

Opinion.

A NEW YEAR
IN A BROKEN
WORLD

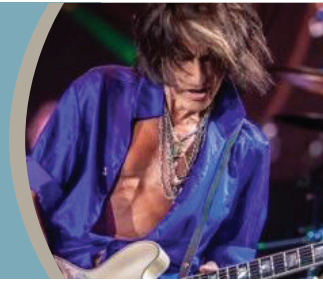
A2.



Tradition.

CHOICE
AND
CHANGE

A9.



AEROSMITH
GUITARIST
SENDS
GREETINGS
TO ISRAEL

A11.

THE algemeiner JOURNAL

\$1.00 - PRINTED IN NEW YORK

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017 | 8 Tevet 5777

VOL. XLIV NO. 2288

Top Tehran Official: Iran Will Keep Supporting Anti- Israel Terrorism Front



Ali Akbar Velayti. Photo: Alchetron.

BY BARNEY BREEN
-PORTNOY

The Islamic Republic will always back nations and groups that fight Israel, a top Iranian official vowed on Tuesday, the Tehran regime-aligned *Tasnim* news agency reported.

Speaking to reporters in the Iranian capital, Ali Akbar Velayti — a senior adviser to Ayatollah Ali

Khamenei — said Iran’s “stance is unchanging and that is providing full and continued support for the resistance line, which begins from Iran and passes through Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and reaches Palestine.”

Explaining Iran’s ongoing effort to bolster the regime of Syrian President Bashar Assad, Velayti stated, “Given that Syria is an important link in the chain of resistance, the Islamic Republic of Iran has sided with the country’s

people and government since the very beginning of the regional and international conspiracy against Syria, and will continue to do so.”

When Iranian officials speak of “resistance groups,” they are generally referring to Tehran-backed anti-Western and anti-Israel terrorist organizations, such as Hamas and Hezbollah. The term is also used by Iran to describe the Houthis in Yemen,

Continued on Page A3

IDF Official: Preemptive Strike Against Hezbollah May Be Necessary

BY RUTHIE BLUM

A senior Israeli defense official said that the IDF is cautiously optimistic about making it through the coming year without having to conduct major combat operations, unless a preemptive strike against the Lebanon-based Shiite terrorist organization Hezbollah becomes necessary, Defense News reported on Monday.



A Hezbollah military parade in Syria. Photo: Twitter.

“The probability for war in 2017, generally speaking, is low,” the official said, but with a caveat: “Due to the dynamic of escalation, we might find ourselves in [one].”

The official told Defense News that Israel needs to calculate its moves very carefully, as it is facing threats from Hezbollah in the north, Hamas in the south and the Palestinian Authority in the center, as well as from far beyond its borders — the regime in Tehran.

The official explained that each of these fronts is volatile, and require close attention.

Continued on Page A3

Disgrace of the UNSC

page A8



ShabbatCalendar

Parshat VAYIGASH
פרשת ויגש

Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting
Shabbat Begins: 4:34pm | Shabbat Ends: 5:37pm



the algemeiner

P.O.B. 250746, Brooklyn, NY 11225-3203
Tel: (718) 771.0400 | Fax: (718) 771.0308
Email: editor@algemeiner.com
www.algemeiner.com



Opinion.

A New Year in a Broken World



LELA GILBERT
JERUSALEM

Those who have the healthy habit of working out at a gym several times a week will soon be complaining about the massive – and often annoying – “New Year’s resolution crowd” that throngs every fitness center starting on Jan. 2.

They will be equally relieved, on about Feb. 3, when the entire mass of newcomers are virtually all gone – their New Year’s resolutions broken and forgotten. Instead of working out, they will soon be consumed with other distractions like Netflix. Or cooking classes. Or social media.

Meanwhile, much has been made – particularly on social media – of 2016 as being a year notable for its tragedies and deaths. It has often been said that 2017 can’t come soon enough. And there is some truth to this – perhaps more than meets the eye.

Of course, the loss of some beloved celebrities – most recently including the sudden deaths of film stars Carrie Fischer and her mother, Debbie Reynolds – have grieved millions of fans.

Over the months, cherished music icons

such as David Bowie, Leon Russell, Prince and Leonard Cohen were among other celebrities whose passings were observed with sorrow by devoted fans. Such passings seemed to arrive with increasing frequency as 2016 neared its end.

And it wasn’t just rock stars.

For example, the loss of Holocaust memorialist Elie Wiesel brought forth innumerable eulogies and remembrances. This was particularly true in Israel, where so many had been touched by his eloquent recollections and reflections on the Third Reich’s “Final Solution” and how it robbed the world of 6 million Jews.

Although Wiesel was 87 years old when he died, more than one columnist reflected that – like so many late celebrities – he was “gone too soon.”

Other 2016 losses were of a different sort.

In the months leading up to the United States presidential election, there was a nearly unprecedented political polarization that dramatically divided Americans – and not only between rival political parties. There was also radical division between identity groups and conflicting ideologies, even within the ranks of Democrats and Republicans.

The coarseness and enraged tone of some of these debates was notable not only in published commentaries, but even more starkly in a digital flood of profane and demeaning tweets and posts and comments.

These losses were personal, and some

seemed to be permanent. Families were divided. Businesses were split along jagged lines of disagreement. Friendships were bruised, if not broken altogether.

Both the run-up to the election and its aftermath continued along the same divisive course, which lingers even now. Friends are no longer friends. Family members are not invited to dinner. Coworkers are avoided, if not altogether estranged.

Other losses were the bitter fruit of jihadi terrorism.

A long list of 2016 attacks recounts violence in every corner of the world – the handiwork of religious fanatics. Among so many others, we read of suicide bombings in Istanbul and Baghdad, Nice and Brussels, Lahore and Quetta.

In Israel, every month of the year was marred by Palestinian assaults that involved stabbing, firearms, the stoning of cars and even a bus bombing that injured 21 in Jerusalem.

Then, perhaps eclipsing all the other violence that gripped the world in 2016, was the most horrifying bloodbath of all – the Syrian civil war. Today, estimates of that war’s fatalities are beginning to approach half a million souls. The bloodshed has been unstoppable. Most recently, this has been exposed in Aleppo, where a besieged population has been decimated by radical Sunni militias along with Syrian and Russian airstrikes.

Max Boot wrote in *Commentary Magazine*,

It is painful simply to read about the



New Year's Eve in Times Square. Photo: Wikipedia.

horrors that Aleppo is currently enduring. In its death throes, it is reminiscent of Stalin-grad, Warsaw and Manila in World War II, or Srebrenica during the Yugoslav Wars of Succession – cities that endured suffering beyond human comprehension. Amid reports of razed buildings and dead bodies in the streets, it is numbing to read that some women have committed suicide rather than be raped by regime troops.

The world has been in turmoil since time began, but it isn’t an exaggeration to say that in 2016, the upheaval in the Middle East reached monumental proportions.

And then, just as 2016 seemed to be winding down to its welcome end, the little nation of Israel suffered one of the most vicious blows in its nearly 70-year history. This was not a physical blow, although it will no doubt have violent repercussions.

The assault was done in the supposed peacemaking assembly of the United Nations,

Continued on Page A3



the Algemeiner Journal

(USPS 927800) is published weekly (except for the week of Passover and Succos)

Subscription rate \$40 per year

Algemeiner Journal
508 Montgomery Street
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11225-3023

Periodicals Postage
Paid at Brooklyn, N.Y.
and at additional mailing offices

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to

Algemeiner Journal
P.O. Box 250746
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11225-3023

Let your voice be heard!
Letters@algemeiner.com

To advertise in
the new Algemeiner
e-mail: ads@algemeiner.com

or call
718-771-0400

When President Obama Told Me That Israeli-Palestinian Peace Was Impossible



STEVEN BURG
NEW YORK

As many of us are aware, President Obama stumbled at the beginning of his presidency in regard to his relationship with Israel. His speech in Egypt left out the 3,000-year connection between the Jews and the land of Israel, and he put unbearable pressure on Israel during the first few years of his administration.

It was in this context that a group of Orthodox Jewish representatives were invited to meet with President Obama in 2012, with his reelection campaign on the horizon.

As the managing director of the Orthodox Union at the time, I was invited to participate in this meeting. The conversation covered many topics, and it was a generally pleasant interaction. As many of us voiced our fears about his Israel policy, President Obama raised his hand and said that he understood our concerns. He said that pressuring Israel to make peace was not practical, because he had seen that Prime Minister Abbas was a weak leader who was unable to make the concessions necessary for peace.

We were startled to hear President Obama state the obvious as bluntly as he did. And we left the White House that day with a sense that the president understood that the Israelis had no real partner for peace.

Unfortunately, our rosy outlook proved to be short-lived.

After listening to Secretary of State John Kerry’s anti-Israel speech, one question was left unanswered: Who should Israel make peace with? The strongest leaders among the Palestinians seem to be those of Hamas, a terrorist organization that aspires to destroy Israel. Even if partners could be found within the Palestinian Authority, who can ensure that ISIS would not take over?

A speech from the US secretary of state, 99% of which was spent attacking home-building in the West Bank, and 1% acknowledged ongoing Palestinian terrorism was not just unbalanced; it bordered on antisemitic. Even those who feel that settlement construction should be stopped were appalled.

At my organization, Aish HaTorah, we work in “occupied territory” – next to the Western Wall. Exactly one year ago, one of our Talmud teachers, Rabbi Reuven Biermacher, the father of seven children, was butchered by two terrorists wielding machetes. Was this because he refused to stop building in the territories? Was this because he oppressed Palestinians? No. It was simply because he was a defenseless Jew.

We Jews have heard from many people throughout the centuries that if we only acted a certain way, we would be protected. You will have to forgive us for following President Reagan’s advice: “Trust, but verify.” In President Obama’s own words, the leadership of the Palestinians is too weak to make peace. How can we trust them to keep us safe?

To be fair, President Obama and John Kerry have done many positive things for the state of Israel over the last eight and four years respectively. I absolutely do not believe that they have any malicious intention towards Israel or the Jews. Unfortunately, whether someone is naive or malicious, the end result is often the same.



US President Barack Obama. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

World News.

