

Israel issues new evacuation threat for residents of northern Gaza

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Palestinian families arrive in Gaza City after evacuating their homes in the Jabalia area on October 6, 2024. (AFP)

Gaza City, October 13 (RHC)-- The Israeli military has issued yet another evacuation threat for Palestinians in northern Gaza, hours after killing at least 19 people in an airstrike in the area. In a statement on Saturday, the regime's military spokesperson Avichay Adraee called on the residents to evacuate "immediately via Salah al-Din Street" to reach what he claimed to be a "safe humanitarian zone."

"The area, known as D5, is expected to face continued military action." This call for evacuation follows an airstrike that killed at least 19 Palestinians in Gaza overnight, according to medics.

In the meantime, Gazans in the north say they were trapped in their homes as Israeli forces continued the invasion of the Jabalia area. The military forces, they say, threaten hospitals and shoot at fleeing residents. The military has also ordered the immediate evacuation of the Kamal Adwan Hospital, according to Civil Defense Spokesperson Mahmoud Bassal, but the hospital's administration and staff do not intend to leave.

Gaza Ministry of Health says that the regime's threats to evacuate the hospitals operating in the area put the safety of patients and medical staff at risk.

Palestinian health officials say at least 150 people have been killed in Jabalia since Israel's military launched a new offensive on the area last Sunday. Across the Gaza Strip, more than 42,100 people have been killed since October 7, 2023.

According to the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, more than 80 percent of the Gaza population has been forcibly displaced due to the Israeli offensive across the besieged territory. Rights groups say the evacuation calls are "in fact forced displacement orders that constitute a crime against humanity according to the Rome Statute."

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