

How cancerous Israel came ...

What is more interesting and depressing is the fact

that three years after the Balfour Declaration, in the agreements made by the victors of the First World War, the administration of the Holy Land of Palestine was handed over to Britain, granting Balfour's promise to the Zionists a practical ground. It would be naive to assume that all this was mere coincidence. For thousands of years, the land of Palestine has had cultured, industrious, agricultural, and, of course, religious inhabitants, which the British gifted to the Zionists through a declaration! During the illegitimate lifespan of this occupying, apartheid, and child-killing regime, Western governments have always strived hard to distort reality and swap the places of the oppressed and the oppressor. The Zionists have always had a blank check to commit crimes without fear of punishment or questioning, and whenever a righteous voice has arisen in defense of Palestine, they have cried anti-Semitism. Recently, in the wake of the Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, supporters and nannies of the Zionist regime have once again come to its rescue and have tried to reverse the truth and equip and embolden the fake regime through their flowery rhetoric. This was a task previously carried out by Britain but was transferred to the United States after the end of the Second World War and the rise of this country within the international order. The unconditional support of the Zionist regime by the United States and the United Kingdom is the main reason for the failures of the United Nations Security Council to secure the rights of Palestinians. The two countries have vetoed 45 resolutions of the council in this regard. The last case of this happened recently when the United States not only opposed any cessation to the crimes of the Zionist regime in Gaza, it refused to even abstain from voting on a humanitarian resolution! In a clear contrast to its hypocritical claims about human rights, the US voted a resolution that was drafted in order to open a path for humanitarian aid to go to civilians in Gaza and further revealed its support for the war crimes being committed in the Gaza Strip. Needless to say, this act will be seen as a concrete example of the United States' disregard for basic human principles and international law. The point is that even though Britain and then the United States supported and babysat this fake regime for years, it still resembles an illegitimate child that cannot stand on its own and must always rely on artificial ventilation to continue its disgraceful life. Undoubtedly, the future belongs to Palestine.

Page 1 >

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Vol. 7425 ● Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023 ● Price 40,000 Rials ● 8 Pages

Nasrallah: Hezbollah entered war on October 8

International Desk

Lebanon's Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah said his movement entered the ongoing battle between Israel and Hamas on October 8, the day after the Palestinian resistance group launched its surprise attack in southern occupied territories. Delivering his first public speech since the start of the conflict, he said the daily exchange of fire with Israeli forces along the Lebanese border might seem modest but it is very important, calling it unprecedented since 1948. Nasrallah said Hezbollah has been escalating its operations by the day and forcing Israel to keep its forces near the Lebanese border instead of Gaza or the occupied West Bank.

'All options open'

Nasrallah noted that all options in the Lebanese front are open, saying that Hezbollah is ready for all possibilities. Nasrallah also confirmed that 57 Hezbollah fighters have been killed so far. He added that "the enemy" is threatening Lebanon and the Lebanese while it sinks in the sands of the Gaza Strip. He said that the Operation Al-Aqsa Storm led to an earthquake in Israel, noting that it has strategic and existential repercussions and

will leave its effects on the present and future of Israel. He called the Palestinian group's decision to launch the October 7 operation right, wise and courageous, adding that it was carried out with the right timing. He added that what is happening in Gaza shows Israel's foolishness and inability because what it is doing is killing children and women. The Hezbollah leader called Israel "frail" and said that for a whole month, it has been unable to record a single military achievement.

'US responsible for conflict'

Addressing the US deployment of warships in the region, Nasrallah said Hezbollah is not intimidated. He accused the US of being entirely responsible for the war in Gaza and calls Israel merely an executive tool. The Hezbollah chief warned that whoever wants to prevent a regional war must quickly stop the war on the Gaza Strip. Israel has relentlessly bombarded the Palestinian territory and sent in ground troops, with the Health Ministry in Gaza saying 9,227 people have been killed, two-thirds of them women and children. Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar on Friday described Israel's actions in Gaza as "something



Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the leader of the Lebanese Hezbollah group, is seen onscreen in Beirut's southern suburbs on November 3, 2023.

● MOHAMED AZAKIR/REUTERS

approaching revenge", in some of the strongest criticism of Israel by a leader of a European Union member state.

Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi said on Friday that if the US and a number of European countries had been fairly tried for their crimes against Iraqians during Iraq's imposed war on Iran, as well as 75 years of oppression of Palestinians by Israel, the world would not have been witnessing today the repetition of such crimes in the Palestinian territories.

