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National & Int'l Developments

Leader: Palestinian resistance in Gaza will bring Israel to its knees

Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said the resistance and steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the besieged Gaza Strip will bring the Israeli regime to its knees. Ayatollah Khamenei made the remarks in a meeting with Qur'an reciters and memorizers on the first day of the holy month of Ramadan in the capital Tehran on Tuesday

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"Today, what is coming to pass in Gaza is the apex of crime, malice and brutality," the Leader said as he pointed to the 158th day of Israel's genocidal war on Gaza.

in the face of the unique "The [Palestinian] repatience of the people of sistance is still standing Gaza and the resilience of strong and will bring the resistance fighters." Zionists to their knees." The Leader also said it **Children casualties** is a disgrace to Western The head of the UN agencivilization that Israel has cy for Palestinian refugees committed unprecedent-

said Tuesday more chiled crimes in Gaza, such as dren have been reported the killing of children and killed in the war raging in Gaza than in four years of babies through starvation conflict around the world, "Although the Zionists have AFP reported.

they have not been able to

do anything whatsoever

"Staggering. The number all kinds of weapons and aid coming from the Unitof children reported killed ed States and the West, in just over 4 months in

#Gaza is higher than the number of children killed in 4 years of wars around the world combined," Philippe Lazzarini said on X, formerly Twitter. "This war is a war on children. It is a war on their childhood and their future," Lazzarini said. EU foreign affairs chief Josep Borrell also criticized the lack of aid entering Gaza as a "manmade" disaster on Tuesday, telling the UN Security Council that hunger was being used as a "war arm." "This humanitarian crisis... is not a natural disaster, is not a flood, is not an earthquake, it is manmade," said Borrell at UN headquarters in New York.

Israel's war on Gaza has killed more than 31,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children.

Biden, Trump set for election rematch after clinching nominations



US President Joe Biden and former president Donald Trump both clinched their parties' nomination on Tuesday, kicking off the first US presidential election rematch in nearly 70 vears.

Biden needed 1,968 delegates to win the nomination, and he passed that number on Tuesday night as results began to come in from the primary contest in Georgia, Edison Research said. Results were also coming in from Mississippi, Washington state, the Northern Mariana Islands and Democrats living abroad. Reuters reported. Hours later, Trump clinched the 1,215 deleequired to s



and thirst.

held contests, including Georgia, the battleground where Trump faces criminal charges for his efforts to overturn the state's 2020 results. There were 161 delegates at stake on Tuesday in Georgia, Hawaii, Mississippi and Washington states. Biden, 81, issued a statement after he sealed the Democratic nomination, taking aim at what he called Trump's "campaign of resentment, revenge, and retribution that threatens the very idea

of America." "Voters now have a choice to make about the future of this country. Are we going to stand up and defend our democracy or let others the Nov. 5 general election. tear it down store the right to choose and protect our freedoms

or let extremists take them away?" he said. The outcome of Tuesday's voting was essentially predetermined, after Trump's last remaining rival for the Republican nomination, former UN Ambassador Nikki Haley, ended her presidential campaign following Trump's dominant performance last week on Super Tuesday, when he won 14 of 15 state con-

tests. In a video posted on social media, Trump said there was no time to celebrate, and instead put the focus on beating Biden, whom he called the "worst" presi-

dent in US history. "We're going to drill, baby, drill. We're going to close our borders. We're going to do things like nobody has ever seen before. And we're going to make our nation's economy be the best ever in the world," said Trump

Biden, meanwhile, faced only token opposition in the Democratic primary campaign, though liberal activists frustrated by his support for Israel's war in Gaza have convinced a sizable minority of Democrats to vote "uncommitted" in

protest. Both men have already turned their attention to

Iran, China, Russia engage targets in joint maritime exercise

marking their inaugural participation in operational activities. These vessels are equipped for extended ocean missions, ensuring a prolonged naval presence, armed with the latest domestically-developed advanced weaponry.

