

# *Hamas switches to tactical attack mode as more Israeli forces killed*

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Hamas has escalated its resistance operations in Gaza, moving from defensive tactics to direct attacks against Israeli forces. A deadly ambush in Rafah resulted in Israeli casualties, while ongoing Israeli airstrikes have devastated civilian areas.

Gaza City, May 11 (RHC)-- The latest resistance operations against invading Israeli forces in the besieged Gaza Strip show Hamas is "switching from a defensive phase to tactical attack mode," analysts say.

"This strategic shift is evident in the escalating pattern of resistance operations, which include detonating planted explosive devices against Israeli armored vehicles, targeting elite units such as the Golani Brigade inside buildings, and staging multiple ambushes," Rami Abu Zubaydah, a Palestinian military analyst, said over the weekend.

The analyst noted that "these operations were carried out deep within Rafah, not on its outskirts, which refutes the Israeli narrative about control of the southern Gaza Strip."

Abu Zubaydah pointed out that the timing and place of the operations were also too crucial, as Rafah, which sits between the Gaza Strip and Egypt, had been increasingly becoming the focal point of Israeli aggression in recent weeks.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Abu Zubaydah stressed that the resistance remains "fully capable of maneuvering and striking Israeli forces" anywhere across the blockaded region. The remarks come hours after Hamas said its fighters ambushed an Israeli 12-man force inside a house in the Tanur neighborhood in the eastern Rafah area with two anti-personnel and anti-armor rockets, killing and wounding several soldiers.

Palestinian resistance fighters have intensified their military operations in Gaza amid intense Israeli bombardment. [pic.twitter.com/IYJOGAWIoY](https://pic.twitter.com/IYJOGAWIoY)

Hamas's armed wing, the Qassam Brigades, released new footage revealing a deadly ambush on Israeli forces in Rafah, showcasing close-range combat and the use of tunnel warfare tactics.

The ambush began with the emergence of a number of fighters from the opening of a booby-trapped tunnel to engage with the occupation soldiers present at the location. A field commander in Al-Qassam said that the Brigades' leadership had authorized the start of "Gates of Hell" operations and ambushes in all alleys and streets of Rafah. He noted that the resistance fighters had "studied the occupation's behavior in the Mouraq axis area and accordingly identified the killing zone."

The Israeli military confirmed in a Friday statement that two more its soldiers were killed in battles with the Hamas fighters. Four more soldiers were injured in battles in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip.

The two deaths brought to 856 the total number of Israeli soldiers killed since the outbreak of Israel's war on the Gaza Strip on Oct. 7, 2023, according to figures released by the army.

Observers say operations show the resistance group remains strong and steadfast, more than 19 months after the start of Israel's air and ground campaign in Gaza. Israel said earlier this month it would further extend its onslaught across the besieged Palestinian territory.

Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the scheme would involve the displacement of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians to southern Gaza.

Israel has already expanded its ground aggression in Gaza, seeking to seize a large portion of the Palestinian territory.

In the meantime, the U.S.-Israeli genocide in Gaza continues unabated, with two airstrikes targeting a populated market in Gaza City killing at least 30 people. Scores of people who were injured in the attack were sent to the nearby al-Shifa Hospital.

Meanwhile, the civil defense teams have recovered the body of a 3-month-old infant from under the rubble of an earlier bombardment.

According to the Gaza Health Ministry, the death toll since October 2023 is nearing 52,800, most of them women and children.

[ SOURCE: PRESS TV and NEWS AGENCIES ]

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