

# Islamist leader among 24 killed in Gaza fighting

AFP, Gaza City

A radical Islamist sheikh was among 24 people killed and 120 hurt when Hamas police stormed a Gaza mosque after the defiant declaration of an Islamic emirate in the Palestinian enclave, emergency services said yesterday.

The shooting erupted on Friday afternoon following weekly prayers in Rafah on the Egyptian border, and continued until dawn on Saturday.

"Clashes... between Hamas and an extremist group in the southern Gaza Strip left 24 people dead and at least 120 wounded," a spokesman for the Palestinian emergency services told AFP.

Among the dead was Abdul Latif Musa, identified by an Internet statement from Jund Ansar Allah (Soldiers of the Partisans of God) as its leader.

Musa aide Abu Abdullah as-Suri was also killed.

An AFP photographer earlier reported that police had dynamited Musa's house, but it could not be established whether the Islamist was there at the time.

Also killed was Mohammed al-Shamali, the Hamas military chief for

southern Gaza, and five policemen. Another 10 police were wounded.

An Egyptian security official said a three-year-old boy was critically wounded by a stray bullet from the fighting across the border. The boy was said to be recovering on Saturday.

Friday's clash was one of the most violent incidents in Gaza since Israel's 22-day onslaught on the impoverished territory over the new year.

Witnesses said that following prayers, Musa announced to assembled worshippers the formation of the "emirate," defying the authority of Hamas which has ruled Gaza's 1.5 million people for the past two years.

"We are today proclaiming the creation of an Islamist Emirate in the Gaza Strip," Musa said.

Rafah is the Gaza stronghold of the so-called Salafist movement, of which Jund Ansar Allah is said to be a part and which is ideologically close to al-Qaeda.

The Hamas interior ministry warned on Friday evening that those violating the law would be pursued and arrested.

"Everyone outside the law and carrying arms in order to spread chaos will be

pursued and arrested," a ministry statement said.

At the same time, Hamas premier Ismail Haniya denied that the group exists.

"No such groups exist on the ground in Gaza," he said at prayers in the northern Gaza town of Beit Lahiya. Instead he blamed the "Israeli media for spreading this information with a view to turning the world against Gaza."

Hamas seized power in Gaza in June 2007 after a week of vicious fighting with forces of the secular Fatah movement of Palestinian Authority president Mahmud Abbas.

Itself Islamist, Hamas is regarded by the United States and Israel as a terrorist group and Israel maintains a blockade on the territory.

US-based monitoring service SITE Intelligence said Jund Ansar Allah announced its allegiance to the "Islamic Emirate in the Heart of Beit al-Maqdis (Jerusalem)" in a message posted on its website and jihadist forums on Friday.

A translation of the statement declared that Abu al-Nur al-Maqdisi (Abdul Latif Musa) was the leader.



Lebanese Hezbollah supporters hold up pictures of the Shia militant group's leader Hassan Nasrallah and wave yellow flags, along with national flags (red & white), during a rally held in a southern Beirut suburb on Friday to mark three years since the end of the war between Hezbollah and Israel.



PHOTO: AFP

Relatives of war dead release white pigeons at the Yasukuni shrine in Tokyo yesterday on the memorial day of end of World War II. "Our nation inflicted significant damages and pain on many countries, especially on people in Asian countries," Prime Minister Taro Aso said ahead of a moment of silence at a nationally broadcast memorial service.

## Japan voices remorse for WWII as ex-premiers visit war shrine

AFP, Tokyo

Japan expressed remorse for its actions in World War II yesterday, the anniversary of its 1945 defeat, but two former premiers visited a controversial war shrine seen as a symbol of its past militarism.

Prime Minister Taro Aso and Emperor Akihito, whose father Hirohito surrendered exactly 64 years ago, attended a memorial service in Tokyo and expressed sorrow for the suffering the nation had caused.

"Our nation inflicted significant damage and pain on many countries, especially on people in Asian countries," Aso said during the nationally broadcast service.

"On behalf of our people, I express deep remorse and humble condolences for all of

the people who fell victim," Aso told the ceremony attended by 5,000 people, mostly elderly veterans and bereaved families.

Emperor Akihito said: "I profoundly express my condolences... with my sincere hope that such war sufferings will never be repeated."

But amid Japan's efforts to own up to its wartime aggression former prime ministers Junichiro Koizumi and Shinzo Abe visited the Yasukuni shrine, which honours some 2.5 million Japanese war dead, including 14 leading war criminals.

Koizumi's 2001-2006 premiership was beset by tensions with China and South Korea, which accused him of condoning militarism by visiting the shrine every year.

