

Israeli soldier killed, four others wounded in West Bank explosion

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Israeli soldiers stand guard during an army raid in the Palestinian village of Qabatiyah, in the north of the occupied West Bank, January 10, 2025. (Photo by AFP)

Ramallah, January 20 (RHC)-- An Israeli reservist soldier has been killed and four others wounded when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb during a raid in the occupied West Bank.

According to the Israeli daily newspaper Yedioth Ahronoth, the blast occurred in the town of Tammun, located 13 kilometers (8 miles) northeast of Nablus, on Monday. It added that the soldiers were in an armored vehicle when the bomb went off.

The Israeli military identified the reservist soldier killed in the explosion as 31-year-old Eviatar Ben Yehuda. It announced in a statement that a battalion commander seated next to him sustained serious injuries, and was evacuated to a hospital for treatment.

Earlier, a Palestinian teenager was fatally shot and several others, including two minors and an elderly man, were wounded as Israeli military forces stormed the nearby town of Sebastia.

The Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) said in a brief statement that 14-year-old Ahmad Rashid Rushdi Jazar was shot in the chest with live bullets during the raid on Sunday evening.

He was rushed to a hospital, where he succumbed to his serious gunshot wounds and was pronounced dead.

Mayor of Sebastia, Mohammed Azem, said Israeli troops fired live bullets, stun grenades and toxic teargas canisters at local residents and their homes during the skirmishes. Several protesters suffered breathing difficulties due to inhaling the tear gas.

In the southern West Bank, the PRCS said its teams transported two injured people to the hospital. One was a 17-year-old boy with a gunshot wound to the hand and the other was an 11-year-old child injured during clashes in the town of Idhna.

Eyewitnesses said the Israeli military raid into the town took about two hours before the forces withdrew. Clashes erupted during the raid, with the use of live ammunition, rubber bullets and tear gas.

The developments came as hundreds of families of Palestinian prisoners gathered near the Israeli Ofer Prison in the West Bank, awaiting the release of 90 prisoners, most of them women and children, as part of the first phase of a ceasefire agreement between Israel and the Palestinian resistance group Hamas.

Over the past few years, the Israeli military has conducted numerous raids in the West Bank, which have escalated with the onset of the genocidal war on Gaza on October 7, 2023. Palestinians have also been violently attacked by illegal Israeli settlers.

At least 859 Palestinians have since been killed and over 6,700 others injured by Israeli army fire in the occupied territory, according to the Health Ministry.

[SOURCE: PRESS TV and NEWS AGENCIES]

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