

Israel deliberately destroyed all of Gaza's hospitals with US approval and support

By Robert Inlakesh

This is an excerpt. The full article can be read at <https://rt.com/news/600856-israel-destroyed-gaza-healthcare/>

There's not a single functional medical facility left in the enclave, while the direct and indirect death toll could be approaching 200,000.

While the United States government attempts to lecture the world about its supposed "rules-based order," it is aiding, arming and providing diplomatic cover for Israel's unprecedented assault on Gaza's already collapsed healthcare system... Today, there is not a single functioning hospital in the entirety of Gaza, with some medics still trying to use the facilities that haven't been destroyed by bombardment for shelter in which to treat patients with limited supplies... According to the UN, "more healthcare workers have been killed in Gaza since October than were reported killed in all conflicts globally in 2021 and 2022 combined."

For those medical professionals who remain, Doctors Without Borders has reported a major mental health crisis, with some doctors being forced to choose between treating their own family members and other patients. In one horrifying case, Palestinian doctor Hani Bseiso was forced to amputate the lower part of his teenage daughter's leg on a kitchen table without anesthetic and using little more than a pair of scissors and gauze. She miraculously survived. Another Palestinian doctor wasn't as lucky, as he was forced to watch his son slowly die while amputating his leg without anesthetic.

Hospitals have been openly declared a primary target of the Israeli military's ground assault. In November, Israel built a case to invade Gaza City's Al-Shifa Hospital, the largest medical complex in the besieged coastal enclave. The Israeli army released a CGI video depicting a multi-layered tunnel system under Al-Shifa medical complex, claiming that it was the primary headquarters for Hamas. The US government then backed Israeli claims that the hospital was being used as a headquarters, as airstrikes repeatedly rained down upon civilians in the complex's courtyard.

After Israel's army had violently invaded the hospital, killing dozens of civilians in the process, an analysis published by the Washington Post found "*no immediate evidence*" that a tunnel complex had been used by Hamas under the hospital. Despite the US-Israeli claims having been debunked, Washington did not even issue an apology, as Israel moved on to invade the city of Khan Younis the next month, claiming it was the "*real Hamas headquarters*." At the heart of the Israeli invasion of Khan Younis was the objective of taking over Gaza's second-largest medical complex, Nasser Hospital. Israel would then go on to re-invade both the Nasser Hospital and Al-Shifa Hospital a number of times, ultimately putting both out of service and leaving behind mass graves containing more than 300 crudely buried bodies at both sites...

A recent study conducted for the Lancet medical journal... concluded that the true Gaza death toll, including indirect deaths, could plausibly be around 186,000. If this conservative estimate is true, that would mean that Israel's war on the besieged territory has wiped out around 8% of the total civilian population.

The Gaza Health Ministry's death toll currently sits at roughly 38,300, with around 88,300 reported injured and more than 10,000 reported missing under the rubble. Now that the health sector has collapsed, it has severely hindered the ability of healthcare professionals in Gaza to calculate the number of deaths each day, as there are no ways of recovering the remains of many who are frequently found scattered across the streets...

"Unprecedented" is an understatement, and explaining what is happening to the people of Gaza due to Israel's systematic targeting of hospitals and medical workers defies the English language. **Yet, the US government continues to supply Israel with all the arms it seeks, protecting its actions in front of an international community in shock. Washington knows all of the details listed above and more, but it continues to aid and abet the horror story unfolding inside the Gaza Strip.** (*emphasis added.*)

New Haven Sunday Vigil for Peace and Justice
July 14, 2024

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