

17 October 2025

The Melbourne Holocaust Museum welcomes the release of the 20 remaining living hostages from Gaza.

We share in the immense relief felt by their families and communities as loved ones return home after enduring unimaginable trauma in captivity.

Our thoughts are with those who are beginning the long journey of recovery and with the families whose loved ones did not survive and we pray for the imminent return of the bodies of those still held in Gaza.

As an institution committed to preserving memory and promoting human dignity, we stand firmly against the taking of innocent lives and the use of civilians as bargaining tools in conflict. Every person deserves safety, compassion, and the chance to live their life in peace.

As Melbourne Holocaust survivor Bernard Friedman said, "No matter what race, colour or religious persuasion, everyone has the right to live peacefully on this planet Earth, and everyone has to tolerate others."

The Melbourne Holocaust Museum remains steadfast in its belief that humanity must prevail over hatred, and that every human life is precious.