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THE algemeiner

JOURNAL



SHAVUOT EDITION

\$1.00 - PRINTED IN NEW YORK

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2017 | 8 SIVAN 5777

VOL. XLV NO. 2308

Legislators, Christian Leaders Turn Up Heat on Trump Over Embassy Move



US President Donald Trump places a prayer note in the Western Wall in Jerusalem last week.
Photo: Screenshot.

BY BEN COHEN

As the fiftieth anniversary of Israel's reunification of Jerusalem during the June 1967 Six-Day War approaches, a bipartisan group of legislators is stepping up the pressure on President Donald Trump to fulfill his campaign promise to move the US Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to the Jewish state's capital.

Christian religious leaders are

also centrally involved in the push. Their position was laid out in a May 16 open letter to Trump — signed by 60 prominent Evangelical leaders — which urged that the US “honor its strongest and only true democratic ally in the Middle East by respecting its capital city — Jerusalem — and immediately moving the US Embassy there.”

A Jerusalem Day event on Capitol Hill last week brought together Democratic and Repub-

lican legislators with some of the most vocal Christian advocates of an embassy relocation, including Jerry A. Johnson — president of National Religious Broadcasters (NRB) — and Susan Michael — US director of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ)

The current appeals to Trump to act on his campaign rhetoric reflect the widespread frustration that successive presidents have

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Palestinian Officials Are Frustrated With Trump's Pro Israel Positions

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

Palestinian officials are frustrated with President Donald Trump's pro-Israel positions, the Hebrew news site *nrg* reported on Sunday, citing a new document authored by a top Ramallah political figure.

In the paper, which summarizes the diplomatic work the Palestinian Authority has done since Trump entered office earlier this year, Saeb Erekat — the head of the Pales-



US President Donald Trump and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in Bethlehem on May 23, 2017.
Photo: The White House.

tine Liberation Organization (PLO) Executive Committee and chief PA negotiator — wrote, “The Americans will vote against all plans and resolutions regarding Palestine at the [UN] Human Rights Council and UNESCO. Likewise, the American government will defend Israel at all international institutions and organizations, in accordance with President Trump's declaration. Furthermore, the American government is threatening to leave the Human Rights Council if a resolution is passed against Israel.”

Erekat went on to note that, as of yet, the Trump

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Shavuot in Modern Times

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ShabbatCalendar

Parshat NASSO
פרשת נשא

Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting
Shabbat Begins: 8:04pm | Shabbat Ends: 9:12pm



the **algemeiner**

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Opinion.

Six Days Remembered: The Battle Is Not Over



DANIEL S. MARIASCHIN
NEW YORK

The 50th anniversary of the Six-Day War will be commemorated in many ways in the coming days. Media retrospectives, conferences, new documentaries and first person remembrances of the battles and their aftermath will be seen and heard in Israel, here in the United States and elsewhere.

For those of a certain age, we'll be asking each other: "Do you remember where you were on June 5, 1967?" I do.

I vividly recall being in my high school cafeteria waiting for the bell to ring for first period. Each morning, a group of us would gather at the back of the cafeteria, just shooting the breeze, as high school seniors do. But this morning was different; one of my friends, who had obviously seen the news before leaving for school, perhaps on the Today Show, said to me, "You guys are really beating the Arabs."

I knew immediately that the war had begun. It was the culmination of more than three weeks of threats to destroy Israel emanating from Cairo and Damascus. Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser and Syria's President Nureddin al-Atassi, and those who represented them, were clearly signaling their intention to finish off the Jewish state.

Actually, these threats began months

earlier. A New York Times headline on October 15, 1966, read: "Israel Tells UN Syria Plans War to Destroy Her." Abba Eban, then Israel's foreign minister, addressed the Security Council, referencing dozens of Syrian threats against the Jewish state.

Between then and May 1967, hardly a day passed without threats from Nasser. On March 8, he declared: "We shall not enter Palestine with its soil covered in sand, we shall enter it with its soil covered in blood." A month later, Syria Information Minister Mahmoud Zubi predicted that, "this battle will be... followed by more severe battles until Palestine is liberated and the Zionist presence ended."

The pace picked up throughout May, with both official radio outlets in Cairo and Damascus promising to defeat the "Zionist entity." Egypt demanded the withdrawal of UN peacekeepers from the Sinai Peninsula, who had been stationed there since the Suez campaign of 1956. Then Egypt closed the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping, considered by some to be an act of war. Neither the UN, nor the international community, seemed willing — or even the slightest bit interested — in taking Israel out of its isolation. The best UN Secretary-General U Thant could utter, after Egypt's demand that the peacekeeping forces leave, was a weak, "... may I advise you that I have serious misgivings about it... [the] withdrawal may have grave implications for peace."

The closing of the Straits was criticized by both the United States and the United Kingdom as contravening international law, with Britain's Prime Minister Harold Wilson

stating "[Egypt's blockade] must not be allowed to triumph; Britain would join with efforts to open the Straits." But, in the end, nothing was done to stand up to Cairo and Damascus' march toward war.

The Egyptians and Syrians were so confident of victory that Hafez Assad, then Syria's defense minister and later its president, said on May 20: "Our forces are now entirely ready not only to repulse any aggression, but to initiate the act ourselves, and to explode the Zionist presence in the Arab homeland of Palestine. ... I believe that the time has come to begin a battle of annihilation."

Sitting in our living room in New Hampshire, my family watched and listened to this litany of threats unfold, one more belligerent than the next. Egypt's UN Ambassador Mobared El-Kony and Syria's, George Tomeh, were particularly threatening in Security Council debates on the crisis. We worried endlessly about our relatives living on a kibbutz not far from the Syrian border.

Each day brought even greater boasts from the region, and we took them all seriously. We comforted ourselves only by watching and listening to the oratorical skills of Eban, whose speeches at the UN Security Council not only outlined the Arab threats, but the rightness of Israel's cause.

On May 30, Nasser ratcheted up the tone even more: "The armies of Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon are poised on the borders of Israel... to face the challenge, while standing behind us are the armies of Iraq, Algeria, Kuwait, Sudan and the whole Arab nation. The



An Israeli gun boat passes through the Straits of Tiran near Sharm El Sheikh during the 1967 Six-Day War.
Photo: Yaacov Agor / GPO.

act will astound the world..."

And Iraq's President Abdul Rahman Arif couldn't have been more direct, when he said on May 31: "The existence of Israel is an error which must be rectified. This is our opportunity to wipe out the ignominy which has been with us since 1948. Our goal is clear — to wipe Israel off the map."

The rest is history. Israel's defense forces routed the Arab armies in six days, and the war — which was named for its length — has been enshrined in Jewish history as one of its most glorious chapters.

I rushed home from school on the afternoon of June 5, turning on CBS News on our local station, WKNE, to hear Michael Elkins reporting from Israel that the Israeli Air Force had destroyed the combined Arab air forces on the ground. We were jubilant.

Back at school the next day, I was able to

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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

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New York Times Unleashes Onslaught of Five Op-Eds Hostile to Israel



IRA STOLL
BOSTON

When the *New York Times* opinion page hired Bret Stephens and Bari Weiss, two outspoken Zionist veterans of the *Wall Street Journal*, a friend of mine warned me that the hires could be a mixed blessing from a pro-Israel perspective.

Now all the anti-Israel editors already at the *Times* will feel like they can let loose with impunity, because the hiring of Stephens and Weiss provides a ready response to accusations of "bias." So said my friend.

Or, as I put it back on April 13, writing about Stephens: "Anyone who thinks the *Times* hiring of him was motivated primarily by a desire to respond to the paper's pro-Israel critics might want to think again."

My friend's warning turned out to be prophetic.

In the weeks since the news of the Stephens and Weiss hires broke, the *Times* has — as if compensating — unleashed a barrage of op-eds savagely hostile to Israel and Jewish interests. Among them:

- An op-ed by a Palestinian terrorist, Marwan Barghout, complaining about conditions in Israeli prisons and likening Israel to South Africa under apartheid. Even the *New York Times*' own public editor, Liz Spayd, publicly faulted the *Times* for initially identifying the author as

"a Palestinian leader and parliamentarian" rather than as a convicted terrorist and murderer.

- An op-ed piece by a Palestinian lawyer, Raja Shehadeh, complaining about the Israeli checkpoints he must pass through between Ramallah and Ben-Gurion International Airport. "We cannot afford to abandon the struggle and must do what we can to end this occupation," declared the *Times* article. It was adapted from *Kingdom of Olives and Ash: Writers Confront the Occupation*, a book that already has also been the basis of both a *New York Times* magazine article and a long essay in the *New York Times Book Review*. (The book review essay itself was the subject of a *Times* correction after it falsely accused Israel's consul general in New York, Dani Dayan, of publicly calling for Palestinians to be deported to Jordan.)
- An op-ed by the president of the National Iranian American Council, Trita Parsi, claiming, falsely, that the Iranian nuclear deal has "restrained" Iranian policy on Israel. "Iran's actions and rhetoric on the

Jewish state have shifted remarkably ever since nuclear negotiations began," the article claimed, inaccurately.

- An op-ed by the foreign minister of Iran, Mohammad Javad Zarif, claiming, falsely, that Iran "has been aiding the victims of extremism in Iraq and Syria," and offering advice to America on how "to avoid the spread of terrorism and militant extremism." It is breathtaking, coming from the representative of a country that is the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism. Mr. Zarif has had at least seven *New York Times* op-ed pieces since 2003, four of them since April 2015, prompting at least some wry speculation that the *Times* editors will make him their next op-ed page columnist hire after Stephens.
- An op-ed by another Palestinian lawyer, Diana Buttu, calling for the disbandment of the Palestinian Authority on the grounds that it "served as a subcontractor for the occupying Israeli military.... to keep Palestinians silent and quash dissent while Israel steals land, demolishes Palestinian homes, and builds and expands settlements." The op-ed instead calls for a Palestinian leadership that includes Hamas, which she conveniently refers to as a political party rather than a terrorist group. The op-ed calls for Palestinians to "press for boycotts, divestment and sanctions against Israel, like those that helped to end apartheid in South Africa."