The commander of the Imam Ali (рвин) Naval Base of the IRCG Navy, Rear Admiral Amrollah Nozari, said, "We took part in this exercise with three vessels and two fast attack crafts, covering an area of

17,000 square kilometers. This area includes three of the world's five strategic straits, located in the northern Indian Ocean region, which is a crucial hub for energy and trade traffic globally."

Admiral Nozari explained that the primary objective of this exercise is to "enhance regional security," foster broader multilateral cooperation among participating nations, and showcase the benevolence and prowess of these countries in upholding global peace, as well as ensuring maritime security, and forging a maritime community with a collective destiny, endeavors vigorously pursued by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of

Iran. He also said that the exercise includes a variety of tactical maneuvers such as rescuing fire-damaged vessels, liberating hijacked vessels, targeting of specific objectives, conducting night-time aerial target practice, and other tactical and operational drills

Rear Admiral Mostafa Tajeddini, the spokesperson for the joint military exercise, also said that the naval units of Iran, China, and Russia conducted the 'Photo Ex' exercise and offensive formations.

Tajeddini emphasized Iran's commitment to enhancing its international status through participation in international coalitions, stating, "Ensuring security at the regional and international levels is crucial for Iran."

The operational phases of the Maritime Security Belt - 2024, involving Iranian, Chinese, and Russian naval units, commenced in the North Indian Ocean and the Sea of Oman, following a briefing session held on Tuesday. The maneuvers were scheduled to continue for two days.

Devastating toll of famine on Palestinians

ity, starvation, and thirst, ing mortality rates by 25% to American vetoing of UN in March. By May 2024, a mortality rate exceeding 50% is feared. The Chief The aid available is vast-Economist of the World Food Program notes that 80% of the world's population facing famine is in Gaza. Israeli bombings have depleted food stocks, causing increased prices in Gaza. On January 5, 2024, Martin Griffiths of the United Nations declared Gaza faces the highest level of food insecurity in a

the Republican presidential nomination as four states holding dueling rallies in Georgia on Saturday.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi Cartoonist





The Maritime Security Belt

- 2024 exercise had the ac-

tive participation of China,

Russia, and Iran, involving

live firing at designated

surface targets on Tuesday.

Various vessels and fast

attack boats from the IRGC

Naval Force are involved

in the exercise, along with

soldiers from the Islamic

Republic Army, Tasnim

The IRGC Naval Force en-

hanced its capabilities by

introducing newly-added

vessels to the exercise,

News Agency reported.

The Israeli army's mission of genocide against Palestinians in Gaza, intensified since October 7 through aerial attacks, is pushing the region towards famine. The US is providing support to Israel in implementing this genocide project. The UN reports that 2.3m Palestinians are at risk of famine, warning of a looming humanitarian disaster without immediate help.

In Palestinian refugee camps on the Rafah border, visible emaciation among children and women results from food shortages, compounded by diseases due to lack of clean water. Facing Israeli army brutalthey receive just one meal within 24 hours, insufficient for basic nutritional needs.

On February 28, 2024, reports emerged of Israel obstructing organized aid delivery to homeless Palestinians, raising fears of imminent famine. Footage from northern Gaza reveals the Israeli army's obstruction of food distribution through various means, including violence and blocking relief trucks. Human rights organizations say Israel is using hunger as a weapon, exacerbating the crisis by restricting international food aid.

Special UN envoys warn of an unprecedented famine, with the entire Gaza Strip classified as the third phase of Integrated Food Security, possibly increasWestern journalists report people grinding animal feed for flour, and CNN notes families resorting to boiled grass due to water scarcity. The global community and the Muslim world witness the situation as reluctant Israel takes no action. The increasing death toll from famine faces obstacles due

century.

peacekeeping agreements three times.

ly insufficient for Palestinians, prompting a UN warning that without improved delivery, a quarter of Gaza's population may succumb to hunger. A senior doctor informed the Associated Press that in the past five weeks, 16 prematurely born babies died in Emirati hospitals in Rafah due to diseases linked to food shortages. Notably, since October 7, Israel has tightly restricted the entry of food, water, medicines, and other supplies into Gaza, resulting in rapid deaths among pregnant women and children. The international community must take practical steps to avert the humanitarian crisis in Gaza amid the looming famine.