



SIGNS OF THE TIMES

News Articles for Episode 406

[Iran has powerful friends, but it's unlikely that Russia, China will offer direct military support | Ynet News.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #russia, #china, #iran, #military support

Mar 8, 2026

Israel and the US appear to be prevailing against Iran, but what if China and Russia joined the conflict? Experts say Israel faces little threat from China or Russia.

[Since the war began on Saturday](#), both Beijing and Moscow have voiced strong support for Tehran. China condemned the killing of Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, and has issued several statements expressing friendship and solidarity with Iran. Russia's Foreign Ministry, meanwhile, said that the only way to prevent the region from descending into instability is to stop the aggression of the United States and Israel.

Still, analysts say neither country is likely to move beyond rhetoric or offer Iran any direct military support.

"I think we could describe what Russia and China offered as sort of their 'thoughts and prayers,'" said Dr. Simon Wolfgang Fuchs of Hebrew University. "Russia offered its condolences. China was maybe a bit more forceful in condemning the killing of Khamenei."

China is likely analyzing the strategic and political conditions on the ground and has no intention of "tying itself to a sinking ship" or a "collapsing regime," explained Professor Yoram Evron of the Department of Asian Studies at Bar-Ilan University. "This is not part of China's DNA."

According to Evron, although China and Iran have been partners for many years, they are not allies in the deepest sense of the term. As a result, China is unlikely to sacrifice its own interests to support a regime that acts "illogically" and is "engaged in self-destruction."

Evron said that one only has to look at the type of support China provided Iran during the 12-day war with Israel and the United States over the summer, when Beijing also remained relatively aloof. The country made general statements opposing the use of military force against Iran but offered little more. Even if China attempted to pass resolutions in the United Nations Security Council against Israel or the United States, Evron noted, Washington would simply block them.

“In principle, China has not gotten involved in military conflicts in the Middle East,” Evron said. “It hasn’t done so so far, and it is probably not going to start doing it right now. Also, China, despite its support of the Iranian regime, has so far avoided any direct conflict with the US over Iran. Any time that the US was determined to block Iran, China didn’t put its interests in danger to help Iran.”

China is also closely watching the conflict unfold, Evron said. Beijing is studying what types of military technology are being used and considering what it may want to develop for its own armed forces. At the same time, China would prefer not to expose its own military capabilities by becoming directly involved.

Diplomatic considerations also play a role. U.S. President Donald Trump is expected to visit China on March 31, according to the White House, and Beijing is unlikely to jeopardize that trip as both sides seek to extend a fragile trade truce.

China also remained quiet during protests in Iran earlier this year, Fuchs noted, likely downplaying them domestically to avoid encouraging similar unrest at home.

Evron said Beijing would probably establish relations with whatever government succeeds Iran’s current regime.

“No regime can live without China as an oil customer,” Evron explained.

China does rely on Iran for part of its oil supply, receiving about 12% of its oil from the country, Fuchs said. However, he noted that Iran is far more dependent on China, since that 12% accounts for around 87% of Iran’s crude oil exports.

Evron noted that China continued purchasing Iranian oil despite international sanctions, which has been a key factor in helping the regime survive. China has also offered some diplomatic backing and may have provided dual-use technologies, materials and possibly even military products that were smuggled into Iran.

However, Evron cautioned that some reports about Chinese assistance may be exaggerated.

“I assume that many of the news reports about Chinese assistance were largely Iranian leakage, which I’m not sure were very accurate,” he said. “Iran might have used China to give the impression that it is not totally isolated, but I don’t know to what extent China actually provided it with any military-related materials.”

Oil also is a key factor in the relationship between Russia and Iran. In some ways, Russia could benefit from the current war because disruptions to Iranian exports may push more buyers toward Russian oil.

For example, the U.S. Treasury issued a 30-day waiver on Thursday, allowing India to purchase Russian oil currently stuck at sea “to enable oil to keep flowing into the global market,” Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said in a statement posted to social media.

Russia has also benefited from Iranian military technology, particularly drones that Moscow has used extensively in its war against Ukraine, said Dr. Ze’ev Khanin, a lecturer in political science at Bar-Ilan University. He said that the relationship has not been entirely reciprocal. Despite various promises, Iran has not received the most advanced fighter jets or air defense systems from Russia.

“Russia and Iran officially declared themselves as strategic partners about a year ago and signed an accord around diplomatic, economic, humanitarian and security affairs,” Khanin said.

As part of that cooperation, he said, Russia has supplied Iran with some air defense systems, military aircraft, and tanks, while Iran has provided Russia with unmanned flying vehicles and drones for use in Ukraine. However, Khanin stressed that the partnership has limits.

“This doesn’t mean either country will fight for the other,” he said.

Recent events support that conclusion. When tensions escalated between Israel, the United States and Iran earlier this year, Russia did not intervene militarily, and Khanin said it is unlikely to do so now.

“They might exchange some sort of intelligence information, but not more than that,” Khanin said.

He added that the current conflict does not involve only Israel, the United States and Iran. Iran has drawn in multiple regional actors, particularly Gulf states, where Russia also has significant strategic and economic interests. Moscow has been working to maintain ties across the region, including with Gulf countries and with Israel.

Because of these interests, Russia will act cautiously. If Gulf states work more with Western powers during the conflict, Russia risks losing its influence in the region.

