

The Harvest Of Agression Against Gaza

From December 24th, 2023 until December 31st, 2023



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8

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Firstly: Harvest of the week

During the 85-day war in Gaza, the Israeli occupation caused the death of 21,672 people and injured 56,165 others. (1) The war has now entered its eleventh week, making it one of the bloodiest conflicts in modern history. The occupation's brutal restrictions have severely impacted all aspects of life in Gaza, leaving its residents in a dangerous and uncertain situation. This week, the occupation further violated the dignity of the 80 martyrs by mutilating their bodies and stealing their organs.

"The term 'Gaza' will live on in history alongside Dresden and other famous cities that were bombed," said University of Chicago political scientist and author on the history of aerial bombing, Robert Pape. "What you're seeing in Gaza is in the top 25 percent of heavy punishment campaigns in history." Professor Devi Sridhar, chair of global public health at the University of Edinburgh, also stated that she has "never heard health and aid organizations as forthright and concerned as they are about the level of suffering and deaths in Gaza. It is an unprecedented conflict, breaking the most tragic records, and while experts might debate whether it's a genocide or not, the truth is we're witnessing the mass killing of a population, whether by bomb, bullet, starvation or disease.

Electricity

Since the start of the aggression, the occupation has persistently deprived Gaza from electricity. From day one, the occupation has deliberately targeted the electricity transmission and distribution networks in the Gaza Strip, resulting in the destruction of %70 of these vital infrastructures. This destructive act can be seen as a form of collective punishment imposed on the residents of Gaza, aligning with the occupation's plan of ethnic cleansing and genocide. The ultimate goal of this aggression is to paralyze all aspects of life and every sector in Gaza. (2)

Water

- Due to occupation raids, the water supply line to the Bani Suhaila area, located east of Khan Yunis, has ceased functioning, resulting in the inability to pump water to all areas of Khan Yunis. (3)
- Since October 8th, the water supply lines providing water to the northern region have been halted. (3)
- The occupation forces have destroyed the only desalination plant in the city of Jabalia, known as the Nile desalination plant, which was crucial for providing clean water to the residents of the northern Gaza Strip. (3)

- Tragically, children in Gaza City and the northern Gaza Strip are losing their lives due to the unavailability of even a single drop of water. During the truce, UNICEF had promised to deliver the necessary fuel to operate the water pumps to the Gaza municipality, but it has not yet fulfilled its commitment. (4)
- The city of Rafah is facing an extremely critical situation as the water and sanitation systems deteriorate under mounting pressure.

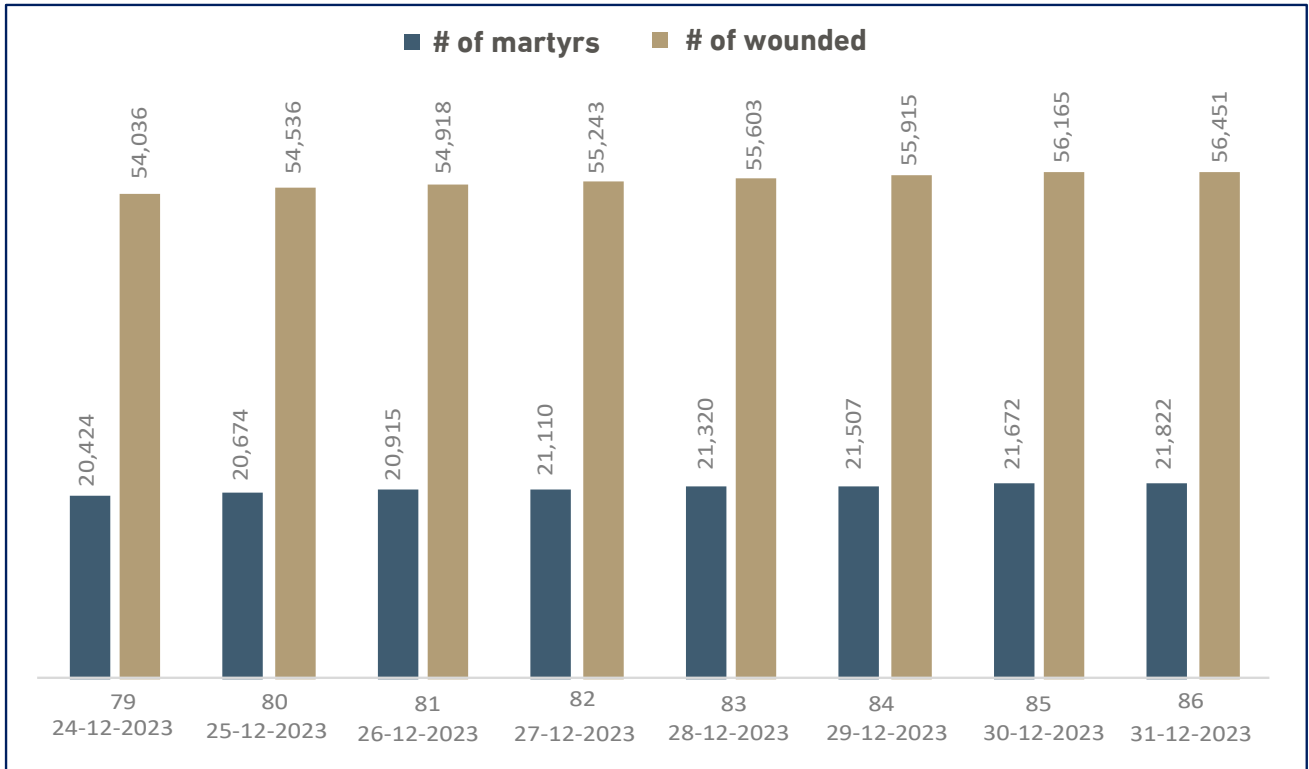
Food Security

- The risk of starvation in Gaza has become a harsh reality. (5)
- The number of individuals in Gaza experiencing severe hunger is four times higher than those facing similar circumstances worldwide. (6)
- In the northern Gaza Strip, residents are confronted with dire conditions where access to food is nearly non-existent, exacerbated by the lack of humanitarian aid reaching this area. (5)
- Due to the destruction of most fishing boats by occupation forces, the fishing industry in Gaza has come to a halt. Consequently, the residents of Gaza are unable to rely on fish as a food source, given the ongoing siege, limited aid, and the occupation authorities' control over permitted food supplies entering the region.



Secondly: A Graph Illustrating the Number of Martyrs, wounded and Missing persons

- Number of martyrs during the days of this week



Detailed figures:



28,672 martyrs and missing.



