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45 killed as Israel strikes Rafah camp

MOST OF THOSE DEAD WERE WOMEN, CHILDREN AND ELDERLY PEOPLE

CAIRO

n Israeli airstrike triggered a fire that killed 45 people in a tent camp in the Gazan city of Rafah, officials said yesterday, prompting an outcry from global leaders who urged the implementation of a World Court order to halt Israel's as-

Palestinian families rushed to hospitals to prepare their dead for burial after a strike late on Sunday night set tents and rickety metal shelters ablaze.

Survivors said families were preparing to sleep when the strike hit the Tel Al Sultan neighbourhood where thousands were sheltering there after Israeli forces began a ground offensive in the east of Rafah over two weeks ago.

"We were praying...and we were getting our children's beds ready to sleep. Then we heard a very loud noise, and fire erupted around us," said Umm Mohammad Al Attar, a Palestinian mother.

"All the children started screaming... The sound was terrifying; we felt like the

SHOOTING AT RAFAH BORDER

Egypt's military said yesterday a border guard was killed in a shooting in the Rafah border area with Gaza, where Israeli forces

are deployed. "The Egyptian armed forces are investigating a shooting incident in the Rafah border area which led to the martyrdom of a guard," a military statement

metal was about to collapse on us, and shrapnel fell into the rooms." Video footage obtained by Reuters showed a fire raging in the darkness and people screaming in panic. Young men tried to haul away sheets of corrugated iron and a hose from a single fire truck began to douse the flames.

Over half of the dead were women, children, and elderly people, health officials said, adding that the death toll was likely to rise from people with severe burns. -Reuters



ARAB MEDIA FORUM OPENS TODAY IN DUBAI

The 22nd edition of the Arab Media Forum, organised as part of Day 2 of the Arab Media Summit 2024, will begin today at Dubai World Trade Centre. The summit kicked off yesterday with the Arab Youth Media Forum, which brought together prominent Arab personalities, young content creators and digital storytellers, and global media industry leaders. **SEE ALSO P4**

UAE President begins visit to S. Korea

Two nations share strategic partnerships across several sectors

ABU DHABI

President His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan will embark on a state visit to the Republic of Korea today, marking a milestone in the long-standing relationship between the two nations.

Shaikh Mohammad's official

visit underscores the UAE's distinction as the first Middle Eastern country to form a special strategic partnership with the Republic of Korea, a partner-ship that has flourished across multiple domains including economic cooperation, nuclear energy, climate change, cybersecurity, food security, defence, health care, culture, public administration, and space.

UAE-Korea relations are seeing steady growth across various areas, propelled by ongoing dialogue and high-level visit

exchanges. Also, economic and investment ties between the two nations have seen remarkable growth.

Trade ties

Non-oil trade between the two countries reached \$5.3 billion in 2023, a 12.5 per cent increase year-on-year. Korea's investments in the UAE surged to \$2.2 billion, while UAE investments in Korea stood at \$578 million by the end of 2022.

-WAM**SEE ALSO P4**

WORLD

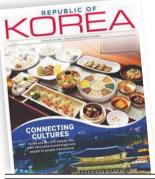
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NATION

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SPECIAL REPORT

UAE and South Korea deepen ties through exchange of cultures



NATION

Up to Dh50,000 in fines for violation of **Hai and Umrah** rules I P2

Dh702 million refund for buyers in 'paused' Wahat Al Zaweya project

Abu Dhabi court settles 822 execution files in lawsuits from buyers

ABU DHABI

BY ABDULLA RASHEED Abu Dhabi Editor

¬he Abu Dhabi Judicial Department (ADJD) yesterday said it has completed a full settlement of the 822 execution files – worth Dh702 million in total — in the lawsuits from buyers in the "paused" Wahat Al Zaweya real estate project.

It comes after final judicial rulings were issued obligating the return of the deposited amounts, which have a total value of Dh702 million.

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The settlement is the result of the efforts made by a special judicial body tasked with handling disputes related to Wahat Al Zaweya Project. The judicial body was established by the decision of Shaikh Mansour Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Vice-President, Deputy Prime Minister, Chairman of Presidential Court and Chairman of the Judicial Department in Abu Dhabi, with the aim of tak-



The judicial body is working on completing the second phase of settlement with 630 other buyers, who had filed lawsuits before the start of the first phase of settlement.

ing measures to preserve the claimants' funds until the debt is settled, while ensuring sufficient guarantees for execution.

Final rulings were issued to terminate the property contracts, deposit the settlement amounts into buyers' bank accounts, and finally close the execution files in those law-

Second phase

Meanwhile, the judicial body is working on completing the second phase of settlement with 630 other buyers, who had filed lawsuits before the start of the first phase of settlement. These buyers have been given the option to continue in the project after it is "re-offered according to current real estate market condi-





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