

Children make up a third of Gaza dead

Almost a third of the 689 Palestinians killed in Israel's Gaza offensive are children, with most killed since the start of a ground offensive after a week of aerial bombardments, medics said yesterday.

The proportion of civilians killed has risen dramatically since ground troops on Saturday joined the assault on the Hamas rulers of Gaza after a week of aerial and naval bombardments.

A total of 220 children have been killed since Operation Cast Lead was unleashed on December 27, according to Gaza emergency services chief Moawiya Hassanein.

Humanitarian agencies fear civilian casualties will rise further as the battle moves into the most densely populated areas of Gaza, one of the most crowded places on Earth.

"Of increasing concern is the number of children and their families fleeing the fighting and bombardment or seeking refuge because their homes have been destroyed or damaged," the Save the Children agency said on Wednesday.

Iran demands end to Gaza offensive

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has sent 22 envoys to Europe and Asia to push for an immediate halt to Israel's offensive on the Gaza Strip, the Mehr news agency reported yesterday.

"Twenty-two members of the government have been sent by the president to European and Asian countries," foreign ministry spokesman Hassan Ghashghavi told the semi-official agency.

The envoys would convey Iran's demand for "an immediate halt to the attacks by the usurper Zionist regime and an end to the blockade of Gaza," the spokesman added.

Ghashghavi also criticised the UN Security Council's failure to adopt a resolution demanding an immediate end to Israel's Operation Cast Lead, saying the offensive was part of a "plot by international superpowers" conducted with the complicity of unnamed regional countries.

The European Union has made several appeals for Israel to end the 12-day-old offensive while Israel's cabinet met on Wednesday to discuss an Egyptian ceasefire initiative.

Cold snap claims 7 in Poland

Seven people froze to death in Poland Tuesday as temperatures plunged as low as minus 25 degrees Celsius (minus 13 degrees Fahrenheit), the Polish Interior Ministry said yesterday.

The body of a 68-year-old homeless man was found in an abandoned house in Jozefow, south-eastern Poland, local police said.

Another 51-year-old man living alone in the village of Elgiow, central Poland, (centre), was found dead near his home.

According to Interior Ministry data, hypothermia has claimed 76 lives in Poland since November 2008. Most of the victims have been homeless people sleeping outdoors under the influence of alcohol.

Ten slain in Mexico

Unidentified gunmen opened fire on a pickup truck in northern Mexico, killing 10 people including a 13-year-old boy on Tuesday, authorities said.

The people in the truck were an extended family, according to prosecutors in the northern state of Chihuahua where the latest killings took place -- one of at least three deadly incidents the same day in the same state.

The state borders the United States and is among Mexico's most violent. Drug traffickers with the Juarez cartel, under alleged kingpin Vicente Carrillo, and the Sinaloa cartel of Joaquin "Chapo" Guzman have been waging a local war that left 2,400 people dead in 2008.

All 'possibilities open' against Israel: Hezbollah

Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah said yesterday "all possibilities" are open against Israel and warned the Jewish state's 2006 war with his party would resemble "a walk in the park" in the event of renewed conflict.

"We have to act as though all possibilities are real and open (against Israel) and we must always be ready for any eventuality," said Nasrallah, whose Shiite militant party is backed by Syria and Iran.

His comment marked the first time he has spoken so openly on the possibility of a renewed conflict with Israel since the war in Gaza began on December 27.

Nasrallah, addressing tens of thousands of supporters via video link at his stronghold in Beirut's suburbs on the occasion of Ashura, said that the 2006 conflict would be nothing compared to what awaits Israel if it opens a second front.

"I say to (Israeli Prime Minister Ehud) Olmert, the loser, the vanquished in Lebanon that you cannot overcome Hamas or Hezbollah," Nasrallah said. "Your 2006 war will be but a walk in the park compared to what we have prepared for you in the event of a new offensive."

"We are ready to sacrifice our souls, our brothers and sisters, our children, our loved ones for what we believe in," he added. "We will not abandon the fight or our weapons."

The July-August 2006 war devastated much of southern Lebanon and killed more than 1,200 mostly Lebanese civilians.

Hezbollah, whose powerful militia is the only armed faction in Lebanon, claimed victory over Israel after the war.

There have been fears since the Gaza war began that Nasrallah would call his troops into action but for now he has stuck to almost daily speeches to furiously denounce the Israeli offensive.

