

Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update April 13, 2026 (Nisan 25, 5786)



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Israel; *The war may have paused, but the fight over Israel's future is only beginning*

- *Israel's opposition lauds Hungary's Magyar for ousting Orbán, as Netanyahu stays mum*
 - *Netanyahu coalition pushes judicial coup even during Knesset's spring break*
- *Ben-Gvir says attorney general 'spurring constitutional crisis' by calling for his dismissal*
 - *Israel pushes Lebanon to curb Hezbollah militarily amid U.S.-Iran talks*
 - *Over 500 arrested at London rally supporting banned Palestine Action group*
 - *Turkey calls Netanyahu 'Hitler of our time' in spat over Erdogan remarks*

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If you are interested in having Yachad Ministries to come your church and share about what is going on in Israel and the Middle East, and how the Bible is unfolding right in front of our eyes.

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Standing with Israel!

Trump Threatens to Renew War if Iran Doesn't Comply with 'Real Agreement'; US President Donald Trump warned on Wednesday, April 9, that American military forces would remain deployed in and around Iran until Tehran fully complied with the ceasefire agreement, threatening devastating strikes if the terms are not met. Trump issued the warning on Truth Social amid growing uncertainty over the fragile two-week truce announced late on Wednesday, April 8. "All US ships, aircraft, and military personnel, with additional ammunition, weaponry, and anything else that is appropriate and necessary for the lethal prosecution and destruction of an already substantially degraded enemy, will remain in place in, and around, Iran, until such time as the REAL AGREEMENT reached is fully complied with," Trump wrote. He added that if the terms are not honored, "then the 'Shootin' Starts,' bigger, and better, and stronger than anyone has ever seen before." The president reiterated that the deal requires Iran to never develop a nuclear weapon and that the Strait of Hormuz must be reopened safely and immediately. Vice President JD Vance is set to lead the US delegation for talks in Islamabad beginning Saturday, April 11, aimed at negotiating a long-term peace agreement with Tehran. (TOI/VFI News)

Iran Estimates War Losses at Up to \$145 Billion After Weeks of Fighting; Iran has suffered extensive economic losses estimated between \$140 billion and \$145 billion following six weeks of war with Israel and the United States, open-source intelligence assessments revealed on Wednesday, April 9. The conflict is believed to have caused significant military damage, including devastating hits to Iran's naval assets, ballistic missile program, nuclear infrastructure, and military personnel. Iran sustained approximately 2,076 fatalities and around 26,500 injuries, including thousands of military personnel. More than 66% of missile and drone production facilities, as well as shipbuilding infrastructure, were destroyed. Between 160 and 190 ballistic missile launchers were eliminated, with hundreds more rendered inoperable. Strikes targeting nuclear facilities in Natanz, Yazd, and Arak are believed to have set back Iran's nuclear development by an estimated 8 to 15 years. US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth called the campaign a "historic victory on the battlefield," stating that Iran's naval forces, air force, air defenses, and missile program had been "effectively destroyed." He argued that the country's leadership agreed to a ceasefire because it had no viable options remaining. (JPost/VFI News)

Iran Accuses Trump of 'Denial and Backtracking' as Ceasefire Descends into Chaos; Iran threatened on Thursday, April 9, to pull out of peace talks with the United States as the Middle East ceasefire appeared on the brink of collapse. Tehran said Israel's continued attacks on Lebanon violated the agreement to pause fighting, and Iranian parliament speaker Mohammad-Bagher Ghalibaf warned that the US and Israel must "extinguish the fire immediately" or face "explicit costs and strong responses." The crisis deepened overnight as the Iranian regime closed the Strait of Hormuz to traffic, hours after Trump declared a dramatic victory. A new map released by the IRGC appeared to show mined areas in the strait, and a radio message broadcast to all vessels warned that any ship attempting to transit without permission

would be “destroyed.” Iranian officials said tankers using the strait would be required to pay tolls of at least \$1 per barrel, payable in cryptocurrency or Chinese yuan. UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer, speaking in the United Arab Emirates, stated that Iran “must not hold the Strait of Hormuz to ransom” with tolls. British Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper called the toll scheme “crucial” to reject and said Trump’s language during the conflict has been “completely wrong.” Iranian negotiators were expected to depart for Pakistan later on Thursday for the first peace talks of the war on Saturday, April 11. (DM/VFI News)

