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Trump Peace Plan Envisions Palestinian State With East Jerusalem Capital



US President Donald Trump points past Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Washington, DC, Jan. 28, 2020. Photo: Reuters / Brendan McDermid.

BY REUTERS & ALGEMEINER STAFF

US President Donald Trump on Tuesday proposed the creation of a Palestinian state with a capital in eastern Jerusalem, in an effort to achieve a Middle East peace breakthrough.

Under Trump's proposed Middle East peace plan announced at a White House ceremony

attended by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the United States will recognize Israeli settlements in the West Bank.

In exchange, Israel will agree to accept a four-year freeze on new settlement activity while Palestinian statehood is being negotiated.

"Today, Israel has taken a giant step toward peace," Trump said, adding that he had sent a letter about the proposal to

Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas.

"This is a historic day," Netanyahu said, comparing Trump's peace plan to former President Harry Truman's 1948 recognition of the State of Israel.

"On this day, you became the first world leader to recognize Israel's sovereignty over areas in Judea and Samaria that are vital to our security and central to our

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Abbas Calls Trump a 'Son of a Dog,' Calls for 'Resistance'

BY JNS.org

Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas railed against US President Donald Trump in a closed-door meeting with the Fatah leadership on Monday, as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Blue and White leader Benny Gantz met with Trump in Washington, DC, to discuss the US administration's Middle East peace plan.

"Trump is a dog and a son of a bitch," Palestinian sources quoted Abbas as saying. The PA leader said he



Palestinians burn posters depicting US President Donald Trump during a protest against the US Middle East peace plan. Bethlehem, Jan. 27, 2020. Photo: Wisam Hashlamoun/Flash90.

had refused to answer a phone call from Washington, and predicted that "difficult days" were ahead as a result.

"They called me from Washington and I did not pick up the phone. I said no and I will continue to say no," said Abbas. "We are headed for difficult days and we are beginning to bear the consequences of the objection. Resistance must be escalated at all points of friction. All young people must be encouraged," he said.

Abbas said that while he had been advised not to refuse to

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Open Letter to the Polish People

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ShabbatCalendar

Parshat BO פרשת בא

Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting Shabbat Begins: 4:54pm | Shabbat Ends: 5:56pm



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Opinion.

Will Trump's Peace Plan Matter?

MITCHELL BARD
NEW YORK

Most every US administration has come up with a peace plan, and they all have one thing in common — failure. The Trump plan will suffer the same fate. Still, it may be valuable by setting new baselines for negotiations that are in Israel's favor.

Why will the plan fail?

Besides the historical precedents, we know that the Palestinians have had nothing to do with the US administration and will reject the plan out of hand. We also know from history that no plan will satisfy the current Palestinian leadership and that Hamas is committed to Israel's destruction.

Many people insist Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is equally to blame for the current stalemate. First, this ignores the Palestinians' history of rejectionism, which long predated Netanyahu, and second, people forget that the last Israeli leader to negotiate any withdrawal from the West Bank was Netanyahu during his first term.

The original foundation of peace negotiations was UN Security Council Resolution 242, which established the principle that Israel must concede territory it captured in the 1967 war. What many people leave out when they cite 242 is that it

says nothing about the Palestinians, does not require a withdrawal from all the territory, does not mention Jerusalem, and makes any Israeli action contingent on peace. This "land for peace formula" was the basis for negotiations up until 2008.

Israel has already withdrawn from approximately 94 percent of the territory it captured (another fact ignored by Israel's detractors), and the argument can be made it has fulfilled its obligations, whereas the Arab states — except for Egypt and Jordan — have not.

Netanyahu's agreement to withdraw came during the Oslo process, during which Israel withdrew from more than 40 percent of the West Bank and handed over control of Gaza and Jericho to the Palestinians. Israel was prepared to withdraw from additional territory, but not to accept a Palestinian state (see Rabin's last speech) or divide Jerusalem. Oslo ultimately failed because the Palestinians continued to employ terrorism as their preferred means of trying to force Israeli concessions.

The baseline shifted when Prime Minister Ehud Barak agreed to the Clinton parameters and accepted the ideas of dividing Jerusalem, conceding most of the West Bank, and establishing a Palestinian state. Prime Minister Ehud Olmert picked up on this plan, with minor variations, but in both instances, the Palestinians again rejected the offers.

In between, Ariel Sharon was elected in part because of the dissatisfaction with Barak's plan. Once Israelis saw that Yasser Arafat

would not accept a deal that offered nearly everything he said he wanted (ignoring what he told his constituents in Arabic, namely that this was the first stage toward the liberation of Palestine and that Palestinians should engage in a jihad), they moved rightward.

Sharon could also point to the letter he received from President George W. Bush, which explicitly said what Resolution 242 implied, namely that any peace agreement would necessitate modifications from the 1949 armistice line to accommodate Israel's security needs and to reflect the growth of the Jewish population in Judea and Samaria. Bush's Road Map to peace proved another failure, again largely because the Palestinians never fulfilled their obligation to end terrorism.

More of the Israeli population shifted rightward following the Gaza disengagement and the Palestinians' violent response. The shattering of the "land for peace" myth was reinforced by Olmert's failure to convince Mahmoud Abbas to accept his plan in 2008.

Barack Obama dramatically shifted the baseline of negotiations when he pressured Israel to accept a settlement freeze, something the Palestinians had never demanded, and — like others — endorsed the creation of a Palestinian state. The Palestinians still refused to negotiate. Meanwhile, the ongoing attacks from Gaza left fewer and fewer Israelis with a desire to give up more land or support the creation of a Palestinian state. Hence, the near disappearance of the "peace camp" and the left-leaning political parties.



White House senior adviser Jared Kushner arrives for the US-hosted 'Peace to Prosperity' conference, June 25, 2019. Photo: Reuters / Matt Spetalnick.

Many apologists refuse to acknowledge that Obama killed the peace process. The Palestinians thought Obama would force Israel to capitulate to their demands. He would not and probably could not have done so. Regardless, Abbas refused to negotiate for both his terms and now has avoided face-to-face negotiations with Israel's prime minister for nearly 12 years.

Trump is re-calibrating expectations again. By recognizing Jerusalem, he has taken one of the most difficult final status issues off the table. By erasing the specious argument that settlements are illegal and refusing to condemn their expansion, he has created the expectation in Israel that there will be no forced removal of tens of thousands of Jews from Judea and Samaria.

This is the relevance of the ultimate

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Never Again? What About Palestinian Antisemitism?

ADAM LEVICK
JERUSALEM

We've often argued that the British media's anti-Israel bias is just as evident in the stories they ignore as in the skewed nature of the stories they do cover.

The nearly complete failure of journalists assigned to the region to report on the endemic antisemitism within Palestinian society, and the deleterious impact such anti-Jewish racism has on efforts at peace and coexistence, represents one of the more egregious problems with their reporting.

This failure is even more problematic when you consider that instances of Israeli racism, whether real or, often, imagined, are frequently the focus of media reports, as is the narrative that Israeli society is becoming increasingly racist.

Though we're accustomed to this institutional media blind spot and to such double standards, there are instances of anti-Jewish racism so extreme that we've held out hope that it would possibly pique the interest of Jerusalem correspondents.

A case in point is a recent op-ed published in *Al-Hayat Al-Jadida*, a Palestinian newspaper controlled by the Palestinian Authority (PA) whose editor was appointed by PA leader Mahmoud Abbas, literally calling for someone to shoot and kill a Jew during the

Jerusalem events commemorating the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

That's not all.

Itamar Marcus, director of Palestinian Media Watch, reported recently that Abbas' Fatah movement just produced a propaganda video about Jewish history in Europe (which it publicized on Fatah's official Facebook page) claiming that Jews "led the project to enslave humanity" and Jewish behavior led to European antisemitism.

Furthermore, important religious figures have given sermons on official, PA-owned TV channels going even further, with one cleric warning that Jews pass on evil in their genes and that the Jewish threat to humanity can be stopped only by exterminating all Jews.

Yet none of the British media outlets we monitor have reported on any of these odious examples of hatred and incitement.

What accounts for the failure of journalists to report on such extreme racism, including explicit calls for genocide?

It's hard to boil it down to a single cause, but we've often written about the infantiliza-

tion of Palestinians, and the failure to impute agency to them — a liberal racism that's just as pernicious as the right-wing variety.

We also believe a major factor is the influence of intersectional theories based on an intellectually incoherent yet often blindly accepted moral calculus that creates a hierarchy of victimhood, whereby "white" Jews are near the bottom and Palestinians "of color" are often near the top. It suggests that such victim statuses are immutable, that such power relations explain contemporary racism, and that thus the only racism that truly matters is that perpetrated by the "strong" against the "weak."

Paul Pagano has written about a related dynamic, which not only applies to the media's failure to take Palestinian racism against Jews seriously, but also is relevant in understanding why so many in Jeremy Corbyn's Labour Party continue to be blind to antisemitism:

[T]he left is blind to antisemitism [because] antisemitism differs from most forms of racism in that it purports to "punch up" against a secret society of oppressors, which has the side effect of making it easy to disguise as a politics of emancipation. If Jews have power, then punching up at Jews is a form of speaking truth to power — a form of speech of which the left is currently enamored.

In other words, it is because antisemitism pretends to strike at power that the left cannot see it, and is doomed to erase — and even reproduce — its tropes.

Regardless of the factors motivating

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Photo: Screenshot

World News.

