



Global Watch Daily – December 27, 2025

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A concise summary of significant developments in Israel and the world through a grounded Christian worldview.

Israel & Jerusalem

Tensions in southern Israel escalated as police detained five Bedouins suspected of torching dozens of cars in Jewish communities, highlighting ongoing security challenges in the region ([Times of Israel](#)). Meanwhile, the UK faces political challenges as a prominent Jewish figure emerges as a key opponent to Prime Minister Keir Starmer, reflecting the complex dynamics of diaspora politics ([Times of Israel](#)).

In Ukraine, a massive Russian attack on Kyiv resulted in one death and widespread power outages just before President Zelensky's meeting with former US President Trump, underscoring the ongoing conflict's volatility ([Times of Israel](#)). In the United States, former President Trump has called on the Justice Department to expose Democrats connected to Jeffrey Epstein, intensifying political divisions ([Times of Israel](#)).

Back in Israel, thousands are preparing to rally against Prime Minister Netanyahu and allegations of 'Qatargate' treason, reflecting domestic unrest and concerns over national security ([Times of Israel](#)). Reports have also shed light on Qatar's hidden brutality, raising questions about the Gulf state's human rights record ([JNS](#)).

Cultural heritage continues with the launch of a bookazine by a century-old Hungarian Jewish periodical, preserving Jewish history and identity ([JNS](#)). Security operations remain active as the IDF raided the Samaria home of a terrorist responsible for killing two in northern Israel and struck a Hezbollah terror compound in Lebanon, demonstrating Israel's ongoing counterterrorism efforts ([JNS](#)) ([JNS](#)).

In preparation for future threats, Israel is set to introduce new standards for home bomb shelters, enhancing civilian protection ([JNS](#)). Heightened tensions are evident as the IDF issued an evacuation order for Tehran ahead of potential strikes, signaling escalating regional hostilities ([Jerusalem Post](#)).

Military readiness is further demonstrated by a Defense Ministry exercise on Highway 35, while a Ukrainian drone attack forced the closure of Moscow's airport, indicating the



broadening scope of conflict beyond traditional battlefields ([Jerusalem Post](#)) ([Jerusalem Post](#)).

International concerns persist as the US condemned the shooting of Colombian presidential candidate Miguel Uribe, emphasizing global attention to political violence ([Jerusalem Post](#)). Additionally, an Israeli man was arrested in Albania for attempting to leave with undeclared €194,000, highlighting ongoing vigilance against illicit financial activities ([Jerusalem Post](#)).

Tragic violence struck Israel again, with two killed in a suspected Palestinian ramming and knife attack, underscoring the fragile security situation ([BBC](#)). In a diplomatic milestone, Israel officially recognized Somaliland as an independent state, signaling shifts in regional alliances ([BBC](#)).

Meanwhile, a blast at a Syrian mosque during Friday prayers left at least eight dead, reflecting ongoing instability in neighboring Syria ([BBC](#)). Pope Leo expressed deep concern over the conditions of Palestinians living in tents in Gaza, calling attention to humanitarian needs in the region ([BBC](#)).

Amidst conflict, stories of hope emerge as refugees fleeing war-torn countries find new families and communities, reminding us of the resilience of the human spirit ([BBC](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Israel continues to manage its security posture in Gaza by rotating military units as a new phase of a ceasefire deal approaches, indicating cautious efforts to maintain stability while preparing for potential escalations ([Long War Journal](#)).

The United States has conducted airstrikes against Islamic State fighters in Nigeria, targeting militants attempting to enter from the Sahel region, demonstrating ongoing global counterterrorism cooperation ([Long War Journal](#)) ([France24](#)).

In Iraq, militias remain divided over disarming and accepting government control, posing challenges to national unity and security efforts ([Long War Journal](#)).

Libya's parliament speaker declared a maritime deal with Turkey invalid but expressed openness to renegotiation, reflecting ongoing disputes over territorial waters and regional influence ([Long War Journal](#)).



Israeli military operations against Hezbollah in Lebanon continued through mid-December, underscoring persistent threats from the group and Israel's commitment to counterterrorism ([Long War Journal](#)).

On a broader scale, Christians face increasing persecution in China, described as a war with Chinese characteristics, while advocates urge the international community not to abandon persecuted Christians and activists in Burma, highlighting the global challenges to religious freedom ([FDD](#)) ([FDD](#)).

A recent analysis outlines key facts about Christians in China, providing insight into their struggles and resilience under government pressure ([FDD](#)).

In the United States, former President Trump's revised National Security Strategy has been detailed, signaling shifts in American defense and foreign policy priorities ([FDD](#)).