Israel Rules No Return of Hamas Terrorists' Bodies

BY JNS.ORG

Israel's security cabinet ruled Sunday that the bodies of Hamas operatives will no longer be returned to their families for burial, as part of new efforts to pressure the terrorist group to make swap deals.

Under this policy, the Jewish state will bury terrorists in a cemetery for enemy combatants, but would be ready to exhume and turn over the bodies if Hamas returned Staff Sgt. Oron Shaul and Lt. Hadar Goldin, killed in Gaza in 2014 during Operation Protective Edge, and released two living citizens, Ethiopian-Israeli Avera Mengistu and Bedouin-Israeli Hisham al-Sayed, who were captured by Hamas in 2014 and 2015, respectively, after the mentally ill men willingly entered Gaza.

The Goldin and Shaul families both made statements urging Israeli Prime Minister



The late Lt. Hadar Goldin (left) with his father, Simcha. Goldin was killed in Gaza during Operation Protective Edge in 2014, and his body remains with the Hamas terror group. Photo: Courtesy.

Benjamin Netanyahu to follow through on this policy change and "show leadership," and criticized the government for "doing nothing" over the last two and a half years to secure the return of their sons.

Continued from Page A1
Supporting Terrorism

who are receiving Iranian support as they battle for control of that southern Arabian Peninsula country against the Saudi-backed government of Yemeni President Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi.

At the end of November, IDF Brig. Gen. (res.) Yosef Kuperwasser — a former director-general of Israel's Ministry of International

Continued from Page A1
Preemptive Strike

He said that though the most likely source of instability will come from the PA in the West Bank, and that the most easily ignitable conflict is with Hamas in Gaza, the strongest force Israel faces is Iranian proxy Hezbollah, which has been fighting in Syria on behalf of President Bashar Assad.

He said that this was the case despite Hezbollah's having suffered mass casualties during the Syrian civil war, which began in 2011. He estimated that even after losing some 1,700 fighters in battle — and having another 6,000 or so wounded — the organization has approximately 8,000 personnel in Syria today. Nor, he said, has Hezbollah stopped its military build-up against Israel.

"We don't want to wait for the first day of the war [before taking action], he said, and since Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah speaks almost every week about the day they will conquer Israel... why wait? Why give him a feeling of being strong enough?"

The official concluded that Israel's main worry was what will happen when Russia and other states leave Syria, leaving the stage open for Iran and Hezbollah to grow more confident and powerful.

Continued from Page A2
Broken World

in the name of international diplomacy. Just as the presidency of Barack Obama was nearing completion, it appears that he personally inspired United Nations Resolution 2334 — a declaration regarding Israeli settlements and borders. With the encouragement of Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry, 14 countries voted for the resolution. The US did not veto it. It simply abstained from the vote and allowed it to pass.

Former Israeli Ambassador to the United States Michael Oren summed up the resolution's dangers:

The hazards for Israel are clear. The resolution means the Western Wall and other places sacred to Jews for 3,000 years are considered as illegally occupied. It labels 600,000 Israelis as "flagrant violators of international law." As such, Israel could be sued in international criminal courts, boycotted and sanctioned. The goal of the initiators of the resolution was not to achieve a better two-state solution, I believe, but to deny Israel the right to defend itself and, ultimately, the right to exist as sovereign Jewish State.

I have felt the weight of this latest UN assault on Israel's legitimacy bearing down on

Affairs and Strategy — told *The Algemeiner* that Iran was stepping up the speed at which it was arming its proxies in the Middle East due to its fear that after Donald Trump assumes the US presidency in January, its room to maneuver in Syria will be greatly hampered.

Last month, Hamas' representative in Tehran declared ties between the Gaza-ruling Islamist terror group and the Iranian regime were "getting better every day."

That, he said, "will not be a good end to this story."

As *The Algemeiner* reported on Sunday, Hezbollah has flatly rejected the Moscow-Ankara-brokered Syria ceasefire deal — which was approved unanimously by the UN Security Council on Saturday — over Turkey's insistence that all foreign fighters exit the war-torn country, even before peace talks begin between Assad and rebel forces.

The last time Israel went to war against Hezbollah was in the summer of 2006. During an event last year marking the 10th anniversary of the 34-day Second War in Lebanon, IDF Deputy Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Yair Golan said that in the next confrontation Hezbollah will have four times the amount of explosive warheads with which to strike the greater Tel Aviv metropolitan area.

He added, however, "We're the country best equipped to deal with emergency scenarios ... The Home Front Command has prepared directives for all authoritative bodies in Israel, and we just need to make sure that everyone does his job seriously and as planned. Israel has an early warning system unparalleled in the world that lets civilians know what to do."

Jewish Home Party Leader Bennett Announces Plans to Annex Ma'aleh Adumim



Israeli Education Minister Naftali Bennett. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

BY JNS.ORG

The head of Israel's HaBayit HaYehudi (Jewish Home) announced Monday plans to draft a bill to annex the Jerusalem suburb of Ma'aleh Adumim. The community is located east of Jerusalem, beyond the 1967 lines.

Naftali Bennett's announcement coincided with a Knesset Constitution, Law and Justice Committee meeting about the application of Israeli sovereignty to Ma'aleh Adumim.

"Today, we are continuing along the path of [late Prime Minister] Levi Eshkol, who applied [Israeli] law in Jerusalem, [late Prime Minister]

my Jerusalem friends. In fact, for many Israelis, this is a time of despair and deep weariness after more than half a century of opposition to the Jewish State's very survival.

Most certainly, in the wake of all this, 2016 couldn't have come at a better time, not only for America and Israel, but for much of the world. Because, as a poet once proclaimed, "Hope springs eternal in the human breast."

And so it is that despite the incomprehensible violence and destruction that infects the globe; despite the bloodthirsty killers who ravage innumerable innocents; despite America's feckless leaders who have done virtually nothing to change the course of Mideast brutalities (the *Book of Common Prayer* provides words of confession "for what we have done and for what we have left undone"), yet still the world hopes, envisions and longs for a new beginning.

And so we look forward to 2017: A New Year. A fresh start. A blank slate.

Our western "New Year" is a wonderful occasion on which to pin such hopes. But during the decade in which I have lived in Jerusalem, I have been inspired by the Jewish New Year — Rosh Hashanah — in a different way. Because it involves something more substantial than "New Year's resolutions."

The Jewish New Year, which begins 10 solemn "Days of Awe," requires those who observe it to move beyond their good intentions. One writer explained,

Rosh Hashanah is "a holiday that emphasizes teshuvah, turning around,

Yitzhak Rabin, who established Ma'aleh Adumim and [late Prime Minister] Menachem Begin, who applied sovereignty in the Golan Heights. Today, we are moving forward to Ma'aleh Adumim, and then to the remaining swaths of our land," Bennett declared.

Left-wing Israeli political leaders came out strongly against the proposal. Member of Knesset Michal Rozin (Meretz) said, "You are declaring war against the Palestinians and the world. The Bennett government is carrying out the Habayit Hayehudi vision and destroying the future of the country."

becoming a better person, living a life closer to what God wants from us. How can we experience teshuvah? Teshuvah needs to include empathy, empathetic listening, paying attention, hearing beyond words to the soul and meaning of what is uttered. On Rosh Hashanah we ask God to be empathetic toward us, even though empathy was so often lacking in ourselves."

As Christian believers, we often resolve to start another year pursuing better physical and spiritual health than the year before. But as we vow to take better care of our bodies, are we really turning our attention heavenward? We need very much to return to God in both our thoughts and our actions.

Perhaps more than ever in 2017, beginning afresh ought to include reflecting more seriously on the troubled and broken world we live in.

Can we find the time to look beyond our own shores, to broaden our horizons and encompass those who have been ravaged by terrorism, war, anti-Christian persecution and antisemitism?

Closer to home, can we find the courage to mend our own relationships with friends and family — particularly in the wake of such a divisive political season?

And can we commit ourselves to continue these spiritual exercises beyond a few days in January, carrying on throughout the year to come?

This article was first published by the Philos Project.

World News.



The new plane that will be used by Israeli prime ministers and presidents (blurred due to Israeli military censorship). Photo: Channel 2.

Israel's 'Air Force One,' Set to Enter Service Later This Year, Equipped With Advanced Missile Defense System

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

A new \$70 million plane that will be used by Israeli prime ministers and presidents — making it the Jewish state's equivalent to America's "Air Force One" — has been installed with an advanced missile defense system, Israel's *Channel 2* reported on Monday.

Details of the make and model of the plane are still under Israeli military censorship.

According to *Channel 2*, the "Flight Guard" missile defense system — an Elbit

product — will protect the plane from shoulder-fired missiles during takeoffs and landings.

The plane arrived in Israel last summer and is currently undergoing a retrofitting process, which is being carried out by Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI). It is expected to go into service around seven months from now, *Channel 2* said.

Israel's leaders currently charter planes from one of the country's three main airlines, or fly commercial aircraft when they travel abroad.

Argentinian Affairs Commentator: 'Wall of Impunity is Being Breached,' on Reopening of Probe Into Ex-President Kirchner

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

"The wall of impunity is being breached," an Argentinian affairs commentator told *The Algemeiner* on Monday following the news that an Argentine court had reopened an investigation into former President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner and the alleged cover-up of Iran's involvement in the July 1994 bombing at a Jewish community center in Buenos Aires in which 85 people were killed.

"Kirchner and her associates are no longer untouchable," Eamonn McDonagh said. "And this move is important because this will be the first time that Nisman's allegation against the previous government will be investigated."

McDonagh was referring to federal prosecutor Alberto Nisman, who was found dead — with a gunshot wound to the head — under suspicious circumstances at his Buenos Aires home in January 2015, just days after he accused Kirchner and then-Foreign Minister Hector Timerman — among other government officials — of making a secret agreement with Iran to absolve the Tehran regime of responsibility for the attack at the *Asociacion Mutual Israelita Argentina* building in exchange for trade concessions.

McDonagh is among those who believe Nisman was silenced by those he was investigating (it has never been officially ruled

whether Nisman's death was the result of murder or suicide).

"If Nisman hadn't been on to something, they would not have killed him," McDonagh said.

Kirchner, who left office in December 2015, is already facing corruption charges in a number of other cases. However, McDonagh said, "the Iran deal — and by implication having Nisman whacked — are another level of evil-doing altogether."

