

**Please Note:**

**Due to family circumstances and time constraints the news will be less detailed with fewer highlighted areas and comments and more referrals to the Article resource sites for your further perusal. RDB**

**Please Note – Have a Merry Christmas remembering the reason for the Season**

**There will be no news posting tomorrow or over this weekend – BIG family time RDB**

**Two killed in terror attack in northern Israel; assailant shot, injured by passerby**

***Terrorist kills 68-year-old pedestrian Mordechai Shimshon in hit-and-run before fatally stabbing 19-year-old Aviv Maor at bus stop; separate ramming in south West Bank wounds 4 troops***

By [Charlie Summers](#)

26 December 2025, 5:11 pm Updated at 8:34 pm

Footage shows the scenes of stabbing and car ramming attacks in northern Israel on December 26, 2025.

(Reuters/X, used in accordance with Clause 27a of the Copyright Law); L-R: Aviv Maor, 19, from Kibbutz Ein Harod, and Mordechai Shimshon, 68, from Beit She'an, who were killed in the attacks. (Social media) [Go to website for video rdb](#)

**A Palestinian terrorist from the West Bank killed two people and wounded two others in a stabbing and car-ramming rampage in northern Israel on Friday before being shot and injured by a passerby, authorities said.**

The attack began shortly past noon in Beit She'an along northern Israel's Route 71, security forces said. The **terrorist, driving a car, rammed into a 16-year-old boy, who was later hospitalized with light wounds, and then into a 68-year-old man, killing him.**

The man, **identified as Mordechai Shimshon of Beit She'an, was pronounced dead on the scene despite attempts to resuscitate him, according to medics and police.**

As security forces pursued the attacker, he drove northwest toward the city of Afula.

**On the way, he stopped near Kibbutz Ein Harod, where he stabbed a 19-year-old kibbutz member to death. She was later identified as Aviv Maor.**

At the **entrance to Afula, the terrorist then drove into a utility pole while trying to run over another man**, then got out of the car and hit the man in the head with a stone, an eyewitness told Channel 13. The man was hospitalized with a minor head wound.

**Aviv Maor and Mordechai Shimshon who were killed in a terror attack in northern Israel on December 26, 2025. (Courtesy)**



**The terrorist then tried to flee on foot but was shot and wounded by a civilian. He was then captured and taken to a hospital in moderate condition.**

Marwat Abed, from the nearby town of Nazareth, told Haaretz that she and her family treated the man who suffered a head wound at the entrance to Afula.

"My daughters are doctors, so they treated him," she said, adding that her husband pursued the terrorist. "The man who was injured is a cousin of ours. There are no Jews or Arabs — we're all together."

The IDF said the assailant had come into Israel illegally from the West Bank several days ago. According to Hebrew media, he was illegally employed in Israel and had used his employer's vehicle in the attack.

The terrorist was identified as Ahmed al-Rub, 37, of Qabatiya in the northern West Bank. IDF troops subsequently raided the village, busting into al-Rub's family home where they arrested his father.

According to Palestinian media, military bulldozers set up roadblocks inside Qabatiya as troops and other military vehicles patrolled the streets and snipers deployed on some rooftops. The military was also reportedly blocking the entrances to the town of some 25,000.



**Senior officers of the IDF's 417th Regional Brigade conduct a situational assessment at the scene of a deadly terror attack in Beit She'an, on December 26, 2025. (Israel Defense Forces)**

The IDF said it was also mapping out the assailant's home in preparation for demolishing it. Israel says the move is aimed at deterring future attacks, but critics say evidence of the policy's effectiveness is weak and that it amounts to collective punishment.

Maor's parents Einat and Tal described their daughter as a nature lover with a deep affection for both people and animals.

"Avivi was a child of nature, loving of both humans and animals, and had a passion for horseback riding for many years," they said in a statement. "She cared for all the injured animals in the valley. A talented photographer, a caring and loving daughter to her parents and a devoted sister."

Maor is survived by her parents and two brothers, Nitzan and Itai. Funeral details were expected to be shared shortly.



**Paramedics arrive at the scene of a stabbing near Ein Harod in northern Israel on December 26, 2025. (Magen David Adom)**

Also on Friday, the IDF said that a suspected ramming attack was carried out near the Adorayim area in the southern West Bank.

According to the military, the suspect accelerated his vehicle and rammed a military vehicle carrying IDF troops. The suspect was detained at the scene and transferred to the Shin Bet for interrogation, while forces set up roadblocks in the area.

The IDF said four soldiers who were in the vehicle at the time suffered "non-urgent" injuries and were transferred to the hospital for treatment.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/two-killed-in-terror-attack-in-northern-israel-assailant-shot-injured-by-passerby/>

## **Defense Ministry hands IDF first combat-ready Iron Beam laser interception system** **High-power aerial defense system has successfully intercepted rockets, mortars and drones in testing, is set to be absorbed by the Israeli Air Force**

By [Stav Levaton](#) and [Emanuel Fabian](#)

28 December 2025, 6:38 pm



**The IDF's first operational Iron Beam high-power laser air defense system, displayed during a handover ceremony at a Rafael Advanced Defense Systems facility, December 28, 2025. (Defense Minister's Office)**

**The Defense Ministry announced on Sunday the delivery of the first operational high-power laser interception system developed by Rafael Advanced Defense Systems Ltd., dubbed "Iron Beam," to the Israel Defense Forces.**

**The system, which has successfully intercepted rockets, mortar shells and drones during extensive testing, will be absorbed by the air force and integrated**

**into the country's multi-layered air defense array alongside Iron Dome, David's Sling and Arrow systems.**

Calling the handover "a historic occasion," Defense Minister Israel Katz said the system marks "the first time in the world that a high-power laser interception system has reached operational maturity," adding that it "changes the rules of the game and sends a clear message to all our enemies... do not test us."

Defense Ministry Director General Amir Baram said the delivery "marks the transition from development to serial production," calling Iron Beam "only the beginning of the technological revolution" and noting it is expected



to significantly improve both Israel's defensive capabilities and the cost balance between threats and costly interceptors.

IAF chief Maj. Gen. Tomer Bar described the moment as “especially moving,” saying the system is “another vital component in the air defense battle of our forces, who proved their operational capabilities during the war.”

Rafael CEO Yoav Turgeman said the company is “proud to deliver... the most advanced laser system in the world for intercepting aerial threats,” noting that even during intense fighting, Rafael “proved impressive operational capabilities using high-power lasers.”



