

Drone attack on Sudan market kills 28

AFP, Khartoum

A drone attack on a crowded market in central Sudan killed 28 people, a rights group reported Monday, as the army and its paramilitary rivals traded aerial strikes in their battle for territory.

The attack occurred in a paramilitary-controlled area in the far north of Sudan's Kordofan region, currently the fiercest frontline in the three-year-old war between the army and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

According to the Emergency Lawyers, a group monitoring atrocities in the conflict, several drones hit the al-Safiya market outside the town of Sodari in North Kordofan on Sunday.

"The attack occurred when the market was bustling with civilians, including women, children and the elderly," the group said, adding that the toll was preliminary. It gave no indication of who carried out the strike.

Sodari, a remote town where desert trade routes cross, is around 230 kilometres (132 miles) northwest of El-Obeid, the state capital of North Kordofan, which the RSF



Palestinian municipal workers clean a street in the old city of Hebron, in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, yesterday as people prepare for Ramadan. PHOTO: REUTERS



has been trying to encircle for months.

The Kordofan region has seen a surge in deadly drone attacks as both sides fight over the country's vital east-west axis, which links the western RSF-held region of Darfur, through El Obeid, to the army-controlled capital Khartoum and the rest of Sudan.

Across vast stretches of territory, attacks by both sides — many on remote towns and villages — have killed up to dozens of civilians at a time.

Last Wednesday, two children were killed and a dozen wounded in one strike on a school, while another severely damaged a United Nations warehouse storing famine relief supplies. After consolidating their hold on Darfur last year, the RSF has pushed east through oil- and gold-rich Kordofan, in an attempt to seize Sudan's central corridor.

Since April 2023, the war between the army and the RSF has killed tens of thousands of people.

Kyiv must negotiate 'fast'

Says Trump as Ukraine-Russia peace talks begin in Geneva

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump said Monday that he hopes Ukraine reaches a deal with Russia "fast," as Washington-brokered peace talks between Moscow and Kyiv began in Geneva.

"Ukraine better come to the table, fast," Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One while en route to Washington.

Negotiators from Ukraine and Russia gathered in Geneva yesterday for two days of US-mediated peace talks that will focus on the main sticking point of land.

Trump is pressing Moscow and Kyiv to reach a deal to end Europe's biggest war since 1945, though Zelensky has complained that

» Land in focus at Geneva peace talks

» Kyiv says Russian drone kills 3 energy workers

energy workers near the industrial town of Sloviansk, Kyiv said.

Zelensky called for Kyiv's allies to increase pressure on Russia to reach a "real and just" peace deal via tougher sanctions and weapons supplies to Ukraine, reports Reuters.

Trump pointed to Ukraine when asked by reporters what he was expecting from the talks in Geneva, which will follow a morning of negotiations between US and Iranian officials at a different venue in the Swiss lakeside city.

"Well, we have big talks," Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One. "It's going to be very easy. I mean, look, so far, Ukraine better come to the table fast. That's all I'm telling you."

his country is facing the greatest pressure to make concessions.

Ahead of the talks, Russia carried out heavy airstrikes overnight across swathes of Ukraine, inflicting severe damage on the power network in the southern port city of Odesa, which Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said left tens of thousands without heat and water.

A Russian drone strike on east Ukraine early yesterday killed three

NORTHWEST PAKISTAN 17 killed in bomb attacks, gunfight

AFP, Peshawar

Two bomb attacks and a gunfight between police and militants in northwest Pakistan killed at least 14 security personnel and three civilians including a child, officials said.

The separate incidents in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province on Monday, which left dozens more wounded, come as Pakistan's security forces battle intensifying insurgencies in southern and northern provinces that border Afghanistan.

This month the Islamic State (IS) group claimed responsibility for a massive suicide blast at a Shia mosque in the capital Islamabad that killed 31 people and wounded 169 others.

The latest attacks in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa targeted a checkpoint and a police station, according to a military statement and a security official.

Militants rammed an explosive-laden vehicle into a wall near a checkpoint in Bajaur district, killing 11 security personnel and a girl, the military said yesterday.



Russian military police building collapses

AFP, Moscow

A Russian military police building collapsed on the grounds of an army base outside Saint Petersburg, the local governor said yesterday, adding that authorities were probing the causes of the incident.

"I have instructed the security forces to assist the military in clearing the rubble and rescuing victims following the collapse of a military police building on the territory of a military unit in Sertolovo," governor Alexander Drozdenko said.

"The causes of the incident are being investigated," he added.

Sertolovo is a small village just outside Saint Petersburg, Russia's second-biggest city.

Local media outlet 47news reported that three people died in the incident, citing emergency services.

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Ref:- Mgmch/Admin/Annual Tender/25-26/2026/410 Date: 17/02/2026

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GD-326

Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Police
Office of the Superintendent of Police,
Thakurgaon

Memo no-316/E Date: 17/02/2026

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GD-331

Office of the Sub Project Manager
"PIN 13362 Advancing Climate-Smart Low-Trophic Extractive Mariculture: Integrating Research, Capacity Development, and Coastal Livelihood Resilience to Foster the Blue Economy of Bangladesh" Sub-Project
Department of Marine Bioresource Science
Chattogram Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Chattogram

Memo No. CVASU/DMBS/HEAT/16&17/2026/31 Date: 17/02/2026

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Signed/-
Prof. Dr. Md. Asaduzzaman
SPM, HEAT, SP-13362, CVASU

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