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JOURNAL



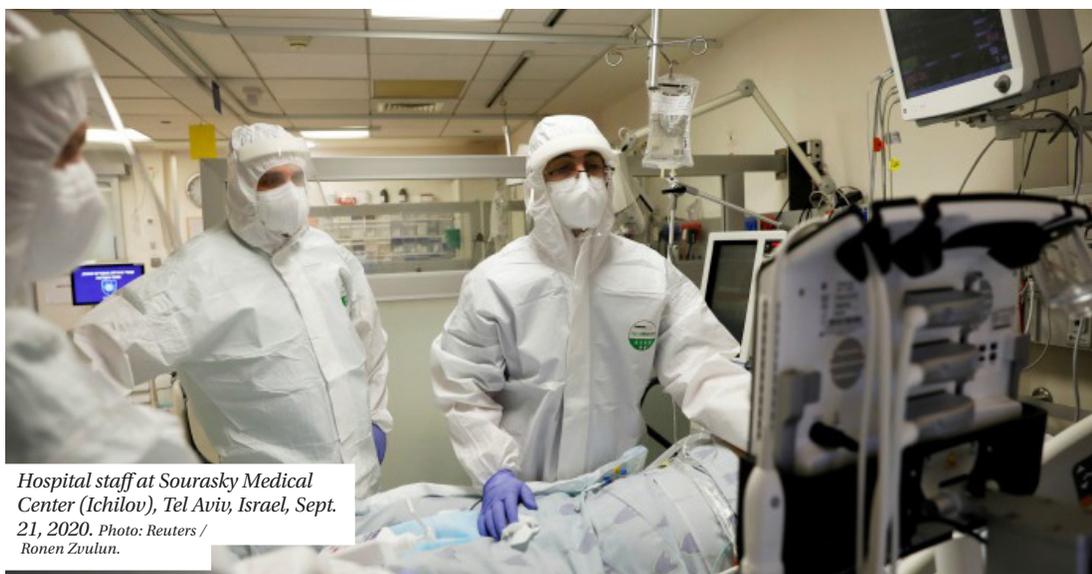
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VOL. XLVII NO. 2473

## In Tel Aviv COVID-19 Ward, Warnings of Dwindling Hospital Capacity



Hospital staff at Sourasky Medical Center (Ichilov), Tel Aviv, Israel, Sept. 21, 2020. Photo: Reuters / Ronen Zvulun.

BY REUTERS  
& ALGEMEINER STAFF

Inside a fast-filling coronavirus ward in a Tel Aviv hospital, doctors rush to treat critical-care patients amid a surge in new cases that has forced Israel into a second nationwide lockdown.

Health officials fear that the three-week lockdown, imposed on Friday, may not be long or restric-

tive enough to slow the daily case toll and relieve hospitals that they warn could soon reach capacity.

New cases have reached daily highs of more than 5,000 among Israel's 9 million population, sharply rebounding from single-digit lows following a relatively stricter initial lockdown from March to May.

On the front lines of Israel's second COVID-19 wave are doctors and nurses working around

the clock at Ichilov Hospital, where half of 60 COVID-19 patients are in serious condition and require ventilation, according to a hospital spokesman.

Guy Choshen, director of Ichilov's coronavirus ward, said the hospital has begun admitting patients from Jerusalem and districts in northern Israel "because of (their) incapacity to handle this increase in numbers."

Continued on Page A3

## Jewish Groups Pay Tribute to Late Supreme Court Justice

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

Jewish groups are paying tribute to late US Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg following her death at the age of 87 on Friday.

"We are deeply saddened by the passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who was in her own words 'a judge, born, raised and proud of being a Jew,'" the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations stated.

"Justice Ginsburg, the first Jewish woman to serve on the high court, sought to apply the values of her faith in seeking equal justice under law and had a lifelong love for Israel," it



An illustration of late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, outside the US Supreme Court in Washington, DC, Sept. 19, 2020. Photo: Reuters / Joshua Roberts.

said. "She is recognized as among the great jurists in modern history. She never ceased to advocate for gender equality while leading the way for women in the legal profession."

"She was an inspiration to millions," the statement noted. "Her passing is being mourned across America, and she leaves an historic legacy that will be studied with reverence for generations to come."

American Jewish Committee CEO David Harris

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## Israel and Africa

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### ShabbatCalendar

Parshat HA'AZINU Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting  
פרשת האזינו Shabbat Begins: 6:29pm | Shabbat Ends: 7:26pm  
יום כפור Yom Kippur Candle Lighting Sunday: 6:26pm  
Fast Begins: 6:40pm | Monday Ym Kippur Ends: 7:22pm



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## Opinion.

## Remembering Ruth Bader Ginsburg: A Jewish Icon



AVI BENLOLO  
MONTREAL

I would like to be remembered as someone who used whatever talent she had to do her work to the very best of her ability. And to help repair tears in her society, to make things a little better through the use of whatever ability she has. — Ruth Bader Ginsburg

In an era of Jewish complacency — when many have lost their way and are clouded about the very essence of being Jewish — they can look to Ruth Bader Ginsburg as an iconic, modern-day role model. Her accomplishments (and there are many) that benefited humanity were deeply grounded in her core Jewish values.

In Jewish tradition, it is said that those who pass away on erev Rosh Hashanah, the evening of Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish New Year) are sacred. Indeed, Bader Ginsburg's legacy as an accomplished women's rights advocate, even before she became a Supreme Court Justice, is demonstrative of a higher calling and a purpose to advance humanity. The public display of sympathy on her passing and memorialization of her accomplishments by the American public and media is demonstrative of her unique place in history.

And that unique place in American history is a source of pride for the Jewish world. Bader Ginsburg is a role model for everyone

and anyone who believes in advancing human dignity. For the young aspiring Jewish child, however, she is doubly empowering — because her very drive for gender equality and social justice was grounded in Judaism itself.

In a 2004 speech at the Washington Holocaust Museum, she admitted:

My heritage as a Jew and my occupation as a judge fit together symmetrically. The demand for justice runs through the entirety of Jewish history and Jewish tradition. I take pride in and draw strength from my heritage, as signs in my chambers attest: a large silver mezuzah on my door post, [a] gift from the Shulamith School for Girls in Brooklyn; on three walls, in artists' renditions of Hebrew letters, the command from Deuteronomy: "Zedek, zedek, tirdof" — "Justice, justice shall you pursue." Those words are ever-present reminders of what judges must do that they "may thrive."

She knew that our obligation, according to scripture and the ethics of our ancestors, is to pursue social justice. Our pursuit is not always perfect, but our intent and morality to find a way to "make the world a better place" or to advocate for what we call "tikkun olam" — repair of the world — is.

Ginsburg fought to ensure the lessons of the Holocaust are preserved, noting that it was critical "to learn of and from that era of inhumanity, to renew our efforts to repair the world's tears."

Her beliefs were likely stamped by her understanding of our people's plight. In her

concluding remarks and in thinking about the Holocaust, she said, "May that memory strengthen our resolve to aid those at home and abroad who suffer from injustice born of ignorance and intolerance, to combat crimes that stem from racism and prejudice."

