

# *Hamas says Israel obstructing truce talks as Gaza genocide rages on*

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A Palestinian man mourns over the shrouded body of a relative, killed in an Israeli strike the previous night, at al-Ahli Arab Hospital, also known as the Baptist Hospital, in Gaza City on

Gaza City, December 31 (RHC)-- A senior official of the Hamas resistance movement says Israel has been sabotaging the talks aimed at securing a ceasefire deal in the Gaza Strip by refusing to completely withdraw its occupation forces and end its genocidal war on the Palestinian territory.

In an interview with the Gaza-based Al-Aqsa TV, Osama Hamdan said Hamas has shown "maximum flexibility" regarding the issue of Israeli captives, provided that the Tel Aviv regime stops its Gaza onslaught and occupation and facilitates the reconstruction and relief projects.

However, he added, Israel continuously reneges on the agreements made during the ceasefire negotiations. Hamdan also noted that the resistance group expects not only positive messages but also a tangible action from the US administration to promote a Gaza truce deal.

Hamas "has engaged with mediators, Turkey, and other parties to garner an international stance that would force the occupation (Israel) to implement a ceasefire," he said. "The destruction and the terrible suffering of our people due to the cold and hunger raise questions about the existence of the international system."

The Hamas official further emphasized that Israel is attacking hospitals in an attempt to eliminate the Palestinian presence in the region. The medical sector in the Gaza Strip symbolizes the steadfastness of the Palestinian people and their desire to live, he said.

Israel waged its brutal Gaza offensive on October 7, 2023, after Hamas carried out a historic operation against the usurping entity in retaliation for its intensified atrocities against the Palestinian people.

So far, the occupying regime has killed at least 45,514 Palestinians, mostly women and children, and injured 108,189 others, in Gaza. During its bloody onslaught, Israel has targeted Gaza's civilian facilities, including hospitals, in blatant violation of international law.

Elsewhere in his interview, Hamdan said Israel's claims about the collapse of the resistance were proven false. He also criticized the ongoing military campaign launched by the Palestinian Authority (PA) in the northern West Bank, urging the security forces to confront the Israeli occupiers instead of resistance fighters.

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