312 martyrs from the medical staff.



40 martyrs from the Civil Defense.



106 martyrs of journalists.



More than **4,037** students and **209** faculty members were martyred, and more than **7,259** students and **619** teachers were injured. (3)



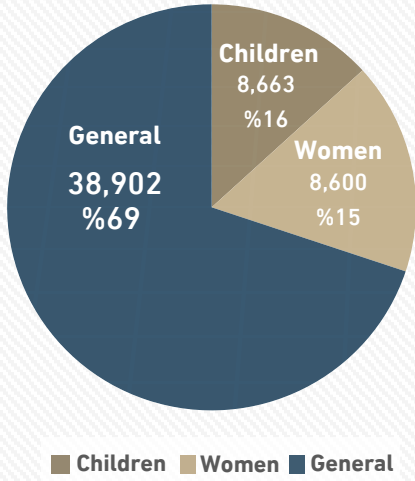
142 UNRWA staff martyrs. (7)



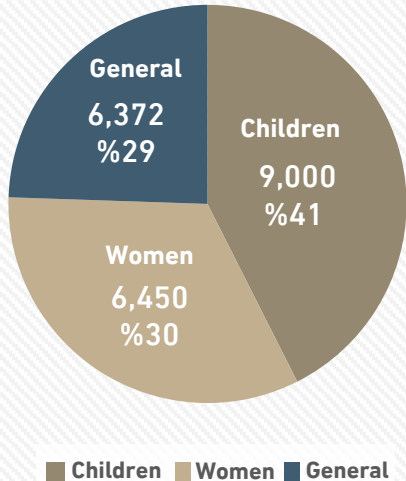
314 IDPs killed in UNRWA shelters, and **1,129** injured. (7)

- A graph depicting the number of martyrs and wounded among children and women.

Percentage of wounded women, children and the general population



Percentage of martyrs among women, children and the general population



Thirdly: Urban Damage

The war on the Gaza Strip resulted in immense destruction, comparable to the most destructive campaign in modern history. (8)

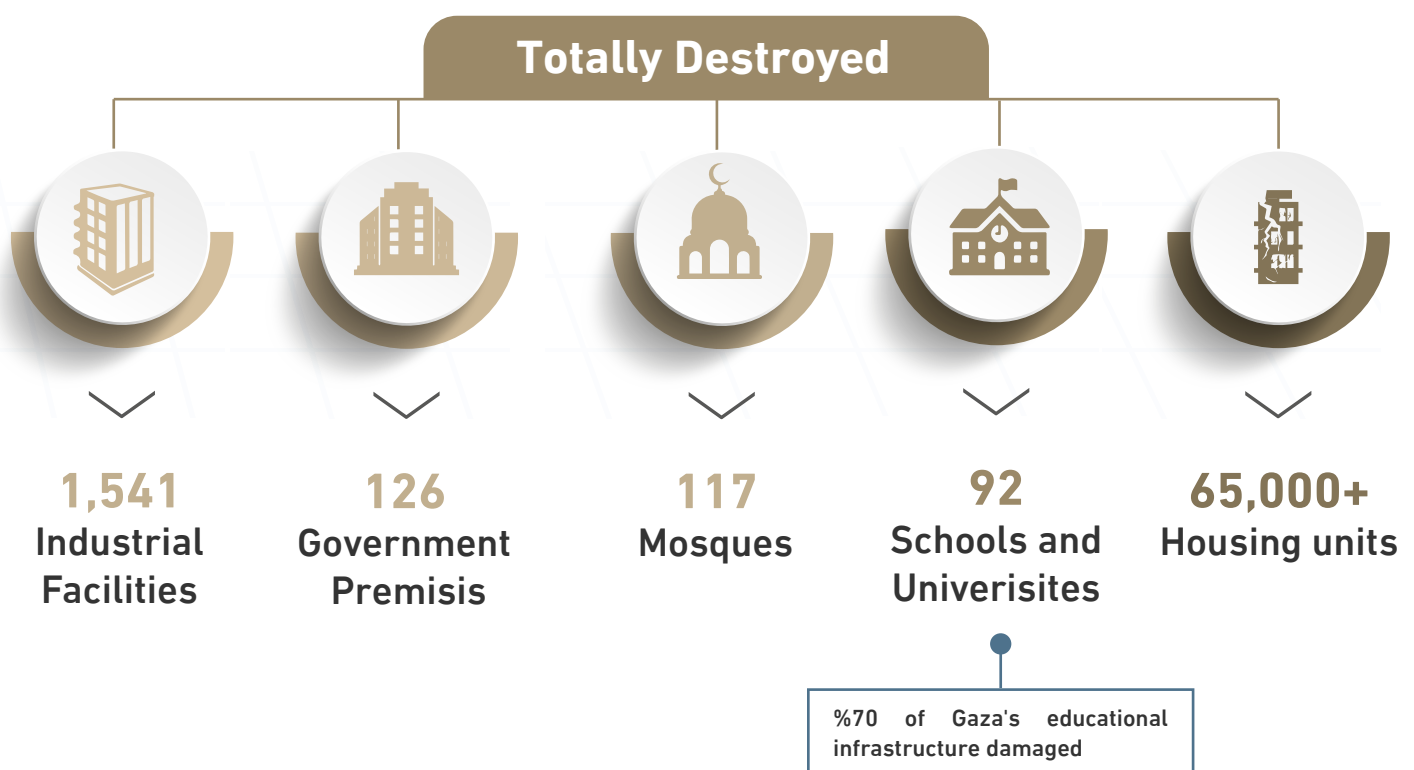
The occupation destroyed olive groves, citrus trees, and greenhouses.

The bombing that targeted water, electricity, communications, and health care infrastructure, rendered it utterly destroyed.

The occupation has dropped 29,000 bombs, destroying approximately %70 of the homes in the Gaza Strip.