Beshir warrant disaster for Darfur: China envoy

China's special envoy to Darfur yesterday warned of "disastrous consequences" if an arrest warrant is issued by the world court for the Sudanese head of state for alleged war crimes.

"We are at a critical moment, we are in a crossroads," said Liu Guijin, following talks with Sudanese foreign ministry officials. "An indictment... would have disastrous consequences on the Darfur issue."

International Criminal Court (ICC) judges are examining evidence presented in July to decide whether to issue an arrest warrant for President Omar al-Beshir on 10 counts of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur.

"Efforts are still going on to find a political solution," Liu said.

Sudan, whose most powerful ally is China, has campaigned hard to stall any possible ICC proceedings and convince a sceptical West that it is serious about unblocking stalled peace efforts in Darfur.

Many fear that if a warrant is issued a furious Sudan could evict UN peacekeepers and aid workers from the war-torn region.

But Liu also said China hoped Sudan would take a responsible path.

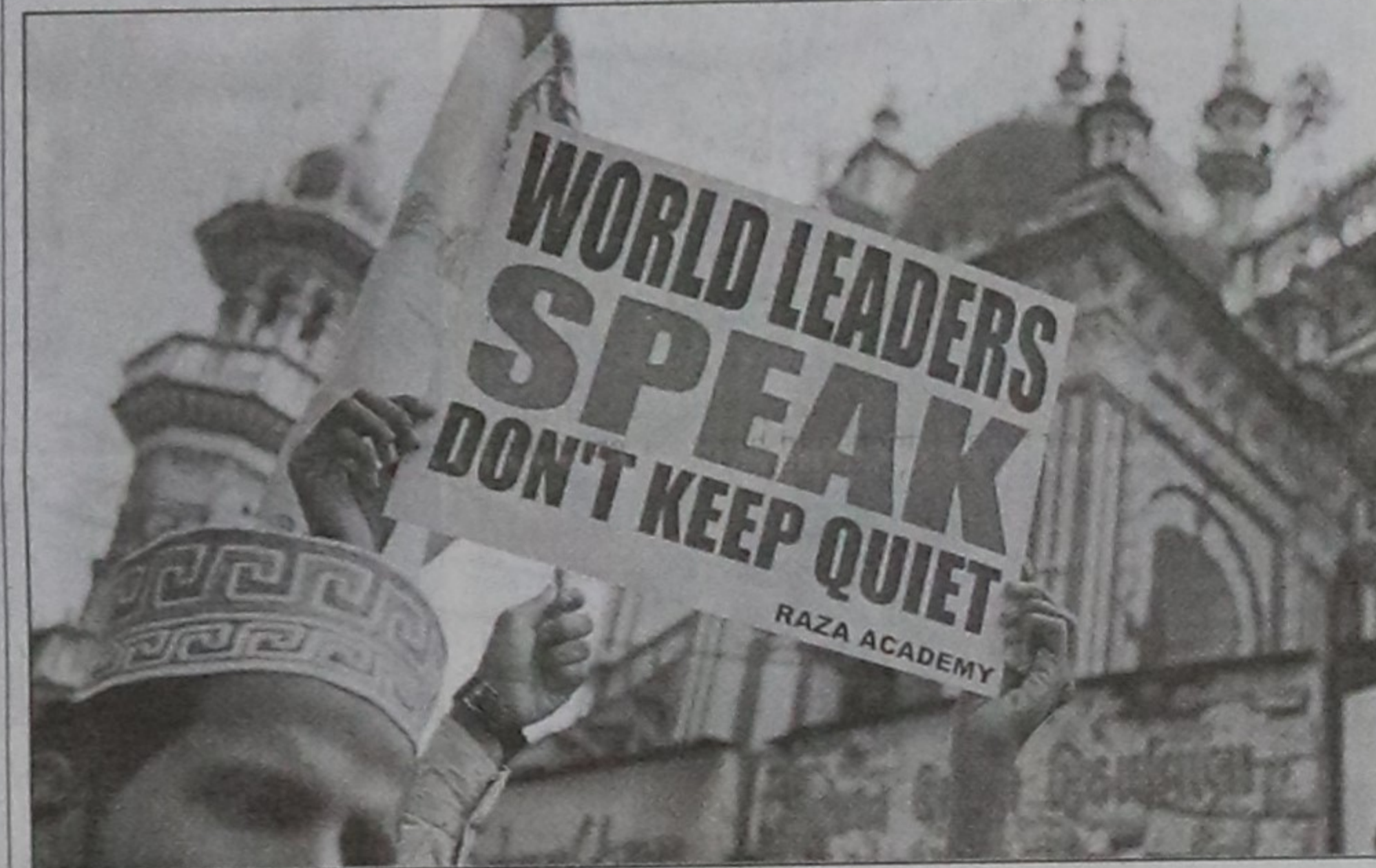
Aid worker killed in Gaza

A worker for international aid agency Care has died in an Israeli air attack in Gaza, the agency said yesterday.

