



In the early hours of October 7, Hamas sent a huge barrage of rockets and fighters from the besieged Gaza Strip into Israel, in an unprecedented attack that has so far killed more than 1,000 people, with thousands wounded and dozens taken hostage.

Israel retaliated by flattening neighbourhood after neighbourhood in Gaza as part of an intense bombing campaign that has also killed more than 1,000 Palestinians and wounded thousands. It also imposed a total siege of the coastal enclave and amassed troops for a potential ground offensive on the densely populated territory.

In this edition of the newsletter, we are bringing you a series of stories to help you understand the situation – from in-depth reporting from the ground and analysis, to personal accounts and explainers.



[Why did Hamas attack now and what is next?](#)

The Israeli government's policies gave Hamas the justification and the opportunity to attack.



After the first few bites of dinner, the Israeli bombardment of Gaza began

An Al Jazeera journalist reflects on the moment Israeli air strikes began, signalling the start of a long, terrible night.



What's the Israel-Palestine conflict about? A simple guide

It's killed tens of thousands of people and displaced millions. And its future lies in its past. We break it down.



The bombs raining down on Gaza from Israel are beyond scary, beyond crazy

As Israel bombarded Gaza for the third night, I found myself closer to a missile hit that I could have imagined.



[What is happening in Israel and Gaza?](#)

A look at Israel's war with Hamas after the group running the Gaza Strip launched its surprise attack.



[PODCAST: Where do you go when Israel strikes down your home in Gaza?](#)

As Israel's assault on the Gaza Strip ramps up and the death toll rises, journalist Maram Humaid shares what it is like to live in Gaza today.

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