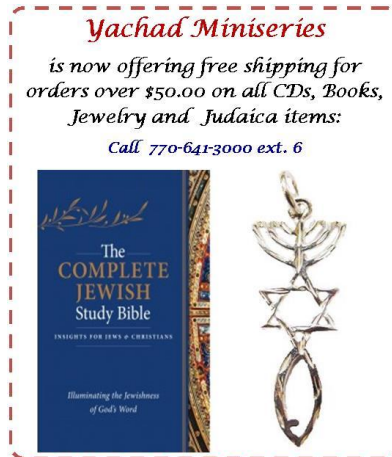


# **Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update October 9, 2025 (Tishrei 17, 5786)**



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## **Israel-Hamas War 734 Days, U.S. and Qatar Guarantee Hamas That Israel Won't Resume Fighting in Gaza After First Phase**

- *Israel, Hamas reach Gaza cease-fire deal;  
IDF to begin to withdraw as Netanyahu set to convene government*
- *'Peace finally feels attainable':  
World leaders react to Israel-Hamas deal, urge full and swift implementation*
- *Trump: Hostages will be released 'probably Monday, will include bodies of the dead'*
- *Eight Palestinians killed, 61 wounded in the past 24 hours in Gaza; Cease-fire negotiations begin*
- *Israeli opposition leaders meet to coordinate moves to topple government in Knesset's winter session*
  - *Gaza Freedom Flotilla intercepted by Israeli authorities,  
Israel says all vessels and passengers to be deported*

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***‘On the Verge’: Netanyahu Says All Hostages Could Be Freed in Days — Trump Warns Hamas, No More Delays;*** On Saturday night, October 4, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told Israelis the country is “on the verge of a very great achievement,” expressing hope that a deal in the coming days could bring home all remaining hostages in one phase while the IDF maintains control inside Gaza. He credited sustained military pressure and tight coordination with the U.S. for pushing Hamas toward acceptance of a framework that requires the release of all captives and continued IDF control in key areas. Netanyahu said the first stage would see the return of all hostages—living and deceased—followed by continued Israeli security dominance to prevent renewed terror capabilities. He also outlined a second phase focused on disarming Hamas and demilitarizing the Strip—via diplomacy under the Trump plan or, if necessary, by force. The prime minister acknowledged skepticism but insisted the shift in Hamas’s position came only through “intense military and diplomatic pressure.” U.S. President Donald Trump reinforced the timeline pressure, warning Hamas he would not tolerate delay tactics. While negotiators prepare to travel to Egypt to close “technical details,” questions remain about Hamas’s internal divisions and its willingness to commit to full disarmament and a single-phase release within 72 hours of signing. *(BB/VFI News)*

***Israel’s Most Dangerous Prisoner on the Way to Freedom;*** As part of the emerging hostage deal, Israel expects to release 250 prisoners serving life sentences “with blood on their hands,” along with more than 1,700 Gazans arrested since October 7, 2023. Among the highest-profile names reportedly slated for release is Ibrahim Hamad, long described as a mastermind behind multiple suicide bombings during the Second Intifada, including the Café Moment attack and other mass-casualty bombings. Reports also indicate Hamas will seek the release of Abdullah Barghouti, the explosives expert linked to dozens of lethal attacks in Jerusalem and across Israel; Ahmed Saadat, convicted in connection with the assassination of Tourism Minister Rehavam Ze’evi in 2001; and Abbas al-Sayed, associated with the Park Hotel bombing in Netanya. The list has ignited fresh anguish among terror victims’ families while highlighting the painful tradeoffs often embedded in hostage diplomacy. Israeli leaders face intense scrutiny over any swap that frees notorious planners of mass murder. Supporters argue that securing the captives’ return and ending the war justifies painful concessions; opponents warn such releases could embolden terror groups and erode deterrence. The coming days will test whether the deal can both bring the hostages home and preserve lasting security. *(INN/VFI News)*

***Hamas Official Claims It Will Take ‘Months’ to Find All Hostages;*** Senior Hamas official Moussa Abu Marzouk asserted that it could take “months” for the group to locate all hostages, living and deceased—a claim Israeli officials flatly reject. A Jerusalem official said Hamas knows the whereabouts of every living captive and can access them, insisting that any delay amounts to a negotiating tactic rather than a logistical challenge. The remarks come as mediators move to finalize a framework that envisions a single-phase release within 72 hours of signing. Israeli assessments cited by local media anticipate Hamas will seek more time for the return of bodies, even as it is required to free living hostages without delay. The timeline sensitivity is compounded by the deal’s insistence on continued IDF presence in controlling

areas, undercutting Hamas's ability to regroup or hide behind civilian infrastructure. Whether Hamas ultimately complies—and how verification will work—remain open questions. The competing narratives underscore why negotiators are racing to harden enforcement mechanisms. Israeli officials argue that ambiguity only invites stalling; Hamas leaders are signaling they want leverage to shape sequencing. Any agreement will likely hinge on bridging that gap without sacrificing core red lines on immediate humanitarian release. *(INN/VFI News)*

