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Israel bombs Gaza City's last fully-functioning hospital

At least three Palestinians killed after Israeli strikes on al-Ahli hospital destroy surgical building and oxygen production station



Al-Ahli Hospital following an attack by the Israeli army (MEE/Mohammed al-Hajjar)

By Mohammed al-Hajjar in Gaza, occupied Palestine and Mera Aladam

Published date: 13 April 2025 11:37 BST | Last update: 1 week 23 hours ago

companions".

Gaza's civil defence rescue agency said the strike on al-Ahli al-Arabi Baptist Hospital led to "the destruction of the surgery building and

Israel has struck the last functioning hospital in Gaza, further worsening an already critical lack of medical facilities in the enclave.

the oxygen generation station for the intensive care units". They told AFP the attack came "minutes after the [Israeli] army's warning to evacuate this building of patients, the injured and their

Missiles hit the hospital's main reception building, damaging or destroying essential departments such as the emergency care ward, laboratory and pharmacy, the Wafa news agency reported.

18 minutes to evacuate.

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'Where is Qatar, the UAE, Saudi

Arabia, Kuwait, Turkey, where

blood, children who are being

are you all? Are you all just

watching this fountain of

butchered everyday'

- Eyewitness

Eyewitnesses said the Israeli military threatened to bomb the hospital just minutes before the strikes, giving those in its compounds only

At least three patients - including a child being treated for head injuries - died as a result.

Due to the rushed expulsion, critically ill patients were evacuated out in the cold without proper care.

One woman was sleeping in the hospital overnight while she waited for her husbanded to be treated.

"I just wanted to rest, I just wanted to sleep - the whole day was filled with

Even before the attack happened, the hospital was filled with patients injured by Israel's more than a year long assault on Gaza.

the screams of children with severed [body parts], their arms, their legs... these sights can drive a person to insanity," she told Middle East Eye. "We can't sit and sleep, we couldn't take it any more."

She said they tried to get some rest amid the chaos when, suddenly, calls began issuing from the Israeli military calling on those within the hospital

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to leave. She said they did not even specify where to flee.

unprecedented" shortages of essential medicines as a result of Israel's blockade.

"My message to the world that is in a deep slumber, where are you going to

"Are you all just watching this fountain of blood, children who are being butchered everyday... fear God, what are you all going to say to God?"

find God? Where is Qatar, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Turkey, where are you all?," she said.

Hospitals targeted

The Israeli army and Shin Bet internal intelligence agency later claimed, without providing evidence, that they had targeted a Hamas "command and control complex" within al-Ahli hospital.

Israel has repeatedly struck hospitals across the Gaza Strip since the beginning of its assault on the enclave in October 2023.

The ministry said that 37 percent of essential drugs and 59 percent of medical supplies were completely out of stock, along with 54 percent of medications used to treat cancer and blood diseases.

The Palestinian health ministry warned earlier this week that hospitals and medical centres in Gaza were facing "dangerous and



Emergency, surgical and intensive care units had been operating with severely depleted life-saving treatments, while around 80,000 diabetic patients and 110,000 with high blood pressure were no longer receiving care.

The ministry said Israel's siege that cut off Gaza from food, fuel and medicine, among other vital supplies, is worsening the crisis and creating "catastrophic" challenges for treating patients and the wounded.

A previous attack on al-Ahli hospital in October 2023 killed hundreds of people and led to international condemnations.

A doctor from the Red Crescent told MEE that they were trying to redistribute the patients from al-Ahli, but they were already heavily stretched.

Israel initially denied responsibility for the attack. However, open-source analysts have pointed the finger at Israel, which

wounded, the patients and it could result in the loss of their lives, the loss of their body parts or could cause long-term disability," he said. He called on all rights groups, international organisations and health organisations to be "in solidarity and support" with the medical

"All the hospitals are overcrowded and are unprepared for providing full medical services, this will surely reflect on the health of the

organisations in Gaza, so that they would not fail more patients. "The health of a civilian, in the first place, should be ensured by providing safety, and providing staff that ensure [medical] personnel,

such as staff in hospitals or emergency and civil defence personnel, to ensure safe services for all the civilians."

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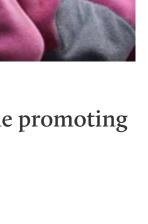
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has subsequently attacked dozens of other hospitals in Gaza.









Ghada Majadli



'health bridges' while Gaza's hospitals burn?



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