



## Statement by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

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Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, this evening [translated from Hebrew unless indicated otherwise]:

“A good week to you, my brothers and sisters, citizens of Israel.

This morning, Israel and the United States launched a combined operation to remove the existential threat posed to Israel by the regime of the Ayatollahs in Iran.

As I told you this morning: This fateful operation will continue as long as necessary, and it requires patience.

I thank my friend, President Donald Trump, for his historic leadership. He is a leader who stands by his word. I spoke with him again this morning, and I welcome the close cooperation between us, a cooperation that has brought the alliance between Israel and the United States to an all-time high, an alliance for peace and an alliance in war. And this war will lead to peace. A true peace.

For 47 years, the Ayatollah regime has chanted 'Death to Israel' and 'Death to America.' It has spilled our blood, murdered many Americans, and slaughtered its own people. Today, everyone understands that this murderous terrorist regime must never be allowed to arm itself with nuclear

weapons that would enable it to threaten our existence and the peace of all humanity. We have gone to battle to change this situation fundamentally, to put an end to the threat.

On the second day of the War of Redemption, I promised you: 'We will change the face of the Middle East.' We did so in Operation Rising Lion, and we are doing so now with even greater force in Operation Roaring Lion.

This morning, in a powerful surprise attack, we destroyed the compound of the tyrant Khamenei in the heart of Tehran. For three and a half decades, this cruel tyrant has exported terror around the world, made his people miserable, and worked tirelessly, without ceasing, on the plan to destroy Israel.

That plan is no more. And there are many signs that the tyrant himself is no more. This morning, we neutralized senior officials in the regime of the Ayatollahs, commanders of the Revolutionary Guards, and top figures in the nuclear program. We will continue; in the coming days, we will strike thousands of targets belonging to the terrorist regime. We will create the conditions for the brave Iranian people to liberate themselves from the chains of tyranny.

Therefore, I turn once again to you, the citizens of Iran: Do not miss this opportunity; it is a once-in-a-generation chance. Do not sit idly by. For soon your moment will arrive, the moment when you will be called to take to the streets in your masses. To take to the streets to finish the job, to topple the regime of horrors that embitters your lives. Your suffering and sacrifice will not be in vain. The help you have prayed for, that help has arrived.

[English]

Help has arrived.

[End English]

And now the time has come for you to unite for a historic mission. Citizens of Iran: Persians, Kurds, Azeris, Abkhazians, and Baluchis. This is your time to join forces, topple the regime, and secure your future.

My dear citizens of Israel, throughout the War of Redemption, I have drawn great strength from your steadfastness. You did not fall into the traps of gloom and despair. On the contrary, you stood tall, you backed our heroic fighters, you backed the government, and you backed me to lead the struggle for our existence.

This is exactly how a nation that desires life behaves, a nation of lions!

In the coming days as well, we will all be required to maintain that same steadfastness and that same iron discipline in following the Home Front Command's instructions.

Dear citizens of Israel, there is great symbolism in the fact that today is the 11th of Adar. On this date, 106 years ago, the national hero Joseph Trumpeldor fell in the Battle of Tel Hai. His legacy and his heroism pulse within us. At the monument to his memory, at the peak of the Galilee

Panhandle where he fell with his seven comrades, the statue of the Roaring Lion was erected. Many times throughout my life, I have visited there. When I looked at the statue, I always saw you, I always saw us, the People of Israel.

With G-d's help, the lion's roar of our soldiers, our pilots, and our citizens is now being heard throughout the entire world. And today more than ever, the whole world knows: Am Yisrael Chai (the people of Israel live)!"

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