**Senior Israeli defense and industry officials attend the handover ceremony for the Iron Beam laser air defense system at a Rafael Advanced Defense Systems facility, December 28, 2025. (Defense Minister's Office)**

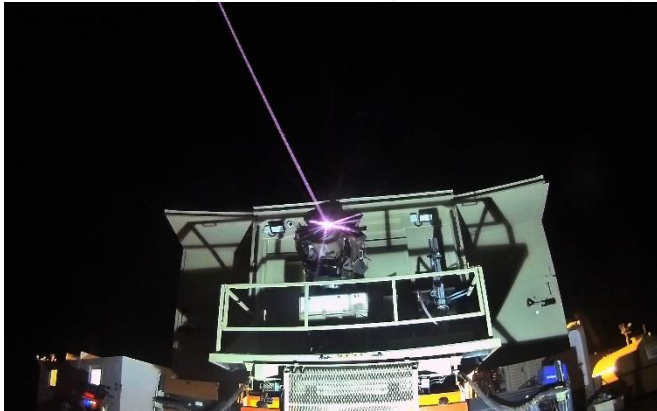
Bezhael Machlis, president and CEO of Elbit Systems — which supplied the laser for the system — also welcomed the delivery, saying that “the company continues its work on the development of high-power laser solutions for military applications.”

The system is referred to in Hebrew as Or Eitan (Eitan's Light) in memory of [Cpt. Eitan Oster](#), 22, a commander in the Egoz Commando Unit who was killed fighting Hezbollah in southern Lebanon in October 2024. His father – one of the system's

developers – recited the Shehecheyanu, a Jewish blessing that expresses appreciation for new and special experiences, at the ceremony.

On [December 1](#), it was announced that the Iron Beam would be handed over to the IDF at the end of the month, with the Defense Ministry's Directorate of Defense Research and Development head Danny Gold saying that “with development complete and a comprehensive testing program that has validated the system's capabilities, we are prepared to deliver initial operational capability to the IDF.”

The Iron Beam has been in development for over a decade, after it was first unveiled in [2014](#). It was [declared](#) operational in September after completing development and final tests.



**The 'Iron Beam' laser-based air defense system is seen intercepting a target over southern Israel, March 2022. (Defense Ministry)**

The system is not meant to replace the Iron Dome or other air defense systems, but to supplement and complement them, shooting down smaller projectiles and leaving larger ones for the more robust missile-based batteries such as the David's Sling and Arrow systems.

As long as there is a constant source of energy for the laser, there is no risk of it ever running out of ammunition. Officials have hailed the system as a potential “game-changer” in the battle against projectile attacks.

The main downside of a laser system is that it does

not function well in low visibility, including heavy cloud cover or other inclement weather.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/defense-ministry-hands-idf-first-combat-ready-iron-beam-laser-interception-system/>

## IDF tells lawmakers Haredi draft exemption bill ‘far from’ solving troop shortage

**Brig. Gen. Shay Tayeb warns Knesset defense panel that cuts to the length of mandatory military service mean the current troop shortage is only expected to get worse**

By [Sam Sokol](#)

Today, 2:34 pm



**Brig. Gen. Shay Tayeb, head of the IDF Personnel Directorate's Planning and Personnel Management Division, addresses the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, December 14, 2025. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)**

**The coalition's proposed law to regulate ultra-Orthodox conscription falls short of solving the Israel Defense Forces' manpower shortage, a senior military officer told lawmakers on Sunday evening.**

**"Will the framework of targets that has been presented tomorrow morning or over the next two years meet the needs of the IDF? The answer is not yet, far from it," Brig. Gen. Shay Tayeb, head of the IDF Personnel Directorate's Planning and Personnel Management Division, told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee toward the end of a marathon discussion of the controversial legislation.**

Some 80,000 ultra-Orthodox men aged between 18 and 24 are currently believed to be eligible for military service, but have not enlisted, causing widespread resentment among non-Haredi Israeli Jews. The Israel Defense Forces has said it urgently needs 12,000 recruits, due to the strain on standing and reserve forces caused by the war against Hamas in Gaza and other military challenges.

For the past year, the Haredi leadership has pushed for a law keeping its constituency out of the IDF, after the High Court ruled that decades-long blanket exemptions from army duty traditionally afforded to full-time Haredi yeshiva students were illegal.

If the government's bill is passed into law, it would effectively reset the status of yeshiva students who ignored call-up orders over the past year, while yeshivas would immediately receive half of their pre-ruling funding, easing economic and legal sanctions placed on the community with the goal of ending systematic draft evasion.

It stipulates that 8,160 conscripts be drafted by June 2027, which it says constitutes the first year of recruitment. The required number drops to 6,840 the next year, before rising to 7,920 and 8,500 the next two years.



*Ultra-Orthodox Jewish men attend a protest against the jailing of yeshiva students who ignored enlistment orders in Jerusalem, October 22, 2025. One is holding a sign echoing posters used by families and supporters of Israeli hostages held in Gaza. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)*

By year five, in 2031, the number will be set as at least 50 percent of the annual eligible cohort of recruits. After that, the defense minister will be empowered, with the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee's approval, to set an annual minimum threshold no lower than that of the fifth year.

However, according to Tayeb, even if 10,000 Haredim enlist over the first two years — with around 2,200 of them recruits

who would have enlisted anyway — there will be enough additional troops “to stabilize all the existing Haredi units” and add two new battalions within the recently established ultra-Orthodox Hasmonean Brigade, but not enough to solve the larger manpower problem.

He also warned that due to [cuts to the length of mandatory military service](#), the current troop shortage is only expected to get worse.

“These gaps are expected in January 2027 to rise dramatically...all at once, about 2,500 additional combat soldiers will be released, which will increase the gap, and about 3,000 combat-support soldiers,” he said, noting that this will continue on an annual basis as soldiers are discharged at a faster rate than they are conscripted.

In addition, the IDF has been facing a [major crisis](#) in keeping career servicemembers in the military, according to statistics aired earlier this month. According to Channel 12 news, the IDF is short of about 1,300 officers at the ranks of lieutenant and captain, and another 300 majors.



The bill's passage is critical for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, with the Knesset's ultra-Orthodox parties reportedly [threatening to dissolve the Knesset](#), forcing early elections, unless it is passed soon. The bill has generated [intense opposition](#) among some members of the coalition, leading Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich to warn that his far-right Religious Zionism party [would vote only for a revised version](#) of the controversial legislation.

*Deputy Attorney General Gil Limon attends a Knesset Constitution, Law and Justice Committee hearing, June 25, 2023. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)*

Responding to Tayeb's statement, Likud MK Dan Illouz, an opponent of the bill, told The Times of Israel that “a true right wing means putting the security of the state before everything else.”

“If the framework is far from the needs of the IDF, our Likud, Zionist, and national duty is to insist on a law that brings fighters into the field,” Illouz said.

