

# Nasrallah, leader of Islamic Jihad discuss developments in Palestine



Secretary-General of Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah (r) meets with Ziad al-Nakhleh (c), leader of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad resistance movement, in Beirut, Lebanon, on August 13, 2023. **AL-MANAR**

Secretary-General of Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah has met with the visiting leader of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad resistance movement. Hezbollah's public relations office announced on Sunday that Nasrallah received Ziad al-Nakhleh in the capital Beirut, with the two leaders exchanging views on the latest developments in Palestine, Lebanon and the wider region, Press TV reported. Mohammed al-Hindi, head of the Islamic Jihad's political bureau, also accompanied Nakhleh in the

meeting with the Hezbollah chief. "An assessment of events was held during the meeting, during which both challenges and chances the Axis of Resistance has been facing were also discussed," the office said in a statement. Earlier in the month, Nasrallah met with Ismail Haniyeh, the head of the political bureau of the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas. The two sides also exchanged views on the region and the challenges facing the resistance front. Over the past months, Is-

rael has ramped up attacks on Palestinian towns and cities throughout the occupied territories. As a result of these attacks, dozens of Palestinians have lost their lives and many others have been arrested. More than 200 Palestinians have been killed by Israel since the beginning of this year, including 36 children. The United Nations has warned that 2023 is on track to be the deadliest year for Palestinians since it started recording fatalities. At least 26 people have been killed in Palestinian attacks against Israelis this year.

# Fighting flares in South Darfur amid fears of new civil war

Violence flared in the western Sudanese city of Nyala and elsewhere in the state of South Darfur on Sunday, witnesses said, threatening to engulf the region in Sudan's protracted war. The conflict has brought daily battles to the streets of the capital of Khartoum, a revival of ethnically targeted attacks in West Darfur, and the displacement of more than 4 million people within Sudan and across its borders into Chad, Egypt, South Sudan and other countries, Reuters reported. Clashes between the Sudanese army and paramilitary Rapid Support Forces have flared periodically in Nyala, the country's second biggest city and a strategic hub for the fragile Darfur region. The latest flare-up has lasted three days, with both the army and RSF firing artillery into residential neighbourhoods, witnesses told Reuters. Fighting has damaged electricity, water, and telecoms networks. At least eight people were killed on Saturday alone, according to the Darfur Bar Association, a national human rights monitor. In recent days, fighting has extended 100 km (60 miles) to the west of Nyala, in the Kubum area, killing



The Kakma camp, one of the largest in Darfur for people displaced during a nearly two-decade conflict in western Sudan, which began in 2003 and killed an estimated 300,000 people. **ARNOLD TEMPLE/REUTERS**

dozens, according to witnesses. The bar association said Arab tribesmen equipped with RSF vehicles attacked the area, burning the market and raiding the police station in an attack on a rival Arab tribe. The fighting killed 24 people, it said. Several Arab tribes have pledged their allegiance to the RSF. Extensive fighting in the area risks returning Darfur to the bloody attacks of the early 2000s when "Janjaweed" militias - from which the RSF formed - helped the army

crush a rebellion by mainly non-Arab groups. Some 300,000 people were killed, the UN estimates, and Sudanese leaders are wanted by the International Criminal Court for genocide and crimes against humanity. The UN's special representative to Sudan, Volker Perthes, warned in July that the conflict showed no signs of a quick resolution and "risked morphing into an ethnicised civil war". Diplomatic mediation efforts has so far failed and ceasefires have been used by both sides to regroup.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### China condemns Taiwanese official's US visit



China on Sunday condemned a brief US visit by Taiwan Vice President William Lai, saying he was a separatist and "troublemaker through and through" and Beijing would take strong steps to protect its sovereignty, drawing a rebuke from Taipei. Lai, front-runner to be Taiwan's next president at elections in January, arrived in New York late on Saturday for what is officially a transit on his way to Paraguay for the inauguration of its president. China considers Taiwan as its own territory.

