



A renewed push for 60-day truce

Concerns grow as Netanyahu floats 'allowing' Palestinians out of Gaza

AFP | Jerusalem

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday revived calls to "allow" Palestinians to leave the Gaza Strip, as the military prepares a broader offensive in the territory.

Past calls to resettle Gazans outside of the war-battered territory, including from US President Donald Trump, have sparked concern among Palestinians and condemnation from the international community.

Netanyahu defended his war policies in a rare interview with Israeli media, broadcast shortly after Egypt said Gaza mediators were leading a renewed push to secure a 60-day truce.

The premier told Israeli broadcaster i24NEWS that "we are not pushing them out, but we are allowing them to leave".

Opportunity

"Give them the opportunity to leave, first of all, combat zones, and generally to leave the territory, if they want," he said, citing refugee outflows during wars in Syria, Ukraine and Afghanistan.

In the Gaza Strip, Israel for years has tightly controlled the borders and barred many from leaving.

"We will allow this, first of all within Gaza during the fighting, and we will certainly allow them to leave Gaza as well," Netanyahu said.

For Palestinians, any effort to push them force them off their land would recall the "Nakba", or catastrophe - the mass displacement of Palestinians dur-



A Palestinian man helps a wounded woman flee the site of an Israeli strike west of Gaza City. (AFP)

ing Israel's creation in 1948.

Netanyahu has endorsed Trump's suggestion earlier this year to expel Gaza's more than two million people to Egypt and Jordan, while far-right Israeli ministers have called for their "voluntary" departure.

Diplomacy

Israel's plans to expand its offensive into Gaza City come as diplomacy aimed at securing an elusive ceasefire and hostage release deal in the 22-month-old war has stalled for weeks, after the latest round of negotiations broke down in July.

Egypt's Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty announced that Cairo

was "working very hard now in full cooperation with the Qatari and Americans", aiming for "a ceasefire for 60 days, with the release of some hostages and some Palestinian detainees, and the flow of humanitarian and medical assistance to Gaza without restrictions, without conditions".

Two Palestinian sources told AFP that a senior Hamas delegation was due to meet Egyptian officials for talks today.

Proposal

One of the Palestinian sources earlier told AFP that the mediators were working "to formulate a new comprehensive cease-

fire agreement proposal" that would include the release of all remaining hostages in Gaza "in one batch".

Netanyahu said in his interview he would oppose the staggered release of hostages, and instead would "want to return all of them as part of an end to the war - but under our conditions".

Mediation efforts led by Qatar, Egypt and the US have failed to secure a breakthrough since a short-lived truce earlier this year.

News of the potential truce talks came as Gaza's civil defence agency said Israel has intensified its air strikes on Gaza



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City in recent days, following the security cabinet's decision to expand the war there.

Air raids

Netanyahu's government has not provided an exact timetable on when forces may enter the area, but civil defence spokesman Mahmud Bassal said yesterday that air raids had already begun increasing over the past three days.

"The Israeli occupation is intensifying its bombardment" using "bombs, drones, and also highly explosive munitions that cause massive destruction", he said.

Bassal said that Israeli strikes across the territory, including on Gaza City, killed at least 33 people yesterday. The bombardment has been extremely intense for the past two days.

Cityscape Bahrain 2025

Showcasing Kingdom's real estate growth in November

TDT | Manama

Cityscape Bahrain, the Kingdom's leading regional real estate investment exhibition and forum, will return for its fourth edition from November 25-29, 2025, at the Bahrain International Exhibition Centre.

Held under the theme "Elevate Your Lifestyle," the five-day event will spotlight the sustained growth and transfor-

mation of Bahrain's real estate sector, serving as a strategic platform for government agencies, developers, investors, financial institutions, and industry leaders to explore long-term opportunities in the residential and commercial markets.

Organised in cooperation with the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) of Bahrain, the event is expected to attract

over 12,000 visitors, including prominent local and international real estate and investment professionals.

Running alongside the exhibition, the Cityscape Bahrain Conference will take place from November 25-28 under the theme "Investing in Bahrain."

The conference will focus on the Kingdom's appeal as a dynamic investment hub.

Wildfires rage on



Firefighters work to extinguish a wildfire near Losacio, north of Zamora. A man died from burns and thousands of people were forced to evacuate as wildfires swept through parts of Spain, fueled by strong winds and a searing heat wave that has gripped the country for 10 days. (AFP)

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