- The level of destruction in northern Gaza, where the bombing was most severe, resulted in %88 of the buildings being either partially damaged or completely destroyed, surpassing the percentage of destruction witnessed in the city of Dresden during World War II. (9)
- Since October 7th, a total of 203 attacks have targeted UNRWA buildings and the displaced individuals inside them, with some of these attacks being repeated. Among these incidents, there have been at least 18 cases of military use and/or interference with UNRWA facilities. The attacks have directly hit 60 UNRWA facilities and caused collateral damage to 68 other UNRWA facilities. (7)

• Devastation toll after 85 days of the aggression: (1)



Partially Damaged



165

Media offices



3

Churches



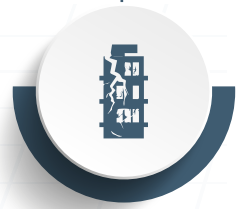
208

Mosques



285

Schools &
Universities



290,000+

Housing units

Healthcare Sector Damages



104

Ambulances totally
destroyed



53

Health care
centers rendered
nonoperational



23

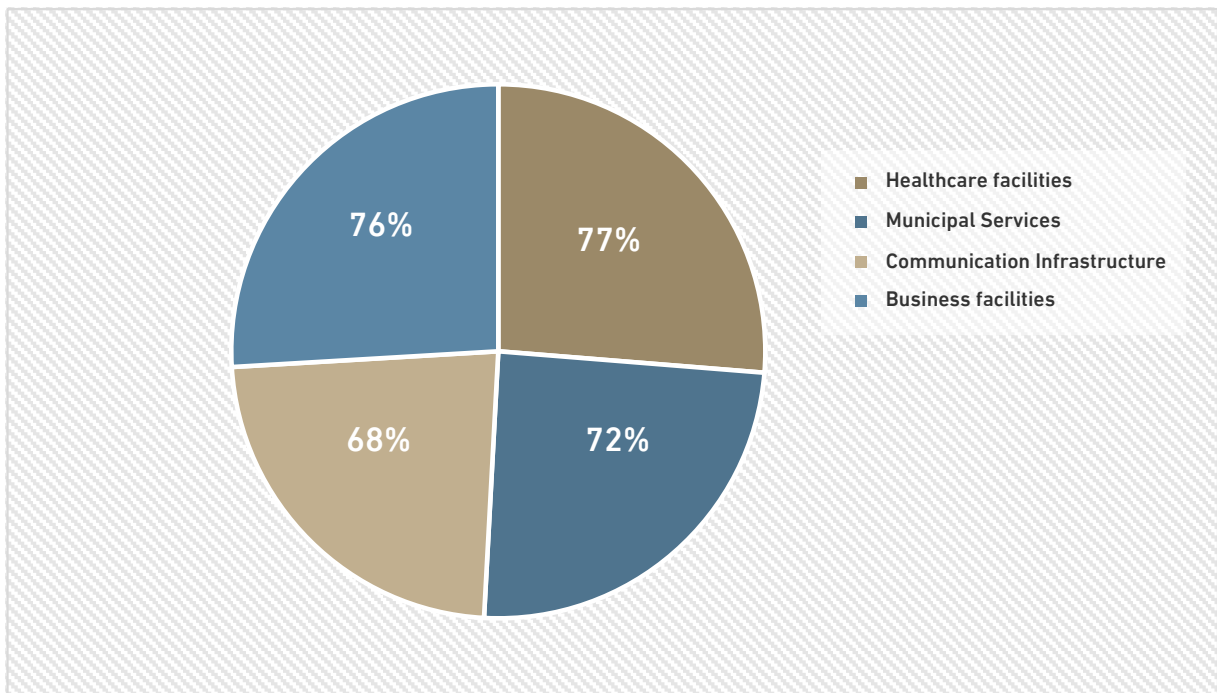
Hospitals rendered
nonoperational



142

Health care facility
partially destroyed

Scale of destruction among sectors as of December 12th (10)



- As of December 30th, the number of massacres has surpassed 1,813.

Archaeological and Heritage Sites : (1)

Out of the 325 sites in the Gaza Strip, the occupation deliberately targeted and demolished over 200 archaeological and heritage sites. These included ancient mosques, churches, schools, museums, ancient archaeological houses, and various other significant heritage sites. The occupation's destruction extended to valuable heritage and archaeological sites, some of which have historical roots dating back to the Phoenician era, while others trace their origins to the Roman era.

The most prominent sites destroyed by the occupation army:

Al-Zafar Damri Mosque in Shujaiya

Sheikh Shaaban Mosque

Omari Mosque in Jabalia

Byzantine Jabalia Church

Al-Khidr shrine in Deir al-Balah

Center for Ancient Manuscripts and Documents in Gaza City

Khalil Al-Rahman Mosque in the Abasan area of Khan Yunis

Al-Balakhya site "Anthedon Harbour" northwest of the Old City of Gaza

The occupation also targeted:

Al-Sakan Hill in al-Zahra

al-Muntar Hill in Gaza City

**Sakka
Archaeological
House in Shujaiya**

**St. Porphyrios Church in
the Zaytoun neighborhood
of Gaza City**

**Alsayed Hashem
Mosque in Gaza
City**



Fourthly: Massacres Committed during the Week

- As of December 30th, the number of massacres has surpassed 1,813.

Fifthly: Gaza Multifaceted Suffering

Suffering of IDPs

Occupation Assaults on UNRWA Facilities	# of UNRWA Premises	# of IDP in UNRWA Premises	Total # of IDP
156	155	1,795,000	1,900,000

Approximately 85 percent of Gaza's population, which amounts to 2.2 million residents, have been forced to leave their homes and currently live in less than two-thirds of the territory as a result of evacuation orders issued by Israel. However, these individuals continue to face the risk of death and disease due to the lack of basic necessities required for a healthy life.

- The health care needs of those residing in shelter centers in the besieged Gaza Strip are being neglected, leaving over 1.8 million displaced individuals vulnerable to famine and disease outbreaks. (11)

• Fatigued women and children endure long queues, waiting for their turn to use a toilet. On average, there is only one toilet available for every 700 people, forcing individuals to resort to alternative coping mechanisms. (5)

- Since early December, hundreds of thousands of internally displaced individuals, half of whom are children, have sought refuge in Rafah. These individuals are in desperate need of essential resources such as food, water, shelter, medicine, and protection. (5)

- Schools designated for displaced individuals are subjected to severe violations by the occupying forces, including physical harm, arrests, abuse, and intimidation of innocent civilians. (12)

- The displacement crisis has reached a critical point, with over 150,000 individuals, including young children, pregnant women, people with disabilities, and the elderly, left with nowhere to go. (13)

• In recent days, approximately 100,000 displaced individuals have arrived in Rafah, fleeing from Khan Yunis and Deir al-Balah. (3)

- Displaced individuals who sought refuge at Al-Aqsa University in Khan Yunis, after fleeing from the northern Gaza Strip, are facing extremely challenging living conditions. These conditions include overflowing sewage and a scarcity of drinking water.

