

Yemen: The Silent Slaughter

Global Research News Hour Episode 108

By [Michael Welch](#) and [Abayomi Azikiwe](#)

Global Research, June 14, 2015

Region: [Middle East & North Africa, USA](#)

Theme: [GLOBAL RESEARCH NEWS HOUR](#)

"There are shortages of food, cooking gas, fuel and drugs...The health system is collapsing. Patients with chronic diseases cannot get their drugs, bodies are on the streets, and the city is an open dump with trash covering the streets....It is extremely important to lift the blockade on food and medication and to set up unobstructed channels for air, sea and land access, to provide the population with what they need to survive." -Hassan Boucenine, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), head of mission in Yemen, June 11, 2015 statement [1]

LISTEN TO THE SHOW



Length (59:24)

[Click to download the audio \(MP3 format\)](#)

Since March 25, Saudi Arabia and a coalition of Arab countries have been launching air assaults against targets in Yemen. The stated purpose has been to restore to power the so-called legitimate Yemeni president Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi. [2]

Over the course of the last two and a half months, the infrastructure has been dealt a serious blow. Electrical grids, water supplies, sewage, food shipments and medical supplies have been affected.

Already the poorest country in the region, Yemen is now quickly becoming a major humanitarian crisis. According to the UN, 20 million people, or 80% of the population of the country, are now in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. [3]

According to World Health Organization Statistics, 15 million Yemenis do not have access to basic health care with 53 health facilities closed. One million are now internally displaced. Approximately 2000 have died since the commencement of the bombing. Twelve million have become food insecure. This situation has become exacerbated by a Saudi enforced blockade which denies humanitarian aid to the suffering denizens of this besieged state. [4][5]

Now in the lead up to UN brokered peace negotiations in Geneva, thirteen international humanitarian organizations are calling for a permanent cease-fire, an end to the Saudi-led commercial blockade, an end to arms transfers to those responsible for breaching international law, and an increase humanitarian and long term development funding. [6]

Despite the lives of millions being at risk, the Yemen tragedy has gotten shockingly little attention in the mainstream press compared to those generated from natural disasters the world has witnessed in recent years. [7]

This week's Global Research News Hour investigates the humanitarian situation on the ground and probes some of the background to the conflict, and the geo-political and other factors leading to this carnage.

Hisham Al-Omeisy is a Yemen information and political analyst based in Sana'a. He has through social media been relaying what he has been seeing and experiencing during the siege. He spoke to the Global Research News Hour about what he and other Yemeni citizens had been witnessing and experiencing in Yemen's capital city over the course of the two and a half month long siege. His twitter handle is @omeisy.

Ali Saeed is the General Secretary of the Solidarity Committee for Ethiopian Political Prisoners ([SOCEPP](#)). He discusses the unique plight faced by Ethiopian and other migrants and refugees in this country, before and after the bombing.

Abayomi Azikiwe is a geo-political analyst and the Editor of [Pan-African NewsWire](#). In the second half hour of the program, Azikiwe reviews the history of the conflict, the geo-political and regional factors propelling Saudi-Arabia and other countries into this conflict, the roles of the US, Israel and Iran, and the prospects for peace moving into the June 14 Geneva talks.

LISTEN TO THE SHOW



Length (59:24)

[Click to download the audio \(MP3 format\)](#)

The [Global Research News Hour](#) airs every Friday at 1pm CT on [CKUW 95.9FM](#) in Winnipeg. The programme is also podcast at [globalresearch.ca](#).

The show can be heard on the Progressive Radio Network at [prn.fm](#). Listen in every Monday at 3pm ET.

Community Radio Stations carrying the Global Research News Hour:

CFUV 101.9 FM in Victoria. Airing Sundays from 7-8am PT.

CHLY 101.7 FM in Nanaimo, B.C - Thursdays at 1pm PT

Boston College Radio [WZBC 90.3FM NEWTONS](#) during the Truth and Justice Radio Programming slot -Sundays at 7am ET.

[Port Perry Radio](#) in Port Perry, Ontario - Thursdays at 1pm ET

[Burnaby Radio Station CJSF out of Simon Fraser University](#). 90.1FM to most of Greater Vancouver, from Langley to Point Grey and from the North Shore to the US Border. It is also

available on 93.9 FM cable in the communities of SFU, Burnaby, New Westminster, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Surrey and Delta, in British Columbia Canada. – Tune in every Saturday at 6am.

Notes:

- 1) <http://www.msf.ca/en/article/yemen-msf-medical-teams-receive-100-injured-in-one-day-after-shellings-of-residential-areas>
- 2) [Heba Fahmy](#) and [Peter Kovessy](#), (March 26, 2015); DohaNews, 'Qatar joins Saudi-led bombing campaign of Houthi targets in Yemen'; <http://dohanews.co/qatar-joins-saudi-led-bombing-campaign-of-houthi-targets-in-yemen/>
- 3) <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=51091#.VXzWN8VdXYh>
- 4) *ibid*
- 5) Julian Borger (June 5, 2015), The Guardian, 'Saudi-led naval blockade leaves 20m Yemenis facing humanitarian disaster'; <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jun/05/saudi-led-naval-blockade-worsens-yemen-humanitarian-disaster>
- 6) <http://www.rescue.org/press-releases/aid-agencies-permanent-yemen-ceasefire-needed-now-save-millions-24975>
- 7) <http://rabble.ca/news/2015/05/canadas-complicity-saudi-yemen-war>

The original source of this article is Global Research
Copyright © [Michael Welch](#) and [Abayomi Azikiwe](#), Global Research, 2015

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Michael Welch](#)
and [Abayomi Azikiwe](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long as the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca

