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NEWS UPDATES >

Gaza Suffers Major Loss of Food Crops

At the start of summer, Gaza's fields are usually bursting with ripening crops and fruits of all colors, scents and sizes.

Nearly nine months into fore the war. Israel's war on Gaza, abundant harvests have given way to devastation and a dire humanitarian crisis.

A UN report says 96 percent of Gaza's population is food insecure and one in five Palestinians, or about 495,000 people, is facing starvation.

In Beit Lahiya, once known for plump, juicy strawberries that locals fondly called "red gold", Israeli bulldozers and heavy machinery have systematically razed South of Gaza City is

Zeitoun, a neighborhood named after the Arabic word for olive. Due to Israeli attacks nearly every last bit of greenery has been wiped out in southern Zeitoun.

The olive tree is deeply beloved in Palestine, symbolic of Palestinian resilience against Israeli occupation.

During one short pause in fighting from November 22 to December 1, Palestinian farmers ran to

harvest their olives and

extract oil, because they

do not know any other

way to live, and because

they needed the harvest.

Olive cultivation is cru-

cial in the Palestinian

economy and is used for

everything from oil to ta-

Deir el-Balah

ble olives to soap.



fields, reducing them to dirt.

Before the war, Gaza's strawberry industry employed thousands of people. Seeding and planting began in September, with harvesting from December through March.

Defying Israel's ongoing attacks some farmers figured out ways to grow food between bombedout buildings - makeshift gardens of repurposed containers.

Israel has killed at least 37,900 people and injured 87,000 others in bombings, by destroy-

long hours of Mediterranean sunshine, it has the ideal climate as well as lots of space, being Gaza's largest governorate - about 30 percent of the Strip's 365sq km (141 sq miles).

Rafah

Rafah is Gaza's southernmost district, with a prewar population of about 275,000 people.

Rafah is also the name of the crossing with Egypt which used to be a vital link between Gaza and the rest of the world be-

fore it was destroyed by Israel in May. In the southeast of Rafah is the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) crossing where goods grown or produced in Gaza were shipped out of the territory. Israel has imposed a land,

air and sea blockade on Gaza since 2007 but the ingenious farmers of the enclave still managed to build a vibrant, mostly subsistence, agricultural sector before Israel's latest assault. Faced with a lack of in-

puts because Israel controlled imports and exports, the farmers made

it work anyway. In 2022, Gaza's farmers Its very name meaning exported \$44.6m worth "House of Dates", the of produce, according to central governorate of the Palestinian Ministry Deir el-Balah is one of of Agriculture [PDF] but Israeli restrictions Gaza's largest agricultural producers, known for its limited sales to a few oranges, olives and - of neighboring countries. I'he vast majority of this produce (79 percent) was sold to the occupied has been around for cen-West Bank, generating turies about \$35.4m, followed The oldest living mango by \$8.4m to Israel (19 percent), \$661,975 to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the remaining \$138,868 to neighboring Jordan. fruit! Experts say military hardware and bombs 9. Mangoes were introhave damaged Gaza's ferduced to America in the tile soil for many years.

Facts, Events & Beliefs

or Keralan word mangga. When Portuguese raders settled in Southern India, they adopted the name as manga. It was as the British were trading with South India in the 15th and 16th Centuries that the word mango was born.

4. Over 43 million tonnes of mangoes are produced globally

Almost all of these are Tommy Atkins mangoes a variety that grows quickly, has a great size and color, is resistant to many types of fungus, doesn't bruise easily, and will last a long time on a supermarket shelf. All these characteristics make it ripe for exporting around the world. Unfortunately, it is also stringy and relatively tasteless.

5. The UK's mangoes are sourced from all corners of the globe

UK supermarkets source mangoes from all around the world: Peru in the early part of the year, then west Africa, followed by Israel and Egypt in the third quarter and then Brazil. Mangoes contain over twenty different vitamins and minerals. One cup of mango contains about 60mg of vitamin C (adults from 19-64 years old need 40mg of vitamin C a day). 6. India is the world's biggest producer of mangoes The South Asian country produces over 18 million

7. Mangoes were first grown in India over 5,000 years ago

tion.

for domestic consump-

The wild mango is thought to have originated in the foothills of the Himalayas in India and Myanmar. The first known cultivation of the fruit was around 5,000 years ago in Southern India, Myanmar, and the Andaman Islands (an archipelago in the Bay of Bengal).

