

Ynet-News, Jun 07, 2021 – Monday

06.06.21 – Su- - - News Placed in Jun 10 spot – Thursday **New Moon Eclipse**
June 10 eclipse the sun at 6:53 am ET - Morning sky darkens before Sunrise...

06.06.21 – Su- - - News
PM vows to topple emerging government, witnessing the biggest fraud in history

06.06.21 – Su- - - News Placed in Jun 07 spot – Monday
Al Jazeera Reporter was asked for ID, refused, pushed police & forcefully detained

06.06.21 – Su- - - News Placed in Jun 06 spot – Sunday
Lapid-Bennett coalition stalled in the plenum vote; short of 61 by MK Orbach

06.06.21 – Su- - - News Placed in Jun 18 spot – Friday **Iran Vote**
Iran vote successor to President Rouhani June 18, amid economy & sanction woes

06.04.21 – Fr- - - News
Gantz tells US officials; halt Iran aggression & new policy needed for Gaza

June 10 eclipse the sun at 6:53 am ET - Morning sky will darken before Sunrise...

Thursday morning, June 10, makes the new moon, which will eclipse the sun at 6:53 a.m. ET. To see it, look to the east. Morning sky will darken before the Sunrise...

06.06.21
PM vows to topple emerging government, witnessing the biggest fraud in history

06.06.21
Netanyahu slams incitement against rivals but says he's had worse
Facing end to his 12-year rule, PM vows to topple emerging government 'very quickly,'
labels Lapid-Bennett coalition 'biggest election fraud in history of country, perhaps in
history of democracy'
Ynet| Published: 06.06.21 , 15:24

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday condemned the incitement against
his political rivals that has led to increased security for them and warnings from the Shin
Bet head that it could lead to violence, but said he has suffered more from it.

In a belligerent speech, Netanyahu slammed the prospective government led by right-wing Yamina head Naftali Bennett and centrist Yesh Atid chair Yair Lapid, vowing to topple it "very quickly" should it succeed in its bid to replace him.

Speaking at a faction meeting of his Likud party, Netanyahu condemned all forms of incitement as the country's political climate heated up, but insisted that he and his family had been subjected to even greater calls for violence against them.

"We condemn all forms of incitement from any side, even when others remain silent as the incitement against us runs rampant," he said.

"I want to explain what incitement is. It's not criticism. It's a call for violence. It's crossing the line between criticism and incitement. For a long time, there have been terrible calls to murder my family, my wife - and it was met with almost complete silence in the general discourse and the media," Netanyahu said.

The prime minister - whose supporters have been protesting outside the homes of his rivals for days and carrying banners accusing them of treason and collaborating with terrorists - also said that valid criticism of the new government could not be described as incitement.

"It's important to stress that freedom of speech is not incitement," he said.

"You can't treat criticism from the right as incitement and criticism from the left as a legitimate act of freedom of speech. It is an attempt to frame the right as something dangerous to democracy, the very idea is dangerous to democracy."

Apparently echoing his former close ally Donald Trump, Netanyahu accused his political rivals of electoral fraud after they were able to form a coalition government, something that has eluded him despite four national elections in two years.

"We need to understand what is happening here. We are witnessing the biggest election fraud in the history of the country, and perhaps in the history of democracy. People rightly feel cheated," Netanyahu said.

The prime minister also hit out at social media platforms for trying to stifle right-wing voices after a host of activists, including his son Yair, were banned from various platforms for publishing private addresses.

"You can't silence them, and you can't block their Facebook and Twitter accounts just to stifle criticism against this fraudulent government," Netanyahu said.

"Facebook blocked posts by right-wingers because they published [Yamina MK Nir] Orbach's address for right-wing demonstrations, but Facebook left up the posts of left-wing organizations that posted addresses in favor of left-wing demonstrations at the same time.

"And this is not the only attempt, there are many many more. No one will silence us. When a massive public feels that it has been misled, when the national camp strongly opposes a dangerous left-wing government - it is their right and duty to protest in any legal and democratic way."

The prime minister has repeatedly branded the right-wing members of the new coalition as leftists due to their union with political parties from the left.

Netanyahu also fended off claims he held coalition negotiations with the the head Islamist Ra'am party Mansour Abbas, who ultimately signed a coalition agreement with Bennett and Lapid.

"We have always been open to helping Arab MKs and we have done so more than all other governments combined, but unlike Bennett and Lapid, we have never agreed to give Abbas autonomy in the Negev," Netanyahu said.

"We have never agreed to form a government with neither their support nor without it. We never agreed to give [Abbas] the chairmanship of the Interior Committee in Knesset.

"When we talk about a dangerous left-wing government, we are talking about a government that will lose the Negev, a government that will not be able to stand in the face of the American demand to freeze construction [the West Bank] and Jerusalem, unfortunately."

06.06.21

Al Jazeera Reporter was asked for ID, refused, pushed police & forcefully detained

06.06.21

Al Jazeera: Reporter forcefully detained by Israel

Qatari-based news outlet says Givara Budeiri, who was detained while covering sit-in protest in East Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah, suffered a broken arm and remained under observation at Hadassah Hospital

Associated Press| Published: 06.06.21 , 14:00

Border Police forcefully detained a veteran correspondent for the Al Jazeera satellite channel while she was reporting from an embattled East Jerusalem neighborhood where several Palestinian families are slated for eviction by Jewish settlers.