Mohammed Ibrahim Samouni, who worked for CARE's food distribution project, was killed on Tuesday, it said in a statement.

"This is further evidence that any attack, even a targeted one, will result in civilian casualties," said Martha Myers, CARE's country director in West Bank and Gaza.

"Mohammed was dedicated to providing aid to Palestinians, who are becoming more and more desperate as each day of attacks go by," she said in a statement released by the agency.



An Indian Muslim holds up a placard during a protest in Mumbai yesterday, against Israeli military operations in the Gaza Strip. Israel said it would suspend bombing Gaza for three hours every day beginning on January 7 as diplomacy to end the Jewish state's war on Hamas gained momentum amid a mounting civilian death toll.

Israel licks its wounds in Gaza propaganda war

The defence ministry in Tel Aviv has posted videos of Israeli air strikes on Hamas targets on Youtube, and the government has also tried to spur debates on Facebook.

The Israeli consulate in New York this week organised a Twitter social networking debate on the merits of the war which drew more than 2,500 bloggers.

It was not conducted in the language of diplomacy, as this extract shows:

"Explore4corners: How many attacks have there been against IS in the last 6 months? How many casualties? The MSM doesn't report that here."

"Israelconsulate: ovr 500 rockets Hit IL in the 6 mts of CE per the last 72 hrs mre thn 300 hit IL killing 4 ppl & injuring hndrds."

Israel says it will not let world public opinion sway the decision whether to call a ceasefire in the conflict that has left more than 680

Palestinians dead since December 27 -- a third of them children.

According to the president's office, Peres replied to Ferrero-Waldner: "We are not in the business of public relations or improving our image. We are fighting against terror, and we have every right to defend our citizens."

But Israel, which last year hired a British public relations firm that had worked with Lebanon and the Northern Ireland governments on their image, does care, experts say.

"The Israelis" are the ones who have a grip on communications," said Dominique Wolton, a specialist on media at France's National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) in Paris.

"But Israel will not win the communications battle because whatever Israel's legitimate rights are, the unbalanced use of force and the unleashing of violence by Israel is acting against it."

Israel has taken a battering in the global propaganda battle over its war with Hamas, despite deploying all the latest weaponry from Youtube videos to Twitter blogs and an overworked spokeswoman, experts said.

Governments worldwide have slammed the Israeli military onslaught on the Gaza Strip, with UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon condemning attacks near UN schools that killed dozens and foreign media angry at being kept out of the Palestinian territory.

With images of parents carrying lifeless children to overwhelmed hospitals dominating international media, angry protests have been staged in major capitals and Israeli websites have reportedly come under cyber attack.

European Union External Relations Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner told President Shimon Peres in a meeting on Tuesday that "Israel's image is being destroyed" by its refusal to heed appeals for a ceasefire.

Hamas has concentrated on the Arabic media and largely shunned the West. But Israel has sought to keep the focus firmly on Hamas cross-border rocket attacks that led to the war, and launched a sophisticated public relations campaign.

Military spokeswoman Major Avital Liebovich has become an international media celebrity as she parries tough questions about the Israeli attacks and the hundreds of Palestinians killed.

Israeli ambassadors have also been forced to join the television battle.



Palestinian relatives from the Deeb family cry yesterday during the funeral of 10 people from their family who were killed on Tuesday in an Israeli strike on a UN school in Gaza, in the Jabalia refugee camp, northern Gaza strip.



A Palestinian woman walks amidst the rubble of destroyed buildings following Israeli bombardments in Rafah, southern Gaza Strip yesterday. Egypt has drawn up contingency plans to deal with a sudden influx of thousands of Palestinian refugees fleeing the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip, humanitarian agencies said yesterday.

