

Heavy rains flood tents in Gaza as Israel intensifies attacks



Gaza City, November 26 (RHC)-- Heavy rains flood displacement tents across the Gaza Strip as Israel intensifies attacks on the Palestinians. The Palestinian Civil Defense spokesman said on Sunday with the coming of winter "a real humanitarian catastrophe" was looming ahead.

The statement added that thousands of displaced people were affected by the recent heavy rain and flooding in Gaza, requesting immediate global intervention to get humanitarian aid to the hapless refugees.

The Gaza Government once again sounded the alarm, calling on the international community and all international, humanitarian, and legal organizations to take action in this regard.

"Rainfall has caused severe damage to tents housing thousands of displaced people with water flowing inside the tents and damaging luggage and mattresses," Civil Defense spokesman Mahmoud Basal stated. "The current situation signals a real humanitarian catastrophe if immediate intervention does not take place."

The Gaza Government Media Office issued a statement saying, "nearly 10,000 tents were swept away by seawater and damaged over the past two days."

The Gaza Government Media Office statement warned, "due to the onset of winter and a storm system" the lives of "hundreds of thousands of displaced people in the Gaza Strip" were at stake.

"We urgently repeat our call for immediate humanitarian aid to save hundreds of thousands of displaced people in the Gaza Strip before it's too late." It said the number of displacements forced by the Israeli regime since October 2023 "is reaching 2 million across the Gaza Strip." The number of displaced persons continues to rise daily due to the occupation's crime of forced displacement," it added.

"These individuals have been displaced more than five consecutive times and are enduring harsh conditions imposed by the occupation.

"In Gaza, there are 543 shelter and displacement centers due to ... forcibly uprooting citizens from their homes and safe residential areas, in violation of international law," Media Office said.

"According to governmental field assessment teams, 81 percent of the displaced persons' tents are now unusable."

"Of the 135,000 tents, 110,000 have completely deteriorated and require immediate replacement due to damage caused by weather conditions, the storm system, and the seawater waves.

"These tents, made of fabric and nylon, have worn out from exposure to the sun and Gaza's climate over 416 days of genocide, forced displacement, and non-humanitarian conditions," it added.

"Gaza is facing a deep crisis and a real humanitarian catastrophe as winter sets in and the challenging weather conditions worsen. As a result, 2 million people will soon be left without any shelter, forced to live on the ground and under the sky because of the unusable tents and the closure of Gaza's border crossings," the Gaza Government Media Office warned.

It called on the global community to mount pressure on the Israeli regime to allow the entry of 250,000 tents and caravans into Gaza blocked by the Zionist forces.

The Israeli atrocities include, "forced displacement, mass expulsion, genocide, systematic killing, and forcing 2 million displaced people to leave their homes for unsuitable, unsafe, and inhumane areas with inadequate tents," it added.

Basal appealed to the United Nations and the international community to quickly intervene to provide tents and caravans for displaced civilians in Gaza during winter.

In the meantime, the Israeli occupation forces issued new evacuation orders to Palestinians in Gaza City, setting off a new wave of displacement amid the ongoing genocide in the Gaza Strip. The regime forces ordered the fresh evacuation for the Shejaia suburb on Sunday despite the already dire humanitarian situation.

Over the weekend, Israeli occupation forces in the Gaza Strip killed as many as 120 Palestinians as the Tel Aviv regime steps up the attacks against Palestinians. The Israeli campaign of genocide has displaced nearly the entire 2.3 million population of Gaza at least once while turning most structures on the Palestinian land into ruins.

The International Criminal Court (ICC) on Thursday issued arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his former Defense Minister Yoav Gallant for war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza. The regime also faces a genocide case at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) over its atrocities in Gaza.

"We hold the Israeli occupation, the US administration, and all genocide accomplice nations fully responsible for the catastrophic conditions faced by the Palestinian people in Gaza. We call on the world to condemn these crimes and stand for humanity and morality. We appeal to the Arab Republic of Egypt, all Arab and Islamic nations, and the Gulf Cooperation Council to urgently send aid and tents for the 2 million displaced people," the Gaza Government Media Office stated.

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