- The occupying forces have not only looted the money and personal belongings of the displaced individuals but have also confiscated gold from women in several instances. (12)

The most prominent attacks that took place during this week:

- Thousands of displaced individuals seeking refuge in the Gaza Training Community College, which is associated with UNRWA, are facing dire conditions. The college premises are strewn with heaps of garbage, and contaminated water has inundated the area, resulting in the outbreak of various diseases, particularly among children.
- Al-Rafi'i School in Jabalia Al-Balad, serving as a sanctuary for numerous displaced people, was forcefully invaded by the occupying forces on Sunday, December 24th. They apprehended males aged 15 and above, taking them to an undisclosed location, while the women were forcibly removed amidst the sound of gunfire. (12)
- On December 28th, the occupying army launched an offensive with tanks, bulldozers, and infantry towards the Bureij First Intermediate Girls School (Central Areas). They demolished the rear wall of the school and proceeded towards the main entrance. Approximately 1,000 displaced individuals and seven UNRWA staff were instructed to temporarily evacuate the shelter. The males, including the UNRWA personnel, were coerced into undressing and remaining in their undergarments, while standing in an open area with their hands raised. Meanwhile, the women and children were ordered to gather in the center of the schoolyard. Reports indicate that the occupation authorities are still detaining 27 displaced persons and three UNRWA employees. (7)
- Since the commencement of the war on the Gaza Strip, the occupying forces have deemed shelter centers, predominantly housed within UNRWA-run schools affiliated with the United Nations, as legitimate targets. This is despite the fact that these schools enjoy affiliation with the United Nations and were constructed with financial support from European Union taxpayers. Consequently, they should be granted special protection during times of intense military attacks. However, on the ground, the Israeli occupation forces persist in targeting these shelters and even celebrate their assaults, as evidenced in numerous video clips. (12)



Forms of Occupation Attacks on Shelter Centers (12)



Phase One

Initially, shelter centers faced frequent aerial bombardment, resulting in the loss of numerous lives and injuries to hundreds of individuals. This unfortunate occurrence was witnessed multiple times, such as at Al-Fakhoura School, as well as numerous other schools in Gaza and its northern region. Similar attacks also took place in Khan Yunis, located in the southern part of the Gaza Strip, and Al-Bureij, situated in the central area of the Gaza Strip. It is important to emphasize that these attacks were without justification. The occupying forces deliberately targeted innocent civilians seeking refuge in shelters, despite having received instructions to evacuate their homes and residential areas.



Phase Two

During this phase, a ground invasion takes place, with the occupying forces forcefully entering schools by demolishing their walls and gates using tanks. This was accompanied by intense gunfire and tank shells. Shockingly, the occupying forces carried out executions within these schools, similar to what occurred at the "Shadia Abu Ghazaleh" school in Jabalia. After the Israeli forces withdrew from the area on December 13th, it was discovered that there were bodies, including women and children. Furthermore, apart from the killings that took place in schools used as shelters, males aged 14 and above were detained by the occupation forces. These individuals were subjected to humiliating strip searches and then transferred to other locations where they endured inhumane torture and abuse. As for the women, they were subjected to investigation and interrogation, resulting in some being arrested while others were released.



Phase Three

The focus lies in transforming shelter schools into military barracks for tanks or utilizing them as temporary headquarters for the occupation forces, as well as establishing centers for the interrogation and mistreatment of citizens.

The suffering of women and children

Women

The Israeli occupation forces claim the lives of two mothers every hour, and seven women every two hours, leaving their children without their only source of security. (16)

Mothers, weakened by food insecurity, are unable to nourish their children through breastfeeding. (17)

On a daily basis, 180 women in Gaza face life-threatening risks during childbirth due to the absence of adequate medical care. This includes undergoing cesarean and emergency sections without proper sterilization, anesthesia, or pain relief. The number of pregnant women affected amounts to approximately 18) .50,000)

As many as 800,000 women have been displaced from their homes and forced into overcrowded facilities. These facilities often lack basic amenities, with one shower available for every 700 people and one toilet for every 150 people. The absence of feminine supplies is so severe that women are compelled to use unsterile pieces of cloth during menstruation, exposing them to various infections such as hepatitis B. (18)

Children

Half of the displaced children are at risk of experiencing dehydration, malnutrition, respiratory infections, skin diseases, severe colds, and the lack of mandatory vaccinations for newborns. (3)

As a consequence of the aggression on Gaza, around 1,000 children underwent limb amputations without anesthesia. (5)

In the early days of November, the rate of diarrhea among children in Gaza camps exceeded normal levels by more than 100 times. (14)

In the absence of available treatments, children can rapidly become dehydrated and succumb to death. Diarrheal diseases, caused by contaminated water, rank as the second leading cause of death in children under the age of five worldwide. (15)

The suffering of women and children

Women



Within shelter centers, %50 of pregnant women endure thirst, malnutrition, and a lack of healthcare. (3).



Access to bathing facilities has significantly diminished, resulting in a complete absence of hygiene options. This disproportionately affects women and girls and can contribute to the spread of diseases. (5)

Children



The incidence of nocturnal or involuntary urination in children increases as a result of fear stemming from trauma and witnessing scenes of destruction and violence.



Children, due to their incomplete intellectual and emotional development, are the most vulnerable group in need of psychological support. They are particularly susceptible to post-traumatic stress disorder and severe stress. (14)



This conflict stands as one of the deadliest for children in recent history. During November alone, nearly 160 children lost their lives on a daily basis, surpassing the death toll of the last conflict in Syria, which recorded three deaths per day, two in Afghanistan, and 0.7 in Ukraine. (14)

Sixthly: Escalating Risks

Gaza is not a livable city anymore

- A complete overhaul of the infrastructure will be necessary for the reconstruction process, as any disturbance to the topsoil disrupts the flow of essential resources like water, gas, and sewage through the ground. (18)
- Due to the scarcity of basic life essentials, the people residing in the Gaza Strip are currently facing a dire humanitarian crisis. In order to prepare meals, some residents have resorted to gathering herbs. (17)

