Hamas leader outlines Resistance strategy

The following summary is from remarks made by the chairman of the political bureau of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, during the Strategic Thinking Forum held in Beirut, Lebanon, on June 21, 2024. The Resistance News Network published the remarks.

We will deal with any initiative that fulfills our demands to stop the war of genocide against our people. The head of the political bureau of the Islamic Resistance Movement – Hamas, the fighter Ismail Haniyeh, confirmed that the movement is open to dealing with any paper or initiative that provides the foundations of the resistance’s position in the cease-fire negotiations.

Haniyeh stressed that the movement has “the priority of stopping this criminal war against our people and considering common interests with the Axis of Resistance, whether in Lebanon and other fronts in Yemen, Iraq, Syria and the components of the nation.”

This came during a dialogue symposium on Friday, June 21, organized by the “Forum for Strategic Thinking,” which discussed: “Scenarios of confrontation with the entity / a war of attrition, a major confrontation fronts in Lebanon, Iraq and Yemen is the consecration of a new reality in the conflict of the course that was not present throughout the years of the establishment of the Zionist entity.”

Update on political negotiations

In his speech, Haniyeh addressed the latest developments in the political negotiations for a ceasefire in Gaza, saying, “Hamas has specific demands for a permanent ceasefire, complete withdrawal, reconstruction, prisoner exchange, relief for our people and everything related to the siege.”

He added that these demands are the demands of our people, the resistance and all the free people of the nation, that the movement is engaging in negotiations on the basis of these foundations, and it has reached the final stage since May 6 with its approval of the U.S.-backed Egyptian-Qatari paper, but the entity has again put comments on it that impact the essence of these demands.

Haniyeh warned that the entity’s negotiating strategy is based on mobilizing regional and international pressure to pressure Hamas to accept the “Israeli” vision, which affects the foundations of Palestinian demands and that it set a political trap by imposing specific conditions that the resistance rejects.

On the other hand, Haniyeh said that the U.S. administration and its allies are managing the war and battle in Gaza alongside the Zionist entity after it suffered an “earthquake” on the seventh of last October.

Haniyeh stressed that Al-Aqsa Flood marked the drawing of new equations for the Palestinian cause and the region in general, pointing out that the current situation in linking calm on the resistance fronts in Lebanon, Iraq and Yemen is the consecration of a new reality in the course of the conflict that was not present throughout the years of the establishment of the Zionist entity.

Haniyeh said that the ongoing “Israeli” war on the Gaza Strip for the ninth consecutive month is “not only managed by the occupation army but also by the American administration and its allies from Western colonial forces.”

He pointed out that U.S. President Joe Biden personally chaired a meeting of the Israeli war council in a session that lasted seven hours to set goals for eliminating the resistance and Hamas, recovering prisoners, displacing the residents of the Gaza Strip and changing the security and political reality in the Strip.

Haniyeh noted that Washington and its allies quickly moved to protect the “Israeli” entity, engaging in what they considered an existential war, because the attacks on October 7 were an earthquake that shook the foundations and principles of the Zionist colonial project.

Strategic results of Al-Aqsa Flood

He said the resistance demonstrated three main dimensions during its battle. First, it is based on a solid and unwavering doctrine.

Second, it involves planning, building power and capability, preparation and a strategy of accumulating power throughout the phases of the conflict.

He added that the third dimension lies in the strategic alliances the resistance has built with all components of the nation, with all its heart and forces active within the framework of the Axis of Resistance and their joint actions paved with blood and sacrifices across all these fronts and the entire nation.

Haniyeh confirmed that the current battle has witnessed horrors and costs not seen in any other phases of the struggle, while the popular war support for the resistance remains strong, raising the banner despite nine months of war.

Haniyeh emphasized that the continuous military support for the Palestinian resistance in Gaza exerts direct and powerful pressure on the entity and its ally, the United States, and those with it.

Haniyeh highlighted three strategic results achieved by the Al-Aqsa Flood. The first is the restoration of the Palestinian cause to its rightful place, regaining its presence on regional and international agendas after being marginalized by some regional states and international parties, which reduced it to an internal “Israeli” matter.

He explained that the second result is that the defeat of the entity is a real not an illusion, and this could happen soon. The third result is the reunification of the nation around Palestine and its cause comprehensively, at a time when the Zionist entity suffers from internal cracks that will continue until its demise.

