

9 People Die After Residential Building Collapses in Batumi

Among the dead were 3 minors

By Nika Gamtseplidze

A multi-story building collapsed on 26 May Street in Batumi. Search and rescue operations lasted for more than 24 hours without interruption. Rescuers found only 2 people alive, one of them died at the hospital later. Rescuers found the bodies of 8 more dead in the rubble.

Yesterday, it was reported that the situation of the survivor of the situation had gotten better. A 37-year-old man who spent 11 hours in the rubble was admitted to the clinic with general bruising, closed-chest trauma, and a fracture of the lower limb.

"The patient's condition is severe but stable. The good news is that the patient has been removed from the artificial ventilation of the lungs, breathes independently, and comes into contact, although he will remain in the intensive care unit today, as not all of the disorders he had on entry have been eliminated," said the director of the MedCenter Batumi.

The Prosecutor's Office of Georgia has charged three people with violating safety rules during construction work, which



The building on 26 May street collapsed on October 8

resulted in the loss of life and severe consequences.

According to a statement issued by the Prosecutor's Office, an investigation conducted by the Ministry of Internal Affairs

of Georgia revealed that in early October 2021, one person agreed to pay two individuals for the construction and reconstruction of apartments on the first floor of a building located at 26 May

26 Street in Batumi. The reconstruction included the demolition of both non-load-bearing and load-bearing structures (walls) on the first floor of the building.

The Ministry of Education

expressed its condolences over the tragedy in Batumi and extended its condolences to the families of the dead. According to the Ministry, it is twice more tragic for them that children, including schoolchildren, were killed in the incident.

"This is a grave tragedy, pain and loss for the whole country," reads the statement of the Ministry of Education.

The Ambassador of the European Union to Georgia, Carl Hartzell also expressed his condolences to the friends and family of the victims of the tragedy that happened in Batumi.

"Let me join the citizens of Georgia in their moment of grief, and extend my deep condolences to the families and friends of those who tragically lost their lives in Batumi last Friday," wrote the EU Ambassador on Twitter.

On October 8, a residential building collapsed on 26 May Street in Batumi. According to the latest information, 9 people were killed, one survived. Among the dead are 3 minors, one is 7 years old, the second one is 1 year and 3 months old and the third is 12 years old. The rescue operation in Batumi lasted for almost 30 hours.



The rescue operation in Batumi lasted for almost 30 hours

Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 3.1298; Euro - 3.6193; GBP - 4.2662; 100 Russian Ruble - 4.3453; Swiss Franc - 3.3690

Charkviani Held a Rally on Rustaveli Avenue Demanding the Release of Saakashvili

UNM will hold another rally on October 14



Charkviani said Saakashvili is a political prisoner and should be released immediately

By NIKA GAMTSEMLIDZE

In Tbilisi, on Rustaveli Avenue, a rally was held by the People's Movement, whose founder, MP Tako Charkviani, said the rally was a warning to the government.

"The Russian-persecuted president should not be judged by the authorities working for Russia. It is intertwined. Let us make reforms, we must eradicate corruption from this land, and after that, normal justice must discuss every case in this country. No to selective justice and no to corruption that overthrew our state - this is why we gathered on Rustaveli Avenue," said Charkviani.

To bring Saakashvili back, Tako Charkviani founded the

People's Movement on September 10. She said that the political fight against Saakashvili should have been stopped and he should have been given the right to get his citizenship back, which was 'wrongly taken away.'

The rally in support of Mikheil Saakashvili was announced by the United National Movement on October 14. Tako Charkviani and her party will join this rally as well.

On the other hand, many other opposition parties announced that they won't be joining the rally to free Saakashvili. Among those parties are European Georgia, Girchi - More Freedom, and others.

According to Giorgi Noniashvili, one of the leaders of European Georgia,

Saakashvili is considered a political prisoner, but he won't join the UNM rally.

He said that the reason for this is that this rally is directly a rally of the UNM, and there only will be supporters and members of UNM present at the rally. "Thus, European Georgia won't take part in the rally", said Noniashvili.

Leader of Girchi Zurab Japaridze said that the rally might be attended by the representatives of his party.

As for Droa, the party believes that Saakashvili is a political prisoner, but the decision to participate in the rally will be made independently by the members.

"Party Droa believes that Mikheil Saakashvili is a political prisoner. We join the demand for his release. Party members

individually decide whether to take part in a particular rally. Elene Khoshtaria herself will join the rally," said Droa.

The day prior elections, on October 1, Mikheil Saakashvili posted that he was in Georgia. In a few hours, he also released 2 additional videos from Batumi. On the other hand, the representatives of the Georgian Dream claimed that he had not entered the country and he was still in Ukraine.

Just a few hours from the announcements and comments made by the GD members, Prime Minister Irakli Garibashvili held a briefing with the Interior Minister and the head of the State Security Services, saying that Saakashvili had been arrested. Saakashvili said that he is on a hunger strike.



UNM announced another rally to be held on October 14, however, many of the opposition parties said they won't attend it

Georgia: new online platform with legal and business advice for SMEs

Weather

Monday, October 11

Day Mostly Cloudy
High: 17°C

Night Partly Cloudy
Low: 11°C

Tuesday, October 12

Day Partly Cloudy
High: 19°C

Night Partly Cloudy
Low: 10°C

October 7, 2021

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has launched an online resource in Georgian with legal and business guidance to support micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

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