The only thing that could stop the investigation now would be an appeal to the Supreme Court. But, McDonagh said, "I don't see the Supreme Court even being willing to hear such an appeal and if it did there's no way it's going to go, 'Hey, we don't think that the accusations made by a deceased fiscal general four days before he was found with a bullet in his head should be investigated.'"

However, McDonagh cautioned, "In Argentina, we never get the full truth on anything, so I doubt if this will be an exception. Judge Ariel Lijo's name came out of the draw to lead the investigation, but another federal judge, Claudio Bonadio, might seek to have it assigned to him because he's investigating former Foreign Minister Timerman on closely-related treason charges. He'd be a more energetic investigator than Lijo."

"Even if Lijo keeps the case, he won't be able to avoid ordering the 50 or so investigative

Israel's New Delhi Envoy: Jewish State Appreciates Shift in India's Voting Pattern at UN Institutions

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

Israel appreciates the "changes" in India's recent voting pattern at UN institutions, the Jewish state's New Delhi envoy told *The Hindu* in an interview published this past weekend.

"In the last couple of years, we have seen a shift in various votes (by India) which reflects the present improvement in relations," Israeli Ambassador to India Daniel Carmon said. "I would not over exaggerate this as a trend, each side has their declared positions and it is not a zero-sum game. India says they are committed to the Palestinian cause, to the Arab cause, and they have good relations with Israel that they intend to pursue. We appreciate this stand, and at the UN, we can see it too."

As reported by *The Algemeiner*, Israel and India currently enjoy a burgeoning relationship, particularly in the defense field.

India, *The Hindu* noted, abstained from a vote on an anti-Israel UN Human Rights Council resolution in the summer of 2015. This past June, India voted in favor of putting Israel's UN Ambassador Danny Danon in charge of the UN Legal Committee. And in October, India abstained from a vote on a UNESCO resolution that ignored the Jewish people's ties with Jerusalem holy sites.

An Indian government official told *The Hindu* that India had a "very balanced" approach to Israel-Palestinian conflict-related votes in international forums.

"We vote for Palestine, but also for Israel on some of their initiatives at the UN," the official said.

This year marks the 25th anniversary

of the 1992 establishment of full diplomatic relations between Israel and India and there have been reports that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit the Jewish state to celebrate the occasion.

In November, Israeli President Reuven Rivlin traveled to the subcontinent, just over a year after his Indian counterpart President Pranab Mukherjee toured Israel.

Jason Isaacson — the American Jewish Committee's director of government and international affairs — told *The Hindu* in an interview published on Monday that Mukherjee's October 2015 trip represented India's "coming out of the closet" regarding its relationship with Israel.

"There is less hesitation in India on embracing Israel," Isaacson said. "It started before Mr. Modi, and it is a bipartisan position in India, but it is more public under Mr. Modi that Israel is a natural ally of India and there are mutual benefits."



Israeli Ambassador to India Daniel Carmon. Photo: YouTube screenshot / Israeli Foreign Ministry

Netanyahu Questioned by Israel Police Over Suspicions of Corruption

BY JNS.ORG

Israel Police Major Crimes Unit investigators arrived at the Prime Minister's Residence in Jerusalem Monday evening to question Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for three hours over allegations that he received illicit benefits from two businessmen.

The investigation is headed by Major Crimes Unit Commander Maj. Gen. Koresh Barnur.

"Police investigators questioned Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu under caution Monday on suspicion of receiving alleged illicit benefits," an official police statement said. "We cannot release further details at this time."

Israeli Attorney General Avichai Mendelblit also commented on the police investigation Monday.

"The review comprised several cases, reviewed successively as a single unit," he said. "This review included numerous operations, including deposing dozens of witnesses, some overseas, some of whom were deposed several



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Photo: Screenshot/Twitter

times, and the seizure of relevant documents."

Prior to his questioning by police, Netanyahu said Monday, "We are fully aware of media reports, and we see and hear the festive atmosphere in the [Israeli political] opposition. I would advise them to hold off on the festivities. I've said it once and I'll say it again: Nothing will come of this because there is nothing to find."

measures requested by Nisman nearly two years ago and never carried out," McDonagh went on to say. "These including tracing the movements of cell phones belonging to the accused and checking the calls between them, also checking

their movements in and out of the country, their tax records, etc. If he's feeling brave, he may even call Kirchner to testify. And the results of these measures will leak in due course."

U.S. News.

Algemeiner Editor-in-Chief: 'Obama Has Given Incredible Boost to March of Antisemitism' by Abstaining From Vote on Anti-Israel UN Resolution

BY RUTHIE BLUM

US President Barack Obama "has given an incredible boost to the march of antisemitism," the editor-in-chief of *The Algemeiner* said in an interview on Friday.

Discussing the latest moves by the lame-duck administration in Washington to put

pressure on Jerusalem — abstaining in the UN Security Council vote on anti-settlements Resolution 2334, and Secretary of State John Kerry's subsequent harsh address, warning that Israel cannot remain both a democracy and a Jewish state — Dovid Efuné told Rush Limbaugh Show guest host Buck Sexton that such behavior encourages and invigorates the delegitimization and demonization of Israel, both defined as antisemitic by the US State Department.

It is for this reason, said Efuné, that Kerry caused such a stir.

"His speech was essentially a glorified attempt to justify the vote at the UN last Friday, which the US — in an unprecedented move — abstained from, angering the Israelis, betraying the Israelis. And I can tell you from where I stand: The mainstream



Algemeiner Editor-in-Chief Dovid Efuné.
Photo: Algemeiner.

Jewish community in this country is seething, outraged, furious across the board with this stab in the back and, as some have even defined it, a stab in the front," Efuné said.

Bereaved Mother of IDF Officer Killed by Hamas During Ceasefire Holds Kerry Morally, Legally Responsible for Son's Death; Has Hopes Trump Will Erase 'Stain' of Predecessor

BY RUTHIE BLUM

When US Secretary of State John Kerry gave his speech on the Middle East last Wednesday, "he was like a teacher excoriating his diligent students for the dereliction of their delinquent classmates," the bereaved mother of one of Israel's best-known fallen soldiers told *The Algemeiner* on Monday.

Leah Goldin, mother of late IDF Lt. Hadar Goldin — the 23-year-old Givati Brigade fighter who was ambushed and killed and whose body was kidnapped by Hamas terrorists on Aug. 1, 2014 after a Kerry-brokered ceasefire went into effect during Operation Protective Edge in Gaza — was not only bemoaning what she called the "harsh" words directed at the Jewish state by America's outgoing top diplomat, however. She said she actually holds Kerry legally and morally responsible for the death of her son, and for the return of his remains for burial in Israel.

"Hadar was not a victim of war, but of a ceasefire," Goldin said, spewing forth, in elegant Hebrew, her frustration with Kerry, former UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and even the Israeli government, which she said has done nothing to apply pressure on the Palestinian terrorist organization that rules the Gaza Strip to hand over her son's body or on the international community to live up to its "self-proclaimed humanitarian mission."

"After all, this is a humanitarian cause," she said.

Not only that, but "Kerry wouldn't even deign to walk a few feet down the hall to see an exhibit we held at the UN of Hadar's artwork," Goldin said, referring to last September, when she and her husband traveled to New York during the General Assembly.

While there, she recounted, she was "very disappointed" with the way Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu mentioned her son's case in his address to the world body.

What Netanyahu said was:

Hadar Goldin's parents, Leah and Simcha Goldin, are here with us today. They have one request — to bury their beloved son in Israel. All they ask for is one simple thing — to be able to visit the grave of their fallen son, Hadar, in Israel. Hamas refuses. They couldn't care less.

I implore you to stand with them, with us, with all that's

Continued on Page A10

WARNING



ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD

Tap into an **unlimited** source of healthy – refreshing water that is **friendly to the environment...** and saves you money.

Watermatic's purification systems feature proprietary technologies that convert ordinary tap water into tasty, healthy drinking water, delivered at the quick touch of a button. Instantly pure hot and cold water that is healthy. refreshing. unlimited!



as low as
\$19.95
monthly
with coupon code

enter coupon code
SAVESONOW
and save up to 50%
offer expires April 15, 2012

Your bottled water may have some dirty secrets...

While promoting an image of health and vitality, bottled water companies burn millions of barrels of oil and generate millions of tons of greenhouse gases in the manufacturing, processing and transporting of their products. To top it off, an estimated 38 Billion bottles non-biodegradable plastic water bottles are tossed into our landfills annually!

4-step Purification Process	Benefits
 <p>A Filter B Filter C Filter D Filter</p> <p> A Pre-Sediment & Carbon Filter B Carbon Filter C Fine Micron Membrane D Ultra Fine Membrane </p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Cost Affective ✗ NO Plastic Bottles ✗ NO Heavy Lifting ✗ Never Run Out of Pure Water ✗ NO Storage – Clutter ✓ GO GREEN!



Opinion.

Israel Is Not the Occupier

ALAN CLEMMONS
WASHINGTON

This past summer, the section of the Republican Party's platform on Israel included a key statement made in anticipation of President Obama's betrayal of our great ally: "We reject the false notion that Israel is an occupier."

The United Nations Security Council's passage of Resolution 2334, an outrageous act of hostility personally engineered by President Barack Obama against the state of Israel, has rightly evoked great anger across all parts of the American political spectrum.

Given the anticipated effects of Resolution 2334, this policy statement is critical as it represents the central tenet of what will now unquestionably be the policy of the Trump administration and the pro-Israel community.

"Occupier" is nothing more than a polite way of calling Israel a thief, suggesting that Jewish invaders colonized territory belonging to the Arabs — territory that therefore must be restored to its rightful, victimized owners. The term is intentionally misused against Israel in order to shape negative misperceptions of its history and legitimacy, while perpetuating a sense of Palestinian-Arab victimhood. To

suggest that the Jews are occupiers in a region that has been known as Judea for over 3,000-plus years is no less ridiculous than to suggest that Arabs are occupiers in Arabia.

