



Global Watch Daily – July 15, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

Recent reports highlight a conference in London where Orthodox Jews from diverse religious and political backgrounds gathered to address Israel's moral and democratic challenges. The discussions focused on issues of war, power, democracy, religion, and ethics within a halachic framework. Meanwhile, an Israeli airstrike targeted a Gaza apartment, resulting in the deaths of a family of three. Al Jazeera reports suggest that Israel is targeting Gaza civil officials in an effort to disrupt future governance structures, describing the situation as a “cycle of chaos.” ([JNS](#); [Al Jazeera](#); [Al Jazeera](#))

In Canada, a Jewish advocacy group has called on the government to designate Palestine Action Canada as a terrorist organization following an attack on an Ontario factory over the weekend. This move reflects growing concerns about anti-Israel activities within the country. ([JNS](#))

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Tensions between Saudi Arabia and the Houthi movement have escalated following attempts to resume direct flights between Tehran and Sanaa, the Houthi-controlled capital of Yemen. Saudi Arabia struck Sanaa International Airport on July 14 to prevent one such flight, prompting retaliatory missile attacks by the Houthis on Saudi territory. Meanwhile, a framework agreement signed on June 26 between Israel and Lebanon, mediated by the United States, aims to end their longstanding conflict by addressing core issues such as Hezbollah's armament. However, significant challenges remain in implementing the agreement's provisions. In Somalia, the United States has intensified its air campaign against Al Qaeda's Shabaab, conducting at least 74 strikes so far in 2026, marking a shift from the previous year's focus on the Islamic State. ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#))

The US-led Board of Peace announced plans on July 8 to establish a “pilot zone” in Gaza, allowing unarmed civilians who have been screened for Hamas affiliations to cross into the



Israeli-controlled area. During the period from June 30 to July 9, the Israel Defense Forces reported 13 ceasefire violations by Hamas, indicating ongoing hostilities. President Joe Biden's approach to conflict management has faced scrutiny, with some recalling his 2022 prediction that Russia's invasion of Ukraine would be a "minor incursion," a forecast that proved inaccurate. Additionally, the US-Iran memorandum of understanding is unraveling, signaling a return to blockade measures. ([Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#); [FDD](#))

Further reports indicate that former President Donald Trump is re-engaging with Iran-related conflicts from a "position of strength." Meanwhile, ex-Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is reportedly under house arrest due to alleged contacts with Israel. At a recent NATO conference in Ankara, General Sir Richard Barrons emphasized that European NATO members have four years to re-establish "escalation dominance" over Russia, underscoring the urgency of strengthening their military posture amid ongoing tensions. ([FDD](#); [FDD](#); [Chatham House](#))

In a significant policy shift, the Trump administration initiated the rescission of Syria's designation as a State Sponsor of Terrorism on July 8, following President Trump's meeting with Syrian President Ahmad al-Sharaa at the NATO summit in Ankara. This move is part of broader US efforts to recalibrate its stance in the region. Concurrently, the body of the slain Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei was received in Iraq on July 8, with funeral rites conducted in the Shiite holy cities of Najaf and Karbala. Notably, Iraq's highest cleric was absent from the ceremonies due to health reasons. ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#))

Global Macro & Geopolitics

Recent developments reveal escalating tensions as Iran threatens to block additional trade routes in response to renewed US military strikes. President Donald Trump has warned of targeting Iran's bridges and power plants if Tehran does not return to negotiations. Despite these pressures, Southeast Asia has demonstrated resilience amid the Hormuz Strait crisis, maintaining stability in trade and energy flows. The Associated Press reports that Iran has threatened to halt energy exports from the Middle East following the reimposition of a US blockade and intensified military actions. These dynamics underscore the fragility of global energy security and the strategic importance of maritime chokepoints. ([BBC News](#); [The Diplomat](#); [AP News](#))

Pestilence & Global Health



Recent scientific advances include the discovery of a naturally occurring bacterium from amphibian intestines that eradicated colorectal tumors in mice with a single dose by directly attacking cancer cells and activating the immune system. This breakthrough suggests a promising new avenue for cancer therapy applicable to various solid tumors. Additionally, researchers have identified a hidden immune backup system that enhances the efficacy of mRNA cancer vaccines by recruiting an unexpected immune cell type, challenging previous assumptions and potentially improving vaccine design. Another study revealed a shared vulnerability among deadly gut bacteria such as *E. coli* and *Shigella*: enzymes that degrade the gut's protective mucus layer. Targeting these enzymes could enable the development of a single vaccine to prevent multiple major diarrheal diseases. ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#))

In related developments, Johns Hopkins scientists have developed a nasal spray DNA vaccine targeting tuberculosis bacteria that evade antibiotics by hiding within the body. Animal studies have demonstrated that this vaccine accelerates infection clearance, reduces lung inflammation, prevents relapse after treatment, and enhances the overall immune response. ([ScienceDaily](#))

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

Recent seismic activity includes a magnitude 2.0 earthquake located 47 kilometers southeast of Port Graham, Alaska, at a depth of 34.5 kilometers, recorded on July 15, 2026. Additionally, a magnitude 6.2 earthquake struck 34 kilometers west-southwest of Sarangani, Philippines, at a depth of 67.85 kilometers on July 14, with a PAGER alert level of green, indicating minimal expected damage. ([USGS](#); [USGS](#))

Additional reports note a magnitude 4.1 earthquake 2 kilometers east-southeast of Frazier Park, California, at a depth of 13.09 kilometers on July 12, accompanied by a green PAGER alert. Furthermore, a magnitude 4.5 earthquake occurred in Peru on July 15 at 2:40 AM UTC, at a depth of 10 kilometers, potentially affecting approximately 3,000 people within a 100-kilometer radius. ([USGS](#); [GDACS](#))

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Archaeological work in the Wadi Tumilat region of Egypt has uncovered a residential complex alongside storage and production facilities. Excavations revealed pottery bearing seal impressions, ten mudbrick graves, and human remains, shedding light on the area's historical occupation. Concurrently, the first season of excavations at Ashdod has



commenced, focusing on understanding the function, dating, and architectural plan of a city gate. Volunteers and specialists alike have contributed to these efforts, enriching knowledge of the site's historical context. ([BiblePlaces](#); [BiblePlaces](#))

Further findings at Khirbat Jābir include twelve marble artifacts from a bathhouse excavation, such as a female head sculpture, a small Corinthian capital, a lion-headed bracket, and other richly decorated architectural elements. Pottery recovered from the site dates from the Byzantine through the Early Islamic periods, indicating continuous activity during these eras. These discoveries contribute valuable insights into the region's cultural and architectural history. ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#))