**CALIFORNIA FIRES: IS IT CAUSED BY CLIMATE CHANGE?**

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California is home to many celebrities and wealthy people. This state is favored because the climate is hot and there is no fall season. Because of the dry climate, every year there are fires in the Los Angeles forests. But the California fires this year are different.

**Chronology of the California Fires and Their Impact**

*Tuesday, January 7 at 10.30 am*

A brush California fire that became known as the Palisades fire was first reported on Tuesday at around 10:30 a.m. local time, when winds gusted to around 50 mph in the area. At this point, maximum wind gusts near the area were about 53 mph, while wind gusts in the Los Angeles area reached 78 mph — the kind of strong winds that forecasters say could be "life-threatening and destructive."

*At 11.00 am*

A resident filmed from the north end of Pacific Palisades as the California fire burned along an overgrown mountainside on Temescal Ridge. The fire had burned 10 hectares of land in only six minutes--up until 11:06 am local time.

*At 11.11 am*

A large pillar of smoke was visible from Sunset Boulevard in Palisades Village, a shopping center, about a mile and a half from the center of the California fire.

*At 11.28 am*

The California fire spread west from where it started, reaching closer to the coast and toward the main stretch of the Pacific Palisades.

*12.43pm*

The California fire moved about a mile and a half south of where smoke was first seen. Images showed flames starting to threaten homes near bushy hills in the area, such as at Ridgeview Country Estates.

*At 13.40 pm*

The Los Angeles Fire Department estimates the California fire, which started at 10 hectares, has grown to 100 and has now burned 300 hectares and is still expanding.

*At 13.54 pm*

The car was reportedly stuck in traffic on Sunset Boulevard. As the Palisades Fire continued to spread, chaotic evacuations ensued. Residents fled by car onto Sunset Boulevard, and heavy traffic suddenly caused gridlock with little or no movement. On other roads in the area with rapidly approaching flames, frightened people reportedly abandoned their vehicles and ran on foot to safety. The chaos hampered evacuation efforts as the situation became increasingly dire.

*At 15.30 pm*

The Palisades Fire spread to 1,261 hectares. As winds picked up late in the afternoon, strong gusts fueled the rapid spread, fire officials said. Authorities say the fire is burning westward — and they warn that it will only get worse.

*At 16.00 pm*

Flames are visible along the Pacific Coast Highway, ocean to the right. Parts of the growing fire were visible at Topanga Beach. At this point, the smoke and fire reached about three miles southwest along the Pacific Coast Highway from where the smoke was first reported earlier in the morning. As the evacuation continued, residents were pushed towards the Pacific Ocean as they tried to escape.

*At 16.15 pm*

The California fire was approaching the intersection where Sunset Boulevard meets Pacific Coast Highway. Wind causes embers to spread over long distances, allowing flames to quickly spread. The fire had spread deep into the densely populated neighborhood, and reached the point where Sunset Boulevard meets Pacific Coast Highway.

*At 19.30 p.m*

The Palisades fire multiplied. The fire has spread to 2,920 acres and continues to spread, fire officials said. Further evacuation orders were issued in the eastern and northern regions.

*At 20.26 p.m*

Homes burned along the Pacific Coast Highway. The wildly spreading California fire destroyed homes about two and a half miles from its origin, and would spread further still.

*9 p.m*

The center of the Palisades burned, from the buildings near Pali High to the stretch of homes through the surrounding streets — flames spread from one home to another even as firefighters worked to extinguish the flames. Strong winds continued, making firefighting a challenge. The planes were unable to fly, so personnel were unable to extinguish the fire temporarily with the help of water.

As of 12:32 pm on Wednesday, just a day after smoke was first seen, the Palisades Fire had burned about 11,000 acres.

Looking back to the year 2023, strange things start to happen. It was a lot of rain all year round. Then in the year 2024 was dry all year round, causing vegetation to become very dry. If you look at patterns in the previous years, California fires were supposed to occur in April. But in 2025, California fires occur earlier and have a very wide impact. Santa Ana winds came earlier than she did in the previous years, she caused work fires in a very short time.

Sumber:

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