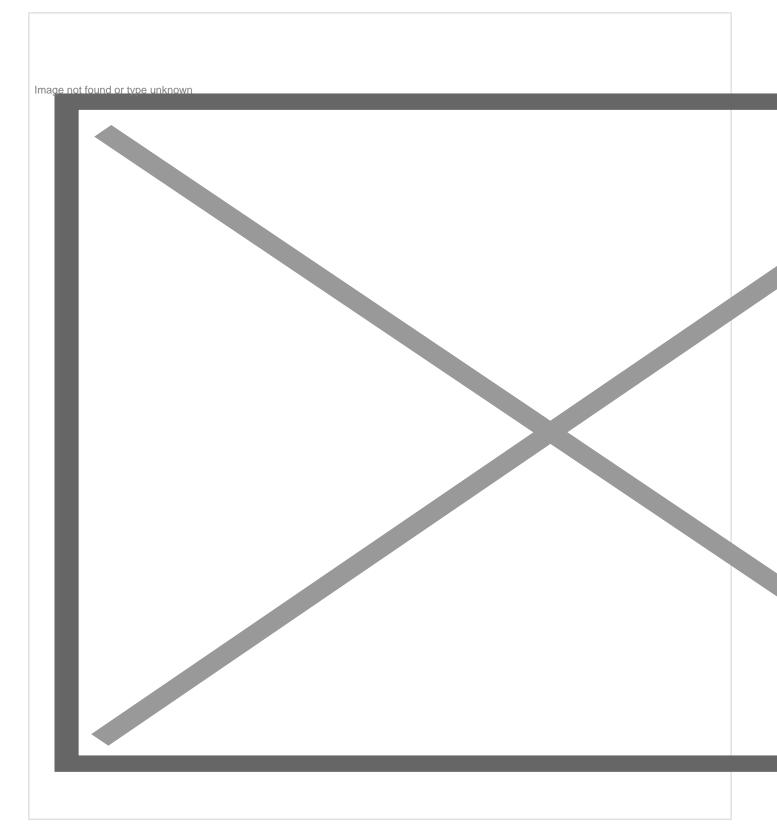
Israel pounds Khan Younis, targets hospitals as death toll tops 26,000



Khan Younis, January 26 (RHC)-- Israel's unrelenting assault on Gaza continues, as the death toll topped 26,000, with at least another 65,000 injured. Over 11,000 of those killed are children.

Khan Younis, once designated as a so-called safe zone, remains under intense attack, with Israeli shelling and snipers reportedly targeting the Nasser and al-Amal hospitals.

Hundreds of families have fled the area in recent days after Israeli forces surrounded the southern city. World Health Organization chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, who struggled to speak after becoming emotional, appealed for an immediate ceasefire.

"Seventy percent of the dead are children and women. That alone is enough for a ceasefire, because the bulk of the casualty, you know where it is. So, I think it has — this thing has to be taken seriously. And going forward, by the way, the number of deaths will increase not only due to injuries, but chronically ill people, for instance."

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