



## Global Watch Daily – January 21, 2026

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

### **Israel & Jerusalem**

The new documentary “Sapiro v. Ford” recounts the landmark lawsuit that humbled Henry Ford and galvanized American Jewry; it is now available for streaming following its premiere at the Miami Jewish Film Festival ([Times of Israel](#)). Meanwhile, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) warns that the ongoing standoff with Iran over enriched uranium cannot be prolonged indefinitely, citing restricted access to critical nuclear sites bombed last June ([JNS](#)). The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) have issued evacuation orders for Tehran in anticipation of potential strikes, underscoring escalating regional tensions ([Jerusalem Post](#)). Additionally, leaked photographs have revealed the faces of hundreds killed during Iran’s brutal crackdown on protests, highlighting the severe human cost of unrest ([BBC News](#)). The strategic significance of Greenland is also under global scrutiny, as major powers eye the Arctic island for its economic and geopolitical value ([Al Jazeera](#)). Lastly, the number of UK schools commemorating Holocaust Remembrance Day has dropped nearly 60% since October 7, raising concerns about collective memory and education ([Times of Israel](#)).

### **Wars & Security (Israel and Region)**

The Israel Defense Forces report a significant decline in terrorism across the West Bank throughout 2025, attributing this improvement to sustained counterterrorism operations, although signs of renewed activity remain ([Long War Journal](#)). In Syria, government forces are advancing into eastern regions, seizing control of prisons that held Islamic State fighters previously managed by the Syrian Democratic Forces, raising uncertainty about the detainees’ fate ([Long War Journal](#)). On the global stage, the complex dynamics of U.S. foreign policy under President Trump are reshaping alliances and power balances, with Chatham House experts analyzing implications for Greenland, Venezuela, and Iran, and warning of a potential end to the Western alliance ([Chatham House](#)). The evolving geopolitical landscape also includes analysis of U.S.-China relations and the challenges faced by America’s adversaries seeking freedom from tyranny ([FDD](#)).



## **Global Macro & Geopolitics**

Ugandan opposition leader Kizza Besigye is critically ill in hospital, according to his party, although authorities describe his admission as a routine check-up ([BBC News](#)). Japan has restarted the world's largest nuclear power plant, nearly 15 years after the Fukushima disaster, signaling a cautious return to nuclear energy ([BBC News](#)). U.S. President Donald Trump declared at Davos that he will not use force to acquire Greenland, despite emphasizing its national security importance ([France24](#)). Meanwhile, the family of Robina Aminian, killed during Iran's protest crackdown, faces bureaucratic and personal torment, highlighting ongoing human rights concerns ([France24](#)). Diplomatic developments include a potential Trump-Xi meeting in Beijing amid India's strategic balancing act, and Uzbekistan's declaration of an anti-corruption state of emergency, signaling a shift in reform efforts ([The Diplomat](#)).

## **Pestilence & Global Health**

Recent scientific advances offer promising approaches to managing chronic health challenges. Micro-doses of THC show potential in mitigating long-term side effects of HIV treatment by reducing inflammation and protecting the liver without causing intoxication ([ScienceDaily](#)). Researchers have identified that chronic wounds resist healing because bacteria release harmful molecules that overwhelm skin cells; however, antioxidant treatments may restart the repair process ([ScienceDaily](#)). A global DNA study of E. coli in diabetic foot infections reveals diverse strains with antibiotic resistance, explaining the rapid worsening of such infections ([ScienceDaily](#)). Additionally, viruses sent to space evolved differently under microgravity, providing insights to improve phage therapies against drug-resistant infections ([ScienceDaily](#)). New tests that distinguish truly bactericidal antibiotics promise more precise treatments for serious infections ([ScienceDaily](#)).

## **Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens**

Recent seismic activity includes a magnitude 2.7 earthquake near Santa Rosa, California, and a magnitude 1.4 quake near Indio, California, both recorded on January 21 ([USGS](#); [USGS](#)). In Alaska, a 2.2 magnitude quake occurred south of Central ([USGS](#)). Fires have erupted in Chile's Biobío and Ñuble regions, forcing tens of thousands to flee ([NASA](#)). NASA will observe its annual Day of Remembrance on January 22, honoring fallen heroes of exploration, including the crews of Apollo 1, Challenger, and Columbia ([NASA](#)). Weather



forecasts predict heavy snow across the Great Lakes region, extreme cold, and a potential major winter storm later in the week ([weather.gov](https://www.weather.gov)).

### **Middle Eastern Artifacts**

Recent archaeological excavations in Israel have uncovered significant findings spanning multiple historical periods. A 2024 trial excavation at Horbat Umm Tabun in Sderot, conducted under the direction of the Israel Antiquities Authority and funded by the Sderot Economic Company, revealed important artifacts ([Israel Antiquities Authority](https://www.israelantiquities.gov)). Salvage excavations at 30 Bibas Street in Jerusalem's Nachlaot neighborhood, carried out in 2023, yielded valuable data contributing to the understanding of the area's historical layers ([Israel Antiquities Authority](https://www.israelantiquities.gov)). Additionally, extensive salvage excavations at Khirbat 'Amra in the Be'er Sheva Valley uncovered architectural remains from the Hellenistic to Early Islamic periods, marking it as one of the largest multiperiod rural sites in the region ([Israel Antiquities Authority](https://www.israelantiquities.gov)).

### **Reflection**

We should interpret these developments soberly, resisting both panic and apathy while attending to what is true. Our aim is prayerful discernment—grounding convictions in Scripture and keeping watch with steadiness and hope.