'Crimes against humanity'

Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdogan said "crimes against humanity" were being committed in Gaza, and that Ankara was pushing for an international peace conference. "There is no concept that could explain or excuse the brutality that we have witnessed since October 7," Erdogan said during a summit of Turkic States in the Kazakh capital Astana. United Nations experts called on Thursday for a humanitarian cease-fire



in Gaza, saying time was running out for Palestinian people there who find themselves at "grave risk of genocide."

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken arrived in Israel on Friday at the start of a new regional tour. "Israel has not only the right but the obligation to defend itself... to make sure that this October 7 never happens again," Blinken told journalists as he met Israeli President Isaac Herzog in Tel Aviv. He claimed he would seek "concrete steps" from Israel to minimize harm to Palestinian civilians in Gaza.

The US House of Representatives on Thursday passed a Republican plan to provide \$14.3 billion in aid to Israel and cut funding of the Internal Revenue Service, despite Democrats' insistence it has no future in the Senate and the White House's promise of a veto.

Battles on the ground

Fresh Israeli strikes hit northern Gaza on Friday, with the Health Ministry reporting at least 15 deaths in Gaza City's Zeitun neighborhood and seven in the Jabalia refugee camp. Late on Thursday, the army

said troops had encircled Gaza City, with Hamas fighters warning Gaza would be a "curse" for Israel whose soldiers would go home "in black bags".

On Friday morning, the Hamas fighters said they were engaged in close combat with troops northwest of Beit Lahia and had fired missiles at Israeli military vehicles.

Israel on Friday also sent back thousands of Gazans who had been working in Israel when the war erupted.

The UN human rights office said it was "deeply concerned" about the move.



Economy Desk

Several major civil and water projects were put into operation on Friday during Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi's visit to Kurdistan Province in western Iran. During the official trip, Saqqez Martyrs Airport, as the largest construction project in Kurdistan Province, and ten major water projects, including two dams were officially inaugurated. Emphasizing the significance of completing the projects of water and power infrastructure for the country's development, Raisi highlighted Kurdistan Province's potential in



Locals welcome Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi as he arrives at Saqqez Martyrs Airport, Kurdistan Province, which was officially inaugurated with the landing of the president's plane on November 3, 2023.

● president.ir

fields of production, agriculture, tourism, and industry, saying, "completing the necessary infrastructure for the province is among the government's priorities". After 27 years of waiting, the 180-hectare Saqqez Martyrs Airport, as the largest construction project in Kurdistan, officially opened with the landing of the president's plane on Friday.

Major development projects come on stream in Kurdistan

The airport will play a crucial role in the puzzle of Kurdistan's development and increasing its accessibility in various sectors.

The presence of the Baneh Special Economic Zone, the Baneh-Marivan Free Trade Zone, the official recognition of the Siranband cross-border, and finally the proximity of the airport to the Iran-Iraq border are among the reasons for the importance of this major civil project in the province.

During Raisi's visit to Kurdistan, approximately \$4 million were allocated to complete the project, the construction studies of which began in 1996. The airport has a runway of 2,600 meters and a 450-meter taxiway, a 2,500-square-meter parking area, 1,300 square meters of street lighting, a control tower, inspection assistance devices, and a

police building. Also, with the inauguration of various water and sewage projects in Kurdistan, President Raisi said, "With the opening of these projects, the water supply situation in the cities and villages in Kurdistan has improved, and 50 percent of the water crisis has been resolved. During the inauguration ceremony of the permanent pump station in Boyin, Baneh County, Raisi said that 10 major water projects in Kurdistan have become operational, including two dams that were put into operation, as well as works that were carried out in the field of water purification plants, Zarivar Lake in Marivan, and wastewater management. Referring to the reduction in rainfall in some areas of the country, Raisi said that the government is pursuing proper and efficient water resource manage-



ment. Through planning, the government aims to provide the required water to the shareholders and water applicants, despite water resource shortages and reduced precipitation. The government's initial goal, as announced by the president, is to alleviate water stress in 10,000 villages from the beginning of his term (in August, 2021). He said that today, through dedicated efforts, the gov-



Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi inaugurates the permanent pump station in Boyin, Baneh County, Kurdistan Province, on November 3, 2023.

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ernment is addressing water issues in 3,500 villages in the country, and by the end of this government's term, they plan to resolve water-related problems in 10,000 villages.