Givara Budeiri was released late Saturday, several hours after Border Police detained her in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, where she had been wearing body armor marked "press." Al Jazeera said police also destroyed equipment belonging to a cameraman for the channel.

Budeiri suffered a broken arm and remained under observation Sunday at Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital, said Walid Omary, the Jerusalem bureau chief for Al Jazeera.

Budeiri had been reporting regularly from Sheikh Jarrah, Omary said.

Advertisement

On Saturday, she was covering a Palestinian sit-in at the site. Omary said Border Police asked for her ID and that she offered to call her driver to get it from her car.

In video footage posted online, Budeiri can be seen handcuffed and surrounded by border police. Clutching her notebook, she is heard shouting, "Don't touch, enough, enough." Omary said Budeiri is accredited by the Government Press Office.

Police said Budeiri was detained after she was asked for identification, refused and pushed a police officer.

Oren Ziv, a cameraman on the scene, said the protest was over at the time of the incident, which happened at 7pm and took only a few seconds. The officers did not wait for Budeiri to get her identification. They took her to a waiting Border Police vehicle with darkened windows, where she was put in the back seat with female officers.

Al Jazeera's acting director-general, Mostefa Souag, condemned the police actions. "The systematic targeting of our journalists is in total violation of all international conventions," he said.

"They are attacking the journalists in East Jerusalem because they don't want them to continue covering what's happening inside Sheikh Jarrah," Omary said.

The tension in Sheikh Jarrah has fueled weeks of unrest between Palestinian residents and Israeli security forces.

The most imminent Jerusalem evictions are on hold, following the intervention by Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit, but the settlers' campaign continues. Rights groups fear the evictions could still be carried out in the coming months as international attention wanes, potentially igniting another round of bloodshed. The Israeli watchdog Ir Amim, which closely follows the various court cases, estimates that at least 150 households in two neighborhoods are threatened with eviction.

06.06.21

Lapid-Bennett coalition stalled in the plenum vote; short of 61 by MK Orbach

06.06.21

New Lapid-Bennett coalition could be sworn in as soon as Wednesday

Members of new government were concern that Knesset Speaker from Likud could stall vote; heads of all parties in new coalition set to meet Sunday; right-wing pressure continues on Yamina, with MK requesting additional protection after she was followed Moran Azulay | Published: 06.06.21 , 12:17

Knesset Speaker Yariv Levin is considering the option of convening parliament on Wednesday in order to swear in the new government put together last week by centrist Yesh Atid leader Yair Lapid, which would end Benjamin Netanyahu's 12-year rule as prime minister.

Any new government must be approved a 61-MK majority vote in the Knesset plenum.

Many within the so-called coalition for change expressed concern that Levin, a member of Likud, would use his authority to postpone the new government's inauguration as far as possible, thereby allowing Netanyahu time to woo away right-wing members of the nascent coalition.

Even so, Likud MK and coalition whip Miki Zohar told Ynet on Sunday that the democratic process would be respected, but emphasized that he did not see the new government as a good prospect.

Levin, a close associate of Netanyahu, said Friday he would announce to the plenum that Lapid had succeeded in forming a coalition, a technical step needed before Knesset can approve a new government.

The speaker also called on Lapid and political partner Naftali Bennett, the Yamina leader who will serve as prime minister first in a rotation agreement, to submit all the accords they have signed with the parties in the coalition.

The agreements were reached by Wednesday, but have not yet been finalized. According to the law, a new coalition must publish its agreements at least 24 hours before the Knesset votes to approve it.

Yamina and Yesh Atid in response lambasted Levin, demanding that he convene the plenum to swear in the new government as soon as possible.

"The coalition agreements and the government's guidelines will, of course, be made public and transparent after their final signing," the two parties said in a joint statement.

Last week, Yesh Atid filed a petition to the Knesset Secretariat, calling on Levin to hold a plenum vote to replace him as Knesset speaker in an effort to fast-track the creation of the government.

However, Yamina MK Nir Orbach retracted his signature, putting the coalition one vote short of the 61 MKs needed for the measure.

The two right-wing parties in the new coalition, Yamina and New Hope, refused to agree to having to rely on the predominantly Arab Joint List to muster the majority needed to replace Levin with Blue & White MK Mickey Levy.

The heads of all the parties in the coalition-in-waiting were to meet Sunday for the first time since Lapid announced he managed to form a government, in order to discuss the agreements between them.

Earlier Sunday, the Yamina faction met at Bennett's Ra'anana residence amid continued pressure from other members of the right-wing bloc not to support a government with Lapid. Daily protests by Netanyahu supporters and other members of the right have taken place outside the home of Yamina lawmakers.

Yamina MK Idit Silman on Sunday requested additional protection from the Knesset Guard amid threats against her.

On Friday, Silman sent a voice message to the party's WhatsApp group, claiming that she was being followed while driving.

