

Leader says Iran delivered harsh blows to Israel, US

Top general: Israel's critical military centers destroyed by Iranian missiles

International Desk

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said on Thursday that Israel was crushed under the blows of the Iranian armed forces after two weeks of aggression against Iran.

Ayatollah Khamenei in a televised message following Israel's unilateral declaration of a cease-fire congratulated the Iranian nation on the victory in the war imposed by the Israeli regime and the US.

Israel launched an unprovoked war of aggression against Iran on June 13, attacking Iran's nuclear, military and residential sites, which claimed the lives of more than 600 Iranians, including several military commanders, nuclear scientists and ordinary citizens. The Iranian armed forces responded with 22 waves



Leader of Iran's Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei addresses the nation after the end of two weeks of Israel's aggression against Iran on June 26, 2025.

● khamenei.ir

of missile strikes as part of Operation True Promise III, which targeted many strategic sites across the Israeli-occupied territories.

"I feel it is necessary to extend several congratulations to the great Iranian nation. First, congratulations on the victory over the fake Zionist

regime. Despite all its noise and claims, the Zionist regime was nearly brought to its knees and crushed under the blows of the Islamic Re-

public," Ayatollah Khamenei stated. Ayatollah Khamenei said the idea of the Islamic Republic being capable of delivering

such devastating strikes had never even crossed the enemy's mind, but it did happen. He said that Iran's Armed Forces managed to breach Israel's advanced multilayered defense systems and flatten large parts of their military and urban centers with powerful missile and weapons strikes.

The Leader also congratulated the nation on the victory against the United States, which carried out an aggression against three Iranian nuclear sites. In response, Iran launched a missile strike on the US biggest military base in the West Asia region – in Qatar.

"Here, too, the Islamic Republic emerged victorious, delivering a harsh blow to the US, specifically targeting the Al Udeid base, one of its key regional bases, and inflicting damage," he asserted. "The US entered the war directly because it feared

that if it didn't, the Zionist regime would be completely destroyed," the Leader said. Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Major General Seyyed Abdolrahim Mousavi, also in a statement said Iran Armed Forces halted the enemy's war machine by inflicting heavy losses upon its critical military, strategic, and research centers.

"Despite widespread media and propaganda blackout, the evidence of destruction left behind in the occupied territories, from the south to the north, indicates that critical military, strategic, and research centers have been reduced to rubble," he added. Mousavi noted that apart from a direct US involvement, the entire intelligence, logistical, and operational capabilities of Western countries, especially in the NATO military alliance, were fully at the service of the Israeli regime.

Pezeshkian: Disregard for Israeli aggression risks regional war

International Desk

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said if the Israeli regime's aggression had gone unanswered, it could have led to an all-out and uncontrollable war in the region.

Pezeshkian made the remarks on Friday through a videoconference at the fourth Eurasian Economic Forum in Minsk, Belarus.

In the wake of the Israeli aggression on Iranian territory, the latter's Armed Forces gave a legitimate response based on Article 51 of the UN Charter, he said.

Israel launched air strikes on Iran amid the indirect talks between Tehran and Washington about Iran's peaceful nuclear program, he said.

Pezeshkian added that the military aggression by the US and the Israeli regime against Iran's peaceful nuclear facilities, which have been under the full supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), is a flagrant violation of all international rules and regulations.

He also said that the aggres-



The photo shows the extent of damage caused by an Israeli strike on the house of an Iranian nuclear scientist in the northern city of Ashrafteyeh, on June 25, 2025.

● TASNIM

sion is considered an irreparable blow to the status of the nuclear non-proliferation regime by a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). He urged the international community, especially the UNSC and the IAEA, to adopt a more responsible approach toward aggressors and warmongers. Pezeshkian noted that the policy of appeasement with

the Israeli regime in times of systematic and repeated violations of human rights must be abandoned. Elsewhere in his remarks, he touched on the implementation of the Free Trade Agreement between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Eurasian Economic Union, which he said could pave the way for the expansion of economic ties among the regional countries.

On June 13, the Israeli regime launched an unprovoked attack on Iran, striking nuclear, military, and civilian sites, killing over 600 people, including top military commanders, scientists, and civilians. Iran rapidly retaliated by launching 22 waves of retaliatory missile strikes in Operation True Promise III, resulting in significant damage across occupied territories.

Israel will be held accountable for deliberate killing of Iranian children: UN envoy

Iran's Ambassador to the United Nations Amir Saeid Iravani condemned Israel's policy of deliberately killing children during its aggression against Iran, saying the regime will be held accountable for its crimes of infanticide. Amir Saeid Iravani made the remarks on Thursday while speaking at an open debate of the UN Security Council on "Children and Armed Conflict", Press TV reported.

He said that Israel, in the course of its brutal aggression against the Islamic Republic between June 13 and June 24, deliberately attacked civilians, killing more than a dozen Iranian children, including toddlers and babies as young as two months old.

Iran's Health Ministry said on Monday that at least 44 women and 13 children have been killed during Israel's military aggression against Iran.



● AFP

Iravani called on the UN Security Council to fulfill its responsibility to save the lives of children and immediately adopt effective measures against Israel. "Last week, the Israeli regime was included again in the blacklist of parties that commit grave violations affecting children in situations of armed conflict on the agenda of the Security Council," the Iranian envoy noted.

"While this is an essential initial step, it is neither enough nor proportionate for stopping regime's targeting

of children." He said the onus lies on the world body to save the lives of children and adopt effective enforcement actions against the child-murdering regime in Tel Aviv.

"The regime will be held fully accountable for its crimes, in particular, the policy and practice of targeting children," he asserted.

Israeli military aggression against Iran has claimed a number of innocent lives since June 13, including those of children, killed in homes and playgrounds.

European troika has ...

Araghchi dismissed the notion of the Islamic Republic entering negotiations with any party aimed at cessation of the Israeli regime's aggression, which started on June 13 and was completely unprovoked and unlawful, amid Iran-US indirect nuclear negotiations.

"We do not accept a cease-fire because a cease-fire is the product of negotiations or the result of an agreement between two parties to halt operations following dialogue and discussion," the foreign minister said. "We do not accept any cease-

fire or halt in operations that implies an agreed-upon arrangement."

Araghchi said Iran has "serious doubts" concerning the Israeli regime's commitment to cessation of its aggression, given its past record, especially in Gaza and Lebanon. He, however, asserted that Iran is not Lebanon, and any breach will be met with a swift and decisive response from the Iranian armed forces.

Araghchi also touched on the potential of resuming talks with the United States, which were abruptly shelved following the Israeli aggres-



French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot (3rd-R) looks at a page held by his Iranian counterpart, Abbas Araghchi, while UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy (R) smiles in the corner during their talks in Geneva, Switzerland, on June 20, 2025.

● IRNA

sion on June 13.

"Whether we will specifically return to talks with the United States is under review and depends on our national interests," he asserted.

However, Araghchi asserted that there is no talk of negotiations at the moment, noting that the words of the US president must not be taken too seriously.

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