Another factor is Russia’s reliance on Iran as a workaround to sanctions. According to Khanin, Iran has spent decades building networks of companies and intermediaries in places such as Dubai, Turkey and Southeast Asia. These networks have helped Iran bypass international sanctions and have also enabled Russia to obtain goods it could not easily obtain through official channels.

“If Iran at the moment loses this network, that will be a very bad piece of news also for Russia,” Khanin said.

In other words, while China and Russia may continue to stand beside Iran politically, experts say they are unlikely to stand beside it on the battlefield.

Trump, Putin talk of war and peace as US weighs easing Russian oil sanctions | The Times of Israel

#bibleprophecy, #russia, #trump, #putin, #oil

Mar 10, 2026

Phone call comes hours after Kremlin warned US-Israeli conflict with Iran could trigger energy crisis, as closure of Strait of Hormuz disrupts oil supplies

MOSCOW (Reuters) — US President Donald Trump and Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin discussed on Monday the war in Iran and prospects for peace in Ukraine, just hours after the Kremlin chief warned that a global energy crisis threatened the world economy.

The US and Israeli attack on Iran triggered the biggest spike in oil prices since the turmoil following Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine, as Gulf producers reduce output after the closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

The Kremlin said Trump called Putin, in the leaders' first telephone call this year, and they discussed Russian ideas for a speedy end to the conflict in Iran, the military situation in Ukraine and the impact of Venezuela on the global oil market.

"I had a very good call with President Putin," Trump told a press conference at his Florida golf club, adding that Putin wanted to be helpful on Iran.

"I said, 'You could be more helpful by getting the Ukraine-Russia war over with. That will be more helpful.'"

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The call came within hours of Putin's remarks that the US-Israeli war on Iran had triggered a global energy crisis, while cautioning that oil production dependent on transport through the Strait of Hormuz could soon come to a halt.

Putin said Russia, the world's second-largest oil exporter and holder of its biggest natural gas reserves, was ready to work again with European customers if they wanted to return to long-term cooperation.

US sanctions

Amid the turmoil on global energy markets, Trump's administration is considering reducing oil sanctions on Russia, according to three sources familiar with the planning.

The move would be intended to boost world supplies of oil following massive disruptions to Middle East shipments from the expanding conflict, but could also complicate US efforts to deprive Russia of revenue for its war in Ukraine.

Talks could cover broad sanctions relief as well as more targeted options for certain countries, such as India, to buy Russian oil without fear of US penalties, including tariffs, the sources told Reuters, speaking on condition of anonymity.

“We’re also waiving certain oil-related sanctions to reduce prices. So we have sanctions on some countries. We’re going to take those sanctions off until this straightens out,” Trump told reporters, without identifying the countries.

“Then who knows, maybe we won’t have to put them on; there’ll be so much peace. But when the time comes, the US Navy and its partners will escort tankers through the Strait if needed.”

Last week, the United States allowed India to temporarily buy Russian crude oil already on tankers at sea, to help it cope with the cuts to Middle East supply.

On Friday, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said the United States could free more Russian oil from sanctions. Russia’s special presidential envoy on investment, Kirill Dmitriev, said on Saturday he was discussing the issue with Washington.

Kremlin foreign policy aide Yuri Ushakov said the discussion with Trump was “very substantial” and “likely to have practical significance for further work between the two countries.”

Ushakov said Trump believed it was in the US interest to see a “rapid end to the conflict in Ukraine with a ceasefire and a long-term settlement.”

[Iran names Khamenei's shadowy, hardline son Mojtaba as new supreme leader | The Times of Israel.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #iran, #mojtaba, #supreme leader, #wounded

Mar 8, 2026

IRGC ally's appointment comes after Trump dismissed him as an unacceptable 'lightweight,' and Israel threatened to kill anyone picked by regime to succeed slain leader

Iran's ruling clerics on Sunday appointed their slain leader's son, Mojtaba Khamenei, as the country's new supreme leader, after the US called him unacceptable and Israel vowed to kill whomever the Islamic Republic appointed.

The Assembly of Experts convened virtually to choose Iran's next supreme leader nine days after the US and Israel launched a bombing campaign on the Islamic Republic, with an Israeli strike killing ayatollah Ali Khamenei, triggering Iranian missile and drone strikes on Israel and the region. Mojtaba Khamenei's mother, wife and son were reportedly also killed, and Israeli officials [believe](#) Mojtaba himself was wounded after being targeted in a strike last week.

The 56-year-old Mojtaba was "appointed and introduced as the third leader of the sacred system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, based on the decisive vote of the respected representatives of the Assembly of Experts," the 88-member clerical body said in a statement.

The clerical body said it "did not hesitate for a minute" in choosing a new leader, despite "the brutal aggression of the criminal America and the evil Zionist regime."

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) later pledged allegiance to the new supreme leader, saying it was "ready for complete obedience and self-sacrifice in carrying out the divine commands of the Guardian Jurist of the time, His Eminence Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Khamenei."

Sources familiar with the matter said Mojtaba Khamenei's close ties with the IRGC gave him added leverage across Iran's political and security apparatus, and that he had built up influence behind the scenes as his father's "gatekeeper."

پخش خبر انتخاب سومین رهبر انقلاب اسلامی، آیت الله سید مجتبی خامنه‌ای، در شبکه خبر صدا و سیما جمهوری
اسلامی ایران pic.twitter.com/JMdoBP5dNb

— SNN.ir | خبرگزاری دانشجو (@snntv_fa) [March 8, 2026](#)

Iranian state media published what was said to be footage of people celebrating across Iran following the announcement of Mojtaba Khamenei's appointment.

