

# **Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update November 13, 2025 (Cheshvan 22, 5786)**



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## **Israel-Hamas Cease-fire**

### **Hamas, Islamic Jihad Say They Will Hand Over Deceased Hostage to Israel on Thursday Evening**

- *Settler's torch West Bank Mosque; Israel strikes targets in Lebanon*
- *Netanyahu rejects Axios report, speaks on Trump pardon, Gaza and Israel's future*
- *Sde Teiman alleged abuse case: Military court halts proceedings, awaits new military prosecutor*
  - *Trump asks Herzog to 'fully pardon Benjamin Netanyahu'*
  - *Tax benefit for settler's bill passes preliminary hearing at Knesset*
- *Checkpoint in northern Gaza Strip opened for humanitarian aid to enter*
  - *Defense Minister announces proposal to close Army Radio*

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***Mexico Thwarted Iranian Plot to Assassinate Israeli Ambassador, Officials Say;*** Mexican authorities, working with US and Israeli intelligence, say they disrupted an Iranian scheme targeting Israel's ambassador in Mexico, Einat Kranz Neiger. Officials cited the IRGC's Quds Force as the organizer, with recruitment allegedly tied to operatives connected to Iran's embassy in Venezuela. The plot, said to have been initiated in late 2024, was "contained" and no longer posed an immediate threat as of Friday, November 7, 2025. Israel's Foreign Ministry expressed gratitude to Mexico's security services while vowing to continue global cooperation against threats to Israeli and Jewish targets. Iran denied involvement, and Mexican ministries issued brief statements indicating they had no report of an attempt while reaffirming cooperation with partner agencies. The episode underscores Tehran's ongoing overseas targeting, even as regional dynamics shift following recent ceasefire developments. It also highlights the reach of Iranian networks beyond the Middle East, complicating the security environment for Israeli diplomatic missions in the Americas. *(TOI/VFI News)*

***As Hezbollah Rearms and Lebanon's Government Stalls, Israel Looks to Its North;*** With ceasefire arrangements fragile and Beirut's political paralysis unresolved, assessments indicate Hezbollah has been rebuilding personnel and materiel while resisting disarmament efforts. Analysts note the IDF has degraded the group's capabilities, yet the gradual replenishment and recruitment create a persistent risk along Israel's northern frontier. Israel's options span continued precision strikes to enforce red lines, intensified diplomacy through international monitors, and layered air-defense and civil-defense reinforcement for border communities. None is a silver bullet; each carries escalatory risks and humanitarian considerations for civilians on both sides of the border. As winter sets in and displaced families contemplate returns, decision-makers face a strategic calculus: deter renewed rocket fire while avoiding a wider war that Lebanon's weak institutions appear ill-equipped to manage. *(JPost/VFI News)*

***Anti-Semitism Watchdog: Hamas Terrorist Involved in Oct. 7 Living in Belgium, Traveling Freely;*** A Belgian anti-Semitism watchdog reported that Mohannad al-Khatib, seen in images from the October 7, 2023 massacre, has been living in Belgium and traveling around Europe. The group says it delivered a 65-page dossier to authorities detailing evidence of his involvement and ongoing online incitement. The update appeared in a liveblog entry on Saturday, November 8, 2025. The watchdog's vice president said the documentation includes visual material from inside Israel on October 7 and a record of social-media activity since then. The organization urged law enforcement to investigate and act against suspected terror affiliates operating on European soil. The case reflects broader concerns about cross-border mobility for extremists and the safety of Jewish communities across the continent amid persistently high antisemitic incidents. *(TOI/VFI News)*

***Ahead of Meeting with Syria's Al-Shaara, Faith Leaders Urge Action for Persecuted Minorities;*** Ahead of President Donald Trump's expected meeting with Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa, dozens of American faith leaders appealed for decisive steps to protect vulnerable religious communities in southern Syria. In a letter dated Friday, November 7, 2025, they pressed for opening a secure humanitarian corridor

to deliver aid and evacuate civilians as needed. Signatories highlighted the plight of Druze, Christians, Alawites, and others facing violence, deprivation, and siege conditions around the Suwayda region, urging humanitarian access and tangible guarantees for minority rights. They praised efforts to spotlight persecution elsewhere and asked the administration to extend that resolve to Syria's neglected populations. The letter frames the meeting as a test of commitments to religious freedom and humanitarian relief, calling for measurable outcomes that would uphold dignity and safety for at-risk communities. *(DW/VFI News)*