Polish Foreign Minister: 'Israel is Very Important to Us as a Jewish State'

BY JNS.ORG

The Polish Foreign Ministry had a chance to breathe easy following the conclusion last week of the Fifth World Holocaust Forum in Jerusalem, as Warsaw's fear that Russian President Vladimir Putin would use the event to "distort World War II history and attack Poland" did not come to pass.

The event, attended by dozens of world leaders, royals and statesmen, was overshadowed by a bitter dispute between Poland—where Nazi German occupiers operated Auschwitz and other infamous camps—and Russia, the successor state to the Soviet Union, whose Red Army liberated Auschwitz on Jan. 27, 1945, over the historical memory in the West with regard to their respective roles in World War II.

Russian officials have been claiming that Poland, invaded in 1939 by German and Soviet forces, actually bears the blame for starting the war. Western historians see those allegations as a cynical ploy to minimize Soviet responsibility. The Polish government has been infuriated by Russia's moves, which are believed to stem from Moscow's desire to weaken Polish influence in the European Union.

Poland's government has defended the nation's record, recalling how its wartime government-in-exile sought to save Jews, and listing cultural and economic damage that Poland suffered after Soviet troops took control of its territory at the end of World War II.

Polish President Andrzej Duda, who did not attend the event in Jerusalem as he was not invited to speak alongside Putin and the presidents of Germany, France and Israel, is set to host Israeli President Reuven Rivlin and German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier as part of the official events marking the 75th anniversary of the 1945 liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp.

Among the participants in the event will be Polish Foreign Minister Jacek Czaputowicz, who in an exclusive interview with Israel Hayom, adopts President Rivlin's proposal to "leave history to the historians."

Q: How come that 75 years after the liberation of Auschwitz, different entities are fighting over historical facts?

A: We are rather consistent with our interpretation and contribution to the knowledge of those events. Our archives are open, our institutes make the information available, the memorials at the camps, which are on Polish soil—Auschwitz, Majdanek, Belzec, Sobibor, Stutthof—are preserved. It is our duty. More than 3.5 million people visit each year these former camps. More than 2 million come to Auschwitz. Poland belongs to [the group of] countries which best preserve material and facts. We treat history with full respect, and I think that other countries follow us.

Q: At the World Holocaust Forum, Israeli President Reuven Rivlin suggested, "Let's leave history to the historians." Is it possible?

A: It's a good idea to let historians investigate properly the facts concerning World War II, the Holocaust and recent history. Our knowledge should be based on facts and research made by historians. At the same time, we have to remember our recent history in order to be conscientious of the dangers [before] us and not to make any mistakes or wrong decisions in the future.



Poland's Foreign Minister Jacek Czaputowicz speaks during a Reuters interview at his office in Warsaw, Poland May 26, 2018. Photo: REUTERS/Kacper Pempel.

Q: Do you think it's possible to reach a common narrative about what happened during World War II or will we keep on having different national narratives?

A: I think that discussions are very welcomed if they are based on facts. We cannot just agree on something and seal it. We are open to discussions based on facts because we know what is the truth, how it happened, who made it, how many Polish Jews and non-Jews suffered. As far as Poland is concerned, we lost 6 million lives, 3 million of them were Polish Jews. It's part of our history, our heritage, and we preserve it. Therefore we built monuments, museums, we renovate cemeteries. We do a lot in preserving. It's important for us because Polish Jews created part of our history. You cannot discuss long periods of Polish history without the Jewish contribution to that history. We lost that because of World War II and the Holocaust imposed by the Nazi Germans.

Q: What is for you the importance of the commemoration event in Auschwitz and what are the lessons to be drawn from this experience for the present and the future?

A: We commemorate the liberation of Auschwitz every year, but since it's a "round" anniversary the event will be an important one. For us, the most important is to give a voice and to listen to survivors. It's the last [few] years that they are still with us. It should be a de-politicized event—with the presence of presidents Duda, Rivlin and Steinmeier—paying respect and making sure that we will remember that horrible experience forever. The danger is to use that history as a tool for political gains in current politics. We see that trend. For example, the recent attacks of President Putin. We should avoid using history as a weapon in contemporary fights.

Q: Why would Putin use history as a weapon against Poland?

A: I don't think it's against Poland but against the truth, against the ones who perished during World War II. Poland was occupied by Germany and Russia. It is an obvious historical fact. Everybody knows how World War II started. A part of Poland was occupied almost two years by Russia, our citizens were forcibly expelled to Siberia and other parts of Russia, thousands of Poles were executed in Katyn—among them about 500 were Jews. The Soviets saw them all as Poles. They didn't make any difference between those of Jewish origin or not. On the German side, some Jewish officers survived, because they were interned in camps for officers.

Why Putin is doing that? He wants to create disagreement between Western allies. He uses

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Polish Resistance Hero Jan Karski : Holocaust Was Humanity's 'Second Original Sin'



Polish resistance hero Jan Karski speaking to a 1981 conference on the Holocaust at the US State Department. Photo: Screenshot.

BY ALGEMEINER STAFF

Footage of one of the most celebrated Polish resistance fighters describing the Holocaust as humanity's "second original sin" was widely shared this week, as the world marked the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp.

"My faith makes me say that humanity has committed a second original sin by allowing the Holocaust," said the late Jan Karski — a devout Catholic who publicized the facts of the Nazi extermination of the Jews at great personal risk — in an address to Holocaust scholars at the US State Department in 1981.

"This sin will haunt humanity until the end of the world. It haunts me. I want it to stay that way," Karski said.

The video was being promoted by the Jan Karski Society — an NGO based in the Polish city of Kielce that promotes ethnic and religious tolerance in tribute to Karski's

legendary career.

"The Jan Karski Society believes that these words should be heard even louder today," the group said in a statement on Monday.

Born Jan Kozielski in 1914 in Lodz, Karski fought in the Polish army in 1939 when he was captured by the German invading forces. While being deported to a POW camp, Karski escaped, and went on to serve the Polish underground resistance.

In 1942, Karski was smuggled into the Warsaw Ghetto on two different occasions, providing essential eyewitness accounts of the suffering of its Jewish population. The following year, Karski met with President Franklin D. Roosevelt in Washington, DC, famously recounting afterward that the American leader had asked about the condition of horses in Poland, but not the country's Jews.

Karski moved to America after the war, becoming a professor at Georgetown University. He passed away in 2000.

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Resistance

take the call, he refused to "go down as a traitor."

"I was told I'll pay a heavy price for my foolish behavior," said Abbas, but "I do not have much longer to live and I will not go down as a traitor. It's either dying like martyrs or flying the Palestinian flag on the walls of Jerusalem."

The PA leader also said he would also turn to Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad for help in defeating the US plan, the sources said.

Fatah released a statement on Monday calling the United States the "main partner in the

occupation" and Trump's actions "repugnant."

"We do not have to wait for any theatrical declaration of the US government's position—the main partner in the occupation," said the statement. "Trump's actions are repugnant and we will resist them with every legitimate measure."

Also on Monday, Abbas instructed PA security forces not to prevent clashes between Arab rioters and Israeli troops in Judea, just two days before a "Day of Rage" which has been planned for Wednesday in response to the expected release on Tuesday of the US plan.

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Never Again

such omissions and obfuscations, journalists who ignore genocidal antisemitism are doing a profound disservice to their readers in denying them information regarding a key cause of the continuing failure of both parties to arrive at a peaceful solution.

But it also represents another, far more troubling failure.

The lofty rhetoric of world leaders, diplomats, and intellectuals evoking the oft-repeated idea of "never again" — the moral

imperative to never again allow Jew-hatred to go unchallenged, because we now know where this leads — at the Holocaust commemoration events last week in Jerusalem ring hollow if the principle of anti-antisemitism is not applied universally.

Jerusalem-based journalists who fail to adhere to this intuitive principle in their own reporting are guilty of a shameful moral abdication.

Adam Levick has served as managing editor of UK Media Watch, a CAMERA affiliate, since 2010.

World News.



One of the most famous pictures of Jews being rounded up by Nazi Germans during the Holocaust, this from the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising in May 1943. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

US House Passes Never Again Education Act on International Holocaust Remembrance Day

BY JACKSON RICHMAN/
JNS.org

On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, which commemorates the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the US House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed on Monday the Never Again Education Act, a bill that seeks to expand Holocaust education in the United States.

The final tally was 393-5, with four Republicans and one Independent, Michigan Rep. Justin Amash, voting against the bill.

If enacted, it would expand the US Holocaust Memorial Museum's education programming to teachers nationwide, requiring the museum to develop and disseminate resources to improve awareness and understanding of the Holocaust and its lessons.

The bill heads to the US Senate, whose version slightly differs from the one in the House.

"We have learned over time that it's not enough to simply condemn these attacks and disgusting actions," said Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), who co-introduced the bill with Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-NY) last year, at a press conference on Capitol Hill on Monday ahead of the House vote.

"We also need to get to the root causes of the hatred, denial, intolerance that drives these acts," she continued. "Studies have shown that education is one of the best ways to knock down the lies and the denials, and foster mutual understanding and respect."

Under the House bill, which had 299 co-sponsors—204 Democrats and 95 Republicans—\$2 million would be allocated annually for this year and each of over the next four years to the Holocaust Education Assistance Program Fund, administered by the USHMM's governing body, the US Holocaust Memorial Council. Private donations for the fund would be permitted.

"It's a start, but it's an important start," Maloney told JNS at the press conference when asked how the bill would keep up with the demand in terms of funding for Holocaust education.

The original House version designated the US Department of Education to oversee the program. The Senate version, which was introduced in July by Sens. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), Kevin Cramer (R-ND), Jacky Rosen (D-Nev.) and Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), is identical to that. It currently has 28 co-sponsors: 18 Democrats, nine Republicans and one Independent.