In separate footage published on social media, which could not be independently verified, people in Tehran could be heard yelling "Death to Mojtaba" from their windows.

The position of supreme leader gives Mojtaba Khamenei the final word in all matters of state in the Islamic Republic, including control of its military and of its stockpile of highly enriched uranium that could be used to build a nuclear weapon, should the new supreme leader decree it.

People chanted "Death to Mojtaba" from their windows in Tehran's Ekbatan neighborhood early Monday shortly before Iran's Assembly of Experts announced Mojtaba Khamenei as the country's new supreme leader, according to a video shared on social media. pic.twitter.com/nEiM7x7AbM

— Iran International English (@IranIntl_En) [March 8, 2026](#)

His appointment signaled that hardliners in the Iranian regime were holding on to power despite the US-Israeli bombing campaign. The appointment could also face opposition from Iranians who have shown they are ready to stage mass protests to press their demands for greater freedoms despite bloody crackdowns by the authorities. The regime killed thousands, and reportedly tens of thousands of Iranian citizens when quashing public protests in recent weeks.

Before the appointment was made public, Ayatollah Mohsen Heidari Alekasir, a member of the Assembly of Experts, said the body had selected a new supreme leader based on the elder Khamenei's guidance that the top job should be held by someone who is "hated by the enemy."

"Even the Great Satan [US] has mentioned his name," Heidari Alekasir said of the chosen successor, days after US President Donald Trump said Mojtaba Khamenei was an "unacceptable" choice, and suggested Iran's economy could be rebuilt if an "acceptable" supreme leader were chosen.

Trump had previously dismissed the younger Khamenei as a "lightweight," and said again on Sunday that he should have a say in the appointment of Iran's new supreme leader.

"If he doesn't get approval from us, he's not going to last long," he told ABC News before the announcement was made.

[Speaking with The Times of Israel](#) after the appointment was announced, Trump declined to comment on it, sufficing with answering: "We'll see what happens."

Israel had threatened to kill anyone named supreme leader by the Islamic Republic, with Defense Minister Israel Katz saying Wednesday that “any leader appointed by the Iranian terror regime to continue leading the plan to destroy Israel, threaten the US and the free world and the countries of the region, and oppress the Iranian people, will be an unequivocal target for elimination.”

The IDF repeated the threat on Sunday, saying ahead of the Assembly of Experts’ meeting that “the State of Israel will continue to pursue any successor and any person who seeks to appoint a successor” to Ali Khamenei.

“We warn all those who intend to participate in the successor selection meeting that we will not hesitate to target you, either,” the IDF said.

Iran’s Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi was defiant on Sunday, telling NBC’s “Meet the Press” that Iran alone would decide on its supreme leader and would “allow nobody to interfere in our domestic affairs.”

He added that Trump must “apologize to people of the region” for starting the war.

US-sanctioned hardliner’s father reportedly considered him a ‘master’

Mojtaba Khamenei was born in 1969 in the holy Shiite city of Mashhad and grew up as his father helped lead the opposition to the US-backed Shah, who was toppled in the 1979 revolution that heralded the Islamic Republic. He is Ali Khamenei’s second son.

As a young man, Mojtaba served in the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war. He also studied under religious conservatives in the seminaries of Qom, Iran’s center of Shiite theological learning.

Mojtaba Khamenei amassed power under his father as a senior figure close to Iran’s security forces and the vast business empire they control. He has opposed members of Iran’s so-called reformist camp who sought to engage with the West as it tried to curb Iran’s nuclear program.

He has never held a formal position in the Islamic Republic’s government. He has appeared at loyalist rallies, but has rarely spoken in public.

His role has long been a source of controversy in Iran, with critics rejecting any hint of dynastic politics in a country that overthrew a US-backed monarch in 1979.

Khamenei has worked closely with the IRGC, a US- and EU-designated terror group. This has included work with commanders of both the elite Quds Force, which facilitates the Islamic Republic’s regional network of anti-Israel terror proxies, and the volunteer Basij force, which killed thousands of anti-regime protesters in January, the US Treasury has said.

The US sanctioned him in 2019, during Trump’s first term, over his work to “advance his father’s destabilizing regional ambitions and oppressive domestic objectives.”

That includes allegations that, from behind the scenes, Mojtaba Khamenei supported the election of hardline president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in 2005 and his disputed reelection in 2009 that sparked the Green Movement protests, which were also violently suppressed at the time.

Mahdi Karroubi, who was a presidential candidate in 2005 and 2009, denounced Khamenei as “a master’s son” and alleged he interfered in both votes. Ali Khamenei reportedly said at the time that Mojtaba was “a master himself, not a master’s son.”

The younger Khamenei “has a strong constituency and support within the IRGC, in particular amongst the younger radical generations,” said Kasra Aarabi, who researches the IRGC at United Against Nuclear Iran, a US-based policy organization.

[NYPD confirms object thrown at protests near Gracie Mansion in Manhattan was an IED | Foxnews.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #mamdani, #muslim prayers, #new york city, #mayor

Mar 8, 2026

NYC officials have confirmed that a device thrown at protests near Gracie Mansion was an IED capable of causing serious injury or death; two suspects are in custody.

