



Global Watch Daily – January 13, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

The Knesset has advanced legislation to establish a military tribunal tasked with trying those responsible for the October 7 attacks. This tribunal will permit the death penalty and prohibit suspects from being released in prisoner exchanges. Hearings will be public and broadcast live, demonstrating a resolute legal approach to justice ([Times of Israel](#)). Meanwhile, political dynamics remain fluid as Blue and White leader Benny Gantz expresses openness to forming a unity government under Netanyahu, urging other leaders to join efforts toward national cohesion ([JNS](#)). The ongoing winter storm has tragically claimed a life in Jerusalem, underscoring the vulnerability of urban populations to natural events ([Times of Israel](#)).

Strategic partnerships continue to evolve, with India and Israel deepening cooperation beyond procurement into joint development and co-production. This signals a forward-looking alliance in defense and technology sectors ([JNS](#)). Defense readiness is further emphasized by recent IDF evacuation orders in Tehran ahead of strikes and planned military exercises on Highway 35, reflecting ongoing regional security concerns ([Jerusalem Post](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Iran's nationwide protest movement has entered its third week, with the regime fearing defections and struggling to contain unrest. Reports of disobedience within security forces reveal growing internal anxiety, while Washington evaluates potential strikes on regime sites ([Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#)).

US military action against Islamic State targets in Syria was conducted in direct response to a deadly attack on US and Syrian forces in Palmyra, although the Islamic State has not claimed responsibility. Meanwhile, Gaza militia groups continue operations against Hamas members despite threats, indicating ongoing factional conflict within the region ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).



Global Macro & Geopolitics

Global markets are unsettled by a US probe into the Federal Reserve, raising concerns over the institution's independence amid political pressures from the Trump administration. This scrutiny threatens to impact monetary policy and investor confidence worldwide ([France24](#)). In Africa, Niger has revoked licenses of tanker drivers refusing to enter Mali due to jihadist threats, exacerbating fuel shortages and regional instability ([BBC News](#)).

Southeast Asia is poised for accelerated military modernization amid growing geopolitical uncertainty, with major procurements underway. Political shifts are also underway in Thailand, where the People's Party leads polls ahead of the February 8 election, though its ability to replicate past successes remains uncertain ([The Diplomat](#); [The Diplomat](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

New scientific advances are refining our understanding of infectious diseases and treatments. A novel test developed at the University of Basel distinguishes antibiotics that truly kill bacteria from those that merely inhibit growth, promising more precise therapies for diseases like tuberculosis ([ScienceDaily](#)). Meanwhile, research on long COVID links symptoms to persistent inflammation and micro-clots, with experimental treatments showing early promise despite limited large-scale trials ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Unexpected findings challenge previous assumptions: a real-world study found no flu transmission despite close contact between patients and healthy volunteers, emphasizing the role of ventilation and masks in infection control. Additionally, the antiviral drug Tamiflu, once suspected of causing seizures in children, is now considered protective against neuropsychiatric events linked to influenza ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

Seismic activity continues with recent earthquakes recorded in New Zealand, California, and Alaska, highlighting ongoing tectonic movements across diverse regions ([USGS](#); [USGS](#)). In space exploration, NASA's Webb telescope has delivered unprecedented insights into the Circinus Galaxy's active supermassive black hole, advancing our understanding of galactic evolution ([NASA](#)).



Environmental phenomena include a massive plume of carbonate sediment stirred by Hurricane Melissa near Jamaica, the largest such event recorded by satellite, with implications for marine ecosystems. NASA and SpaceX are preparing for the Crew-12 launch to the International Space Station, which will continue vital scientific expeditions in orbit ([NASA](#); [NASA](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

The City of David continues to reveal new archaeological discoveries and experiences that illuminate ancient Jerusalem's rich history. These updates provide valuable context for understanding the biblical and historical significance of the region ([City of David](#)).

Reflection

Today's developments highlight the intricate balance required between justice, security, and diplomacy in a region marked by conflict and natural challenges. Israel's legislative and military measures demonstrate a firm commitment to accountability and defense, while unrest in Iran and shifting geopolitical landscapes remind us of the fragile nature of peace and stability ([Times of Israel](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Scientific progress in health and environmental monitoring offers both hope and practical tools to address global challenges. From innovative antibiotic testing to space-based observations, these advances equip us to steward creation responsibly and care for human well-being amid uncertainty ([ScienceDaily](#); [NASA](#)).

- Pray for wisdom and justice in Israel's legal and political decisions.
- Support efforts for peace and stability in the Middle East amidst unrest.
- Embrace scientific advancements as gifts that improve health and deepen our understanding of our world.