

Donald Trump Declares 'A New Beginning' as All Israeli Hostages Are Freed

President Donald Trump arrived in Israel on Monday to celebrate what he called "a great and beautiful day" following the release of all 20 living Israeli hostages from Hamas captivity in Gaza. The historic event marks what Trump described as "a new beginning" for the Middle East as the region takes its first steps toward peace after two years of brutal conflict.

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As reported by Fox News, Trump's visit coincided with a landmark exchange between Israel and Hamas. The 20 living Israeli hostages were freed as part of an agreement to end the war that began with Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, terrorist attack. In return, Israel began releasing around 2,000 Palestinians including 250 identified as terrorists. The deal represents a major milestone in the long and painful chapter of Israel's fight for peace and security.

President Donald J. Trump delivers remarks to Israel's Knesset in Jerusalem. ☐☐

"After two harrowing years in darkness & captivity, 20 courageous hostages are returning to the glorious embrace of their families... Today, the sun rises on a Holy Land that is finally at PEACE."

– The White House (@WhiteHouse) October 13, 2025

Trump, who met with the families of hostages before addressing Israel's parliament, wrote in a guest book "This is my great honor, a great and beautiful day. A new beginning."



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According to the report, the president received several standing ovations from Israeli lawmakers ahead of his speech where he plans to declare what he called "the historic dawn of a new Middle East."

In excerpts released by the White House, Trump is expected to tell the Knesset that "generations from now, this will be remembered as the moment that everything began to change." His remarks will affirm that "Israel has won all that can be won by force of arms" and urge that it is now time to turn those military victories into "the ultimate prize of peace and prosperity."

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Trump's message also extends to Iran, signaling a willingness to rebuild relationships in pursuit of regional stability. He plans to say that "the hand of friendship and cooperation is always open" a statement that comes months after Israel and Iran fought a brief but intense war earlier this year.

Following his address in Jerusalem, Trump will continue on to Egypt where he and President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi will co-lead a peace summit in Sharm el-Sheikh with leaders from more than 20 countries to discuss peace in Gaza and across the Middle East.

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Trump's visit reinforces the United States' strong alliance with Israel and its commitment to lasting peace in the region. For the families of hostages and the people of Israel, this moment is a long-awaited victory that offers hope for healing, restoration and a renewed future for the land long promised to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

James Lasher, a seasoned writer and editor at Charisma Media, combines faith and storytelling with a background in journalism from Otterbein University and ministry experience in Guatemala and the LA Dream Center. A Marine Corps and Air Force veteran, he is the author of *The Revelation of Jesus: A Common Man's Commentary* and a contributor to *Charisma magazine*.