Tayeb’s comments came on the heels of similar [criticism](#) from the Attorney General’s Office, with Deputy Attorney General Gil Limon telling the committee earlier in the day that the bill is unlikely to lead to an increase in mobilization that meets the military’s manpower needs and will instead discourage enlistment.

“The arrangement proposed in the current bill not only does not advance the enlistment of members of the ultra-Orthodox community, it actually creates a negative incentive for enlistment,” he said, arguing that the bill “rolls back the tools currently available to the government and the IDF in order to address current security needs.”

Committee legal advisor Miri Frenkel Shor on Sunday also pointed out difficulties with the bill, which she has previously [criticized](#) as falling short on parameters of equality and security.

The current version of the bill, written by committee chairman Boaz Bismuth, has come under harsh criticism from [Attorney General Gali Baharav-Miara](#), the [Finance Ministry](#), and the [Bank of Israel](#).

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-tells-lawmakers-haredi-draft-exemption-bill-far-from-solving-troop-shortage/>

## Israeli Air Force unveils new rapid-response unit to stop October 7-style ground invasions

*New arm of the Air Force set up to jump into automatic action if war is declared • More helicopters ready to mow down attackers on border within an hour*

By [YONAH JEREMY BOB](#) DECEMBER 25, 2025 17:00 Updated: DECEMBER 25, 2025 19:56



*A military helicopter flies above the Gaza Strip, as seen from the Israeli side of the border, January 8, 2024(photo credit: TOMER NEUBERG/FLASH90)*

**The Israel Air Force (IAF) on Thursday unveiled its relatively new unit for preventing October 7-style ground invasions of Israel, following the country’s complete unpreparedness for that role in 2023.**

**Conceptually, the idea is that helicopters should be deployable, some within several minutes and some within an hour, to mow down and bomb invaders, such that the ground border defenses are not left alone.**

The new unit is part of a larger transformation led by Brig. Gen. Gilad Bar Tal, shifting significant aspects of the IAF’s helicopter units from other tasks to border defense.

**This shift also involves increasing the volume of helicopters, drones, and fighter jets, which are constantly ready for border defense** and are more broadly assigned to border defense efforts.

In addition, the number of air force platforms that can act within several minutes, and the volume of bombs that the IAF can drop within an hour, is much higher than before.



**Air Force helicopter pilots given more discretion to open fire**

**Moreover, the rules of engagement for helicopters now give much more discretion to open fire based on each individual pilot’s assessment** of the threat on the ground than was the case prior to October 7.

Despite these proactive changes, the air force is still not returning to anywhere near the approximately 100 helicopters it had before the 2013-2014 era, when it shut down its [Cobra helicopter units](#).

According to the IDF, before the October 7 invasion, the IAF helicopter unit was due to be reduced to around 20.



Because of October 7 and the new approach, that helicopters are critical to future border defense, the helicopter units will remain around 50, meaning double what they would have been, but still half of what they were a decade ago.

### **Some changes to Israeli Air Force protocol began shortly after October 7**

There are several aspects to the transformation led by Bar Tal. Some of the changes started soon after October 7, 2023. The IDF has acknowledged that the air force had no plan ready to prevent a mass ground invasion, and would only have been able to fully modify the air force's deployments, resources, and assignments over a few months.

However, at this point, the IDF noted, it has had multiple years working with the land forces in Gaza, Lebanon, and Syria to learn how to better defend the borders and how to better work jointly with Israeli ground forces in general.

Next, the air force analyzed maps and the specific topography for each potential invasion area: South, North, West Bank. Israel also has borders with Jordan and Egypt.

Each border has its own specific challenges.



For example, if the IAF bombs specific potential invasion routes in the North, it can immediately slow an enemy invasion, whereas the same strategy in the South will not prevent a continued invasion as quickly, since the topography is flatter and invaders can more easily continue their invasion even using off-road trajectories.

Also, the air force will work differently with Divisions 210 and 91 in the North, based on those divisions' firepower and maneuvering capacities, than it will with Division 143 in Gaza, or Division 877 in the West Bank.

The air force has complemented those involved in IDF probes of their unit as well as non-air force officials involved in ensuring that the lessons learned to avoid a future disaster will be implemented. These processes have helped the air force push through a variety of changes.

As part of the change, the air force formally added defending the borders as part of its primary mission – whereas before, striking in enemy territory and especially against distant enemies was more of the focus.

In addition, the IAF drafted directives for the new approach covering a variety of scenarios that had been ignored until October 7.

By this past February, Bar Tal, who also handles other missions related to helicopters, had selected a new commander who has the role, on the day of any theoretical invasion, of directing the air force operational response to land-based threats.

On December 9, the IDF held a conference about the air force's defense of the borders, including all of the relevant ground forces with brigadier general and colonel ground force commanders.

Part of the process has included building a new target bank oriented around stopping land invasions as opposed to targeting top enemy leaders and new mission parameters.

During the October 7 massacre, the air force attacked many targets in Gaza, which were part of its pre-war target bank, and these attacks did harm Hamas, but did not harm its invasion forces.

In terms of rapid reaction helicopters, there are twice as many ready at all times as pre-October 7, and even more during daylight hours.

Likewise with drones, there are three to four times as many available for rapid deployment as before the war, and there are also a small number of additional fighter jets available for rapid land attacks.

If the helicopters and drones can be used to fire directly on individual invaders, the fighter jets would be used to drop larger bombs on invasion routes, blow up groups of invaders, or deter those invaders from proceeding when they see a huge bomb blow up on the exact trajectory where they have been ordered to advance.

Currently, the number of bombs that the IAF can drop in the first hour has jumped from around 16 pre-war to around 60.

Next, the air force also has large C-130 aircraft available to transport larger numbers of infantry reinforcements to an invaded border at a much more rapid pace.

The IDF is also now regularly training for all of these eventualities in its drills.

Regarding the rules of engagement, as soon as the brigadier general in charge of a particular front announces the country is at war or that the number of attacking forces is larger than the number of defending IDF forces, the whole entire new arm of the air force is set up to jump into automatic action.

In contrast, when Gaza Division commander [Brig. Gen. Avi Rosenfeld](#) announced his front was at war at 6:47 a.m. on October 7, no one, including Rosenfeld, understood that his forces were completely overwhelmed.

The IDF Southern Command only understood this around three hours later, severely slowing the response of sending reinforcements, including from the air force.

Regarding the IAF, most units that came to the Gaza border did very little against Hamas because they believed that in firing on Hamas from inside Israeli territory, they might strike Israeli civilians.

In contrast, the new rules of engagement mean that once the brigadier general front commander has said the enemy has more forces than his own, individual pilots have the authority and duty to fire on invaders within Israeli territory.

