

In developments that have captivated Israeli society, 39 Israeli hostages and 18 foreign nationals were released from Gaza during the first three days of a negotiated deal, after they were brutally abducted by Hamas terrorists in defiance of international law. Almost all the hostages still have immediate family members being held in Gaza or have come out to discover that loved ones had been murdered on October 7th. The fourth stage of the hostage release is currently underway. According to reports, an agreement is in the works to extend the humanitarian pause by two days in return for the release of additional hostages. I'd like to share some of the stories of the hostages that have been freed from captivity:

- Yaffa Adar, an 85-year-old Holocaust survivor, was abducted into Gaza on a golf cart. After 50 days in Gaza captivity, she returned to her three children, eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.
- Avigayil Idan is a dual Israeli-American citizen who turned four-years-old in captivity. Both her parents were murdered during the October 7th attacks when Hamas terrorists entered their home on Kibbutz Kfar Aza. Avigayil's father was shot while she was in her father's arms. Still covered in her father's blood, she ran out of her home and was abducted by Hamas terrorists. "Who brushes her teeth? Who holds her? Who pats her head when she is crying," her uncle asked in an interview. After she was released back to Israel, President Joe Biden told reporters that he wishes he was there to hold her.
- Ohad Munder just marked his ninth birthday in Gaza. He was released along with his mother and grandmother, but his grandfather still remains in captivity. Since he missed his birthday celebration, his friends threw an ice cream party for him at the hospital, and he received a visit from his beloved Hapoel Be'er Sheva soccer team.
- "Jimmy" Leano Pacheco, a 33-year-old Filipino citizen, lived on Kibbutz Nir Oz and worked as a caregiver for 80-year-old Amitai Ben Zvi, who was murdered on October 7th. Ben Zvi's daughter shared that Jimmy had been caring for Amitai for the last four years, serving with "quiet, admirable devotion, always attentive to his needs and supportive in countless ways." Following his release and reports of his remarkable dedication, the Israeli government shared that it will will provide him with lifetime benefits and stipends.
- Thirteen-year-old Hila Rotem Shoshani was released from Hamas captivity, but without her mother, in violation of the signed agreement that stipulated that children will not be separated from their mothers. Hamas claims that it could not locate her mother, despite Hila saying they had been together until just two days before her release.
- Seventeen-year-old Noam Or and his 13-year-old sister Alma were seen dragged out of their Kibbutz Be'eri home by Hamas terrorists on October 7th. Their mother was murdered that same day. When the children were freed from captivity, the family had to tell them the terrible news.

- [Adina Moshe](#), 72-years-old, was the first identified hostage who was released on Friday. A resident of Kibbutz Nir Oz, she was kidnapped during the October 7th attacks while her 75-year-old husband was murdered in front of her eyes and she was dragged through a window by terrorists, as her house was burning to the ground. Family members learned of her abduction through a Hamas [video](#) posted on social media. Adina was [shown](#) pushing away the hand of a Hamas terrorist during her transfer to the Red Cross. She [told her family](#) that until that moment, she thought she was being taken to her execution and that she had been held underground for the duration of the 50 days in captivity.
- [Alma Avraham](#), 84-years-old, was denied medication in captivity and was released in critical condition. She is being [treated](#) in Soroka hospital and remains intubated and on respiratory support.

Our prayers are with the remaining hostages as we demand their immediate return to Israel.