David Fairchild was an agricultural explorer for the US government at the turn of the 20th Century who was in India when he discovered the mango. Legend has it that he tried to ship a thousand mangoes back to his homeland but the boat's captain said they were too heavy. He solved this problem by hiring a group of local children to eat all the fruit, in only a few minutes, leaving just the stones for transportation. Some of Fairchild's

early 20th Century

10. The world's heaviest mango was longer than a ruler

early varieties are still

growing today in South

Florida.

According to Guinness World Records, the heaviest recorded mango weighed 3.435 kg and measured 30.48 cm in length, 49.53 cm in circumference and 17.78 cm in width. The whopper was harvested from a tree in Sergio and Maria Socorro Bodiongan's front garden in the Philippines in 2009.

11. Mangos are related to cashews and pistachios A mango is a drupe: a fleshy fruit with a thin skin and a large, pithy central stone called an endocarp that contains the fruit's seed. Olives, dates and cherries are drupes and, as nutty as it sounds, the tonnes of the fruit, mostly cashew and pistachio also come from drupes, making them distant cousins of the mango.

> 12. The mango is a sacred tree for Buddhists It is said that Buddha medi-

tated and rested with fellow monks in the peaceful tranquility of lush mango groves. As a result, the mango tree is considered holy within the Buddhist faith.

13. Mangoes are majorly good for you One cup of mango con-

(Muhammad Almasudheen)

BAIT-US-SALAAM YOUTH CLUB for Eternity

n our exploration of the pivotal role that youth play in shaping a brighter future, we must acknowledge the extensive challenges they encounter along their path to positive change. These challenges, ranging from local to global in scope, have far-reaching implications for young people across the world. To comprehensively understand this intricate landscape, it is essential to delve into these multifaceted challenges, all while considering both Islamic perspectives and worldly views. Let us examine some of these pressing challenges. Child nutrition stands as a critical concern in our times, with approximately 7 billion children succumbing to malnutrition before the age of 5. This distressing reality calls for urgent interventions, including immunization, the provision of bed nets, the distribution of essential micronutrients, and measures to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV. It is noteworthy that Islam consistently encourages the welfare of children, resonating with its emphasis on caring for elders. Prophet Muhammad's teachings underscore سليلية this, emphasizing that failing to show mercy to children or recognize the rights of the elderly is contrary to the essence of the faith. In a hadith it is reported that the Messenger of Allah said:

Peaceful Future

Prospective Challenges

ing clean and safe environments for mothers. While there isn't a specific hadith that directly addresses maternal mortality in the context of modern healthcare and nutrition, the general principles of compassion and care for mothers can be found in various hadith. Drophet Muhammad emphasized the importance of taking care of mothers and pregnant women, and these principles can be applied to the prevention of maternal mortality through proper nutrition and healthcare. There are hadith that highlight the significance of respecting and caring for mothers. This is could be understood in the narration of Mu'awiyah bin Jahimah As-Sulami (r.a.), that Jahimah came to the Prophet (Messenger of Allah! I want to go out and fight (in Jihad) and I have come to ask your advice." He said: "Do you have a mother?" He said: "Yes." He said: "Then

a significant threat to the development of children. Despite the commendable efforts of numerous organizations, the results remain incomplete. Islam, a religion that values knowledge, underscores the importance of providing children with a strong educational foundation. The teachings of Prophet Muhammad emphasize the significance of nurturing children's character and knowledge. The Prophet الثقيلة said: "There is no gift that a father

gives his son more virtuous than good manners."

The consequences of neglecting the potential of children ripple into the youth, as their bright future hinges on the skills and opportunities they are afforded. By empowering youth, entrusting them with leadership roles, and supporting their initiatives, we enable them to conduct campaigns that promote peace, gain a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by people globally, and hold worldwide meetings to secure the future of their nations and enhance underdeveloped resourc It is a recognition that when a nation has more hands to work than mouths to feed, the economic trigger is pulled, ensuring prosperity. Indeed, the youth hold the power to make their nations flourish and shine with success, paving the way for a brighter tomorrow.



dren. Prevention measures

include ensuring access to

proper nutrients, improving

hospital facilities, and creat-



ing nearthcare	lllal	could
have saved the	m, a	nd by
starvation.		
North to south, nowhere		
and nobody	has	been
spared.		

