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USD	01	GBP	01	INR	1000	PKR	1000	EUR	01	IRR	1000	AED	01
AFN	78.45	AFN	110.04	AFN	1067	AFN	500	AFN	95.82	AFN	0.37	AFN	21.22

Al Jazeera journalist leaves hospital day after Israeli arrest

Al Jazeera Arabic journalist Givara Budeiri left hospital on Sunday after receiving treatment for injuries sustained during her arrest by Israeli forces the day before.

Budeiri's left hand was fractured when she was arrested while covering a demonstration in the occupied East Jerusalem neighbourhood of Sheikh Jarrah on Saturday.

Israeli police also destroyed equipment belonging to Al Jazeera cameraman Nabil Mazzawi. Her arrest drew sharp condemnation from press freedom advocates and media watchdogs.

The Doha-based media network's Jerusalem correspondent was accused of assaulting a female police officer, and not presenting her credentials, claims both she and Al Jazeera strongly deny. The Israeli allegations were also contradicted by footage shot of Budeiri's arrest.

"I'm trying to be OK, but they broke my hand and I spent all the night in the hospital," Budeiri told Al Jazeera.

She said had bruising on several other areas of her body, a headache, and pain in her back and her leg that makes it hard to walk.

Budeiri has worked as a journalist for Al Jazeera since 2000. She was wearing a flak jacket marked "press" when she was arrested and holds an Israeli Government Press Office (GPO) card.

Budeiri was reporting on a sitin marking the 54th anniversary of the Naksa, or "setback", when Israel occupied the Palestinian territories of East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip in 1967, a move not recognised by the international community.

Sheikh Jarrah has also been the focus of protests for weeks in support of Palestinian families in the neighbourhood who are facing the threat of forced expulsion to make way for Jewish settlers.

Budeiri said she was "treated as a criminal" when she was taken to the police station and during several hours in custody was prevented from removing her heavy flak jacket or closing her eyes when she felt tired.

"We will make you shut up … if we make Al Jazeera be silent, everyone will shut up," Budeiri quoted an Israeli police officer as saying while she was in custody.

Like many others, she said she was merely "covering the reality on the ground" and that journalists are "telling the whole world what's going on here".

"The microphone and camera will stay … nothing will stop us," she added.

Sabrina Bennoui, spokesperson for Reporters Without Borders (RSF), said the arrest was a "clear violation of press freedom".

"There is a clear will from the Israeli authorities to prevent journalists from doing their job and from reporting on the ground," she said.

Meanwhile, in the occupied West Bank city of Ramallah, a rally took place on Sunday afternoon in solidarity with Palestinian journalists who are being targeted by the Israeli authorities.

"The feeling here by some of the speakers is that Israel is deliberately targeting those journalists because they are showing the world the reality of what's happening under occupation," Al Jazeera's Nida Ibrahim, reporting from Ramallah, said.

"They feel Israel has been losing the media war, because they feel that it's been exposed – its measures, its violations – and that's why they're trying to target journalists to silence them."

At least 14 Palestinian journalists have been arrested and placed in administrative detention by Israeli forces in recent weeks, according to Reporters Without Borders.

Several Palestinian journalists with media cards have been banned from entering Sheikh Jarrah by Israeli police, who claim they require a GPO card.

On Sunday, Israeli police arrested activists Muna al-Kurd and Mohammed al-Kurd, twins who have been at the forefront of the campaign to stop the forced expulsions of Palestinian families from Sheikh Jarrah.

Al Jazeera Arabic veteran journalist Givara Budeiri sustained a fractured hand while being violently arrested in Sheikh Jarrah, occupied East Jerusalem.

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Mexico elections: Polls close after vote marred by violence

Polls have closed in Mexico's mid-term elections after one of the country's bloodiest campaigns in recent history.

Early results suggest President Andrés Manuel López Obrador's governing Morena party and its allies will win a reduced majority in Congress.

The elections have been marred by violence with dozens of politicians killed in the build up to the vote.

On Sunday, a severed head was lobbed into a polling station and five election workers shot dead.

Early forecasts suggest Mr López Obrador's party is on course to lose the two-thirds majority in the lower house of Congress he wanted to continue a programme of reforms he calls the "Fourth Transformation".

But the party may still gain an absolute majority together with allies.

Some 51% of an estimated 93.5 million eligible voters came out to vote.

All 500 seats in the lower house, 15 state governorships and thousands of local leadership positions are up for grabs.

The elections are being viewed as a referendum on the leftist rule of 67-year-old Mr López Obrador, who is halfway through a six-year term.

Despite maintaining high approval ratings, Mr López Obrador has faced increasing criticism for his handling of the Covid-19 pandemic, and his failure to crackdown on drug cartels.

Mexico's main opposition parties have formed an electoral and legislative alliance, and are seeking to overturn the government's dominance in the legislature.

Violence persisted into polling day.

Five election workers were shot dead in the state of Chiapas. In Mexico State, someone lobbed an inactive grenade into a voting station. **bbc**

Israel's PM Netanyahu alleges election fraud, accuses rival of duplicity

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday a newly formed Israeli coalition that is poised to unseat him was the result of "the greatest election fraud" in the history of democracy.

He made his sweeping accusation at a time when Israel's domestic security chief has warned publicly about the prospect of political violence. Netanyahu focused his allegations on a broken campaign promise from the man set to replace him as prime minister, nationalist Naftali Bennett.

