



Gaza Emergency

Situation Report as of 14 July 2014 9:00 hrs.

As the Gaza emergency enters its seventh day, the civilian population in the Gaza Strip continues to bear the brunt of casualties: at least 70 per cent of the Palestinian fatalities are believed to be civilians, of whom 30 per cent are children, while nearly two thirds of all injuries have been children and women.

- 171 Palestinians killed.
- 1200 Palestinians injured, of whom 230 are children and 270 women.
- 750 homes destroyed or severely damaged in Gaza.
- 4,500 Palestinians displaced.
- 400, 000 people without electricity, due to damage to supply.

The UN says 17,000 people have sought refuge in its facilities as Israeli air strikes continue for the seventh day.

Initial assessment: by Caritas Jerusalem coordinators in Gaza:

In addition to the medical center and the mobile clinic in Gaza, Caritas Jerusalem has established local committees in six locations in Gaza. According to our coordinators report:

- The six locations suffer from lack of basic necessities and fuel.
- The Local committee in Al-Sawarha reported that a civilian's house was destroyed and the family is displaced.
- The Local committee in Al-Mawasi reported that seven civilians were killed and many were wounded. The area is under daily bombardment.

- The Local committee in Al-Mosabeh reported that a civilian's house was destroyed and the family is displaced.

Photos of destroyed houses: sent from Caritas Jerusalem coordinators in Gaza:



According to OCHA:

Needs

- Emergency psychosocial teams have assessed thus far that 1,500 children are directly impacted by the killing and injuring of relatives and the destruction of their homes and require specialised support services.

- Unexploded ordinances and explosive remnants of war present a major hazard to the population, and particularly to children, especially when they leave their place of shelter to search for their belongings among the rubble of their destroyed houses. The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) has identified six unexploded ordinances (UXOs).
- 542 displaced families (3,250 individuals), whose homes were totally destroyed or severely damaged, are in need of emergency NFI kits, including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kit, kitchen sets etc.
- About 1,000 families (6,000 individuals), whose homes sustained damage but are still habitable require basic NFIs, such as plastic sheets and tarpaulin.

Faced with renewed tensions in the Holy Land, the Justice and Peace Commission of the Assembly of Catholic Ordinaries in the Holy Land has issued an urgent appeal for peace:

The present situation in Gaza is an illustration of the never-ending cycle of violence in the absence of a vision for an alternative future. Breaking out of the cycle of violence is the duty of all, oppressors and oppressed, victims and victimizers. In order to commit themselves to this aim, all must recognize in the other a brother or sister to be loved and cherished rather than an enemy to be hated and eliminated.

Caritas Jerusalem joins in this appeal and calls to the international humanitarian agencies to put an end to this current violence and obstacles to peace. The growing acceptance of racism towards one another also has to stop and only then will a just and lasting peace based on equality, freedom, and justice could be achieved for both Palestinians and Israelis.

End