

The number of martyrs in Gaza exceeds ten thousand

+10,000

They are not just number

TEHRAN- Israeli forces pounded northern Gaza with intense airstrikes overnight into Monday night as the Palestinian death toll from a month of fighting passed 10,000.

As Israeli troops have pushed into the dense confines of Gaza, an even bloodier phase is expected. According to Gaza's Health Ministry, around 10,022 Palestinians have been martyred so far.

Child casualties crossed 4,000 as Israeli raids expanded, Al Jazeera reported.

The Israeli military said late Sunday that it had cut off northern Gaza from the south, calling it a "significant stage" in the war. On Monday, it said that aircraft struck 450 targets overnight and ground troops took over a Hamas compound, ABC News reported.

On Sunday afternoon, an Israeli air strike hit several houses near a school at the Bureji refugee camp in central Gaza, killing at least 13 people, according to officials at Al-Aqsa Hospital. It was the third refugee camp to be hit by Israeli air strikes in the past 24 hours. More than 50 Palestinians were killed in attacks on Gaza's al-Maghazi and Jabalia refugee camps, Al Jazeera said.

Arafat Abu Mashaia, a resident of the al-Maghazi camp, said the Israeli air strike flattened several multi-story homes where people forced out of other parts of Gaza were sheltering. "It was a true massacre," he said early on Sunday as he stood on the wreckage of destroyed homes. "All here are peaceful people. I challenge anyone who says there were resistance [fighters] here."

The camp, a built-up residential area, was located in the evacuation zone.

"These repeated air strikes on refugee camps in central and southern Gaza are the reason why people are not taking the Israeli announcement of guaranteeing safe corridors to travel to the south seriously," Al Jazeera's Hani Mahmoud said.

According to the United Nations, 1.5 million people are now internally displaced in Gaza out of a population of 2.3 million.

Food, medicine, fuel, and water are running low, and UN-run schools that have been turned into shelters, are beyond capacity, with many Palestinians sleeping on the streets outside. ▶ Page 5

Pressure on U.S. and Israel Must Intensify, Leader says



Opinion: Atomic bomb can't bring Israel back before October 7

By Mohammad Sarfi
Editor-in-Chief

The number of martyrs of the crimes of the Israeli regime and the US in Gaza exceeded ten thousand persons on November 6. The Israelis have taken their crimes to the extreme and have no limit or boundary for their savagery. Zionist madness only victimizes defenseless and oppressed people because they are unable to confront resistance fighters. The real war will begin in the "Gaza metro" and Gaza resistance will have many surprises for the occupying army.

The occupying army relies on deadly weapons and advanced military technology, but if these weapons and technology had been lifesaving, they would have saved them from the storm of October 7th. On that historic Saturday, resistance fighters shattered all deadly obstacles on the way and for the first time tasted the liberation of their homeland, not only for the Palestinian nation but also for the Islamic Ummah. ▶ Page 5

Gaza's collapsing health sector

By Ali Karbalaee

TEHRAN- Since the beginning of the war on Gaza, the Israeli military has shocked international bodies and organizations with its regular attacks on hospitals and health centers.

Adding to the revulsion, the world is watching on as Gaza's health sector faces different threats from the regime.

While the Israeli attack on al Ahli Hospital on October 17, that killed and injured hundreds of civilians, made global headlines, the reality of the health situation on the ground is much more dangerous for Gaza's 2.3 million population.

Experts believe that by destroying the health sector amid a merciless bombing campaign, such as the October 30 Israeli bombing of al-Quds Hospital, Israeli leaders are trying to pressure the local Gaza population to turn against Hamas and other defenders of the land. It is a tactic that has proven to be a failure.

Israel is not only bombing hospitals and health centers but also the roads leading to them. ▶ Page 5

Iran and Iraq demand ceasefire in Gaza

TEHRAN- At a joint press conference with the Iraqi premier on Monday,

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said on Monday that the Israeli regime, which is largely backed by the U.S. and several European nations, is committing "genocide" in Palestine, particularly against children.

"We believe that the Israeli bombardments against Gaza must be stopped as soon as possible and a ceasefire must be established," Raisi said at a joint press conference with Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia' Al Sudani who visited Tehran on Monday morning for talks with top Iranian officials on the situation in Gaza.

Raisi went on to underscore the need to send aid to the "oppressed" yet "powerful" people of Gaza as soon as possible.

The president added that Tehran cooperates with and supports any measure by the Muslim, regional and international countries aimed at deterring the Israeli regime and the U.S. from massacring the innocent people of Gaza. ▶ Page 2

Iran calls for nuclear disarmament of Israel

TEHRAN - Iran has called on the United Nations Security Council to immediately move to dismantle Israel's nuclear weapons following dangerous remarks by an Israeli minister who called for nuking the Gaza Strip.

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian made the remarks in a post on the X platform, formerly Twitter.

His post comes after Israeli Heritage Minister Amichai Eliyahu urged the Israeli government to drop a nuclear bomb on the Gaza Strip, one of the most densely populated areas of the world with a population of 2.3 million.

Speaking in an interview on Sunday, Eliyahu claimed that there were "no non-combatants" in the besieged strip and that using a nuclear bomb on the Palestinian enclave was one of the possibilities."

Amir Abdollahian said the remarks are indicative of Israel's failure.

"Israel's regime minister's statement to use atomic bomb shows the real defeat of the regime against the resistance," he said. ▶ Page 3

Free health insurance provided for 95,000 refugees

TEHRAN - Some 95,000 foreign nationals who hold legal residence permits and are suffering from hard-to-cure diseases receive free health insurance annually.

Their insurance contract will be renewed every year in the month of Esfand - the last Iranian calendar month ending on March 19, Fars quoted Jamshid Shayanfar, an official with the Health Insurance Organization of Iran, as saying.

He added, "The insurance premiums for these people are covered by the High Commissioner for Refugees, and the insurance premiums for about 60,000 citizens are paid to the health insurance organization based on the government budget."

Shayanfar went on to say that around 800,000 non-vulnerable nationals also have to pay their own insurance premiums; once they pay the insurance premium, they will enjoy health insurance services for a year. ▶ Page 7



'OBOR initiative to facilitate Iran, China economic development'

TEHRAN - Iranian Industry, Mining, and Trade Minister Abbas Aliabadi has said the One Belt One Road (OBOR) initiative is going to facilitate both Iran and China's economic development, IRNA reported.

Speaking in an Iran-China business forum held on the sidelines of the 6th China International Import Expo (CIIE), Aliabadi said: "China's One Belt One Road initiative offers many opportunities to develop our country's infrastructure, such as ports, railways, etc., which can facilitate the economic development of the two countries." ▶ Page 4

Iran's cereal production exceeds 21m tons in current crop year: FAO

TEHRAN - Cereal production in Iran reached 21.2 million tons in the current crop year, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s latest Crop Prospects and Food Situation report.

Based on the said report, the Islamic Republic's cereal production in the current crop year has increased by two percent compared to the previous year when the output was 20.6 million tons.

FAO has placed Iran in fourth place among the Asian nations in terms of the volume of cereal production.

According to the organization, Iran's wheat production, which stood at 13 million tons in the 2022 crop year, has increased by 500,000 tons to reach 13.5 million tons in the current year. ▶ Page 4

TEHRAN – Some 51.9 percent of babies born in the first six months of the current Iranian calendar year that started March 21 were boys, outpacing girls with 48.1 percent.

According to the Civil Registration Organization, the ratio of male to female births in this period was 108, which shows a 0.9% growth compared to the same period last year (104), IRNA reported.

It is emphasized that the number of male births in the world is more than the number of female births. The 'natural' sex ratio at birth is around 103 to 107.

This ratio gradually decreases in the following years due to the high death rate of the males. Around 20-25 years of age, this ratio is balanced and reaches 100.

More boys than girls born in six months



The figure is 28.1 in urban areas and 24.4 in rural areas. The highest average age of mothers at first childbearing is in Tehran province, 30.3, and the lowest is in Sistan-Baluchestan province, 22.6.