There are still dilemmas about what to do if the invaders have already taken hostages.

If the invaders have already taken hostages, then the air force is against firing on the hostage-takers lest they harm the hostages themselves.

This was not a theoretical concern, as there had been cases where the air force had accidentally killed IDF soldiers in the West Bank.

But even in that case, the air force pilots have clear orders to fire on any open area which the invaders might use to return to their territory – with the goal being to trap them in Israel until more ground forces arrive and surround them.

Specifically relating to the West Bank, the IDF said that it can now rapidly add 500 soldiers to help existing forces using air force assets to move them there.

In addition, in the time that it once took to evacuate and rescue six soldiers, the IDF now has larger capabilities to evacuate and rescue closer to 100 soldiers.

Finally, if there are communications problems between land and air force units, there are now five alternate channels for those units to communicate in the event of a crisis, so that they will not be cut off from each other as occurred on October 7.

The number of aircraft is still not huge, and the number of standing ground units has not risen significantly on some fronts.

Despite learning the topography, many mid-level commanders are switched frequently in and out of a given area, such that they may not really have sufficient expertise in the topography of a given front when an attack may start.

There are also places where Israeli villages are so close to Palestinian or other foreign villages that the air force's firepower may not be able to come into play fast enough to make a huge difference in the event of an invasion.

However, the concept that the air force would be ineffective in a few villages for an hour is still far different from being ineffective for three to six hours in dozens of villages, both those on the border and those at a distance.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-881382>

## **WATCH: IDF, Shin Bet kill key operative in IRGC's Quds Force in southern Lebanon strike**

*Hasin Mahmoud Marshad al-Jawahiri was a central figure in the elite Quds Force intelligence unit which managed much of the terror against Israel emanating from Lebanon and Syria.*

*By [YONAH JEREMY BOB](#) DECEMBER 25, 2025 08:35 Updated: DECEMBER 25, 2025 19:44*

*IDF, Shin Bet kill IRGC terrorist operating in Lebanon, December 25, 2025. (CREDIT: IDF SPOKESPERSON) [Go to website for video rdb](#)*

*Israel assassinated a senior [Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps](#) Quds Force Unit 840 commander in Lebanon, the Shin Bet (Israel Security Agency) and IDF reported Thursday.*

**Hasin Mahmoud Marshad al-Jawahiri was a central figure in the Quds Force intelligence unit, which managed much of the terrorism against Israel emanating from Lebanon and Syria, they said.**



*The Jerusalem Post* has learned that Jawahiri was a highly professional intelligence agent with many unusual abilities beyond those of even typical elite Quds Force terrorist agents.

*Here, posters display assassinated military leaders, including IRGC commander-in-chief Hossein Salami (center), in Tehran at the end of June. (credit: Majid Saeedi/Getty Images)*

Furthermore, the *Post* understands that Jawahiri never permanently left the [Lebanon](#)-Syria area, even after Israel had managed to kill other senior Quds Force officials and Hezbollah leader [Hassan Nasrallah](#).

Rather, the *Post* has learned that Jawahiri was targeted only now, and not earlier this year, because a unique opportunity presented itself.

Israel said it views all attempts by Iran to pursue terrorism against Israelis and Jews with great severity.

#### **IDF kills additional Hezbollah terrorist**

The IDF struck and killed a Hezbollah terrorist operating in the area of Al-Jumayjimah in southern Lebanon earlier on Thursday, the military confirmed.

The terrorist was working towards restoring Hezbollah's terror infrastructures in the area.

"The terrorist's activities constituted a blatant violation of the understandings between Israel and Lebanon," the military's statement concluded. <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-881318>

## **Israel 'will never withdraw from Gaza,' Katz stresses despite US anger on settlement rhetoric**

*"A large area of Gaza will be surrounded to protect settlements," Defense Minister Israel Katz said. "In my vision and in due time, Nahal nucleus groups will be established in the northern part."*

*By*[JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#)**DECEMBER 25, 2025 13:31***Updated: DECEMBER 25, 2025 14:18*

*The full remarks of Defense Minister Katz on the subject of the Nahal nuclear weapons in Gaza. (Credit: National Education Conference of the Bnei Akiva Yeshivot and Ulpan Center and Makor Rishon) [Go to website for video rdb](#)*

**Defense Minister Israel Katz again reiterated his wish to establish Nahal nucleus groups to "protect settlements" across northern Gaza on Thursday, only days after backtracking on similar comments following pressure by American officials.**

**Speaking to Kalman Libeskind at Bnei Akiva and Makor Rishon's national education conference, Katz stressed that Israel "will never leave the Gaza Strip."**

"A large area of Gaza will be surrounded to protect settlements," Katz said. "In my vision and in due time, Nahal nucleus groups will be established in the northern part."

#### **US official decry Katz's comments as 'provocation' of Arab nations**

On Tuesday, Katz was forced to retract comments made earlier that day while speaking at the Jewish settlement of Beit El, in the West Bank, where he said that Israel "will establish Nahal nuclei in place of the communities that were evacuated.

"We are in a period of practical sovereignty," Katz said. "There are opportunities here that have not existed for a very long time." **More-** <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/politics-and-diplomacy/article-881368>

## **Ahead of future Hezbollah conflict, IDF flags gaps responding to drones, anti-tank missiles**

**These gaps were identified during post-war investigations to prepare for future conflicts with the terrorist group.**

**By**[AMIR BOHBOT](#)**DECEMBER 25, 2025 10:48**



*IDF soldiers seen operating in northern Israel, near the Lebanese border, September 18, 2024(photo credit: IDF SPOKESPERSON'S UNIT)*

In preparation for a future campaign against [Hezbollah](#), the **IDF highlighted two core operational gaps during its reviews and lessons-learning from its latest conflict with the terror organization.**

**The IDF has pinpointed two major operational gaps in its campaign against Hezbollah: deadly drone strikes by Unit 127, which targeted the Golani Battalion and breached Israeli airspace, and the growing threat from Hezbollah's anti-tank missile teams. These**



## identifications are prompting a shift in intelligence and strategy that might be employed to respond to future conflicts with the terrorist group.

Unit 127's drone activity peaked during the attack on the Golani Battalion, resulting in four soldiers killed and over sixty wounded. Some drones even reached deep into Israeli territory, including an attack targeting Prime Minister [Benjamin Netanyahu's residence](#).

Meanwhile, Hezbollah's anti-tank missile teams posed a significant challenge, requiring a fundamental change in operational and intelligence strategies. Even after the ceasefire, Hezbollah launched additional drones, forcing the IDF to respond with airstrikes on Beirut to deter further attacks.

