

# Leader: Hamas upended US agenda in region

**International Desk**

Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said Hamas' historic Operation Al-Aqsa Storm was mainly against the Zionist regime but was able to disrupt American policies in the region and will hopefully erase the "agenda".

Ayatollah Khamenei made the remarks in a meeting with hundreds of members of Iran's Basij volunteer forces in Tehran on Wednesday on the occasion of National Basij Week, Press TV reported.

He said the United States failed to hatch its plots for the formation of a "New Middle East," adding that the so-called "two-state solution" in the Palestinian territories was part of the same hostile policy that failed miserably.

"In the case of Lebanon, Americans said they are after the formation of a new Middle East. They said that they want to give this region a new political and geographical map based on the US's illegitimate needs and interests," the Leader said. "Of course, what they sought did not happen. On their

new map, they intended to destroy Hezbollah, but Hezbollah became 10 times stronger. They wanted to devour Iraq, but they failed. They wanted to take over Syria. So, they inflicted their proxies under the names of Daesh and al-Nusra on the Syrian government, and for seven to ten years, they continuously supported and provided them with money and equipment, but again they failed," the Leader added.

Underlining that Western plots against the region had entirely fallen flat, the Leader said, "One of the components of this New Middle East was to finalize the Palestinian issue in favor of the usurping Israeli regime so that nothing called Palestine would be left at all. They reneged on the treacherous 'two-state' solution that they had earlier approved." He also underlined, "The Islamic Republic believes in a referendum in Palestine that reflects the opinion of the Palestinian public. The Islamic Republic is not of the view of throwing Zionists and Jews into the sea."

Ayatollah Khamenei stressed that the issue of Palestine is moving towards



resolution, which secures Palestinian sovereignty and territorial integrity.

"There are several million Palestinians. They can express their opinion, which is a globally-favored, acceptable, and civilized logic for the administration of Palestine," he added. Ayatollah Khamenei stressed that the Israeli atrocities in Gaza disgraced not only the Israeli regime

but also the United States, certain European countries, and Western culture and civilization.

"When 5,000 children were killed with phosphorus bombs, the regime of a certain Western country said Israel was defending itself. Is this self-defense? This is Western culture, which has been discredited," he added. The Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution said the Israe-

li atrocities in Gaza over the past 50 days epitomize the regime's decades-long crimes against Palestinians. "The tragedies of the last 50 days are a small part of the 75-year-long crimes of the Zionist regime in Palestine," Ayatollah Khamenei noted. "Operation Al-Aqsa Storm will not run out of steam, and they should know that the current situation will not continue."



Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei addresses members of Iran's Basij volunteer forces in Tehran on November 29, 2023, on the occasion of National Basij Week. [khamenei.ir](http://khamenei.ir)

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

## Mediators push to extend Gaza cease-fire



FOX - Negotiators are pushing Israel and Hamas to extend their cease-fire for a second time Wednesday as the brief pause agreement enters its sixth and final day.

Israel and Hamas have so far agreed to one more exchange of Israeli captives for Palestinian prisoners, having extended the cease-fire for two days beyond its original end date of Monday.

As of Wednesday, Hamas had released 60 Israeli women and children and 21 people of other nationalities. In exchange, 180 Palestinians detained in Israeli jails have been released.

## Hamas not using captives as leverage: US

AA - The White House said Tuesday there is no evidence to suggest that Hamas is attempting to use any form of leverage to hinder the departure of Americans from Gaza.

National Security Council spokesman John Kirby told reporters that the pool of Americans in the hands of Hamas is "pretty small".

"We can't just assume that Hamas has ready access to everybody at a moment's notice, or that all the Americans are being held by Hamas, and certainly not that they're in the same place," he added.

## Netanyahu's son dodges enlisting again



THE NEW ARAB - A son of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has reportedly volunteered for ambulance service after facing weeks of criticism for failing to join Israel's military in its war on Gaza.

Israelis questioned why the 32-year-old Yair Netanyahu was not among the hundreds of thousands of Israelis called up to serve in the war on Gaza or joined those citizens who had flown into Israel to sign up for the military.



# Mr. Musk! Don't lavish your reputation, capital on Netanyahu

situation.

In a post on his X account, he stated, "Seems a bit dangerous there right now, but I do believe that a long-term prosperous Gaza is good for all sides." In a conversation with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Musk confirmed the goal of the Israeli government to destroy Hamas, saying, "Those that are intent on murder must be neutralized. The propaganda must stop that is training people to be murderers in the future. And then, making Gaza prosperous. And

if that happens, I think it will be a good future."

In his statements, Musk has spoken of striving for prosperity and a better future for the people of Gaza, but apparently he forgot or did not realize who destroyed Gaza in the first place. For his information, it should be reminded that Gaza has been under siege by the Israeli regime since 2007, and the restrictions imposed on the people living in the strip have become so severe at times that this area is referred to as the "world's largest open-

air prison."

Even if Musk is not happy with Hamas, it would be good for him to visit the Gaza Strip to see what Israel has done to the place and its people. It would be good to know that from his point of view, whether sacrificing 14,000 lives, two-thirds of whom women and children, is necessary to build a better future for Gaza. UN Secretary-General António Guterres has warned the world that Israel has turned Gaza into a "graveyard for children." Mr. Musk! It would be

wise for you not to hide behind Hamas attack like Netanyahu. During the past few decades, which Palestinian region has Israel made prosperous so that now you want to see Gaza's prosperity with the help of this regime? Is the West Bank, which was not under Hamas control, immune from Israeli attacks and damage, and is it a prosperous and advanced region? Netanyahu and prosperity are in no way mutually inclusive. Mr. Musk! Do not lavish your reputation and capital on Netanyahu.

By Ebrahim Beheshti  
Staff writer

Elon Musk, the American multi-billionaire and owner of the social network, X (formerly known as Twitter), recently visited one of the kibbutzim that was

Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist



# Iran not involved in any attack against US: UN envoy

The Iranian Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN rejected the US's baseless accusations against Tehran, saying that Iran has never carried out any action against US military forces in Syria or anywhere else.

Addressing the meeting of the United Nations Security Council regarding the situation in the Middle East and Syria, Amir Saeed Irvani said, "These baseless accusations appear to be part of a deliberate attempt by the United States



Amir Saeed Irvani, Iran's ambassador and permanent representative to the United Nations. [IRNA](http://irna.ir)



to divert attention from the serious violations of international law and the UN Charter in the Syrian Arab Republic," according to Mehr news agency.

The senior diplomat of the Islamic Republic of Iran emphasized, "The Islamic Republic of Iran has never been involved in any action or attack against the American military forces in Syria or elsewhere. Iran has always adhered to its commitments to promote peace and security in the region."