



# ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR

## Why in the news?

### More about the news

- Israel declares war on Hamas under "Operation Toofan Al-Aqsa."
  - Operation Toofan Al-Aqsa
    - Coincides with the Jewish Sabbath
      - which is the Jewish day of worship and rest
  - Hamas fires 5,000 rockets in 20 minutes, overwhelming Iron Dome
    - Operational since 2011
    - Short-range air defense system
    - 70-kilometer range
    - Detects and intercepts missiles, rockets, and UAVs
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    - Short-range air defense system
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    - Detects and intercepts missiles, rockets, and UAVs
  - Israel's Response
    - Launches 'Operation Iron Swords' against Hamas in Gaza.
  - India's Involvement
    - Launches Operation Ajay to evacuate citizens in Israel

## About Hamas

- Founded in 1987 after the First Intifada
- De facto authority in Gaza since Israel's 2005 withdrawal
- Refuses to recognize Israel; committed to armed resistance
- Declared a terrorist organization by the US, EU, Israel, etc

## Background of Israel-Palestine Conflict

### Root Cause

- Predates the establishment of Israel 75 years ago
- Territory claimed by both Palestinians and Israelis
- Jerusalem's significance for Judaism, Islam, and Christianity

### Key Sites

- Al-Aqsa Mosque (3rd holiest Islamic site)
- Western Wall (holiest Jewish site)
- Church of the Holy Sepulchre (Christian significance)

## Other Players in Palestine

### \*Fatah

- Secular nationalist organization
- Formed in the late 1950s
- Founded by Yasser Arafat
- Aimed to liberate Palestine through armed struggle

### \*Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)

- Conceived in 1964
- Aims to liberate Palestine through armed struggle
- Officially recognized by the Arab League and UN

### \*Palestinian Authority (PA)

- Founded in 1994 by Oslo Accords
- Interim body to govern parts of Gaza and West Bank
- Led by Mahmoud Abbas

## Possible Impacts of the Current War

### Centrality to Palestinian Cause

- Recent conflict highlights importance
- Arab-Israeli normalization puts Palestinian cause in the background

### Israel-Palestine Relations

- Conflict may strengthen Hamas
- Impact on peace negotiations

### Regional Instability

- Saudi Arabia suspends talks on normalizing ties
- Bahrain recalls ambassador
- Bolivia severs ties with Israel

### Economic Impact

- Global commodity markets affected
- Trade disruption in Suez Canal
- Potential disruption in the Strait of Hormuz
- Impact on global and regional economies

### Impact on India

- Economic impact on exports to Israel
- Impact on the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor

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