As the investigations and discussions unfolded, questions arose about whether these gaps were due to specific failures or indicative of a deeper issue within the Intelligence Directorate's operational priorities. Was there a failure to properly assess Hezbollah's arsenal, or was there a misuse of intelligence resources in the face of emerging threats?



*A drone is seen during a military exercise in an undisclosed location in Iran, in this handout image obtained on October 4, 2023. (credit: IRANIAN ARMY/WANA (WEST ASIA NEWS AGENCY)/HANDOUT VIA REUTERS)*

Senior reserve officers within the Intelligence Directorate have argued that addressing these gaps requires more than just new equipment. They emphasized that a cultural shift in how intelligence is gathered and utilized is essential to effectively counter drone and long-range anti-tank missile threats in future conflicts.

In response to the professional discussions within the Intelligence Directorate, the Israel Air Force, and the Northern Command, a senior military source explained that the issue is

being thoroughly investigated.

"The Intelligence Directorate and the intelligence units across the arms are researching and developing an intelligence knowledge base to enable more effective warning models based on various types of intelligence materials, along with compiling a target bank to reduce the threat," the source said. "This is different from the past and in light of the lessons from the October 7 investigations."

### **'Two teams were established within the Northern Command Intelligence'**

The source also suggested that responsibility for these issues is shared between the Intelligence Directorate, the Northern Command, and the Air Force, stating, "In any case, the response is not airtight, and there is a need to continue developing detection and interception capabilities for weaponry. About a year ago, the Northern Command established a low-altitude air defense unit, responsible for building the force to deal with the threat. Additionally, two teams were established within the Northern Command Intelligence, focusing on enemy situational awareness and target research for various rocket systems. The knowledge base has significantly developed, and the information is influencing the force-building and targeting strategies."

Regarding the division of responsibility, the official added, "It is important to separate the enemy knowledge base and warning models for deploying force in the various Hezbollah systems, which fall under the Intelligence Directorate and intelligence units, from the detection, assistance, and interception capabilities, which are outside the Intelligence Directorate's responsibility and are led by the Ground Forces and air force."

At the same time, the Northern Command adopted a policy of expanded responsibility, improving its warning models and capabilities to deal with these threats both in the northern sector and across the IDF.

In response to these developments, an IDF spokesperson issued the following statement: "The Intelligence Directorate conducted a thorough and in-depth process to investigate its failures on October 7 and is currently in the midst of a broad organizational transformation. This transformation covers all units, sectors, and activities within the Directorate. The failure on October 7 reflected a systemic and wide-reaching failure."

"The warning model in the Lebanon arena, like in other war theaters, is being adjusted and refined according to reference scenarios," the spokesperson added. "The response to the drone and anti-tank missile threat is a top priority in the Intelligence Directorate's work plan and resource allocation. The IDF's capabilities in the Lebanon sector are reflected in actions and operational achievements accumulated throughout the war with the Hezbollah terror organization. These achievements would not have been possible without high-quality, broad, and precise intelligence." <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-881322>

**Diplomatic effort continues to ward off 'specter of war' with Israel, Lebanon's Aoun says**  
Lebanese President Joseph Aoun said "our diplomatic contacts have not stopped to ward off the specter of war" with Israel, noting that "the specter of war is still there."

ByTZVI JASPERDECEMBER 25, 2025 16:55Updated: DECEMBER 25, 2025 17:55



*Lebanese President Joseph Aoun attends a joint press conference with French President Emmanuel Macron, at the Elysee Palace in Paris, France, March 28, 2025. (photo credit: REUTERS/SARAH MEYSSONNIER)*

**Lebanese President Joseph Aoun said the upcoming year will mark "the birth of a new Lebanon," built on accountability and institutions as opposed to one of sects and parties, during a Christmas speech, Lebanon's state media, the National News Agency (NNA), reported on Thursday.**

**He added that "our diplomatic contacts have not stopped to ward off the specter of war" with Israel, noting that "the specter of war is still there."**

The NNA also reported on Aoun's earlier meeting with Lebanon's [Maronite Patriarch](#) of Antioch and All the East, Bechara Boutros al-Rahi in Bkerke, where the two exchanged Christmas greetings and posed for photos.



*People stand near an illuminated Christmas tree during the holiday season in Batroun, northern Lebanon, December 10, 2025. (credit: REUTERS/MOHAMED AZAKIR)*

**Aoun determined to keep elections on schedule**

**Aoun noted that he is determined to hold the upcoming elections on schedule, calling it "a constitutional duty which must be fulfilled."**

He also reaffirmed that both Lebanese Prime Minister [Nawaf Salam](#) and Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri were fully committed to holding elections when they are meant to.

Aoun also addressed the ongoing conflict in [southern Lebanon](#), describing it as a "bleeding wound," concluding that "we hope to end wars and live in peace."

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-881384>

**Turkey attempting to deploy radars within Syria, western intel. sources tell 'Post' - exclusive**  
**Deploying radars in Syrian territory would harm Israel's ability to strike targets in Iran, due to the fact Israel is using Syrian airspace to reach Iran.**

ByAMICHAJ STEINDECEMBER 25, 2025 14:59Updated: DECEMBER 25, 2025 21:08



*People sit together near Turkish flags and Syrian flags in the city of Azaz, Syria, May 15, 2023(photo credit: REUTERS/KHALIL ASHAWI)*

**Turkey has been trying to deploy radars on Syrian soil in recent weeks, two Western intelligence sources told The Jerusalem Post on Thursday, amid an escalating confrontation between Israel and Turkey over Ankara's presence in Syria.**

**Deploying radars in Syrian territory would significantly restrict the Israel Air Force's freedom of action in Syrian airspace, as was the case in recent strikes, as Turkish radars could**

**detect Israeli aircraft activity over the country.**

It would also complicate Israel's ability to [strike targets in Iran](#), given that Israeli aircraft frequently use Syrian airspace as a transit route to the Islamic Republic.

One of the sources told the *Post* that Turkey is planning to transfer the radar systems to the Syrian military, presenting the move as a step to bolster President Ahmed al-Sharaa's forces. However, Turkish personnel would remain responsible for operating the systems, giving Ankara access to and control over the intelligence gathered.



## Israel, concerned over Turkish encroachment, strikes Syrian Air Force bases

Shortly after the fall of Assad's regime last year, Israel carried out airstrikes on military installations in Syria, including Syrian Air Force bases such as the T-4, amid growing concern that Turkey would establish permanent [military outposts](#) and deploy drones.

Shortly after the fall of Bashar al-Assad's regime last year, Israel [struck military bases in Syria](#), including Syrian Air Force bases such as the T-4, out of concern that Turkey would establish permanent bases there and station drones.



