'Trump Gaza Is Finally Here!': US President Promotes Gaza Plan in Al Video

By Mick Krever and Mostafa Salem, CNN, February 26th, 2025

US President Donald Trump posted a video on his Truth Social account late on Tuesday, which appears to have been created with generative AI, promoting the transformation of Gaza into a Gulf state-like resort featuring a golden statue of himself.

The American president has proposed expelling 2.1 million Palestinians from Gaza and transforming the enclave into a "Riviera" that would be owned by the United States.

The West Bank-based Palestinian Authority has called that proposal a "serious violation of international law." The PA foreign minister, Varsen Aghabekian Shaheen, said earlier this month: "We have tried displacement before, and it will not happen again," referring to the hundreds of thousands of Palestinians displaced during the Arab-Israeli war that led to the creation of Israel in 1948.

The video opens on barefoot Palestinian children walking through Gazan rubble. "What's next?" a title card asks. They walk towards a skyline of skyscrapers lining Gaza's coast.

"Donald's coming to set you free," a voice sings. "Trump Gaza shining bright. Golden future, a brand-new light. Feast and dance. The deed is done."

CNN has asked the White House for clarification.

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In a statement, Gaza's Hamas-run Government Media Office denounced the video as "disgraceful."

"This video and its degrading content reflect the deeply rooted racist colonial mindset that seeks to distort reality and justify the occupation's crimes," said director-general Ismail Al-Thawabtah. "By portraying Gaza as if it were a land without a people, this desperate attempt aims to legitimize the ongoing ethnic cleansing carried out by the Israeli occupation with clear American support."

It is unclear whether Trump intends to carry through on his expulsion plan. After receiving forceful pushback from Egyptian and Jordanian leaders, Trump told Fox News on Friday: "The way to do it is my plan. I think that's the plan that really works. But I'm not forcing it. I'm just going to sit back and recommend it."

Reacting to the video on Wednesday, Wassel Abu Yousuf, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)'s executive committee, told CNN that the video was "a clowning gimmick and nothing more than that."

"There will not be resorts or Middle East riviera or anything else," he said.

A senior United Arab Emirates official said Wednesday that there needs to be a "bold" plan to reconstruct the territory, but said any plan cannot take place without a clear path to a Palestinian state.

Netanyahu has repeatedly rejected the prospects of an independent Palestinian state and has endorsed Trump's Gaza ownership plan.

"The conclusion is we need a bold plan of reconstruction but that plan of reconstruction must ensure that we don't go back to a situation of conflict and to do that we have to have a clear path where the Palestinians actually have a state," the UAE's diplomatic adviser to the president Anwar Gargash told CNN's Becky Anderson at an investment conference in Abu Dhabi.