

Trump and Netanyahu accelerate the “final solution” in Gaza

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On Tuesday, Israel massacred over 400 men, women and children in a series of bombardments in Gaza. In doing so, it launched a new phase of a genocide that is aimed at the systematic extermination or displacement of the entire remaining Palestinian population.

Tuesday’s massacre was one of the deadliest days of the 18-month-long Gaza genocide, which has killed 61,700 people, according to Gaza’s media office, and has leveled the entire region. It took place amidst a total blockade of food, water, energy and electricity into Gaza.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to continue the onslaught, declaring that the attacks were “only the beginning.”

The bombardment was carried out with American bombs in coordination with the Trump administration, which acknowledged on Monday that it had been informed in advance. That is, the mass murder was a joint Trump-Netanyahu operation.

For the White House, the escalation of the Gaza genocide is seen in direct relationship to the US assault on Yemen, which continued into its fourth day on Tuesday, following the largest attack on Yemen in years, killing dozens of people. And this is itself seen as part of the offensive targeting Iran, and beyond Iran—China.

Asked about the Israeli bombardment Monday, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt declared:

As President Trump has made it clear, Hamas, the Houthis, Iran—all those who seek to terrorize not just Israel, but also the United States of America—will see a price to pay. All hell will break loose.

Media coverage of Tuesday’s massacre presented it within the context of a supposed “ceasefire” or “negotiations.” These words are meaningless. In the 528 days since Israel launched the Gaza genocide, variations in the tempo of the extermination campaign, presented as “ceasefires” in the media, have merely proven to be opportunities for the rotation of troops and the replenishment of ammunition stocks in preparation for the next

massacre.

The stated, explicit aim of the Trump administration and its client regime in Israel is the ethnic cleansing of the Palestinians in Gaza and the annexation of the valuable oceanfront land.

The implicit aim, under conditions in which the expulsion of 2 million people is likely to prove logistically impossible, is the total extermination of the Palestinian people.

This genocidal project to expel or exterminate the Palestinians forms the linchpin of the plan to create a “New Middle East” under direct imperialist control, as part of a globe-spanning project of world domination by US imperialism.

In February, US President Donald Trump articulated the operative plan for the Gaza genocide, calling for “other countries” to “build various domains that will ultimately be occupied by the 1.8 million Palestinians living in Gaza.”

“The US will take over the Gaza Strip. ... We’ll own it,” Trump said.

Later that month, he explained that the planned ethnic cleansing of the people of Gaza is “a small number of people relative to things that have taken place over the decades and centuries.”

Subsequent actions by Israel have made clear that in referring to “things that have taken place over the decades” as precedents for his ethnic cleansing plans, Trump meant the Holocaust.

Last week, the Associated Press and *Financial Times* reported that the United States and Israel have engaged in negotiations with Sudan and Somalia to displace the Palestinian people to those East African countries. The proposal is a deliberate homage to the “Madagascar Plan” formulated by Nazi leaders in 1940, which envisioned the expulsion of Germany’s Jews to the African island.

That plan was, however, only the prelude to what Nazi leaders called the “final solution of the Jewish question,” the systematic extermination of Europe’s Jews.

In the years after the Second World War, the Holocaust was remembered as the greatest crime in modern history. The leaders of the “democratic” governments vowed to adhere to a framework of international law that would make such crimes impossible.

But under conditions of a deepening, all-pervasive crisis of

capitalism, the American ruling class has abandoned all restraints on the brutality of class rule, both in the conduct of imperialist foreign policy and in the exploitation and repression of the working class domestically.

There is a profound connection between Trump's assertion that he will rule as a "dictator" at home and his open assertion of a policy of colonialism, annexation, ethnic cleansing and genocide. As the Russian revolutionary Vladimir Lenin explained in his landmark work, *Imperialism*, the untrammelled dictatorship of the financial oligarchy is at the same time the assertion of unlimited colonial barbarism in the realm of foreign policy.

But neither the imposition of dictatorship at home nor the policy of genocide spring merely from Trump's head. Rather, Trump is carrying out policies supported by both political parties, who rule on behalf of America's parasitic financial oligarchy. The current resident of the White House is bringing to their logical conclusion the policies initiated under the administration of his predecessor, Democrat Joe Biden.

In May of last year, Biden portrayed peaceful protests on college campuses against the American government's sponsorship of the Gaza genocide as being motivated by "antisemitism" and "against the law."

Biden declared, "Dissent must never lead to disorder." Under Biden's watch, police attacked peaceful protests, carried out mass arrests and dispersed protests through force. At the time, the *World Socialist Web Site* warned:

Banning protests under the pretext of safeguarding "public order" and "economic stability" has been a hallmark of authoritarian regimes throughout modern history.

Last week, Trump ordered the arrest and deportation of Mahmoud Khalil, a graduate student at Columbia University, for exercising his constitutionally protected right to oppose crimes committed by the US government. Trump has laid the foundation for dictatorship with the invocation of the Alien Enemies Act and the declaration that his administration will not be bound by court rulings.

In December 2023, the *World Socialist Web Site* explained the implications of the Biden administration's support for the Gaza genocide:

Amid a growing strike movement and mounting domestic political opposition, the Biden administration is seeking to create a precedent for dealing with rebellious urban areas through mass murder. For those factions of the US oligarchy seeking to solve the domestic political crisis through dictatorship, the

genocide in Gaza is seen as a testing ground.

Over one year later, the Trump administration has worked to put this plan into practice. The American financial oligarchy for which Trump speaks is carrying out a frontal assault on the social position of the American working class: dismantling Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, laying off hundreds of thousands of government employees, destroying public education, and waging a trade war that will have devastating consequences for the social position of working families.

The Trump administration fully believes that its actions will lead to mass resistance. It will seek to use the precedents forged in Gaza, and against opponents of the Gaza genocide, for use against the working class.

In the coming days, weeks and months, the Trump administration aims to massively intensify its war in the Middle East. Within the administration, there are those who are planning a full-scale US assault on Iran, an aim of over two decades of US imperialist foreign policy.

As for the Democratic Party, it is collaborating with the Trump administration, funding its government as it wages war on the working class and on democratic rights. Its differences center on issues of foreign policy—not on the Gaza genocide but the war against Russia. No leading Democrat has condemned Israel's massacre, and those like Bernie Sanders, who have made toothless and insincere criticisms, fully support the broader imperialist war of which the genocide is one component.

In the period ahead, the greatest mistake would be to separate opposition to the Gaza genocide and the struggle to defend democratic rights from the broader struggle to defend the social rights of the working class or to subordinate opposition to Trump to the Democratic Party.

The working class is the social force that will stop Trump's efforts to create a fascist dictatorship in America and his drive to exterminate the Palestinian people. The central task is building a socialist leadership in the working class, armed with the theoretical program of Marxism. The Socialist Equality Party and the International Youth and Students for Social Equality (IYSSE) are in the forefront of this struggle.



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