

*DAY 1: January 7, 2024*

*Today was just one of many days in which I found myself caught up in the conflict between Israel and Palestine as a correspondent.*

*I was at the Rafah Crossing, located on the southern border between the Gaza Strip and Egypt, walking through what used to be a residential neighbourhood.*

*I saw horrific scenes that I don't think I'll ever be able to forget*

*The war has wiped out everything: the buildings where people once lived have been destroyed by bombing, people are now forced to live in the empty spaces left behind, with nothing left, their belongings buried under the rubble.*

*The most heartbreaking scenes were those I witnessed on a daily basis: desperate people who had not given up and continued to dig through the debris, searching for personal belongings or loved ones who had already died.*

*DAY 2: January 9, 2024*

*Unfortunately, in the past few days I haven't had time to write down my experiences due to the chaos caused by further bombings... indescribable scenes have unfolded: the ground has continued to shake, endangering not only the population but also the military personnel and the news crews documenting what is happening.*

*Over the past few days, there have been three explosions very close to the camp, where tents had been set up for people to sleep in.*

*No one here is safe, there are only victims living in constant fear of hearing the whistling of missiles getting closer and closer, and even if the explosion turns out to be far away, the awareness that the bomb has fallen on someone else's head remains.*

*DAY 3: January 12, 2024*

*This morning I witnessed the largest mass transfer of people I have ever seen: the authorities gave the evacuation order to move us south at dawn and we only had 30 minutes to gather the survivors and set off for an unknown destination.*

*It was not easy: each civilian had to decide what to take with them and what to leave behind.*

*In the evening, after a long journey and hours without food or water, we arrived at a refugee camp located near the coastal area of Al-Mawasi.*

*Here the march came to a halt, and the crowd gathered before being divided into makeshift tents, surrounded by nothing but sand, with no infrastructure or electricity.*

*For us journalists and correspondents, it was difficult to witness these scenes and stand by without being able to act: families were torn apart, children were injured and starving, and, unfortunately for them, the suffering was not yet over because displacement is a constant in their lives*

*DAY 4: January 13, 2024*

*Today I had access to the latest data on the population's food security: all 2.2 million people living in Gaza are enduring inhumane food conditions, and about half of the inhabitants are in a state of famine. This famine seems almost orchestrated: before October 7th, about 500 supply trucks arrived daily; by April, the average had dropped to 100, with up to 200 on the best days.*

*Children have an "aged appearance," a typical sign of malnutrition, and in hospitals in northern Gaza, approximately 28 child deaths from malnutrition and dehydration have been recorded.*

*DAY 5: January 15, 2024*

*During the day, AlShifa Hospital caught fire and is now reduced to rubble.*

*Currently, only 10 out of 36 hospitals are partially operational across the entire Gaza Strip, and only 20% of patient beds are available.*

*I saw with my own eyes a mother die to make room for a seriously injured child because there were not enough qualified medical staff or resources available to care for patients.*

*Many patients need to be urgently evacuated out of Gaza to receive proper medical treatment, but not even half of the requests are approved by the authorities.*

*I was fortunate enough to interview a doctor, who said they had run out of disposable gloves two weeks ago, were forced to wash and reuse single-use bandages and were facing many other critical shortages.*

*Conditions are desperate and I cannot imagine how doctors can continue to save lives of innocent people, despite the lack of medications and equipment needed to perform even simple operations.*

*DAY 6: January 17, 2024*

*A lot has happened in the last two days, and I haven't had time to document it.*

*Yesterday I spoke with a local cultural expert who took me to the ruins of the Gaza Public Library and the Central Archives.*

*Thousands of historical documents, ancient manuscripts, and artefacts unearthed long ago have all gone up in smoke.*

*Many historical sites have also been destroyed, including monasteries and mosques.*

*It's almost as if the oppressor is trying to completely erase the history and culture of the local people.*

*DAY 7: January 19, 2024*

*Right now, I'm struggling to hold the pen: it's 3:00 a.m., and our camp is completely surrounded by drones that make constant noise, day and night. Everyone is suffering from psychological distress due to the constant buzzing in the distance, and being forced to move from one place to another makes the situation even worse.*

*Families are being wrecked: fathers cannot shield their children from the bombs, mothers cannot feed them.*

*This is the darkest aspect of the investigation, one that no one has ever spoken of: how can children born with explosions in the background, surrounded by families physically and psychologically shattered by daily assaults, and who learned to walk while fleeing drones, grow up and live a normal life?*

*DAY 8: January 20, 2024*

*It is the last day. Tomorrow I will return to Italy.*

*In a few hours I will leave this open-air prison.*

*I feel dirty, not on the outside, but on the inside.*

*I am leaving behind people who have no chance of escape.*

*The people of Gaza are trapped between the sea and the walls, forced to move from north to south and then back again, like pawns.*

*The humanitarian situation is beyond collapse, aid and resources are becoming increasingly scarce.*

*History will judge us for what we allowed to happen here, right before our eyes, without being able to intervene.*