Sealing border tunnels key to Gaza ceasefire: experts

Blocking tunnels running between Gaza and Egypt that are used to move weapons, food and fuel into the Hamas-run territory is emerging as the key issue to ending Israel's war in Gaza, experts say.

Hundreds of tunnels along the 13.5-kilometre border are the focus of talks between the international powers as they scramble to end the Gaza war that has killed more than 680 Palestinians, a third of them children.

"For there to be an immediate ceasefire we need something that allows us credibly to say we have changed the circumstances in Gaza," said former British premier Tony Blair, the envoy of the four main Middle East peace process sponsors.

"There is a focus in the short term on what we can do to make sure that the smuggling of rockets and finance does not continue into Gaza," the former British premier told reporters in between meetings in Jerusalem.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Tuesday presented a US-backed proposal to end the now 12-day-old Gaza fighting that would guarantee "securing" the Gaza-Egypt border.

Israeli commanders estimate there are about 300 tunnels between Gaza and the Sinai desert in Egypt. They say more than half have been destroyed in air raids since Operation Cast Lead was launched on December 27.

Residents along the border have told AFP, however, that there could be more than 500 tunnels.

Blair said the Middle East Quartet -- the European Union, Russia, the United Nations and the United States -- is holding talks on a mechanism to stop the smuggling.

Israel says the tunnels, dug mainly around the Egyptian border town of Rafah, are used to import hundreds of tonnes of explosives, rockets and anti-tank missiles.

The head of Israel's Shin Beth internal security services, Yuval Diskin, has repeatedly said Hamas fighters have used the tunnels to get out of Gaza and undergo military training in Iran and Lebanon.

Tunnel digging has been an industry in Gaza since Hamas seized power in June 2007, triggering a crippling Israeli blockade. The passages vary in size and depth and take between one and two months to dig.

The intricate system has become a vital conduit for goods ranging from food and fuel to cattle and car parts which have become scarce as

Israel has blocked off all but very limited supplies of basic goods.

Egyptian forces aided by US engineering experts have located and destroyed dozens of tunnels in recent months, but Israel says Hamas used a six-month truce before the offensive to acquire a huge amount of weaponry.

The United States has promised Egypt 33 million dollars (22 million euros) to buy new technology to uncover tunnels.

A senior Israeli official told AFP that "stopping the smuggling is the only way to prevent Hamas from regaining its strength following the operation."

But many analysts doubt whether anyone can guarantee a halt to the smuggling, which began even before Israel pulled troops and settlers out of the Gaza Strip in 2005.

"There is no mechanism that can completely choke this industry. If Israel thinks that someone else will do its job for it, it is wrong," said Efraim Inbar from the Begin-Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies in Tel Aviv.

"As long as there are people who want to smuggle in this area, there will be no end to it. The only solution is for Israel to destroy the tunnels whenever it discovers one."

Egypt has drawn up contingency plans to deal with a sudden influx of thousands of Palestinian refugees fleeing the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip, humanitarian agencies said yesterday.

Egypt has so far resisted international pressure to open its Rafah crossing with the Gaza Strip, the only one to bypass Israel.

But the prospect of a Gazan exodus increased on Wednesday when Israel ordered a temporary halt to bombing so a humanitarian corridor can be created for the beleaguered population.

"The Egyptian government, supported by national and international humanitarian bodies, is preparing in case of necessity," the head of the Egyptian Red Crescent Mamduh Gabr told AFP.

"We should be ready to deal with" an influx of Palestinians in the Sinai peninsula which borders the Gaza Strip, he said, adding that it was up to the Egyptian government to decide on whether to open the border.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Antonio Guterres on Monday called forcefully for Israel and Egypt to allow those Palestinians who wish to do so to leave the battered Gaza Strip.

Egypt ready for massive Gaza refugee influx

Egypt has drawn up contingency plans to deal with a sudden influx of thousands of Palestinian refugees fleeing the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip, humanitarian agencies said yesterday.

Egypt has so far resisted international pressure to open its Rafah crossing with the Gaza Strip, the only one to bypass Israel.

But the prospect of a Gazan exodus increased on Wednesday when Israel ordered a temporary halt to bombing so a humanitarian corridor can be created for the beleaguered population.

"The Egyptian government, supported by national and international humanitarian bodies, is preparing in case of necessity," the head of the Egyptian Red Crescent Mamduh Gabr told AFP.

