

*CBS Mornings*

10/07/26

7:13:33 a.m.

2 minutes and 31 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Three Years Since Israel-Hamas War Began]

GAYLE KING: Now to the Middle East, where three years ago today Hamas unleashed a horrific attack on civilians in southern Israel, killing 1,200 people and taking another 250 hostage. Israel responded with an all-out military offensive in Gaza that killed more than 70,000 people, according to Gaza's Health Ministry run by Hamas. Holly Williams has more from Israel.

HOLLY WILLIAMS: The last three years have reshaped the Middle East. War in Gaza, in Lebanon, and now a conflict with Iran. All of it, at least arguably, is connected to what happened on October 7. Israelis seem more determined than ever to regain a sense of security. Shiri Bibas and her sons Kfir and Ariel were kidnapped from the kibbutz where they lived by militants from Gaza. They never made it home.

OFRI BIBAS LEVY: The world forgot what happened here.

WILLIAMS: Ofri Bibas Levy is the aunt of Kfir and Ariel. Like many Israelis, she's upset over new allegations that there were warnings before October 7 that went unheeded by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. He denies the claims.

BIBAS LEVY: It's like a knife in the heart and twisting — twisting it every single time again and again. Why didn't they do anything — everything to save my family?

WILLIAMS: It's become a heated campaign issue ahead of this month's general election here in Israel. Across the border in Gaza, they have no say in Israel's election. But with Israeli forces still operating in their territory and rebuilding efforts apparently stalled, their future may also be impacted by the election result. We spoke with the grandmother of Hind Rajab, a five-year-old girl who was killed in 2024 after coming under fire by Israeli forces as her family tried to flee. The Israeli military announced it had launched a criminal investigation in August. But Hind's grandmother told us she has no expectation of justice from Israel. People here in Israel today are remembering the victims of the October 7 attacks. The massacre still casts a long shadow over not just Israel, but the entire Middle East, Gayle.

KING: Holly Williams in Tel Aviv. Thank you.