Meanwhile, Syria's integration deal is nearing collapse, reflecting the fragile state of reconciliation efforts in the war-torn country ([FDD](#)).

Global Macro & Geopolitics

A massive Russian attack on Kyiv left thousands without power, intensifying the humanitarian and security crisis in Ukraine ([BBC](#)). Natural disasters have also struck globally, with four hikers found dead after an avalanche in central Greece and two fatalities in a 50-vehicle pileup on a Japanese highway, illustrating the ongoing challenges posed by extreme weather and accidents ([BBC](#)) ([BBC](#)).

In Japan, a meteor lit up the sky over Mount Fuji, a striking celestial event that reminds us of the wonders of God's creation ([BBC](#)). Meanwhile, a ceasefire began between Thailand and Cambodia after weeks of deadly clashes, offering hope for peace in Southeast Asia ([BBC](#)).

In Africa, the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations jerseys have been highlighted as an opportunity to showcase brand initiatives that blend sports and social awareness ([France24](#)). Former Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak was sentenced to an additional 15 years in a landmark corruption case, marking a significant moment in the fight against political corruption ([France24](#)).

A deadly blast struck an Alawite mosque in Syria's Homs, deepening sectarian tensions in the region ([France24](#)). Saudi Arabia has backed Yemen's government and urged separatist forces to withdraw from seized provinces, signaling ongoing efforts to stabilize the war-



torn country ([France24](#)).

Japan is advancing its defense capabilities with a record budget and expanded unmanned systems, while also making strides in artificial intelligence, reflecting a strategic pivot in response to regional security concerns ([The Diplomat](#)) ([The Diplomat](#)).

The evolving global order is marked by both convergence and divergence between America and China, as a minimalist world order begins to emerge ([The Diplomat](#)). In South Asia, India's government has effectively ended the legal right to employment, raising concerns about labor rights ([The Diplomat](#)), while Bangladesh sees the return of BNP leader Tarique Rahman after 17 years in exile, signaling potential political shifts ([The Diplomat](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

Recent scientific advances offer new hope in global health. Researchers have developed a novel method to prevent gum disease without harming beneficial bacteria, promoting oral health in a balanced way ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Studies have identified viral agents that may contribute to long COVID symptoms, providing targets for future treatments ([ScienceDaily](#)). Encouragingly, children's anxiety and depression levels have dropped rapidly following school reopenings, highlighting the importance of educational and social environments for mental health ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Artificial intelligence has uncovered a surprising vulnerability in monkeypox, which could lead to improved vaccines and disease control ([ScienceDaily](#)). Additionally, NAD+ supplements show early promise in alleviating long COVID fatigue and brain fog, offering potential relief for sufferers ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

Several minor earthquakes were recorded across the United States, including in Oklahoma, Louisiana, Alaska, New Mexico, and Alaska again, reminding us of the earth's dynamic nature ([USGS Oklahoma](#)) ([USGS Louisiana](#)) ([USGS Alaska 1](#)) ([USGS New Mexico](#)) ([USGS Alaska 2](#)).

In space exploration, NASA continues to make strides with studies in microgravity, preparations for the Artemis II crew launch, and public engagement events such as Santa's visit to the Artemis II rocket, inspiring wonder and hope for humanity's future



beyond Earth ([NASA](#)) ([NASA](#)) ([NASA](#)) ([NASA](#)).

Additionally, NASA's OPERA initiative addresses societal needs through satellite data, demonstrating the practical benefits of space science for Earth's inhabitants ([NASA](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

The City of David has released new antiquities findings, enriching our understanding of Jerusalem's ancient heritage and the biblical history embedded in the land ([City of David](#)).

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Reflection

As we observe the unfolding events in Israel, the Middle East, and across the globe, we are reminded of the fragile nature of peace and the persistent challenges faced by nations and peoples. The ongoing conflicts, political upheavals, and humanitarian crises call us to pray for wisdom and justice to prevail. At the same time, scientific advancements and human resilience offer hope for healing and restoration.

In a world marked by uncertainty and strife, Christians are called to be peacemakers and bearers of light, trusting in God's sovereign plan. Let us intercede for those suffering from violence and persecution, for leaders to seek righteousness, and for the Church to remain steadfast in faith and compassion.

- Pray for protection and peace in Israel and the surrounding regions, that violence may cease and reconciliation begin.
- Pray for persecuted Christians worldwide, especially in China and Burma, that God would strengthen and sustain them.
- Pray for wisdom and guidance for global leaders to pursue justice, mercy, and the common good in their decisions.