

Gaza Hospital Strike

Last night, international media were reporting that an Israeli airstrike had hit the Al-Ahli Hospital, killing some 500 people. The IDF reiterated that it never targets civilians, and announced it was looking into the allegations but was puzzled because there had been no airstrikes in the area at the time.

Within a few hours, and after careful IDF examination of the issue, a clearer picture emerged, including conclusive proof that the damage was caused by a misfired Palestinian Islamic Jihad rocket. Among the evidence presented by the IDF was the following:

- The IDF did not carry out any strikes in the area at the time.
- US President Joe Biden told Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, "I am deeply saddened and outraged by the explosion at the hospital in Gaza yesterday. And based on what I've seen, it appears it was done by the other team, and not you."
- British Foreign Secretary James Cleverly criticized those in the media who blamed Israel for the Gaza hospital blast, tweeting that "too many jumped to conclusions around the tragic loss of life at Al Ahli hospital. Getting this wrong would put even more lives at risk. Wait for the facts, report them clearly and accurately. Cool heads must prevail."
- Airstrikes leave a distinctive crater where they hit, and no such crater can be found anywhere near the hospital.
- Images show that a large fire was caused in the area as a result of the blast (as would be expected from rocket fire), but there is no crater.
- There are clear photos of terrorists launching rockets in a cemetery behind the hospital.
- It is very common for rockets fired at Israel from Gaza to fall short of their targets and land inside the Strip. Some 450 such "failures" (see [here](#)) have been recorded since the start of fighting 11 days ago; and also see [here](#).
- Photos clearly show that the misfired rocket landed and caused extensive damage to the hospital's parking lot as a result of the impact as well as the large amount of rocket fuel that was still in the projectile as it fell short. The rocket did not hit the hospital itself.
- IDF radar detected outgoing rocket fire at the same moment the blast at the hospital occurred.
- Similarly, video footage shows the rocket fire near the hospital, followed by an explosion. (See [here](#)).
- An intercepted call between two Hamas officials shortly after the attack explained that Hamas understood it was an Islamic Jihad rocket that had misfired, but apparently decided to take advantage of the situation and launch a global media campaign against Israel. Listen to a recording of the Arabic conversation [here](#) and see the translated transcript [here](#).
- See photo evidence [here](#) presented by the IDF, and see the full IDF briefing [here](#).