"We're two different bodies," said Maloney when asked by JNS about the discrepancy.

She explained that "there was some

disagreement about how the curriculum should be handled and I just felt that it would be better to move it to the Holocaust museum where it would become the prime focus of that museum to tell the story, to preserve it and to combat antisemitism."

The legislation would create an online Holocaust-education repository of resources for educators to teach both middle-school and high school students about the genocide that killed 11 million people, 6 million of whom were Jews.

Additionally, the House bill would establish a 12-member Holocaust Education Advisory Board to carry out the responsibilities under the bill.

Three of the members would be appointed by the Senate majority leader, three by the House speaker, three by the Senate minority leader and three by the House minority leader. Each member would serve a four-year term with four of the members serving an initial six-year term. Vacancies wouldn't affect the board's powers.

Currently, 18 states either encourage or require teaching about the Holocaust.

One-third of Americans believe murder of Jews 'exaggerated'

A survey released last year by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany revealed that a third of all Americans believe the scope of the murder of Jews in the Holocaust has been exaggerated.

The data showed that the large swath of Americans believe that just 2 million Jews were murdered during the Holocaust, rather than 6 million.

In addition, 45 percent of Americans could not name any of the 40 ghettos or concentration camps erected by the Nazis, with a whopping 66 percent of millennials being unable to state the significance of "Auschwitz."

While 93 percent of those polled said they believe students should learn about the Holocaust in schools, 70 percent said people are less concerned about the Holocaust than in the past, and 58 percent said a Holocaust or similar catastrophe could occur again.

"Holocaust can be referred to, for instance, a nuclear Holocaust, a natural disaster Holocaust," said House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer at the press conference. "But this is a very specific type of Holocaust. And it is hate against a people because of their ethnicity, their religion, their color of skin, some factor that should be irrelevant."

Less than half of Americans, some 45 percent, know that 6 million Jews perished in the Holocaust, while 29 percent weren't sure or had no answer, according to a Pew Research

Center study released on Wednesday.

However, 69 percent of respondents correctly said that the Holocaust was between the years 1930 and 1950, while 63 percent of respondents correctly defined the Nazi-created ghettos as "parts of town where Jews were forced to live."

Moreover, 43 percent of participants responded that Adolf Hitler became German chancellor "by Democratic political process," while 25 percent replied "by violently overthrowing German government." Another 28 percent saying they didn't know or had no answer.

According to Pew, "the data suggests that relatively few people in this group express strongly negative feelings toward Jews," and that "respondents who get more questions right also tend to express warmer feelings toward Jews."

Maloney had introduced the Never Again Education Act numerous times over the past years, first doing so 20 years ago.

"It's not easy to pass a bill in the United States Congress," she said when asked why it took so long for the bill to finally come up for a vote.

"This has been a divisive Congress in many ways. First of all, you have to find the right people to work with you. And I thank Stefanik and [Nebraska Republican Rep. Don] Bacon for coming forward and working so vigorously for it."

Maloney noted that it's "hard to move" a bill unless "there's a groundswell of support from the American people."

She said that after talking about the bill at the Jewish Community Relations Council in her district, where Hadassah CEO Janice Weinman was in attendance and approached the congressman to give her organization's support on behalf of its 300,000 members nationwide and making the bill a top priority for Hadassah.

'Legislation addresses a critical need for our country'

Along with Hadassah and the USHMM, other organizations that support the bill include the Anti-Defamation League and the American Jewish Congress.

"This legislation addresses a critical need for our country and an urgent priority for Hadassah," said Weinman in a statement. "It is imperative that we make every effort to push back against the hatred, bigotry, anti-Semitism and extremism fueling violent attacks—and the best way to do that is by passing the Never Again Education Act."

"Improving the availability and enhancing the quality of Holocaust education is within our reach. Educators deserve our full support in their efforts to instill its universal and timeless lessons in every generation," she continued. "The House has spoken clearly and on a bipartisan basis. Now is the time for the US Senate to make the same powerful state-

ment by quickly passing the Never Again Education Act."

"We are pleased that the House has taken action today, on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, to ensure that the lessons of the Holocaust will be passed from one generation to the next," ADL CEO Jonathan Greenblatt told JNS. "We look forward to this law's swift passage and to working closely with teachers and districts across the country to ensure that Holocaust education is uniform and consistent across the country."

"With antisemitism experiencing a sharp resurgence across the nation and the world, it has never been more important for our youth to be educated on how 6 million men, women and children were brutally murdered against a backdrop of collective silence," said American Jewish Congress President Jack Rosen in a statement.

"The importance of this act, especially in this 75th year after the Holocaust cannot be overstated," B'nai B'rith International CEO Daniel Mariaschin told JNS. "Making available the resources to tell the story of the Holocaust to new generations of Americans is absolutely essential to ensuring 'Never Forget.'"

Rabbi Aryeh Spero, president of Conference of Jewish Affairs, told JNS: "It is a worthwhile attempt to help reduce antisemitism and credit should be given to those who are trying to stem antisemitism."

"I do, however, hope that it speaks directly to and stays focused on what the Holocaust was about: Jew-hatred and the destruction of the Jewish people," he continued. "I hope it does not become so universalized, as we have often seen, that the specific intent of the Holocaust is lost in a general and overarching theme about hate in general or intolerance in general ... the Holocaust was designed as the mechanism to specifically erase forever the Jewish people in a Final Solution."

"We Jews need to feel that Jew-hatred is such a potent force that we must focus primarily on the real intention of Hitler and the Holocaust so that this waiting-in-the-wings evil never happens again."

Malcolm Hoenlein, executive chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, told JNS that the bill's passage was "an important bipartisan action taken on the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. Education is an important component in the battle against Jew hatred. But it must be part of a comprehensive program including raising the penalties for hate crimes."

"As with most bills, this one went through many versions. Bottom line it is clear that younger generations of Americans need to learn the lessons of the Shoah, especially in a time of increased antisemitic acts and rhetoric," the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Rabbi Abraham Cooper told JNS. "This bill will help guide teachers and curricula issues."

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Peace Plan

heritage," he added, using the biblical names for the West Bank.

Palestinian leaders had rejected Trump's long-delayed plan even before its official release, saying his administration was biased towards Israel.

The absence of the Palestinians from Trump's announcement is likely to fuel criticism that the plan tilts toward Israel's needs rather than theirs.

Israeli-Palestinian talks broke down in 2014, and it was far from clear that the Trump plan will resuscitate them.

Palestinians have refused to deal with the Trump administration in protest at such pro-Israel policies as its moving the US Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

US senior administration officials said they expected initial Palestinian skepticism over the plan but hoped that over time they

will agree to negotiate. It places high hurdles for the Palestinians to overcome to reach their long-sought goal of a state.

"Strip away the domestic and Israeli political considerations that determined the timing of the plan's release, and the message to the Palestinians, boiled down to its essence, is: You've lost, get over it," said Robert Malley, president of International Crisis Group and a former US National Security Council official.

It remains to be seen also how Israel responds, given the pressures its right-wing prime minister, Netanyahu, faces going into his third attempt at re-election in less than a year.

Both Trump and Netanyahu face political challenges at home. Trump was impeached in the House of Representatives last month and is on trial in the Senate on abuse of power charges.

On Tuesday, Netanyahu was formally indicted in court on corruption charges,

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U.S. News.

Trump's Plan the 'Best Deal' Israel's Right Will Ever Get, US Official Says

BY ISRAEL HAYOM/JNS.org

A senior US official on Monday harshly criticized a letter written by a group of senior rabbis from Israel's religious-Zionist camp to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warning that US President Donald Trump's peace plan carries the risk of "creating a terror state."

The official said the rabbis "are squandering the moment, and don't understand the immense advantages this plan entails in terms of their worldview. The [Israeli] right will not get anything better than this," according to Israel Hayom.

The official also addressed claims by some on the Israeli right that the Trump plan will lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state.

"If you look at the dictionary, you'll understand this isn't the definition of a state. That is not what the plan allows, and so the resistance from the right and the rabbis is a mistake," the official said.

Among the signatories to the letter were Rabbi Haim Drukman, Rabbi Dov Lior, Rabbi Elyakim Levanon and Rabbi Elyahu Zini, together with 50 other community rabbis.

The rabbis penned the letter after Samaria Regional Council head Yossi Dagan announced he would depart for Washington to attend a series of emergency meetings with senior Republican officials and evangelical leaders, who comprise Trump's voter base, to present the settlement enterprise's red lines and to prevent recognition of a Palestinian state and the isolation of certain settlements within the plan's framework.

The letter was the brainchild of Dagan and Rabbi Amichai Elyahu, the head of the Association of Communal Rabbis. In the letter, the rabbis wrote that while they "recognize this historic moment for the Jewish people, and sincerely support you [Netanyahu] in applying sovereignty over Judea and Samaria ... we understand that the plan comes with danger—the establishment of a terror state."

The rabbis presented their red lines to Netanyahu: "No

Continued from Page A4
Peace Plan

after he withdrew his bid for parliamentary immunity from prosecution. Both men deny any wrongdoing.

Two-state map

The US plan represented the most dramatic and detailed attempt to break the historic deadlock between Israel and the Palestinians in several years, the result of a three-year effort by Trump senior advisers including his son-in-law Jared Kushner.

Trump has endorsed a proposed map outlining the two states, US officials said. The Palestinian state would be double the size of land that Palestinians currently control and would be connected by roads, bridges and tunnels, they said.

