



# Wall of Prayer

Christian Friends of Israel

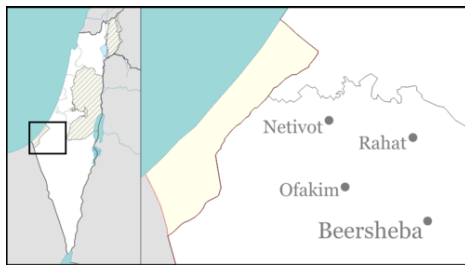
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## Nahal Oz

*“They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations. (Isaiah 61:4, NIV)”*



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Israel\\_outline\\_northwest\\_negev.png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Israel_outline_northwest_negev.png)

As of late February, Home Front Command alerts were still being triggered from incoming rockets as sirens blared over Nahal Oz. Less than two weeks prior, our Wall of Prayer team prayer-walked the grounds of the evacuated kibbutz. The only people currently on the premises are soldiers and a few groundskeepers looking after the chicken and cow farms and facilities. Located on the southern Israel border of the Gaza Envelope, Nahal Oz sits in the northwestern part of the Negev desert region. In less than a 15-minute drive, you can pass Kibbutz Be’eri and Kfar Aza, with Nahal Oz in the center. One can also get to Reim where the Supernova festival took place.

Kibbutz Nahal Oz was founded in 1951 and became a civilian community in 1953. On October 7th, 2023, the day of the bloody Hamas massacre, Nahal Oz residents past and present were preparing to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the kibbutz. Former kibbutz residents had traveled in just to be on site for what was to be a special day celebrating Simchat Torah (commemorating the giving of the Torah), and the 70th anniversary of family life in this kibbutz. The early morning hours of October 7th saw those plans swallowed up in terror and bloodshed.

According to sources, the Nahal Oz army base and command center for field observers on the Gaza border was



breached and fought a difficult battle to restrain the Hamas infiltration into Israel. It's reported that observers from base had given prior warnings about an infiltration before October 7th—warnings that went unheeded. The kibbutz itself was held by Hamas terrorists for 12 hours before IDF soldiers regained control. Twelve residents were murdered and 5 were taken hostage. After seven weeks, three of the five abductees were freed in a deal releasing a group of 17 hostages. Two men remain hostage in Gaza, Omri Miran, 46, and Tsachi Idan, 49. May our prayers and hope not wane for their safe return.

On a (separate) visit to Hostages Square in Tel Aviv, we met Revital, a former resident who grew up in Nahal Oz. She said, "You may leave the kibbutz, but the kibbutz doesn't leave you. We're always family." She's a volunteer at the tent dedicated to Nahal Oz, sharing stories with visitors about October 7th. Revital was warm, friendly, strong, yet vulnerable; she allowed us to pray with her.

Katya, a resident of Nahal Oz is a follower of Yeshua, wife of Dima, and mother of 3. She agreed to meet us at the kibbutz showing us the devastation as she shared her testimony from that dreadful day. Katya was home with her husband and son when they began to hear commotion and voices speaking Arabic. When she checked the community WhatsApp group, people began posting the kibbutz had been infiltrated. Katya and her husband shut themselves in their safe room while her son was on the other side of the home in his safe room.



Katya watched from a camera inside her safe room as wounded terrorists broke into her home dripping blood all over her house. Katya began to cry out to Yeshua for protection and deliverance, and one point began to confess to God in the event she did not survive the infiltration alive. However, Katya said she watched as the terrorists approached her hiding place and not take notice of the door that was right in front of them. She said God made the door to the safe room "invisible"--it's as if it was *not* even there. They did not even so much as turn the handle of the door. The same happened at her son's safe room. The terrorists did not "see" the door. She attributes her survival to God's protection, and the blood of Jesus covering them as she fervently prayed Psalm 91.

Little did I know, our paths had already crossed in the Spirit on the morning of October 7th. I was attending the Shabbat service of Mount Carmel congregation in Haifa when one of the pastors shared Katya's prayer request that she texted in from her safe room. The entire congregation began to pray for this family and the kibbutz, me not knowing one day I would meet this brave daughter of Zion whose prayers God had allowed me to intercede for. As I looked at Katya months later, tears streamed from my eyes—I was looking at a saved life and an answer to prayer.

What's left now are bullet-riddled homes seemingly stuck in time, left exactly as they were on the night of October 6th from Shabbat dinners. Broken glass, overturned furniture, and an eerie silence veil this desecrated kibbutz. Katya complained of stray dogs coming from Gaza looking for food and causing problems for the farmers. She hopes to come back even though she knows it is a great sacrifice to live on the Gaza border. Katya said her family would need to completely start over and would require a lot of help. If given the opportunity, she hopes to be a light to her neighbors, nearly all secular, as she knows we are living in the last days.

An additional aspect for prayer consideration came from Moran, an agricultural expert on a panel speaking for the farming industry. He said that terrorists didn't only come to violate homes, kill and kidnap people, but also to do damage in the fields and farms. He noted irrigation systems, pipes, and reservoir coatings were destroyed. "If there's no water then there's no agriculture." Even tractors were destroyed. Maximum damage was the goal.



In closing, the Nahal Oz community—no stranger to violence—needs our prayers. In 1956, Ro'i Rothberg was ambushed and killed here by infiltrators from Gaza. Moshe Dayan then famously eulogized Rothberg with an admonition to alertness that still rings true to the brave who settle next to enemy lines all throughout Israel. Let's be alert, awake, watch and pray:

"How did we shut our eyes and refuse to look squarely at our fate, and see, in all its brutality, the destiny of our generation? Have we forgotten that this group of young people dwelling at Nahal Oz is bearing the heavy gates of Gaza on its shoulders? Beyond the furrow of the border, a sea of hatred and desire for revenge is swelling, awaiting the day when serenity will dull our path, for the day when we will heed the ambassadors of malevolent hypocrisy who call upon us to lay down our arms."

(Source: [Wikipedia](#))

## Praying for Nahal Oz:

- **Pray** for the spiritual restoration of the people of kibbutz Nahal Oz and many other kibbutzim that were infiltrated and terrorized on October 7th. Pray that they would be comforted, healed, and seek God's face with humble hearts and prayer (**Psalm 23; Isaiah 61**).
- **Intercede** for evacuated families who are approaching almost 6 months of being in a wilderness season of displacement. Pray for provision, wisdom, and increased faith in God (**Deuteronomy 29:5-6; Psalm 23**).
- **Pray** for restoration of the agricultural sector of the kibbutzim that supply Israel with food and vital resources. Pray also for the security of all Israel's borders (**2 Chronicles 7:14; Isaiah 61:4**).
- **Exalt the name of Jesus** over this community and neighboring ones of the south that were so demonically violated with rape, murder, mutilation, and kidnapping leaving many orphans and widows. In Jesus name, pray for the rebuilding and reclaiming of the ground in the spirit, removing any demonic residue from the attacks (**Mark 3:15; Luke 10:17**).
- **Pray** for Katya to be a light in her community as she shares to prepare the way, that others would join her as a remnant (**Matthew 5:14; Ephesians 6:18-20**).
- **Pray** for surrounding Gaza envelope communities and Gazans themselves to repent and come to know the Prince of Peace, Jesus (**Joel 2:28; Acts 2:17**).

Maranatha!

Suzie Georges

Wall of Prayer Coordinator