*IDF fighter pilots prepare to embark on a fighter jet for operational activity, August 24, 2025 (credit: IDF SPOKESPERSON'S UNIT)*

A security official said at the time that the possibility of Turkey building an air base in Syria represented a "potential threat."

"If a Turkish air base is established, it would entail a violation of Israel's freedom of action in Syria," the official said. "This is a potential threat that we oppose. We struck the bases to send a message that we will not allow any impairment of our aerial freedom of action."

### Turkish officials meet Assad, Israel monitors with concern

This week, Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan, Defense Minister Yaşar Güler, and Turkish intelligence chief İbrahim Kalın held talks with Assad in Damascus, alongside senior Turkish officials. In Jerusalem, defense officials are closely monitoring the tightening relationship between Ankara and Damascus and assessing the implications for Israel's operational landscape.

Analysts warn that the radar deployment could enhance Syria's air defense capabilities, allowing for better detection of Israeli operations. According to foreign reports, the Israel Air Force regularly transits Syrian airspace en route to operations in Iraq and Iran.

The confrontation escalated further this week when the pro-government Turkish daily Yeni Şafak ran the headline: "Israel is Turkey's number one enemy." The article appeared one day after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with the leaders of Greece and Cyprus in Nicosia. During the trilateral summit, Netanyahu remarked: "Those who fantasize about restoring their empires will not succeed."

Erdogan responded: "Whether in the Eastern Mediterranean or anywhere else, we do not take what is not lawfully ours, and we do not allow our rights to be taken."

He added, "Agreements can be made, documents can be signed, and messages can be conveyed in various ways, but none of this will change our policy. Those responsible for the blood of more than 70,000 Palestinians have no moral standing in our eyes; their provocations are nothing more than empty noise."

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-881380>

## Trump orders strike on ISIS in Nigeria, wishes 'Merry Christmas to the dead terrorists'

*The United States Africa Command stated that the strike in Sokoto was conducted "at the request of Nigerian authorities" and killed multiple terrorists.*

By [GOLDIE KATZ](#) DECEMBER 26, 2025 01:23 Updated: DECEMBER 26, 2025 02:34



*US President Donald Trump makes an announcement about the Navy's "Golden Fleet", as Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth listen, at Mar-a-lago in Palm Beach, Florida, US, December 22, 2025. (photo credit: REUTERS/Jessica Koscielniak)*

**The United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) launched a strike against Islamic State terrorists in Nigeria, US President Donald Trump announced on social media early on Friday.**

**AFRICOM stated that the strike in Sokoto was conducted "at the request of Nigerian authorities" and killed multiple terrorists.**



## **The strike was ordered due to recent Islamic State attacks on Nigerian Christians, according to Trump.**

"The Department of War executed numerous perfect strikes, as only the United States is capable of doing," Trump said, adding that he wishes a "MERRY CHRISTMAS to all, including the dead Terrorists, of which there will be many more if their slaughter of Christians continues."

In early November, Nigeria said it was open to US help in combating the rise of violent Islamic State terrorism.

"We welcome US assistance as long as it recognizes our territorial integrity," Daniel Bwala, an adviser to Nigerian President Bola Tinubu, told *Reuters*, adding that were the Nigerian and US presidents to meet, "there would be better outcomes in our joint resolve to fight terrorism."

*Reuters contributed to this report.* <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-881438>

## **Iranian protests rage as rial plunges, officials blame 'enemy psychological warfare'** **Clashes have reportedly broken out across multiple streets in Tehran, with authorities using tear gas to disperse the protesters**

By [DANIELLE GREYMAN-KENNARD](#) DECEMBER 29, 2025 17:03



Protesters march in Iran. December 29, 2025. (photo credit: SECTION 27A COPYRIGHT ACT)

**Protests in the Islamic Republic entered a second day as demonstrators voiced anger over the rapidly falling value of the rial, while regime officials blamed the unrest and broader economic decline on what they described as enemy "psychological warfare." Shopkeepers in the capital have closed their stores, and mass demonstrations have broken out in response to the rial's fall. Clashes have reportedly broken out across multiple streets in Tehran, with authorities using tear gas**

**to disperse the protesters, according to footage of the events.**

### **Iranian officials blame 'enemy' for protests against declining rial value**

IRGC brigadier general Ali-Akbar Pourjamshidian, the security and law enforcement deputy to the interior minister, blamed the fluctuations in [foreign exchange markets](#) on "enemy inducements."

"In my opinion, a large part of the currency problems and fluctuations is affected by the psychological atmosphere of the market. The enemy is desperately seeking to take advantage of the created atmosphere," he reportedly stated. "People should be aware of this issue and not be influenced by the enemy's insinuations. The market should continue its work peacefully, and people should not worry."

A similar claim was released by the IRGC, which issued a statement alleging the dissent is the result of "cognitive warfare, psychological operations, and narrative creation."

"Despair, instilling fear, and encouraging surrender to the enemy in the current circumstances are clear examples of seditious behavior," the IRGC claimed.

The IRGC-affiliated semi-official Tasnim news agency also alleged the protests were in part fueled by accounts associated with the "Zionist regime."

Iran's currency slipped to the lowest level in its history at the beginning of December, nearing 1,250,000 rial to the US dollar on the open market rate.

### **Iran appoints former economy minister to head central bank, despite previous impeachment**

The regime appointed on Monday the former economy minister, Abdolnaser Hemmati, as the new head of the central bank. The official was impeached from his position in March of this year after his critics pointed to surging [inflation](#) under his supervision.

Iran's parliament voted 182 to 89 in favor of impeachment at the time, and dissident reports indicate that his reappointment has fueled protester anger.

In the eight months Hemmati was minister, Iran's currency lost nearly half its value against the US dollar, according to some estimates.

Iranian state media also blamed the government's recent economic liberalization policies for adding pressure to the open rate market.

### **More than the rial: Protesters raise political issues in Tehran protests**

The protests also followed the regime's decision to raise the cost of subsidized fuel. The increase in Iran's gasoline price had long been postponed amid concerns it could spark a repeat of the widespread protests seen in 2019, which were crushed by the state.

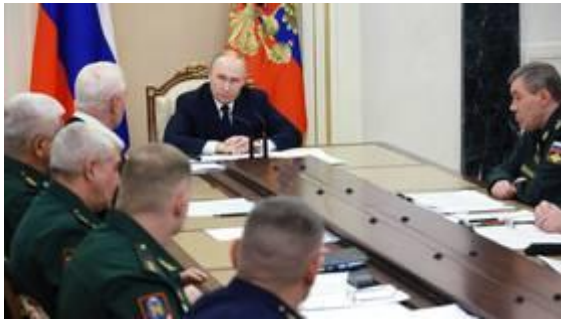
Iran's economy is at risk of recession, with the World Bank forecasting an economic shrinkage of 1.7% in 2025 and 2.8% in 2026. The risk is compounded by rising inflation, with Iran's Statistical Centre announcing monthly inflation of 48.6% in October, the highest in 40 months.