New York City officials have confirmed that a device ignited and thrown during protests near Gracie Mansion on Saturday was an [improvised explosive device](#) (IED) capable of causing "serious injury or death."

In a statement posted to X on Sunday, NYPD Commissioner Jessica Tisch said the department's Bomb Squad determined the device was neither a hoax nor a smoke bomb.

"The [NYPD Bomb Squad](#) has conducted a preliminary analysis of a device that was ignited and deployed at a protest yesterday and has determined that it is not a hoax device or a smoke bomb," Tisch wrote. "It is, in fact, an improvised explosive device that could have caused serious injury or death."

Authorities are continuing to analyze a second device recovered at the scene.

Police arrested Emir Balat and Ibrahim Kayumi at the scene. Both remain in custody.

Three federal law enforcement sources told Fox News that the two suspects are believed to be U.S. citizens.

The NYPD is working alongside the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of [New York](#) and the FBI through the Joint Terrorism Task Force.

"I want to again thank the brave members of the NYPD who ran towards the danger without hesitation and quickly apprehended the suspects," Tisch added.

The incident unfolded during [dueling demonstrations](#) Saturday morning near East End Avenue and East 87th Street, just steps from Gracie Mansion, the official residence of New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani.

One rally was organized by right-wing activist Jake Lang to oppose public Muslim prayer. Counter-protesters also gathered at the scene.

Though police initially kept the groups separated, tensions escalated after pepper spray was deployed during a confrontation.

The incident unfolded amid two dueling protests on March 7, 2026, near Gracie Mansion in New York City. (FNTV)

Approximately 30 minutes later, authorities say an 18-year-old counter-protester ignited and threw a device toward the protest area. Witnesses reported seeing flames and smoke before it extinguished itself near responding officers.

Police say the 18-year-old then retrieved a second device from a 19-year-old, lit it, and attempted to flee.

Both suspects – identified as Balat and Kayumi – were taken into custody.

Three additional arrests were made on charges including disorderly conduct and obstructing traffic.

Bomb squad technicians on Saturday described the devices as jars wrapped in black tape, slightly smaller than a football.

X-rays revealed nuts, bolts and screws inside – materials commonly used as improvised shrapnel – along with a hobby fuse that could be lit.

[Mayor Zohran Mamdani](#) condemned both the protest and the violence in a statement posted Sunday.

"Such hate has no place in New York City. It is an affront to our city's values and the unity that defines who we are," Mamdani wrote. "What followed was even more disturbing. Violence at a protest is never acceptable. The attempt to use an explosive device and hurt others is not only criminal, it is reprehensible and the antithesis of who we are."

He thanked NYPD officers for their response and said his administration is "closely monitoring the situation."

The NYPD could not be immediately reached by Fox News Digital for comment.

[Mamdani's Imam Prayed for Killing of Infidels | Israel 365 News.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #mamdani, #infidels, #anti-semitism, #prayers

Mar 8, 2026

Mayor Zohran Mamdani sat in the Al-Khoei Islamic Center in Queens during Friday prayers on the first day of Ramadan.

New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani sat in the Al-Khoei Islamic Center in Queens on February 20, 2026, during Friday prayers on the first day of Ramadan. The imam led a supplication in Arabic invoking the Mahdi with words translated by MEMRI: “Through your hands comes the relief for the believers and the killing of the infidels by your sword.” Mamdani remained in the room for the full prayer. The center draws funding through the Alavi Foundation, which U.S. federal courts and the Department of Justice identified in 2009, 2013, and 2017 rulings as a front for the Iranian government channeling money to Bank Melli under sanctions.

Mamdani addressed the congregation before the prayer. He stated, “Last Ramadan, I was with many of you here at the procession of the martyrdom anniversary of Imam Ali. It is a privilege to be here with you once again.” That places him at the center in March 2025, long before his January 1, 2026, inauguration. He called this his first Friday prayer as mayor, yet the phrase “once again” confirms habitual attendance. Iman Dakmak-Rakka, principal of Al-Iman School and Al-Khoei Foundation representative, thanked him openly: “You work for all of humanity and all of the residents of New York City.”

Mamdani's stance on Israel is unmistakable. He joined the Democratic Socialists of America in 2017 for its pro-Palestine positions. He co-sponsored the 2023 “Not On Our Dime” bill to revoke tax-exempt status from charities supporting Israeli settlements. In October 2024 he posted on X, “Israel is committing a genocide.” In a 2025 debate he rejected Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state, saying only, “I support Israel's right to exist as a state with equal rights.” Shortly after taking office he revoked executive orders adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism and pledged to divest city funds from Israel. He promised to arrest Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu if he sets foot in New York, citing International Criminal Court warrants.

Jewish voters in New York City still gave him substantial backing. A July 2025 poll recorded 43 percent of Jewish residents supporting Mamdani, with 67 percent of those under 44 on his side. November 2025 exit polls showed him taking 31-33% of the Jewish vote overall. Wealthy progressive Jewish donors bankrolled his campaign. In poorer Jewish neighborhoods dependent on government aid, organizers from synagogues and advocacy groups pushed votes his way with assurances of rent control

and increased benefits. Voters told canvassers Israel rarely surfaced unprompted; when it did, many voiced concern over Gaza but focused on domestic survival issues like housing costs.

How does a Jewish community deliver power to a mayor who keeps returning to a center where prayers demand the killing of infidels by sword?

