

Death toll from Israeli attack near Beirut hospital rises to 18

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Beirut, October 23 (RHC)-- The Lebanese Health Ministry says 18 people, including four children, have been killed in an Israeli airstrike near the main government hospital in the southern part of the capital Beirut the previous night, revising its initial toll of four.

The strike appeared to hit the car park of the Rafik Hariri University Hospital, a hospital source told Reuters news agency. The health ministry said 60 people had been injured, seven of whom were in a critical condition.

The number of wounded in the strike near the medical center was previously reported as 57. The attack was among the 13 airstrikes that hit south Beirut on Monday evening. The Israeli military alleged it was attacking facilities linked to Hezbollah resistance movement.

Separately on Tuesday, Lebanese state media reported Israeli strikes near the southern city of Tyre. This came after the Israeli military issued a forced displacement order, calling upon residents of al-Haush to evacuate.

“For your own safety, you must immediately evacuate your homes and move at least one kilometer outside the town,” Avichay Adraee, the army’s Arabic-speaking spokesman, wrote in a post published on X social media platform.

“Anyone who is near Hezbollah elements, facilities, and combat equipment is putting his life in danger,” he asserted.

Meanwhile, Lebanon’s minister of telecommunications says the sector has sustained \$67 million in losses during the Israeli offensives on the country

“The Ministry of Communications prepared a report on the extent of the losses suffered by the Ogero Authority and the two cellular companies, Alfa and Touch, during this war,” the official National News Agency quoted Johnny Corm as saying.

According to the minister, the aims of the report included supporting the “provision of the necessary resources for relief agencies”, providing secure internet access for distance learning for students and avoiding “losing the school year amid the ongoing war.”

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