***Trump Warns Iran: Renewing Nukes Will Be Addressed 'Promptly'***; The United States warned on Sunday, October 5, that any Iranian attempt to revive a nuclear weapons program would be met “promptly.” The statement followed earlier June strikes on Iranian nuclear infrastructure in Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan, which Washington says degraded critical capabilities. While officials signaled they hope Tehran refrains from escalation, they reiterated that additional action remains on the table if intelligence points to renewed weaponization efforts. The warning underscored a broader message that Iran should not misread regional diplomacy or hostage negotiations as a sign of reduced U.S. resolve. In recent months, American and Israeli messaging has converged on deterring Iran's nuclear advances, with both governments asserting they will act again if necessary. The administration has also left open the possibility of further targeted strikes should Iran move to rebuild or disperse sensitive facilities. Regional allies are watching for signs of Iranian retaliation or covert acceleration. For Israel, the nuclear file is inseparable from the Gaza war, Hezbollah's posture in the north, and cross-border threats involving Iran-backed militias. The U.S. statement signals to Tehran—and to regional partners—that Washington intends to keep military deterrence synchronized with diplomatic pressure. *(INN/VFI News)*

***IDF Uncovers Hamas Weapons Tunnel Beneath Hospital Complex in Gaza City***; The IDF and Israel Security Agency reported the discovery of a tunnel shaft adjacent to the Jordanian Hospital complex in Gaza City, leading to an underground weapons manufacturing site. The operation, conducted by the 36th Division with the Yahalom engineering unit under the Intelligence Directorate's guidance, highlighted again the challenge of Hamas embedding military infrastructure near sensitive civilian facilities. Israel has long argued that Hamas systematically exploits hospitals, schools, and clinics to shield command centers and production workshops. The newly revealed route and workshop—situated by a hospital complex—reinforce that operational pattern, complicating efforts to neutralize threats while minimizing harm to civilians. The finding will likely feature in international debates about proportionality and the law of armed conflict. As ceasefire and hostage talks advance, such discoveries harden Israel's insistence on enforcing strict demilitarization and intrusive verification. Without dismantling these networks, Israeli officials warn, any pause risks enabling Hamas to reconstitute a war machine in densely populated areas. *(INN/VFI News)*

***Trump Praises Israel Halt to Gaza Strikes, Warns Hamas: 'I Will Not Tolerate Delay'***; President Trump publicly welcomed Israel's limited pause in Gaza strikes tied to hostage negotiations and warned Hamas that he would not tolerate “delay tactics.” The statement, aimed squarely at the timeline for a single-phase release, was intended to keep pressure on Hamas as talks move to technical details. The administration has paired diplomatic backing for Israel's security posture with a firm insistence on rapid compliance by Hamas. The message dovetails with Israeli policy to maintain control in key areas while negotiating from a position of strength. For Washington, the calculus appears to be that a synchronized pause—paired with enforcement mechanisms—can unlock the humanitarian dividend of freeing captives while preventing Hamas from regrouping. Whether the warning shifts Hamas's internal calculus remains to be seen. But it clarifies that any drawn-out sequencing or “months-long” searches for captives will face U.S. pushback, aligning with Israel's contention that Hamas already knows the location of living hostages. *(YNN/VFI News)*

***US Public Increasingly Critical of Israel, With 59% Opposed to Government — Poll;*** A new Pew Research Center survey finds 59% of Americans hold an unfavorable view of the Israeli government, up eight points from early 2024, reflecting a gradual shift since the Gaza war began on October 7, 2023. At the same time, 84% of Americans maintain an unfavorable view of Hamas. Views of the Israeli people remain net positive at 56% favorable, though down from prior years. The poll of 3,445 adults was conducted September 22–28, 2025. Perceptions of the war’s conduct show 39% saying Israel is going “too far,” 16% “about right,” and 10% “not far enough,” with the remainder unsure. A 42% plurality disapproves of the administration’s handling of the conflict, while 30% approve. Concern is broad across parties about both the hostages and the risk of renewed Hamas attacks; Democrats express greater concern about Palestinian suffering, while Republicans are more focused on preventing future terrorism. Younger Americans are more likely to say U.S. military support for Israel is excessive, and partisan gaps persist on favorability toward both Israelis and Palestinians. The numbers point to a complex U.S. political environment around any longer-term security arrangement in Gaza and the region. *(TOI/VFI News)*

***Anti-Semitism Intensifying Worldwide Since October 7, Report Warns;*** A new analysis by the Combat Antisemitism Movement (CAM) documents 13,339 anti-Semitic incidents worldwide between October 7, 2023, and October 1, 2025, signaling a sustained surge in hostility toward Jewish people globally. The data coincide with rising campus tensions, more aggressive street protests, and a proliferation of harassment and vandalism targeting Jewish institutions. The report situates the spike within a broader environment of online radicalization and real-world activism, noting that major flashpoints—university encampments, cultural events, and diplomatic summits—have become stages for aggressive anti-Israel messaging that often crosses into open antisemitism. Community leaders warn of normalization and fatigue as incidents stretch into a second year after the October 7 massacre. Advocacy groups are urging stronger enforcement of existing laws, more robust campus policies, and better security coordination for synagogues and Jewish community centers. The persistent rise suggests the problem will not ebb on its own and will require a unified response by civic, academic, and faith leaders. *(JPost/VFI News)*

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