Ruth Bader Ginsburg was in a league of her own, and her values themselves were likely firmly grounded in Judaism. She will be missed, but the values she espoused to protect and advance equality and human rights will remain a source of strength and conviction in the Jewish world and beyond. May her memory be a blessing.



An illustration of Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in Washington, U.S., September 19, 2020. Photo: REUTERS/Joshua Roberts

Avi Benlolo is a Canadian human rights activist and the former president and CEO of Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center.

## The Arab League and the Time for Rapprochement

EYAL ZISSER/  
ISRAEL HAYOM/JNS.org

The historic peace treaties inked last week between Israel, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates mark more than a breakthrough in Israel-Gulf relations — they may very well herald the end of the century-old

conflict between Israel and the Arab world.

The Arab League's refusal to condemn the peace deals despite the considerable pressure exerted by the Palestinians reflects a wider pan-Arab consensus that the time has come for rapprochement, as well as the fact that the Arab world is no longer willing to needlessly pay the price for Palestinian rejectionism.

A little over 100 years ago, in January 1919, the head of the Zionist movement, Chaim Weizmann, and Emir Faisal, on behalf

*Continued on Page A10*

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## How Low Can Universities Go?



MITCHELL BARD  
NEW YORK

Michelle Obama famously said, "When they go low, we go high." When it comes to Israel on campus, universities seem to believe "if they go low, we go lower" — in what has become a limbo contest for the most contemptible behavior.

Last week, I wrote about the absurdity of Harvard hiring Saeb Erekat, a serial liar and failed negotiator who condemned the peace agreements between Israel and the UAE and Bahrain, to teach diplomacy. San Francisco State University (SFSU) has now out-limboed Harvard by hosting a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) terrorist group who hijacked an Israel-bound plane in 1969 and, a year later, attempted to hijack an El Al flight from Amsterdam to New York.

The Arab and Muslim Ethnicities Diaspora (AMED) initiative, a part of the Ethnic Studies department, invited terrorist Lela Khaled to take part in a discussion on September 23. The topic is, "Whose Narratives? Gender, Justice and Resistance."

Apparently, the faculty of AMED believe that the first female Palestinian hijacker is uniquely qualified to speak on the subjects.

Then again, how surprised should we be that a department that offers an Edward Said Scholarship should welcome someone who is not just anti-Israel, but a terrorist who tried to murder a plane full of people.

Almost exactly 50 years ago, on

September 6, 1970, Khaled and Nicaraguan American Patrick Argüello boarded El Al Flight 219 using Honduran passports. Once the plane was approaching the British coast, they drew guns and grenades and approached the cockpit, demanding entrance. When the pilots refused to open the door, Khaled threatened to blow up the plane. The pilot, Captain Uri Bar Lev, put the plane into a dive to throw the hijackers off balance and security and passengers subdued Khaled who was arrested by British police when the plane made an emergency landing in London.

The same day, Khaled's PFLP terrorist comrades hijacked three other planes and forced them to land in Jordan, where more than 300 passengers and crew were held hostage. The Palestinians blew up the aircraft after removing their captives. This was the catalyst for Black September, when King Hussein of Jordan decided to send his troops to fight the Palestinians who, under Yasser Arafat, were attempting to depose him. Jordanian forces succeeded in routing and expelling the Palestinians (who then set up shop and destabilized Lebanon) in what was the greatest slaughter of Palestinians in history.

Just a week after the hijacking, in one of the early examples of the West capitulating



Palestinian Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) hijacker Leila Khaled. Photo: Sebastian Baryli via Wikimedia Commons.

to Palestinian terror, Khaled was freed in exchange for hostages from the planes hijacked by the PFLP. Khaled is unrepentant and, ironically, lives in Amman, not far from the airport where the hijacked planes were blown up.

Can you imagine a university inviting one of the 9/11 hijackers (had they lived) or another member of Al-Qaeda to speak to students? Prior to this, it would have been inconceivable.

As in so many cases, however, when Jews are the victims, the perpetrators are given a pass, never mind the fact the hijackers took non-Jewish hostages as well. University principles require that terrorists be free to speak on campus.

University President Lynn Mahoney defended AMED's decision with the dodge that "an invitation to a public figure to speak to a class should not be construed as an endorsement of point of view." Now terrorists are apparently public figures like politicians and celebrities.

Mahoney offered the requisite condemnation of bigotry, tossing antisemitism in with all the rest as is now also obligatory, but defended "the right of our faculty to academic freedom and to conducting their teaching and scholarship without censorship ... while also condemning the glorification and use of terrorism and violence, particularly against unarmed civilians."

But what does having Khaled speak have to do with teaching and scholarship? This is yet another example of how universities are dumbing down education by allowing anything a professor says or writes to be regarded as "scholarship."

And where is the condemnation? Mahoney's statement does not mention

*Continued on Page A5*

## World News.

## French Court Jails Neo-Nazi Apologist and Holocaust Denier for Antisemitic Messages

BY ALGEMEINER STAFF

A French court jailed an unrepentant antisemitic activist on Friday for two postings on the internet that defamed Jews and a third that denied the Holocaust.

Hervé Lalin — who also goes by the name Hervé Ryssen — has now begun a 17-month jail term at the Fleury-Mérogis prison near Paris for the three offenses, committed between 2017 and 2020.

The court convicted Lalin for a series of antisemitic postings on Facebook and Twitter, as well as for a video he published on YouTube in 2018 — called “The Jews, Incest and Hysteria” — in which he attacked Jews as a “people of incest.”

A book-length screed by Lalin — published in 2018 and titled “Antisemitism Without Complexity or Taboo” — was condemned for denying the truth of the Nazi Holocaust, a criminal offense in France.



French neo-Nazi and Holocaust denier Hervé Lalin. Photo: Screenshot.

In a recent analysis of the French far right, the newspaper *Liberation* identified Lalin as an integral member of a network of propagandists who were dedicated to the denial and distortion of the Holocaust.

As well as Lalin, the group includes Jerome Bourbon Rivarol, Alain Soral, Yvan Benedetti and Vincent Reynouard — all of whom engage “in systematic denial of the crimes of the Third Reich and the rehabilitation of the murderous [Nazi] regime,” the paper noted.

## Honduras Hopes to Move Israel Embassy to Jerusalem by End of Year

BY REUTERS  
& ALGEMEINER STAFF

Honduras hopes to move its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv by the end of 2020, Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernandez and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday, a move likely to anger the Palestinians.

“To strengthen our strategic alliance, we spoke to arrange the opening of the embassies in Tegucigalpa and Jerusalem, respectively,” Hernandez wrote on Twitter. “We hope to take this historic step before the end of the year, as long as the pandemic allows it.”

The Central American nation has signaled in the past that it may move its embassy to Jerusalem. Netanyahu said the intention was to open and inaugurate their embassies before the end of the year. Israel currently has no embassy in Honduras but



Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernandez speaks during a news conference, at the Presidential House in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, Aug. 19, 2019. Photo: Reuters / Jorge Cabrera.

opened a diplomatic office there last month.

Only two countries — the United States and Guatemala — have already opened embassies in Jerusalem. The Honduran statement followed announcements by US President Donald Trump and Netanyahu this month who said Kosovo and Serbia would also open embassies in Jerusalem.

the courts.”