Trump briefed Netanyahu and his rival in Israel's March 2 elections, Blue and White party chief Benny Gantz, in talks on Monday.

Israeli leaders have agreed to negotiate on the basis of the Trump plan and agreed to the map, the officials said. Israel's agreement on statehood for Palestinians is dependent on a security arrangement to protect Israelis, they said.

Israel will also take steps to ensure Muslim access to the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem and respect Jordan's role regarding holy sites, the officials said.

A US official said the question for Palestinians is will they "come to the table and negotiate?"

If they agree to negotiate, there are some areas that can be compromised in the future, the official said without offering details.

Palestinian statehood would be dependent on Palestinians taking steps for self-government, such as respect for human rights, freedom of the press and having transparent and credible institutions, the officials said.

Trump's plan calls for Palestinians to be able to return to a future state of Palestine and creates a "generous compensation fund," one of the officials said.

About Israel retaining the settlements, a US official said: "The plan is based on a principle that people should not have to move to accomplish peace ... But it does stop future settlement expansion which we consider to be the most realistic approach.

Before the Trump announcement, thousands of Palestinians demonstrated in Gaza City and IDF troops reinforced positions near a flashpoint site between the Palestinian city of Ramallah and the Israeli settlement of Beit El in the West Bank.

to the creation of a 'Palestinian' state, partitioning the main settlement blocs, abandoning the settlements as an enclave inside a terror state, as happened with the community of Netzarim [in Gaza], and no to the transfer of Areas C to B, and no to additional [territorial] withdrawals."

Rabbi Elyahu said with regard to the letter: "We are happy over the significant progress on the matter of applying sovereignty. In no way can [this development] facilitate the establishment of a Palestinian state in the holy Land of Israel."

Dagan said, "On behalf of all the residents of Samaria I am thankful to our rabbis, who stand at the head of the camp and lead the people of Israel and the State of Israel. The rabbis' sentiment is a moral and principled one. There are red lines that the Israeli public will not cross."



US President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu talk outside the White House in Washington, DC, Jan. 27, 2020. Photo: Reuters / Kevin Lamarque.

According to Dagan, "The settlement enterprise won't sit idly by while its future is being played with. Alongside the joy over the great achievement of applying sovereignty to the communities in Judea and Samaria, we cannot ignore the initiative to surrender 70 percent of the area of Judea and Samaria."

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Opinion.

Holocaust Desecration in Englewood, New Jersey



SHMULEY BOTEACH
ENGLEWOOD

Readers of my columns will be familiar with the utterly-fractious nature of the city of Englewood, New Jersey, and how it's a microcosm of American dysfunction. We in New Jersey suffer the highest taxes for the worst services amid arguably the least-responsible elected officials in the country. New Jersey is rife with corruption and every year brings the usual reports of public officials sadly indicted or going to jail.

Still, perhaps because we're masochists, we put up with it.

But what's new is how a state with such a large Jewish population that just suffered the second worst murderous attack on Jews in American history — the December massacre in Jersey City — remains insensitive to the most important Jewish commemorations.

This Monday is International Holocaust Remembrance Day. It is a particularly special year as it commemorates the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. There will be global commemorations all over the world — I will, God willing, be in Poland at the extermination camp for the solemn occasion — that is, except in Englewood, where instead of remembering the six million, the city's Board of Adjustment has chosen that day, of all days, to schedule a zoning hearing for a Jewish day school seeking to build a gymnasium.

That's right. Halfway across the world from Poland, the City of Englewood's Board of Adjustment could not find any other date to stage a zoning hearing for a Jewish day school's application to build a gym with a 180-car parking lot. I know about this hearing because I am directly affected by the application as the giant parking lot will be directly adjoining our backyard yard where our children and grandchildren play.

We've asked the city to show some decency and respect and move the hearing — which could be held on any day of even that very week — so that those who wish to show respect to the sacred memory of the six million and instead attend a Holocaust commemoration may do so. Thus far, the hearing's date has not been changed.

The Moriah school, my next-door neighbor, wants me to believe that a 180-car parking lot right by the swing set and monkey bars of where my children and grandchildren are outside nearly every day will not adversely affect our quality of life. That children inhaling all these fumes and the family putting up with the all the noise would not be injurious to our health and sanity. Why Moriah would want to do this in a strictly-residential neighborhood, where the school will necessarily be constricted from carrying out so many of its fundamental educational functions, is beyond me.

Still, the last thing I want to do is oppose a school. But now the Board of Adjustment has scheduled a city hearing specifically for Jan. 27, on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, which will force parents to abandon Holocaust memorials on one of the most

important days of commemoration since the genocide — the 75th anniversary — and go to a hearing about parking lots and a gym.

We've written to the Board as well as implored the Moriah school to simply move the date of the hearing. Why would the mayor and elected officials ever have allowed the hearing to go ahead on this solemn date in the first instance? Have they no decency?

Much more troubling, however, is Moriah's refusal to change the date, saying the rabbis of the community, with whom they consult, saw no issue with a zoning hearing being held on International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

You've got to be kidding. Or maybe not. Englewood has a history of trivializing the Holocaust in favor of construction projects.

Recall that about a year ago there was another hearing where the rabbis of our community — the same ones who seem to have greenlit this Monday's hearing — actually invoked the Holocaust for a for-profit construction project for a wealthy donor to their shuls. Englewood is also the city where the rabbi who heads the Orthodox Union's International Kashrut Division indeed went secretly to meet with the emir of Qatar, arguably the world's foremost funder of terrorism against Israelis.

Why would the City of Englewood's Board of Adjustment have scheduled a hearing about a zoning matter for a Jewish school on International Holocaust Remembrance Day? It shows an utter lack of respect for those who wish to remember the six million on this solemn occasion.

And why would the Moriah school, its board and its Rabbinic leadership ask its



Downtown Englewood, New Jersey. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

parents to come to a zooming hearing rather than either organize a Holocaust memorial event, attend one or at least not give them a conflict in attending one?

Moriah can choose any other date for its zoning hearing. What is certain is that it should not take place on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, when many will rightly wish to attend memorials for our martyred six million.

This is especially true in an age where, according to NBC News, more than one-fifth of millennials have never heard of the Holocaust and, according to The Washington Post, an astounding two-thirds of millennials could not identify Auschwitz.

As we near a time when, God forbid, there will not be many living survivors to tell the story of the Shoah, every commemoration, every ceremony and every public event can educate the world about the greatest crime in history. This is a particular obligation for cities with large Jewish populations, Jewish day schools and elected officials who should not be so contemptuous as to take Jewish support for granted.

Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, whom The Washington Post calls "the most famous Rabbi in America," is the international best-selling author of 33 books, including the upcoming 'Holocaust Holiday: One Family's Descent into Genocide Memory Hell.'

Follow him on Twitter and Instagram @RabbiShmuley.

What Putin Said at the Holocaust Forum...



BEN COHEN
/JNS.org

Predictably, Russian President Vladimir Putin's speech to last week's World Holocaust Forum in Jerusalem raised hackles among the responsible guardians of Holocaust memory. The Russian dictator claimed that 40% of the six million Jewish victims of Nazi slaughter were citizens of the Soviet Union — a vastly overinflated figure that can be arrived at only if you include those Jews who resided in countries that were occupied by the USSR.

Putin's manipulation of Holocaust numbers — historians generally agree that about one million of the six million Jews murdered were Soviet citizens — comes in the context of an ugly dispute between Russia and Poland over responsibility for World War II, in which Putin has depicted the Poles as willing collaborators of the Germans. In turn, the Poles have countered that the infamous August 1939 Nonaggression Pact between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union, which effectively removed Poland from the map of nations by partitioning the country between the two totalitarian states, was the source of

the war that engulfed Europe.

According to Jan Grabowski, a respected Polish historian of the wartime period, Putin's "40%" claim proffered in Jerusalem was "completely false." It's worth recalling that Professor Grabowski has long been a hate figure for nationalists in Poland because of his own research documenting instances of Polish collaboration with the Nazi occupiers, but that clearly hasn't pushed him into Moscow's corner. As Grabowski and other professional historians understand all too well, all the nations of Europe who found themselves under the Nazi boot collaborated to some degree. The torrid debates of recent years over the "guilt" or "innocence" of Poles, Hungarians, Lithuanians, Ukrainians, and others have little to do with the historical record, and everything to do with the desire of nationalist governments to purge their nations of wartime guilt by portraying themselves purely as victims of the Nazis — just as the Jews were.

Putin is absolutely right to remind the world of the enormous sacrifices made by the Soviet Union in the eventual defeat of the Nazis. In the summer of 1943, the Red Army's counter-offensive in the Donbass region "tore the guts out of the German Army," as Winston Churchill memorably put it, and was a milestone on the road to victory two years



From left: Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Russia, 2017. Photo: Kremlin.

later. Putin is also right to remind the world that Red Army troops liberated Auschwitz, the extermination camp built by the Nazis in occupied Poland, on January 27, 1945. But neither of those facts can forgive his other distortions, nor his willful abuse of the Holocaust to score political points against Russia's present-day adversaries.

Critically, there is another layer of history that Putin — stalwart defender of the Soviet Union that he is — will never bring himself to talk about publicly.

