

## Rafah Crossing Reopens Under Gaza Ceasefire

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GAZA/CAIRO, Feb. 2 – The Rafah land border crossing resumed limited operations on Monday under the Israel-Hamas ceasefire framework, marking a cautious step toward easing movement between Gaza and Egypt.

Palestinian sources said several Egyptian buses carrying around 50 Palestinians arrived at the terminal as procedures began for their return to Gaza. The reopening follows a trial phase conducted Sunday. Coordination is ongoing between Egyptian authorities, Palestinian officials, and the European Union Border Assistance Mission to facilitate crossings.

Egyptian authorities have prepared logistical and medical support on their side of the border. Ambulances were positioned to transport wounded and ill Palestinians from Gaza to hospitals in North Sinai, which will serve as the main treatment centers, according to Egyptian media reports.

However, Gaza-based health authorities said arrangements for patient evacuations had not yet begun. Raed Al-Nams, spokesman for the Palestinian Red Crescent Society in Gaza, stated that no confirmed details had been received regarding medical transfers.

Under current arrangements, approximately 150 Palestinians will be permitted to leave Gaza daily, while 50 individuals may enter from Egypt following Israeli security screening.

The Rafah crossing has remained largely closed since May 2024, significantly worsening Gaza's humanitarian conditions.

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