Damage to agricultural land

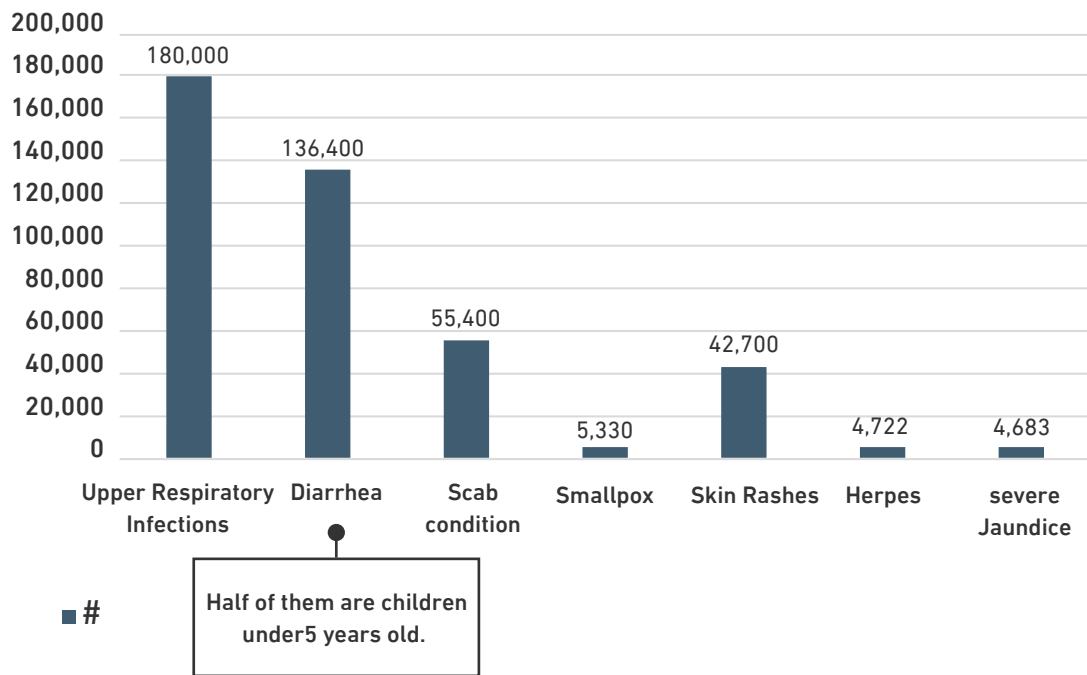
- %20 of Gaza's agricultural land has been damaged or destroyed. Winter wheat, which should be currently in the growth stage, has not been planted. (19)

Alternative Source Targeting (4)

- The municipal buildings and homes in Gaza suffered significant damage as a result of the occupation's deliberate bombing of the solar panels. Consequently, the region lost a crucial and efficient source of alternative energy, which was vital for providing water and electricity, especially considering the severe shortage of fuel.

The Prevalence of Contagious Diseases (14)

- The proliferation of garbage on the streets and in the shelter facilities within the Gaza Strip, following the interruption of municipal services caused by the war, has resulted in the dissemination of diseases and outbreaks among the displaced individuals, accompanied by medical cautions. This is particularly concerning given the scarcity of medications and the arrival of winter season.



• In contrast to comparable conflicts worldwide, public health professionals anticipate a higher number of children in Gaza succumbing to preventable illnesses rather than to gunfire and explosives. (15)

• The occurrence of recent floods might result in the contamination of potable water sources with untreated sewage, leading to the potential outbreak of cholera. (15)

• Surge in Mortality Rate: (15)

It has been approximated that a staggering %85 of the population in Gaza has already experienced displacement. Experts, who have examined past instances of refugee displacements, have published their findings in the renowned British medical journal, The Lancet. Their analysis suggests that the initial mortality rates, measured as deaths per thousand people, were more than 60 times higher than the rates observed at the beginning of any other struggle on average.

If the current level of conflict and displacement in Gaza persists, the death rates could potentially rise to 229.2 in 2024, based on the application of these findings. This projection takes into account the absence of sanitation services, medical facilities, and permanent housing, which exacerbate the situation. It is important to note that the pre-conflict crude death rate in 2021 was relatively low at 3.82, primarily due to the young demographic. However, without adequate resources and infrastructure, the mortality rate could significantly escalate in the coming years.

It is anticipated that the global community will confront the potential scenario where approximately %25 of Gaza's population, which amounts to 2 million individuals, may perish within a span of one year. The primary reasons behind these fatalities will predominantly stem from preventable health issues, coupled with the breakdown of the healthcare system. Despite the grim nature of these projections, they are based on factual data, utilizing the alarming actual figures of casualties from past conflicts that bear resemblance. (15)

Seventhly: Healthcare Sector Reality:

Hospitals Situation: facts and figures

- **%350 occupancy:** Southern hospitals overflow with wounded, forcing hundreds onto floors of wards and operating rooms.
- **5,000 on life support:** Critically injured patients require immediate evacuation abroad for complex care.
- **Closed doors:** Al-Ahli, Shifa, Awda, and Sahaba hospitals reach capacity, unable to accept new patients or replenish supplies.
- **Shelter amid tragedy:** Despite closures, these hospitals continue tending to existing patients and sheltering thousands of displaced individuals. Grim toll: Over 9,000 lives lost due to lack of proper medical care, with numbers expected to climb as the health system teeters on collapse.

The Al-Aqsa Hospital is currently facing two major challenges: a scarcity of surgeons and inadequate space to accommodate the growing number of patients seeking medical attention.

The Gaza European Hospital and the Nasser Medical Complex are the only two hospitals in southern Gaza that are currently operating at full capacity.

Patients in Al-Ahly and Al-Shifa hospitals continue to endure the agonizing wait for their demise, while numerous individuals who require critical care are forced to sleep in queues.

A summary report of the medical reality in Gaza

- **Gaza's Healthcare on the Brink: A Grim Statistics Portrait**
- **Hospitals Crippled:** Only 1336/ hospitals operational, mostly northern facilities closed with incomplete treatments jeopardizing recovery. (14, 20)
- **Southern Surge:** Southern hospitals at tripled capacity, struggling to serve 900+ patients in European Hospital alone (double normal). (3, 20)
- **Critical Shortages:** Personnel, surgeons, and vital supplies (anesthesia, antibiotics) dwindling across all hospitals. (14)
- **Public Health Peril:** Overcrowded shelters (14,000 in Al Amal alone) fueling infectious diseases, pushing Gaza towards a major public health crisis. (3, 13)
- **Unprecedented Attacks:** Gaza suffers worst global record of healthcare facility attacks: Al Amal bombed 5 times in a week, claiming 41 lives. (15, 3)
- **Beyond War Injury:** Fuel, food, and water needs compound the crisis, threatening hospital functionality and basic patient care. (14)



Key Needs

1



Providing the medical needs and fuel to operate the Shifa Medical Complex, which represents the only hope for the needs of the wounded and sick in northern Gaza and the rest of the hospitals.

