

Iranians wary of what future holds

AGENCIES

People in Tehran said the hours of darkness before Trump's true took hold were the most terrifying of the war as Israel intensified its bombardment.

"We felt jets flying so low above our apartment that the windows shook. The bombing intensified to a level I've never experienced before. People ran into the streets, terrified and panicking," said Mariam, 39, from Kordan, about 30 miles north-west of capital.

When residents ventured out in the streets after the sun rose on Tuesday, their first question was what kind of country the bombers had left in their wake. "There's

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a silence now, like a pause in breath before something worse," Mariam said.

Most of the Iranians the Guardian talked to were pessimistic, fearing the regime would use the war as a pretext for rolling back some of the liberties carved out by the female-led resistance of the past few years.

In Tajrish bazaar in north Tehran, everyone had their own opinion on whether the end to the fighting announced by Trump would last, reports AFP.



Nato Secretary General Mark Rutte and other heads of state and government from Nato member countries pose for a family photo during a summit in The Hague, Netherlands, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

ISRAEL-IRAN CONFLICT

Is Trump seeking a quick US exit?

AGENCIES

United States President Donald Trump is attempting a high-risk manoeuvre in bombing Iran and then quickly seeking to de-escalate tensions, analysts told Al Jazeera.

But it remains to be seen whether Washington can navigate a clean exit from the deadly imbroglio, which has the potential to erupt into a large-scale regional confrontation.

Even if Trump avoids a wider war, analysts say troubling questions remain over how worthwhile the US military intervention was.

Despite the rocky first hours after the ceasefire announcement, Israeli and Iranian leaders appear to have fallen in line with Trump's messaging about peace.

But experts warn that the talk of peace and diplomacy might conceal greater challenges ahead. Trita Parsi, the executive vice president of the Quincy Institute, a think tank, told Al Jazeera that Trump's harsh words for the latest attack reveal his increasingly public frustrations with Israel, a longtime US ally.

Sina Azodi, an assistant professor of Middle East politics

at George Washington University, noted that the US strikes appear to be less successful than the Trump administration has claimed. Evidence has surfaced that Iran relocated much of its uranium stockpile in the lead-up to the attack.

"In the long term, you can't bomb the knowledge. Iran's fissile material appears to have survived. And now Iranians have a lot of motive for withdrawing from the NPT," he said. That, he warned, would mean that "it would be impossible to monitor their nuclear programme".



MYANMAR CONFLICT

UN expert urges rejection of election 'fraud'

AFP, Geneva

Elections being planned by Myanmar's ruling junta are a ploy to feign legitimacy and should be rejected by the international community as a "fraud", a UN expert said yesterday.

Myanmar has been engulfed in a brutal conflict since February 2021, when Min Aung Hlaing's military wrested power from the civilian government of Aung San Suu Kyi.

The military has said it is planning to hold "a free and fair multi-party democracy general election" around the end of this year or in early 2026.

But Tom Andrews, the United Nations' special rapporteur on the rights situation in Myanmar, said the suggestion that truly democratic elections could be held in a junta-controlled Myanmar was laughable.

"They want to find an exit ramp to the international pressure," he told journalists in Geneva.

Since the 2021 coup, trade sanctions have isolated Myanmar, making it increasingly dependent on China and Russia for economic and military support.

Min Aung Hlaing himself is under multiple global sanctions and the International Criminal Court's chief prosecutor has sought an arrest warrant for him for alleged crimes against humanity committed against the country's Rohingya Muslims.

The junta, Andrews said, was "trying to create this mirage of an election exercise that will create a legitimate civilian government".

But "you cannot have an election when you imprison and torture and execute your opponents, when it's illegal to report the truth as a journalist, when it's illegal to speak out and criticise the junta," he said.

"It's really important that countries reject this idea of an election and not allow the military junta to attempt to get away with this fraud."

Andrews, who is an independent expert mandated by the UN Human Rights Council but who does not speak on behalf of the United Nations itself, highlighted that more than 6,800 people had been killed in Myanmar since the military coup.

At the same time, he said, some 22,000 political prisoners are languishing behind bars -- "most of whom are guilty of only exercising their fundamental rights, including speaking out and participating in demonstrations opposing a brutal military junta".

Trump reassures Nato allies on security guarantees

AFP, The Hague

US President Donald Trump took a victory lap at Nato's Hague summit yesterday, joining leaders in reaffirming the "ironclad" commitment to protect each other after allies agreed to his demand to ramp up defence spending.

The unpredictable US leader appeared keen to take the plaudits as he secured a key foreign policy win by getting Nato's 32 countries to agree to meet his headline target of five percent of GDP on defence spending.

Trump signed off on a final leaders' declaration confirming "our ironclad commitment" to Nato's collective defence pledge. "It's a great victory for everybody, I think, and we will be equalised," Trump said.

Gaza ceasefire talks 'intensified'

Says Hamas; Israeli forces kill 20 Palestinians including six aid seekers

AGENCIES

A senior Hamas official told AFP yesterday that talks for a Gaza ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinian group "intensified in recent hours" with mediator countries.

"Our communications with the brother mediators in Egypt and Qatar have not stopped and have intensified in recent hours," Taher al-Nunu said, adding that the group had "not yet received any new proposals" to bring an end to the war now in its 21st month.

The development followed a statement by President Trump yesterday, expressing his belief that "great progress" was being made toward ending the conflict between Israel and Hamas in Gaza.

Meanwhile, Gaza's civil defence agency said Israeli fire killed at least 20 people yesterday, including six who were waiting to collect food aid in the war-ravaged Palestinian territory. Civil defence spokesman Mahmud Bassal said the crowd was hit by Israeli "bullets and tank shells".

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দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির সংশোধনা

ঢাকা মাস ট্রানজিট কোম্পানি লিমিটেড এর আওতাধীন The Universal Ticketing System (UTS) for single Journey on Dhaka metro Rail Line-06 বাসবায়নের নিয়মের সকল ২৬-০৬-২০২৫ তারিখের স্থারক নং ৩৫-০৩-০০০০-০২২-০২৩-২৫-৯৪৫ এবং পত্র অবস্থান করা হচ্ছে। উক্ত দরপত্র সংশোধন করা হচ্ছে।

SI No. of Tender Notice	Description	As per Published	To be read (Amendment)
13	Last Date & Time for Proposal Selling	29-06-2025	20-07-2025; Office hours
14	Proposal Closing Date & Time	30-06-2025; 3:00pm	21-07-2025; 3:00pm
15	Proposal Opening Date & Time	30-06-2025; 3:30pm	21-07-2025; 3:30pm
21	Completion Time	1 year	10 years

স্থারক নং: ৩৫-০৩-০০০০-০২২-০২৩-২৫-৯৪৫

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