"Occupier" is a legal term whose definition does not apply to Israel under the law. Israel's legal title and rights to all of its present territory stem directly from an act of international law made in the post-World War I San Remo Agreement, which was then further recognized and incorporated in subsequent binding acts — from the Covenant of the League of Nations all the way through Article 80 of the United Nations' charter. None of the national and political rights recognized as inherit to the Jewish people have ever been revoked, nullified or superseded by a subsequent act of international law.

The lie of occupation has become essential to anti-Israel forces in the Mideast and around the world, as they persist in efforts to deny and undermine the rights — and indeed the very existence — of the Jewish national home. It is no coincidence, therefore, that Resolution 2334 was entirely predicated on this vicious lie.

The lie of occupation also gives Israel's enemies a basis to justify terrorism as merely "resistance to occupation." The antisemitic Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement (BDS) uses the word as often as possible in its messaging, all the while carrying out acts of political and economic warfare upon Israel and her supporters. Thus,

it is clear that promoting the common misrepresentation of the Jewish state as an occupier in the land of Israel has become the primary antisemitic canard of the present generation. This lie helps whitewash violence against Israeli Jews, and leads directly to the antisemitic delegitimization and demonization of, and application of double standards to, Israel.

The peace process aimed at ending the Arab war on Israel was originally motivated by the basic idea that two incompatible peoples have unfortunately found themselves residing in the same space, and that it is desirable to see them disengaged for the sake of peace. This was the intention of President George W. Bush, and those Israeli prime ministers who chose the path of proposing a two-state solution.

Those who listen carefully will find that hostile actors have emerged who exploit support for the peace process in order to promote the lie of occupation. This is the tactic of J Street, President Obama and most member-states of the United Nations, all of whom regularly speak of Israel as an occupier and wrongly refer to parts of Israel as being territorially illegitimate.

The forwarding of the two-state solution by those who support the lie of occupation, like Barack Obama, simultaneously signals an inherent indictment of Israel as a criminally guilty party.

Donald Trump rejects the false notion that Israel is an occupier, and wholeheartedly helped lead the important expression of policy made by the Republican Party platform on the matter. He has repeatedly made the promise that, as president, he will recognize Jerusalem as the eternal and indivisible capital of Israel.

Among the top priorities of President-

The settlement bloc of Ariel in Judea-Samaria.
Photo: Wikipedia.

elect Trump in his first 100 days will be the passage of a major bill attacking commercial discrimination aimed at Israel and its territories, which will follow the lead of 15 states that have already done so. The new administration is clearly prepared to prevent financial engagement with parties who would inflict economic harm upon Israeli and American businesses via discrimination promoted by the likes of Resolution 2334 and the BDS movement.

The most immediate means of disarming the malicious intent of President Obama's Resolution 2334 is to support President Trump and the incoming Congress' efforts to pass such legislation with overwhelming bipartisan support. Israel, and many of our other democratic allies around the world, are counting on us.

Alan Clemmons is a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives. He was the primary author of the current GOP Platform section regarding Israel. In 2015, he was the originating sponsor of the country's first state anti-BDS legislation. A version of this article was originally published by *The Jerusalem Post*.

CAIR and JVP: A Love Story

ZIVA DAHL
NEW YORK

Did you know that in 2014, the United Arab Emirates listed CAIR, the Council on American-Islamic Relations, as a terrorist organization, a list of 80 groups that includes the likes of Al Qaeda, ISIS, al-Shabab and Boko Haram?

The UAE isn't fooled by CAIR's posture as an Islamic civil liberties advocacy group, and called out the organization for its promotion of extremism, financing of terrorism and links to the Muslim Brotherhood.

So why has Jewish Voice for Peace just accepted the first-ever CAIR "Defender of Liberty" award?

Both CAIR and JVP offer similar benign-sounding mission statements, characterizing themselves as human rights groups in an era where "human rights" is the buzzword du jour. CAIR purports to speak for the majority of American Muslims to "promote justice and mutual understanding," while JVP claims to act in the name of the Jewish value of tikkun olam, which it describes as social justice.

But this is all an obfuscation to shield both groups' hidden agendas.

Omar Ahmad, shortly after meeting secretly with Hamas leaders, founded CAIR in 1994, and the group's executive director, Nihad Awad, then declared his support for the terrorist organization. CAIR has received

funding from the Holy Land Foundation, the American arm of Hamas, and CAIR returned the favor by fundraising for the HLF. In the trial where HLF was found guilty of raising millions for Hamas in the US, CAIR was named as an unindicted co-conspirator. At least seven CAIR officials have documented ties to terrorism.

CAIR tries to whitewash Islamic terrorism and works to disrupt counterterrorism efforts. After the San Bernardino terror attack, CAIR peddled the myth of the attack as "workplace violence," attempting to debunk the linkage to Islam. CAIR often portrays anti-terrorism personnel as villains who frame innocent Muslims, and CAIR dissuades Muslims from talking to the police, using the tagline, "Snitches get stitches." Former FBI counterterrorism chief Steve Pomerantz said, "CAIR has taken the lead in trying to mislead the public about the terrorist underpinnings of militant Islamic movements, in particular, Hamas."

CAIR has buried its terrorist connections and "rebranded" itself into a media darling; it has ties to the Obama White House, Congress and numerous universities. The image makeover was a skillful PR coup and is an insurance policy against investigation, but sometimes the truth resurfaces. Hussam Ayloush, the head of CAIR's Los Angeles office — as well as a 2012 Democratic convention delegate and White House visitor — recently called for the overthrow of the US government and denigrated Jews as "ZioNazis." CAIR Board member Lamis Deek labeled the October slaying of two Israelis in Jerusalem by a Hamas terrorist as "self-defense" and called the murderer a "martyr."

CAIR accuses Israel supporters of promoting "a culture of hostility towards Islam." When criticized for not denouncing Hamas and Hezbollah, CAIR board member Awad said, "They should condemn Israel at all times, and we will not condemn any organization."

Like CAIR, JVP is an extremist organization masquerading as human rights activists. The Anti-Defamation League calls it one of the 10 worst American anti-Israel organizations. It demonizes, defames and delegitimizes Israel, labeling it an "occupier," "apartheid" and "racist," while embracing the global boycott, divestment and sanctions campaign (BDS) that wants to destroy the Jewish homeland.

In its "Nakba Fact Sheet," JVP characterizes Israel's founding as a "catastrophe," just as the Palestinians do. JVP posted a Facebook statement referring to the deadly 2015 Palestinian knifings of innocent Israeli civilians as "Palestinian popular resistance," praising "a new generation of Palestinians rising up en-masse against Israel's brutal, decades-old regime of occupation, settler colonialism and apartheid."

CAIR works with anti-Zionist groups like Jewish Voice for Peace to immunize themselves against charges of bigotry against Jews. JVP uses its relationship with CAIR to boost its credibility in the anti-Israel movement. It's a symbiosis of mutual tactics and goals.

CAIR attempts to shut down the speech of anyone it labels anti-Muslim. It branded Ayaan Hirsi Ali, a Muslim women's rights advocate, an "Islamophobe" — which resulted in Brandeis University canceling her 2014 speaking invitation. JVP similarly disrupted a New York City Council meeting discussing a Holocaust commemoration, and participated in campaigns to "shut down AIPAC."

Responding to the Charlie Hebdo and kosher supermarket massacres in France, CAIR executive Ayloush remarked, "You know, you don't hear about the thousands of Jewish-American kids who join the Israeli army killing the people of Gaza." JVP's comment



Hussam Ayloush, head of the LA office for the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR). Photo: Investigative Project on Terrorism.

was that "Muslims are at greatly heightened risk in the context of pervasive, systemic and long-standing anti-Islam bigotry."

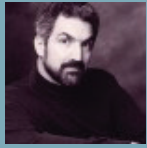
CAIR has refused to divulge its own funding sources, and concealed donations from overseas through a series of shell organizations in what could be called a money laundering operation. JVP is equally secretive, but, thanks to NGO-Monitor, a number of their funders have been identified, including the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (RBF). The RBF apparently buys into JVP's subterfuge of human rights advocacy, but in reality, JVP's activities contradict RBF's mission to promote a "peaceful world." One would think that the alliance of JVP with CAIR would cause RBF concern.

The relationship between CAIR and JVP is a witches' brew — a diabolical concoction of anti-Israel hatred and Islamic terrorist connections. Rather than "defenders of liberty," they are defenders of the Islamic agenda. CAIR and JVP are a match made in hell.

Ziva Dahl is a senior fellow with the Haym Salomon Center with a Master of Arts degree in public law and government from Columbia University and an A.B. in political science from Vassar College. Her bylines have appeared in the *New York Daily News*, the *New York Observer*, and *The Hill*. This article was originally published by the *Washington Times*.

Opinion.

A Palestinian Defeat Is Good for All



DANIEL PIPES/
NEW YORK

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was photographed on December 21, carrying a copy of *Nothing Less than Victory: Decisive Wars and the Lessons of History*, by John David Lewis. In that book, Lewis looks at six case studies and argues that in them all, “The tide of war turned when one side tasted defeat and its will to continue, rather than stiffening, collapsed.”

That Netanyahu should in any way be thinking along these lines is particularly encouraging at this moment of flux — when Sunni Arab states focus as never before on a non-Israeli threat (namely the Iranian one), Obama leaves Israel in the lurch at the United Nations Security Council and insurgent politics disrupt across the West. In other words, the timing’s exactly right to apply Lewis’ argument to the Palestinians. Actually, Israel successfully pursued a strategy of forcing the taste of defeat on its enemies through its first 45 years, so this would be a return to old ways.

That strategy starts by recognizing that, since the Balfour Declaration of 1917, the Palestinians and Israelis have pursued static and opposite goals. The Palestinians adopted a policy of rejectionism with the intent to eliminate every vestige of Jewish presence in what is now the territory of Israel. Differences among Palestinians tend to be tactical: Talk to the Israelis to win concessions or stick to total rejectionism? The Palestinian Authority represents the first approach and Hamas the second.

On the Israeli side, nearly everyone agrees on the need to win acceptance by Palestinians (and other Arabs and Muslims); differences are again tactical. Show Palestinians what they can gain from Zionism or break the Palestinians’ will? The Labor and Likud parties argue this out.

These two pursuits — rejectionism and acceptance — have remained basically unchanged for a century. Varying ideologies, objectives, tactics, strategies and actors mean that details have varied, even as the fundamentals remained remarkably in place.

