

## Thousands protest against Israeli actions

Written by Anton Barnard

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Crowds of thousands swept into the streets of cities around the Middle East on Sunday to shout down Israel.

From Lebanon to Iran, Israel's adversaries used the weekend assault to marshal crowds out onto the streets.

Several of Sunday's protests turned violent. A crowd of protesters in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul became unruly.

In Lebanon, police fired tear gas to stop dozens of demonstrators from reaching the Egyptian Embassy.

Egypt has been criticized for not doing enough to allow aid to pass through its border with Gaza.

Earlier in the Lebanese capital, a Hamas official roused a crowd of about 1,000 people topped by fluttering flags.

The demonstrators gathered outside the United Nations office in downtown Beirut. After an all-night emergency session, the UN Security Council passed a resolution demanding a ceasefire.

Hamas representative Osama Hamdan told the crowd that the militant group had no choice but to fight. The 2005 truce expired over a week ago, prompting Israel's fierce retaliation.

"We in the Hamas group and other resistance factions in Gaza know that we don't have many alternatives," he said.

In the capital of neighboring Syria, more than 5,000 people marched toward the central Youssef al-Azma Square.

One demonstrator carried a banner reading, "The aggression against Gaza is an aggression against the people of the Middle East."

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In Amman, Jordan, about 5,000 lawyers marched toward parliament to demand the Israeli ambassador's

In Jordan's squalid Baqaa camp for Palestinian refugees and their descendants, protester Yassin Abu T

"The Israelis kill our people in Gaza and the West Bank. The Americans kill our people in Iraq. We're ref

Thousands of Egyptians - many of them students - demonstrated at campuses in Cairo, Alexandria and

Iran's president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who has said Israel should be "wiped off the map," denounced

And in the normally politically placid streets of glitzy Dubai, hundreds of demonstrators - some draped in

"This is a time for the Palestinians and Arabs to unite to fight against a common enemy," said Majdei Ma

In Iraq, where the government has also condemned the Gaza airstrikes, a suicide bomber on a bicycle b

Source : Sapa-AP /th