2



Specialized medical teams particularly orthopedists.

3



Bone fixators and treatment of burns.

4



Establishing medical points and mobile clinics to care for displaced people in the western areas of Khan Younis and Rafah.

5



Provide blood virus testing materials to ensure the validity of blood units and the safety of their transport to the wounded and sick.

6



Provide safe humanitarian passage for the entry of large quantities of medical aid and fuel to all hospitals in the Gaza Strip.

7



Hospital supplies for reproductive health to facilitate safe childbirth.

8



Postpartum kits.

9



Medicines and pain killers for Cancer patients

10



Medical equipments and medicines for patients with chronic diseases

Eighthly: The West Bank and Occupied Al-Quds

The West Bank

• Incursions and Arrests (18)

Sunday 24/12/2023	• The occupation forces stormed the town of Beita, south of Nablus, the towns of Beit Ummar and Sa'ir, northeast of Hebron, and the village of Karma, south of Hebron, and launched raids and arrests of citizens.
Monday 25/12/2023	• The occupation arrested 35 Palestinians in various areas of the West Bank and Jerusalem.
Tuesday 26/12/2023	• The occupation forces stormed the town of Beitunia, west of Ramallah, and raided a store in the industrial zone. They also stormed the city of Tulkarm, besieged the Tulkarm and Nour Shams camps, and blew up 3 houses in the Nour Shams camp.
Wednesday 27/12/2023	• For the third time in three days, the occupation forces stormed the city of Tulkarm and the Tulkarm and Nur Shams camps. They also targeted several villages and towns in the Tulkarm, Nablus, Qalqilya, and Hebron governorates. Tragically, six Palestinian youths lost their lives due to an Israeli march bombing in the Al-Mahjar neighborhood of the Nour Shams refugee camp in Tulkarm.
Thursday 28/12/2023	• Israeli forces raided five money exchange shops in the West Bank, confiscating 10 million shekels and arresting at least 25 individuals, including former prisoners.
Friday 29/12/2023	• The occupation forces, supported by a number of military vehicles, forcefully entered the vicinity of Askar camp in the city of Nablus, as well as Al-Far'a camp. They also targeted the city of Dura, the town of Jabal Mukaber, Ain al-Sultan camp in Jericho, Balata camp, the town of Beit Rima, and Beit Ummar, located north of Hebron.
Saturday 30/12/2023	• The Israeli occupation forces conducted raids in various towns and areas of the West Bank, including the city of Hebron, the Jalazoun refugee camp north of Ramallah, the town of Al-Ubaidiya near Bethlehem, and the village of Rujib, east of Nablus.

- Since October 7th, 527 Palestinians have lost their lives, approximately 3,800 have sustained injuries, and 4,876 have been apprehended in the West Bank. Moreover,
- A significant number of prisoners at Ofer Prison have unfortunately been subjected to instances of poisoning due to the consumption of spoiled meals, as reported (21).

- **Children: (5)**

Since the start of 2023, a total of 124 Palestinian children have tragically lost their lives, with 83 of them being martyred within the last 12 weeks. This distressing figure is more than twice the number of children who were killed in 2022, highlighting the escalating military and security operations taking place.

The year has witnessed an alarming surge in conflict-related violence, making it the most devastating period for children in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.



Children in the West Bank are enduring their own personal horror. The presence of fear and sorrow has become a regular occurrence for these young ones. Numerous children have expressed that fear has become an integral part of their everyday existence, with even the simplest activities such as walking to school or playing outside being tainted by the constant threat of gunfire and other violent acts.

Over 576 children sustained injuries, while numerous others were apprehended. Furthermore, the West Bank has encountered significant repercussions due to limitations imposed on mobility and entry.



• **Occupied Al-Quds**

The final quarter of the year proved to be the most challenging period in the series of Israeli transgressions against the first two qiblahs. This was marked by the siege of the mosque and the implementation of stricter entry procedures, which were a direct result of the war in the Gaza Strip following the "Al-Aqsa Flood" operation on October 7th. The Jerusalem Governorate, serving as the official Palestinian representation in the city, recorded a total of 51,994 extremist individuals, both men and women, who forcefully entered Al-Aqsa Square from the beginning of the year until the conclusion of November.

- After the commencement of the war on the Gaza Strip in early October, the tone of extremism in the statements made by officials became increasingly apparent. The Temple groups, in particular, circulated messages among their members advocating for the storming of the mosque. Their calls emphasized that the free entry of Jews to the Temple Mount was the appropriate response from the Zionist perspective.
- These groups further demanded the closure of the first two qiblahs to Muslims until all Israeli prisoners detained in Gaza were released. They asserted that the Temple Mount should be completely off-limits to Muslims until every Israeli kidnapper had returned to Israel.
- Furthermore, there were severe restrictions imposed on endowment employees, particularly those involved in the mosque reconstruction committee. The policy of deportation continued unabated, resulting in a total of 577 individuals being expelled from the area between the beginning of the year and the end of November, as reported by Al-Quds Governorate.

- **New Year's Risks: (18)**

- The year 2023 witnessed a rapid implementation of the American-Zionist vision, as declared in the terms of the Deal of the Century, by the occupying government at Al-Aqsa Mosque. This vision explicitly aimed to transform this sacred site into a shared place of worship, similar to the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron.
- Without any deterrent to the occupation, the process of Judaization will intensify, as the occupying forces will seek to expand their control by establishing a synagogue within the mosque's courtyards, following their spatial division policy.
- Amidst the political and military turmoil faced by the occupation during the war on Gaza, it is driven to secure any possible gains, even if it means encroaching upon the sacred grounds of Al-Aqsa Mosque, in order to appease the extremist right-wing factions and the Temple groups.

Ninthly: Stories, Living Testimonies and Humanitarian Solidarity Stances

Stories and Testimonies...



Civilians from Gaza recount how they were tortured by Israeli soldiers:

Palestinian civilians have come forward with distressing accounts of being subjected to torture by Israeli soldiers subsequent to their apprehension in the Gaza Strip. As a result, a group of 20 civilians has been released and is currently undergoing medical care at Al-Najjar Hospital, located in the southern region of the Gaza Strip.