Iran’s Nuclear Chief Rules Out Restrictions on Enrichment Ahead of US Talks; The head of Iran’s nuclear energy agency, Mohammad Eslami, declared on Thursday, April 9, that protecting Tehran’s right to enrich uranium is “necessary” for any ceasefire negotiations with the United States. Eslami spoke on the sidelines of a memorial service in Tehran for the late Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. “The claims and demands of our enemies to restrict Iran’s enrichment program are merely wishes that will be buried,” Eslami stated. He added that all conspiracies and military actions against Iran had yielded no results, and that Tehran’s adversaries were now seeking to achieve their goals through negotiations. Before the current war, Iran had been enriching uranium to 60%, far above the 3.67% limit set by the now-defunct 2015 nuclear agreement. The remarks come just days before Iranian and American officials are expected to meet in Islamabad on Saturday, April 11, under Pakistani mediation. US President Trump has insisted “there will be no enrichment of uranium” by Iran, setting up a major point of contention in the upcoming talks. (TOI/VFI News)

Report: Mojtaba Khamenei ‘Incapacitated, Unable to Lead Iran’; Iran’s new supreme leader, Mojtaba Khamenei, is incapacitated and receiving medical treatment in the holy city of Qom, a diplomatic memo based on US and Israeli intelligence and shared with Gulf allies revealed. The memo, first disclosed by The Times, states that Khamenei is unconscious and “unable to be involved in any decision-making.” Mojtaba Khamenei, 56, assumed power in early March after the death of his father, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who Iranian authorities say was killed in a February 28 strike attributed to US and Israeli forces. The younger Khamenei was also reportedly wounded in the same attack. He has not appeared publicly since the start of the war, and Iranian state television has aired only written statements attributed to him, along with an AI-generated video. Iranian officials insist that Khamenei remains in charge. However, his reported incapacity has intensified speculation that the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps may be exercising de facto control over the country. Opposition groups have claimed he is in a coma, though those claims have not been independently confirmed. (YNN/VFI News)

Chinese Construction Workers in Israel: ‘I’d Rather Be Bombed Than Live in Poverty’; Scores of Chinese construction workers in Israel have chosen not to evacuate the country despite the ongoing war, with some saying they would rather face bombs than return to poverty. Since the start of the conflict, the Chinese Embassy has organized evacuations via the Taba Port in Egypt, but many among the estimated 50,000 to 60,000 Chinese workers employed in Israel’s construction industry have opted to stay. In videos circulating on social media, workers described earning between 30,000 and 80,000 yuan per month roughly \$4,100 to \$11,000 working 12-hour days on construction sites. “I’m working here, everything is normal. If there’s an air raid siren, you take cover. We’re used to it by now,” one worker said. Another stated bluntly from inside a dormitory that he would “rather be bombed to death than die in poverty.” Workers emphasized that Israeli employers pay wages on time and provide quality medical care. One carpenter said he earns 1,800 yuan per day and plans to stay until he has saved two million yuan. The comments reflect a striking contrast between working conditions in Israel and the limited opportunities many face in China, where youth unemployment and rural poverty remain persistent challenges. (JPost/VFI News)

Ben Gurion Airport Fully Reopens as Israel Lifts Flight Restrictions after Ceasefire; Israel's Transportation Ministry announced on Wednesday, April 8, that the country would fully reopen its airspace and resume regular operations at Ben Gurion Airport starting at midnight Thursday, roughly one day after the ceasefire was announced between the US, Israel, and Iran. Duty-free shops and all terminal services were also set to reopen. Israel's airspace has been shut to most foreign airline traffic since the war began on February 28. In early March, Ben Gurion Airport partially reopened for limited flights by Israeli carriers El Al, Arkia, Israir, and Air Haifa for repatriation purposes. El Al announced it would resume flights to destinations including Athens, Amsterdam, Paris, Berlin, Rome, New York, Los Angeles, and Miami in the coming days. The Transportation Ministry said it was working with the Israel Airports Authority and the Civil Aviation Authority to ensure a smooth return to full operations. The reopening of Haifa Airport in the north will be considered later in the week, depending on the security situation, given that the ceasefire does not cover Lebanon. (TOI/VFI News)

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