Deterrence — that is, convincing Palestinians and the Arab states to accept Israel’s existence by threatening painful retaliation — underlay Israel’s formidable record of strategic vision and tactical brilliance from 1948-1993.

That said, deterrence did not finish the job; as Israelis built a modern, democratic, affluent and powerful country, the fact that Palestinians, Arabs, Muslims and (increasingly) the left still rejected it became a source of mounting frustration. Israel’s impatient, on-the-go populace grew weary with the slow-moving and passive aspects of deterrence.

That impatience led to the diplomatic process that culminated with the signing of the Oslo Accords on the White House lawn in September 1993. Those accords, however, quickly disappointed both sides.

Things went so wrong in part because Yasser Arafat, Mahmoud Abbas and the rest of the Palestinian Authority leadership pretended to abandon rejectionism and accept Israel’s existence — but, in fact, they sought Israel’s elimination in new, more

sophisticated ways, replacing force with delegitimization.

In part, too, the Israelis made a profound mistake, having entered the Oslo process with a false premise that war could be concluded through goodwill and compromise. In fact, Israeli concessions aggravated Palestinian hostility.

The Oslo exercise showed the futility of Israeli concessions to Palestinians if the latter fail to live up to their obligations. By signaling Israeli weakness, Oslo made a bad situation worse. What is conventionally called the “peace process” should more accurately be dubbed the “war process.”

This brings us to my key concepts, victory and defeat. Victory means successfully imposing one’s will on the enemy, compelling him through loss to give up his war ambitions. Wars end, the historical record shows, not through goodwill but through defeat. He who does not win, loses.

Thinkers and warriors through the ages concur on the importance of victory as the proper goal of warfare. For example, Aristotle



Mahmoud Abbas addressing the UN. Photo: UN.

wrote that “victory is the end of generalship” and Dwight D. Eisenhower stated, “In war, there is no substitute for victory.” Technological advancement has not altered this enduring human truth.

Israel has just one option to win Palestinian acceptance: a return to its old policy of deterrence — punishing Palestinians when they aggress. Deterrence amounts to more than tough tactics, which every Israeli government pursues; it requires systemic policies that encourage Palestinians to accept Israel and discourage rejectionism. It requires a long-term strategy that breaks the will and promotes a change of heart.

The goal here is not Palestinian love of Zion, but closing down the apparatus of war: shuttering suicide factories, removing the demonization of Jews and Israel, recognizing Jewish ties to Jerusalem and “normalizing” relations with Israelis. Palestinian acceptance of Israel will be achieved when, over a protracted period and with complete consistency, the violence ends, and is replaced by sharply worded *démarches* and letters to the editor.

Ironically, an Israeli victory would liberate the Palestinians by compelling them to come to terms with their irredentist fantasies and the empty rhetoric of revolution. Defeat would also free them to improve their own lives. Unleashed from a genocidal obsession against Israel, Palestinians could become a normal people and develop their polity, economy, society and culture. That said, this change won’t be easy or quick: Palestinians will have to pass through the bitter crucible of defeat, with all its deprivation, destruction and despair. There is no shortcut.

For Washington, to be helpful means supporting Israel taking tough steps. It means diplomatic support for Israel, such as undoing the “Palestine refugee” farce and rejecting the

Breakfast Companions: New York Times and Wall Street Journal



JEROLD AUERBACH
BOSTON

More decades ago than I care to remember I was raised to be a good liberal. In my American Jewish family that meant starting each day with *The New York Times*.

To be sure, my boyhood focus was the Sports section, and during baseball season that meant the Brooklyn Dodgers, the pioneering racially-integrated team with Jackie Robinson, Roy Campanella and Don Newcombe — joined by Cal Abrams, the nice Jewish boy who claimed uniform number 18 (Hebrew for “life”).

Adulthood inevitably rearranged my priorities. Baseball was superseded by children and Israel. But ingrained habits die hard. I still begin each morning with *The New York Times*, though today, it shares center stage with *The Wall Street Journal*. Times coverage of Israel (and Thomas Friedman’s hectoring) fires my brain and rouses my ire, and I depend on Journal editorials (and Bret Stephens’ columns) for rigorous analysis.

On Dec. 29, readers of both newspapers had the rare opportunity to compare lead editorials about Israel.

Applauding John Kerry’s wrathful laceration of the Jewish state, especially Prime Minister Netanyahu, for its outrage over American abstention from the recent UN Security Council vote, Times editors offered a two-column embrace of the secretary of state and endorsed his flagellation of Israel.

Citing “a dangerous evolution in Israeli policy,” from “a negotiated two-state resolution” to a settlement “diktat,” the editorial flayed Netanyahu and his followers, who “misrepresent” history, “malign” Secretary Kerry and President Obama and “confuse” debate over peace prospects. But it is the Times that is confused. Its endorsement of the unanimous Security Council resolution ignored the motion’s glaringly erroneous conclusions.

The editorial tacitly embraced the false UN claim that Jewish settlements have “no legal validity” because they were built in “occupied” territory. To the contrary: Jordan was never internationally recognized as the “legitimate power” with sovereign rights in the West Bank and Palestinians have no legitimacy as a sovereign entity. Then the editors swallowed a misreading of the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention, prohibiting an “occupying power” from “transferring its own people to conquered territory.” Grounded in revulsion over forced population transfers by Nazi Germany during World War II, the convention declared that “[t]he Occupying Power shall not deport or transfer parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies.” But Israel neither deported Pales-

tinians from the West Bank after the Six-Day War, nor transferred Jews there. Jews have returned to Judea and Samaria, their biblical homeland, entirely of their own accord.

With Secretary Kerry’s peace-making (and Nobel Prize) fantasies shattered, Times editors became angry mourners at his wake. Thomas Friedman, who has long fawned over (and impersonated) American presidents and even the Saudi king, joined them. “Never” has he met American leaders “more committed to Israel as a Jewish democracy” than Obama and Kerry. Friedman embraces their belief that “Israel is driving drunk toward annexing the West Bank,” leaving it to become either “a bi-national Arab-Jewish state” or a “Middle Eastern version of 1960s South Africa.” Any “true friend of Israel,” he believes, would follow the lead of Obama and Kerry.

But with friends like them, Israel does not need enemies.

How refreshing it was, after reading the Times tirade, to turn to *The Wall Street Journal*. To a historian, respect for lessons of the past is not only advisable but necessary for thinking about the future. Secretary Kerry’s extended peace negotiations collapsed in 2014, as he failed to mention, after the Palestinian Authority embraced a unity government with Hamas, which had launched its third war against Israel from Gaza in a decade. That was after Israel, led by Ariel Sharon, had removed all settlers from that territory nearly a decade earlier.

Like Israelis, but unlike the Times, Journal editors remember that liberal prime ministers — Yitzhak Rabin, Ehud Barak and Ehud Olmert — offered Palestinian leaders peace only to get terrorist violence in return. Nor did Netanyahu’s 10-month settlement freeze in 2009 bring peace. Most important, perhaps, WSJ editors recognize, as their Times counterparts do not, that the obstacle to peace has long been, and remains, “Palestinian rejection of Israel’s right to exist as a Jewish state in any borders.”

My liberal tolerance, I have come to understand, requires a dose of liberal intolerance with my morning coffee, before I can be comforted with memory, wisdom and insight.

Jerold S. Auerbach is completing a history of The New York Times, Zionism and Israel, 1896-2016.



The New York Times headquarters. Photo: Wiki Commons.

claim of Jerusalem as the Palestinian capital.

Israeli-Palestinian diplomacy is premature until Palestinians accept the Jewish State. The central issues of the Oslo Accords cannot be usefully discussed so long as one party still rejects the other. But negotiations can re-open and take up anew the Oslo issues if and when Palestinians accept the Jewish State. That

prospect, however, lies in the distant future. For now, Israel needs to win.

Daniel Pipes (DanielPipes.org, @DanielPipes) is president of the Middle East Forum. This analysis derives from a longer article in the January issue of Commentary magazine. © 2016 by Daniel Pipes. All rights reserved.

Impressions.

The Disgrace of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334

BY JEREMY ROSEN

President Obama's groundbreaking abstention on a UN resolution refusing to accept any change to Israel's 1949 armistice lines — and John Kerry's one-sided rant against Israel — have revealed the fault lines about Jewish support for Israel in America and abroad.

Appeasement, the favored policy of the Obama administration, has manifestly failed everywhere — from Syria to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. On paper, UNSC Resolution 2334 says nothing new. Even on settlements, it still concedes that the issue must be settled by negotiations. But it is the context that is problematic, specifically America's abstention instead of veto and then Kerry's claim that Israel alone is to blame.

I will concede that Netanyahu and his allies have repeatedly snubbed the US. They have been obstructive. They have their lines in the sand: security, land swaps and Jerusalem. But the Palestinians also have their lines in the sand; return of refugees to pre-48 land, no Jews allowed to live in their state and Jerusalem. How Kerry can say that only Israel is causing difficulties defies logic and integrity.

I hate referring to the Holocaust. It should have no bearing on the right of Jews to secure autonomy, despite Obama's having implied just that in his Cairo speech. The desire to return to the Jews' ancestral homeland predates the Holocaust by thousands of years. When, as the Book of Psalms says, "We sat by the waters of Babylon and wept as we remembered Zion," the world was a very different place. There was no Christianity then, and no Islam. There was no United Nations to deny us any historical connection with the land. No community of nations to focus almost entirely on Israel as the only, the sole issue that unites them all.

What the Holocaust means to me is that the world does not care what happens to Jews; that we are "selected" for special ignominy.

When I first saw pictures of the Holocaust as a child, I wondered why people hated us so much. Why was I hated just for being a Jew? And why did almost all the rest of the world neither act to help us nor care what happened to us?

But to link Obama to the Nazis is as childish and offensive as it is plain wrong. Pray tell me, which Jews he has murdered? Sadly, we Jews do not lack idiots any more than any other group does.

The UN probably thinks it is being fair — calling on Palestinians to cease provocation and encouragement of violence and hatred, and calling on Israel to withdraw. But it is not fair, because it (as well as Kerry) is not insisting that both parties sit down together and talk face-to-face.