The Soviet Union was once dubbed a "prison house of nationalities," and that was especially the case for Soviet Jews. While the Bolshevik Revolution liberated the Jews from the brutally antisemitic rule of the Tsar, under communism, Jewish identity was frowned upon, while any expression of support for Jewish national rights or for the Zionist movement was strictly forbidden. At the beginning of World War II, Joseph Stalin's regime even played down the German atrocities that targeted Jews specifically in the name of waging a "Great Patriotic War." That only changed towards the end of the war, when Stalin — a true believer in the global Jewish conspiracy

— shrewdly figured out that the sympathy of American Jews could be very helpful in Soviet dealings with the Roosevelt administration. And so, a Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee was duly launched, whose figureheads visited the United States, giving dramatic first-person accounts of the war against the Nazis and the sufferings of the Jews.

But by 1946, this same committee had been liquidated, as Stalin resumed an antisemitic campaign that ended only with his death seven years later. Even in the era of "De-Stalinization" that followed, the Soviets clung rigidly to their line that the Jewish victims of the Nazis were no different from any other victims, and that highlighting their treatment only served nefarious "Zionist" aims.

In this period, when Soviet Jews faced state discrimination and a ban on emigration to Israel, the Soviets cemented their biggest World War II lie of all. Soviet propaganda claimed that the Zionist movement was an ideological bedfellow of the Nazis, and that Zionist leaders had collaborated with the Nazis at just the time that the USSR was engaged in its heroic resistance. (This particular piece of propaganda was, incidentally, the main reason why Mahmoud Abbas — now head of the Palestinian Authority — was awarded a Ph.D. by Moscow University for a thesis on alleged Nazi-Zionist "collaboration.")

Discussion of the Holocaust during the Soviet period was licensed only insofar as the focus was on the iniquities of the Zionist movement and its alleged subversion of Soviet efforts to defeat the Germans. Visitors to World War II monuments would look in vain for any acknowledgement of the Holocaust as

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Opinion.

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Polish Minister

disinformation campaigns. It's one of them. He wants to present Russian history in a better way and to get legitimacy for today's agenda.

Poland belongs to the countries, like European member states, that do not accept Putin's current foreign policy—the aggression against Ukraine, the annexation of Crimea, aggression against Georgia, Russia's role in Syria, in Libya, Central Africa, Venezuela. Our policy, with our allies of the European Union and NATO, is simply to maintain sanctions to condemn this policy because it is against the interests of the international community and international law. For us, international law is the basis for international order.

We can not accept aggression against any country. It's not good if we, as an international community, allow giving Putin historical instruments to have more influence or to legitimize his international standing. If he is treated as an important leader without saying that we condemn his behavior, he has achieved what he wants. It doesn't mean that we shouldn't maintain contact with Russia. It's our neighbor. But giving him a forum to express his ideas is another thing. The Western countries have to coordinate policy to somehow limit or constrain his aggressive behavior, to deter him. Therefore Poland cooperates closely with the United States within NATO. NATO changed its attitude in order to face challenges to the Western world made by Russia.

Q: A crisis strained Israel and Poland's relations two years over the amendment of the Act on the Institute of National Remembrance. Is there anything you regret about that time?

A: It was indeed a crisis, but it was solved very quickly because this law was repealed. There were some doubts raised, mostly by scientists and even countries, that it might limit the freedom of research or of expression. These arguments were convincing, so we withdrew the law. The joint declaration of prime ministers [Benjamin] Netanyahu and [Mateusz] Morawiecki was important.

It's over. Israel is very important for us, as a Jewish state. Everything that is related to the Jews is very important due to our history and feelings of empathy. It's our long-term goal to maintain good relations with Israel, not only because of the history but also because Israel is an important country today and we have many possibilities to cooperate.

With US Secretary [of State] Pompeo I organized the Warsaw Conference, enabling Israel and Prime Minister Netanyahu

the possibility to address their concerns regarding the situation in the Middle East and Iran. It was a big success. It was the first time for many years that people saw on the same panel foreign ministers of Arab countries and Prime Minister Netanyahu. We want to contribute to peace and stability in the Middle East. That is a crucial issue for Israel. We closely cooperate with the United States and at the same time, we are a member of the European Union and aware of the different opinions there regarding the Middle East. After the conference happened [there was] a certain evolution due to some words or interpretations made by Israeli politicians.

Q: And even ministers.

A: Prime Minister Netanyahu also had some unclear statements concerning the Holocaust during the Warsaw Conference. But something which indeed spoiled our relations were the words of the newly nominated Foreign Minister [Israel] Katz, which were largely offensive to Polish society. Of course there are anti-Semites everywhere, I wouldn't dare to say that there is no anti-Semitism in Poland at all. But to refer it to the whole Polish nation is something unfair. President Duda made it clear that he expected a clear apology.

Q: The United States is about to publish a report on the issue of restitution, based on JUST Act 447. Do you think that this might be a problem for Poland?

A: It depends on the substance of the report. When you look at our system, there is a clear legal procedure for restitution. Many Poles, including of Jewish origin and of every other ethnicity, who lost their property during war and the communist [era], ask for restitution or compensation, and it happens through a legal process. Poland is one of the countries which did a lot on this issue.

Q: You don't think that this could again poison the atmosphere between Israelis, Jews and Poles?

A: I don't think it's an Israeli resolution or is it? We will provide information if there is a request. Again, Poland belongs to those countries, which did a lot concerning the value of property, which was returned.

Q: There was an expectation in Israel that Poland will move its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. Is that a possibility?

A: As far as the moving of the embassy is concerned, we coordinate our policy with the European Union and we do not envisage such a move. The policy on this issue is clear according to the United Nations. We are for a two-state solution. The status of Jerusalem, the state of Palestine and peace should be negotiated between the Israelis and the Palestinians

has largely become moot as the Palestinian public has soured on the idea and the number of settlements has made it nearly impossible, if not impossible, to create one.

Similarly, a new administration could alter the calculus. Nearly all the Democratic candidates have expressed a desire to return to a policy similar to Clinton/Obama that favors compromise on Jerusalem, opposes settlements, and favors a Palestinian state. Some have raised Palestinian hopes anew by saying they are prepared to use military aid as a lever to pressure Israel, though Congress is unlikely to go along. A new president, however, is not going to change the Palestinians' unwillingness to accept a Jewish state coexisting with a Palestinian entity, nor will they alter Israelis' insistence on peace for security.

Mitchell Bard is Executive Director of AICE and Jewish Virtual Library.

We call them master-narratives. They are about large, ongoing groups of people: the tribe, the nation, the civilisation. They hold

Erich Fromm and Religion Without God



Erich Fromm was one of the most influential psychiatrists of the last century. He was educated in Germany. When the Nazis came to power in 1934, he moved to Switzerland and then on to New York. He was a restless and brilliant man. I first encountered his work when, as a student, I read his short book *You Shall Be as Gods: A Radical Interpretation of the Old Testament and Its Tradition*. It was originally published in German in 1954 and English in 1966. I still recommend it heartily as it is still relevant today.

He was one of the most acclaimed psychiatrists of the century arguing for the benefit of Orthodox Judaism – but without God. He was a completely non-religious, atheist Jew writing about how psychologically important Jewish Law and its behavioral rituals (including keeping Shabbat and Kashrut) were for the sanity of modern society.

He was born to an Orthodox, scholarly family in Frankfurt. He studied Talmud and Hasidism in depth. He had a deep knowledge of Jewish mysticism. However, in 1926 he turned away from Orthodox Judaism and towards secular interpretations of scripture. He described his position as “nontheistic mysticism.”

Reading his book had a huge impact on my thinking. I had my own very personal relationship with God. But Fromm argued that religion did not have to be circumscribed by the idea of God. Being religious without God could still be very beneficial. At the time, I was coming into contact with many Jews who had rejected the idea of God and/or Jewish practice and could not identify with the Jewish religion. Here seemed an answer for them.

Fromm said that humans should take independent action and use reason to establish moral values rather than blindly adhering to the dictates of authorities. He disliked all authoritarian systems, yet argued that humans needed the discipline that religious



Psychiatrist Erich Fromm in 1974. Photo: Müller-May / Rainer Funk / CC BY-SA 3.0 (DE) via Wikimedia.

practice provided. Their rituals and training helped people think about morally right decisions. Otherwise, humans would tend to take the easiest and most selfish way out.

Fromm often used the Bible to illustrate his points of view. The story of Adam and Eve was, he said, an allegorical explanation for humans defying God and struggling to work out for themselves how to act. And, of course, mistakes have consequences. The book of Jonah described someone who did not wish to save the people of Nineveh from the consequences of their sins. It advocated the importance of care and responsibility for others – even if one disagreed with them. Important ideas for human beings both religious and non-religious. Autonomy, the freedom to make up one's own mind, was paramount. But so was being part of a community.

Fromm liked the Talmudic story of Rabbi Eliezer who, in a dispute with a majority of his fellow rabbis over a minor issue of Jewish law, asked God to intervene with miracles to prove him right. But the rabbis insisted that, since the Torah had been given, it was no longer up to God to intervene in such matters but for human beings to use their powers of thought to deal with current situations and challenges. This was evidence that we should be able to use our deductive tools to deal with life.

He admired Hasidic tales in which God was challenged and called to account by man for the horrible things that happen on earth. It was dangerous to accept God unquestioningly. The Bible, he said, was more concerned with the fight against idolatry than with a correct theology. Idolatry was the worship

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Putin said

a Jewish event. Meanwhile, the Soviet press dripped with crude cartoons — reminiscent of Nazi caricatures — that showed Israeli leaders with hooked noses, wearing fascist-style uniforms that substituted the swastika with the Star of David.

As ever, how we interpret history is often directed by the geopolitical winds of the present. The tortured, complex relationship between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union — two political systems founded upon fear as the primary instrument of rule — shouldn't be reduced to a few simple talking

the group together horizontally across space and vertically across time, giving it a shared identity handed on across the generations.