Gaza City

Thriving garden patches and back-yard fruit trees once dotted Gaza City, home to about a third (750,000) of Gaza's 2.3 million population be-

course - dates. The date harvest typically begins in late September and continues through the end of October but now nothing remains.

Khan Younis

Khan Younis in the south used to produce the bulk of Gaza's citrus, including oranges and grapefruits. With its fertile soil and

tains about 60 mg of vita-8. The oldest mango tree

tree is thought to be 300 years old and is found in East Khandesh in Central India. Surprisingly, the ancient plant still produces

min C. The NHS website recommends that adults aged 19-64 years old need 40mg of vitamin C a day! And the health benefits don't stop there. Mangoes contain over twenty different vitamins and minerals: they are high in vitamin A, potassium, folate - and also provide a solid serv-

ing of fibre. Guilt-free feasting!

> "He is not one of us who shows no mercy to younger ones and does not acknowledge the honor due to our elders."

Maternal mortality is another formidable challenge, affecting around 3 billion women who lack adequate nutrition. Tragically, many women lose their lives during pregnancy, a circumstance that significantly impacts the survival, health, and development of chil-

stay with her, for Paradise is beneath her feet." While these kinds of hadith do not specifically mention nutrition or healthcare facilities, they emphasize the broader principle of respecting and caring for mothers, which can be applied to maternal health and well-being in a comprehensive sense. The scourge of violence and abuse against children and youth has become distress-

ingly common in today's

world, with issues such as

drug abuse and child labor

plaguing societies. Islam, as

a religion of peace and har-

mony, consistently reminds

us to safeguard the well-be-

ing of children. The words

of the fourth caliph of Is-

lam, urging against obliging

children to work, serve as a

Conclusion.

In conclusion, it's crystal clear that young people play a vital role in creating a peaceful world. Islam teaches us to value the energy and ideas of youth. The Prophet Muhammad Jult wisely advised us to make the most of our youth, health, wealth, free time, and life itself. But when we look at the world today, we see many challenges. There's still racism, violence, and injustice. We witness crimes against students and women, and trust in leaders is fading. To build a bright future, we must tackle these issues head-on.

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Climate Change To Shift Tropical Rains Northward Predictions based on computer modeling of carbon emissions impact A study led by a atmospher-

ic scientist predicts that unchecked carbon emissions will force tropical rains to shift northward in the coming decades, which would profoundly impact agriculture and economies near the Earth's equator.

The northward rain shift would be caused by complex changes in the atmosphere spurred by carbon emissions that influence the formation of the intertropical convergence zones. Those zones are essentially atmospheric engines that

drive about a third of the world's precipitation, Tropical regions on either side the equator, such as central African nations, northern South America, and Pacific Island states, among other regions, would be the most affected.

poignant reminder of this responsibility. Furthermore, the lack of access to quality education and opportunities poses







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"Oh, you who believe, seek help through patience & prayers. Indeed, Allah is with the patient." (Quran 50:16)

BAIT-US-SALAM UPDATES >

Palestinians Remembered This Eid ul Adha

ing brothers and sisters in charity organizations. need.

of meat will be stored brothers is available.

Almost 575 munn in each tin box, and it boneless meat of more will be delivered to the than 2200 sacrifices Palestinian brothers in are readt for tin pack- Egypt through the cofor Palestinian operation of Turkish This meat will be sent Under the tin pack- as soon as a safe way to ing project, 900 grams reach the Palestinian

Baitussalam Waqf Qurbani Program

Despite the intense heat and rising temperatures across the country, hundreds of volunteers joined forces to successfully roll out yet another Waqf Qurbani program this Eid ul Adha.

has the distinction of hav-Millions of people benefited from the meat of the waqf ing the largest and strongsacrifice on Eid-ul-Adha est network for relief ac-Thousands of sacrifices tivities in Pakistan, along were made in 264 centers with basic educational established in 77 districts institutions, adhering to of Sindh, Punjab, Balo-Shariah principles in all chistan, KPK, Gilgit-Balsectors. Many charitable people tistan and Azad Kashmir, and meat was delivered to also brought their share of

millions of people in backmeat of their sacrifices to Baitussalam for distribuward settlements and suburban areas. tion to the deserving. Baitussalam Welfare Trust

tive sacrifices, many wellmeaning families submit their sacrificial meat to the main office of Baitussalam every year for distribution to needy and deserving families.