I do not agree with most of the settlement policies. But by focusing on settlements, the UN is simply aiding Palestinian reluctance to negotiate. Had the Palestinians negotiated 30, 20, or 10 years ago, most settlements would never have been built. The sad fact is that the longer there are no talks, the more settlements will be built — because this has now become a bargaining tool on both sides.

The UN, in other words, is encouraging war. The argument that Israel, being stronger, should make more concessions would only be legitimate if the other side showed some willingness, too.

I feel so sorry for individual Palestinians whom I know and who have suffered — even if much of the suffering inflicted on them has been largely by their own corrupt leadership, gorging on millions in aid while others suffer in poverty. The rest of the Arab and Muslim world told them not to accept UN parti-

Many ultra-Orthodox Jews claim that they would prefer to live under a Muslim regime than a secular Jewish one. Yes, I think they are crazy. But they represent another opinion in the complexity of the Middle East, where secular divisions and religious divisions often conflict with each other on both sides.

You cannot have genuine peace if there is no attempt at genuine practical coexistence.

I deplore occupation. I agree with the late Professor Yeshayahu Leibowitz that it degrades



A Hanukkah celebration Photo: provided.

tion, not to negotiate and not to make peace, while at the same time refusing to offer Palestinian refugees a new life, and consigning most of them to camps. They have encouraged the Palestinians to believe that they can turn all the clocks back.

I have very little in common with right-wing or left-wing Israeli political stances. I stand in the liberal middle, which means that I won't please anybody.

But I also believe that Israel has no one to negotiate with. Leaving Gaza gained nothing. Both Hamas and Hezbollah are committed to exterminating Jews, and they intentionally fire rockets at civilian targets. Israel froze settlement expansion at the US' request, which also produced no results. The evidence shows that negotiation is going nowhere.

I don't see how exiting the West Bank entirely would be in Israel's best interests. But to provoke one's allies in the most blatant way, as members of Netanyahu's government have, cannot do any good. Attacking Obama on his own territory cannot make sense.

I have always favored the idea of land swaps in the interest of a settlement. I have always believed in the right of Arabs to live equally in Israeli territory. And yet I cannot see why Jews should not be allowed to stay and live under a Palestinian authority or state.

Israel's soul. Any army, however ethical, makes mistakes; rogue commanders, and scared or immature soldiers can do inhuman things. No war, however justified, is pretty. I want to see occupation end. But how, without lying down and rolling over and committing suicide?

I do not see a solution until the world tells the Palestinians, as well as the Israelis, that they must negotiate. Then, when there are agreed boundaries, we can talk about legalities and compensation and rectification. But until such a time, trying to bully only one side will only have the effect of pushing peace further away and handing the messianists the justification for praying for the apocalypse.

Churchill supposedly said of the UN, "Better jaw-jaw than war-war." But Obama, Kerry and the UN are currently encouraging war-war, because they refuse to insist that the parties to the conflict engage in jaw-jaw. I am worried — but not about whether there is a Palestinian state or what the whole world thinks. I am worried about the violence that is bound to continue with both sides suffering.

Post script: I am delighted that British Prime Minister Theresa May has decided to stand up and say this publicly; there are benefits to Brexit.

Legal Notice.

LEGAL NOTICE



Notice of formation of LLC (Limited liability company) Name: Gemini Nikki, LLC Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/19/2016. Office location Richmond County.SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY Shall mail copy of the process to the LLC c/o United States corporation agents inc. 7014 13th Ave. Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: all Lawful activity
AJ 12/2/9/16/23/30; 1/6

597 EAST 8 LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 11/9/2016. Office in Kings Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 943 President St., #3R, Brooklyn, NY 11215. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.
AJ 12/2/9/16/23/30; 1/6

Notice of formation of limited liability company LLC Name: Dong Family 168,LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 10/18/2016 Office location kings county. SSNY Has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to: The LLC 528 55th St., Brooklyn, NY 11220 purpose:all lawful activity
AJ 12/2/9/16/23/30; 1/6

REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWALT, INC. ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2006-OA6, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-OA6, Plaintiff - against - NATALIYA DOBRER, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on October 05, 2016. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction, in Room 274 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on the 19th Day of January, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. Premises known as 3541 Leif Ericson Drive #B2, Brooklyn, New York 11235. (Block: 8782, Lot: 1115) Approximate amount of lien \$602,587.57 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 11418/2012. Cary Kaplan, Esq., Referee. Davidson Fink LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 28 East Main Street, Suite 1700 Rochester, NY 14614-1990 Tel. 585/760-8218 Dated: November 15, 2016
AJ 12/16/23/30; 1/6

COSMO ONLINE LLC filed 10/14/2016 Office Kings County SSNY designated as agent for process and shall Mail to 1411 Avenue V #2L Brooklyn, NY 11229 purpose all lawful
AJ 12/16/23/30; 1/6/13/20

File No.: 2015-1734/C CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK BY THE GRACE OF GOD, FREE AND INDEPENDENT To: John Monaghan, Ellen Feudenberg, William Feudenberg, HRA-OLA-LRLU, Bank of America, (DCM) Comenity Bank, AAA Financial Services, Attorney General

LEGAL NOTICE

of the State of New York The unknown distributees, legatees, devisees, heirs at law and assignees of JOAN HERMAN, deceased, or their estates, if any there be, whose names, places of residence and post office addresses are unknown to the petitioner and cannot with due diligence be ascertained. Being the persons interested as creditors, legatees, distributees or otherwise in the Estate of JOAN HERMAN, deceased, who at the time of death was a resident of 85-31 124th Street, Kew Gardens, NY 11415, in the County of Queens, State of New York. SEND GREETING: Upon the petition of LOIS M. ROSENBLATT, Public Administrator of Queens County, who maintains her office at 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, Queens County, New York 11435, as Temporary Administrator of the Estate of JOAN HERMAN, deceased, you and each of you are hereby cited to show cause before the Surrogate at the Surrogate's Court of the County of Queens, to be held at the Queens General Courthouse, 6th Floor, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, City and State of New York, on the 26th day of January, 2017 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon, why the Account of Proceedings of the Public Administrator of Queens County, as Temporary Administrator of the Estate of said deceased, a copy of which is attached, should not be judicially settled, and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow a reasonable amount of compensation to GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., for legal services rendered to petitioner herein in the amount of \$32,163.18 and that the Court fix the fair and reasonable additional fee for any services to be rendered by GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., hereafter in connection with proceedings on kinship, claims etc., prior to entry of a final Decree on this accounting in the amount of 6% of assets or income collected after the date of the within accounting; and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow an amount equal to one percent on said Schedules of the total assets on Schedules A, A1, and A2 plus any additional monies received subsequent to the date of this account, as the fair and reasonable amount payable to the Office of the Public Administrator for the expenses of said office pursuant to S.C.P.A. §1106(3); and why the claim from HRA-OLA-LRLU in the amount of \$142,242.03 should not be paid; and why the claim from Bank of America in the amount of \$2,536.11 should not be paid; and why the claim from Comenity Bank in the amount of \$493.75 should not be rejected; and why the claim from AAA Financial Services in the amount of \$2,460.66 should not be rejected; and why the Last Will & Testament dated August 12, 1991 should not be admitted to probate; and why the Letters of Temporary Administration issued to the Public Administrator should not be revoked; and why Letters of Administration CTA should not be issued to the Public Administrator; and why the net residuary estate should not be distributed as follows: 50% to John P. Monaghan, 25% to Ellen Feudenberg, 25% to William Feudenberg. Dated, Attested and Sealed 28th day of November, 2016 HON. PETER J. KELLY Surrogate, Queens County Margaret M. Gribbon Clerk of the Surrogate's Court GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ. (718) 459-9000 1981 Marcus Avenue, Suite 200 Lake Success, New York 11042 This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not obliged to appear in person. If you fail to appear it will be assumed that you do not object to the

relief requested unless you file formal legal, verified objections. You have a right to have an attorney-at-law appear for you. Accounting Citation
AJ 12/23/30; 1/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON MORTGAGE SECURITIES CORP, HOME EQUITY ASSET TRUST 2004-5, HOME EQUITY PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-5, Plaintiff -against- LUISA POMARE, US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT, DATED AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2004, AMONG CREDIT-BASED ASSET SERVICING AND SECURITIZATION LLC, JP MORGAN ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION, LITTON LOAN SERVICING LP AND U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, C-BASS MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-CBS, CRIMINAL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale duly dated JULY 29, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at ROOM 224 F/K/A ROOM 274 OF KINGS COUNTY SUPREME COURT, 360 ADAMS STREET, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201 on January 26, 2017 at 2:30 PM premises known as 1494E 49 STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11234. ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of KINGS and State of New York. Block: 7828 Lot: 84 Approximate amount of lien \$282,648.41 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment Index # 20469/2013 GREGORY THOMAS CERCHIONE, ESQ. STEIN, WIENER AND ROTH, L.L.P., ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFF ONE OLD COUNTRY ROAD, SUITE 113 CARLE PLACE, NY 11514 DATED: December 16, 2016 FILE #: WELLS 68985
AJ 12/23/30; 1/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, Plaintiff AGAINST FREDERICK L. GRANT, et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated August 02, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on February 02, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 660 WARWICK STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11207. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK 4078, LOT 45. Approximate amount of judgment \$653,662.17 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 6144/2013. William D. Bowman Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221
AJ 12/30; 1/6/13/20

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS QUICKEN LOANS INC., Plaintiff against ALEKSANDER KHARKOVER, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on November 29, 2016. I, the undersigned Referee

LEGAL NOTICE

will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. on the 2nd day of February, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. premises Lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn and State of New York. In the condominium known as "The 235 Ocean Parkway Condominium." Together with an undivided 5.56% interest in the Common Elements. Said premises known as 235 Ocean Parkway, 2A, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11218. Tax account number: SBL#: 5339-1103. Approximate amount of lien \$ 504,479.28 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 501108-14. Robert L. Howe, Esq., Referee. McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, P.C. Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 145 Huguenot Street - Suite 210 New Rochelle, New York 10801 (914) 636-8900
J 12/30; 1/6/13/20