None has been more powerful than the Exodus story, whose frame and context is set out in our parsha. It gave Jews the most tenacious identity ever held by a nation. In the eras of oppression, it gave hope of freedom. At times of exile, it promised return. It told two hundred generations of Jewish children who they were and of what story they were a

points. Yet in the murky world of international politics, fragments of truth are assembled in the service of a larger goal. In this case, Putin succeeded in delivering the Soviet version of World War II from the podium of the world's most respected Holocaust institution.

Sadly, in the years to come, as the Jewish community frets that there are few Holocaust survivors left alive to tell of their experiences, we should expect these Holocaust distortions to become more commonplace.

Ben Cohen is a New York City-based journalist and author who writes a weekly column on Jewish and international affairs for JNS.

part. It became the world's master-narrative of liberty, adopted by an astonishing variety of groups, from Puritans in the 17th century to African-Americans in the 19th and to Tibetan Buddhists today.

I believe that I am a character in our people's story, with my own chapter to write, and so are we all. To be a Jew is to see yourself as part of that story, to make it live in our time, and to do your best to hand it on to those who will come after us.

Continued from Page A2
Trump's Peace

deal. Regardless of its reception, Israelis will not expect to be pressured to accept the terms pushed by Clinton and Obama. The Palestinians will complain and demand their maximalist positions be accepted, but outside the UN and Europe, their protests will fall on deaf ears. Even the Arab states have become fed up with their irredentism and no longer want their own interests to be held hostage by the “Palestinian issue.”

Just as the baseline has changed over the last 50-plus years, it could change again in the unlikely possibility that Abbas will be succeeded by someone who does not want to see the Palestinians remain in limbo indefinitely. That leader will first have to vanquish Hamas, however, which he may be unable or unwilling to do. Even then the possibility of creating a Palestinian state

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The Story

self-understanding of those who tell them.

Impressions.

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Without God

of oneself, one's own intelligence, and one's own strength. Only by embracing freedom could one free oneself from idolatry. Failing to do this was the root of psychological conflicts.

Fromm thought that modern societies focused too much on freedom from responsibility. Too few people respected the autonomy of their fellow human beings – what other people truly wanted and needed. They preferred conformity. This led to destructiveness – the process which tried to eliminate others. All of which became manifest in Nazism and Marxism. Sadly, most people find it harder to try to be free than to simply accept conformity. Submitting one's freedom to someone else diminishes freedom of choice. This preference for controlled lives was a danger to religion itself as well.

As I look around me nowadays I see too much of today's Jewish life is conformism. Layers have been added for social reasons, not spiritual ones. Too many people observe rituals out of social pressure instead of religious commitment. Yet without accepting the discipline of a religious way of life, one flounders and struggles for comfort and a sense of belonging. Humans, said Fromm, need to be excited and stimulated by striving for goals. And to find their own places in the world.

He wanted to eliminate the concept of "God" except as a "poetical symbol" of the primary and mystical ego-transcending experience of man. This was where I parted company. I believe the idea of God is important as a personal experience (more than a concept). This is what adds the spiritual dimension to the structure of the law. God is a way of reaching beyond oneself. Even if I question the theology.

I agree we must try to experience life on a higher, more intense, personal level. But I also value the Torah concept of accepting first and questioning afterward (*Náaseh VeNishma*). Without a structure to begin with, one is in danger of wandering, getting lost and not finding. Like a child with no discipline.

All of this makes *You Shall Be as Gods* one of the most important books on the relevance of religion – even in our skeptical, modern world where everything is open to challenge.

Rabbi Jeremy Rosen received his rabbinic ordination from Mir Yeshiva in Jerusalem. He has worked in the rabbinate, Jewish education, and academia for more than 40 years in Europe and the US. He currently lives in the US, where he writes, teaches, lectures, and serves as rabbi of a small community in New York.

An Open Letter to the Polish People on the Birkenau Church

BY AVI WEISS

To the people of Poland:

As we approach the 75th anniversary commemorating the liberation of Auschwitz, I reach out to you in the spirit of peace. We are grateful to the righteous gentiles who, at great risk, saved Jewish lives during those dark years, and grateful as well to those in your government who have extended themselves to make sure that the commemoration ceremonies be conducted with honor and dignity.

And yet, we are concerned about the Birkenau church. The church occupies the building that was the Birkenau commandant's headquarters, well within the perimeter of the Birkenau killing

in the Holocaust is a matter of serious debate, compounded by the government's recent attempts to criminalize references to Polish complicity in Nazi atrocities. What is not up for debate is that the Birkenau church operates today with the government's approval. The Polish government has the power to demand that the church be moved elsewhere, an action that would show that when Poland is in control, it will do the right thing.

To be sure, we are not suggesting that the people living in the village of Birkenau be deprived of their parish church. A church should be built for them in the village, away from the camp. Back in the early 1990s when a convent was established at Auschwitz I, Pope John Paul II himself asked that it be closed. And it was.



The entrance to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

center, as shown in aerial photos.

Over the years, I've become increasingly sensitive to interfaith matters, including the importance of building and maintaining good Jewish-Catholic relations. Still, the Birkenau church does not belong at the largest Jewish cemetery in the world – 96% of the murdered in Birkenau, 1.1 million people, were Jews.

The church is in violation of the 1972 UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, declaring certain sites inviolate. Auschwitz is on that heritage list. Poland is a signatory to the Convention. The church is also in violation of a solemn agreement signed in 1987 by European cardinals and European Jewish leaders that "there will be no permanent Catholic place of worship on the site of the Auschwitz and Birkenau camps."

The extent to which Poland was complicit

In the same spirit, we've asked Pope Francis to step forward and do the same with regard to the Birkenau church.

On January 27, marking the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp, we will be there as the survivors and the dignitaries gather for the commemoration ceremony. At its conclusion, we will walk the short distance to the Birkenau church, raise our placards, and, in dignity and peace, demand that the church be moved out of the camp.

Our hope is that people of moral conscience will join us on behalf of the six million who cannot speak for themselves, our brothers and sisters whose "blood cries out from the ground" demanding justice.

In prayers for peace.

Rabbi Avi Weiss, National President — the Coalition for Jewish Concerns.

Legal Notice.

LEGAL NOTICE



Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name : NORTH KEERAGOOARCHITECTURE PLLC Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York (SSNY) on 11/15/2019 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 process to: The LLC 69 Halsey Street, 3RD floor Brooklyn, NY 11216 purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 12/27; 1/3/10/17/24/31

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS 21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff AGAINST ANDREW GRANT, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 1-10-2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on February 13, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 433 Jerome Street, Brooklyn, NY 11207. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 4030 Lot 39. Approximate amount of judgment \$753,960.02 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #503926/2014. Bruno F. Codispoli, Esq., Referee Carter Conboy Case Blackmore Maloney & Laird, PC 20 Corporate Woods Blvd. Albany, NY 12211 26743 67079 AJ; 1/10/17/24/31

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Credit Suisse First Boston 2006-1, Plaintiff AGAINST Shira Frank, Avraham Frank, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 4/26/2017 and entered on 5/11/2017, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on February 13, 2020 at 02:30 PM premises known as 799 East 8th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11230. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 6496, LOT: 53. Approximate amount of judgment is \$573,284.05 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 3261/2009. For sale information, please visit Auction.com at www. Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832. Jeffrey R. Miller, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 AJ; 1/10/17/24/31

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR NOMURA ASSET ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-AP3, Plaintiff -against- MARIA POSNER A/K/A M. POSNER A/K/A MARIA POSNET, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION

LEGAL NOTICE

SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR ALLIANCE MORTGAGE BANKING CORP., CHEMICAL BANK, THE FIRE COMMISSIONER OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, CITY OF NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD, GEORGE BRYANT, HENRY CLARK, SHAWN CAMPBELL, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale entered on September 20, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at ROOM 224 F/K/A ROOM 274 OF KINGS COUNTY SUPREME COURT, 360 ADAMS STREET, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201 on February 13, 2020 at 2:30 PM premises known as 309 ARLINGTON AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11208. ALL that certain plot, piece of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of KINGS, City and State of New York. Block: 3927 Lot: 61 Approximate amount of lien \$479,903.07 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment Index # 501183/2015 JEFFREY R. MILLER, ESQ., REFEREE STEIN, WIENER AND ROTH, L.L.P., ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFF ONE OLD COUNTRY ROAD, SUITE 113 CARLE PLACE, NY 11514 DATED: January 3, 2020 FILE #: WELLS 66757 AJ; 1/10/17/24/31

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS GOSHEN MORTGAGE LLC, AS SEPARATE TRUSTEE FOR GDBT I TRUST 2011-1, Plaintiff -against- CHRISTOPHER CLEMENTE; MARSELLE MCCROREY A/K/A MARSELLE VICTORIA MCCROREY; COURTNEI CLEMENTE, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated October 23, 2019 and entered on November 14, 2019, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Court-house 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY on February 13, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the easterly side of East 96th Street, distant 278.15 feet southerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the easterly side of East 96th Street and the southerly side of Flatlands Avenue; being a plot 20 feet by 100 feet by 19.78 feet by 100.01 feet. Block: 8204 Lot: 26 Said premises known as 1183 EAST 96TH STREET, BROOKLYN, NY Approximate amount of lien \$585,911.49 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale. Index Number 511952/2017. JEFFREY MILLER, ESQ., Referee Kosterich & Skeete, LLC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 68 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Tuckahoe, NY 10707 AJ; 1/10/17/24/31

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: LAW OFFICE OF MAARIA MAHMOOD, PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 12/12/2019. 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 process to: Law Office of Maaria Mahmood, PLLC 615 W. 186th street New York, NY 10033. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 1/10/17/24/31; 2/7/14

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: KING HI CLOTHES & ENTERTAINMENT LLC.