## Iranian detainees tortured, beaten to death: Karroubi

AFP, Tehran

An Iranian opposition leader made fresh claims yesterday that several protesters jailed in the June election unrest died in prisons after they were tortured, beaten and made to crawl like animals.

"Some youngsters who were chanting slogans were beaten in such a way that they lost their lives," said Mehdi Karroubi in his newspaper Etemad Melli on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Iran will put on trial 25 more people arrested after the disputed result of the June presidential election, as fresh claims surfaced yesterday that several protesters in jail were tortured to death.

"The third session of the elements of recent riots in Tehran will be held on Sunday," a court statement carried by the ISNA news agency said. "In this session charges against 25 defendants... will be presented."

Iran has already put on trial 110 people charged with protesting against the re-election of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

The defendants include top reformists,

political activists, a French lecturer and two employees of the French and the British embassies.

The trial of lecturer Clotilde Reiss has finished, although she remains in custody. Securing her release has been a diplomatic priority for Paris, with President Nicolas Sarkozy raising the case with other leaders.

The reformist cleric charged that several protesters were tortured in the Kahrizak detention centre, south of Tehran, before it was ordered closed by supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

"Unfortunately some of the people who took part in the protests were tortured," Karroubi said in a separate claim on the website of his political party, also called Etemad Melli.

"I heard they (security forces) stripped people in Kahrizak and made them crawl like animals with prison guards riding on their backs."

He said it was a "shame" for the Islamic republic to indulge in such tactics as "some of those arrested were forced to be naked and piled upon each other" in the prison cells.

## Colombia, US finalise deal on military bases

AFP, Bogota

Colombia says it has finalised an agreement with the United States allowing Washington to use its military bases to track drug-runners, despite anger elsewhere in Latin America over the deal.

"This agreement reaffirms the commitment of both parties in the fight against drug trafficking and terrorism," Colombia's foreign ministry said in a statement Friday.

Officials here said the two countries agreed the text of an agreement, which now has to be reviewed by government agencies in Bogota and Washington before getting a final signature.

The controversial deal would permit the US military to operate surveillance aircraft from seven bases to track drug-running boats in the Pacific Ocean.

A senior US general said Thursday that the United States needed to reassure regional powers about the deal, after reports of negoti-

ations rankled several leaders and prompted Venezuela to claim that the "winds of war" were blowing.

"I think we need to do a better job of explaining to them what we're doing and making it as transparent as possible, because anybody's concerns are valid," General James Cartwright, vice chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, told a news conference.

Washington sought out its ally Colombia to make up for the loss of its hub for counternarcotics operations in Manta, Ecuador.

Ecuadoran President Rafael Correa had refused to renew an agreement that allowed the US military to fly out of Manta for the past 10 years.

The deal is worth over 40 million dollars for Bogota, along with expanded US military assistance for Bogota's counternarcotics efforts, according to a US defence official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

## S Korea calls for arms talks with North

AFP, Seoul

South Korean President Lee Myung-Bak Saturday called for talks with North Korea aimed at ridding the Korean peninsula of nuclear weapons as well as making cuts in conventional weapons.

"Nuclear weapons do not guarantee North Korea's security. They only cloud its future," Lee said in a speech marking Korea's liberation from Japanese rule in 1945.

"Together with the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula, reduction of conventional weapons of the North and the South must be discussed," he said, urging the North to enter talks.

If the two Koreas reduce their arms and troops, Lee said, they will be able to save on defence

spending and use the money instead to develop their economies.

"I hereby make it clear that this government is ready to start dialogue and cooperation with the North over any issue, at any time and at any level," he said.

Lee reiterated that the South would help Pyongyang end its isolation and prosper if the communist state gave up its atomic weapons.

"If the North comes to such a decision, the (South Korean) government will push for a new programme for peace on the Korean peninsula," Lee said.

An international programme aimed at helping to develop the North's devastated economy and improving the living standards of North Koreans would then be put into practice, he added.



PHOTO: AFP

Mourning relatives pray during a memorial service for typhoon victims in Chiashien, Kaohsiung county, southern Taiwan yesterday. Taiwan's President Ma Ying-jeou bowed to public anger on Saturday apologising for his government's slow response to Typhoon Morakot, which devastated central and southern parts of the island.

## Hillary sets new 'tough love' tone on Africa

AFP, Sal, Cape Verde

Hillary Clinton has set a new tone in US relations with Africa on a whirlwind seven-nation trip, sometimes ruffling feathers with a tough love message that Africans must tackle their own problems.

On her longest trip yet as secretary of state, Hillary crisscrossed the continent for 11 days from an AIDS clinic in rural South Africa to the war zone of Democratic Republic of Congo to a roundtable with Nigerian faith leaders.