“She fought fiercely and unflinchingly to advance and defend the rights of women and minorities, and, in the tradition of Justices Louis D. Brandeis and Benjamin Cardozo, embodied the principle of equal justice for all under the law, as well as the Jewish value of ‘tzedeq, tzedeq, tirdof’ — ‘justice, justice shall you pursue,’” he recalled.

B’nai B’rith International remembered Ginsburg as “a champion to many women and others as a strong, progressive voice on the court with a trailblazing judicial presence.”

“Her unique and esteemed, groundbreaking career was often informed and

Continued from Page A1  
Pay Tribute

eulogized Ginsburg as “a giant of American jurisprudence” who “exemplified courage and conviction throughout her life.”

World Jewish Congress President Ronald Lauder commented, “As Jews across the United States and the world welcomed the hope that comes with the first night of Rosh Hashanah, we learned of the devastating loss of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.”

Ginsburg, Lauder added, was “a trailblazer on behalf of gender equality, and she paved the way for women in the law and on

## Germany Earmarks 22 Million Euros to Secure Country’s Jewish Facilities



The New Synagogue, in Berlin, Germany. Photo: Ansgar Koreng / Wikimedia Commons.

BY BENJAMIN KERSTEIN

The German government has reached an agreement with the Jewish community to substantially increase funds earmarked for the security of Jewish institutions and facilities in the country.

The move comes in the wake of the shooting attack on a synagogue in the central city of Halle last Yom Kippur, during which a neo-Nazi assailant attempted to breach the synagogue doors and massacre the congregants inside.

After being unable to force his way into the synagogue, the gunman randomly killed two passersby.

According to a statement from the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community, the German Federal Government and the Central Council of Jews in Germany — a representative body of the country’s Jewish community — signed an annex to a deal that stipulates a grant of 22 million euros to the Central Council for upgrading security at Jewish sites.

The minister of the Interior, Building and Community, Horst Lorenz Seehofer,

said, “Jewish people must be able to live in safety and security in Germany. This is part of Germany’s national ethos.”

“The Jewish community can be sure that the Federal Government is doing everything possible to provide the needed protection,” he added. “We are aware of our responsibility.”

The president of the Central Council, Dr. Josef Schuster, commented, “The costs of providing security often place a considerable financial strain on our Jewish congregations. The attack in Halle, however, made it painfully clear that Jewish life requires serious and massive protection.”

“We greatly appreciate the Federal Government’s commitment,” he noted.

The ministry added in its official statement, “In signing the annex, the Federal Government underscores its commitment to resolutely opposing every form of antisemitism as an attack on our free and democratic basic order.”

“The Federal Government feels a special duty to the Jewish community and opposes all trends to forget or remain silent about the Nazi genocide of the Jews,” it declared.

Continued from Page A1  
Hospital Capacity

Dressed in head-to-toe protective gear, nurses on two-hour shifts weaved through the crowded ward to check on patients, separated from one another by glass and metal partitions.

“Right now, we are 72 percent full, and every day we have more and more new patients. There’s not enough capacity,” Ichilov spokesman Avi Shoshan said.

Preparing for what he called “worst case

scenarios,” Defense Minister Benny Gantz said on Monday he had told the military to be ready to erect a field hospital to relieve the overload.

Some officials have advocated for tightening the current lockdown. While schools have been closed, Israelis are still allowed to travel to work, gather in small groups and attend protests, among a wide list of other exceptions.

influenced by her Judaism,” it pointed out.

In a joint statement, the Union for Reform Judaism, Central Conference of American Rabbis and Women of Reform Judaism said, “Few people have had as long or as profound an impact upon the course of a nation as did Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. As an attorney, Justice Ginsburg committed herself to advancing women’s rights at a time when women were denied equal access to educational, employment, economic and other opportunities. Such injustice offended Justice Ginsburg as a woman, but also as a Jew.”

“Indeed,” the statement continued, “she spoke often of the many ways in which her Jewish upbringing and faith shaped her sense of justice, including the discrimination against Jews that was part of life even in her native New

York City during her formative years.”

Condolences over Ginsburg’s death were also expressed by top Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who stated, “I join the American people in mourning the passing of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, one of the great judicial leaders of our time. She was proud of her Jewish heritage and the Jewish people will always be proud of her.”

Israeli Defense Minister and Alternate Prime Minister Benny Gantz said Ginsburg “succeeded in changing the reality for women...with wisdom, determination and composure.”

Israeli President Reuven Rivlin tweeted that Ginsburg was “a passionate champion of justice, democracy and equality under the law.”

## World News.



Israeli Jews and Arabs at an event held by the organization PresenTense. Photo: YouTube.

## Citi Foundation Expands Its Entrepreneurship Efforts in Israeli Arab Minority With Almost \$500,000 Grant To PresenTense

BY JAMES SPIRO/CTech

The Citi Foundation has continued its support for the Israeli non-profit organization PresenTense, completing an investment of almost \$500,000 into various programs. PresenTense helps encourage social entrepreneurship, new business, and technology among Israel's minority sectors for the tech ecosystem. This brings Citi Foundation's investment in PresenTense up to \$2 million.

In the next year, more than 2,500 young adults will participate in PresenTense's training for entrepreneurship and innovation. This also includes access to ecosystem events, PresenTense's accelerator program, and courses for small business owners looking to expand their industry. The grant will be used to help build local ecosystems in South Tel Aviv supporting the Arab population in Jaffa and Haifa, as well as empowering young people to integrate into Israel's Startup Nation activities.

"The Citi Foundation's continued support allows us to expand our activities to create social change through entrepreneurship and assist individuals and communities from Arab society to take part in exponential economic

growth," said PresenTense Co-CEO Ariella Rosen and Khoulood Ayuti in a joint statement. "Especially during these times of social issues and unemployment, we are witnessing entrepreneurship's power to reduce socio-economic disparities and promote inclusion alongside bridging the gaps between the diverse communities in Israel."

"The Citi Foundation's work is based on using entrepreneurship as a tool for strengthening the local economy, empowering the community and resolving issues in Israeli society," added Citi Israel CCO Neil Corney. "While partnering with PresenTense, we have witnessed entrepreneurship's power to bridge gaps and encourage the inclusion of marginalized groups. We are delighted to continue this mutual path of promoting entrepreneurship in Arab society."

The Citi Foundation aims to promote economic progress and improve the lives of low-income communities around the world. It has committed \$100 million over three years to help marginalized communities enter the workforce. The foundation is part of Citi, the global bank with more than 200 million customer accounts worldwide.

## Columbia Student Paper Apologizes for Running 'Deeply Inappropriate' Pro-Israel Ad

BY JORDAN ESRIG

The editors of the *Columbia Daily Spectator* — the student newspaper at the New York Ivy League school — apologized on Sunday for running what they called a "deeply inappropriate" pro-Israel advertisement.

The ad — created by the Columbia chapter of the Students Supporting Israel (SSI) group — urged students to "vote no" in an upcoming BDS referendum at the university's undergraduate college.

