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Israel planning to use crocodiles to guard Palestinian inmates – media

The reptiles have reportedly been reclassified as “tended” animals, removing a key legal obstacle to their use in prisons

Published 17 Jul, 2026 19:56

Israel has reportedly reclassified Nile crocodiles as “tended” animals, potentially clearing the way for their use as part of prison security.

The controversial proposal to surround prisons with crocodile-filled moats was reportedly floated late last year by far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, who argued the reptiles would strengthen security and deter



FILE PHOTO. Crocodile farm in the nature reserve Hamat Gader in Israel. ©

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escape attempts. The plan was initially deemed legally unfeasible by the Israel Nature and Parks Authority because Nile crocodiles were classified as wild animals that could only be kept in zoos and wildlife sanctuaries.

Getty Images / Dance60

That legal obstacle was reportedly removed this week when Environmental Protection Minister Idit Silman redesignated the Nile crocodile as a *"tended wild animal,"* Israeli media reported on Friday. The new classification allows the reptiles to be kept in a wider range of facilities, potentially including prisons.



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The new designation reportedly comes despite warnings from the ministry's legal adviser, who told Silman she had no authority to unilaterally decide on the status of the crocodiles and lay the groundwork for their deployment into prisons. A few weeks ago, Ben-Gvir and Silman reportedly held a meeting with the legal adviser and Nature and Parks Authority chief Raya Soraki, pressing them into accepting the dubious plan.

According to Israeli media reports, Ben-Gvir wants to first introduce the reptiles to Ketziot Prison, a penitentiary in southern Israel that holds primarily Palestinian prisoners. After he first floated the proposal, the Israel Prison Service (IPS) reviewed it and sent officers to the Hamat Gader crocodile farm early in January to familiarize themselves with the reptiles.

**לאחר הצעת בן גביר להקמת בית כלא מוקף תנינים
למחבלים: קציני שב"ס הגיעו הבוקר לחמת גדר לסיור למידה |**
[@lee_ayashpic.twitter.com/xgWGqJ9zRJ](https://twitter.com/lee_ayashpic/xgWGqJ9zRJ)

— i24NEWS (@i24NEWS_HE) January 1, 2026

The IPS reportedly received the minister's proposal favorably, considering settling for smaller specimens that would cost about \$8,000 per head rather than elder reptiles costing around

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\$20,000. “This is a relatively small sum compared with the security investment a prison requires, and the results would be even better,” an IPS source told the Maariv newspaper at the time, adding that the “also dangerous” small reptiles would eventually grow inside the prison compound.

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Karbonero

7/18/2026 at 10:51 AM

0

If you happened to place crocs around an Israeili prison the crocs would let the escapees pass unhindred, for fear of being bitten and contracting (((shoeism))). Also, being called anti-«semantic.»

Reply

M

M Hanna

7/18/2026 at 10:28 AM

0

Accidents will happen and few people will be injured 🙄🙄🙄🙄

Reply



Covert

7/18/2026 at 1:57 AM

8

Reptiles using Reptiles. Makes sense 🕍 🦎

Reply

J

J L

7/18/2026 at 7:50 AM

⤴

0

They are reptilians not reptiles. 😏

Reply



Covert

7/18/2026 at 9:48 AM

⤴

0

LIZARDS

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P Pathway Finance 7/18/2026 at 9:25 AM 0

Palestinians must get acquainted with Crocodiles and anything can happen vice-a-versa!

[Reply](#)

S Sten Hansson 7/18/2026 at 8:47 AM 1

As we all should know by now; there are jews and there are animals in the world.

[Reply](#)

C C B 7/18/2026 at 8:42 AM 0

Serious thought: 007 was an allegory for British Israelism, with Israel being the Bond villains and Bond being the UK 🤔

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J J L 7/18/2026 at 7:32 AM 2

Zio fake jew demons play into all the stereotypes. 🖐️ ✡️ 🐼

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 **Karbonero** 7/18/2026 at 8:28 AM ↑ 0

Also the real (((shoe))) demons.

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J Joe Kerr 7/18/2026 at 8:25 AM 1

Israel is an expansionist terrorist state, committing genocidal acts & led by a wanted war criminal. The IDF is the modern day Unit 731.

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 **Jalid Othman** 7/18/2026 at 4:28 AM 4

Notice how the Jews are the best at creating the worse horrific scenarios, like organs stealing, blood filled mattresses, shooting little girls 572 times and now this.

They are also very good at **making up** horror situations like gas Chambers and fake Ovens.

No wonder they own Hollywood.