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae") a corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America, Plaintiff AGAINST Karen Wood a/k/a Karen L. Wood; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated May 31, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on February 2, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 102-19 Seaview Avenue a/k/a 10219 Seaview Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11236. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block: 8305 Lot: 1. Approximate amount of judgment \$465,843.41 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 7831/2013. Jay D. Cohen, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: December 19, 2016
AJ 12/30; 1/6/13/20

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: Warren Bridge LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 12/15/2016. Office location kings county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY Shall Mail copy of the process to: Warren Bridge LLC 301 Warren Street Unit 2 Brooklyn, NY 11201. Purpose: all lawful activity
AJ 12/30; 1/6/13/20/27; 2/3

File No.: 2016-306/A CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK BY THE GRACE OF GOD, FREE AND INDEPENDENT To: Arthur Delan, NYC Human Resources Administration, Attorney General of the State of New York The unknown distributees, legatees, devisees, heirs at law and assignees of DAVID DELAN, deceased, or their estates, if any there be, whose names, places of residence and post office addresses are unknown to the petitioner and cannot with due diligence be ascertained. Being the persons interested as creditors, legatees, distributees or otherwise in the Estate of DAVID DELAN, deceased, who at the time of death was a resident of 128 Beach 115th Street, Rockaway Park, NY 11694, in the County of Queens, State of New York. SEND GREETING: Upon

LEGAL NOTICE

the petition of LOIS M. ROSENBLATT, Public Administrator of Queens County, who maintains her office at 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, Queens County, New York 11435, as Administrator of the Estate of DAVID DELAN, deceased, you and each of you are hereby cited to show cause before the Surrogate at the Surrogate's Court of the County of Queens, to be held at the Queens General Courthouse, 6th Floor, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, City and State of New York, on the 9th day of February, 2017 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon, why the Account of Proceedings of the Public Administrator of Queens County, as Administrator of the Estate of said deceased, a copy of which is attached, should not be judicially settled, and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow a reasonable amount of compensation to GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., for legal services rendered to petitioner herein in the amount of \$19,467.44 and that the Court fix the fair and reasonable additional fee for any services to be rendered by GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., hereafter in connection with proceedings on kinship, claims etc., prior to entry of a final Decree on this accounting in the amount of 6% of assets or income collected after the date of the within accounting; and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow an amount equal to one percent on said Schedules of the total assets on Schedules A, A1, and A2 plus any additional monies received subsequent to the date of this account, as the fair and reasonable amount payable to the Office of the Public Administrator for the expenses of said office pursuant to S.C.P.A. §1106(3); and why the claim of NYC Human Resources Administration in the amount of \$661,090.53 should not be partially paid to the extent of the net distributable estate, Dated, Attested and Sealed 15th day of December, 2016 HON. PETER J. KELLY Surrogate, Queens County Margaret M. Gribbon Clerk of the Surrogate's Court GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ. (718) 459-9000 1981 Marcus Avenue, Suite 200 Lake Success, New York 11042 This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not obliged to appear in person. If you fail to appear it will be assumed that you do not object to the relief requested unless you file formal legal, verified objections. You have a right to have an attorney-at-law appear for you. Accounting Citation
AJ 12/30; 1/6/13/20

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Plaintiff AGAINST JOSEPH CAMPISI, RYAN SARACO, et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated June 06, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on November 17, 2016 at 2:30 PM, premises known as 1934 PROSPECT PLACE, BROOKLYN, NY 11233. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK 1465, LOT 30. Approximate amount of judgment \$524,555.47 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 5843/13. Edward Mark Rappaport Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221
AJ 1/6/13/20/27

Tradition.

Legal Notice.

Choice and Change



JONATHAN SACKS
LONDON

The sequence from Bereishit 37 to 50 is the longest unbroken narrative in the Torah, and there can be no doubt who its hero is: Joseph. The story begins and ends with him. We see him as a child, beloved – even spoiled – by his father; as an adolescent dreamer, resented by his brothers; as a slave, then a prisoner, in Egypt; then as the second most powerful figure in the greatest empire of the ancient world. At every stage, the narrative revolves around him and his impact on others. He dominates the last third of Bereishit, casting his shadow on everything else. From almost the beginning, he seems destined for greatness.

Yet history did not turn out that way. To the contrary, it is another brother who, in the fullness of time, leaves his mark on the Jewish people. Indeed, we bear his name. The covenantal family has been known by several names. One is Ivri, “Hebrew” (possibly related



to the ancient apiru), meaning “outsider, stranger, nomad, one who wanders from place to place.” That is how Abraham and his children were known to others. The second is Yisrael, derived from Jacob’s new name after he “wrestled with God and with man and prevailed.” After the division of the kingdom and the conquest of the North by the Assyrians, however, they became known as Yehudim or Jews, for it was the tribe of Judah who dominated the kingdom of the South, and they who survived the Babylonian exile. So it was not Joseph but Judah who conferred his identity on the people, Judah who became the ancestor of Israel’s greatest king, David, Judah from whom the messiah will be born. Why Judah, not Joseph? The answer undoubtedly lies in the beginning of Vayigash, as the two brothers confront one another, and Judah pleads for Benjamin’s release.

The clue lies many chapters back, at the beginning of the Joseph story. It is there we find that it was Judah who proposed selling Joseph into slavery:

Judah said to his brothers, “What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover his blood? Let’s sell him to the Arabs and not harm him with our own hands. After all –

he is our brother, our own flesh and blood.” His brothers agreed. (Gen. 37:26-27)

This is a speech of monstrous callousness. There is no word about the evil of murder, merely pragmatic calculation (“What will we gain”). At the very moment he calls Joseph “our own flesh and blood” he is proposing selling him as a slave. Judah has none of the tragic nobility of Reuben who, alone of the brothers, sees that what they are doing is wrong, and makes an attempt to save him (it fails). At this point, Judah is the last person from whom we expect great things.

However, Judah – more than anyone else in the Torah – changes. The man we see all these years later is not what he was then. Then he was prepared to see his brother sold into slavery. Now he is prepared to suffer that fate himself rather than see Benjamin held as a slave. As he says to Joseph:

“Now, my lord, let me remain in place of the boy as your lordship’s slave, and let him go with his brothers. How can I return to my father without the boy? I could not bear to see the misery which my father would suffer.”

(44:33-34)

It is a precise reversal of character. Callousness has been replaced with concern. Indifference to his brother’s fate has been transformed into courage on his behalf. He is willing to suffer what he once inflicted on Joseph so that the same fate should not befall Benjamin. At this point Joseph reveals his identity. We know why. Judah has passed the test that Joseph has carefully constructed for him. Joseph wants to know if Judah has changed. He has.

This is a highly significant moment in the history of the human spirit. Judah is the first penitent – the first baal teshuvah – in the Torah. Where did it come from, this change in his character? For that, we have to backtrack to chapter 38 – the story of Tamar.

Tamar, we recall, had married Judah’s two elder sons, both of whom had died, leaving her a childless widow. Judah, fearing that his third son would share their fate, withheld him from her – thus leaving her unable to remarry and have children. Once she understands her situation, Tamar disguises herself as a prostitute. Judah sleeps with her. She becomes pregnant. Judah,

unaware of the disguise, concludes that she must have had a forbidden relationship and orders her to be put to death. At this point, Tamar – who, while disguised, had taken Judah’s seal, cord and staff as a pledge – send them to Judah with a message: “The father of my child is the man to whom these belong.”

Judah now understands the whole story. Not only has he placed Tamar in an impossible situation of living widowhood, and not only is he the father of her child, but he also realises that she has behaved with extraordinary discretion in revealing the truth without shaming him (it is from this act of Tamar’s that we derive the rule that “one should rather throw oneself into a fiery furnace than shame someone else in public”). Tamar is the heroine of the story, but it has one significant consequence. Judah admits he was wrong. “She was more righteous than I,” he says. This is the first time in the Torah someone acknowledges their own guilt. It is also the turning point in Judah’s life. Here is born that ability to recognise one’s own wrongdoing, to feel remorse, and to change – the complex phenomenon known as teshuvah – that later leads to the great scene in Vayigash, where Judah is capable of turning his earlier behaviour on its head and doing the opposite of what he had once done before. Judah is ish teshuvah, penitential man.

We now understand the significance of his name. The verb lehodot means two things. It means “to thank,” which is what Leah has in mind when she gives Judah, her fourth son, his name: “this time I will thank the Lord.” However, it also means, “to admit, acknowledge.” The biblical term vidui, “confession,” – then and now part of the process of teshuvah, and according to Maimonides its key element – comes from the same root.

Judah means “he who acknowledged his sin.”

We now also understand one of the fundamental axioms of teshuvah: “Rabbi Abbahu said: In the place where penitents stand, even the perfectly righteous cannot stand” (Berachot 34b). His proof-text is the verse from Isaiah (57:19), “Peace, peace to him that was far and to him that is near.” The verse puts one who “was far” ahead of one who “is near.” As the Talmud makes clear, however, Rabbi Abbahu’s reading is by no means uncontroversial. Rabbi Jochanan interprets “far” as “far from sin” rather than “far from God.” The real proof is Judah. Judah is a penitent, the first in the Torah. Joseph is consistently known to tradition as ha-tzaddik, “the righteous.” Joseph became mishneh le-melekh, “second to the king.” Judah, however, became the father of Israel’s kings. Where the penitent Judah stands, even the perfectly righteous Joseph cannot stand. However great an individual may be in virtue of his or her natural character, greater still is one who is capable of growth and change. That is the power of penitence, and it began with Judah.

Continued from Page A5
Mother

decent in our world against the inhumanity of Hamas – all that is indecent and barbaric. Hamas breaks every humanitarian rule in the book, throw the book at them.

Goldin called his words completely insufficient. “He didn’t say that Hadar was killed during a ceasefire,” she complained. “He didn’t say it was the world’s responsibility.”

“But it’s their fault,” she said of the UN member states. “Since they were the ones who made the ceasefire that Hamas violated. They and Kerry.”

Asked why she is still focusing on Kerry, who he will be out of office in less than three weeks, Goldin said, “He won’t just retire; he will be going around the globe engaging in ‘diplomacy’ and meeting with leaders afterwards, too.”