Also, in the mentioned six months, 524,637 births were registered in the country; Tehran province with 66,035 and Semnan province with 3,387 births hold the record for the highest and lowest number of births in the country.

Population growth policies

Paying attention to the law on supporting families and the youth will pave the way for the

development of the country and will also reduce the population crises, but the accurate and timely implementation of the law requires willpower both from people and officials.

According to the national center for monitoring population policies, from 2001 to 2015, the number of births has been increasing in the country, but after 2015, the number of births started to decrease with an almost steep slope.

In 2020, the number of births in the country (1,114,000) decreased by more than 29 percent compared to 2015 (1,570,000), a

decrease of more than 450,000 births, which was unprecedented in the last few decades.

The number of births in the year 2021 (1,116,000) also shows an increase of about 2,000 compared to the year 2020.

Also, the rate of births from about 20 per thousand population in 2015 has reached its lowest level in the last 50 years with a significant decrease to 13.24 per thousand population in 2021.

The population growth rate reached 0.73 percent in 2020 and 0.68 percent in 2021 despite an increase of 2,000 births compared to 2020.

Estimates show that due to the slight increase in births last year compared to 2020, the population growth rate this year will also decrease.

Also, as long as the fertility rate is below the replacement level, it is expected that the country will face a further decrease in the population growth rate in the coming years.

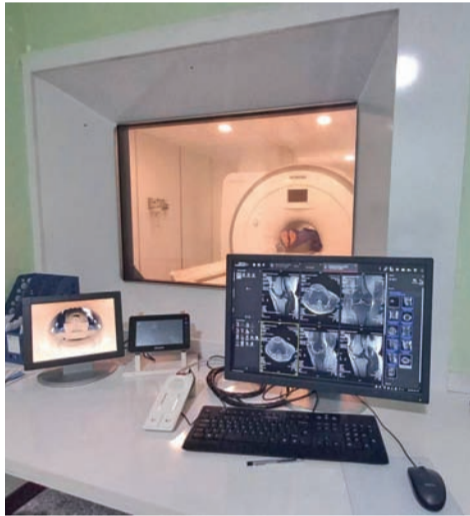
In Iran, about 10.5 percent of the population was over 60 years old in 2020. In 2050, the population over 60 years is forecast to increase to 33 percent.

Also, about 7 percent of the population was over 65 years old in 2020. In 2030, the population over 65 years is forecast to increase to about 10 percent.

In the six-month period, 524,637 births were registered in the country.

Based on the statistics of the Civil Registration Organization, the average age of the mother at the first childbirth is 27.4 in the whole country in the six-month period.

WHO, World Bank collaborate on providing imaging services at Iranian hospitals



TEHRAN – The World Health Organization (WHO) in collaboration with the World Bank and the Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME), is spearheading a transformative initiative to enhance healthcare access in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Under the Iran COVID-19 Emergency Response Project-Additional Financing (ICERP-AF), WHO is overseeing the deployment of cutting-edge medical imaging equipment to 65 public hospitals spanning 31 provinces across the country.

As part of this endeavor, 42 magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machines, 15 computed tomography (CT) scanners, and 14 angiography systems are being supplied to public hospitals, serving as a major milestone in the ongoing battle against COVID-19. This initiative is designed to strengthen the nation's

health infrastructure and cater to the surging demand for diagnostic and therapeutic services.

WHO, in collaboration with the Economic Coordination Center of the Ministry of Health and Medical Education, has successfully delivered 27 MRI machines to designated facilities as of 31 October 2023. An additional 814 devices will be distributed to 165 laboratories nationwide, reflecting the Organization's commitment to bolstering healthcare capabilities across the country.

Notably, WHO is meticulously monitoring the installation, training, and handover processes to ensure they adhere to the highest standards. To date, the handover process of 9 MRI machines has been successfully completed, and they are now poised to serve patients, with 5 more devices in the process of training and handover.