In a message addressed to *Spectator* readers, the paper's Editor-in-Chief Karen Xia, Managing Editor Shubham Saharan and Publisher Isabel Jauregui said, "The message, which referenced the Columbia University Apartheid Divest referendum, was clearly inappropriate and did not meet our standards for distribution. We deeply apologize for giving

this advertisement space on our platform and are immediately reviewing our internal processes to ensure that publication of such material will never happen again. Neither The Columbia Spectator nor Spectator Publishing Company endorses Students Supporting Israel and Columbia or its products, services or views."

The SSI ad was published ahead of a vote this week on a BDS referendum which seeks to "divest [Columbia's] stocks, funds and endowment from companies that profit from or engage in the State of Israel's acts towards Palestinians."

The initiative is the fourth attempt by anti-Israel students at Columbia to impose an institutional boycott on the Jewish state. Three prior bids failed.

The latest effort is being led the Columbia University Apartheid Divest (CUAD)

## At UN, Trump Demands Action Against China Over Coronavirus

BY REUTERS  
& ALGEMEINER STAFF

US President Donald Trump used the UN General Assembly on Tuesday to attack China's handling of the coronavirus pandemic, saying it must be held accountable for having "unleashed this plague onto the world."

By contrast, China's President Xi Jinping struck a conciliatory tone in his pre-recorded virtual address to the General Assembly, calling for enhanced cooperation over the pandemic and stressing that China had no intention of fighting "either a Cold War or a hot war with any country."

The leaders of the world's two largest economies laid out their competing visions as relations have plunged to their worst level in decades against the backdrop of the pandemic, with coronavirus tensions aggravating trade and technology disputes.

Trump, facing a November re-election battle with the United States dealing with the world's highest official number of deaths and infections from the coronavirus, focused his speech on attacking China.

He accused Beijing of allowing people to leave China in the early stages of the outbreak to infect the world while shutting down domestic travel.

"We must hold accountable the nation which unleashed this plague onto the world, China," he said in remarks taped on Monday and delivered remotely to the General Assembly due to the pandemic.

"The Chinese government, and the World Health Organization — which is virtually controlled by China — falsely declared that there was no evidence of human-to-human transmission," he said.

"Later, they falsely said people without symptoms would not spread the disease ... The United Nations must hold China accountable for their actions."

The president promised to distribute a vaccine and said: "We will defeat the virus, and we will end the pandemic."

In introducing Xi's remarks, China's UN ambassador, Zhang Jun, said China "resolutely rejects the baseless accusations against China."

"The world is at a crossroads. At this moment, the world needs more solidarity and cooperation, but not confrontation."

"Get through this together"

Xi's address contained what appeared to be an implicit rebuke to Trump, calling for a global response to the coronavirus and a leading role for the World Health Organization, which the US president has announced plans to leave.

movement.

Pushing back against CUAD, the SSI ad urged readers to "to keep Jewish students safe on campus" by opposing the referendum.

The ad stated, "CUAD's BDS REFERENDUM IS JEW HATRED."

In response to the paper's apology over the ad, the president of Columbia's SSI chapter, Ofir Dayan, criticized the *Spectator* for "implicitly sen[ding] a political message" by "negating the advertisement's message and negating our organization as a unit."

According to Dayan, SSI only submitted the ad after inquiring with a member of the *Spectator* staff "about the guidelines and procedures of advertising."

Dayan said that the staff member



US President Donald Trump speaks during the 75th annual UN General Assembly, in the Manhattan borough of New York City, Sept. 22, 2020. Photo: United Nations / Handout via Reuters.

"Facing the virus, we should enhance solidarity and get through this together," he said. "We should follow the guidance of science, give full play to the leading role of the World Health Organization and launch a joint international response to beat this pandemic. Any attempt of politicizing the issue, or stigmatization, must be rejected."

The WHO rejected Trump's remarks.

"No one gov't controls us," it communications director, Gabby Stern, said in a tweet, adding: "On Jan. 14 our #COVID19 technical lead told media of the potential for human-to-human transmission. Since February, our experts have publicly discussed transmission by people without symptoms or prior to symptoms."

Russian President Vladimir Putin told the General Assembly the WHO should be strengthened to coordinate the global response to the pandemic and proposed a high-level conference on vaccine cooperation.

China has portrayed itself as the chief cheerleader for multilateralism at a time when Trump's disregard for international cooperation has led to Washington quitting global deals on climate and Iran and leaving the UN Human Rights Council, as well as the WHO.

Xi took an apparent swipe at Trump's "America First" policy in statement to a meeting celebrating the 75th anniversary of the United Nations on Monday.

"No country has the right to dominate global affairs, control the destiny of others, or keep advantages in development all to itself. Even less should one be allowed to do whatever it likes and be the hegemon, bully or boss of the world. Unilateralism is a dead end," he said.

The death toll from the spread of the coronavirus in the United States surpassed 200,000 on Monday, by far the highest official number of any country.

Trump also attacked China's record on the environment, but leveled no direct criticism at Beijing over human rights.

The president, a frequent critic of the United Nations, said that if it was to be

*Continued on Page A5*

"confirmed [the ad was] acceptable and met Spectator standards."

Referendum voting began on Tuesday morning and will end on Friday night — all during the Jewish High Holy Days. The results will be announced next week.



Columbia University. Photo: Students Supporting Israel at Columbia University.

U.S. News.

# Ginsburg to be First Woman, Jewish Person to Lie in State at US Capitol

BY JNS.org

Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the first Jewish woman to serve on the US Supreme Court, will now also become the first woman and the first Jewish person to lie in state at the US Capitol building, following her death on Sept. 18 at the age of 87 at her home in Washington, DC.

Ginsburg, a heralded liberal judicial, feminist and Jewish icon who was the second woman to serve on the nation's highest court, died from "complications of metastatic pancreas cancer," according to a statement from the Supreme Court shortly after her death.

US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) said on Monday that Ginsburg will lie in state in National Statuary Hall in the US Capitol on Friday.

A formal ceremony will be held on Friday morning. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the ceremony will be open to invited guests only, according to Pelosi.

The honor will come after Ginsburg will lie "in repose" at the Supreme Court building on Wednesday and Thursday. Both the Supreme Court and the Capitol building are closed to the public, also due to the pandemic.

"There have been eight Jewish Supreme Court justices; the five who predeceased Ginsburg did not lie in repose. Not every justice is accorded the honor—most recently, Antonin Scalia, Ginsburg's close friend and ideological opposite, lay in repose after his death in 2016. The Supreme Court did not supply a list of justices who have lain in repose," reported JTA.

Continued from Page A4  
Action

effective, it must focus on "the real problems of the world" like "terrorism, the oppression of women, forced labor, drug trafficking, human and sex trafficking, religious persecution, and the ethnic cleansing of religious minorities."

China's envoy Zhang Jun issued a statement in response to Trump's remarks, accusing the United States of "abusing the platform of the United Nations to provoke confrontation and create division."

"Lies repeated a thousand times are still lies," he said.

Earlier, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned that the world was "moving in a very dangerous direction" with US-China tensions.

"We must do everything to avoid a new Cold War," he told the assembly. "Our world cannot afford a future where the two largest economies split the globe in a Great Fracture — each with its own trade and financial rules and internet and artificial intelligence capacities."

"A technological and economic divide risks inevitably turning into a geo-strategic and military divide. We must avoid this at all costs."