The Bible answers with unsparing clarity on complacency and dependence in exile. Deuteronomy confronts the prosperous: “Beware lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today; otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, and you build good houses and live in them, and when your herds and your flocks increase, and your silver and gold increase, and everything that you have increases, then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery” (Deuteronomy 8:11-14). The Hebrew *ram levavkha* captures a heart swollen with pride from wealth, erasing covenant memory and driving alliances that safeguard status.

The poor fall into the same snare through servitude. Deuteronomy 28 states: “Because you did not serve the Lord your God with joy and a cheerful heart, for the abundance of everything, therefore you shall serve your enemies whom the Lord will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in the lack of everything; and He will put an iron yoke on your neck until He has destroyed you” (Deuteronomy 28:47-48). The Hebrew *ta'avod et-oyvekha* demands active service to enemies, locked in by deprivation. Exodus shows the tool: *sarei missim*, taskmasters who afflicted the Israelites with burdens; *anah* means to humiliate and crush the will, producing mental compliance.

The result unites both. Leviticus declares: “I will scatter you among the nations and will draw out My sword after you; your land will become desolate and your cities will become ruins. But you will perish among the nations, and your enemies' land will consume you. So those of you who may be left will rot away because of their wrongdoing in the lands of your enemies” (Leviticus 26:33, 38-39). The Hebrew *artzam shel oyveykhem to'khal etkhem* states the enemies' land consumes the people completely, devouring every illusion of safety.

New York Jews voted for a mayor whose repeated visits to Al-Khoei end with silence amid calls for infidels to die by sword. Wealthy leaders steered the votes to hold power. Poorer communities obeyed, chasing handouts. They installed a figure who revokes antisemitism protections, divests from Israel, threatens Netanyahu's arrest, and aligns with Iranian-linked hostility. Hosea records the harvest: “For they sow wind and they harvest a storm” (Hosea 8:7). The Hebrew *zar'u ruach ve'yiktsru sufah* proves empty choices bring violent return.

The land of Israel belongs to the Jews alone. Diaspora security built on such blindness collapses. The consumption foretold in Leviticus advances while the community clings

to promises that mask threats. The so-called wise who guided this vote now face the embarrassment of their own ignorance. Covenant return offers the only exit before the yoke crushes what remains.

[Suspect dead after ramming vehicle into Michigan synagogue, 'active shooting incident': police | Foxnews.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #mamdani, #infidels, #anti-semitism, #prayers

Mar 12, 2026

Michigan police responded to an active shooting at a synagogue, Temple Israel, in West Bloomfield, Michigan at about 12:30 p.m. local time Thursday.

Hospital treating 8 first responders after Michigan synagogue attack

Henry Ford Health said its emergency teams are treating eight first responders following Thursday's attack at Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, Michigan.

"The emergency medicine teams at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital and Henry Ford Providence Novi Hospital are currently caring for eight first responders following this afternoon's incident at Temple Israel," the hospital system said in a statement.

The hospital did not provide details about the injuries and directed further questions to law enforcement.

Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard said earlier that one person was confirmed injured, a security guard who was struck by the suspect's truck.

Bouchard also noted that heavy smoke filled the synagogue hallway, forcing officers to enter the building wearing gas masks, raising the possibility some responders were treated for smoke inhalation.

Breaking News7 mins ago

FBI investigating Michigan synagogue attack as 'targeted act' against Jewish community

The FBI said it is investigating the attack at Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, Michigan, as a "targeted act of violence against the Jewish community."

Jennifer Runyan, special agent in charge of the FBI's Detroit Field Office, said the bureau has taken the lead in the investigation.

"I can confirm that we are leading the investigation right now as a targeted act of violence against the Jewish community," Runyan said during the Thursday evening press conference.

Authorities said one suspect was involved and is now deceased, and confirmed no congregants or children were killed in the attack.

Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard said the unnamed suspect drove a vehicle into the building, where security personnel engaged and stopped the threat.

Officials said a security guard was injured after being struck by the vehicle, and 30 responding officers were treated for smoke inhalation after the vehicle caught fire inside the building.

Runyan said the FBI deployed more than 100 agents and analysts, along with bomb technicians, SWAT teams and evidence response units to process the scene and pursue leads.

“This is an active and ongoing investigation with an active crime scene,” she said. “We ask for patience as we process the evidence and pursue every lead.”

Runyan did not confirm a suspect ID or motive at this time.

1 hour ago

Vehicle in Michigan synagogue attack registered to Dearborn man born in Lebanon: sources

The vehicle used in Thursday’s attack at Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, Michigan, is registered to a naturalized U.S. citizen from Lebanon who lives in Dearborn, according to three law enforcement sources who spoke to Fox News.

Authorities cautioned that investigators can only confirm the vehicle registration at this time, noting the suspect’s body was badly burned.

Law enforcement officials are still working to determine whether the individual who died at the scene matches the name tied to the vehicle registration.

The investigation remains ongoing.

Fox News' Bill Melugin contributed to this reporting.

2 hours ago

Trump on Michigan synagogue attack: ‘We’re going to get to the bottom of it’

President Donald Trump addressed the attack on a synagogue in West Bloomfield, Michigan, during remarks at a White House Women’s History Month event Thursday.

“Before we begin, I want to send our love to the Michigan Jewish community and all of the people in Detroit, Detroit area, following the attack on the Jewish synagogue early today,” Trump said.

The president said he has been “fully briefed” on the incident.

“It’s a terrible thing,” Trump added. “But it goes on. We’re going to get right down to the bottom of it.”