### Bangladesh floods kills 55 in August



At least 55 people have been killed and more than a million affected by two weeks of torrential rains causing floods and landslides in southeast Bangladesh, officials said Sunday. Administrators of four of the worst-hit districts said floods and landslides since August 1 killed 21 people in Cox's Bazar, 19 in Chittagong, 10 in Bandarban and five in Rangamati.

## Maui fire deadliest in US in 105 years, with 93 killed

The death toll from fast-moving wildfires in Maui rose to 93 on Saturday, making them the deadliest in the US in more than 100 years. The number of fatalities is expected to climb further as authorities continue search and rescue efforts, Hawaii Governor Josh Green said at a press briefing Saturday. Just 3% of the area has been searched, officials said, adding they are bringing in 12 more cadaver dogs

to help with the effort, Bloomberg reported. "This is the largest natural disaster we've ever experienced," Green said. "It's also going to be a natural disaster that takes an incredible amount of time to recover from." The death toll now means the wildfire is the deadliest since 1918, when 453 people were killed in Minnesota and Wisconsin by the Cloquet & Moose Lake Fires,

according to the National Fire Protection Association. Losses are estimated to be approaching \$6 billion, after roughly 2,200 structures were destroyed in West Maui across the 2,170 acres burned by the blaze. Only two of the 89 people killed have been identified so far, Police Chief John Pelletier said. Efforts to identify the dead were complicated by the ferocity of the blaze, which melted metal and



Destroyed buildings and homes are pictured in the aftermath of a wildfire in western Maui, US, on Aug. 11, 2023. **PAULARAMON/AFP**

razed Lahaina, once the capital of the Hawaiian Kingdom. Roughly 1,000

people were unaccounted for, they earlier estimated.

## Message of Pakistani...

76 years ago, on this day, Pakistan gained independence after the historic struggle of the Muslims of the sub-continent under the dynamic leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. The Muslims of India wanted a homeland for themselves where they could freely order their individual and collective lives in accordance with the teachings of Islam. This day marks the culmination of a democratic

and political struggle in our quest for freedom from colonial rule. This day also gives us the opportunity for introspection. We should reflect on the nation's progress so far, prevailing challenges, and opportunities for growth. It is a time to renew our commitment to building a stronger and more prosperous Pakistan as envisioned by the Father of the Nation. I urge my fellow countrymen to work for the welfare and uplift of deprived sections

of our society. Let's pledge to uphold the principles of democracy, freedom, equality, tolerance, forgiveness, socio-economic justice, and moral and ethical values, as enunciated by Islam. On this important day, let's also remember our oppressed brothers and sisters in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), facing Indian atrocities for decades. India's illegal actions, including ending Jammu and Kashmir's

special legal status in 2019, have further deteriorated the human rights situation in the valley in the form of extra-judicial killings, torture, and illegal detentions. We stand with our Kashmiri brethren and assure them of unwavering and continued political, diplomatic and moral support for their legitimate right to self-determination. On this occasion, I urge the entire Pakistani nation to remain steadfast and work wholeheartedly for the de-

velopment of the country. There is a need to unite to cope with the social, political, economic and security challenges facing the Nation today. So, let's resolve that we will not hesitate to offer any sacrifice for the security, prosperity, and development of the country.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the country's ambassador in Tehran, H.E Rahim Hayat Qureshi, in separate messages, extended their congratulations on Pakistan's Independence Day to the entire nation including overseas Pakistanis.

### Two militants killed attacking Chinese convoy in Pakistan

Two separatist militants were killed Sunday when they attacked a convoy carrying Chinese workers to a Beijing-financed port project in Pakistan's Balochistan Province, officials said. A spokesman for China's consulate in Karachi said none of its nationals were killed or wounded in the attack, and urged Chinese citizens to heighten their vigilance. Balochistan Liberation Army militants claimed responsibility for the attack