***S&P Upgrades Israel's Credit Rating Outlook to Stable after Gaza Ceasefire;*** Standard & Poor's shifted Israel's outlook from negative to stable on Friday, November 7, citing prospects of de-escalation following a US-brokered ceasefire with Hamas. The A/A-1 rating was affirmed, with analysts pointing to a potential easing of pressure on growth, employment, and public finances if security risks remain contained. The agency noted upside could emerge if fiscal and growth outcomes beat projections and if geopolitical risk declines meaningfully. Other rating houses remain cautious as they assess whether the calm will hold and how quickly the economy can regain momentum. While acknowledging longer-term uncertainties, the improved outlook offers near-term relief to markets and policymakers and may reduce borrowing costs for the government and private sector alike. *(TOI/VFI News)*

***Knesset Finance Committee Approves NIS 1.2 Billion to Rebuild Israel's North;*** After months of procedural delays, the Knesset Finance Committee approved a NIS 1.2 billion (\$308 million) package on Monday, October 27, 2025, to jump-start rehabilitation programs for northern communities battered by Hezbollah's war. The funds target evacuated towns within 2 km of the border and support businesses and municipal services up to 9 km away. Roughly 60,000 residents were displaced between October 2023 and November 2024. Local officials welcomed the decision while warning that contractors and small businesses are under strain and need rapid, predictable disbursements to restore housing, commerce, and basic services. Coalition and opposition lawmakers clashed over the delays and broader cost-of-living pressures, but the committee chair urged immediate implementation to speed safe returns and stabilize the region's economy. *(TOI/VFI News)*

***Biblical Tax Notice: 1st-Ever Assyrian Inscription Found Near Jerusalem's Temple Mount;*** A 2.5-centimeter pottery fragment bearing cuneiform writing was uncovered near the Temple Mount, marking the first Assyrian inscription ever found in Jerusalem. The Israel Antiquities Authority said Wednesday, October 22, 2025, that the text—written in Akkadian—mentions a delay in payment, the month of Av, and an Assyrian court title (“holder of the reins”). Scientific analysis indicates the clay originated in the Tigris basin, tying the tiny shard directly to the Assyrian heartland. The artifact emerged from soil removed during excavations at the Davidson Archaeological Park and sifted at Emek Tzurim. Scholars suggest it is likely a fragment of a royal sealing (bullae) that summarized an official document—possibly a tax notice from the Assyrian emperor to the king of Judah. Stylistic and linguistic clues date it to the late 8th–mid-7th centuries BCE, aligning with the tumultuous Hezekiah–Sennacherib period described in II Kings. Excavators say the context points to a First Temple–period administrative complex west of the Temple Mount, supported by additional, yet-to-be-published sealings. Researchers also note the Judeans' use of a Mesopotamian-style calendar at the time. Mineralogical testing further supports a Tigris-region provenance, underscoring the inscription's significance for understanding Judah–Assyria relations and the Bible's historical landscape. *(TOI/VFI News)*

***From India and the World with Love: The Superb Offerings at the Jerusalem Oud Festival;*** Jerusalem's International Oud Festival returns with a sweeping program that bridges Middle Eastern, Mediterranean, and global traditions. This year's lineup highlights virtuoso performers—including artists from India—bringing intimate string textures and cross-cultural collaborations to stages around the city. Beyond the oud itself, the festival's curators lean into genre-blending: classical, folk, and contemporary

sounds mingle to showcase Jerusalem's role as a meeting point of peoples and melodies. The tone is warm and restorative, offering audiences space to breathe amid a bruising news cycle. Workshops, recitals, and one-off debuts are expected to draw diverse crowds, with indoor venues emphasizing close-up acoustics and storytelling. The result is an uplifting close to the autumn arts calendar. (*JPost/VFI News*)



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