Any single one of these op-eds, taken alone, would be totally outrageous and indefensible. The onslaught of all five of them,

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The New York Times. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

World News.

Palestinian Prisoners' Hunger Strike Ends After 40 Days, on Eve of Ramadan

BY JNS.ORG

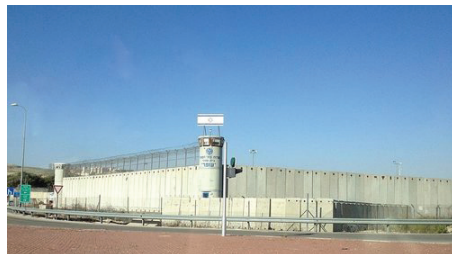
A 40-day hunger strike initiated by Palestinian terrorists and security prisoners in Israeli jails ended Friday night, following an agreement between the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the Red Cross to allow prisoners additional family visits.

Issa Qaraqe, the PA's head of prisoner affairs, said Saturday that the prisoners "ended the strike after their demands were met."

The Israel Prison Service said, "It was agreed that the Palestinian Authority would finance the resumption of the second monthly visit of the prisoners' families, with the consent of Israel and the Red Cross."

The hunger strike ended on the eve of the month-long Muslim fast of Ramadan, which commenced Saturday.

The strike, which began in March,



Israel's Ofer Prison. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

was initiated by Palestinian arch-terrorist Marwan Barghouti and involved more than 1,100 Palestinian security prisoners in the Gilboa, Meggido, Nafha, Ketziot, Shikma, Ramon, Hadarim and Nitzan prisons. The vast majority of the prisoners were affiliated with the Palestinian Fatah movement. In early May, Barghouti was caught secretly eating in his prison cell during the hunger strike.

Arab Students Call for Intifada in Protest at Jerusalem's Hebrew University

BY JNS.ORG

Arab students called for a renewed intifada (violent uprising) and brandished photos of convicted terrorists in a protest held in solidarity with hunger-striking Palestinian prisoners at Hebrew University of Jerusalem this week.

The protest, organized by Arab-Israeli political coalition Hadash, saw students chanting "Intifada and victory! From Jerusalem to Ashkelon!" and "Let's talk exile! We don't want to see any Zionists," *The Times of Israel* reported.

Hebrew University officials defended the protest, saying in a statement provided to Israel's *Channel 2*, "The student event in support of the hunger-striking prisoners was held in accordance with the [university's] regulations and there was nothing said that constitutes a violation of [Israeli] law."

Since mid-April, hundreds of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails have been holding a hunger strike organized by Palestinian arch-terrorist Marwan Barghouti.

Earlier this month, Hebrew University came under fire for a decision not to play Israel's national anthem, "Hatikvah," during a graduation ceremony. The university was reportedly seeking to avoid offending Arab students.



The entrance to the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Mount Scopus campus. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

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Frustrated

administration has refrained from "publicly expressing support for a two-state solution, based on the 1967 borders, like the previous administration did."

Also, Erekat continued, the Trump administration has not openly stated its "opposition to settlements, and hasn't recognized the fact they are illegal."

"The current administration...has not demanded that the Israeli government reduce construction in them [the settlements]," Erekat said.

On the issue of the potential move of

the US Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem — a Trump campaign promise — Erekat observed that the president has yet to order it out of fear this would "destroy the peace process" and stoke "extremism and bloodshed" in the Middle East.

So far, PA President Mahmoud Abbas has met with Trump three times — in Washington, Riyadh and Bethlehem. At their meetings, according to Erekat, Abbas has emphasized to Trump that the only way to achieve peace is to "end the Israeli occupation and establish a Palestinian state with eastern Jerusalem as its capital that will live in peace and security alongside the State of Israel on the 1967 borders."

Netanyahu Unveils 5-Year Development Plan for Jerusalem



Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu held his Cabinet meeting Sunday morning in the Western Wall tunnels. Photo: Twitter.

BY JNS.ORG

In a special cabinet meeting convened underneath the Western Wall in Jerusalem, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced Sunday the commencement of a five-year Jerusalem development plan.

While cabinet meetings are typically held in the prime minister's office, Netanyahu said, "On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the liberation and unification of the city of Jerusalem, we are holding the government meeting here in the Western Wall Tunnels."

Netanyahu announced the five-year development plan for Jerusalem and new initiatives to increase tourism to Israel's capital

city. A new elevator to the Western Wall will ease access for people with disabilities. The elevator will begin in the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City and descend 85 feet to the Western Wall complex. A new tunnel will give pedestrians using the elevator direct access to the Western Wall security gate.

The prime minister also announced the establishment of a "special new cable car tourism project" starting from the First Station outdoor mall to the Old City's Dung Gate.

"We will open the Old City basin and improve the health, culture, welfare and education services in the city of Jerusalem," Netanyahu added.

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Embassy

waived the 1995 Jerusalem Embassy Act, despite its passage by both the House and Senate with overwhelming majorities.

"I got to Congress in 1997, and in 1998, I sponsored a bill saying that before we move our embassy in Germany to Berlin, we should move our embassy in Israel to Jerusalem," Rep. Brad Sherman (D-CA) told *The Algemeiner*. Sherman said that the move of the US embassy to Berlin from Bonn — eight years after the reunification of Germany in 1990 — "illustrates the fact that when a country tell us where their capital is, that's where we put our embassy."

Daniel Williams — executive director of the Israel Allies Foundation, which is organizing a petition demanding the embassy be moved to Jerusalem — pledged to keep the issue alive in the event that Trump follows his predecessors by waiving the 1995 Act, a twice-yearly decision that will land on his desk for the first time on Wednesday.

"We're going to stay on this if he signs the waiver," Williams said. "We'll continue to build our petition list, and we'll go back to a broader section of faith leaders. I would like to see us go to Jewish faith leaders in the way that we have Evangelical leaders."

Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-Co) told *The Algemeiner* the positive reaction which Trump received during his visit to Israel last week was more evidence that the embassy move was overdue.

"Donald Trump made history by being the first American president to visit the Western Wall and by the first American president to visit

Israel on his inaugural foreign trip," Lamborn said. "Those were two excellent initiatives on his part, so this is a wonderful opportunity to carry through on his campaign promise."

Sherman said it was completely unclear to him what action Trump would take on the matter. "While he was there, he avoided this issue, and he also avoided the two-state solution," Sherman said. "He avoided saying anything so far as I can see."

One key concern among administration officials is the impact the relocation of the embassy would have on the Sunni Arab states, whom Trump wants to coax into closer relations with Israel based upon the common regional threat Iran currently poses.

"I have heard that argument on a number of occasions, and I think there's some substance to it," Rep. Trent Franks (R-AZ) told *The Algemeiner*. "But any damage done will be offset by the clarity of our saying that there is no space between the United States and Israel."

Franks argued while it was important for the US to show the Arab world that its "good will" remains intact, it had to be made clear "that we are not going to continue to disdain the rights of our most cherished ally."

Franks warned that the opportunity for an embassy move might not be so ripe under a future president.

"Trump is fundamentally committed to moving to Jerusalem, and this might be the best time we will have — as time progresses, those who are in opposition only gain ground, and add burden to our effort," he said.

World News.



An unmanned IDF vehicle. Photo: Screenshot.

Israeli Military to Start Using Unmanned Vehicles to Patrol Border With Gaza Strip

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

In the coming years, the Israeli military will begin using unmanned vehicles to secure the Jewish state's border with the Gaza Strip, the IDF's Hebrew website reported on Sunday.

"The vehicle patrols the area, collects information and identifies irregularities while a female soldier drives it from a war room," Captain Avidav Goldstein said. "This vehicle can replace the foot patrols carried out by soldiers next to the fence."

According to Goldstein, the IDF was the first army in the world to use such vehicles

and they represented a "technological breakthrough on an international level."

The vehicles will soon be installed with weapons that can be operated from afar, the IDF report noted. They already are equipped with camera and loudspeaker systems, which are used to locate and warn suspicious individuals.

In an interview with *The Algemeiner* last fall, the head of the Robotics Division in the IDF Ground Forces — Lt. Col. Leon Altritz — said robots would make the missions of soldiers more efficient and less risky.

French-Israeli Environmental Research Satellite Set for Launch This Summer

BY JNS.ORG

A vegetation and environment monitoring micro-satellite, Venus was assembled by Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) in collaboration with CNES, France's space agency. Israel's Rafael Advanced Defense Systems produced the satellite's innovative electric propulsion system, and Elbit Systems provided advanced high-resolution cameras that will enable the satellite to better monitor the Earth's vegetation

and any changes on the ground.

Venus weighs 585 pounds and can reach an altitude of nearly 450 miles within two days. IAI hosted the satellite's official handover ceremony Thursday, when Israeli Science and Technology Minister Ofir Akunis entrusted Venus to CNES President Jean-Yves Le Gall.

The satellite is scheduled to be launched into space in August from Kourou, French Guiana. Its mission is expected to last four years and three months.

Continued from Page A2
Six Days

follow events on the radio in the high school office. In the small city in which we lived, my father took a petition supporting Israel to merchants and friends on Main Street, asking that they sign in support of Israel. Nothing else in our lives mattered that week. As the days passed, the feelings of relief turned to triumph and then to pride in what we never imagined happening.

Today, it is the Iranian regime that is making the threats to annihilate Israel. The Jewish state is a "cancer" that needs to be eradicated, its leaders say. Tehran paints those very words on the sides of ballistic missiles that it parades, with hubris, in full sight of international TV coverage. Iran has a nuclear weapons program, and it makes no difference, really, if it is in mothballs for a few years. Already, European officials say that Tehran is shopping for dual use technologies to utilize

when it is ready to do so. And Iran provides thousands of rockets to Hezbollah, and mentors and supports Hamas, both of which call for Israel's destruction many times daily.

