

The Palestine Red Crescent announces Al-Quds Hospital out of service

On November 12, 2023, the Palestine Red Crescent Society announced Al-Quds Hospital in Gaza City an out of service facility, and no longer operational. This cessation of services is due to the depletion of available fuel and power outage. Medical staff are making every effort to provide care to patients and the wounded, even resorting to conventional medical methods amid dire humanitarian conditions and a shortage of medical supplies, food, and water.

PRCS deeply regrets reaching this critical point despite efforts to prevent it. Repeated appeals for urgent international assistance, given the week-long siege and a five-day communication and internet blackout, have been unsuccessful. The hospital has been left to fend for itself under ongoing Israeli bombardment, posing severe risks to the medical staff, patients, and displaced civilians.

The humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the northern region has worsened dramatically, with the escalation of Israeli military attacks. This includes the targeted sieging and deprivation of aid to hospitals, leading to their closure. The occupation forces have intensified their presence, separating the southern from the northern occupied Strip and preventing ambulances from reaching affected areas. This has resulted in numerous unclaimed bodies and limited medical response capabilities, with only one operational hospital in Gaza and two in the north.

The Palestine Red Crescent Society holds the international community and signatories of the Fourth Geneva Convention accountable for the complete breakdown of the health system and the resulting dire humanitarian conditions. PRCS urges international health and relief organizations to urgently provide necessary aid to the Gaza and northern regions, to maintain health care services and support the remaining hospitals and emergency services.