Furthermore, the project includes the delivery of advanced CT scanners. Two 256-slice CT scanners have been delivered to hospitals in Tehran and Mashhad. One of these machines has already been handed over and is ready for immediate use. Additionally, ten 128-slice CT scanners have been imported to the country, with 6 of them successfully installed, trained, and handed over to recipient hospitals. Four more devices are currently in the training process.

The initiative also addresses the urgent

need for angiography machines. By the end of October 2023, 6 angiography devices have been imported and are currently in the process of delivery to recipient hospitals, further expanding the diagnostic capabilities of the healthcare system.

The selection of the equipment was based on a comprehensive assessment, taking into account the increased demand for diagnostic devices during the COVID-19 pandemic, the depreciation of existing equipment, and the complexities associated with COVID-related diseases.

The chosen hospitals are primarily situated in urban areas, strategically positioned to serve a broad network of patients within a nationwide healthcare referral system.

The distribution of medical equipment to designated hospitals was prioritized based on post-COVID-19 epidemic needs, with a focus on underprivileged provinces, as well as the availability of specialized staff and expertise to operate the sophisticated equipment.

This groundbreaking initiative underscores the commitment of WHO, in collaboration with the World Bank and the Iranian government, to fortify the health infrastructure and ensure that all citizens have access to advanced diagnostic and therapeutic services. It represents a significant step forward in the ongoing battle against COVID-19 and in preparing for future health challenges.

WHO is overseeing the deployment of cutting-edge medical imaging equipment to 65 public hospitals.

ENGLISH IN USE

LEARN NEWS TRANSLATION

Lake Urmia salt particles contained by 80%

Salt particles raising from the catchment basin of Lake Urmia has been contained by nearly 80 percent, Farhad Sarkhosh, head of the provincial department for the Lake Urmia restoration program at West Azarbaijan has said.

In cooperation with the Forests, Range and Watershed Management Organization, some saplings and shrubs have been planted in the catchment basin of Lake Urmia to slow down the wind giving rise to salt particles since past three years, which cost 600 billion rials (nearly \$14 million). The major salt particle hotspots include Jabal Kandi village in Urmia County, Saporghan, Urmia, Chooanloo and Miandoab, which are highly contained by planting vegetation.

کنترل ۸۰٪ ریزگردهای نمکی دریاچه ارومیه

مدیر دفتر استانی ستاد احیای دریاچه ارومیه در آذربایجان غربی گفت: نزدیک به ۸۰ درصد از ریزگردهای نمکی حوضه آبریز دریاچه ارومیه کنترل شده است.

فرهاد سرخوش افزود: خارج از بستر دریاچه ارومیه و در حوضه آبریز با همکاری منابع طبیعی و کاشت نهال و درختچه‌ها ریزگردهای نمکی کنترل می‌شود که از سال ۹۳ تا ۹۶ در این راستا ۶۰ میلیارد تومان هزینه شده است.

وی خاطرنشان کرد: کانون بحرانی ریزگردها در استان شامل منطقه جبل کندی در ۴۵ کیلومتری ارومیه، منطقه سپورغان ارومیه، چوپان لو سلماس، و میان‌دوآب است که با نهال کاری تا حدود زیادی از این ریزگردها مهار شده‌اند.

Free health insurance provided for 95,000 refugees

From page 1 ▶ Some 12,000 non-vulnerable nationals have already been covered by health insurance, he concluded.

Insurance services for foreign nationals

Foreign nationals in Iran have citizenship rights and are subject to many protections, and one of the services provided to them is insurance.

In recent years, the number of insured foreign nationals has increased by 15 percent. Most of the insured are nationals of Afghanistan and China.

The long-term protections granted to insured persons include the retirement pension and the work-related disability pension.

Paying compensation for sick days, paying compensation for pregnancy, paying compensation for disability, and paying allowances are among other insurance services.

Foreign nationals who work in Iranian sports clubs as head coaches, trainers, assistant coaches,

athletes, players, etc., are subject to compulsory insurance.

Also, foreign journalists in Iran can be covered by social security services without obtaining a work permit by submitting a confirmation from the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance.

According to the law, people who have worked in hard and harmful jobs for at least 20 consecutive years and 25 alternate years can apply for a pension without an age requirement.