And the United Nations, which stood idly by in 1967, today has under its roof agencies like the UN Human Rights Council and UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), which year after year have sought to delegitimize, demonize and marginalize Israel. In 1967, Britain's Sir Alec Douglas-Home, speaking about the closing of the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping, presciently said: "...the first casualty (of this crisis) had been the United Nations. It would need an immense effort, an almost superhuman effort, to restore the prestige of that organization." The more things change, the more they stay the same. The UN continues to risk irrelevancy by allowing the pummeling of Israel to continue.

The Six-Day War was a miracle, aided by

Top UK Jewish Officials Slam Corbyn Over 2014 Visit to Grave of Palestinian Terrorist Linked to Munich Massacre

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

Top UK Jewish officials have expressed concern over a Sunday Times report that Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn took part in an event at a Tunisian cemetery in 2014 during which a dead Palestinian terrorist linked to the 1972 Munich massacre was honored.

"It is high time that Jeremy Corbyn clarify his views regarding Palestinian terrorism," Simon Johnson — CEO of the Jewish Leadership Council — was quoted by the Jewish Chronicle as saying. "At first sight, attending a wreath-laying ceremony of a known terrorist, who led one of the most notorious acts of international terrorism, the attack on the Munich Olympics, would appear to be beyond the pale."

Jennifer Gerber — director of Labour Friends of Israel — was quoted as saying, "It is almost unbelievable that any Labour MP would participate in a ceremony honoring a man involved in the vicious murder of

innocent Israeli athletes. Unfortunately, this appears to be part of a very disturbing pattern of behavior and we are seeking urgent clarification from the leader's office on this matter."

In an October 2014 column he wrote for the Morning Star newspaper, Corbyn recalled his recent participation in a "poignant" ceremony at which wreaths were laid on the graves of Palestinians "killed by Mossad agents in Paris in 1991."

According to the Sunday Times, that was an "apparent reference" to Atef Bseiso, the Palestine Liberation Organization intelligence chief who was gunned down by unidentified assailants in the French capital in June 1992.

A Sunday Times reporter confirmed Bseiso was buried at the cemetery Corbyn visited.

According to the latest polls, Corbyn's Labour Party is narrowing the gap with Prime Minister Theresa May's Conservative Party ahead of the June 8 parliamentary elections in the UK.

Israeli TV Report: Trump Lashed out at Abbas During Bethlehem Meeting Over Palestinian Incitement

BY JNS.ORG

President Donald Trump berated Palestinian Authority (PA) President Mahmoud Abbas during their meeting last week in Bethlehem over Abbas' personal responsibility for terrorism incitement, Israel's *Channel 2* reported on Sunday.

An unnamed American source reportedly told the Israeli broadcaster Trump was furious with Abbas and yelled at the PA leader for his direct involvement with incitement against Jews.

"You tricked me in D.C.! You talked there about your commitment to peace, but the Israelis showed me your involvement in incitement," Trump reportedly screamed at Abbas, who was taken aback by the US president's forceful comments. The two leaders had

previously met at the White House on May 3.

The report further stated that several minutes of silence followed the outburst, before the meeting was able to resume. Although the PA denied *Channel 2's* account, a reporter for the network, Udi Segal, posted segments of the purported spat on Twitter.

In his public remarks with Abbas last week, Trump had said peace "can never take root in an environment where violence is tolerated, funded and even rewarded," but conveyed assurances that both Israel and the Palestinians were ready for peace.

Palestinian Media Watch reported in early May that PA Prisoners' Affairs Committee leader Issa Qaraqe had announced Abbas's "absolute refusal of the Israeli demands" to halt PA payments to terrorists and their families.

Continued from Page A2
Onslaught

in six weeks, constitutes an outbreak of anti-Israel and anti-Jewish hostility at the *Times* on a level with the Jewish cemetery desecrations and bomb threat calls against Jewish institutions that the *Times* blamed on President Donald Trump and treated as front-page news a few months back.

Writing in *Vox*, David Roberts denounced Stephens as a "cosmopolitan, well-educated, reflexively pro-Israel war hawk." The *Times* Cairo bureau chief, Declan Walsh, publicly denounced Stephens on Twitter as "not cool."

courageous leaders and soldiers who had no choice but to win. It was a defining moment for young Jews of our generation. And it fortunately established the Jewish state as the regional power it is. But the battles that followed, including the Yom Kippur War, the First and Second Lebanon Wars and the Gaza campaigns, attest to the continuing desire of Israel's enemies to bring it down — one way or another.

Iran is only the latest of these foes to

falsely accusing him of "ascribing a pathological condition to an entire race of people."

It's one thing to see the Stephens hire triggering antisemitic or anti-Israel tropes in other publications. It's another to see them erupting in the columns of the *Times* itself. That's not to blame Stephens, or Weiss, for the reaction. It's not their fault. Their presence at the *Times* probably almost certainly nets out positively for the pro-Israel side. But the backlash can't be ignored. It must be taken into account. Precisely as my friend predicted, it sure has been brutal.

threaten Israel, and its newfound bounty, by way of the nuclear agreement, has left it flush with cash to attempt to carry out its objectives. While we observe those momentous six days, let us all be sure to sleep with one eye open.

Daniel S. Mariaschin is the executive vice president and CEO of B'nai B'rith International. As the organization's top executive officer, Mariaschin directs and supervises B'nai B'rith programs, activities and staff around the world.

U.S. News.

French Jewish Anger Grows Over Savage Antisemitic Murder of Pensioner at Hands of Muslim in Paris Suburb

BY BEN COHEN

As further details emerge of the brutal murder of an Orthodox Jewish woman in a Paris suburb at the hands of a Muslim assailant last month, French Jews are increasingly worried and angered by what one prominent member of the community called an “organized silence” surrounding the case.

Dr. Sarah Halimi — a 66-year-old pensioner living in the Paris suburb of Belleville — was murdered in the early hours of April 4 by Kada Traore, a 27-year-old immigrant from Mali. After breaking into the neighboring apartment of another Malian family at 4:25 a.m. — whose terrified inhabitants locked themselves away as they heard him recite verses from the Quran — Traore jumped over the balcony and forced his way into Halimi’s apartment. As he beat the elderly lady savagely, her screams prompted neighbors to call the police.

Three officers arrived at 4:45 a.m. But on hearing Traore yelling “Allahu Akhbar!” and “Shaitan!” (Arabic for ‘Satan’), they feared a terrorist attack was taking, and called for backup. Anti-terror officers did not arrive until 5:00 a.m., by which time Halimi had been thrown by her attacker from the window of her third-floor apartment to the ground below. Traore, reported to be a drug dealer and addict with a criminal record, then returned to the apartment of the Malian family where he resumed his prayers, and was not taken into police custody until almost 6:00 a.m.

Shock over the barbaric nature of the murder has been compounded by the reluctance of both the media and French authorities to recognize it as an antisemitic hate crime — even after a silent march of remembrance on the Sunday after the murder was met by local youths chanting “Death to the Jews” and “We Own Kalashnikovs.”

In an open letter to new French Interior Minister Gerard Collomb, Alexandra Laignel-Lavastine — a French journalist and expert on antisemitism — charged that “in the advanced decadence that reigns today in the country of (antisemitic comedian) Dieudonné, for whom ‘the Jews are dogs’ (and people laugh hysterically), it seems that a run-over dog deserves more attention than a murdered Jewish woman.”

Laignel-Lavastine also quoted William Attal, Halimi’s brother, who stated, “I have waited seven weeks before I said anything. The absolute silence about my sister’s murder has become intolerable.”

Since the murder, official and media accounts of what transpired have played up claims that Traore was suffering from mental illness, while virtually ignoring the antisemitic element of the crime.

A common theory is that the recent French election encouraged — in the phrase of Michel Gurfinkiel, a leading French political analyst and president of the Jean-Jacques Rousseau Institute in Paris — an “organized silence” around the Halimi murder.

“Such a story would benefit the Right and the National Front,” Gurfinkiel said. “Everyone is convinced this is why there has been such an organized silence around the story.”

A few days after the murder, Marine Le Pen — the leader of the far-right, anti-immigrant National Front — tweeted that Halimi’s fate made her want to “speak about Islamist antisemitism.” Le Pen was defeated by centrist candidate Emmanuel Macron in the second round of the presidential election on May 7.

“The Jewish community was very careful not to be suspected of siding with Marine Le Pen,” Gurfinkiel said. He also noted that state provision of security to religious buildings and institutions means that Jewish organizations are “reluctant to raise certain questions.”

But as more time passes in the wake of Halimi’s murder, the calls to recognize its antisemitic nature are growing. Interviewed by the *Le Parisien* newspaper last week, the lawyers for the Halimi family, Jean-Alex Buchinger and David Kaminsky, said in no uncertain terms that Sarah Halimi had been “targeted, tortured and killed by her assailant because she was Jewish.”

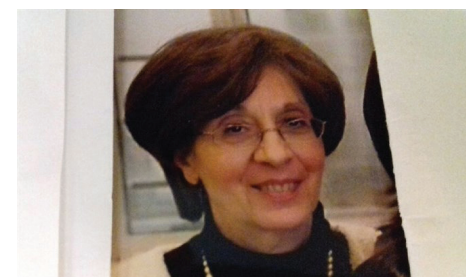
Halimi’s murder robbed the Jewish community in Paris of one of its most loved figures, known for her work as a doctor and as a kindergarten teacher. “She was very well known and respected, a great person,” Gurfinkiel said. “The tragedy is that she was living in that part of Paris where

Jews are gradually leaving, since the security doesn’t exist anymore.”

It also brought forth reminders of the 2006 kidnapping and murder of a young French Jew, Ilan Halimi — no relation to Ruth Halimi — whose body was left for dead by a mostly-Muslim gang who seized him out of the belief that Jews were wealthy and willing to pay ransom money.

