



## IDF strikes Doha in bid to kill Hamas leaders

Israel bombed Hamas headquarters in Qatar during talks on U.S. cease-fire draft; Hamas calls proposal a ruse to lure leaders into attack; conflicting reports on who was killed; Qatar suspends its role as mediator; PM: Israel-only strike

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Israel attempted to assassinate Hamas leaders on Tuesday while they were meeting in Doha, Qatar's capital, the Israel Defense Forces said. A security source said the attack was carried out by Israel Air Force fighter jets, and included 10 strikes on the target.

Qatari sources said the strike targeted a Hamas headquarters during the terror organization's discussion on the U.S. proposal to end the war in Gaza. Hamas-affiliated sources claimed the American plan was a "trap to lure Hamas officials into talks to strike them." Arab media outlets reported that among those present were Hamas' chief negotiator, Khalil al-Hayya, and Zaher Jabarin, who oversees the West Bank for the group.

According to Saudi-owned Al Arabiya, Qatar has suspended its role as mediator in Israel-Hamas negotiations for a cease-fire deal in Gaza.

The IDF has yet to confirm whether senior Hamas officials were killed. International media offered conflicting reports: Two Hamas sources told Reuters that the group's leaders were not killed in the Israeli strike, Saudi-owned Al-Hadath said al-Hayya had been killed, while Qatar's Al Jazeera and Al Araby, as well as Lebanon's Al Mayadeen, reported the Hamas delegation survived the assassination attempt.

Al Araby also reported



The building struck in Doha.

Ibraheem Abu Mustafa / Reuters

that five people were killed in the strike, while sources in Doha told Haaretz that among the killed are al-Hayya's son, his chief of staff and a security officer.

The Wall Street Journal reported that the U.S. informed Qatar ahead of the

strike, after Israel briefed the Americans. Qatar denied the report, saying it had received word of the strikes as Israel's attack was already underway.

U.S. President Donald Trump has "made his thoughts and concerns"

about the Israeli strike on Doha "very clear," White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said in a statement, adding that the U.S. "feels very badly about the location" of the Israeli strikes.

"Unilaterally bombing inside Qatar, a sovereign nation

and close ally of the United States that is working very hard and bravely taking risks with us to broker peace, does not advance Israel's or America's goals," Leavitt said.

Qatar condemned the "cowardly" Israeli strike and announced it had opened

an investigation. "[It] constitutes a blatant violation of all international laws and norms, and poses a serious threat to the security and safety of Qataris and residents in Qatar," Foreign Ministry spokesman

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Amos Harel

### Not caring about the consequences

For some time now, Israel has seemed to be doubling down on its war with Hamas and perhaps on the entire Middle East as well. On Tuesday in Qatar's capital, Doha, the stakes rose sharply when, in a joint operation by the Israel Defense Forces and Shin Bet security service, the Israel Air Force struck Hamas' senior leadership outside Gaza. Within Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's

circle, the strike is already being hailed as a major achievement, not only militarily and in terms of intelligence, but strategically as well, one that'll supposedly bring Israel closer to victory.

As always, such promises merit skepticism, and above all, attention must be paid to how this offensive move affects the fate of the hostages

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Chaim Levinson

### Anything for the base

Around 20 hours before Israel's strike in Doha, a source from Washington called: the Americans suspected that the Qataris were riling up Hamas' representatives and undermining Trump's plan for ending the war, which had been handed directly to Hamas. American officials didn't like this.

On Tuesday, the Israel Air Force dropped its munitions

in central Doha – just nine minutes from the Ritz-Carlton, beloved by the Hamas leadership. After two years, during which Hamas leaders enjoyed immunity in Qatar, during which they fell into utter complacency regarding their personal safety, Israel shattered the taboo and the immunity and attempted

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Smoke rising from Israel's strike in Doha, Tuesday. UGC via AP

## Netanyahu seeks his victory image in Doha strike

Jonathan Lis

Amid the fog of war in Qatar's capital Doha, Israeli and foreign sources struggled to answer the dramatic questions raised by Israel's decision to target senior Hamas figures

in the country. Would the move endanger the lives of Israeli hostages held by the terror group in Gaza? Who is now responsible for their fate? And with whom will negotiations for a cease-fire

deal take place?

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Israel Katz said following the strike in Doha that the decision to eliminate Hamas' leadership in Qatar was made only on Monday, following the shooting attack in Jerusalem's Ramot Junction, carried out by two

Palestinians from the West Bank, which left 6 dead, and the earlier assault on Israeli troops in Gaza, which killed four tank crew members. Yet the operation had already been considered immediately after October 7, 2023.

"We'll eliminate Hamas leaders in Qatar and Tur-

key as well," said former Shin Bet security service chief Ronen Bar about two months after the massacre. "It'll take a few years, but we'll get there. This is our generation's Munich."

