
Israel's Agreement of an Unconditional Ceasefire is Actually an Admission of Defeat

Description

via Maitreya Bhakal via RT

After rejecting previous offers, Israel finally agreed to a ceasefire with Hamas, figuring it had killed enough Palestinian civilians. Yet, does the belated move betray an admission of defeat?

First they came for the children, the adults, the schools, and the hospitals

After [slaughtering](#) 248 people, including 66 children, and wounding 1,900, the Zionist regime finally agreed to a ceasefire on May 21. Until then, it had displaced 72,000 civilians and damaged 16,800 housing units (of which 1,800 had become unfit for living and 1,000 were completely destroyed), 51 schools and educational facilities, six hospitals, and 11 primary health centers, including Gaza's only Covid-19 testing laboratory.

Such cruelty was shocking but expected. Like its imperial mentor the US, the Israeli regime often initiates such violence to distract public attention from domestic problems. And few needed the distraction more than its embattled leader Benjamin Netanyahu, currently on trial for corruption. Zionist leaders see slaughtering Palestinians as a low-cost technique to try to bolster their popularity. Israeli voters remain divided over which figurehead to choose to bomb Palestinians; four elections in two years have failed to produce a decisive result.

The tactic isn't always successful, though. The unconditional ceasefire is an embarrassing change of heart for the regime, after it had already rejected previous ceasefire offers.

A probable reason is that Hamas proved to be more resilient than Israel had expected or bargained for. Despite killing 248 people in Gaza and flattening whole neighborhoods, it still wasn't winning. It failed to stop rocket attacks, while its arsenal of costly Iron Dome interceptors was getting depleted.

So was international goodwill. The UN Security Council was united in its desire to issue statements condemning Israel, save for one member, the United States, which blocked three [attempts](#) in just one week. Global public solidarity, including surprisingly in America, stood largely with the Palestinians being bombed. Israeli civilians were also increasingly sick of the violence; the mayor of Lod openly declared that "civil war has broken out" and said he had "lost control of the city."

Even some US politicians started speaking out, especially controlled-opposition puppets such as Ilhan Omar and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. While little more than a meaningless exercise in wokeness to appease their young liberal voter base, the criticism still came as a shock. The regime is not used to even such performative opposition, given its overwhelming influence over the US Congress and media. Anything short of uncritical support was a huge setback. When once expressing even the slightest

sympathy for slain Palestinians (even children) was scandalous, today it's becoming increasingly accepted in US society and politics.

Citizen journalism over social media also blunted the effect of Israeli propaganda. A video of a building being bombed or a photo of a Palestinian child being pulled out of rubble can influence people – even Americans – at a level that the best Israeli PR can barely dream of.

Palestinians can't breathe

The savagery inflicted by Israel on Palestinians over the decades boggles the imagination, even for a US ally. Israeli soldiers kill Palestinians with impunity, when they're not driving them out of their homes.

Settler colonialism (also known as Lebensraum) is official Israeli policy. An unbelievable [600,000-750,000 Israelis](#), roughly 10 percent of Israel's Jewish population, are living in at least 250 illegal 'settlements' in the stolen territories of West Bank and East Jerusalem, having driven out the original, legal inhabitants.

The attitude of considering Jews as the Chosen People is strong with the right-wing military leadership of the officially Jewish state. The deaths of civilians are seen as an inevitable necessity for fulfilling Zionism's messianic destiny.

This was succinctly explained by Bari Weiss, a notorious Zionist US pundit and journalist. She helpfully [clarified](#) that killing children was merely "one of the unavoidable burdens of political power, of Zionism's dream turned into the reality of self-determination." Eli Ben-Dahan, Israel's former deputy minister of defense, once [stated](#) that Palestinians were "like animals, they are not human."

Netanyahu himself made his views about Palestinians clear long ago in a secretly taped conversation, with [alarming](#) but expected clarity: "...beat them up, not once but repeatedly, beat them up so it hurts so badly, until it's unbearable." The Israeli military recently [boasted](#): "Our goal is to only strike terror." It's easy to treat people and their homes as genuine military targets once you've de-humanized them.

'Collateral Damage'

This explains the Israeli policy of targeting civilians – the so-called 'Dahiya doctrine' – that calls for destroying civilian infrastructure – ostensibly to deny the enemy their use, but in reality, an excuse to murder people. This homicidal policy is often cloaked with the euphemism 'asymmetric warfare'. Since 2008, Israel has slaughtered 23 Palestinians for every dead Israeli.

In recent decades, instead of outright war, Israel sometimes prefers a strategy Israeli analysts call 'mowing the grass'. The name is telling; it indicates both the de-humanization of Palestinians as irritant weeds that need to be trimmed and shown their place periodically (presumably by killing their children and bombing hospitals), as well as the realization that the Zionist regime, after executing major settler-colonial territorial expansions in 1948 and 1967, has now probably settled in for the long haul and acknowledged a war of attrition. The idea is to start a small fire that invites a proportionate pushback, and then use that pushback to strike disproportionately hard in return – and then retreat, claiming victory. Coupled with the Dahiya doctrine, 'mowing the grass' attempts maximum Palestinian civilian

casualties while minimizing Israeli military deaths. This set of tactics is then rinsed and repeated every few years.

The privilege to defend itself – and attack others

Civilized nations often condemn Israel strongly. America, however, largely accepts the mass slaughter of innocent civilians, braying “Israel has the right to defend itself” to anyone who would listen, perhaps seeing a reflection of itself in the Zionist state. Indeed, few nations are more similar than America and Israel, and right since their births, both have been founded on settler colonialism.

But looking woke is also important. After blocking statements on the topic thrice at the UN Security Council, Biden told Netanyahu that he “expected a significant de-escalation,” indicating perhaps that he expected the Israeli leader to kill fewer children.

This impunity is reinforced by a vast pro-Israel lobby which exercises near-complete control over the US establishment. Abusive US diplomats are quick to hold other nations “accountable” for their “human rights violations,” but fully support and encourage outright massacres by Israel.

Snatching defeat from the jaws of victory

The grudging acceptance of a unilateral ceasefire represents a significant humiliation for the Zionist regime. It claims to have one of the world’s most advanced militaries, and still had to capitulate in front of a resistance force it considers militarily inferior. And despite also boasting of one of the world’s strongest propaganda networks, its defeat in the PR battlefield was even worse than in the actual battlefield.

Admitting anything short of absolute victory, however, would’ve been unthinkable. For decades, Israel has strived hard to create an aura of military invincibility. Yet, while this propaganda was once actually backed by (US-aided) Israeli victories on the ground against much weaker enemies, it is today pushing up against recent debacles – as well as the reluctance of Israeli soldiers to risk death to appease their political masters.

The Israel ‘Defense’ Forces, or IDF, are a vital source of national pride for Israeli people – and an even more vital source of legitimacy for the Israeli regime. It cannot afford to be seen to lose a single war, even when it actually loses. In the pro-Israel media and academia, Israeli atrocities are often whitewashed by euphemistically referring to the situation as “complicated” or saying “both sides are at fault.” Similarly, Israeli defeats and failures are often glossed over with phrases like “both sides claim [victory](#)” or “stalemate.”

Or, occasionally, “ceasefire.”