“The French police were of no help during the whole (Ilan Halimi) episode, rejecting any idea that antisemitism could have played a role in the affair and preferring to believe the absurd notion that this was the result of some war between rival gangs,” Laignel-Lavastine noted in her letter about Ruth Halimi to French Interior Minister Collomb. “Ten years later, we have reached the same point.”

Traore is currently undergoing psychiatric tests and Jewish communal leaders are



Dr. Sarah Halimi was the victim of a savage antisemitic murder in a Paris suburb in April. Photo: CRIE

impatient for more information from authorities. “The more time passes, the more the community feels that there is something you do not want to tell us,” commented Joel Mergui, head of the Consistoire — the governing body of French Jewish communities.

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Opinion.

Mueller's Roving Commission to Investigate 'Evil' Is a Danger to Civil Liberties



ALAN DERSHOWITZ
BOSTON

Special Counsel Robert Mueller was commissioned to investigate not only crime, but also the entire Russian "matter." That is an ominous development that endangers the civil liberties of all Americans.

Federal prosecutors generally begin by identifying specific crimes that may have been committed – in this case, violation of federal statutes. But no one has yet identified the specific statute or statutes that constrain Mueller's investigation of the Russian matter. It is not a violation of any federal law for a campaign to have collaborated with a foreign government to help elect their candidate. Perhaps it should be, but it is not. Even if there was evidence that the Trump campaign collaborated with Russian officials toward this end – and I am not aware of any – that would be a terrible political sin, but not a crime. Since the witchcraft trials in Salem, prosecutors have not been authorized to investigate sin. That is left to pastors and pundits who only have the power of persuasion. Federal prosecutors have the power of the secret grand jury, the subpoena, the selective leak,

and ultimately indictment and prosecution.

That is why prosecutors must be constrained by law as to what they are authorized to investigate. Federal prosecutors are not given roving commissions to investigate "evil" or "wrongdoing" – only violations of federal criminal statutes.

Since I began raising this issue, pundits and friends have been suggesting federal statutes that might have been violated. They include treason, obstruction of justice, attempted obstruction of justice, accessory after the fact to hacking and other elastic statutes capable of being stretched to fit the conduct of any villain de jure.

But this untrammelled approach to criminal justice is fraught with danger of overreaching and selective prosecution.

The particular statutes most often cited by defenders of the investigation are among the most dangerous on the books, precisely because they are so broad, vague, open ended and capable of being stretched to fit nearly any targeted individual. Today it's Donald Trump. Yesterday it was Hillary Clinton. Tomorrow it could be you!

One does not have to go back to the Soviet Union and Lavrentiy Beria's infamous boast to Stalin "Show me the man and I will show you the crime," in order to be concerned about the expansion of elastic criminal statutes. There are enough examples of abuse in our own history.



Robert Mueller. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

From McCarthyism to the failed prosecutions of Senator Ted Stevens, Congressman Thomas DeLay, Governor Rick Perry and others we have seen vague criminal statutes stretched in an effort to criminalize political differences. Those Trump supporters who shouted "lock her up" with regard to Hillary Clinton were doing the same thing. Republicans use this tactic against Democrats and vice versa. We all lose when prosecutors abuse their enormous powers.

In the current case, the issues are more complex because there is a strong argument that collaborating with an enemy government like Russia to influence an American election SHOULD be a crime. Perhaps that is correct, though the task of drafting such a statute would be daunting. But under current statutes it is not a crime. This is an appropriate concern of Congress, but NOT of a prosecutor

whose mandate should not extend beyond existing criminal statutes.

It would be appropriate for Congress to have future-looking hearings designed to determine whether new laws are needed to correct existing abuses. These hearings would be accessible to the public and witnesses would have the right to counsel. After conducting such hearings Congress could then decide whether new laws are needed, especially in an age where hacking private emails and selectively releasing them has become a political tactic. The act of hacking should be a crime, but if publishing the hacked material were to be criminalized, First Amendment issues might arise. Striking the appropriate balance between discouraging hacking and the public's right to know is appropriately left to Congress and ultimately to the courts, but certainly not to prosecutors.

Another appropriate vehicle for investigating what happened during the most recent presidential election would be a congressionally mandated independent non-partisan commission of the kind that looked into the causes of 9/11 and the need for new laws and procedures. Such a commission would hear evidence in public, unless it were classified, and would provide safeguards to witnesses not available in secret grand juries.

All civil libertarians, whether Democrat or Republican, should be concerned about the fishing net given to Special Counsel Robert Mueller. A criminal investigation should not be a fishing expedition or a search for criminal statutes that can be stretched to fit particular targets. Partisan politics should not blind us to the dangers of prosecutors with roving commissions to investigate "matters" rather than specific crimes.

A version of this article was originally published by The Hill.

From Greeley, Colorado to Manchester, England



BEN COHEN/JNS.ORG
NEW YORK

For those – like me – who'd never really given any thought to singer Ariana Grande before the terrorist atrocity at her concert in Manchester, it took a few minutes to figure out the connection between her audience and the target selection of suicide bomber Salman Abedi.

Eventually, it dawned on me. Grande's primary audience consists of girls in their teens and younger. If Abedi wasn't aware of that before arriving at the Manchester Arena venue, he surely would have worked that out in the moments before he detonated himself.

In the name of a global Islamic caliphate, Abedi set out to slaughter young people – more precisely, teenage girls. Islamists violently detest any expression of "permissiveness" among women; from an early age, females in their grip are trained to think of themselves as servants and as child-bearers only. Disobedience inevitably dispenses a beating that varies from "light" to "heavy," depending on which Islamist preacher their household suzerain happens to follow.

You saw this misogynistic hatred on display in Manchester, in the terrible, incessant

screams forming the soundtrack to the first images of the atrocity – the outside explosion, the hordes of kids fleeing for the exits as pink balloons floated eerily among them.

I won't pretend to have an answer to the question of how a person can bring themselves to carry out such an abomination. (The guttural Hebrew word for terrorist atrocity, piguah, has special resonance here.) I will, however, observe that not every expression of evil is uniform.

For example, when you examine the process of genocide – be it the Nazis in Poland, or the Hutu militias in Rwanda – you see that its practitioners almost always execute the killing in groups, and that the group setting reinforces their morale. They can see and feel the camaraderie just by looking around them.

By contrast, a jihadi like Abedi carried out his operation alone and died alone; whether or not he was part of a larger jihadi cell doesn't change this.

For a Western jihadi, camaraderie doesn't manifest in day-to-day contact with his fellow Muslim warriors in training camps or on frontline – in his case, for most of the time, the source of his inspiration was geographically remote and encountered in a virtual reality. When he strikes, he does not have the option, as the genocidal murderer does, of simply obliterating the next town or village and moving on; he must select

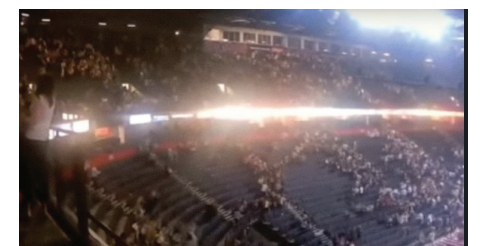
his target carefully, and above all, he must execute a spectacle that forces a terrified world to ask whether killers like these have any boundaries.

Ideas play a key role here, in desensitizing jihadis to the humanity of non-Muslims and in influencing their choice of targets. Venues that encourage such licentious behavior as dancing and consuming alcohol are particularly favored, as evidenced in Bali, Tel Aviv, Paris, Orlando and many other places. In those establishments, of course, illicit sex flourishes. In no time at all, moral values decay, and even our own children mimic our degeneracy – for example, by donning lipstick and going to a pop concert unaccompanied.

In Islamist literature, this panic is given exquisite expression in the writings of Sayyid Qutb, a founder of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt. In 1949, Qutb spent the better part of a year studying in Greeley, Colorado – a conservative, church-going town with a prohibition on the sale of liquor. But to read Qutb, you'd think he was living above a sleazy nightclub in Hamburg or Amsterdam.

"The American girl," Qutb once wrote, "knows seductiveness lies in the round breasts, the full buttocks, and in the shapely thighs, sleek legs – and she shows all this and does not hide it." After a church dance, he wrote fervidly of "enticing legs, arms wrapped around waists, lips pressed to lips, and chests pressed to chests. The atmosphere was full of desire."

Whether his description of that particular dance was accurate or not, we shall never know, but it doesn't take a Freudian to notice the unrequited desire that enveloped Qutb's own mind. This kind of desire, when fused with hatred of relaxed sexuality and expressions of femininity, can be devastating once it is incorporated into an ideology of conquest – as jihadism indubitably is.



Concertgoers fleeing the Manchester Arena after Monday's terror attack. Photo: YouTube.

In his book *Terror and Liberalism*, Paul Berman offered a telling insight into what it was about Western, liberal society that enraged Qutb. "What agitated him most of all," Berman wrote, "was the split between the sacred and the secular in Western liberalism."

It's worth noting that Berman doesn't believe it was Qutb's "prudishness" that underwrote his judgments. "He saw the theological implications of liberal social values," Berman wrote. "He invoked the Islamic term jahili, which means the heathen ignorance that prevailed in Arabia before the time of Muhammed, or that prevails in any pagan society – and he applied that term to modern liberal society, too."

For Islamists, the price of ignorance is punishment for the ignorant. Those "who are prepared to lay down their lives for the cause of God are honorable people, pure of heart and blessed of soul," wrote Qutb. Right there, we have an inversion of the Western moral tradition that judges acts by their consequences and their motives, and separates the innocent from the guilty according to law and custom, rather than the "word of God" as interpreted by a clique of leaders.

Was Salman Abedi familiar with these words of Qutb's? Doubtless, he encountered

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Opinion.

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Colorado

some form of them, assuming he consumed jihadi propaganda. Perhaps this sense of being blessed, the awareness that he was far from alone in finding the female form so grotesquely offensive — even if he was alone in the moment of death — led him to take his murderous intention to its bitter conclusion. Thus, were we

all afforded yet another unwanted glimpse into the mind of our enemy.