Nayef Ali (arrested in Al-Zaytoun neighborhood):

The women were separated from the men and confined in a house, where our hands were bound behind our backs for two days. We were deprived of basic necessities such as water, food, and bathroom facilities. The relentless beatings continued without respite. Eventually, we were loaded onto trucks and transported to an unfamiliar, frigid location resembling a snowy terrain. Cold water was callously poured over us, further adding to our torment. Subsequently, we were taken to a prison where we endured excruciating torture and relentless beatings. Speaking, removing the blindfold, and even removing the handcuffs were strictly prohibited. They callously discarded bread, denying us sustenance and leaving us to starve. The iron handcuffs were eventually removed, only to be replaced with plastic ones. During the bus journey, we were coerced into keeping our heads lowered and were forbidden from raising them. Finally, we were callously abandoned at the border with Egypt, and we embarked on a grueling journey on foot until we reached the Rafah border crossing.

Khamis Albardini

For three consecutive days, you remain unaware of your whereabouts and destination, enduring the torment of cold water being poured on you throughout the night, while enduring constant beatings during the day. Subsequently, we proceeded towards the correctional facility, yet remained oblivious to its specific name.

Ahmed Marwan Abu Daqqa Ambassador of Palestine Refugees to the United Nations

Ahmed Marwan Abu Daqqa, who served as the 2023 Ambassador of Palestine Refugees to the United Nations, found himself in a difficult situation after the Israeli war on the Gaza Strip. Due to the Israeli shelling that specifically targeted him, he became confined to a bedsitter and suffered an injury that rendered him unable to walk. Despite his previous aspirations for the children of Gaza and Palestinian students to wake up with optimism, the reality is that they now wake up with fear. At the age of 15, Ahmed's dreams have shifted from grand ambitions to a simple desire of being able to walk again and seek treatment abroad. Following his appointment as Ambassador, Palestinian children have actively participated in student parliaments. However, Ahmed's father, Dr. Marwan Abu Daqqa, shared that Ahmed's right foot was unexpectedly struck by shrapnel during an Israeli shelling, resulting in a fracture. When nearby young men rushed to his aid, they themselves became targets of another missile. As revealed by his father, Ahmed was bedridden for the first two weeks of his injury.



A Story of Steadfastness:

"Mohammed Shawa "I'm not leaving my house

The air in Gaza City hummed with a defiance unfamiliar to most. Among the shattered streets and hollow echoes, Muhammad Al-Shawa stood his ground. While countless families fled south, seeking refuge from the Israeli army's wrath, Muhammad clung to his home, refusing to be another statistic in the exodus.

Two and a half months earlier, the occupation had unleashed a storm of terror. Threats snarled, massacres stained the streets, and the north of Gaza echoed with cries of displacement. But in Muhammad's eyes, fear never found its place in him. "I will not abandon my home," he declared, his voice ringing with the steel of unyielding resolve.

He wasn't alone. The Al-Shawa family, residents of the city's heart for generations, knew firsthand the sting of occupation. Their name etched in the very fabric of Gaza, they refused to be erased. For Muhammad, facing death in a single blow was preferable to the slow crawl of oppression that daily life under siege had become.

He saw the devastation, the city ravaged by shells and isolation. Businesses crumbled, lives snuffed out like candles in the wind. Yet, amid the dust and despair, hope remained. "Everything is destroyed," he acknowledged, a deep sadness in his voice, "but Gaza lives."

This wasn't blind optimism. It was the grit of a man who had stared into the abyss and refused to blink. Gaza, battered and bruised, held the spirit of its people tightly. The air, thick with the smoke of bombs and the scent of defiance, was a testament to their resilience.

Thousands, like Muhammad, chose to stay. They clung to their lives, their homes, their city, weaving threads of life through the wreckage. Schools reopened, laughter echoed in markets, and even amidst the rubble, hope took root.

Muhammad's story isn't one of escaping the storm, but of weathering it head-on. It's a testament to the unyielding spirit of Gaza, a city that refuses to be broken, a city that bleeds defiance with every shattered window and every defiant breath. This is Gaza's unbowed heart, pulsating in the concrete ruins, a beacon of resilience for the world to witness

Humanitarian solidarity

- **Colombian President Gustavo Petro** expressed his condemnation of the crimes occurring in the Gaza Strip in a blog post on the platform "X." Alongside his post, he shared pictures that depicted the magnitude of the tragedy. Petro, in solidarity with the Palestinian people, has been actively raising awareness about the human suffering and destruction faced by the Strip through various social media platforms.
- **Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel**, in a blog post on the same platform, emphasized the urgent need to put an end to the barbarism inflicted by Israel upon the Palestinian people. He accompanied his post with images illustrating the extensive destruction caused by Israeli attacks in the Gaza Strip. Diaz-Canel described the ongoing events in Gaza as a disgrace to humanity and a significant violation of international law.
- **Francesca Albanese**, the UN Rapporteur for Human Rights in the Palestinian Territories, strongly criticized Israel's actions towards the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, stating that it represents one of the most horrific events of this century. Albanese highlighted the concerning silence from Western nations regarding the situation in Gaza, which she believes contributes to their complicity in the ongoing atrocities.
- **Thomas Portes**, a representative from the "Proud France" party, called upon the French government to impose sanctions on Israel. He criticized the presence of the Israeli ambassador in Paris and accused Israeli officials of committing genocide in Gaza. Portes expressed his strong disapproval of Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu, referring to him as a far-right fanatic who harbors deep hatred towards Palestine. Portes emphasized the need for Netanyahu to be rendered incapable of causing harm to others.
- **In London, workers from the health and media sectors** gathered in front of the Prime Minister's Office to commemorate their colleagues who lost their lives during the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip. This ceremony was organized by the Naamod organization, a British organization dedicated to supporting the rights of Palestinians.
- **Leaflets in Netherlands:** On Saturday, December 23rd, 2023, activists advocating for the Palestinian cause in the Netherlands made a daring gesture to raise awareness about the genocidal conflict between Israel and the Gaza Strip. They distributed leaflets to shoppers in one of Amsterdam's prestigious shopping centers, seizing the opportunity of high demand during this festive season. The leaflets carried a heartfelt message, aiming to capture the attention of Western society and shed light on the ongoing crisis.

Demonstrations and Protests

On Saturday, demonstrations were held in several European cities to call for an immediate halt to the Israeli war on Gaza and to show solidarity with Palestine.

