

# Jewish World

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As of April 13, 2025, Jewish communities around the world are celebrating Passover, a holiday that remembers the Israelites' escape from slavery in Egypt. The holiday began on the evening of April 12 and includes family gatherings, special meals, and religious traditions. However, this year's celebrations are taking place during a time of increased tension and conflict in the Middle East.

## Israeli Airstrike on Gaza Hospital

On April 13, Israeli missiles hit the Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City. The hospital's emergency department and other parts of the building were badly damaged. Fortunately, no one was hurt because the hospital had been warned before the attack and patients were moved to safety. Israel said the hospital was being used by Hamas fighters, but Hamas denied this and asked for an international investigation. The Episcopal Church, which runs the hospital, condemned the attack and called for protection of medical facilities. [1]

## Defense Minister's Warning to Hamas

Israel's Defense Minister, Israel Katz, warned Hamas that if they do not release the hostages they are holding, the Israeli military will increase its operations in Gaza. He said that the military aims to stop Hamas fighters and destroy their infrastructure. Katz also mentioned that Israeli forces have surrounded areas like Rafah and are ready to take further action if necessary. [2]

## analysis

As of April 13, 2025, the Jewish festival of Passover is being observed worldwide, commemorating the Israelites' liberation from slavery in Egypt. However, this year's celebrations are overshadowed by escalating tensions in the Middle East. On the same day, Israeli airstrikes targeted the Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City, rendering its emergency department inoperative. The hospital, managed by the Anglican Church, had received a prior warning, allowing for patient evacuation and preventing casualties. Israel asserted that Hamas was utilizing

the hospital for military purposes, a claim denied by Hamas, which has called for an international investigation . In a related development, Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz warned that if Hamas continues to hold hostages, the Israel Defense Forces will intensify their operations in Gaza, emphasizing the aim to dismantle Hamas's infrastructure. These events have cast a somber tone over the Passover festivities, highlighting the complex interplay between religious observance and ongoing regional conflicts. [thetimes.co.uk](https://www.thetimes.co.uk)

## References

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- [2] The Times of Israel. (2025, April 13). *IDF fully captures Gaza's Morag Corridor, cutting off Rafah from Khan Younis*. Retrieved from <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-fully-captures-gazas-morag-corridor-cutting-off-rafah-from-khan-younis/>

## References

- [1] Reuters, *Hamas fires rockets at Israeli cities, Israel issues evacuation orders in Gaza*, April 6, 2025.
- [2] Reuters, *Israel to seize parts of Gaza as military operation expands*, April 2, 2025.
- [3] Reuters, *Israeli military changes initial account of Gaza aid worker killings*, April 6, 2025.
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- [5] Wikipedia, *2025 Yokneam attack*, accessed April 6, 2025.