Ben Cohen writes a weekly column for JNS.org on Jewish affairs and Middle Eastern politics. His writings have been published in Commentary, the New York Post, Haaretz, The Wall Street Journal and many other publications.

The Truth About Breaking the Silence



LEORA EISENBERG
NEW YORK

Whenever someone tells me that they want to improve Israeli society, I'm all for it. I get excited about helping the Jewish state better itself. There's still a lot to do, and we should always be looking to improve things where and when we can.

So, when Breaking the Silence (BtS) came to my campus, I should have been thrilled. After all, the group claims to want to improve Israeli society. But knowing what I did about the organization, I was upset that a group that de-legitimizes Israel through lies, distortions and falsehoods was coming to my school.

BtS' goal, according to its website, is to "expose the Israeli public to the reality of everyday life in the Occupied Territories." To do so, it uses testimonies by IDF soldiers decrying the Israeli government.

But many Israeli soldiers cited by BtS have claimed that their testimonies were recorded without permission, falsified or taken out of context. BtS' website has a whole section on transparency, but fails to mention that some of the interviews were recorded without the soldiers' knowledge.

"They didn't mention that they were going to record me," said Josh Levitan, one former IDF soldier. Even soldiers who served with BtS's main Diaspora spokesperson, Avner Gvanyahu, have claimed that he is making his claims up. "I was there every night during the period he [Gvanyahu] talks about," said one former member of Gvanyahu's unit. Nothing happened "the way he describes," the soldier said.



The Breaking the Silence logo.

If all of this information is public, I have to wonder why student organizations that claim to support peace are so interested in bringing BtS to campus — because, in reality, BtS holds opposing goals. BtS has consistently shown that it wants to "improve" Israel by slandering it, and by using false or coerced testimonies to delegitimize it. By bringing BtS to our campuses, we tacitly support their work.

Yes, we should support any endeavor that encourages transparency and truth-telling in Israel. But BtS does not do either.

In fact, BtS is so interested in foreign audiences that it spends enormous amounts of time and energy translating its reports into English, so that they can be published in international newspapers like the Washington Post, instead of in Israeli papers — where they could reach people who could actually change Israeli policy.

Please note that censoring BtS is not my intention, as the group certainly has the right to tell American college students its view of the conflict. But students must absolutely question the validity of everything they hear. If American college students truly want to do good, they cannot rely on whatever an organization is telling them, regardless of their political affiliation. Instead, they must rely exclusively on the facts — and this is something that BtS doesn't want.

The author is a CAMERA Fellow at Princeton University.

Jewish Voice for Peace's Hidden Agenda

BY REBECCA ZAGORSKY

A Jewish Voice for Peace demonstration. Photo: Twitter. When starting a political movement, choosing the right name is perhaps the most important step. We tend to make snap decisions about whether or not to support an organization based on what its name implies. The danger, of course, is that an organization can misrepresent itself with false connotations.

Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) has done just that, because the group does not represent the views of most Jews — and it does not stand for peace.

While their name may sound innocent and upstanding, JVP seeks to delegitimize

and demonize the State of Israel through the use of double standards and false allegations. JVP is also an avid supporter of the Boycott, Divest, and Sanction (BDS) movement, which attempts to harm, isolate and weaken Israel — the only Jewish state in the world, and the only democracy in the Middle East.

A more accurate name for the group would be Jewish Voice for Palestine — because it seems that JVP truly opposes the existence of a Jewish homeland. This year, the group even went so far as to invite Rasmia Odeh as the guest of honor at their National Membership Meeting. Odeh is a convicted terrorist who murdered two Israeli college students in 1969 by planting a bomb in a supermarket in Jerusalem. An organization that supports terrorists cannot claim that they also

Manchester, Abbas and 'Evil Losers'



RUTHIE BLUM
TEL AVIV

On Monday night, a terrorist blew himself up outside the Manchester Arena as American singer Ariana Grande finished performing. The mass casualties — 22 dead and dozens wounded — sent Britain into a state of shock and mourning, with Prime Minister Theresa May upgrading the country's threat level to "critical."

The following day, US President Donald Trump visited Bethlehem, where he met with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas.

"Allow me at the beginning to condemn the horrible terrorist attack that occurred in Manchester ... leaving tens of casualties and innocent people," Abbas said during a joint press conference with Trump. "I do offer my warm condolences to the prime minister of Britain, families of victims and the British people."

Trump was more expansive. After offering "prayers to the people of Manchester in the United Kingdom," and "deepest condolences to those so terribly injured in this terrorist attack, and to the many killed, and the...so many families of the victims," the US president went on to express "absolute solidarity" with Britain for the loss of "so many young, beautiful, innocent people living and enjoying their lives murdered by evil losers. I won't call them monsters because they would like that term."

He then tied the event to the message at the core of his overseas trip. "Our society can have no tolerance for this continuation of bloodshed," he said. "We cannot stand a moment longer for the slaughter of innocent people...The terrorists and extremists, and those who give them aid and comfort, must be driven out from our society forever."

Referring to radical Islamism, he stated: "This wicked ideology must be obliterated... All civilized nations must join together to protect human life and the sacred right of our citizens to live in safety and in peace."

This echoed the speech he delivered in Riyadh on Sunday, where he called on all Arab and Muslim leaders to stomp out the phenomenon in their countries.

The only problem with this declaration — as clear as it was crucial — was that not a single Arab or Muslim leader listening to and applauding it believed it was aimed at them.

The Sunnis nodded at the prospect of eradicating Shiite violence and vice versa. The Wahhabis agreed that Islamic State terrorism had to be defeated. The state sponsors of terrorism in attendance, such as Saudi Arabia itself and Qatar, were thrilled to be called upon to halt Iran. Meanwhile, Palestinian Authority representatives nodded solemnly about the ills of Hamas.

Whether the tragic irony was lost on Trump is not clear; his true thoughts about the Islamist tyrants on whom his powerful speech was wasted remain somewhat of a conundrum. While in Bethlehem two days later, however, he did praise Abbas for having "joined the summit and committed to taking firm but necessary steps to fight terrorism and confront its hateful ideology."

This is beyond laughable. Abbas can hardly be counted on to combat a practice he embraces and encourages among his people. Indeed, the Palestinian leader not only promotes stabbings, rammings and bombings targeting Israelis, he pays salaries to the families of perpetrators killed "in action." He also gives his clerics and educators free rein to spread hatred, particularly against Israel.

For instance, as a Middle East Media Research Institute report revealed this week, a mere four days before Abbas welcomed the US president in Bethlehem, a prominent Palestinian imam at Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque prayed to Allah to "annihilate Trump and the conspirators," and to "annihilate all the Jews."

The genocidal content of Palestinian sermons is nothing new. Nor is the fact that Abbas holds terrorism dear. According to Palestinian Media Watch, during the month ahead of Trump's Mideast and European "tolerance tour" alone, Abbas, his Fatah faction and the PA glorified 12 terrorists — 10 of whom murdered 95 people — and named a street after one of them. Abbas' deputy honored five terrorists responsible for the murder of 38 people. The PA commended the mother of four terrorists, each of whom is serving multiple life sentences. The PA named public squares after two terrorists who kidnapped and murdered an Israeli, with Abbas sending greetings of "honor and pride" to them. Fatah's youth movement exalted four infamous terrorists in a music video, and the list goes on.

President Trump, beware. Your description of jihadis as "evil losers" fits Abbas and the members of his apparatus to a T.

Ruthie Blum is an editor at the Gatestone Institute. The article was originally published in Israel Hayom.

support peace.

Still, JVP has been successfully hiding its sinister actions behind its peaceful-sounding name. Ohio State University's Jewish LGBTQ group, B'nai Keshet, actually co-sponsored an event with them — a Purim drag show to raise money for LGBTQ refugees. While this event promoted a good cause, partnering with JVP under any circumstances signals that JVP's mission of undermining Israel is acceptable and tolerated on the Ohio State campus.

On the positive side, a BDS effort recently failed at Ohio State — showing that the student body did not fall for JVP's lies and false rumors about Israel.

Ohio State's Hillel also cut ties with B'nai Keshet after the Purim event. This was the correct decision. While I support the majority of B'nai Keshet's work in helping

Jewish LGBTQ students, and creating a more welcoming culture on campus, I cannot believe that they would overlook such enormous flaws in an organization such as JVP.

Building support for members of the LGBTQ community cannot come from shifting hatred towards Israel. Indeed, justice for one group can never come at expense of another, and an organization that attempts to do just that should not be allowed to have the word "peace" included as a part of its name. It is time to call JVP out on its actions, and to withdraw support from this hateful organization.

Rebecca Zagorsky is a Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America Fellow at Ohio State University.

This article was originally published in CAMERA's blog In Focus.

Impressions.

The Meaning of Shavuot in Modern Times

BY JEREMY ROSEN

I often hear people say pejoratively that our festivals and laws are based on earlier, primitive systems and are therefore somehow inauthentic. That may be, but in the way that a modern automobile is based on earlier horseless carriages, or jet planes on propeller engines. It is not a criticism or defect. On the contrary, it is a tribute to the creativity and adaptability of a religion such as ours, where individuals and innovation can coexist with tradition and conformity. Even if there is a constant battle over how to change, expand or modify our practices.

Once we used to celebrate Shavuot as the early summer harvest festival that linked the first barley crop, which was dedicated on Pesach, with the wheat harvest 49 days later.

Harvest festivals of different sorts go back thousands of years. We tend to think of them as opportunities that our more primitive forebears had for dancing around maypoles, having fun and misbehaving. When early humans began animal husbandry and cultivating the land, they would use them as an opportunity to celebrate harvests and fertility, praying in the spring for good, rejoicing in the autumn when the season was over and all the crops gathered. And they usually involved an orgy or two. If ancient gods enjoyed sex, why wouldn't they approve of humans doing the same?

