

Hamas says Trump's remarks on Gaza aid meant to justify Israeli policy of starvation

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Hungry Palestinian children chase a truck loaded with humanitarian aid in Rafah, February 18,

Gaza City, May 7 (RHC)-- Hamas has rejected the accusation by U.S. President Donald Trump that the Palestinian resistance group makes it impossible for aid to reach Palestinians in Gaza, saying the remarks are meant to justify Israel's policy of starvation in the besieged territory.

In a statement released on Tuesday, Hamas said the remarks by Trump were "nothing more than a surprising parroting of the lies propagated by Netanyahu's terrorist regime, which seeks to justify the systematic starvation it is inflicting upon innocent civilians."

President Trump said on Monday that the U.S. would help provide some food to the people of Gaza, where famine is currently being observed. He accused Hamas of taking all the aid that is brought into the besieged territory.

"We're gonna help the people of Gaza get some food. People are starving, and we're gonna help them get some food," Trump said.

Hamas said the remarks by the U.S. president contradict testimonies from humanitarian organizations operating in Gaza.

"These accusations blatantly contradict United Nations reports, testimonies from humanitarian organizations operating in the Strip, and all on-the-ground evidence, while aligning perfectly with the occupation's policy of using starvation as a weapon, in clear violation of international law and humanitarian norms."

The Palestinian movement also urged the Trump administration "to correct its position, cease providing cover for the genocide and starvation policies pursued by the occupation in the Gaza Strip."

Hamas said it was not enough for Trump to ask Netanyahu to "send some food." It also called on Washington to pressure Israel to "halt its aggression and open the crossings to allow the entry of all essential life-saving supplies."

"What is required is a responsible stance that respects international humanitarian law, demands the immediate opening of crossings, ensures the uninterrupted flow of aid and relief, and puts an end to the use of food as a tool of blackmail and pressure in this war."

Separately, Hamas said Israel's plans to expand the operation in Gaza meant sacrificing Israeli captives and repeating past failures.

Hamas said the plan showed that the Israeli prime minister was determined to commit further war crimes against civilians in Gaza. The Palestinian group urged the international community to intensify popular pressure to end the war against Gaza.

In March, after two months of ceasefire, Israel resumed its brutal military offensive in Gaza. Furthermore, the regime imposed a blockade on all aid supplies, refusing to allow even a single truck carrying humanitarian or commercial goods to enter.

[SOURCE: AFP and REUTERS]



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