Baitussalam Trust also established a few centers in Karachi with the written permission of the concerned authority for the collective of the skin of the In addition to the collec- sacrificial animals.

Allah (SWT) does not

wrong people, it is people

who wrong themselves!

Baitussalam Tech Park

Registrations are open for a new session of free courses.

ment into the second Working with slogan that ' today's batch. Qualifications youth is the capirequired for registratal of our nation' tion to participate in the free courses Baitussalam's Tech Park project aims is simply that the to provide a workperson should have able skill to the completed his matriculation

Service **Continues for Palestinians By Baitus**salam Trust

Aid and assistance in the form of ration, cooked food and medicine, supply of bread from the bread plant continues

Sasti Roti **Program:** A **Relief for the** Poor

Baitussalam's Sasti Roti program, under which a roti is sold for the meagre price of Rs. 5 only, continues to expand in the needy slum areas of Pakistan. Well-wishers can join in the cause by donating to further expand this chain and making the project viable.



supply available to people in rural areas, is included in the priority projects of Baitusalam. Till date, hundreds of projects worth crores have been completed with this regards all over Pakistan. Thousands of families

in hundreds of settle- for blood test, ultra- fee is just Rs.100.

Making clean water ments have so far ben- sound and X-ray are efited from the projects completed through wells, ponds, hand pumps, RO plants, pipelines. Baitussalam Lab & Diagnostic Center: Ultra-

sound & X-ray facilities surgeons of Karachi Now Available. At this center, charges days a week and token

within the affordable reach of the common man along with provision of up to hundred percent discount Zakat for the deserving. 25 leading doctors and

city operate OPD 7



matric pass youth. and Registrations are should clear the ebtopen for IT Park rance test and inter-Karachi for enrollview.



We are thrilled to that registration for-









REGISTRATION DATE: 1st JULY TO 31st JULY

WHATSAPP: +92 333 0189367 EMAIL: techpark@baitussalam.org WEBSITE: baitussalam.org/tech-park King Mangol

Facts, Events & Beliefs

mango as a a fleshy, oval, tropical fruit with a yellowish-red skin and hard stone in the middle, which is eaten ripe or used green in pickles and chutneys. We describe it as the King of Fruits! There are hundreds – maybe thousands - of of not one but three varieties of the fruit that never appear on our supermarket shelves. Here are more facts about the marvellous mango. 1. Mangoes are as diverse as apples or plums There are hundreds and hundreds of varieties of mango, regional and distinct. Some creamy and sweet, some citrusy,

The dictionary defines some a bit hot, some like pineapple and some - often found in our supermarkets - just a bit bland. It's worth seeking out the sweeter varieties if you can: give the Alphonso a try.

> 2. It is the national fruit countries The mango is the national fruit of Pakistan, India and the Philippines. It is

also the national tree of Bangladesh.

3. The name "mango" originated in India The English name mango is likely derived from the Tamil word mankay

Raudha Tus Salam **Concludes Academic** Year 2023-24

Decade of Excellence:



By accomplishing 10 years by awarding them shields. of academic excellence, This year, 16 students from Raudha Tus Salam an-Raudha Tus Salam completed the Nazra Quran, nounces the successful completion of the acahence this milestone was demic session 2023–2024. marked with a special Dua On June 26th, Result Day on the same day. Concluding the event, was celebrated, honoring the hard work and dedicathe Mudeera of Raudha tion of the top achievers Tus Salam addressed the

mothers, emphasizing the importance of character building in children and urging them to be vigilant and involved in their children's lives, especially in this digital era, to ensure their wellbeing and moral development.