

Ceasefire Takes Effect in Gaza, Displaced Civilians Begin Return to Northern Strip



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Gaza, October 10 (QNA) – Thousands of Palestinians who were forcibly displaced to central and southern Gaza have begun returning to the northern part of the Strip after the Israeli army announced that a ceasefire officially took effect at noon on Friday.

According to a QNA correspondent, large groups of residents gathered near Wadi Gaza and Tabet Al Nuweiri early Friday morning, moving northward on foot and by makeshift vehicles following confirmation that the ceasefire was in place. The Israeli military said movement from southern to

northern Gaza is now permitted via the Al Rashid coastal road and Salah Al Din Street.

Local sources reported that Israeli forces began a gradual withdrawal from several areas of Gaza early Friday, marking the first stage of implementing the ceasefire agreement between Israel and Hamas, which was brokered in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. The deal calls for a 24-hour cessation of hostilities and the release of detainees within 72 hours as part of the initial phase of the peace initiative announced by U.S. President Donald Trump.

Witnesses observed Israeli military vehicles retreating to designated withdrawal lines in and around Gaza City, including Tel Al-Hawa, Al-Sabra, Al-Zaytoun, Al-Shati, Sheikh Radwan, and Al-Nasr neighborhoods.

Civil defense teams have started recovering bodies from beneath the rubble in several areas, though progress remains slow due to limited equipment and extensive damage to rescue facilities.

Officials urged civilians to avoid recently evacuated areas until full withdrawal confirmation is issued.

Since October 7, 2023, Israel's war on Gaza has killed more than 67,000 Palestinians and injured about 170,000 others, mostly women and children, while severe shortages of food, medicine, and infrastructure have left much of the enclave in ruins.