatisfaction and are more inclined to take to the streets, often resorting to violent actions. As tensions mount between law enforcement and protesters, the extreme right seizes the opportunity to voice their objections to government policies, highlighting the deeply entrenched divisions within France.

The capitalist system in France has not been as effectively implemented as in the United States, resulting in more conspicuous class differences. This sets France apart from other European countries like Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Iceland, where such dispar-

ities are not as obvious.

During periods of economic uncertainty caused by factors such as the conflict in Ukraine or the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a noticeable rise in disenfranchised individuals taking to the streets, coinciding with an increasing lean toward right-wing ideologies.

The existence of class disparities and the divergent demands of immigrant communities and the right-wing have presented a challenge in formulating policies that effectively balance French society. The prospect of initiating political and social structural changes in the country is daunting, as it entails substantial costs and impedes



France's ability to compete with other European and global counterparts. Subsequently, while the French government appears poised to weather this recent crisis, pockets of discontent persist, leaving room for potential future outbreaks of dissatisfaction and similar protests in the nation.