LEGAL NOTICE

Articles of Organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 04/08/2019. Office location: Bronx County . SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it May be served. SSNY Shall mail copy of process to: Haakim Wasiym Bell P.O. Box 802 bronx, NY 10451. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 1/10/17/24/31; 2/7/14

CINE MAGIC SUNSET PARK STUDIOS LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/03/2020. Office loc: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 11 Kent Street, Brooklyn, NY 11222. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. AJ; 1/17/24/31; 2/7/14/21

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR BANC OF AMERICA ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2006-7, V. JEAN SCHICK A/K/A JEAN SHICK; ET AL. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated February 21, 2018, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, wherein WELLS FARGO BANK N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR BANC OF AMERICA ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2006-7 is the Plaintiff and JEAN SCHICK A/K/A JEAN SHICK; ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the KINGS COUNTY COURTHOUSE 360 ADAMS STREET, ROOM 224, BROOKLYN, NY 11201, on February 20, 2020 at 2:30 pm, premises known as 615 HENDRIX ST, BROOKLYN, NY 11207: Block 4075, Lot 7: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDING AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN, COUNTY OF KINGS, CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 4267/2008. Doron Leiby, Esq. - Referee. RAS Boriskin, LLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. AJ; 1/17/24/31; 2/7

ADMINISTRATION CITATION File No. 2018-2423 SURROGATE'S COURT QUEENS 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 MARGARET FRIESON a/k/a MARGARET L. FRIESON, deceased, if living, and if any of them be dead to the 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 TOMMY C. FRIESON DIANE FRIESON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR OF QUEENS COUNTY A petition having been duly filed by SN SERVICING CORPORATION, as servicer for ELL 09-2009, LLC, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America, who is domiciled at 323 Fifth Street, Eureka, California, 95501 YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Queens County, at 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11435 on March 5, 2020 at 9:30 o'clock in the fore noon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of MARGARET FRIESON

LEGAL NOTICE

a/k/a MARGARET L. FRIESON lately domiciled at 91-31 175th Street, Jamaica, New York 11432, in the County of Queens, State of New York, granting Limited Letters of Administration upon the estate of the decedent to Tommy C. Frieson, Diane Frieson, or any other distribute, or if they fail to qualify to the Public Administrator of Queens County, and if permitted to renounce the right to Letters, then to Petitioner's nominee Oscar Prieto upon duly qualifying, that the quality of the representative under the foregoing letters be limited to accepting service of process on behalf of the estate of the deceased in a foreclosure action on a first mortgage held by the petitioner, its successor and/or assigns, dated October 21, 1998 and recorded at Book 5087, Page 1052 in the Office of the Queens County Clerk on January 19, 1999 in the original principal balance of \$56,100.00, on the Decedent's real property located at 139-38 232ND STREET, LAURELTON, NY 11413. HON. PETER J. KELLY, Surrogate James Lim Becker, Chief Clerk Dated, Attested and Sealed, January 8, 2020. Name of John J. Ricciardi, Esq. Attorney for Petitioner: Gross Polowy, LLC Tel. No. 716-204-1700 Address of Attorney: 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 412, Westbury, New York 11590 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-at-law appear for you. 67694 AJ; 1/17/24/31; 2/7

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: 22 NORTH 6TH STREET 8B LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 10/07/2019. 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 process to: 22 North 6th Street 8B LLC 16 Melbourne Road great neck NY 11021 . Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 1/17/24/31; 2/7/14/21

Notice of location of limited liability company(LLC) Name: SKY CASTLES CONSTRUCTION LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York (SSNY) on 10/24/2019. 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 process to: Legal-corp Solutions, LLC 11 Broadway Suite 615 New York, NY 10004. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 1/17/24/31; 2/7/14/21

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Trustee for Nomura Asset Acceptance Corporation Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-AF2, Plaintiff AGAINST Roberto Martinez; Deborah Martinez; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated July 4, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on February 20, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 938 Herkimer Street, Brooklyn, NY 11233. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 1714 Lot 12. Approximate

LEGAL NOTICE

amount of judgment \$1,100,693.49 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 504322/2014. Steven Naiman, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: December 20, 2019 67254 AJ; 1/17/24/31; 2/7

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff AGAINST ABBEOLA AARON AKA ABBEOLA O AARON, ALVIN ASHBY, MARCIA CROAL, ET AL., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated May 18, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on February 27, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 1091 E 96TH 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 8184, LOT 31. Approximate amount of judgment \$412,546.22 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 501950/2012. LEONARD C. SPECTOR, ESQ., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 67335 AJ; 1/24/31; 2/7/14/

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: 6 MILDRED PLACE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 06/27/2019. 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 process to: Anderson registered agents 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 210 Brooklyn, NY 11228. purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 1/24/31; 2/7/14/21/28

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, Plaintiff AGAINST Bruno Brancaleone; Maria Brancaleone; Robert Goldschmidt; Antonella Goldschmidt; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated July 14, 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 February 27, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 2051 West 10th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11223. 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 7096 Lot 62. Approximate amount of judgment \$1,227,564.11 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 15699/2013. Shmuel Taub, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: November 20, 2019 66817 AJ; 1/24/31; 2/7/14/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, Plain-

Tradition.

The Story We Tell About Ourselves



JONATHAN SACKS
LONDON

Sometimes others know us better than we know ourselves. In the year 2000, a British Jewish research institute came up with a proposal that Jews in Britain be redefined as an ethnic group and not as a religious community. It was a non-Jewish journalist, Andrew Marr, who stated what should have been obvious. He said: "All this is shallow water, and the further in you wade, the shallower it gets."

It is what he wrote next that I found inspirational: "The Jews have always had stories for the rest of us. They have had their Bible, one of the great imaginative works of the human spirit. They have been victim of the worst modernity can do, a mirror for Western madness. Above all they have had the story of their cultural and genetic survival from the Roman Empire to the 2000s, weaving and thriving amid uncomprehending, hostile European tribes."



The Jews have always had stories for the rest of us. I love that testimony. And indeed, from early on, storytelling has been central to the Jewish tradition. Every culture has its stories. (The late Elie Wiesel once said, "God created man because God loves stories"). Almost certainly, the tradition goes back to the days when our ancestors were hunter-gatherers telling stories around the campfire at night. We are the storytelling animal.

But what is truly remarkable is the way in which, in this week's parsha, on the brink of the Exodus, Moses three times tells the Israelites how they are to tell the story to their children in future generations.

1. When your children ask you, 'What does this ceremony mean to you?' *then tell them*, 'It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when He struck down the Egyptians.' (Ex. 12:26-27)

2. *On that day tell your child*, 'I do this because of what the Lord

did for me when I came out of Egypt.' (Ex. 13:8)

3. "In days to come, when your child asks you, 'What does this mean?' *say*, 'With a mighty hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.' (Ex. 13:14)

The Israelites had not yet left Egypt, and yet already Moses was telling them how to tell the story. That is the extraordinary fact. Why so? Why this obsession with storytelling?

The simplest answer is that *we are the story we tell about ourselves.* There is an intrinsic, perhaps necessary, link between narrative and identity. In the words of the thinker who did more than most to place this idea at the centre of contemporary thought, Alasdair MacIntyre, "man is in his actions and practice, as well as in his fictions, essentially a story-telling animal." We come to know who we are by discovering of which story or stories we are a part.

Jerome Bruner has persuasively argued that narrative is central to the construction of meaning, and meaning is what makes the human

condition human. No computer needs to be persuaded of its purpose in life before it does what it is supposed to do. Genes need no motivational encouragement. No virus needs a coach. We do not have to enter their mindset to understand what they do and how they do it, because they do not have a mindset to enter. But humans do. We act in the present because of things we did or that happened to us in the past, and in order to realise a sought-for future. Even minimally to explain what we are doing is already to tell a story. Take three people eating salad in a restaurant, one because he needs to lose weight, the second because she's a principled vegetarian, the third because of religious dietary laws. These are three outwardly similar acts, but they belong to different stories and they have different meanings for the people involved.

Why though storytelling and the Exodus?

One of the most powerful passages I have ever read on the nature of Jewish existence

is contained in Jean-Jacques Rousseau's *Considerations on the Government of Poland* (1772). This is an unlikely place to find insight on the Jewish condition, but it is there. Rousseau is talking about the greatest of political leaders. First of these, he says, was Moses who "formed and executed the astonishing enterprise of instituting as a national body a swarm of wretched fugitives who had no arts, no weapons, no talents, no virtues, no courage, and who, since they had not an inch of territory of their own, were a troop of strangers upon the face of the earth."

Moses, he says, "dared to make out of this wandering and servile troop a body politic, a free people, and while it wandered in the wilderness without so much as a stone on which to rest its head, gave it the lasting institution, proof against time, fortune and conquerors, which 5000 years have not been able to destroy or even to weaken." This singular nation, he says, so often subjugated and scattered, "has nevertheless maintained itself down to our days, scattered among the other nations without ever merging with them."

Moses' genius, he says, lay in the nature of the laws that kept Jews as a people apart. But that is only half the story. The other half lies in this week's parsha, in the institution of storytelling as a fundamental religious duty, recalling and re-enacting the events of the Exodus every year, and in particular, making children central to the story. Noting that in three of the four storytelling passages (three in our parsha, the fourth in *Va'etchanan*) children are referred to as asking questions, the Sages held that the narrative of Seder night should be told in response to a question asked by a child wherever possible. If we are the story we tell about ourselves, then as long as we never lose the story, we will never lose our identity.

