

Protest





Tunisia Tactical: Commemorative protest slated in Tunis at 10:00 on January 3; maintain vigilance

Current Situation:

- The "Bread Uprising Victims Association" has reportedly called for a protest stand outside the Municipal Theatre in Tunis at 10:00 (local time) on January 3.
- The protest is scheduled to commemorate the anniversary of the "Tunisian Bread Riots" (December 29, 1983–January 5, 1984) and to demand compensation for the victims of those events.

Source: Facebook



Assessments & Forecast:

The Tunisian Bread Riots were a significant series of protests triggered by the doubling of bread prices, seen as a violation of the social contract between the government and its citizens. This price hike, tied to an International Monetary Fund (IMF)-mandated austerity program, coincided with broader economic issues like high unemployment and droughtrelated poor harvests, particularly in southern Tunisia. The removal of subsidies amid rising political tensions fueled public discontent with then-President Habib Bourguiba. The unrest began in Douz, spreading nationwide, resulting in over 150 deaths and 1,000 injuries. The latest call by activists likely aims to push the government to deliver justice and provide compensation to the victims of the riots. FORECAST: Turnouts in the high dozens to low hundreds are anticipated at the Municipal Theatre, given the strong support for the call on social media. The protest is likely to remain peaceful due to its commemorative nature. However, a heightened security presence is likely as a precaution, given the centrality of the protest location. Security forces may resort to riot dispersal measures if they perceive that the protesters are behaving in an unruly fashion. Disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular traffic are likely in the vicinity of the protest during the morning hours of January 3.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Tunis during the morning hours on January 3 are advised to allot for disruptions and maintain vigilance due to the slated commemorative protest.