Male insured with at least 60 years of age and 10 years of insurance premium payment, or at least 50 years of age and 30 years of insurance premium payment, and female insured with at least 55 years of age and 10 years of insurance premium payment, or at least 45 years of age and 30 years of insurance premium payment can apply for a pension.

Up to 2,188 foreign nationals residing in Iran are currently receiving pensions from social security funds, ISNA reported.



An ideal place for a family outing

Families are enjoying the beautiful landscape and scenery as well as the refreshing air at Bisheh waterfall, southwestern Lorestan province.

The area is an ideal place for families to spend free time and have fun together.



Managing Director: **Mohammad Mahdi Rahmati**
Editor-in-Chief: **Mohammad Sarfi**

Editorial Dept.: Fax: (+98 21) 88808214 — 88808895
Email: info@tehrantimes.com
Switchboard Operator: Tel: (+98 21) 43051000
Advertisements Dept.: Telefax: (+98 21) 43051430
Public Relations Office: Tel: (+98 21) 88805807
Subscription & Distribution Dept.: Tel: (+98 21) 43051603
Printed at: Jame Jam Bartar Borna - 44197737



Tehrantimes79

No. 18, Moghadasi Alley, Nejatollahi St., Tehran, Iran P.O. Box: 14155-4843 Zip Code: 1599814713

NOVEMBER 7, 2023

GUIDE TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

In the morning, charity is due on every joint bone of the body of every one of you. Every utterance of Allah's glorification (i.e. saying Subhan Allah) is an act of charity, and two rakath prayers which one performs in the forenoon is equal to all this (in reward).

Prophet Muhammad (S)

Prayer Times » Noon: 11:48 Evening: 17:23 Dawn: 5:07 (tomorrow) Sunrise: 6:33 (tomorrow)

Art exhibition dedicated to Gaza's children opens in Tehran

TEHRAN –An art exhibition dedicated to the children of Gaza was inaugurated in Tehran's Azadi tower on Monday.

Entitled "Children in Israel's Fire", the exhibition showcases 34 pieces of posters, paintings, and calligraphy works, ISNA reported on Monday.

The exhibition features artworks by various artists, including Nazanin Mansouri, Fatemeh Shahsavan, Elham Mohammadi, Fatemeh Kiani, Ali Pirani, Zeinab Pirani, Nesa Ahmadi Doost, Somayyeh Noruzi, Leila Lotfizadeh, Banafsheh Arab, Erfan Rasuli, and Zahra Hosseini.

The exhibition, which highlights the crimes of the Zionist regime against the people of Palestine, especially against the children of Gaza in recent events, will run until November 18.

The artworks aim to denounce these atrocities and recognize the perseverance of the children and their significant role in the path of resistance that leads to victory over Quds.

UNICEF has recently announced that children and families in Gaza are caught in a catastrophic situation.

Thousands of children have reportedly been killed and thousands more injured. Children and families in Gaza have been cut off from water, food, fuel, medicine, and other essentials, including safe access to hospitals, following escalating hostilities.

UNICEF has also called for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire and for unrestricted humanitarian access to allow aid to reach children and families in need, save lives and prevent further suffering.

The cost to children and their communities of the escalating violence will be borne out for generations to come. Children are dying at an alarming rate and being denied their basic rights. Civilians must be protected – children particularly – and all efforts must be made to spare them in all circumstances.

Music plays vital role in defending Palestine's people, Iranian musician says

TEHRAN –The universal language of music could play a crucial role in defending the oppressed people of Palestine, Iranian musician has said.

The effective use of music, being a language understood by all, holds great potential in bringing about positive change and safeguarding the vulnerable population of Palestine, IRNA quoted Hadi Arazm as saying on Monday.

Music has the power to unite people from different backgrounds and cultures, and its ability to transcend language barriers makes it an effective tool for both promoting revolution and resolving conflicts, he explained.

Music has played a significant role in many revolutions around the world, particularly during the Iran-Iraq War, where music helped boost the morale of Iranian soldiers fighting against foreign aggression, he added.

