

JORDAN's Humanitarian Support To Gaza (1)

Thursday 1st January 2009:

- The Jordan River Foundation (JRF), chaired by Queen Rania, launched a campaign to collect funds and in-kind assistance for victims of the attack and the siege.



Her Majesty Queen Rania tours ongoing efforts in Aqaba on Wednesday in collecting relief packages for Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip (Photo by Nasser Ayoub)

- A Royal Jordanian Air Force military plane arrived back in the Kingdom Thursday night bringing eight wounded Palestinians from the Egyptian city of El Arish.

Friday 2nd January 2009:

- Jordanian Medical Association (JMA) Spokesperson announced that around 50 doctors of different specialties have registered their names at the JMA to volunteer for treating the wounded at Gazan hospitals. The Palestinian health minister informed the association that they are in urgent need of anesthetists, surgeons and ER specialists.
- JMA council decided to allocate 10 per cent of the cash assets of the medical specialty societies affiliated with the association for supporting the Palestinians during their plight.
- Jordan Chamber of Industry (JCI) collected a total of JD 520,000 and around JD 370,000 will be passed over to the Jordanian Hashemite Charity Organization, the government relief aid arm and the only body that has access to the Palestinian lands.

Sunday 4th January 2009:

- Jordanian Medical Association noted that a team of Jordanian medical doctors is stranded on the Egyptian side of the Rafah border crossing.

Monday 5th January 09:

- Ten trucks laden with relief aid arrived yesterday in the Palestinian lands and entered Gaza. An official at the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation (JHCO) said Sunday that Jordan has made all necessary contacts and has the green light to make the delivery. The JHCO official said that the blood units prepared to go to Gaza are not included in the cargo because they need a special environment to preserve them, “which we cannot guarantee because the convoy had to wait overnight before entry to Gaza”.
- JHCO, which handles all the local and non-Jordanian aid to the Gaza Strip, received a total of 20 tonnes of assistance presented by the Lebanese government to the Palestinian people in Gaza. The aid cargo was accompanied by a Lebanese official delegation including Lebanese ministers of health, Mohammad Khalifeh, and social affairs, Mario Aoun, along with state minister, Khaled Qabbani, the head of the Lebanese-Palestinian Dialogue Committee, Khalil Makkawi, and media representatives. The assistance shipment, which arrived on board an aeroplane from Beirut, included blankets, medical and food supplies. It will be sent to the Palestinian territories to be distributed to Gazans through UNRWA, the JHCO official said.
- Health Minister Salah Mawajdeh said the situation in Gaza is very tragic and requires joint Arab efforts to provide medical assistance to the distressed people in Gaza, adding that Jordan has put its medical institutions on alert to receive and treat as many as possible of Palestinians wounded in the Israeli attacks.
- Cash donations collected in the Kingdom’s mosques amounted to around JD1.04 million by Saturday night, according to Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Fattah Salah, who added that the donations will be handed over to the JHCO Monday to buy items urgently needed by Gazans.



A convoy of Jordanian relief aid to Palestinians is seen prior to departure for Palestinian lands from the headquarters of the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation in Amman on Sunday (Petra photo)

Tuesday 6th January 09:

- Jordan Hashemite Charity Organisation (JHCO) received around 23 tonnes of medical aid from the Iraq government and people.

Wednesday 7th January 09:

- A new aid convoy carrying 154 tones of medical and food assistance from JHCO crossed the King Hussein Bridge and headed to the Gaza Strip.
- Blood Bank branches across the Kingdom receive hundreds of people who want to donate blood every day, National Blood Bank Director noted that blood banks have collected more than 8,000 blood units since the first day of the Israeli attacks on the Gaza Strip and thousands of people are on the waiting list to donate blood as more than 150 organizations have launched donation campaigns he added that the capacity of the bank is between 8,000 to 10,000 units and the validity period of blood is 35 days.

Thursday 8th January 09:

- Plane was sent to El Arish Airport with different medical supplies from Jordan including 3 ambulances (one from Royal Jordanian Airways and 2 from the Union of Jordanian Contractors).
- JHCO sent 10-truck convoy, which included a specially equipped truck containing 1,000 blood and 1,000 plasma units, comes within a series of support efforts by the Kingdom at the governmental (MOH) and popular levels and in continuation of the aid bridge to Palestinians suffering in Gaza. Medical sources in Gaza informed JHCO that their blood storage capacity is limited to 1,500 units, and that hospitals in the besieged enclave desperately need additional refrigerators for storing blood.
- Arab Orphans Association has donated JD 100,000 for the Gazan people; the funds will be distributed in Gaza through its office in the enclave.

Date 9th January 2008

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WR Jordan