Continued from Page A2  
How Low

Khaled or criticize her role as a terrorist. By giving Khaled a platform without denouncing her, the university is condoning her actions.

Mahoney boasts her campus is "one of the most diverse campuses in the US," not mentioning it has historically been one of the most anti-Israel. "But we may also find ourselves seated next to or hearing from someone with completely divergent views and even views we find personally abhorrent," she says. "These encounters, here and at other universities, have sometimes led to discord, anger, confrontation and fear. We can allow these moments to pull us apart. Or we can use them to launch new conversations, offer alternative viewpoints and affirm our commitments to viewpoint diversity.... There is — and must be — space for all viewpoints at SF State."

How often have we heard similar refrains from university officials whenever anti-Israel or antisemitic speech is involved? Is there really no limit to what would be allowed at SFSU? If defending the use of terror is a valid viewpoint, what about Holocaust denial or eugenics? Does anyone seriously believe Mahoney would allow space for racist or sexist speakers?

Just when you think the limbo bar cannot go any lower on campus, another university finds a way to bring it down another notch.

Mitchell Bard is a foreign policy analyst and authority on US-Israel relations who has written and edited 22 books including: *The Arab Lobby*, *Death to the Infidels: Radical Islam's War Against the Jews* and *After Anatevka: Tevye in Palestine*.

Ginsburg will be just the second Supreme Court justice and the 35th person overall to lie in state at the Capitol, which is an honor reserved for those who have made a significant impact on American life. She will do so despite Jewish law, which requires a body to be buried within 24 hours of the person's death, with some exceptions such as the Sabbath and allowing relatives to be present for the burial.

No information on the *shivah*, where immediate family members of the deceased sit in mourning for seven days (with exceptions that end it early such as Yom Kippur, which begins on Sunday night, Sept. 27), has been released.

No information on Ginsburg's funeral has yet been released.

She will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, which is reserved for military veterans and their spouses and children, but also for statespersons such as Supreme



US Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg at the Supreme Court building in Washington, DC, US, June 1, 2017. Photo: Reuters / Jonathan Ernst / File.

Court justices. She is expected to be buried next to her late husband, Martin, a military veteran and tax lawyer who died in 2010.

Although Ginsburg will be the first woman to lie in state at the Capitol, civil rights hero Rosa Parks was the first woman to lay "in honor" at the Capitol in 2005. Along with Parks, three other people have lain in honor at the Capitol.

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## Opinion.

# UN's Treatment of Israel Continues to Belie Its Lofty Ideals



SAMUEL H. SOLOMON  
NEW YORK

The UN and many other international institutions purport to be exemplars of high ideals, objective standards, and a commitment to human rights. The reality is sadly quite different. Despite lofty mission statements, the actions and policies of such institutions reflect political horse-trading, narrow interests, and the tyranny of the majority. Nowhere is this discrepancy between discourse and reality more evident than with regard to the treatment of Israel.

In fact, the deal-making that determines votes in institutions such as the UN leads frequently to outcomes that are nothing short of absurd. Countries such as Venezuela, Libya, and China are elected to the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC), and China chairs the UNHRC process that nominates the UN's world monitor on free speech. One cannot make this up.

However, there is no clearer example of the abuse of the patina of international "legitimacy" for political ends than the weaponizing of global forums to wage diplomatic and legal war against Israel.

From 2006-2019, the UNHRC issued 85 condemnations of Israel. During the same period, it issued 12 condemnations of North Korea, nine of Iran, one of Venezuela, and zero of China, Qatar, Sudan, or Somalia. Israel is the only country in the world subject to a permanent item on the UNHRC's annual agenda, which is dedicated to the state's condemnation.

The anti-Israel campaign at the UNHRC entered a new phase in February 2020 in a manner that directly threatens US companies and interests. On February 12, the UN Human Rights Commissioner, at the behest of the UNHRC, published a blacklist of companies allegedly contributing to Israeli settlements in the West Bank.

No other UNHRC blacklist (or, in UN parlance, "database") has ever been drawn up for any other territory considered disputed or occupied anywhere else in the world. This is for the simple reason that business activity in other such territories is considered legitimate. In fact, many of the world's largest corporations, including European multinationals, have extensive operations in areas considered by the UN to be occupied, such as northern Cyprus and Western Sahara. Only in Israel's case did the member states of the UNHRC vote to create a blacklist targeting companies

engaged in lawful activity.

This is a clear case of double standards. The most widely accepted international definition of antisemitism, that of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), includes, as an example of modern antisemitism, the application of double standards to Israel alone. The IHRA has been adopted by over 25 countries and has been endorsed by others. The UN's blacklist is thus a glaring example of modern antisemitism.

The unconscionable and even illegal discrimination endorsed by the UNHRC blacklist goes even further. Even if one were to accept the disputed claim that the West Bank should be considered "occupied," the UN blacklist faults companies for providing services that, under international law, an "occupying power" is required to provide (such as ensuring "public order and safety" and "public health and hygiene").

In other cases, Israel and international companies are included on the blacklist for providing services in areas explicitly under Israeli responsibility according to signed Israeli-Palestinian agreements witnessed by the international community, such as the Oslo Accords and the Paris Protocol.

In other words, the UN is blacklisting companies for performing activities that are not only legal under international law, but are in some cases explicitly recognized or mandated by international conventions and agreements.

Following the UN blacklist's publication, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo condemned it, declaring:

*The United States has long opposed the creation or release of this database, which was mandated by the discredited UNHRC... Its publication only confirms the unrelenting anti-Israel bias so prevalent at the UN...*

Similarly, US Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross stated, "The UN 'blacklist' is anti-business, seeks to isolate Israel, has no factual basis or legal force whatsoever, and should not be adhered to in any respect."

The clear goal of the Palestinians, the pro-Palestinian NGOs that promoted the list, and their allies on the UNHRC was to use the UN to give a stamp of legitimacy to BDS, which seeks to end Israel's existence as a Jewish state. As Secretary Pompeo noted, this UN effort "facilitates the discriminatory BDS campaign and delegitimizes Israel."

Another UN body whose aura of international legitimacy is regularly used to delegitimize Jewish history and heritage is the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). The organization has time and time again passed feckless resolutions

that erase thousands of years of Jewish history, while singling out Israel for condemnation.

For example, an October 2016 UNESCO resolution referred to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem — the holiest site in Judaism — solely by its Islamic name ("al-Aqsa Mosque/al-Haram al-Sharif"), while intentionally omitting any reference to a Jewish connection to this site, which predates Islam by centuries. As a result of the politicization of UNESCO, both the US and Israel quit the organization in 2019.

The political nature of supposedly non-political organizations is evidenced as well by the World Health Organization (WHO), whose agenda and leadership is ultimately determined not by objective medical professionals, but by its 194 member states. The WHO was widely criticized for pro-China bias in its handling of COVID-19, but its highly political nature was on display even before the global pandemic in its treatment of Israel. At the WHO's 2019 Assembly, out of 21 agenda items, only one, co-sponsored by the Arab bloc and the Palestinian delegation, singled out a particular country: Israel. While paying lip service to the idea that diseases know no borders, the WHO refuses to include Israel in its Eastern Mediterranean region due to the objections of Arab states. Instead, it classifies Israel as part of Europe, prioritizing political considerations over those related to public health.

