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## Israel Carrying Out Vast Humanitarian Effort in Haiti

In the wake of last week's devastating earthquake in Haiti, Israel sent an expert team of 220 men and women to help in the rescue and treatment of Haitians affected by the natural disaster. The team opened the first fully functioning field hospital in the ravaged country, allowing doctors to perform surgery and other advanced procedures. The field hospital, which has already treated hundreds of people, complements an Israeli search and rescue team still looking for survivors amid the rubble. Israel's efforts in Haiti mark a long tradition of the Jewish state sending immediate and advanced assistance to countries affected by natural disasters, including Sri Lanka, Turkey, El Salvador and India.

- The Israeli field hospital, set up in eight hours on Saturday on a soccer field, can treat up to 500 people, according to [Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#).
- The hospital includes at least 40 doctors, 40 nurses, paramedics, a pharmacy, a children's ward, a radiology department, an intensive care unit, an emergency room, two operating rooms, a surgical department, an internal department and a maternity ward.
- To date, Israel has treated more than 300 patients and performed 25 life-saving surgeries. More than 2,000 people have visited the Israeli hospital for help.
- [NBC News](#) describes the Israeli hospital as the "model for crises care" and highlights Israel's continuing efforts. "When we save the life of one person, we feel that we save the world," one Israeli doctor explained, echoing an aphorism from the Talmud.
- The IDF emergency aid team has also provided 10 tons of medical equipment to the relief efforts, as well as a Search and Rescue team and a team of Home Front command soldiers specializing in operations, logistics, and computers.
- On Monday, Israel sent a second delegation to assist the rescue efforts with additional medical supplies and other equipment, [The Jerusalem Post](#) reported.
- Amid the tragedy and devastation, Israeli doctors helped deliver at least seven babies, including a boy whose mother named him Israel in honor of the Jewish state, an Israeli [video](#) documents.
- In a separate incident, a report on [ABC News](#) highlights how a pregnant women who needed advanced care to deliver her baby girl found help in the only place then available: Israel's field hospital.



Israeli doctors in Haiti [helped deliver](#) a healthy baby boy, which the mother named Israel in honor of the Jewish state.

- A riveting [video](#) captures the efforts of an Israeli search and rescue team in Port-Au-Prince to pull a 52-year-old man from the rubble of a collapsed building.
- [Fox News](#) interviews Israeli doctors in Haiti about their rescue efforts and reports about one doctor's donation of his own blood to a three-day-old Haitian baby.
- [The Jerusalem Post](#) documents efforts by Israeli search and rescue teams to find and remove people from the rubble of collapsed buildings. "We assume there are still people alive, and we do not want to give up," said Lt.-Col. Golan Wach.
- Israel's humanitarian efforts can be summed up by Matt Goldstein, the commander of ZAKA, an Israeli emergency response service composed of religiously observant Jews. "With all the hell going on outside ... Judaism says we must take a deep breath and go on to save more people," he said in describing the team's work during the Jewish Sabbath, when work is typically forbidden. "We did everything to save lives, despite Shabbat. People asked, 'Why are you here? There are no Jews here', but we are here because the Torah orders us to save lives... We are desecrating Shabbat with pride."