

South Africa: Israel 'genocide' hit 'new and horrific stage'

International Desk

South Africa accused Israel at the top UN court of stepping up what it called a "genocide" in Gaza, urging the court to order a halt to Israel's assault on Rafah. "South Africa had hoped, when we last appeared before this court, to halt this genocidal process to preserve Palestine and its people," South Africa's Ambassador to the Netherlands Vusumuzi Madonsela told the International

Court of Justice. "Instead, Israel's genocide has continued apace and has just reached a new and horrific stage," he added. It was the third time the International Court of Justice (ICJ) held hearings on the conflict in Gaza since South Africa filed proceedings in December at the court, based in The Hague in the Netherlands, accusing Israel of genocide. Madonsela also urged the panel



A woman mourns over the body of a child who succumbed to his injuries caused by Israel's bombardment on a refugee camp in Deir el-Balah in the central Gaza Strip on May 11, 2024. ● AFP

of 15 international judges to order Israel to "totally and unconditionally withdraw" from the Gaza Strip. On Thursday, lawyers representing Pretoria presented judges a litany of allegations against Israel, including mass graves, torture and deliberate withholding of humanitarian aid. Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Thursday the ground assault on Rafah was a "critical" part of the army's mis-

sion to destroy Hamas and prevent a repetition of the October 7 attack. Netanyahu ordered the Rafah offensive in defiance of warnings from many countries across the world that more than a million civilians sheltering there could be caught in the crossfire. In a ruling that made headlines worldwide, the ICJ in January ordered Israel to do everything in its power to prevent genocidal acts and enable humanitarian

aid to Gaza. But the court stopped short of ordering a cease-fire and South Africa's argument is that the situation on the ground - notably the operation in the crowded city of Rafah - requires fresh ICJ action. At least 35,303 Palestinians, mostly civilians, have been killed in the Israeli strikes on the Gaza Strip since the war broke out, according to data provided by the health ministry of Gaza.

Envoy: Iran arms for Yemen 'lies' by US



Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations unequivocally dismissed US allegations about the Islamic Republic's interference in Yemen, saying Washington aims to achieve its short-sighted political interests in the region through spreading lies and misinformation. Amir Saeid Iravani made the statement in a letter to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and rotating President of the UN Security Council Pedro Comissario Afonso in response to the recent US accusations against Iran at a Security Council meeting on the situation of Yemen, Press TV reported.

During the public UNSC meeting on May 13, US Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Robert Wood claimed that Iran was sending "advanced weapons, including ballistic and cruise missiles" for Yemen's military and Ansarullah resistance movement.

"It is regrettable that, once again, the US representative used the Security Council's platform to advance its short-sighted political interests and to justify and legitimize the US's ongoing illegal actions and military aggression against Yemen's sovereignty and territorial integrity by spreading lies and misinformation about the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the situation in Yemen," Iravani wrote in his letter. "The Islamic Republic of Iran unequivocally rejects these unfounded allegations."

Iravani also rejected the identical allegations made against Tehran by the representatives of the United States, the United Kingdom and France in another meeting on Yemen in April.

Yemen's armed forces have launched dozens of military operations against Israeli-linked shipping since October 2023, when the regime launched its war against Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip.

The US and Britain have since mid-January carried out air and missile aggression on Yemen, also providing Israel with untrammelled support, including in arms, finance and logistics.

At least 8 dead, 12 missing in Mashhad floods

National Desk

At least eight people have lost their lives in flash floods triggered by heavy rains on Wednesday in the northeastern Iranian city of Mashhad - the country's second most populous city. Chief of the Mashhad Municipality Fire Department Hamidreza Kafiniya said

two people were killed after their car was submerged in the city's flooded Enqelab Square. Flooding also caused the collapse of a residential building in another neighborhood in the city, killing one woman and her four children, Kafiniya added. Rescue workers also recovered the body of a 70-year-old man near the city's Hasanabad village. Mohsen Zakerian, the head of Khorasan Razavi Red Crescent Society, said 12 people are still missing. In Mashhad's tourist neighborhood of Torghabeh, the rivers burst their banks due to the showers. The floods also washed away many vehicles. At least 250 families have been sheltered in the city and nearby villages.

A car inundated with floodwater is seen in the northeastern city of Mashhad in Khorasan Razavi Province, Iran, on May 15, 2024. ● MOHSEN BAKHSHANDEH/IRNA



No medical aid has entered Gaza since May 6: WHO

Despite Israel's contention at the ICJ that it is facilitating the flow of aid into Gaza, the WHO said it has not been able to get any medical supplies into the Palestinian territory since Israeli troops moved towards Rafah. "The last medical supplies that we got in Gaza was before May 6," WHO spokesperson Tarik Jasarevic said at a UN press briefing today. "We don't have fuel. We have hospitals under evacuation order. We have a situation where we cannot move physically," he said. Palestinian health officials have warned that the few health facilities still operating are desperately depleted and at

growing risk of shutting down as Israel presses on with its Rafah offensive. Since Israel began its Rafah incursion on May 7, at least 630,000 Palestinians sheltering there have been forced out, according to the UN Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA).

A Palestinian woman receives medical care at the European hospital in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip on May 17, 2024. ● AFP



Tender Notice No. Z/1403/03 Deadline Extension (modified documents)

Hereby **Golgohar Mining & Industrial Co.** announces selling and export 140.000 metric tons of Pellet (%Fe:65.00) on basis of F.O.B at Barco Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender modified documents at Golgohar website: www.geg.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 9:00 A.M. on 21. May.2024 to Golgohar complex in sirjan (50 km in shiraz road). Bidders are invited to the mentioned address of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and personal identification of the representative. Tender results shall be announced at 9:00 A.M. on 21 May.2024 at Golgohar complex in sirjan.

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Hereby **Golgohar Mining & Industrial Co.** announces selling and export 10.000 metric tons of Iron Ore Concentrate (%Fe:66.5) on basis of F.O.B at Rajae Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender modified documents at Golgohar website: www.geg.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 9:00 A.M. on 21. May.2024 to Golgohar complex in sirjan (50 km in shiraz road). Bidders are invited to the mentioned address of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and personal identification of the representative. Tender results shall be announced at 10:00 A.M. on 21 May.2024 at Golgohar complex in sirjan.

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Tender Notice No. Z/1403/05 Deadline Extension (modified documents)

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