The majority of EU countries tend to hypocritically play along with this misuse of international organizations, voting for blatantly one-sided anti-Israel resolutions or at best abstaining from them. This occurs for several reasons.

One is old-fashioned self-interest. The Europeans, like other countries in the global bazaar that is the UN, trade favors and votes in order to pursue their own interests inside and outside the world body. Inside the UN, this includes gaining votes in elections to prominent bodies such as the UN Security Council (UNSC). For example, in the lead-up to the June 2020 vote for the two Western representatives on the UNSC, for which Canada, Norway, and Ireland competed, the three countries' records on Israel became an issue. As Yves Engler, writing in the *Hill Times*, opined:

*Canada's anti-Palestinian voting record should disqualify it from a seat on the UNSC...since 2000 Canada has voted against 166 General Assembly resolutions critical of Israel's treatment of Palestinians. Ireland and Norway haven't voted against any of these resolutions.*

Sure enough, Ireland and Norway beat out Canada.

At other times, the positions of European countries inside the UN are determined



United Nations Security Council members attend a meeting on the Middle East, at the UN headquarters, in New York City, Dec. 18, 2018. Photo: Reuters / Shannon Stapleton.

by interests outside its halls and include lucrative contracts for major European corporations with countries such as Iran. While American companies are greatly limited in their ability to compete for such contracts due to US sanctions, the Europeans' conciliatory approach toward Iran in international forums and willingness to ignore Iranian violations of international law gives a leg up to EU companies. However, an additional factor at play is Europe's reliance on the conventions and frameworks of international institutions due to its military weakness. As a weak power, the EU depends on the norms of international bodies and "consensus" to restrain stronger powers and even out the playing field.

As put succinctly by Ireland's ambassador to Israel in a June 2020 interview:

*We're not a superpower, so [we] don't rely on the threat of force to protect our interests. Instead, we rely on international law and international consensus. And if there's no rules-based system, our interests are seriously affected.*

The same is true for the EU writ large. EU members should reconsider the failed strategy of ignoring or even facilitating the use of international institutions to target Israel. Their strategy might buy them short-term benefits, but by enabling the world's worst human rights violators and terror sponsors to use international forums for political campaigns, they are contributing to global instability.

Additionally, given EU members' repeated declarations of their commitment to the fight against antisemitism and the adoption by many of the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism, they must refuse to take part in UN processes that apply double standards and promote antisemitism. The Trump administration has spoken out courageously against the UN's political bias and has backed up its words with actions, such as quitting the UNHRC and UNESCO. All future US administrations, whether Democrat or Republican, must continue to recognize the reality of such international institutions and strongly oppose their absurd agendas.

*Samuel H. Solomon is engaged in human rights advocacy in defense of democracies and has founded several non-profit organizations to address this issue. He has an MBA in finance, a Masters in philosophy, and theological ordination. He can be reached at <https://sam-solomon.com>.*

*A version of this article was originally published by The BESA Center.*

## Thomas Friedman's Folly



JEROLD AUERBACH  
JNS.org

Thomas Friedman, the *New York Times* pontificator on the Middle East, and especially Israel, could not resist. In a column titled "The Love Triangle That Spawned Trump's Mideast

Peace Deal" between Israel, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain (Sept. 15), he rightly praised "anything that makes the Middle East more like the European Union and less like the Syrian civil war."

Seizing the opportunity, Friedman cited his 40 years as a chronicler of Arab-Israeli diplomacy to segue from an engaging analysis of the new agreement to his long-favored trope: Israel's occupation of "Palestinian" land. "Maybe the most important unintended

consequence of [Jared] Kushner's peace endeavor," he imagines, was its exposure of the fact that the Israeli government "is completely incapable of accepting any kind of two-state solution with the Palestinians."

Kushner's plan would allow Israel to annex "about 30% of the West Bank" (biblical Judea and Samaria), where most of the settlements that Friedman despises are located. In Friedman's rendition, "hardline settlers in Bibi's coalition" — referring to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu — unable to secure sovereignty over the entire West Bank, opposed yielding the remaining 70% for a Palestinian state. But Netanyahu, as he is wont to do under pressure, abandoned his annexa-

tion plan in return for the UAE promise to normalize relations with Israel.

For Friedman, never a fan of settlers, that is cause for celebration. He foresees that Palestinians — frustrated by the absence of statehood and unrelenting Israeli control — "will eventually demand equal rights and Israeli citizenship." That would "pose a direct threat to Israel's Jewish and democratic character in a way no Arab army ever has." He imagines, with evident glee, that this would be Netanyahu's "true legacy."

It may be, however, that Friedman and not Netanyahu "flunked" the test. A brief summary of his Brandeis University leader-

## Opinion.

Continued from Page A6  
Folly

ship in a "Middle East Peace Group," his stint as a *UPI* reporter in Lebanon, and his decades as the *New York Times* Jerusalem bureau chief and columnist indicate why.

The Peace Group published a statement, signed by Friedman, discounting Palestinian terrorist attacks as "clearly not representative of the diverse elements of the Palestinian people," as though that mattered to Israeli victims. Co-chaired by Friedman, the Peace Group joined Breira ("alternative"), an organization of left-wing rabbis and Jewish intellectuals who favored Palestinian statehood, and blamed Israel and the United States for Middle East instability.

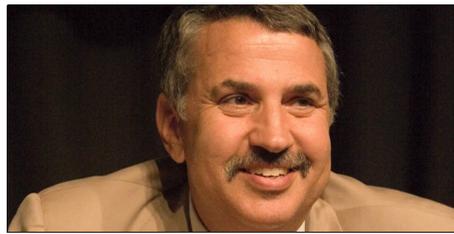
Hired by *UPI* after Middle East studies at Oxford, Friedman was posted to Beirut, where he quickly learned the importance of "keeping on good terms with the PLO." In 1981, he was hired by the *New York Times*, returning to Beirut in time to cover the massacre of Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps by Christian Phalangists. The massacre, he concluded, was "a blot on Israel and the Jewish people." Indeed, he confessed, it demolished "every illusion I ever held about the Jewish state."

Posted to Jerusalem, Friedman resumed his narrative of Israeli malfeasance. Israeli "occupation" (of its biblical homeland in Judea and Samaria) became a persistent theme of his reporting.

Criticism of Israel, especially by Israeli leftists who were his primary opinion sources, identified the Jewish state as the major source of Middle East problems. So, embracing moral equivalence between Israelis and Palestinians, Friedman cited Israeli "occupation" of "Palestinian" land as the explanation for its moral decline. He wondered whether Israel would become "a Jewish South Africa, permanently ruling Palestinians in West Bank homelands." Or, perhaps, "a Jewish Prussia, trying to bully all of its neighbors."

Friedman airily dismissed waves of Palestinian terrorist attacks as merely a "constant challenge — like a continual poke in the ribs." Celebrating their emergence as a "people" and a "nation," he seemed surprised that "Palestinian" and "terrorist" were linked. In his rendering of the biblical narrative, they dared "to challenge the Israelis the way David challenged Goliath."