The ancients worshiped the sun, the moon, different deities and a host of spirits and phantoms that they believed controlled their world. If we laugh at them, we ought to stop and think for a moment about the level of superstition that survives and thrives to this day. The extent of human credulity and gullibility has changed little over the centuries.

As we find out more and more about our earliest forebears, we see that, long before the Torah, people metaphorically marked the recovery of the earth as it awakened from winter sleep in the spring, and later bid

Whereas Hammurabi treated the poor, the peasants and women differently than the aristocracy, the Torah's civil rules treated life within its system equally.

farewell to the blossoming ground as cold darkness returned. All Jewish festivals were based on earlier iterations, just as many of the civil and ritual laws of the Torah are reminiscent of or based on earlier codes, like that of Hammurabi, who was possibly a contemporary of Abraham.

But the Torah transformed these earlier attempts to formulate ethical and spiritual societies. Whereas Hammurabi treated the poor, the peasants and women differently than the aristocracy, the Torah's civil rules treated life within its system equally. Whereas kings, rulers and priests were always above the law, the Torah insisted they be subject to it. Even so, the influence of male-dominated patriarchal societies is clearly there. It would take time for changes to take hold. The Torah reflected earlier rules of holy spaces, holy states, holy dress and habits that set the priesthood apart as a class devoted exclusively to servicing sanctuaries on behalf of the nation, while kings spent their time fighting and amassing wealth and wives.

The same thread can be seen in ancient stories of

creation, floods and inter-tribal fighting. It is all there in Egyptian and Mesopotamian cultures that predate the Israelites. But instead of gods killing each other and fornicating, or rescuing their favorites from rebellious rivals, the Torah transforms and understands the narrative in terms of one natural universe with an order and system accessible to everyone. No spells, magic or randomness.

Still, praying to gods or forces beyond our control remains a pervasive human practice and need. Some see it as a necessary therapeutic process, while others see it as a weakness. Many think of it as appealing to God to change God's mind.

Judaism has changed over its 3,000 years of recognizable continuity. Partly due to changing circumstances, partly due to subjugation and partly

come about because earlier peoples celebrated a pagan festival of fertility and boiled calves in mother's milk. But it has turned into the anniversary of the birth of Torah and the texts that emerged from it. Our constitution and the object of veneration and study which reflect the Judaism of some 2,500 years ago and the way it has come down to us today. After all, there were no hasidim in the time of Moses, no Kabbalists, but nowadays we have them alongside our rationalists and legalists.

Once upon time there was no such notion of an individual doing what he or she wanted to. The religion or the state insisted on its hierarchies, obedience and ceremonials, the way hasidim do today. They found ways of enforcing them. You had no option but to conform, to know your place, if you wanted to survive



Shavuot. Ruth in Boaz's Field by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld, oil on canvas, 1828; National Gallery, London. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

due to internal decisions. Maimonides affirms that many of the accepted contemporary religious ways of worship were borrowed and adapted as a way of weaning the Israelites off them in stages. Indeed, we see in the Bible how hard they found it to abandon pagan worship. The Torah, in its wisdom, kept and modified those practices to help wean people away in stages from what they were used to. Sacrifices were as automatic a feature of religions then as praying or meditation is today. Perhaps one day we will evolve towards extrasensory perception. Or our genetically modified brains will be able to speak to God in code.

Such transitions are part of the development of humans and their societies. Even so, we will always need systems of ethics and patterns of therapeutic behavior. No country, culture or religion bursts onto the world from nowhere or starts in a vacuum. They all emerge from earlier forms, added and adapted and removed different parts. It is not disrespectful, or in any way derogatory, to suggest this. Quite the contrary. It illustrates progress and creativity.

We have all come from earlier forms and stages, whether you call them Adam and Eve, Cain and Able, or Neanderthals or cavemen. It is no more an insult to a modern-day religion than it is to say that we contain genes from earlier forms of homo sapiens and share genes with other forms of life. We are what we have become and so is religion.

Shavuot as a harvest festival might well have

in such societies. Unless of course you were a rebel, a Ghengis Khan, a Napoleon — but then you created your own conformities.

Now a new paradigm is emerging, that of individuality. It is a burden and a blessing that we are so much freer in modern societies. Very few people are prepared now to say that "this is how things have always been and this is how they should remain."

I don't know if this what Moses had in mind on Sinai, this interaction and conflict. On the one hand was the declaration that we obey first, and then we can ask questions. On the other, he said before he died that each one of us stood at Sinai as an individual who had to make individual decisions and acts of commitment. Moses also came from two worlds, and that must have influenced him. I believe this struggle between individuality and conformity is a good thing. But it is challenging. And twice as difficult as opting only for one.

But that is what Shavuot celebrates: an acceptance of our constitution, of Torah, regardless of what we think. But at the same time, we are invited to metaphorically stand at Sinai and declare a personal commitment. To decide how each one of us will worship our God and how much we want to keep and to what depth of our way of life will be animated by Judaism as opposed to secularism. We who are bound by tradition and are free to choose want the best of both worlds.

Legal Notice.

LEGAL NOTICE



Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: 305 Sumpter LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 03/03/2017. 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: The LLC 130 Diamond St.#4A Brooklyn, NY 11222 purpose: all lawful activity
AJ 5/5/12/19/26; 6/2/9

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS Bank of America, National Association, Plaintiff AGAINST Eddie Oliveras; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated March 3, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on June 15, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 1397 West 6th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11204. 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 NY, Block: 6579 Lot: 54. Approximate amount of judgment \$1,157,194.22 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 9010/2013. Hon K Lai, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: April 14, 2017
AJ 5/12/19/26; 6/2

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS Selene Finance LP, Plaintiff AGAINST Mary Gomes a/k/a Mary A. Gomes a/k/a Maryann Gomes; Dayne Gomes; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated March 15, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on June 15, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 133 Milford Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208. 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 NY, Block 4189 Lot 8. Approximate amount of judgment \$446,679.50 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 512354/2015. Doron A. Leiby, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: April 4, 2017
AJ 5/12/19/26; 6/2

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC; Plaintiff(s) vs. GITTY ZIGELMAN; et al; Defendant(s) Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 2 Summit Court, Suite 301, Fishkill, New York, 12524, 845.897.1600 Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about March 15, 2017, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder

LEGAL NOTICE

in Room 224 of the King's County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. On June 15, 2017 at 2:30 pm. Premises known as 1120 41ST STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11218 Block: 05592 Lot: 2304 The Condominium Unit (hereinafter referred to as the "Unit") known as Unit #1 in the building (hereinafter referred to as the "Building") known as 1120 41st Street Condominium and by the street number 1120 41st St, Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, said Unit being designated and described as Unit #1 in the aforesaid building in a certain declaration dated 10/18/2007 made by Grantor pursuant to Article 9-B of the Real Property Law of the State of New York (hereinafter referred to as the "Condominium Act"); establishing a plan for condominium ownership of the Building and Land (hereinafter referred to as the "Land") upon which the Building is situate (which Land is more particularly described below), which declaration was recorded in the Kings County Office of the Register of the City of New York on 11/8/2007 in CRFN#2007000561295 *which declaration and any amendments thereto are hereinafter referred to the "Declaration"). This Unit is also designated as Tax Lot 2304 in Block 5592 of Section 17 of the Borough of Brooklyn on the Tax Map of the Real Property Assessment Department of the City of New York and on the Floor Plans of the Building, certified by the architect, and filed with the Real Property Assessment Department of the City of New York, as Condominium Plan No. 1962 and also filed in the Register's Office as Map No. 2007000561295 (CRFN#). Together with an undivided 36.40% interest in the Common Elements as defined in the Declaration. As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale. Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale. Approximate amount of judgment \$567,265.47 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 505198/2014 Sol Needle, Esq., Referee
AJ 5/12/19/26; 6/2

File No. 2017-284 PROBATE CITATION SURROGATE'S COURT - NEW YORK COUNTY CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, By the Grace of God Free and Independent To the heirs at law, next of kin and distributees of ISRAEL Kalmowitz, deceased, if living, and if any of them be dead to their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, legatees, executors, administrators, assignees and successors in interest whose names are unknown and cannot be ascertained after Diligence. Public Administrator of the County of New York. Attorney General of the State of New York A petition having been duly filed by Helen Feinstein and Gary Kiman, who are domiciled at 5 CARMINE STREET APT 2 New York, New York 10014 and 17787 Scarsdale Way Boca Raton FL 33496 YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Street, New York, on June 27, 2017 Room 509 at 9:30 o'clock in the fore noon why a decree should not be made in the estate of ISRAEL Kalmowitz lately domiciled at 455 FDR DRIVE #803B, New York, New York admitting to probate a Will dated MAY 12, 1997, a copy of which is attached, as the Will of ISRAEL Kalmowitz deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that Letters Testamentary issue to: Helen Feinstein and Gary Kiman. Dated, Attested and Sealed May 3, 2017 HON. Rita Mella Surro-

LEGAL NOTICE

gate, Diana Sanabria Chief Clerk Ari Goodman 225 Broadway. Suite 2605. New York. New York 10007 212-964-9755 [NOTE: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. If you fail to appear it will be assumed you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you.]
AJ 5/12/19/26; 6/2

Notice of Formation of SB Capital Holdings LLC. Arts of Org. filed with New York Secy of State (SSNY) on 4/6/17. Office location: Kings Co. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 225 Broadway, Fl. 32, NY, NY 10007. Purpose: any lawful activity.
AJ 5/12/19/26; 6/2/9/16

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 15th Day of June, 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: April 25, 2017
AJ 5/12/19/26; 6/2/

Notice of formation of limited liability company LLC name:AERO CREATIVE LLC . Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/25/2017 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: corporate filings of New York 90 State Street STE 700, Office 40 Albany, NY 12207 . Purpose all lawful activity
AJ 5/12/19/26; 6/2/