Authorities say the suspect, reported deceased, rammed a vehicle into Temple Israel before being confronted by security as the investigation continues.

2 hours ago

Michigan synagogue says ‘everyone is safe’ after ‘terrorist gunman’ attack

Temple Israel in West Bloomfield said “everyone is safe” after what the synagogue described as a “terrorist gunman” attacked the building Thursday.

In a message to congregants, the synagogue said all 140 students in its early childhood center, along with staff and teachers, were accounted for and unharmed.

“Temple Israel was the victim of a terrorist gunman who was confronted and neutralized by our security personnel who are truly heroes,” the synagogue wrote.

The statement praised staff and security for protecting children during the incident. “Our teachers followed their training and kept the children safe and calm,” the message said.

Temple Israel also thanked local law enforcement and nearby Shenendoah Country Club, which helped shelter and feed staff, students and parents during the response.

“What incredible neighbors we have. What incredible police force we have,” the synagogue wrote.

2 hours ago

Kash Patel says FBI training helped stop Michigan synagogue attack

Kash Patel told Fox News Digital that the attack at Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, Michigan “could have ended far worse” but said preparation and quick action helped save lives.

“Today’s attack at Temple Israel Synagogue in Michigan could have ended far worse — but thanks to preparation and the courage of those on the ground, lives were saved,” Patel said in a statement to Fox News Digital.

Patel said the Federal Bureau of Investigation Detroit Field Office had recently conducted active-shooter preparedness training with clergy and staff at Temple Israel, focusing on the “Run, Hide, Fight” response principles.

“These trainings often go unnoticed — but moments like this remind us exactly why they matter,” Patel said.

Patel also thanked law enforcement officers who responded to the scene.

“Most importantly, thank you to the brave law enforcement officers on the scene who engaged the attacker and undoubtedly saved lives,” he said.

Fox News Digital's Mike Ruiz contributed to this reporting.

2 hours ago

NYC mayor Zohran Mamdani boosts patrols at Jewish sites after Michigan synagogue attack

New York City Mayor [Zohran Mamdani](#) condemned the attack on Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, Michigan, calling it an act of “antisemitic violence.”

“The attack on Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, Michigan is horrifying,” Mamdani wrote on X. “My thoughts are with the congregation and all who are shaken by this act of antisemitic violence.”

Mamdani said he is closely monitoring the situation and announced that, out of an abundance of caution, the NYPD will continue deploying high-visibility patrols to Jewish religious and cultural institutions across the five boroughs.

The statement comes just days after New York City authorities responded to an alleged ISIS-inspired terror plot outside Gracie Mansion, where homemade explosive devices were thrown during a protest.

3 hours ago

President Trump briefed on Michigan synagogue attack as FBI, ATF respond: 'Please pray'

President [Donald Trump](#) has been briefed on the attack at Temple Israel synagogue in West Bloomfield, Michigan, according to White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt.

“The President has been briefed on the shooting in Michigan,” Leavitt told Fox News.

At the same time, Attorney General [Pam Bondi](#) said federal agents are assisting local authorities at the scene.

“Our Federal Bureau of Investigation and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agents are on the scene assisting local authorities at Temple Israel synagogue in West Bloomfield, Michigan,” Bondi wrote on X.

“Please pray.”

4 hours ago

Vehicle barreled down Michigan synagogue hallway; suspect killed

Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard and West Bloomfield Police Chief Dale Young said the suspect in Thursday's attack at Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, [Michigan](#) rammed a vehicle into the synagogue before being confronted by armed security guards.

Young told reporters the suspect "breached the building" and "drove in through doors with a vehicle," with surveillance showing the vehicle "traveling with purpose down the hall."

Security personnel inside the synagogue "engaged the suspect with gunfire," authorities said.

Officials said no injuries have been confirmed among congregants or staff.

Investigators are still clearing the vehicle and building "out of an abundance of caution" for possible explosives while determining whether anyone else may have been involved.

Authorities said the [FBI](#) may ultimately take the lead in the investigation as officials continue reviewing video and gathering evidence.

Breaking News4 hours ago

Suspect killed after ramming car into Michigan synagogue, exchanging gunfire with security: source

A senior federal law enforcement source confirms to Fox News the suspect in the West Bloomfield synagogue incident rammed a car into the building, exited with a rifle and exchanged gunfire with armed security, who shot and killed him.

The source said the vehicle caught fire inside the building, and the suspect's body was badly burned. The investigation is ongoing.

Fox News' Bill Melugin and John Roberts contributed to this reporting.

5 hours ago

Michigan police responding to 'active shooting incident' at synagogue

[Michigan State Police are responding](#) to an "active shooting" at a Reform Jewish synagogue in West Bloomfield, Michigan.

The shooting, which unfolded at about 12:30 p.m. local time Thursday, took place at Temple Israel, according to state police.

Bloomfield Township Police confirmed Bloomfield Hills schools are in secure mode.

"This is out of precaution, there are no known threats to Bloomfield Hills schools at this time," the agency wrote in a statement.

Neighboring agency Ann Arbor Police Department said its officers will also increase patrols and respond to local houses of worship and schools throughout the city as a precautionary measure.

"We are asking for community members to stay away from the area to allow for police response," state police wrote in a statement. "Troopers are also increasing patrols at other places of worship in the district."

The Oakland County Sheriff's Office did not immediately respond to inquiries from Fox News Digital.