He emphasized the responsibility of artists

to use their talent in advancing the defense of oppressed peoples, particularly in light of the crimes committed by the Zionist regime against the Palestinian people.

He also praised the recent actions of many artists in support of the Palestinian cause, although he also criticized the silence of some, suggesting that they need treatment for their indifference. He stressed the duty of artists to defend the values of the revolution and oppressed peoples, wherever they may be.

Born in 1948 in Bandar Anzali, Hadi Arazm began his career in music in the late 1970s, focusing mainly on revolutionary music. He uses his scientific approach to harmonizing hymns and has been part of the Symphony Orchestra of the Iranian Broadcasting Organization as a violinist since the early 1980s. Many of his works are held in the archive of Iranian radio.

Cartoon of Day



Gaza genocide

Cartoonist: Ramli Badrudin from Indonesia

Game script writing event for youth to make debut in Iran

By Samaneh Aboutalebi

TEHRAN – Iran is set to host the Baazista Game Script Writing National Event for the first time in various provinces across the country in February, 2024, the organizers have announced.

The event is exclusively designed for young participants, and will take place in Tehran, Gilan, Qazvin, Fars, Khorasan Razavi, Yazd, and Isfahan provinces, announced festival secretary Mohammadreza Emamqoli during a press conference at Tehran's Art Bureau on Monday.

With themes related to Iranian identity, the Islamic revolution and the Sacred Defense, as well as sections about Shahnameh myths, scientists, national heroes, and martyrs, religious issues, and colonial history, the event aims to develop participants' problem-solving and conflict resolution skills through games, he added.

"Games and playing is the arm of upbringing and experiencing new worlds is possible through games."

Emamqoli emphasized the importance of game script writing as a creative and educational activity for Iranian youth. He stated that the event aims to promote cultural values and national identity while providing an opportunity for young people to engage in a fun and stimulating activity.

Participants will be divided into different age categories and will be required to create game scripts that reflect the themes of the event, he said and added: "The winning scripts will be selected by a panel of judges and will be considered for development into



actual games."

For his part, Masoud Hassanlu, an official with the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology stated that the Baazista event will prioritize emerging entertainment formats such as escape rooms, environmental games, and board games.

"Cinema might be a family-friendly option, but it lacks interactivity," he explained, adding that environmental games and escape rooms provide a platform that families need.

Hassanlu emphasized the importance of developing game scripting as a sustainable business, and said that soft technologies can also be used to address social issues in the community, such as the environment, Persian language loss, national identity, and other social challenges.

"Our identity has grown with stories and has taken various

forms over time from storytelling to writing and the narration of filmmakers," he said.

"Today, game designers have also become integral to shaping our cultural fabric through their narratives and as technological advancements have become indispensable in our era, storytelling that was once limited to traditional media is now advancing and expanding with gaming concepts."

In current age, gaming and game design are crucial in addressing social issues and building identity," he elaborated.

He emphasized that navigating a modern society that demands sophisticated policymaking and game design expertise has become increasingly complex.

Communities that have grown up with gaming have become highly responsive to game-based processes, ultimately identifying

game design as a model for policymaking, he added.

If problem-solving infrastructure is not established in childhood, non-elite individuals may lack essential problem-solving capabilities, he noted.

"Incorporating gaming as a valuable tool in education for children and young adults is both necessary and achievable. Therefore, Baazista's efforts are commendable for placing a focus on this important aspect. A brighter, more effective future for our country can be anticipated with Baazista at the forefront," he asserted.

The selected games of the event will enter the production phase. This event is organized in partnership with the Qazvin and Tehran Art Bureaus, the Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts Ministry, the Ministry of Education, and the Municipality of Tehran.

"The Ferryman" comes to Iranian bookstores



survivors on a hidden island utopia—where the truth isn't what it seems.

Founded by the mysterious genius known as the Designer, the archipelago of Prospera lies hidden from the horrors of a deteriorating outside world. In this island paradise, Prospera's lucky citizens enjoy long, fulfilling lives until the monitors embedded in their forearms, meant to measure their physical health and psychological well-being, fall below 10 percent. Then they retire themselves, embarking on a ferry ride to the island known as the Nursery, where their failing bodies are renewed, their memories are wiped clean, and they are readied to restart life afresh.