On Sunday, following the killing of Hamas spokesman Abu Ubaida, Israel Defense Forces Chief of Staff Eyal

Zamir threatened to strike the group's leaders outside Gaza. "Most of Hamas' leadership has been eliminated, and there's more to come. Most of the remaining Hamas government is abroad, and we'll reach them too," he said. An

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Contrary to law and agreement with court

### Attorney general to High Court: Ben-Gvir interfering with police

Chen Maanit  
and Josh Breiner

National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir is violating his commitment to the High Court of Justice and harming the proper and professional functioning of the police, Attorney General Gali Baharav-Miara informed the court on Tuesday, saying his conduct is in violation of the law and the agreements reached with him.

In light of Ben-Gvir's actions, Baharav-Miara asked the High Court to set an urgent hearing on the petitions against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's decision to appoint Ben-Gvir as national security minister.

Her statement means she may support the petitions asking to remove Ben-Gvir from office, or demand guarantees he will stop violating the law and the understandings reached with him, sources in the legal system told Haaretz.

In her statement to the High Court, Baharav-Miara said the document Ben-Gvir issued last month, in which he set "the policy concerning demonstrations," vio-

lates the commitment he made to the court in April not to harm the right to protest and demonstrate. Ben-Gvir's instructions "are not in line with the law and the rulings of the honorable court concerning the right to demonstrate, nor are they consistent with the police commissioner's communications to the minister, or with the guidelines issued by law enforcement authorities on the matter," wrote Baharav-Miara. She added that Ben-Gvir's instructions even concern aspects outside of the areas where he is authorized to set policy by law.

Baharav-Miara wrote that even though Ben-Gvir is seemingly following the process with the police and attorney general's office regarding his policy on demonstrations, in practice he publicly announced the policy without first having the police provide the basis for it and without meaningfully fulfilling his duty to consult with the attorney general's office on it. In this way, Ben-Gvir is "presenting a seemingly proper process – but in reality the damage has already been done with the broad public release of

the policy, while the minister stated in writing that this is his policy and it will take effect within a short period of time," wrote Baharav-Miara.

According to the attorney general, publicizing these policies concerning protest events could very well influence police officers by making it clear to them what the minister expects of them, thus affecting the actions of the police at demonstrations and protests. "This is in violation of the law, contrary to the rulings of the court in the minister's case, in violation of the document of principles and in a way effectively empties of content the agreed-upon guarantees, which the minister accepted," she wrote.

Baharav-Miara said another violation of the understandings reached with Ben-Gvir is his block of a promotion for Superintendent Rinat Saban, currently an assistant to the head of the police's investigations and intelligence department, Maj. Gen. Boaz Blatt. Saban was involved in the trial of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and

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### 'Even the streets won't accept us': Fleeing Gaza City, nowhere to go

Nagham Zbeedat

In Gaza City, panic unfolded in the span of 15 minutes. Families hurled suitcases and blankets from balconies, children clutched toys and neighbors shouted warnings as Israeli warplanes closed in. Over the weekend, residents say they were given barely 20 minutes to abandon their homes before the strikes began.

The bombardment, part of Israel's intensifying campaign ahead of an impending ground invasion into Gaza City, left families scrambling not only for shelter but also for clarity on what to take from a life suddenly reduced to what could be grabbed in moments. "We don't even know what to pack within 15 minutes," one resident told Haaretz.

This kind of rushed, repeated evacuation has become all too familiar. Since March alone, over 856,000 displacement movements have been recorded by the UN across Gaza – many individuals are counted more than once, having been displaced multiple times. Up to 1.9 million people, more than 90 percent of Gaza's population, have now been displaced at least once, according to the UN report.



A woman waiting with her family's belongings in Gaza City, Monday.

Dawoud Abu Alkas/Reuters

In late August, the Israel Defense Forces' Arabic-language spokesperson urged all of Gaza City's 1.2 million residents to relocate to so-called "safe zones" further south; an estimated 100,000 people have since left the city. Some neighborhoods in Gaza City have received formal evacuation orders, delivered through airborne leaflets or via phone call.

Osama Abdul Hadi, 27, has yet to receive an offi-

cial evacuation order since the Israeli army began operating in Gaza City, although he has already fled his home in the Sheikh Radwan neighborhood multiple times. Previously, he had been able to return, but he now lives in al-Shati refugee camp on the city's western edge, in his grandmother's house. It is a place she herself abandoned months ago when she moved to Muwasi, parts of which have been designated

a "humanitarian zone" by the IDF.

What pushed Abdul Hadi to leave was not a single airstrike but the relentless presence of drones circling above his neighborhood. By evening, he recalls, Sheikh Radwan felt like a "ghost town," as people hid fearing attacks. The machines, he says, were used for attacks and intimidation.

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