This statement was lightly edited.

Striking nurses: ‘Patients over profits’

By Lyn Neeley
Portland, Oregon

Over 3,000 nurses from six Providence Corporation hospitals across Oregon completed a three-day strike on June 20, carrying signs saying, “Patients over profits.” Since December, the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) has been in negotiations with Providence for a contract that ensures safe staffing ratios, better hours, higher pay and improved health care benefits. The striking nurses shouted: “Heroes treated like zeros!”

Providence, one of Oregon’s largest corporations, owns one-quarter of Oregon’s health care market. The yearly income of Providence CEOs has risen to $10 million. The nurses are being offered a 7% raise the first year and only 3% in subsequent years less than the annual rate of inflation. On June 1, Oregon became the second state, after California, to establish mandatory nurse staffing ratios. The law establishes minimum staffing ratios to ensure quality patient care and to prevent nurse burnout, but the law is insufficient, as it gives the hospital corporations some flexibility. The ONA is insisting on maximum nurse-patient ratios. The union wants the contract to go beyond the minimum allowed by law, ensuring safer staffing ratios at Providence whereby nurses can provide care for patients with a wide range of needs.

Exactly one year ago, 1,800 Providence nurses and staff at three other Oregon locations carried out a week-long strike, demanding better health care coverage, paid time off, higher wages, and improved staffing levels. An ONA speaker at last year’s strike rally called for fewer millionaires and more nurses. Since COVID-19 began, she said, “CEOs’ pay is up and staffing is down.” (workers.org/2023/06/71964)

Nicole Hudson, an emergency room charge nurse at the Willamette Falls Medical Center, told this reporter that by not letting all the nurses back to work at the same time, Providence is violating their contract, trying to separate us and cause discord between nurses.” She said the situation inside the hospital is dangerous now. There are reports from the inside that replacement workers don’t have the right experience for the job.

Hudson stressed: “We are united, demanding that we return to work as a unit to deliver the quality care we are trained for, that feels gratifying.”

Last year, those striking nurses won wage increases between 17% and 26%, additional paid time off and a promise to add nurses in order to comply with Oregon’s staffing law.

After the current strike ended, because of the five-day contract Providence made with replacement (strikebreakers) nurses, the hospital locked out several striking nurses until June 25.

“Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite! workers.org Vol. 66, No. 26 June 27, 2024 $1
Victory at Columbia Univ.

Now, drop all charges!

Over six months after Hamas initiated the Al-Aqsa Flood in Gaza on October 7, students at Columbia University in New York City occupied Hamilton Hall on April 30. They protested the school’s millions of dollars of investment in the apartheid, Zionist regime of Israel, along with Israel’s ongoing racist genocidal violence against the people in Gaza.

New York City Police Department cops brutally arrested 46 of those students, at the request of the school administration, for “criminal trespassing,” considered a misdemeanor. In a bit of irony, the NYPD were the real trespassers.

The Washington Post carried an article that revealed that pro-Zionist billionaires — such as Daniel Lubetzky, Daniel Loeb, Len Blavatnik and Joseph Sitt — pledged campaign donations to Mayor Eric Adams if he would allow the NYPD to “handle” the protesters in collusion with university President Minouche Shafik, a former financial adviser, and the Board of Trustees. (May 16)

These arrests took place following a student encampment set up the week before that the New York Police Department routinely shut down. The encampment sought to escalate, to escalate for Gaza, to resist the savage genocide of our siblings in Palestine.

“We exercised our shared right to oppose the U.S. war machine by putting our bodies upon the years of Columbia, one of its most well-oiled domestic compo-

ers,” (abcm7.com, June 21).

Workers World salutes these heroic students and their allies who refused to be bullied and divided by the pro-Zionist school adminis-

tration, Mayor Eric Adams and the state repression of the NYPD and the courts.

These young activists, an integral part of a global movement, have been inspired by the determined struggle for the Palestinian people’s right to liberation and self-determination, including reclaiming their ancestral lands.

Long live the student Intifada! ☟

Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you’re interested in Marxism, socialism and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP branch near you. ☟

Columbia University students de-occupy Hamilton Hall aka Hinds Hall, April 30, 2024.

Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the never-ending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on immigrants, misogyny, LGBTQ+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homeless-

ness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are ganged down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out the wealth workers create should be a regular basis.

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