[Highly contagious virus with no treatment spreading rapidly through western state | Foxnews.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #virus, #disease, #wastewater data, #sickness

Mar 6, 2026

Human metapneumovirus is surging across Northern California and rising nationwide, wastewater data shows. Doctors explain symptoms, risks and prevention.

Cold, flu [and COVID](#) may get the most attention, but a lesser-known, highly contagious virus is taking the West Coast by storm.

Wastewater SCAN data show that [human metapneumovirus](#), or HMPV, is rampant in Northern California — specifically San Francisco, Marin, Vallejo, Napa, Novato, Santa Rosa, Sacramento and Davis, per reports.

The virus peaked sharply in January and remains elevated in early March, although the seasonal winter wave is now tapering.

HMPV is in the same viral family as respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and was first discovered in 2001, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The National Wastewater Surveillance System (NWSS), part of the CDC, monitors samples of wastewater (sewage) for viruses and bacteria to detect infection patterns in communities.

"It is a single-stranded RNA virus, like [flu and COVID](#)," Dr. Marc Siegel, Fox News senior medical analyst, told Fox News Digital. "The virus is increasing not only in the west, but also around the country."

The wastewater data also show that HMPV is rising sharply in the Midwest and Northeast.

[URGENT WARNING ISSUED BY CDC AS CHIKUNGUNYA VIRUS OUTBREAK HITS VACATION DESTINATION](#)

The most common symptoms of the virus in [healthy children](#) and adults include cough, fever, nasal congestion and shortness of breath, per the CDC.

Those at highest risk of severe illness, such as pneumonia, include young children, older adults and those who are immunocompromised. It leads to over 650,000 hospitalizations yearly worldwide, according to Siegel.

Rare effects of HMPV can include [asthma attacks](#), wheezing, difficulty breathing, bronchiolitis (infection of the small airways), ear infections, croup (a "barking" cough) and fever, according to the CDC.

Adults with COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) can experience complications of their illness if they contract HMPV.

"It can worsen chronic lung conditions," Siegel confirmed.

The virus [can be transmitted](#) from close personal contact and from coughing, sneezing and touching contaminated surfaces, per the CDC.

HMPV is most commonly reported from winter through spring.

There is [no vaccine](#) or treatment for the virus, the CDC notes, but HMPV can be diagnosed via testing by a healthcare provider. Supportive care includes drinking plenty of hydrating fluids and resting.

The agency provides the following [prevention methods](#) to help curb spread.

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing
- Follow proper handwashing techniques
- Regularly sanitize frequently touched surfaces
- Avoid contact with others and/or wear a mask when sick

[Louisiana rocked by 4 earthquakes days after strongest quake in decades | Accuweather.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #louisiana, #earthquakes, #united states

Mar 5, 2026

The magnitude 4.9 earthquake on March 6 was the strongest to strike this part of the United States in nearly 14 years, according to the USGS.

A [magnitude 4.9 earthquake](#) rattled Louisiana on the morning of March 5, striking 36 miles south-southeast of [Shreveport](#), Louisiana, according to the USGS. Preliminarily, it is the biggest earthquake recorded in state history.

The earthquake happened around 5:30 a.m. CST and occurred just 3.1 miles (5 km) below the surface.

On Monday, March 9, four more earthquakes were recorded near Edgefield, Louisiana, southeast of Shreveport, ranging from a magnitude of 3.1 to 4.0, according to the USGS.

Earthquakes above a magnitude of 4 are rare in Louisiana. Since early December, northwestern Louisiana has recorded eight earthquakes, ranging from magnitude 2.6 to 3.1.

The 4.9 quake is the strongest earthquake on land in two decades. Two strong earthquakes were recorded offshore in the Gulf, with a magnitude 5.3 on Grand Isle in 2006 and a 4.9 in 1978.

Additionally, on May 17, 2012, a magnitude 4.8 quake struck Timpson, Texas. The epicenter of the 2012 tremor was about 57 miles west of the one that was recorded on Thursday morning.

[How AI Is Turbocharging the War in Iran | The Wall Street Journal](#)

#bibleprophecy, #ai, #iran, #israel, #technology

Mar 7, 2026

Intelligence, targeting and damage assessments are accelerating thanks to military versions of software now remaking business and daily life

Intelligence, targeting and damage assessments are accelerating thanks to military versions of software now remaking business and daily life

The U.S. and Israeli attacks on Iran have unfolded at unprecedented speed and precision thanks to [months of planning](#), a massive assemblage of military force and a cutting-edge weapon never before deployed on this scale: artificial intelligence.

AI tools are helping gather intelligence, pick targets, plan bombing missions and assess battle damage at speeds not previously possible. AI helps commanders manage supplies of everything from ammunition to spare parts and lets them choose the best weapon for each objective.

Before Israeli jet fighters launched ballistic missiles that killed Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei at his residence a week ago, launching the current regional war, Israeli intelligence services had for years been monitoring hacked Tehran traffic cameras and eavesdropping on senior officials' communications—increasingly relying on AI to sift through a flood of intercepts.

The use of AI in the campaign against Iran follows years of work by the Pentagon and lessons learned from other militaries. Ukraine—with U.S. help—increasingly relies on AI in its war against Russia. Israel has tapped AI in conflicts at least since the October 2023 Hamas attacks.

