

# Israel Launches Relentless Bombardment on Gaza



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TEHRAN (FNA)- Israel has launched a lengthy bombardment of positions in the Gaza Strip, sources inside the besieged enclave reported.

Palestinian news agencies reported late on Saturday that Israeli airstrikes targeted positions allegedly held by the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas North of the Gaza and deep inside the enclave.

Health officials announced that there were no casualties from the attacks that lasted close to an hour.

Israeli regime sources claimed the attacks hit Hamas naval facilities on the Mediterranean and two military compounds run by the group in central Gaza.

The relentless Israeli bombardment came after Hamas launched a drone operation targeting a piece of Israeli military equipment stationed along the border with the occupied Palestinian territories.

It also came a day after Israelis launched attacks on five positions inside Gaza.

Palestinian media reported that an Israeli tank shelled an outpost purportedly belonging to the Palestinian Hamas resistance movement North of Beit Hanoun and a regime drone struck a Hamas observation post near Beit Lahia early on Saturday.

The Israeli military confirmed the attack and claimed it was in response to five rockets allegedly fired by Hamas into the occupied territories on Friday night, setting off sirens in Israeli settlements along the Gaza border as well as the city of Sderot.

The rockets fired hours after Israeli troops killed two Palestinians, Ali al-Ashqar, 17, who was shot in the head East of Jabalya, while 14-year-old Khaled Abu Bakr al-Rubaie was shot dead east of Gaza City. Israeli forces also wounded at least 66

other Palestinian protesters, 38 from gunfire, in demonstrations along the border.

The Great March of Return was launched in late March 2018 in an effort to shed light on the Palestinian refugees' right of return and pressure Israel to lift the 13-year-long blockade on the Gaza Strip.

Since the start of the border protests, the Israeli occupation army has killed more than 320 Palestinians and injured over 32,000 in the Gaza Strip.

A UN fact-finding mission has announced that Israeli forces committed rights violations during their crackdown against Palestinian demonstrators in the Gaza Strip last year that may amount to "war crimes", urging the regime's military to prevent its snipers from using lethal force against the demonstrators.

The UN Independent Commission of Inquiry on the protests in the Occupied Palestinian Territory presented its full report in mid-May, saying Israeli forces breached international human rights by using live ammunition against unarmed Palestinian protesters during the anti-Israel demonstrations in Gaza

The UN has warned that 1,700 Gazans shot by Israel Defense Forces at protests may need amputations in the next two years because of a lack of healthcare funding to help them recover.

Gaza has been under Israeli siege since June 2007, which has caused a decline in living standards. Israel has also launched three major wars against the enclave since 2008, killing thousands of Gazans each time and shattering the impoverished territory's already poor infrastructure.

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