Proctor Bennett, of the Department of Social Contracts, has a satisfying career as a ferryman, gently shepherding people through the retirement process—and, when necessary, enforcing it. But all is not well with Proctor. For one thing, he's been dreaming—which is supposed to be impossible in Prospera. For another, his monitor percentage has begun to drop alarmingly fast. And then comes the day he is summoned to retire his own father, who gives him a disturbing and cryptic message before being wrestled onto the ferry.

Meanwhile, something is stirring. The Support Staff, ordinary men and women who provide the

labor to keep Prospera running, have begun to question their place in the social order. Unrest is building, and there are rumors spreading of a resistance group—known as "Arrivalists"—who may be fomenting revolution.

Soon Proctor finds himself questioning everything he once believed, entangled with a much bigger cause than he realized—and on a desperate mission to uncover the truth.

Justin Cronin is a renowned American author best known for his critically acclaimed "The Passage" trilogy.

Cronin has published several novels and short stories over the years, but it is his "The Passage" trilogy that earned him widespread recognition. This post-apocalyptic vampire series, published between 2010 and 2016, has been translated into 37 languages and sold millions of copies worldwide.

The series was likened to Stephen King's "The Stand" and loved for its intricate plot, strong character development, and vivid worldbuilding. In addition to "The Passage," Cronin has also written "Mary and O'Neil," which won the PEN/Hemingway Award, and "The Summer Guest," which was a New York Times bestseller.

Palestinian artist's digital embroidery illustrates Gaza death toll

Palestinian cross-stitch embroidery known as tatrız has long been a medium for storytelling. Now, a London-based artist is using the traditional craft to digitally visualize the death toll in Gaza under Israel's bombardment of the Palestinian enclave over the last three weeks.

According to Hyperallergic website, Maya Amer, a Palestinian motion graphics designer and illustrator, shared a moving animation on social media in which over 8,000 multicolored stitches represent children, adults, and unidentified people reportedly killed by Israeli forces in the Gaza Strip since the Hamas attacks on October 7.

"These are little boys and girls; these are men and women, and these are bodies so maimed no one recognized them," a text in the video reads. "Remember us

as people of culture and history. Remember us as people with names and families."

As of November 1, the Gaza Health Ministry reports that Israel's relentless airstrikes and deadly siege have killed more than 8,500 people living in the region, as well as internally displaced an estimated 1.4 million people. Another 2,000 people are reported missing, presumably caught under the rubble of destroyed buildings and infrastructure. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) also reports that Israeli forces and settlers have killed 123 Palestinians, including 34 children, living in the West Bank. The Hamas militant group reportedly killed over 1,300 Israelis and took at least 200 people hostages in its attack on October 7.

Amer told Hyperallergic that

growing up, she would watch her grandmother and aunts practice the ancient cross-stitch, like many other Palestinian women have done for centuries.

Although she said she doesn't personally embroider — she said she lacks the patience — she found tatrız to be a helpful tool to unpack numbers that are sometimes difficult to visualize, like the mounting death count in Gaza. The pattern she used for her motion graphic, she said, was inspired after visiting a traditional Palestinian embroidery and textile exhibit in Cambridge, United Kingdom.

"The pattern I worked on is one from Gaza," Amer explained, adding that the chest panel "necklace" design was frequently featured on traditional Palestinian dresses (thobes) in lieu of jewelry. In addition to thobes, the

embroidery was also frequently used on handkerchiefs, pillow covers, and other decorative objects.

For those interested in trying their hand at the intricate embroidery, Amer also shared a link to the pattern.

"I wish I could do more as an illustrator, but I've seen people make great visuals to represent abstract terms we have trouble grasping, and making things visual can really get the message through and be memorable," Amer said.

"If I can say something to anyone in a creative field of any kind, it's to use your platform to educate people and spread facts," Amer continued. "It's a great way to document these unimaginable events for years to come so we never forget."