[Woman, Declared Legally Blind at 12, Receives Free Pair of Life-Changing AI Glasses to Help Her Navigate the World at 33 | People.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #ai, #glasses, #legally blind, #eyesight, #technology

Mar 7, 2026

A blind woman from Florida received a life-changing new technology: AI glasses that can describe the world to her.

NEED TO KNOW

- A blind woman in Florida received life-changing AI glasses
- The glasses work with Meta AI to do things like describe objects as well as read signs, menus and receipts
- Jordan Reiche, 33, has been legally blind since she was 12

A [blind woman](#) in Florida just received a life-changing new technology: AI glasses that can describe the world to her.

Jordan Reiche, 33, of Tampa, was first diagnosed with a genetic condition called retinitis pigmentosa when she was just 7 years old, per the [Tampa Bay Times](#).

The condition causes the cells in the retina to gradually degrade over time, meaning that most people diagnosed with the condition are legally blind by the time they reach adulthood, according to the [Cleveland Clinic](#).

Reiche, who was declared legally blind when she was 12, said that she currently has about 5 % of her vision left.

“I can make out some shapes,” she told the *Tampa Bay Times*. “But faces are a blur, like looking through a fog.”

However, Reiche recently received a [pair of Ray-Ban AI Wayfarers](#) through a pilot program through [Dogs Inc.](#), a Florida nonprofit that trains guide dogs and helps match them with visually impaired owners.

The glasses work with Meta AI and a tiny, imperceptible speaker to do things like describe objects and colors, as well as read signs, menus and receipts — life-changing details for a visually impaired person.

The glasses pair with the user's smartphone [via Bluetooth](#) for Internet access, which is necessary for the glasses to fully function.

"I have a 2-inch stack of mail I can't read," Reiche said. "And now I can check the expiration date on milk."

Reiche, who works from home over Zoom as an addiction counselor, had previously tried the AI glasses at her local Best Buy, but the steep price tag of \$500 was too much for something she couldn't thoroughly test first.

Now, she will be able to incorporate the glasses into her daily routine and see how much help they can provide — at no personal cost.

"I'm so excited!" she said on the day she received the pair, adding, "I've been wanting this for so long."

Reiche also has the assistance of her [trusted guide dog](#), Blue, who she has had for seven years.

"Before Blue, I was always looking down, trying to avoid obstacles," Reiche said. "Now, I get to look up and look around the world."

Blue has helped her avoid danger and obstacles while on an Alaskan cruise, hiking the Appalachians and touring Ireland. Now, the glasses will hopefully be able to do additional things like read gate numbers at airports.

Reiche hopes to take Blue — and her new glasses — on even more trips in the coming months and years, including places [like Joshua Tree](#) and Amsterdam.

[Franklin Graham Tells 90,000 in Peru: Jesus 'Created You – He Loves You' | Crosswalk.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #peru, #gospel, #franklin graham, #salvation

Mar 10, 2026

Evangelist Franklin Graham delivered a powerful message of salvation and peace through Jesus Christ to nearly 90,000 Peruvians in Lima's National Stadium.

This weekend, though, it was a place of worship and proclamation.

It was an incredible night in the beautiful city of Lima as 48,500 people came out to Esperanza Lima to hear the Gospel. We give God all the glory for the thousands who made the most important decision of their lives tonight—to turn from their sins and put their trust in Jesus... pic.twitter.com/amuvGVvy1T

— Franklin Graham (@Franklin_Graham) [March 9, 2026](#)

“God made you. He created you. He loves you – but our sins separate us from God,” Graham told the crowd through a translator. “Jesus Christ came from heaven to this earth to save you. He took your sins to [the cross](#) and died and shed His blood on a cross for you – and then He took your sins to the grave. He was buried in the tomb. But on the third day, God raised His Son to life. He's not dead. He's alive.

“He's here in Lima tonight,” Graham added to applause. “He's here for you.”

Graham urged those in attendance to look beyond religion and put their faith in Jesus Christ.

“The Catholic Church cannot save you. Being a Baptist cannot save you. Being a Pentecostal cannot save you,” he said. “There's nothing you can do to save yourself. There's no one who can save you – only Jesus Christ.”

The two-night evangelistic event featured music from The Afters, Charity Gayle, Christine D'Clario, and Jahaziel Band.

It was such a privilege to preach the Gospel in Lima tonight at the National Stadium of Peru. It was packed with 41,000 people and more waiting outside! I told the crowd that I had come to Lima for a reason—and that reason is to share the Truth! Jesus said, "I am the way, the... pic.twitter.com/wEE7kpbi6A

— Franklin Graham (@Franklin_Graham) [March 8, 2026](#)

Toward the end of Graham's message each night, thousands of attendees walked to the field, ready to begin a new life. One of them was Oscar Nuñez, who said he boarded a bus to the stadium praying to God, "I'm looking for you."

"I used to drink a lot; I used to sleep around; I lied a lot," he said, according to a story on the Billy Graham Evangelist Association [website](#). "God's been working wonderfully in my life. I don't drink anymore. I have a good life with my wife. I try to be on good terms with my family."

He and his wife prayed to receive Christ.

"I feel like God has heard all of my prayers," Karina Nuñez said. "I used to think that He didn't forgive me, but today the message has been clear. [Jesus] is my Savior."

The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association held the event in partnership with area churches, which will now follow up with those who came forward for discipleship.

Related Article

[Franklin Graham Shares the Hope of the Gospel to over 14,000 in Brussels](#)