To the diverse audiences, Hillary delivered a consistent message -- the fate of Africa is up to the Africans and that the United States, while ready to work with them, has no "magic wand" to solve endemic problems.

She was taking on the road a message delivered by President Barack Obama on a visit last month in Ghana, where the first African-American US leader urged Africans to stand up and take charge of their future.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Planning

Planning Division

Capacity Building of Planning Commission/Division (2nd Phase)

Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka

Invitation for Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Planning Division, Ministry of Planning.
2	Agency	Planning Division.
3	Procuring entity name	Capacity Building of the Planning Commission/Division (2nd Phase).
4	Procurement entity district	Dhaka.
5	Invitation for	Procurement of Computer & Photocopier.
6	Invitation Ref No & date	PC/PD/CBPC/Comp.-16(Part-2)/2009, dt 12/08/2009.

KEY INFORMATION

7	Procuring method	National open tendering method.
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FUNDING INFORMATION

8	Budget & source of funds	
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PARTICULAR INFORMATION

9	Project/programme code	1401-5810.
10	Project/programme name	Capacity Building of the Planning Commission/Division (2nd Phase).
11	Tender package No.	Group-1 and Group-2.
12	Tender package name	Group-1: Computer & Group-2: Digital Photocopier.
13	Tender publication date	20-08-2009.
14	Tender last selling date	13/09/2009 from 9.30am to 3.00pm.
15	Tender closing date and time	G-1: 16/09/2009 and G-2: 16/09/2009 At 12 noon
16	Tender opening date and time	G-1: 16/09/2009 and G-2: 16/09/2009 At 12:30pm
17	Name & address of the office of selling, receiving & opening tender documents	Project Director, Capacity Building of the Planning Commission/Division (2nd Phase), Block-9, Room-11, Planning Division, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207.

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

18	Eligibility of tenderer	Any reputed firm/distributor/supplier/manufacturer having up-to-date valid trade licence, VAT, Tax registration certificates and bank solvency certificates with experience in supply of office equipment to the autonomous and government organizations of Bangladesh.
19	Brief description of goods	Group-1: Procurement of Computer. Group-2: Procurement of Digital Photocopier.
20	Price of tender document	Group-1: 1,100 (Tk one thousand one hundred only) Group-2: 1,000 (Tk one thousand only).

Group	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security	Completion time in days/weeks/months
1	20 Nos Computers	Dhaka	35,000/- (thirty-five thousand)	120 days
2	07 Nos Digital Photocopiers	Dhaka	30,000/- (thirty thousand)	120 days

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

21	Name of the official inviting tender	Md Abdur Rouf.
22	Designation of the official inviting tender	Deputy Secretary & Project Director.
23	Address of official inviting tender	Planning Division, Block-9, Room-36.
24	Contact details of official inviting tender	8113143 (Office).
25	Special instructions	(a) The purchaser reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders prior to acceptance without assigning any reason whatsoever. (b) If the tender closing and opening date is disturbed by any unavoidable circumstances the next working day will be applicable for the same.

Md Abdur Rouf

Deputy Secretary (NEC & ECNEC)