Friedman, like his newspaper, routinely applied a double standard to Israel (that he imaginatively recast as a "unique double dimension"). He preposterously claimed that when Israel no longer was "judged by standards applied to no other country," it



New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman.  
Photo: Charles Haynes via Wikimedia Commons.

meant that "something very essential in Israel's character and the character of the Jewish people has died." He declined to say what double standards revealed about journalistic integrity.

Returning to the United States as a *Times* columnist who could lacerate Israel at will, Friedman believed that there was "no hope for peace without a Palestinian state in Gaza and the West Bank." Yearning for a "total Israeli withdrawal" to pre-1967 lines, he warned that without a two-state solution, "Israel will be stuck with an apartheid-like, democracy-sapping, permanent occupation." Echoing a trope favored by his colleague Anthony Lewis, he feared that "scary religious nationalist zealots" might lead Israel into the "dark corner" of a South African future of apartheid.

But Friedman's dark fantasies about Israel unless it obeys his peace proposals reveal nothing more than his frustration that the Jewish state does not heed his advice for a return to its pre-1967 borders. That, of course, would heighten its vulnerability to new waves of Palestinian terrorism. He remains as he was as a Brandeis undergraduate: yearning for Palestinian statehood and furious at Israel for its determination to rebuild a state within its ancient Jewish homeland.

To be sure, Friedman is hardly alone at the *New York Times*. In an editorial (Sept. 17) celebrating the normalization of relations between Israel, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain, the *Times* reiterated its hackneyed insistence that "a true Middle East peace deal" requires "an accommodation" (a two-state solution) with Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. But even a cursory glance at the refusal of Palestinians under Yasser Arafat to accept a peace that would have given them the entire West Bank and Gaza for their own state would suggest otherwise. Thomas Friedman and the *New York Times* are a perfect match for the blame-Israel-first prize.

*Jerold S. Auerbach is the author of Print to Fit: The New York Times, Zionism and Israel 1896-2016, which was recently selected for Mosaic by Ruth Wisse and Martin Kramer as a "Best Book" for 2019.*

## Put an End to Fake Antisemitism Charges



JONATHAN S. TOBIN  
JNS.org

The Democrats' ad is mean-spirited and a cheap shot intended to highlight the fact that a company founded by Richter's father and for which Richter served as CEO at one point lost money. But there's no proof that the Democrats' motivation was specifically to highlight Richter's Jewish identity. While depicting Jews as money-grubbing swindlers is a perennial of classic antisemitism, not every comment involving an individual Jew

and finance is antisemitic. Nor should being Jewish give anyone immunity from the normal give and take of rough and tumble politics.

Even more to the point, at a time when examples of antisemitism abound among extremists on both the right and the left, crying "wolf" in cases like this one undermines the effort to mobilize decent people against the real thing.

But it's hard to blame Republicans for trying to make a meal of this nasty tactic, since Democrats have been guilty of repeatedly doing the same thing.

Over the summer, Democrats were crying foul when Sen. David Purdue's (R-Ga.) campaign published a Facebook ad claiming that his Jewish opponent, Jon Ossoff, was

## The Strategic Benefits to the US and Israel of Offering F-35s to the UAE



AMIN TARZI  
QUANTICO



Two Israeli F-35I Adir jets fly in formation.  
Photo: US Air Force/1st Lt. Erik D. Anthony.

For Israel, the new opening with Arab countries in the Persian Gulf offers unparalleled political, strategic, and financial opportunities. With the UAE case as a model, Israel has the opportunity not only to showcase its technological knowhow in safeguarding Gulf states from threats posed by Iran and other potential adversaries, but also to extend its own defensive measures further from its borders and closer to its most ardent adversary. Beyond security sector collaborations, numerous other Israeli firms — from desalination plants to those producing safe nuclear energy — stand to expand their markets and accrue benefits, not only in economic terms but also in terms of public perception.

The UAE's bold move to formally normalize its relationship with Israel came with considerable risk. The calculations in Abu Dhabi hinged on security factors from threats emanating from Iran, the perceived unreliability of the US commitment to long-term security arrangements in the region, and the confrontational stances taken by Muslim Brotherhood-inspired governments in Qatar, Turkey, and Libya. The normalization process between Israel and the UAE, while ongoing for years, was formalized with the mediation of the US. That factor was part of Abu Dhabi's risk-benefit calculation: by smoothing relations with Israel, it is trying to further solidify its relationship with Washington.

Cooperation between Abu Dhabi and Jerusalem on shared threats could have been enhanced without overt normalization, but a US-mediated opening of normalized relations suggested several key benefits that made it worthwhile to the UAE. The most immediate of these potential benefits is the sale to the Emirates of F-35s.

This issue has prompted much debate, mainly in Israel, revolving around the American commitment to maintain Jerusalem's qualitative military edge (QME) as mandated by Congress in 2008. That commitment assured Israel that it would continue to possess technological and other advantages that would enable it to deter larger enemy forces. Those in Israel who oppose the sale of F-35s to the UAE point to the instability of the political order in the Middle East as reason enough to fear the sale's ultimate result. Others opposing the sale argue that should the UAE obtain the advanced stealth fighters, the US would find it very difficult to avoid selling them to Saudi Arabia as well, which would further erode Israel's QME in the region.

Both arguments have merit. However, Abu Dhabi took the step of normalizing relations with Jerusalem to safeguard its polit-

"trying to buy Georgia." That ad also appeared to make Ossoff's nose look bigger. In response, Ossoff and fellow Democrats blasted Purdue with some of the same rhetoric used by Richter's supporters.

Democrats have also attempted to claim that any Republican criticism of their

ical system from both internal and external threats. If the first act of post-normalization is an Israeli campaign to persuade Congress or the Trump administration to rescind the F-35 sale to the UAE, trust in the budding relationship between Abu Dhabi and Jerusalem, as well as between Abu Dhabi and Washington, will be damaged.

Unlike the peoples of Israel's neighbors Egypt and Jordan, with whom Jerusalem has had chilly peace agreements for many years, the people of the Emirates seem to be embracing their government's decision. The UAE government and its people now regard both Israel and the US as trusted partners. Building alliances based on trust and dependability would provide Israel with much greater defensive depth and would afford the US a chance to deny further access to Russia and China in the region — all while maintaining a lighter American footprint there.

As for the Saudis, as leaders of the Muslim world, they have thus far made the resolution of the Palestinian issue a prerequisite to normalization of relations with Israel. With ample reports of covert collaboration between Israel and Saudi Arabia, what message would it send to Riyadh should Jerusalem pressure Washington to withdraw the F-35s from the table?

It is important to keep in mind that Israel's QME is not hinged on aircraft only. Israel, through its relationship with the US and on its own, has qualitative tactical military advantages over its potential adversaries, and these should be maintained. The overall strategy would be to change existing and potential enmities to acceptance, if not full normalization of relations, between Israel and states in the region. To achieve that, some minor risks will have to be taken by all parties involved.

Moreover, if the US does not offer F-35s to the UAE or potentially to Saudi Arabia, both US adversarial peer competitors and European allies can be expected to step in. Not only would they reap the economic and political advantages of such deals, but also, in the case of China and Russia, they would weaken both the US and Israel.

