

Death toll in weekend terrorist attack at Sydney's Bondi Beach rises to 15



Floral tributes laid at the scene of a mass shooting at Bondi Beach in Sydney on Dec. 14, 2025.

SYDNEY (Kyodo) -- The death toll in a terrorist attack at Sydney's Bondi Beach over the weekend rose to 15, while more than 40 others were injured, with a father and son duo identified as suspects, local police said Monday. Those suspected in Sunday's attack were a 50-year-old man, who was fatally shot by police, and his 24-year-old son, who has been detained, the police said, adding they are investigating the motive.

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said the two had targeted a Hanukkah celebration attended by over a thousand Jewish people. The Australian Broadcasting Corp. reported that the son had come under investigation in 2019 for ties to the Islamic State extremist group. According to the police, the suspects had six firearms in their possession, while explosive devices were discovered in the car, believed to be linked to the father.

It is the worst shooting in Australia since 1996 when 35 people were killed in an attack in Port Arthur, Tasmania. Albanese called the Sunday attack an "act of evil, antisemitism, terrorism that has struck the heart of our nation."

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi sent a message of condolence to Albanese on Monday, saying, "I am deeply saddened and profoundly outraged by reports of the mass shooting that occurred at Bondi Beach in Sydney." "Such a brutal act of terrorism is absolutely unacceptable under any circumstances," she said in the message released by the Japanese government. "At this difficult time, Japan stands with Australia."