&

Project Director

Planning Division

তিতাস গ্যাস ট্রান্সমিশন এন্ড ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানী লিমিটেড	
(পেট্রোলিয়ামের একটি কোম্পানী)	
১০৫, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, ঢাকা-১২১৫	
ফোন: ৯৫৩৩৬৭-৬৮, ৯৫৩৩৬৭০, ৮১২১০৫-৪২, ৮১১৯২১০	
ফ্যাক্স: ৮৮০-২-৮১১০০০১	
পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি	
১। মন্ত্রণালয়/ভিত্তিক	বিশ্বাস, জ্বালানি ও বনিজ সম্পদ মন্ত্রণালয়/জ্বালানি ও বনিজ সম্পদ বিভাগ।
২। সংস্থা	বাংলাদেশ তেল, গ্যাস ও বনিজ সম্পদ কর্পোরেশন (পেট্রোলিয়াম)।
৩। প্রকল্প/প্রকল্পের নাম	তিতাস গ্যাস ট্রান্সমিশন এন্ড ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানী লিমিটেড।
৪। কাজের নাম	ক) ময়মনসিংহ সদর ও তৎসংলগ্ন এলাকায় বিভিন্ন ব্যাসের (১"-২") ৫০ পিএসআইজি ৫.১ কি.মি. গ্যাস পাইপ লাইন নির্মাণ কাজ (২য় অর্ধাবসান)। খ) জালকা, হিশাল, গুফকাণ্ড ও তৎসংলগ্ন এলাকায় বিভিন্ন ব্যাসের (২"-৩") ৫০ পিএসআইজি ৪ কি.মি. গ্যাস পাইপ লাইন নির্মাণ কাজ (৩য় অর্ধাবসান)।
৫। দরপত্রের সূত্র নং ও তারিখ	ক) পানিবি/৪৪.১৩/নেটওয়ার্ক সম্প্রসারণ/২০০৯-২০১০/০১ তারিখ: ০৬-০৮-২০০৯ খ) পানিবি/৪৪.১৩/নেটওয়ার্ক সম্প্রসারণ/২০০৯-২০১০/১৩ তারিখ: ০৬-০৮-০৯
৬। প্রকল্পের মেসেজ	সিঙ্গেল, ফ্রেজ, সিঙ্গেল ইনভেসাল পদ্ধতিতে রেট্রিকটেড টেবিলের মেসেজ।
৭। অর্থায়নের উৎস	নিজস্ব অর্থায়ন।
৮। দরপত্র দাখিলের তারিখ ও সময়	১২-০৮-০৯ হইতে ২৫-০৮-০৯ তারিখ পর্যন্ত সকল কার্যদিবসে সকাল ৯:০০ ঘটিকা হইতে ১৩:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
৯। দরপত্র দাখিলের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	২৬-০৮-০৯ তারিখ ১১:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১০। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	২৬-০৮-০৯ তারিখ ১২:০০ ঘটিকা উপস্থিত দরদাতা/প্রতিদ্বন্দ্বিতার সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ থাকেন)।
১১। ক) দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান	ক) হিসাব বিভাগ, তিতাস গ্যাস টি এন্ড ডি কোং লিমিটেড, ১০৫, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা। খ) হিসাব বিভাগ, পেট্রোলিয়াম, পেট্রোসেবার, ৩নং কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা। গ) হিসাব বিভাগ, বাসেপ, ৮০/এ-বি, সিঙ্গেলবারী সার্কেলার রোড, শাহজালাল টাওয়ার, মালিগান, ঢাকা। খ) পাইপ লাইন নির্মাণ বিভাগ, তিতাস গ্যাস টি এন্ড ডি কোং লিমিটেড, ১০৫, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা। গ) প্রধান কার্যালয়, পেট্রোলিয়াম, পেট্রোসেবার, ৩নং কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা। ঘ) প্রধান কার্যালয়, বাসেপ, ৮০/এ-বি, সিঙ্গেলবারী সার্কেলার রোড, শাহজালাল টাওয়ার, মালিগান, ঢাকা। গ) দরপত্র খোলার স্থান
১২। দরদাতার যোগ্যতা	তিতাস গ্যাস অথবা পেট্রোলিয়ামের আওতাধীন অন্যান্য গ্যাস কোম্পানীতে ২০০৮-২০০৯ সালের তালিকাভুক্ত ১.৩/১.৪ শ্রেণীর গ্যাস পাইপ লাইন নির্মাণকারী ফ্রিল্যান্সার।
১৩। দরপত্র দাখিলের মূল্য	ক) ট ৪০০.০০ (চারশত) মাত্র। খ) ট ৪০০.০০ (চারশত) মাত্র।
১৪। দরপত্রের জামানত	ক) ট ২০,০০০.০০ (দুইশত বিংশ হাজার) মাত্র। খ) ট ২৬,০০০.০০ (দুইশত ছয় হাজার) মাত্র।
১৫। কার্য সম্পাদনের সময়সীমা	ক) ৪৫ (পঁচাত্তর) পঁচাত্তর দিন। খ) ৪৫ (পঁচাত্তর) পঁচাত্তর দিন।
১৬। দরপত্র গ্রহণ ও খোলার নির্ধারিত তারিখে সরকারি ছুটি বা অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ বন্ধ থাকিলে পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে উপযোগিতা স্থান ও সময়ে উপস্থিত দরদাতা/প্রতিদ্বন্দ্বিতার সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ থাকেন) দরপত্র গ্রহণ ও খোলা হইবে।	
১৭। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকেই যে কোন অধিকাংশ দরপত্র বাতিল অথবা যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ করিবার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।	
বিনা প্রত্যক্ষণে গ্যাসের চাপা ভুলতে ধাক্কা লাগায় সম্পদ বিনষ্ট হয়।	
প্রকৌশল মোঃ কুদ্দুস আমিন উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক পাইপ লাইন নির্মাণ বিভাগ ফোন-৮১১৯২১০	
তিতাস/জনসংযোগ-১৮/২০০৯-১০ জিডি-৩৭৭৩	