



# PROPHETIC TIMES

January 1998

The Weekly Reader of World News

January 4, 2025

## Hundreds chant for ‘intifada’ at New Year’s Day protest in NYC’s Times Square

*January 2, 2024* [timesofisrael.com](http://timesofisrael.com) reported: “Several hundred demonstrators called for an intifada on Wednesday at an anti-Israel protest in New York City’s Times Square to mark New Year’s Day.

Attendees chanted ‘Resistance is glorious — we will be victorious,’ ‘We will honor all our martyrs,’ and ‘Gaza, you make us proud.’ They carried signs that said ‘Zionism is cancer,’ ‘No war on Iran,’ and ‘End all US aid to Israel.’

‘There is only one solution — Intifada revolution,’ they chanted, using a common refrain at anti-Israel rallies in the US. ‘Intifada,’ Arabic for ‘uprising,’ is associated with the Second Intifada, a period of terror attacks in Israel in the early 2000s marked by suicide bombings.

Speakers at the Wednesday rally urged attendees to recommit to anti-Israel activism in the new year...”



## Hamas forces are making a substantial comeback in the Gaza Strip

*January 2, 2024* [jpost.com](http://jpost.com) reported: “Hamas is making a substantial comeback by recruiting new forces, Channel 12 reported and *The Jerusalem Post* confirmed on Wednesday night.

Combined with forces from Palestinian Islamic Jihad together, Channel 12 said on Wednesday night that Hamas was up to between 20,000-23,000 fighters. Information obtained by the Post indicated that recently, numbers were closer to around 12,000.

The wild fluctuation in numbers becomes even more stark when compared to previous numbers put out by the IDF or Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The IDF had last publicized that it killed between 17,000-20,000 Hamas and PIJ fighters throughout the war...”

## As new year begins: Hamas fires rockets at Israel

*January 1, 2024* [jpost.com](http://jpost.com) reported: “Two rockets were fired at Israeli territory from central Gaza, the Israeli military reported soon after midnight on Wednesday.

At 12:00 a.m. local time, as the new year began, rocket sirens sounded in Netivot and in some communities in the western Negev, including Shobolim, Giv’ olim, and Ma’aglim.

The IDF said that it had intercepted one rocket while an additional rocket had crashed in an open area.

Israel’s emergency medical response service, Magen David Adom, stated it had received no reports of injuries following the alerts. Hamas’s military wing, the Izzadin al-Qassam Brigades, claimed responsibility for the attack...”

## Reports: 10 Dead, 30 Injured After Car Crashes into Bourbon Street Revelers

*January 1, 2024* [breitbart.com](http://breitbart.com) reported: Multiple reports of mass casualties in New Orleans were emerging early New Year’s Day after news outlets indicated a car drove into a group of revelers on Bourbon Street.

Ten people were killed and 30 injured after the incident in the historic French Quarter, according to NOLA Ready, the city’s emergency preparedness agency. The injured had been taken to five local hospitals.

At around 3:15 a.m. the vehicle, described as an SUV, reportedly drove headlong into pedestrians at the intersection between Bourbon Street and Iberville, *WGNO* reported. Videos circulating on social media that appear to have been recorded Wednesday at the scene of the mass casualty incident show multiple casualties on the ground.

Gunfire can be heard in the background and people can be seen running from the area, the *BBC* reports. After ramming the crowd, the suspected driver reportedly jumped out of a truck and began firing a weapon, *CBS News* reported..."

### **China unveils new assault ship and futuristic fighter jets**

*December 31, 2024 voanews.com* reported: "Days after unveiling the latest breakthroughs in its military modernization, the Chinese navy has set afloat a new amphibious assault ship that could launch fighter jets, and videos have been circulating online showing what seems to be China's new generation of stealth fighter jets.

On Sunday, China's first Type 076 amphibious assault ship, the *Sichuan*, left the dockyard in Shanghai after the People's Liberation Army Navy, or PLA Navy, launched it into the water at a ceremony last Friday.



Type 076 amphibious ship *Sichuan*

The ship, which has a full load displacement of more than 40,000 tons, features a double island superstructure, a full-length flight deck, and an electromagnetic catapult system, which allows it to launch fixed-wing aircraft or helicopters. In addition to the catapult system, the *Sichuan* has arresting technology that allows fighter jets to land on its deck. With its large displacement, the vessel 'can carry more weapons and equipment, has longer range and stronger combat capabilities,' Chinese military expert Zhang Junshe told Chinese state-run *Global Times*.

Zhang added that the *Sichuan* 'has outstanding capabilities in air superiority and land assault missions' because the electromagnetic catapult system offers higher launch efficiency and faster launch speed..."

### **China, Iran FMs agree Mideast 'not a battleground for big powers'**

*December 30, 2024 spacewar.com* reported: The top diplomats of China and Iran agreed Saturday that the Middle East is 'not a battleground for the big powers' and should not be an arena of geopolitical competition between countries outside the region. Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi agreed that 'the international community should respect the sovereignty, security, stability, unity and territorial integrity of Middle East countries,' according to a readout from Beijing's foreign ministry.

Araghchi is on his first visit to China since being appointed foreign minister of Iran. The two major trading partners reiterated calls for a ceasefire in Gaza, the proper implementation of the ceasefire in Lebanon, and the 'integrated promotion of counter-terrorism, reconciliation and humanitarian processes in Syria', according to the readout.

'The two sides agreed that the Middle East belongs to the people of the Middle East, and is not a battleground for the big powers, and should not be a victim of geopolitical competition and conflicts between countries from outside the region,' the ministry said. China and Iran were both supporters of ousted Syrian president Bashar al-Assad. Syria's new leader, Ahmed al-Sharaa, is an ardent opponent of Tehran..."

### **Arab League warns Iran against 'fueling strife' in post-Assad Syria**

*December 27, 2024 israelnationalnews.com* reported: "The Arab League urged Iran on Thursday to avoid actions that could inflame tensions in Syria, following the ouster of Tehran's ally, former president Bashar Al-Assad, *AFP* reported. Assad's government collapsed on December 8, and he fled to Russia—a key backer of his regime—after an Islamist-led coalition gained control of city after city, culminating in the fall of Damascus..."

In Thursday's statement, the Arab League, which reinstated Assad's Syria into the bloc last year after a decade of isolation, underscored the importance of respecting Syria's sovereignty and stability...The bloc also criticized Iran's recent rhetoric, stating it 'rejects the Iranian statements aimed at fueling strife among the Syrian people.' However, the specific statements were not detailed..."