"We should be ready to deal with" an influx of Palestinians in the Sinai peninsula which borders the Gaza Strip, he said, adding that it was up to the Egyptian government to decide on whether to open the border.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Antonio Guterres on Monday called forcefully for Israel and Egypt to allow those Palestinians who wish to do so to leave the battered Gaza Strip.

Japanese Emperor Akihito commemorated the 20th anniversary of his reign yesterday with a visit to the grave of his father, Hirohito.

Akihito, 75, was joined by Empress Michiko, Prime Minister Tarō Aso and dozens of others at the grave on Tokyo's outskirts. Akihito's son, Crown Prince Naruhito, and Crown Princess Masako held a small observance of their own at the Imperial Palace.

Akihito assumed the Chrysanthemum Throne after Hirohito died on Jan. 7, 1989.

The anniversary comes as Akihito has cut back his official duties due to an irregular pulse and bleeding from his stomach symptoms imperial doctors have attributed to "mental stress." He has also undergone surgery and treatment for cancer.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত

আনোয়ার খান মডার্ন মেডিকেল কলেজ

বাড়ি ১৭, রোড ৮, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা ১২০৫, ফোন : ৮৬১৪৯২৭, ৮৬১৪৮১২, ৯৬৬৭৯৮৫, ০১১৯৮-১৯৯৬২৫

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

আনোয়ার খান মডার্ন মেডিকেল কলেজে নিম্নবর্ণিত বিভিন্ন পদে জরুরী ভিত্তিতে নিয়োগদানের জন্য বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

ক্রমিক	পদের নাম	বিভাগসমূহ	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা
১.	অধ্যাপক	এনএসসি, ফিজিওলজি, বায়োকেমিস্ট্রি, কমিউনিটি মেডিসিন	এমবিবিএস সহ স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রী ও বিএমডিসি'র নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী
২.	সহযোগী অধ্যাপক	এনএসসি, ফিজিওলজি, বায়োকেমিস্ট্রি, কমিউনিটি মেডিসিন	এমবিবিএস সহ স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রী ও বিএমডিসি'র নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী
৩.	সহকারী অধ্যাপক	এনএসসি, ফিজিওলজি, বায়োকেমিস্ট্রি, কমিউনিটি মেডিসিন	এমবিবিএস সহ স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রী ও বিএমডিসি'র নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী
৪.	লেকচারার	এনএসসি, ফিজিওলজি, বায়োকেমিস্ট্রি, কমিউনিটি মেডিসিন	এমবিবিএস সহ স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রী ও বিএমডিসি'র নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী
৫.	লাইব্রেরিয়ান		লাইব্রেরী সায়েন্সে স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রী/ ডিপ্লোমা। কম্পিউটার এক ইন্টারনেট পরিচালনায় দক্ষতা সম্পন্ন হতে হবে
৬.	মেডিকেল টেকনোলজিস্ট	এনএসসি, ফিজিওলজি, বায়োকেমিস্ট্রি	৩ বছরের ডিপ্লোমা ইন মেডিকেল টেকনোলজি (ল্যাবরেটরি) স্বয়ংক্রিয় বিষয়ে অভিজ্ঞদের অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে
৭.	একাডেমিক সহকারী/ কম্পিউটার অপারেটর/ রিসেপশনিস্ট		ন্যূনতম ২য় শ্রেণীতে গ্রাজুয়েট এক স্বীকৃত প্রতিষ্ঠান থেকে কম্পিউটার পরিচালনায় প্রশিক্ষণপ্রাপ্ত হতে হবে। কোন মেডিকেল কলেজ/ ডেন্টাল কলেজ/ শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানে কাজের অভিজ্ঞতাকে অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে
৮.	ট্যাক্সি ডারমিস্ট		এস.এস.সি. পাশ। স্বয়ংক্রিয় বিষয়ে অভিজ্ঞদের অগ্রাধিকার দেয়া হবে
৯.	এম.এল.এস.এস.		এস.এস.সি. পাশ

পূর্ণ জীবনব্যাপী, শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতার পূর্ণ বিবরণ, সনদপত্রের ফটোকপি এবং সদ্য তোলা ২ কপি পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ছবি সহ বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের ৭ দিনের মধ্যে উল্লিখিত ঠিকানায় আবেদন করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো:

অধ্যাপক ডাঃ মোঃ ফজলুর রহমান
অধ্যক্ষ
আনোয়ার খান মডার্ন মেডিকেল কলেজ