

Assessment of the Situation



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OPINION

Perhaps the enemy will present, after this painful blow, a detailed analysis of its entity, especially the security establishment that collapsed at the doorstep of that operation, which the Zionist enemy might not have expected, even in its wildest dreams. However, the resistance has turned this dream into a harsh reality, bewildering and humiliating the occupying state in front of the world that supports it, and breaking the security system that always claims superiority in the entire region, in addition to the Israeli political leadership. The Israeli political leadership has failed to comprehend the details of this shock, as the element of surprise has become a clear collapse for every Gaza military unit and its special forces. Therefore, we expect three possible scenarios for the response:

Scenario

1

There is an expectation that the Zionist enemy may carry out a displacement operation, as previously happened in the Shujaiya neighborhood, but this time it may be wider, including the entire area along the border between the Gaza Strip and the buffer zone, through continuous artillery and aerial bombardment, and an urgent evacuation of the area by its residents. This includes targeting the infrastructure and shelling the homes of resistance leaders without prior warning, aiming to make civilians pay the price.

Scenario

2

The enemy might resort to striking where it left off in the Battle of Sword of Jerusalem in 2021, targeting key towers and government and private institutions affiliated with Hamas, such as universities, associations, and other institutions, as a means to erode the institutional existence of Hamas. This also includes targeting political leaders through assassination operations, as previously occurred with the top political echelon of Hamas.

Scenario

3

The enemy may opt for a widespread displacement operation of the population through artillery and aerial bombardment along the borderline to establish a larger buffer zone for protecting and fortifying the borders against penetration and infiltration. This also includes targeting the political and military leaders of the resistance, continuous shelling of towers and institutions affiliated with Hamas as a means of pressure to release the captives and make the resistance bear the price of this operation. The third scenario is perhaps the most likely among the other scenarios, as it allows the occupying state to respond to the event's magnitude while preserving the non-expansion of the operation to multiple fronts, especially the northern front, which the Zionist enemy fears.



PERSPECTIVE

Al-Aqsa Storm a prelude to something bigger

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The breakout of the Palestinian "Operation Al-Aqsa Storm" against Israeli targets has become the top story of credible news sources of the world, debunking Israel's claim, or should I say, shattering Israel's dream of being unshakable. This operation is unlike any other, whether it be in terms of how the Palestinian fighters infiltrated the Israeli settlements, or how much they damaged the regime. To describe the operation, I would borrow the term that Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah used two years ago: "Fath al-Jalil." The term literally translates into "the glorious victory," but can also be translated into "conquering Al-Jalil," as Al-Jalil is the name of a region in northern Palestine.

Reacting to the threats and claims made by Israelis at the time, he stressed that when Hezbollah would start the war with Israel, it would enter the occupied territories and conquer the Al-Jalil region. Many who had a certain impression of Israel's intelligence system and military capabilities took Nasrallah's statement as just an instance of psychological warfare against the Israelis and ruled out its possibility.

The operation that broke out in Palestine in the early hours of Saturday was the fulfillment of Nasrallah's promise by Palestinian fighters in another area of the battlefield. In fact, it was established that the promise of the Palestinian resistance group to infiltrate the occupied territories was not an exercise in psychological warfare; it is rather very much a reality now.

I believe the Operation Al-Aqsa Storm was a prologue to something bigger. Henceforth, the history of clashes between Palestinians and Israelis will be divided into 'before' and 'after' Operation Al-Aqsa Storm. The intelligence bodies of a regime whose sphere of influence purportedly encompasses a large slice of the world — from Azerbaijan to Georgia to the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman to Europe — did not realize that Palestinian fighters have been planning such a massive operation for at least a week, thereby catching Israel by surprise.

The number of Israelis that were either killed or taken captive during the operation is significant. What is more, this show of strength by the Palestinian fighters who infiltrated deep into the occupied territories will also surely leave psychological marks on Israeli settlers who will see the claim of Israel's security for what it is: empty. A few years ago, during the prisoner swap between the resistance groups and Israel, 500 Palestinians were exchanged to free a single Israeli captive. Now, it has been said that 36 ranked Israeli military officials have been taken captive, which is a great achievement for the resistance.

It is also worth asking whether the fighters who entered the occupied territories during the operation embarked from the Gaza Strip. It is highly probable that some of these fighters moved not from the Gaza Strip but from the 1948-occupied lands to clash with the Israeli forces. If it is proven correct, it would be a significant development to see the armed fight with Israelis no longer being limited to the residents of the Gaza Strip. It would be cause for serious alarm for the Israeli regime.