In addition to the economic issues, demonstrators have begun chanting in support of the exiled Iranian Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi.

May Reza Shah's soul be happy," and "This is not the last battle, Pahlavi will return," according to recordings circulating online. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-881715>

## **Russia liberated 32 settlements from Ukrainian forces in December – MOD to Putin**

***Advances were made along almost the entire frontline, the chief of Russia's General Staff, Valery Gerasimov, has said***



© Sputnik / Mikhail Metzel

The Russian military has **taken control of 32 frontline settlements in December and continues to advance against Ukrainian forces in multiple locations, the chief of Russia's General Staff, Valery Gerasimov, has told President Vladimir Putin.**

**On Monday, the Russian president held a meeting with the country's top military brass, including Defense Minister Andrey Belousov, and the commanders of troop**

**groupings operating in the conflict zone.**

In December, Russian forces liberated over 700 square kilometers of territory, taking some 32 settlements under control, Gerasimov said at the meeting. This month, the military has shown the highest rate of progress in the entire outgoing year, he noted, adding that troops are advancing *"along virtually the entire frontline."*

*"The adversary is not undertaking any active offensive actions. They have concentrated their main efforts on strengthening their defenses and are attempting to slow the pace of our advance by conducting counterattacks in isolated areas and using drones en masse,"* Gerasimov said.

Active fighting continue in the town of Krasny Liman, a major Ukrainian-controlled logistics hub located in the north of Russia's Donetsk People's Republic (DPR). Russian troops have entered Krasny Liman from multiple directions, with combat going on within the town, the commander of the troop grouping 'Zapad' ('West'), Colonel General Sergey Kuzovlev, has said.

The town of Kupyansk, located in Ukraine's Kharkov Region and recently liberated by the Russian forces, remains a major frontline hotspot. Moscow's forces are seeking to destroy lingering Ukrainian forces that are tactically encircled to the east of the town. The operation is expected to be concluded by the end of February at the latest, according to Kuzovlev. Kiev's efforts to disrupt the situation in Kupyansk must be *"decisively suppressed,"* Putin noted, apparently referring to the ongoing attacks launched by Ukrainian forces on the town from the west.

The Russian president commended the actions of the country's troops, expressing his gratitude for the tireless efforts of soldiers, and officers that had made the latest achievements possible. *"Undoubtedly, the decisive role in the successes of the Russian Armed Forces on the frontline belongs to our soldiers and officers, who, liberating the land of Donbass, display courage and heroism every day, risking their lives,"* Putin stated.

<https://www.rt.com/russia/630202-ukraine-conflict-putin-update/>

## **Trump cites 'thorniest issue,' offers takes on Ukraine, Russia and Putin: As it happened**

*Acknowledging frontline realities in order to bring about a sustainable peace deal was expected to feature significantly*

28 Dec, 2025 18:42



**US President Donald Trump greets Ukrainian Vladimir Zelenskyy at his Mar-a-Lago club on December 28, 2025 in Palm Beach, Florida. © Getty Images / Joe Raedle**

US President Donald Trump has held a face-to-face meeting and a press conference in Miami with Ukraine's Vladimir Zelenskyy over settling the conflict between Kiev and Moscow. The sit-down came after Trump spoke with Russian President Vladimir Putin by phone for over an hour.

Zelenskyy, who faces another corruption scandal implicating lawmakers that erupted over the weekend, is following up on days of negotiations in Florida between Ukrainian and US negotiators on a potential deal to end the Ukraine conflict.

Trump touted good progress in the talks but acknowledged that Ukraine's potential territorial concessions remain one of the thorniest issues on the agenda. He added that both Moscow and Kiev are working to reopen Russia's Zaporozhye nuclear power plant.

Shortly before Zelenskyy's arrival, Trump announced on his Truth Social that he had had a "very productive" conversation with Putin, while Russian presidential aide Yuri Ushakov said that both "hold broadly similar views" and that a temporary ceasefire would only prolong the conflict.

A 20-point proposal revealed by Zelenskyy ahead of the meeting has been dismissed by Moscow, which called it "radically different" from what Russia and the US had discussed on the issue. Earlier, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov said that Moscow was "fully" ready to move forward with the peace process while Kiev and its European backers seek to derail it.

Trump has invited media representatives to attend the meeting, and our updates will follow events and reactions.

<https://www.rt.com/news/630114-trump-meets-zelensky-in-miami/>

## Victor Davis Hanson Warns of a Mass Uprising Against Jews is Happening in the West

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wnqNUled4M>

OP ED

## The Somalization of North Dakota

Thu, 25 Dec 2025 7:26 PM PST by Daniel Greenfield



**On July 13, 2023, Mohamad Barakat, a Syrian refugee, packed up several rifles and handguns 1,800 rounds of ammo, a hand grenade, and a car filled with gas cans on the way to carry out an Islamic terrorist attack at Fargo's Downtown Street fair aiming to kill thousands of Americans. Instead the terror refugee got into a confrontation with police and died in an exchange of fire.**

North Dakota Attorney General Drew Wrigley insisted that there was 'no evidence of political, racial or religious motivation'. "At this point it seems [no] more notable that he's Muslim than I'm Lutheran," he bafflingly argued. He also dismissed footage of Mohamad holding a Koran.

"I can't discern, from the evidence that we have, any other motivation," he claimed.

A year before, Fargo had gotten its first Somali Muslim mayoral candidate, the head of a social justice group, who had been photographed meeting with top state officials. And no one was looking to offend the state's growing Muslim population who were wielding more political clout.

And so the story of one of the worst Muslim terror plots in the country quickly disappeared and most people forgot about it. Few asked why there was a major Muslim terror plot in Fargo.

While Mohamad had been Syrian, the previous Islamic terrorist attacker out of Fargo had been Somali. In 2016, Dahir Adan, part of a Somali refugee family that had been resettled in Fargo, stabbed 10 people in the



Crossroads mall in Minnesota while shouting 'Allahu Akbar' and demanded to know if his victims were Muslims or non-Muslims and therefore 'fair game'.

The FBI claimed that the Muslim terrorist's motive may never be known. ISIS or the 'Islamic State' took credit for the attack and its 'unknown motive' in the name of Islam.