Bennett had pledged not to partner with left-wing, centrist and Arab parties, but on Wednesday announced with opposition leader Yair Lapid that they had formed a governing coalition with factions from across the political spectrum.

Under a rotation deal, Bennett will serve first as prime minister, followed by Lapid.

No date has been set for a vote in parliament to approve the new government, which follows an inconclusive March 23 election, but it is widely expected to be sworn in on June 14.

"We are witnessing the greatest election fraud in the history of the country, in my opinion in the history of any democracy," Netanyahu said in comments to legislators of his right-wing Likud party.

"That's why people justifiably feel deceived and they are responding, they must not be shut up," he said in the remarks, which were broadcast live and referred indirectly to Bennett's campaign promise not to team up with Lapid and others.

Netanyahu, Israel's longest-serving leader, has been in office since 2009, and his tenure has been clouded by an ongoing corruption trial, in which he has denied any wrongdoing. The prospective new government caps political jockeying since the election - Israel's fourth in two years. People angry at the alliance have held protests outside the homes of opposition politicians, whose security has been beefed up after threats on social media.

'Endangering Israel'

In a rare public warning, the head of the Shin Bet internal security agency said on Saturday that increasingly extreme online discourse could lead to violence.

While condemning violence and incitement, Netanyahu, 71, repeated his designation of the Lapid-Bennett coalition as a dangerous leftist alliance.

"This government is endangering Israel with such a danger the likes of which we have not seen for many years," he said.

"We, my friends and I in Likud, we will vehemently oppose the establishment of this dangerous government of fraud and surrender. And if, God forbid, it is established, we will bring it down very quickly."

Netanyahu said the politically diverse new coalition would not be able to stand up to the United States if Washington returns to a nuclear deal with Iran nor deal forcefully with Gaza's Hamas militants, who engaged Israel in 11 days of cross-border fighting last month.

He also criticized Facebook and Twitter, saying the two social media platforms, which he uses extensively, had been blocking legitimate right-wing criticism of the Lapid-Bennett coalition.

Netanyahu said Facebook had removed a right-wing post that included the address of a legislator where a protest had been set to take place. He said a left-wing post that listed the same address but called on demonstrators to support the lawmaker had not been taken down. "It's a scientific case, simply scientific, clinical, that proves an attempt to shut up the right-wing," Netanyahu said. **alarabiya**

Turkish mafia boss dishes dirt on Erdogan team, becomes YouTube phenomenon

From alleged drug trafficking and a murder cover-up to weapons transfers to extremist militants, a convicted crime ringleader has been dishing the dirt on members of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's ruling party through a series of tell-all videos that have captivated the nation and turned him into an unlikely social media phenomenon.

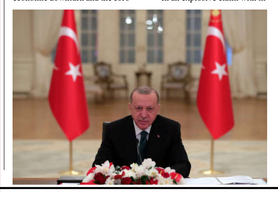
Sedat Peker, a 49-year-old fugitive crime boss, who once openly supported Erdogan's Justice and Development Party, has been releasing nearly 90-minute-long videos, making scandalous but yet-unproven drip-by-drip allegations, in an apparent bid to settle scores with political figures.

The weekly YouTube videos have been viewed more than 75 million times, causing an uproar, heightening concerns over Turkish state corruption, and putting officials on the defensive. They have also exposed alleged rifts between rival factions within the ruling party and added to Erdogan's troubles as he battles an economic downturn and the coronavirus pandemic.

His initial videos targeted former Interior Minister Mehmet Agar and his son, Tolga, a ruling party lawmaker, whom he accused of raping a young Kazakh journalism student and later covering up her murder as a suicide. Mehmet Agar, Peker suggested, misappropriated a luxury marina that may have been used in drug trafficking operations. Agar later resigned from the marina's board.

Subsequent videos leveled accusations against business people and media figures close to the government, as well as former Prime Minister Binali Yildirim's son, claiming he was involved in drug smuggling from Venezuela. But the target of Peker's most vitriolic and mocking attacks is Interior Minister Suleyman Soylu, whom he accuses of abuse of power and corruption while aiming to become Turkey's president. Peker justifies the tell-all by saying Soylu betrayed him despite the crime leader's help to defeat a rival faction within the ruling party.

In an explosive claim with in



Yemen's Ansarullah welcomes probe into civilian deaths claim in Ma'rib base bombing

Yemen's government, which is run by the Ansarullah movement in Sana'a, has welcomed an investigation by independent committees into the bombing of a Saudi-led military base in Ma'rib, a day after former president Mansur Hadi said the attack had killed 14 civilians at a nearby petrol station.

"We asked the brothers in the Defense Ministry and they said that they only bombed the base," Mohammed Ali al-Houthi, a member of Yemen's Supreme Political Council, said via Twitter on Sunday evening.

Earlier, media outlets close to Hadi said that a strike had killed 14 civilians at the petrol station in the city of Ma'rib, the former Saudi-backed government's last northern stronghold, and blamed the Ansarullah movement for the attack.

Two residents told AFP that the petrol station is located about a kilometer from the military base and soldiers often go there with members of their families to refuel their cars.

Al-Houthi said the Defense Ministry "will be obligated to pay compensation" if the investigation finds it guilty.

Saudi Arabia and some of its regional allies, backed by the United States and other Western powers, have been waging a deadly war on Yemen beginning in March 2015 to reinstall Hadi and crush the Ansarullah revolution. **presstv**