- In central Berlin, approximately 10,000 demonstrators comprising of unions, leftist movements, artists, political leaders, and scholars gathered at the historic Brandenburg Gate square. They strongly opposed the war in Gaza and criticized the German government's stance on the matter.
- The French "Urgent Palestine" movement urged for a demonstration on the Champs-Élysées Avenue in Paris during New Year's celebrations. The demonstration, scheduled for Sunday, aimed to condemn the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip. However, Paris Police Governor Laurent Nunez prohibited protest demonstrations on the Champs-Élysées Avenue as part of security measures to safeguard the New Year's celebrations.
- In Washington, DC, protesters gathered in front of the residences of US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin and National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan. They expressed their disapproval of their support for the Israeli war on Gaza. Simultaneously, thousands of Americans demonstrated across various states, demanding an end to the military aid provided by President Joe Biden's administration to Israel and calling for a cessation of the ongoing war on Gaza.



Tenthly: Suggested Projects Ideas in Support of Gaza

Project Ideas in Response to the Most Urgent Needs

Accommodation Sector

- Mattresses and blankets
- Tents for IDPs
- Hygiene rations
- Cash assistance

Health Sector

- Fuel for hospitals and ambulances
- Medicines & Medical Supplies
- Medicines for people with chronic diseases
- Hospital supplies for reproductive health to facilitate safe childbirth
- Essential medicines for children

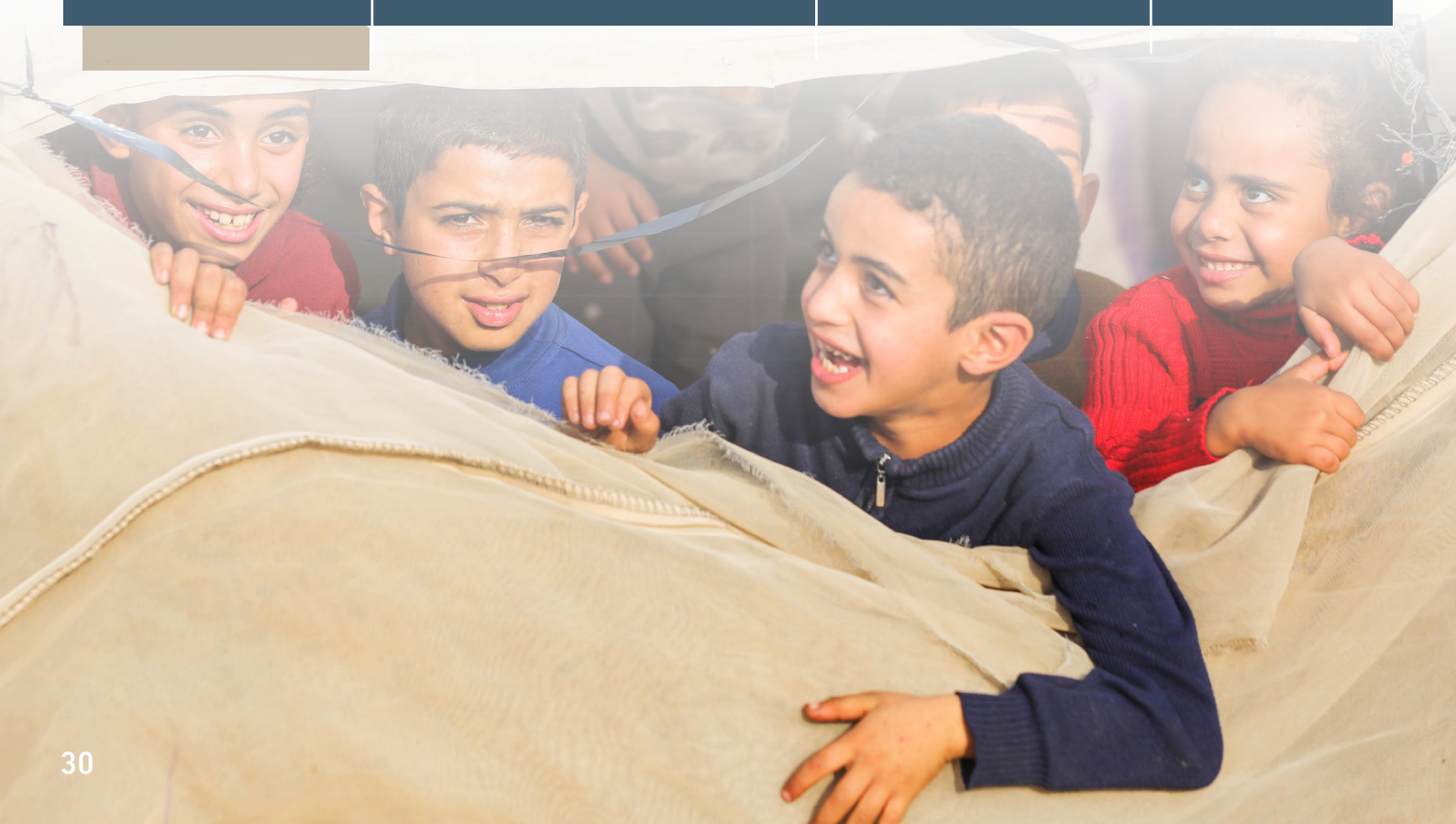
General basic needs

- Cash sponsorship for the families of the wounded and martyrs
- Cash assistance to IDPs
- Cash assistance to individuals impacted in the West Bank

Relief Sector

- Bread and food rations
- Fresh bread and canned food
- flour
- Potable water
- Diesel for municipalities to run water pumping plants
- Fuel for Civil Defense vehicles

Intervention Category	Proposed Projects					
Food Security	Nutritional supplements for children & pregnant women	Cooking gas	Baby milk	Hot meals	Food rations	Homemade bread
Protection	Psychological support sessions and activities for children in shelter centers			Psychological support for mothers		
Sanitation - Water & Sanitation	Drinking water for IDPs in shelters and hospitals		Fuel for water wells		Mobile toilets in shelters	
Towards a safer winter	Heating means	Mattresses and blankets		Winter clothing	Plastic tents for IDPs	
Sponsorship	Sponsorship of a female-headed household	Family sponsorship	Orphan sponsorship	Sponsorship of a family having a special needs member		
Health Sector	Medicines for chronic diseases		Fuel for hospitals and ambulances		Postpartum kits	



Intervention category

presently available for submission

Proposed Projects

Food and Health Security	Home baked bread	Infant formula and diapers	Hot meals	Food rations	Hygiene Kit
Water and Sanitation	Potable water for IDPs in shelters				
Towards a safer winter	Plastic tents for IDPs		Winter clothing		
Sponsorship	Sponsorship of a female-headed household	Orphan sponsorship	Family sponsorship	Sponsorship of a family having a special needs member	

Note:

Given the current crisis, it is crucial to emphasize the pioneering and essential significance of relief projects.



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