This idea found expression some years ago in a fascinating encounter. Tibet has been governed by the Chinese since 1950. During the 1959 uprising, the Dalai Lama, his life in danger, fled to Dharamsala in India where he and many of his followers have lived ever since. Realising that their stay in exile might be prolonged, in 1992 he decided to ask Jews, whom he regarded as the world's experts in maintaining identity in exile, for advice. What, he wanted to know, was the secret? The story of that week-long encounter has been told by Roger Kamenetz in his book, *The Jew in the Lotus*. One of the things they told him was the importance of memory and storytelling in keeping a people's culture and identity alive. They spoke about Pesach and the Seder service in particular. So in 1997 Rabbis and American dignitaries held a special Seder service in Washington DC with the Dalai Lama. He wrote this to the participants:

"In our dialogue with Rabbis and Jewish scholars, the Tibetan people have learned about the secrets of Jewish spiritual survival in exile: one secret is the Passover

Legal Notice.

LEGAL NOTICE

Continued from Page A9

tiff AGAINST Necta Dupuy; Frantzy Dupuy; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated October 18, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on February 27, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 8610 Avenue N, 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 8083 Lot 5. Approximate amount of judgment \$703,916.99 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 1128/13. Steven Naiman, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: January 15, 2020

AJ; 1/24/31; 2/7/14/

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: SOMETHING FRENCH,LLC Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY)on 10/10/2019. 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 process to: Osher Battal 2247 E. 66 street Brooklyn, NY 11234. Purpose: All lawful activity

AJ; 1/24/31; 2/7/14/21/28

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT. COUNTY OF KINGS. U.S. BANK TRUST, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR LSF9 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST, Pltf. vs. JUDY BRATHWAITE, et al, Defts. Index #502954/2013. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale entered Dec. 20, 2018 and order entered June 10, 2019, I will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams St., Brooklyn, NY on Thursday, Mar. 5, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. prem.k/a 211A Lewis Avenue, Brooklyn, NY a/k/a Block 1625, Lot 8. Said property beginning at a point on the Easterly side of Lewis Avenue, distant 40 ft. Southerly from the Southeasterly corner of Lewis Avenue and Lexington Avenue; being a plot 20 ft. x 80 ft. Approx. amt. of judgment is \$709,220.23 plus costs and interest. Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale. For sale information, please visit Auction.com at www.Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832. BRUNO CODISPOTI, Referee. COHN & ROTH, Attys. for Pltf., 100 East Old Country Rd., Mineola, NY. #98293

AJ; 1/31; 2/7/14/21/

SUPREME COURT – COUNTY OF KINGS HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, FOR

Seder. Through it for 2000 years, even in very difficult times, Jewish people remember their liberation from slavery to freedom and this has brought you hope in times of difficulty. We are grateful to our Jewish brothers and sisters for adding to their celebration of freedom the thought of freedom for the Tibetan people."

Cultures are shaped by the range of stories to which they give rise. Some of these have a special role in shaping the

Continued on Page A7

LEGAL NOTICE

THE HOLDERS OF THE J.P.MORGAN ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2006-A5 MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, Plaintiff against ISAAC SHOUELA, A/K/A ISAAC SHOUELA, ELI SHOUELA A/K/A ELI SHOUELA, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on September 25, 2018. 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 5th day of March, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. premises described as follows: All that certain lot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, known and designated as Lots Numbers 63 and 64, Block 6826, on a certain plan of lots called "Brooklyn Harlem" (temporary Name) surveyed for Wood Harmon & Co., March 1902 by Samuel H. McElroy, C.E. and C.S. and filed in Kings County Register's Office, March 23, 1902, and bounded and described as follows, to wit: Easterly at East 21st Street, 40 feet as shown on said plan; Southerly by Lot 62 in Block 100 feet as shown on said plan; Westerly by lots 26 and 25 in said Block 40 feet as shown on said plan; Northerly by Lot 65 in said Block 100 feet as shown on said plan. Said premises known as 1946 E. 21st Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11229. (Block: 6826, Lot: 27). Approximate amount of lien \$ 1,153,565.15 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 20507-13. Steven J. Baker, Esq., Referee. Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 10 Bank Street - Suite 700 White Plains, New York 10606 (914) 949-2574

AJ; 1/31; 2/7/14/21/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS, FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. GLEN R. EDMONDS, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on August 21, 2018, and a Decision and Order filed on December 6, 2019, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on February 27, 2020 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 429 Decatur Street, Brooklyn, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 1677 and Lot 48. Approximate amount of judgment is \$713,853.33 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 1597/2015. Philip L. Kamaras, Esq., Referee Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, 565 Taxter Road, Suite 590, Elmsford, NY 10523. Attorneys for Plaintiff Cash will not be accepted.

AJ; 1/31; 2/7/14/21/

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: BRIDGETTE'S DINING & EVENT HALL, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 01/23/2020. 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 process to: Bridgette's Dining & Event Hall, LLC 200 Utica Avenue store Brooklyn, NY 11213 purpose: all lawful activity

AJ; 1/31; 2/7/14/21/

Social.



An image of one of the Palestinian terrorists who took part in the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre.
Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

‘Fauda’ Writer Works on New TV Series About Mossad Agents Hunting Down Munich Massacre Perpetrators

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

The head writer of the second season of “Fauda,” the popular Israeli drama, is working on a new series about Mossad agents who tracked down members of the Palestinian terror group Black September after the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre, in which 11 Israelis were killed.

Amir Mann’s new eight-part series, called “Band of Spies,” is an international co-production and a collaboration between Reel One Entertainment, the French company Capa Drama, the Israeli media group Ananey Communications and its subsidiary Nutz Productions, Variety reported on Tuesday.

“Band of Spies” will showcase the viewpoints of

both Israelis and Palestinians, honing in on two or three characters from each side, but will focus on Mossad agents and their mission to find the perpetrators of the Munich attack.

“In today’s television market there is hunger for real-world stuff, spy stories and period [drama],” Mann told Variety. “This is about the start of using worldwide media for terrorism and impacting world opinion, and governments starting to do targeted assassinations.”

The story is set in Europe in the 1970s and will take place in multiple countries, including Israel, Lebanon, France, Germany, Greece and Italy. It is expected to be a multi-language project and Mann told Variety the storyline could span several seasons, with the possibility of continuing the series by following events from the 1980s and 1990s.

‘My Life Here is So Wonderful,’ Director Quentin Tarantino Says About Living in Israel

BY JNS.org

Film director Quentin Tarantino spoke to Yediot Achronot in a full-length interview published last week about his new “wonderful” life in Israel with his wife, Israeli singer and model Daniella Pick, who is pregnant with their first child.

The “Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood” director told the publication, “Really, my life here [in Israel] is so wonderful.”

He said he has some “short trips” back to the United States planned for the Oscars awards ceremony, but his family will be in Israel before and after Pick gives birth.

His time in Israel so far has been “great” he said, adding, “I love the country, and the people are really nice, very nice to me, and they seem excited that I’m here.”

According to Yediot, Tarantino and his wife live in Ramat Aviv Gimel, a tony residential neighborhood in northwest Tel Aviv.

He is excited about the birth of his child and described his life with Pick—saying they have a routine where he writes, she makes lunch, he writes more, and they watch movies together—and added, “Really, it’s very, very pleasant.”

When asked how he feels about the missiles fired from the Gaza Strip, Tarantino said, “I’m not scared at

En Route to Tokyo Olympics, Israeli Speed Skater Takes Bronze at European Championship

BY LAUREN IZSO

Israeli speed skater Vladislav Bykanov claimed a bronze medal this week at the European Short Track Speed Skating Championship in Hungary.

Bykanov, 30, took the bronze for the 1,500m race with a time of two minutes and 26.075 seconds, while Itzhak de Laat of the Netherlands earned the silver medal at two minutes and 25.960 seconds and Hungarian Shaoang Liu won gold with a time of two minutes and 25.871 seconds, according to the International Skating Union (ISU).

The Hungarian competitor stole the title from his own brother, Shaolin Sándor Liu, who lost his



Israeli speed skater Vladislav Bykanov. Photo: Instagram.

balance and fell down on the track, coming in 7th place.

The three-day ISU event in the eastern Hungarian city of Debrecen took place from Jan. 24-26.

Bykanov previously won the gold medal in the 3,000m speed skating track at the 2015 and 2018 European Championships.

He qualified for the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, becoming the first male athlete to qualify from Israel in short track speed skating.

He was named Israel’s flag bearer in the opening ceremony, and one of only five Israeli athletes who qualified for the games.

Bykanov came 19th in the 500m, 24th in the 1,000m, and 25th in the 1,500m. He also competed in the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea. If Bykanov qualifies for Tokyo 2020, it will be his third Summer Olympic Games.

Next week, he is set to compete at the Speed Skating World Cup in Calgary, Canada.

all. Like everyone else here, I don’t really notice it.”

Tarantino just won a Golden Globe for Best Screenplay for “Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood,” and in his acceptance speech, he thanked Pick in Hebrew. He said the birth of his child will encourage him to learn more Hebrew.

“I can’t have a conversation now, but I know many words in Hebrew,” he explained. “Obviously, I’m going to learn. I don’t want my boy or girl to speak a language I can’t understand.”

Attention Not-For-Profit Organizations

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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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