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings Nationstar Mortgage LLC, Plaintiff AGAINST Juan J. Torres, Naiomi Rodriguez a/k/a Naiomi R. Torres, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 3/15/2017 and entered on 4/10/2017, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on June 15, 2017 at 02:30 PM premises known as 219 Milford Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208. 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: 4227, LOT: 11. Approximate amount of judgment is \$810,848.20 plus inter-

LEGAL NOTICE

ests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 504427/2014. Doron A. Leiby, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706
AJ 5/12/19/26; 6/2

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: R&G NY Realty LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 03/29/2017. 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:Gavriel Badalov 620 Beverly Rd., Brooklyn, NY 11218 purpose: any lawful activity
AJ 5/19/26; 6/2/9/16/23

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION; Plaintiff(s) vs. DOLORES E. CLARKE; MILTON B. CLARKE; et al; Defendant(s) Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 2 Summit Court, Suite 301, Fishkill, New York, 12524, 845.897.1600 Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about February 9, 2017, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder in Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. On June 22, 2017 at 2:30 pm. Premises known as 941 ASHFORD STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11207 Block: 4403 Lot: 54 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. As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale. Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale. Approximate amount of judgment \$419,490.04 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 506248/2015 Gregory T. Cerchione, Esq., Referee
AJ 5/19/26; 6/2/9/

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for the Holders of MASTR Adjustable Rate Mortgages Trust 2007-3, Plaintiff AGAINST Earline Burnett, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 10/26/2016 and entered on 11/22/2016, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on June 22, 2017 at 02:30 PM premises known as 99 4th Avenue Unit 2L, Brooklyn, NY 11217. 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: 937, LOT: 1003. Approximate amount of judgment is \$507,599.91 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 506959/2014. Bernard Mitchell Alter, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706
AJ 5/19/26; 6/2/9/

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: Midweek productions LLC . Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 03/06/2017. 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 process to: Corporate filings of New

LEGAL NOTICE

York 90 State St. Ste 700 , Office 40 Albany, NY 12207 purpose: all lawful activity
AJ 5/19/26; 6/2/9/16/23

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO BANK OF AMERICA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF BEAR STEARNS ASSET BACKED SECURITIES I LLC, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-HE2, Plaintiff AGAINST Davrin Faison and Stephanie Faison FKA Stephanie Bennett, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated January 12, 2017 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 June 22, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 937 EAST 103RD STREET, 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 8211, LOT 25. Approximate amount of judgment \$919,651.37 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 9736/13. Nancy Mottola Schacher, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 46152
AJ 5/19/26; 6/2/9/

PROBATE CITATION File No. 2017-850 SURROGATE'S COURT - QUEENS COUNTY CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, By the Grace of God Free and Independent the heirs at law, next of kin, and distributees of Anita Rozsa, deceased, if living, and if any of them be dead to their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, legatees, executors, administrators, assignees and successors in interest whose names are unknown and cannot be ascertained after due diligence. ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK and the PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR OF QUEENS COUNTY A petition having been duly filed by SUSAN FRIEDMAN who is domiciled at 31 Valley Greens Drive North Woodmere, NY 11581 YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, QUEENS County, at 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica, New York, on JUNE 29 2017, at 9:30 o'clock in the fore noon of that day why a decree should not be made in the estate of ANITA ROZSA lately domiciled at 99-63 66th Avenue Rego Park, NY admitting to probate a Will dated June 20, 1994 a copy of which is attached, as the Will of ANITA ROZSA deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that Letters Testamentary issue to SUSAN FRIEDMAN Dated, Attested and Sealed MAY 4 2017 Hon: PETER J. Kelly Surrogate Lee J Coulman Acting Chief Clerk. LINDA F. KATZ, ESQ., 108-18 Queens Boulevard Forest Hills, NY 11375-4748 718-261-4800 [NOTE: This citation is served upon you are required by law. You are not required to appear. If you fail to appear it will be assumed you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you.]
AJ 5/19/26; 6/2/9/

Tradition.

The Pursuit of Peace



JONATHAN SACKS
LONDON

The parsha of Naso seems, on the face of it, to be a heterogeneous collection of utterly unrelated items. First there is the account of the Levitical families of Gershon and Merari and their tasks in carrying parts of the Tabernacle when the Israelites journeyed. Then, after two brief laws about removing unclean people from the camp and about restitution, there comes the strange ordeal of the Sotah, the woman suspected by her husband of adultery.

Next comes the law of the Nazirite, the person who voluntarily and usually for a fixed period took on himself special holiness restrictions, among them the renunciation of wine and grape products, of haircuts, and of defilement by contact with a dead body.

This is followed, again seemingly with no connection, by one of the oldest prayers in the world still in continuous use: the priestly blessings. Then, with inexplicable repetitiousness, comes the account of the gifts brought by the princes of each tribe at the dedication of the Tabernacle, a series of



long paragraphs repeated no less than twelve times, since each prince brought an identical offering.

Why does the Torah spend so much time describing an event that could have been stated far more briefly by naming the princes and then simply telling us generically that each brought a silver dish, a silver basin and so on? The question that overshadows all others, though, is: what is the logic of this apparently disconnected series?

The answer lies in the last word of the priestly blessing: shalom, peace. In a long analysis the 15th century Spanish Jewish commentator Rabbi Isaac Arama explains that shalom does not mean merely the absence of war or strife. It means completeness, perfection, the harmonious working of a complex system, integrated diversity, a state in which everything is in its proper place and all is at one with the physical and ethical laws governing the universe.

"Peace is the thread of grace issuing from Him, may He be exalted, stringing together all beings,

supernal, intermediate, and lower. It underlies and sustains the reality and unique existence of each" (Akedat Yitzhak, ch. 74). Similarly, Isaac Abrabanel writes, "That is why God is called peace, because it is He who binds the world together and orders all things according to their particular character and posture. For when things are in their proper order, peace will reign" (Abrabanel, Commentary to Avot 2:12).

This is a concept of peace heavily dependent on the vision of Genesis 1, in which God brings order out of *tohu va-vohu*, chaos, creating a world in which each object and life form has its place. Peace exists where each element in the system is valued as a vital part of the system as a whole and where there is no discord between them. The various provisions of parshat Naso are all about bringing peace in this sense.

The most obvious case is that of the Sotah, the woman suspected by her husband of adultery. What struck the sages most forcibly about the ritual of the Sotah is the fact that it involved obliterating the name of God, something strictly forbidden under other circumstances. The officiating priest recited a curse including God's name, wrote it on a parchment scroll, and then dissolved the writing into specially prepared water. The sages inferred from this that God was willing to renounce His own honour, allowing His name to be effaced "in order to make peace between husband and wife" by clearing an innocent woman from suspicion. Though the ordeal was eventually abolished by Rabbi Johanan ben Zakkai after the destruction of the

Second Temple, the law served as a reminder as to how important domestic peace is in the Jewish scale of values.

The passage relating to the Levitical families of Gershon and Merari signals that they were given a role of honour in transporting items of the Tabernacle during the people's journeys through the wilderness. Evidently they were satisfied with this honour, unlike the family of Kehat, detailed at the end of last week's parsha, one of whose number, Korach, eventually instigated a rebellion against Moses and Aaron.

Likewise, the long account of the offerings of the princes of the twelve tribes is a dramatic way of indicating that each was considered important enough to merit its own passage in the Torah. People will do destructive things if they feel slighted, and not given their due role and recognition. Again the case of Korach and his allies is the proof of this. By giving the Levitical families and the princes of the tribes their share of honour and attention, the

Torah is telling us how important it is to preserve the harmony of the nation by honouring all.

The case of the Nazirite is in some ways the most interesting. There is an internal conflict within Judaism between, on the one hand, a strong emphasis on the equal dignity of everyone in the eyes of God, and the existence of a religious elite in the form of the tribe of Levi in general and the Cohanim, the priests, in particular. It seems that the law of the Nazirite was a way of opening up the possibility to non-Cohanim of a special sanctity close to, though not precisely identical with, that of the Cohanim themselves. This too is a way of avoiding the damaging resentments that can occur when people find themselves excluded by birth from certain forms of status within the community.

If this analysis is correct, then a single theme binds the laws and narrative of this parsha: the theme of making special efforts to preserve or restore peace between people. Peace is easily damaged and hard to repair. Much of the rest of the book of Bamidbar is a set of variations on the theme of internal dissension and strife. So has Jewish history been as a whole.

Naso tells us that we have to go the extra mile in bringing peace between husband and wife, between leaders of the community, and among laypeople who aspire to a more-than-usual state of sanctity.

It is no accident therefore that the priestly blessings end – as do the vast majority of Jewish prayers – with a prayer for peace. Peace, said the rabbis, is one of the names of God himself, and Maimonides writes that the whole Torah was given to make peace in the world (Laws of Hanukah 4:14). Naso is a series of practical lessons in how to ensure, as far as possible, that everyone feels recognised and respected, and that suspicion is defused and dissolved.

We have to work for peace as well as The Pursuit of Peace pray for it.

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT – COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. BANK TRUST, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR LSF8 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST, Plaintiff against PERCIVAL BLACKWOOD A/K/A PERCIVAL A. BLACKWOOD; SHIRLEY BLACKWOOD A/K/A SHIRLEY C. BLACKWOOD A/K/A SHIRLEY C. RUSSELL; JEFFREY BLACKWOOD A/K/A JEFFREY N. BLACKWOOD; OSCAR P. BLACKWOOD, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on April 10, 2017. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY. on the 29th day of June, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. premises described as follows: 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. Said premises known as 2049 Strauss Street, Brooklyn, NY. 11212. (Block: 3555, Lot: 10) Approximate amount of lien \$ 850,679.31 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to

Legal Notice.

