



History & Significance of the YOM KIPPUR WAR

We remember on this day 50 years ago

What was the Yom Kippur War?

The war began on October 6, 1973, when the Arab coalition jointly launched a surprise attack against Israel on the holiest Jewish day of Yom Kippur, and the 10th of the Islamic month of Ramadan. The attack by the Egyptian and Syrian forces caught Israel by surprise as they had sought to regain territory lost to Israel during the 1967 six day war. As families across the world gathered in synagogues to seek atonement, the Israel nation was called into battle. Early success was achieved by the Arab forces as they pushed deep into the Israeli held territory in the Sinai Peninsula and Golan Heights.

Who won the Yom Kippur War?

The 1973 war ended in a ceasefire on October 25th in an Israeli victory, with military assistance and aid from the United States. Israel managed to regain territory and even cross the Suez Canal into Egypt. Though the war did not immediately alter the dynamics of the Arab Israeli conflict, it nevertheless brought the United States closer to a nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union than at any point since the Cuban missile crisis. In 1978, diplomatic efforts brokered the Camp David Accords.

How many casualties?

The Yom Kippur War had cost Israel 2,656 dead soldiers and 7,251 injured. 294 prisoners of war had been captured by the enemy.

War hero's and Medal of Honor recipients:

The war saw a remarkable display of national unity in Israel. The country rallied behind its citizens. The gratitude to our nation goes to the soldiers who fought for our right to maintain our homeland. We share with you stories of some of these hero's.

We wish you a meaningful fast, *Ghabul Bosheh*

The UMJCA Israel and Zionism Committee



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