While the attack was going on, his brother, Abdullahi Adan, was already in prison in Fargo and was part of a group of Muslim inmates suing the prison system for \$100 million, complaining that pork was being secretly put in their food. Several of the litigants were Somalis including a Somali Muslim man charged with robbing a store and another Somali man accused of attempted kidnapping, terrorizing and robbery. The sole non-Somali was a black Muslim convert who had murdered two men in a drug frenzy and then tried to burn a building down.

"They fed us pork during the holy month of Ramadan," the Somali who robbed a store complained. Somali names are prominent among the inmates of the Cass County prison system and in the cases of assault, robbery and rape that litter the local news.

Fargo likes to brag about its diversity and the fact that nearly 1 in 10 in the city are 'foreign born'. Fargo's population [shot up from 74,000](#) in 1990 to 90,000 in 2000 to 128,000 today. Somalis flooded Fargo, as did Iraqis, Bosnians and Bangladeshis. Amid the pure snows rose mosques, ethnic welfare nonprofits, Halal markets and other outposts of the new population.

By 2000, six hundred Somali families occupied Fargo, by 2004, Somalis outnumbered Hispanics in the Fargo public school system. Refugee resettlement, led by Lutheran Social Services, continued bombarding the state with foreign migrants, 70% of them into Fargo.

After President Trump's outrage at the \$1.5 billion in Somali fraud, Rep. Hamida Dakane, the first Somali Muslim to hold office in the North Dakota legislature, dismissed Trump and bragged about a Somali Muslim population encompassing Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, Washington, Virginia, Maine, and North Dakota. "We are history," she declared. "And we will always rise."

Earlier this year, Fargo Mayor Tim Mahoney declared that June 28 was to be 'Somali Heritage Day'. The new Somali Heritage Day was a mere two weeks after the anniversary of the Muslim mass terror plot in Fargo.

And over the summer, Fargo held its Somali 'culture fair' to commemorate Somalia's 'independence'.

In North Dakota, as in Minnesota, Somali community groups getting government grants played a key role in wielding political power. The Afro American Development Association sounds like a black group, but in reality it was founded by Hukun Dabar, a Somali Muslim 'community organizer', who has been photographed with Rep. Dakane, as well as former Gov. Doug Burgum, and other state and local officials, along with Somali officials.

Hukun Dabar ran in the mayoral election in Fargo in 2022 and came in fourth.

Dabar also co-founded the Ethnic Self Alliance for Refugee Assistance (ESHARA) which claims to help migrants apply for 'public benefits' and offers legal aid. It played a role in planning the Somali Cultural Festival. Its leadership appears to be Somali and its 'partners' include Lutheran Social Services, North Dakota's Office of Refugee Services and the city of Fargo. Reports state that ESHARA's funding was [rerouted](#) by the state of North Dakota through Lutheran Social Services so the Somali group was no longer "overburdened with paperwork".

Hamida Dakane had started out as one of the "care coordinators" for ESHARA.

"They're funding other groups but not our group," the future state representative ranted. "I'm here to provide for my community, but when you hire someone else who has never lived with these people, who never spoke this language, who cannot walk into grocery and talk to people the way we can do—what will you call that other than oppression?"

News reports [have described](#) Dabar as "a business partner involved with Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services, which is part of the Minnesota Department of Human Services." The Minnesota Department of Human Services is at the epicenter of the fraud consuming the state.

"They come here as refugees, the majority of them, and they are carrying trauma, and that when the highest level of the government calls names and dehumanizes them, it hurts all of us," Ahmed Makaraan, who currently heads ESHARA, complained.

Makaran had started out at Dabar's Afro American Development Association.

Cani Adan, a former staffer at the Afro American Development Association, founded New Roots Midwest which aims to create "endless opportunities for immigrants" in North Dakota and Minnesota through various services. Adam has posted pictures of himself with incoming Gov. Kelly Armstrong Gov. Armstrong [recently](#) condemned Trump for criticizing Somalis.

New Roots Midwest doesn't list the rest of its staff, but its social media appears to feature Somalis, Somali

celebrations and translations from English into Somali.

These organizations are competing in a crowded space to provide services to Somali migrants, refugees and settlers in Fargo. And they're also competing against the established white liberal groups. Abdi Jama, a Somali refugee who heads Global Youth United in Fargo, [accused the](#) New America Consortium, another organization linked to Lutheran Social Services, which offers services to Somalis, of "money laundering, deception, corruption"

Meanwhile the Somalization of North Dakota continues through 'refugee resettlement' into Fargo, as well as Grand Forks and Bismarck: all of which now have Somali populations and mosques.

Global Friends, an affiliate of the Church World Service coalition, has been resettling Somalis in Grand Forks. The most visible spokeswoman for the Somalis there is the owner of a Somali restaurant which had hosted an Islamic 'Iftar' event with Mayor Brandon Bochenksi, and which was raided by the Department of Homeland Security over accusations of illegal money transfers.

Despite claims by local politicians, Somalization isn't making North Dakota any better. Just like in Minnesota, Somalization and Islamization are making North Dakota that much worse.

***Daniel Greenfield is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center. This article previously appeared at the Center's [Front Page Magazine](#).***

<https://bkdvk-zgpvh.campaign-view.com/ua/viewinbrowser>



BS"D

#### STEP BY STEP

STEP BY STEP: Good news is that many friends and supporters of Lev U'Neshama (Heart and Soul) donated towards the Education Fund project to provide basic school supplies for actually 350 children within our Lev U'Neshama families.

We are grateful that the school supply part of our effort has been successful.

According to the Israel Population and Statistics office, Tzfat's population is about 40,000, and one third live at the poverty level. We do what we can so at least the children within our struggling LUN families can get the things they need.

Every week we are providing new sport shoes and eye exams/eyeglasses to the children on our request list. However, previous donations are rapidly dwindling. I am reaching out now before the fund has been emptied and we will have to say "no" to additional requests.

We work with two local shoe merchants who give Lev U'Neshama a discount but they advised us the cost of the shoes has increased. Also, we work with an accredited optician in town who also gives us a discount but his cost is stable.

Lev U'Neshama is an Israeli registered non-profit charity organization, volunteer run, no business expenses whatsoever and every \$ goes into our programs.

Shoes: \$45 per pair regular and \$60 for First Steps, baby shoes.

Eye Exam/Eyeglasses: \$60 per child.

Your support is urgently requested.

Or use the Zelle US to US bank transfer system (contact me at [mortsmo@aol.com](mailto:mortsmo@aol.com) for bank information.

US Donors may also send checks made payable to

Simcha Smolensky, my son, who is also a volunteer. Send to:

Rabbi Simcha Smolensky, 6739 N Mozart St Chicago IL 60645

**Your support will be appreciated.**

Yaffa Smolensky