

# Israel rocked by shock attacks, Cop28's chief and a new Stone age

**Last weekend's devastating incursion by Hamas militants into Israel from Gaza** resulted in thousands of deaths, provoked a declaration of war and upended the fragile diplomacy of the Middle East. As the region faces its worst conflict for 50 years, Bethan McKernan reports from a kibbutz ransacked by militants and finds shocked residents still struggling to process events. Guardian correspondents Harriet Sherwood, Patrick Wintour and Peter Beaumont provide context and analysis, while international affairs commentator Simon Tisdall argues that the ultimate blame lies with Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's controversial prime minister.

**Special report** [Page 10](#) →

**With global temperatures for September described as "gobsmackingly bananas" by a leading climatologist**, our interview with the president of Cop28 could not be more timely. Sultan Al Jaber explains to Fiona Harvey how he believes he can square his job as the chief of the United Arab Emirates' national oil company with leading a global conference focused on net zero carbon emissions.

**What's wrong with that?** [Page 34](#) →

**The last time Alexis Petridis tried to interview Sly Stone**, the funk pioneer wanted money to talk and had a madcap plan to teach music to the British royal family. Now clean and with an autobiography out, Stone opens up on his highs, personal feuds and an archive of unrecorded tracks.

**Culture** [Page 51](#) →

**Karl Ove Knausgård's 3,600-page novel series My Struggle** infuriated some readers with its close focus on the minutiae of everyday life but entranced many others. With his new work, the Norwegian writer turns to the cosmos - and with it he resurrects, says reviewer Tanjil Rashid, the novel of ideas.

**Books** [Page 57](#) →



## On the cover

The swirling composite of images on our cover this week encapsulates the human chaos and grief of civilians, both in Israel and Gaza, caught up in the sudden, violent outbreak of war. The central image shows a vast explosion filling the sky above Gaza City, an ominous portent of the shockwaves yet to emanate from this conflict.

*Illustration: Guardian Design*

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