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TRAGEDY AND MIRACLE ON RUNWAY

Great escape for all 379 passengers and crew of Japan Airlines plane

TOKYO

All 379 passengers and crew of a Japan Airlines plane miraculously escaped from a fire following a collision with a Coast Guard aircraft at Tokyo's Haneda airport yesterday, but five of the six crew of the coast guard plane were killed.

The Coast Guard said the collision involved one of its planes that was headed to Niigata airport on Japan's west coast to deliver aid to those caught up in a powerful earthquake that struck on New Year's Day, killing at least 48 people.

"I felt a boom like we had hit something and jerked upward the moment we landed," a passenger on the Japan Airlines flight said. "I saw sparks outside the window and the cabin filled with gas and smoke."

Up in flames

Live footage on public broadcaster NHK showed the Japan Airlines (JAL) Airbus A350 aircraft bursting into flames as it skidded down the tarmac shortly before 6pm. It was later overwhelmed by the blaze despite feverish efforts by rescue crews to control the fire. But not before all 367 passengers and 12 crew were evacuated.

Japan's Transport Minister Tetsuo Saito confirmed that five of the Coast Guard aircraft's



A passenger plane burst into flames yesterday on the runway at Tokyo's Haneda Airport after it collided with a Japanese Coast Guard aircraft, killing five people on the smaller plane. The cause of the accident was unclear.

crew had died. The captain of the aircraft, a Bombardier-built Dash-8 maritime patrol plane, was injured.

Broadcaster NHK, citing the Tokyo Fire Department, said at least 17 of the people evacuated

from the passenger plane were injured.

Footage and images shared on social media showed passengers shouting inside the smoke-filled cabin and running across the tarmac away from an evacuation

slide. A spokesperson at Japan Airlines said its aircraft had departed from New Chitose airport on the mountainous northern island of Hokkaido.

The transport minister said the cause of the accident was

Israel bomb kills Hamas deputy chief in Beirut

BEIRUT

Israel's war against Palestinian militants reached into the Lebanese capital Beirut yesterday, where an Israeli strike killed Hamas' deputy leader, the group and security officials in Lebanon said.

A high-level security official told AFP that Saleh Al-Aruri was killed along with his bodyguards in the strike by Israel, which vowed to destroy Hamas after the movement's unprecedented attacks on Israel on October 7.

A second security official confirmed the information, adding two floors of the targeted building and one car were damaged. Lebanese state media reported the strike hit a Hamas office in Beirut's southern suburbs, a stronghold of Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah movement.

Lebanese media said a total of six people were killed in the strike.

The strike will add to persistent fears that the nearly three-month-old Israeli-Hamas war could become a wider conflagration.

Lebanon's prime minister condemned Israel's killing of Al Aruri in Beirut's southern suburb yesterday, saying the attack "aims to draw Lebanon" further into the Israel-Hamas war.

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WHY

egg-freezing is helping more women conceive

Hazel Leonard, Founder of The Prepared Pineapple and Fertility Educator, joins Maria Botros on the Tell Me Why podcast to talk about the UAE's laws on egg-freezing and all things fertility

UAE law permits freezing eggs for a period of up to 5 years

Women can freeze their eggs for both health and social reasons

The UAE law prohibits sperm and egg donation, along with surrogacy

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