Goldin expressed hope that the incoming administration of President-elect Donald Trump will consider her plight – and Kerry’s part in it – “to be a stain on American policy, which it will want to remove.”

“I am waiting for Trump with bated breath,” she said. “Maybe he and his team will behave differently towards terrorists like Hamas, and put a stop to this travesty in general, and to my family’s suffering in particular.”

In two separate interviews with *The Algemeiner* – one in May, on the eve of Israel’s Memorial Day for fallen soldiers and victims of terrorism, and another one in June, ahead of the signing of the Jerusalem-Ankara rapprochement agreement – Goldin emphasized the need to “turn the equation on its head” where terrorism emanating from Gaza is concerned.

“Until now, Hamas has abducted soldiers and demanded a heavy price from Israel for their release,” she said. But now, “rather than waiting for Hamas to demand a price from Israel, a price from Hamas must be exacted for not returning the bodies.”

For example, she said, money for the rehabilitation of Gaza, devastated by retaliatory IDF strikes in response to years of rocket-fire reigning down on Israeli cities, should be made conditional.

In addition, Goldin had hoped that the government would use the deal with Turkey as leverage. Because of Turkey’s support for Hamas – she said at the time – negotiations that were going on for years between the governments of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Netanyahu should have included a stipulation for the return of Hadar and Staff Sgt. Oron Shaul, another fallen IDF soldier whose body remains in Gaza.

During his weekly cabinet meeting at the end of June, Netanyahu gave her cause for optimism on this score.

“There is much misinformation and disinformation about the possible agreement being crystallized with Turkey,” he said. “I would therefore like to clarify that we have been making every effort, through both overt and covert means, to return to Israel Oron Shaul and Hadar Goldin, may their memory be blessed, as well as the two Israelis

being held in Gaza [Bedouin Israeli Hisham Al-Sayed and Ethiopian-Israeli Avraham Mengistu, a mentally unstable man who crossed over into Gaza last September]. We are in continual contact with the families. And we will not rest until we return the boys home.”

When the deal was sealed, however, it transpired that no clause relating to the young men’s bodies had been included in it – much to the ire of the Goldin and Shaul families.

This Sunday, Israel’s security cabinet ruled that the bodies of Hamas operatives will no longer be returned to their families for burial, as part of new efforts to pressure the terrorist group to make swap deals. Under this policy, Palestinian terrorists will be buried in a cemetery for enemy combatants – and exhumed if and when Hamas turns over the remains Hadar and Oron Shaul, and releases Mengistu and al-Sayed.

The Goldin and Shaul families both made statements urging Netanyahu to follow through on this policy, and criticizing the government for “doing nothing” over the last two years and five months to secure the return of their sons.

Hadar was survived not only by his parents, but by his twin brother, Tzur, his older sister Ayelet, his older brother Hemi and his fiancée Edna Seroussi, whom he was scheduled to marry mere weeks after the day he was killed.

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION (“FANNIE MAE”), a Corporation organized and existed under the laws of the United States of America, Plaintiff -against- LYNETTE DAVIS AKA LYNETTE J. DAVIS AKA LYNETTE GOODRIDGE, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and dated September 16, 2016, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Courthouse 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY on February 9, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the southerly side of Maple Street, distant 220 feet westerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the southerly side of Maple Street with the westerly side of Nostrand Avenue; being a plot 100 feet by 20 feet by 100 feet by 20 feet. Block 5033 Lot 31. Said premises known as 276 MAPLE STREET, BROOKLYN, NY Approximate amount of lien \$366,259.49 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee’s attorney. Index Number 13812/2013. BRUNO F. CODISPOTI, ESQ., Referee David A. Gallo & Associates LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 95-25 Queens Boulevard, 11th Floor, Rego Park, NY 11374 File# 7254.8744 AJ 1/6 /13/20/27

Social.



Joe Perry. Photo: Twitter.

Aerosmith Guitarist Wishes Israelis 'Happy Hanukkah' With Rendition of 'Hava Nagila' Ahead of Performance in Jewish State

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

The lead guitarist for iconic American rock band Aerosmith wished Israelis a "Happy Hanukkah" on Thursday with a rendition of a well-known Jewish song ahead of his band's upcoming concert in Israel.

Joe Perry played "Hava Nagila" in a video posted on Facebook by Creative Community for Peace, an enter-

tainment industry advocacy organization, and reminded his Israeli fans that Aerosmith will be performing at Tel Aviv's Hayarkon Park in May.

Aerosmith is among a number of other major musical acts set to perform in Israel in 2017, among them pop sensation Justin Bieber. This despite the vocal efforts to boycott the Jewish state spearheaded by industry heavyweight Roger Waters of Pink Floyd fame.

Dallas Synagogue Named One of the 'Best Things America Built in 2016' by Slate Magazine

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

A synagogue in North Dallas that underwent a \$34 million renovation last year was listed by Slate Magazine as one of "the best things America built in 2016."

Temple Emanu-El, home to the largest Reform congregation in the Southwest, underwent some drastic changes, thanks to Dallas architect Gary Cunningham. The highlight of the project was the construction of the Stern Chapel, a semi-circular auditorium that seats 450 people, has glass panels and overlooks four oak trees in the synagogue's courtyard. The chapel was named after Temple Emanu-El Chief Rabbi David Stern as a condi-

tion for a \$5 million donation from a congregant.

"What we wanted to do is bring the beauty of nature into the worship experience," Rabbi Stern said of the new sanctuary.

The massive renovation included the construction of a living space and education wing, the remodeling of existing public and administrative areas and a new landscape program. There was also a restoration of the synagogue's main chapel, the Olan Sanctuary — a rounded room with LED lighting in the chandeliers and stained glass — and the Lefkowitz Chapel, which has a seating capacity of 200.

This is not the first time the synagogue has received

IDF Welcomes Soldier With Cerebral Palsy

BY JNS.ORG

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) has welcomed its newest member, a soldier with cerebral palsy, as part of the military's prioritization of the inclusion of people with disabilities.

Through the "Special in Uniform" program, Omer Lahat was first integrated into the Palmachim Air Base and then, last month, enlisted as a full IDF soldier. The initiative to integrate youths with disabilities into regular units in the military and larger Israeli society is a partnership between the military, the Israeli Ministry of Social Services and the Jewish National Fund.



Omer Lahat (center), who has cerebral palsy and recently joined the Israel Defense Forces, is pictured at a Dec. 29 graduation ceremony for an Israeli Air Force pilots' course. Photo: Special in Uniform.

Lahat developed cerebral palsy when oxygen was cut off from his brain after he was born prematurely, but he never let his physical limitations keep him from pursuing his goals, including graduating from high school with honors.

He was inspired to serve in the IDF by his father, a former air force pilot and squadron commander, and, to make it happen, Lahat launched a letter-writing campaign, successfully making his case for enlistment to various IDF officials.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, speaking at the Dec. 29 graduation ceremony of an Israeli Air Force (IAF) pilots' course in which Lahat took part, underscored the IDF's spirit of inclusion.

"A strong nation is one that does not leave its most vulnerable members behind," Netanyahu said. "Israel is the only nation in the world that has a strong army with the ability to include people with disabilities."

To date, Special in Uniform has facilitated the voluntary enlistment of about 50 Israeli soldiers with autism and other disabilities. Lahat was the program's first-ever wheelchair-bound participant.

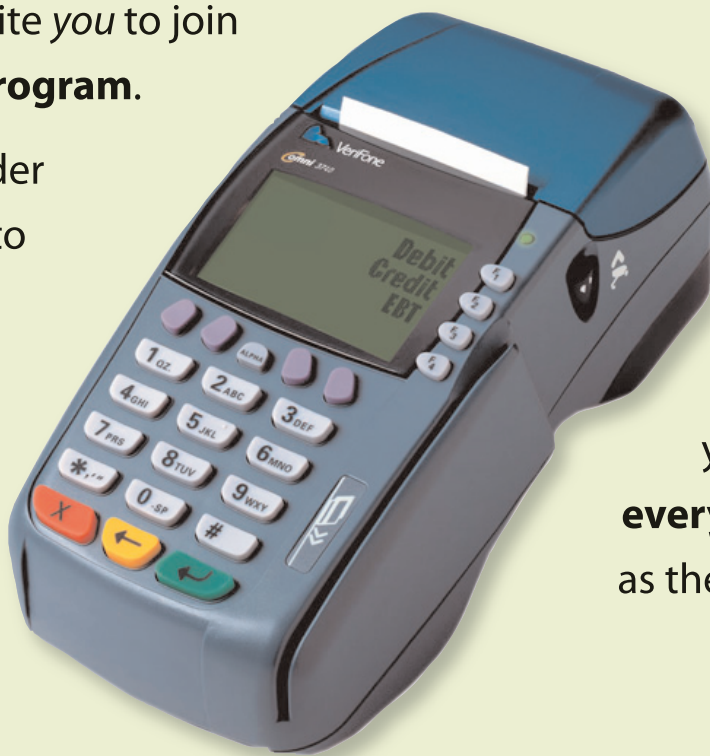
recognition for its architecture. In December 2016, the real-estate blog Curbed gave Temple Emanu-El the Best New Place to Pray (and Boy Do We Need It) Award. The congregation has moved locations three times since its first temple was built in 1876, according to Slate Magazine. The publication noted that over the years, the temple's design has changed from Moorish to Romanesque and neoclassical styles.

Attention Not-For-Profit Organizations

Be part of the Tribul Merchant Services Charity Ventures Program

For over 10 years Tribul Merchant Services have been working with **Not-For-Profit Organizations** across the country, now we invite you to join our **Charity Ventures Program**.

All you need to do in order to enter the program is to refer us to any business that currently accepts credit cards — tell them to expect a phone call from Tribul Merchant Services.



We keep it simple: Leave it to us to take care of all the necessary paperwork and details.

For each approved application you will receive a check from us for \$180.

We will also send you a residual check **every month** for as long as the account processes with Tribul.

**Earn a monthly residual,
PLUS \$180 for every
approved referral**

**Over \$1,000,000 paid out
in less than 3 years via the
Charity Ventures Program**



Contact Kutty for details:

Tel: 877.336.1925

Email: Kutty@tribulonline.com