LEGAL NOTICE

provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 504504/2014. Steven Z. Naiman, Esq., Referee. Fein, Such & Crane, LLP Attorneys for Plaintiff 28 East Main Street, Suite 1800 Rochester, N.Y. 14614 (585) 232-7400 AJ 5/26; 6/2/9/16

SUPREME COURT – COUNTY OF KINGS PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff against LORRENWHITFIELD A/K/ALORREN V. WHITFIELD, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on April 6, 2017. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. on the 29th day of June, 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 "SUMPTER COURT CONDOMINIUM." Together with an undivided 9.25% interest in the Common Elements. Said premises known as 246-250 Sumpter Street, # 3C A/K/A 250 Sumpter Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11233. (Block: 1526, Lot: 1011). Approximate amount of lien \$ 236,221.99 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 502623-14. Steven Z. Naiman, Esq., Referee. McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, P.C. Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 145 Huguenot Street – Suite 210 New Rochelle, New York 10801 (914) 636-8900 AJ 5/26; 6/2/9/16

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY. CITIBANK N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR CMLT ASSET TRUST, Plt. vs. ALEXANDER KOGAN, et al, Defts. Index #507379. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and entered May 11, 2017, I will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams St. Brooklyn, NY on Jun 29, 2017 at 2:30 p.m., prem. k/a 135 Oceana Drive, Unit 2F, Brooklyn, NY a/k/a The Residential Unit (the "Residential Unit") in the Condominium Oceana Condominium No. 9 (the "Condominium") (comprised of the building known by the St. No. 125 and 135 Oceana Drive East, Brooklyn, New York 11235) which Residential Unit #2F is situated on the building known as and by the St. No. 135 Oceana Drive East, Brooklyn, NY 11235 (the "Building") said Residential Unit being designated and described as Residential Unit No. 2F in that certain declaration dated Mar. 9, 2005 made by the Grantor under the Article 9-B of the Real Property Law of the State of New York (the Condominium Act) establishing a plan for condominium ownership of the Building and the land (the Land) upon which the Building is situated (which Land is more particularly described on Schedule A annexed hereto and by this reference made a part hereof) which declaration was recorded, collectively, as the Declaration); the Residential Unit is also designated as Tax Lot 27256 in Block 8720 Section 6 on the Tax Map of the Real Property Assessment Department of the City of New York for the Borough of Brooklyn and the Floor Plans of the building (the "Floor Plans") certified by Schuman, Lichtenstein, Clamon and Efron, Architect and filed in the City Register's Office, County of Kings on April 11, 2005 in CRFN No. 2005000206354. Together with an undivided 0.91% interest in the Common Elements (as such terms is defined in the Declaration) appurtenant to the Residential Unit Approx. amt. of judgment is \$2,201,391.27 plus costs and interest.

LEGAL NOTICE

Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale LEO SALZMAN, Referee. COHN & ROTH, Attys. for Pltf., 100 East Old Country Rd., Ste. 28, Mineola, NY. #91881 AJ 5/26; 6/2/9/16

861 Group LLC. Art. Of Org. Filed with the SSNY on 04/20/16. Office : Kings county SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of process to the LLC, 14 Bond St. #404 Great neck New York 11021. Purpose: Any lawful purpose AJ 5/26; 6/2/9/16/23/30

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS HSBC Bank USA, National Association as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Series 2006-AR14, Plaintiff AGAINST Janice Smith a/k/a Janice T. Smith a/k/a Janis T. Smith; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated September 29, 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 July 6, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 2 Paerdegat 3rd Street, 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 NY, Block 8031 Lot 6. Approximate amount of judgment \$640,204.53 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 503256/2015. Philip L. Kamaras, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: May 10, 2017 46078 AJ; 6/2/9/16/23

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC). Name: Arnauddelatorre LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York on: 05/18/2015 . 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: Arnauddelatorre LLC PO Box 10873, Albany, NY 12201 purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 6/2/9/16/23/30; 7/7

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, Plaintiff AGAINST Winston Rose; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated April 26, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on July 6, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 664 New Jersey Avenue, 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 & City of Brooklyn, County of Kings, State of New York, Block: 3840 Lot: 37. Approximate amount of judgment \$545,094.48 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 6131/2013. Stuart Adler, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: May 25, 2017 46353 AJ; 6/2/9/16/23

Social.



Matisyahu in the "Sway in the Morning" radio show studio. Photo: Screenshot / YouTube.

Jewish Reggae Singer Matisyahu on Israelis: They're the 'Sweetest People,' But Don't Mess With Them

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

Jewish reggae and hip-hop star Matisyahu shared his impression of Israelis in a radio interview on Tuesday, describing them as kind people who are not pushovers.

"We're not interested in being tossed into the sea," he said on the "Sway in the Morning" show when asked about the Israeli-Arab conflict. "Israel has got nuclear weapons, the best air force in the world, the best intelligence. Israel does not f*** around. But they are people that want peace. They are the sweetest people in the world. But when the line is crossed..."

The Grammy-nominated artist — who shed his

Hasidic appearance in 2011 — further elaborated on the Middle East quagmire, saying, "The whole situation is just messed up. It's twisted. It's convoluted." Regarding the possibility of achieving peace in the region, he stated, "If it was possible I feel like it would've been done by now. Because a lot of people really do want peace."

Matisyahu also expressed his view that America's involvement in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process has hindered the chances for an agreement. "I think if it wasn't for the US, Israel would've done a lot of things probably," he said. "I think America has held Israel back."

The artist released his sixth album, titled "Undercurrent," last week.

'Wonder Woman' Gal Gadot Dances to 'Hava Nagila' With Late Night Talk Show Host Conan O'Brien

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

Israeli actress Gal Gadot danced to "Hava Nagila" with Conan O'Brien during an appearance on his late-night talk show on Thursday.

For a segment of "Conan," the "Wonder Woman" star and O'Brien had recreated a training session similar to those the actress used to prepare for her role as the Amazonian princess in the superhero movie that will hit screens in the US next week.

Gadot's trainer joined them on camera and attempted to teach O'Brien how to kick. The exercise soon turned into a "Hava Nagila" song-and-dance



Gal Gadot doing the "Hava Nagila" dance with Conan O'Brien and her trainer. Photo: Screenshot.

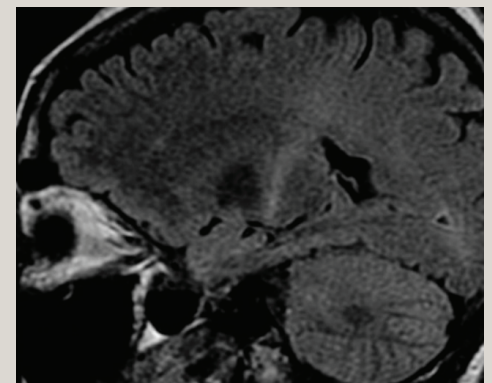
Israeli Researchers Develop New ALS Treatment

BY JNS.ORG

Researchers at Israel's Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU) announced the development of a new treatment for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

The lethal neurodegenerative disorder causes deterioration in the brain and spinal cord's motor nerve cells, leading to atrophy, paralysis and eventually death caused by a complete breakdown of the respiratory muscles.

BGU researcher Dr. Rachel Lichtenstein has developed a new method for slowing the advancement of ALS by successfully



An MRI that is consistent with a diagnosis of ALS. Photo: Frank Gaillard via Wikimedia Commons.

redesigning a segment of FDA-approved drug MabThera — used to treat autoimmune diseases and certain types of cancer — into a new molecule for treating ALS

"Our experimental results on ALS transgenic mice showed a significant increase in life expectancy," said Lichtenstein. "Since the drug is already approved, we believe that we will only need limited preclinical testing to reach the clinical phase earlier than other initiatives."

Dr. Ora Horovitz, senior vice president of business development at BGN Technologies, BGU's technology transfer and commercialization company said, "This could also have major implications on the life expectancy of other neurodegenerative disease patients with Alzheimer's and Parkinson's." The new drug candidate, she said, could improve "the lives of millions of people."

BGU researchers are seeking a pharmaceutical company to partner with the university on the initiative.

routine that Gadot and the trainer joined.

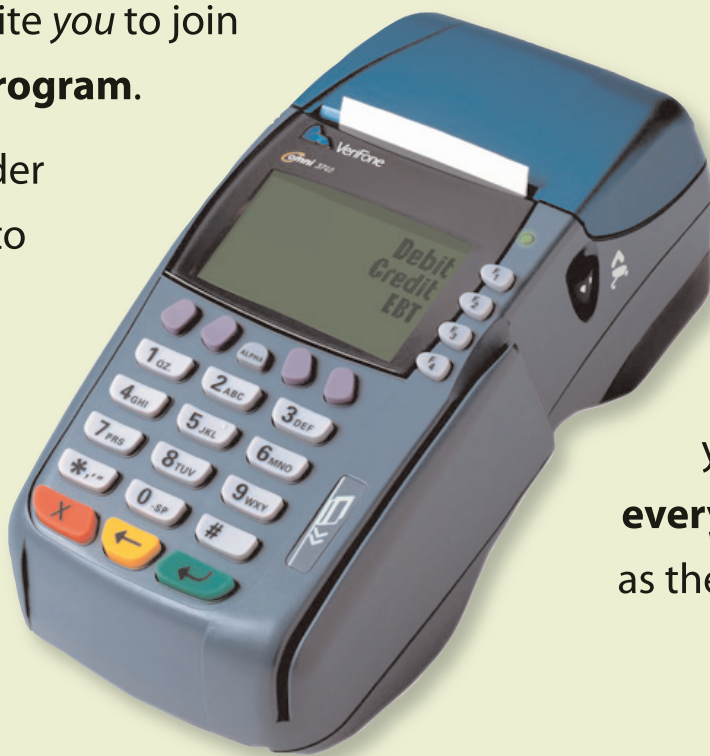
Gadot is in the midst of a press tour for the "Wonder Woman" film, which opens in theaters on June 2. Earlier this week, rival late-night host Jimmy Fallon imitated Gadot's Israeli accent during her appearance on his own show

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:

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