"I don't really feel good, there's a car that's chasing me on the street," she told the group. "I'd like to know what you think I can do. They followed me out of the house and are following me everywhere I go."

On Friday, Silman said that she would vote for the government at the Knesset plenum.

06.06.21

Iran vote successor to President Rouhani June 18, amid economy & sanction woes

06.06.21

Iran presidential hopefuls trade blame over economic woes

Ultraconservative judiciary chief Ebrahim Raisi is widely seen as a favorite to win June 18 election; Iranian media express concern over low voter turnout after 57% of Iranians stayed away from last year's parliamentary elections

AFP | Published: 06.06.21 , 12:18

Iran's reformist and ultraconservative presidential candidates traded accusations Saturday over the country's economic crisis during the first pre-election debate broadcast live on television.

Iranians are set to elect a successor to President Hassan Rouhani on June 18 amid widespread discontent over a deep economic and social crisis caused by the reimposition of crippling sanctions after the U.S. pulled out of the 2015 nuclear deal.

Iran's conservative-dominated Guardian Council approved seven candidates -- five ultraconservative and two reformists -- to run from a field of about 600 hopefuls. Ultraconservative judiciary chief Ebrahim Raisi is widely seen as a favorite, after the Council disqualified moderate conservative Ali Larijani. On Saturday, ultraconservative candidates called on reformist hopeful Abdolnasser Hemmati, who is the country's central bank governor, to take responsibility for the crisis, and accused him of seeking to defend the government's record.

"Mr. Hemmati, your governance was catastrophic, you are sitting here as a representative of Mr. Rouhani," said Mohsen Rezaei, a former chief of Iran's Revolutionary Guards. Rouhani is Iran's main architect of the 2015 nuclear agreement with world powers. The accord has been on life support since then-U.S. President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew from it in 2018, and reimposed crippling sanctions.

Global powers have been meeting in Vienna since early April in a bid to revive the accord.

Reformist Hemmati instead took aim at his ultraconservative adversaries' economic plan, saying their pledges of massive direct financial aid were "unrealizable". He also accused them of undermining Iran's international relations and preventing the country from benefiting from the nuclear deal.

Ultraconservative Raisi, who took 38 percent of the vote in the 2017 presidential election, avoided direct clashes with the reformists.

"Inflation is one of the serious problems people are facing today. The price of basic products has gone up considerably," he said, adding that the "dishonesty of certain officials" was one of the main worries of the Iranian people.

Iranian media has expressed concern in recent weeks about the risk of low voter turnout.

A record 57 percent of Iranians stayed away from parliamentary elections in February last year in which thousands of candidates, many of them moderates and reformists, were barred from running.

Further televised debates are due to be held on Tuesday and Saturday.

06.04.21

Gantz tells US officials; halt Iran aggression & new policy needed for Gaza

06.04.21

Gantz tells US officials military option necessary for Iran

In meeting with senior White House officials in Washington, Defense Minister Benny Gantz conditions Gaza's rehabilitation on return of Israeli captives held by Hamas. Gantz also calls for greater oversight of Iranian nuclear project.

By Lilach Shoval Published on 06-04-2021 08:07 Last modified: 06-04-2021 08:15

Defense Minister Benny Gantz met with a series of senior US administration officials at the White House, Thursday, in the first such visit by an Israeli politician since US President Joe Biden took office.

Among the officials Gantz met with were National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan and Secretary of State Antony Blinken. Gantz was also set to meet with Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin at the Pentagon.

In his meetings with the US officials, Gantz emphasized the need to consolidate a military option vis-à-vis Iran and increase oversight of Iran's nuclear armament.

In addition, Gantz spoke of the need for a new policy for the Gaza Strip.

"What was is not what will be," he said.

He told the Americans there was an immediate need to bolster the Palestinian Authority's standing in Gaza and alliances with moderates.

In light of efforts to reach a long-term ceasefire following the IDF's Operation Guardian of the Walls, Gantz discussed with Sullivan and Blinken the issue of the return of Israeli captives held by Hamas as a condition for Gaza's rehabilitation.

Following his meeting with Sullivan, Gantz tweeted: "We talked about the need to promote regional stability by halting Iranian aggressiveness, while strengthening the alliance of moderates and protecting Israel's QME [qualitative military edge].

In a joint statement ahead of his meeting with Blinken, Gantz said, "It's a real pleasure to be here and reconvey Israel's appreciation for the administration, for the president, for yourself, for the ongoing support, which is very important for us in our challenging area. I'm looking forward to discuss, as we have discussed before, the challenges that we have

with Iran, with the Palestinians. As far as Gaza concerned, we do look for stability and prosperity for everybody. And as defense minister, I think the combination between moving forward with reconstruction and making sure that everything stays secure – it's very important for me."

Blinken said he was "very happy today to have the opportunity to pursue that conversation, to talk about the United States's enduring commitment to Israel security, to talk about some of the needs that Israel has in that regard; also to talk about the work that needs to be done to move forward on humanitarian assistance to and reconstruction for Gaza and for the Palestinians living there and to look across the board at the many issues that we have on our agenda."