*Dr. Amin Tarzi is Director of Middle East Studies at Marine Corps University. The opinions and conclusions expressed herein are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of either the US Marine Corps or any other US government agency. Any references to this piece should include the foregoing statement.*

*A version of this article was originally published by the BESA Center.*

three largest donors — billionaires George Soros, Michael Bloomberg and Tom Steyer — is inherently antisemitic because all three are Jewish or, in Steyer's case, have Jewish origins. When House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) tweeted something about

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## Impressions.

# Israel and Africa: A Sign of Hope

BY JAMES SINKINSON/JNS.org

With the excitement and historic nature of the Abraham Accords, the growing intimacy between African nations and the State of Israel has gone largely unnoticed. But connections to its African neighbors can play a huge role in helping Israel to reduce the abuse heaped on it in international forums, forge peace in the region, and elevate Israel's deserved status as a world leader.

Both Chad and Malawi have stated in recent weeks that they are ready to open diplomatic missions in Jerusalem. Formal relations with Sudan look to be only a matter of time, especially after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with the chief of Sudan's Sovereignty Council, Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, earlier in the year.

This is significant because Africa was always considered very much a part of the bloc of nations that would automatically vote against Israel in international institutions and were reticent to be seen as growing too close to the Jewish state.

This was largely a result of threats over oil and trade, and the power of the bloc of 57 Islamic nations and 22 Arab nations that dominate the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) of developing countries at the United Nations. The coalition gave Islamic nations an "automatic majority" in the NAM, which itself has the majority of member states at the United Nations and other international institutions.

Nevertheless, it wasn't always like that.

Israel and African nations had good relations during the 1950s and 1960s, based on a shared fate — they had all thrown off colonialism to reestablish independence. Israel and sub-Saharan Africa faced similar challenges with increasing desertification and a lack of water resources. The young State of Israel was among the first countries to extend substantial assistance to the newly independent countries and their liberated peoples.

Israel's aid was provided in fields from agriculture, medicine, and defense to infrastructure projects, such as the construction of airports, the establishment of shipping companies, and educational and professional training institutions.

This ended in 1973 when the Organization of African Unity (OAU) begrudgingly bowed to Arab pressure during the oil crisis of 1973. For the next few decades, African nations were manipulated to become a major source of antagonism toward Israel in multiple international institutions, like the United Nations, where the NAM could guarantee passage of any anti-Israel resolution.

Since that time, the most notable commodities Arabs have exported to sub-Saharan Africa have been terrorism, jihad, and Islamism. Terrorist groups like Boko Haram, Al Shabaab, and other offshoots of al-Qaeda and the Islamic State have cost thousands of African lives. These groups remain a constant threat to sovereign nations in Africa.

Israeli intelligence, experience, and knowledge have played pivotal roles in ensuring greater security for African nations, and have thwarted many potentially deadly attacks. In addition, the Israeli government, through its international aid and development agency MASHAV, has been helping African governments and peoples to find solutions to the challenges of water scarcity and food security through advances in agricultural, food, and water technology. Israeli experts are at the forefront of providing electricity to rural

fraternal bonds between the Jewish and African peoples.

In recent years, standing against Palestinian diplomatic bullying tactics, African nations have begun to realize that Israel is a committed and reliable ally in the battle against the effects of climate change and terrorism, and can help these countries progress and develop. The friendship between Israel and Africa is also starting to remove a major weapon in the Palestinian arsenal — the automatic majority against Israel in interna-



Malawi President Lazarus Chakwera addresses supporters after a court annulled the May 2019 presidential vote that declared Peter Mutharika the winner, in Lilongwe, Malawi, February 4, 2020. Photo: REUTERS/Eldson Chagara/File Photo.

villages through solar power, desalination, and ensuring food grown locally has a longer shelf-life.

These blossoming ties have improved diplomatic relations, with African representatives expanding their missions in Israel, attending numerous Israeli tech events, and starting to side with Israel in the international arena. In recent years, numerous African nations have voted with Israel or at least abstained on resolutions against the Jewish state that they would previously have supported instantly.

During the annual anti-Israel hate fest held every year — "International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People" — many African nations, including Cameroon, Nigeria, and Rwanda, changed their votes in favor to abstentions or votes against. As increasing numbers of Africans are beginning to understand — based on shared roots, mutual interests, and the growth of evangelical Christianity — the State of Israel is not just an ally, but a beloved nation. In Kenya, presidential candidates fight over who is more pro-Israel; one visited the Western Wall in Jerusalem on the eve of elections. In Zimbabwe, one of the presidential candidates is pictured wearing a Jewish prayer shawl and made the opening of an embassy a core election promise. Many African leaders talk of the

tional forums.

During Israel's early years, when it was constantly attacked militarily, economically, and diplomatically, it created the Alliance of the Periphery. This strategy called for Israel to develop strong ties with nations beyond the Arab bloc, such as in sub-Saharan Africa. With Israel no longer at war with many of its neighbors and the Arab League boycott all but ended, the diplomatic war on Israel is all that remains. Now, with its extensive achievements in Africa, this final pillar of the Palestinian rejectionist strategy is being dismantled.

While the automatic majority remains at the United Nations for now, it is being steadily eroded as a result of the impotence of Palestinian threats, the rejectionist bloc slowly losing power, and successful Israeli diplomatic achievements.

Most importantly, Africa is steadily moving away from the Palestinians and their maximalist positions, and its 54 nations are moving to support and collaborate with Israel.

James Sinkinson is president of *Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME)*, which publishes educational messages to correct lies and misperceptions about Israel and its relationship with the United States.

## Legals.

## Opinion.

## LEGAL NOTICE



Formation of TMO Brooklyn Housing I, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/6/2020. Office loc.: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to E. Allan Mack, Esq., 2 Cooper St., 14th Fl., Camden, NJ 08102. Purpose: Any lawful activity. AJ; 8/21/28; 9/4/11/18/25

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Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: Mad FOCUSED CONSULTING LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 07/08/2020 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: Mad Focused Consulting LLC 163 Milton St., Apt. 3 E Brooklyn, NY 11222. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 8/21/28; 9/4/11/18/25

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: BAKRS HOLDINGS LLC . Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 08/24/2020. Office location: Richmond 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: BAKRS Holdings LLC 6 Cranford St. staten Island, NY 10308. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 9/4/11/18/25;10/2/9

File No.: 2014-3073/C CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK BY THE GRACE OF GOD, FREE AND INDEPENDENT To: Estate of Gary Calleo, Randee Levine, Anthony J. Calleo, Estate of Richard Calleo, Cheri Freville, Christian Calleo, if living and if dead, to their heirs at law, next of kin and distributees whose names and places of residence are unknown and if they died subsequent to the decedent herein, to their executors, administrators, legatees, devisees, assignees and successors in interest whose names and places of residence are unknown and cannot be ascertained after due diligence. A copy of this citation and the accounting, as well as all amendments to it, if any, shall be served on the Guardian Ad Litem, for Christian Calleo, Louis Cannazzaro, Esq. Being the persons interested, as creditors, legatees, distributees or otherwise in the Estate of Frances Calleo, deceased, who at the time of death was a resident of 22-04 169th Street, Whitestone, NY 11357, in the County of Queens, State of New York. SEND GREETING: Upon the petition of LOIS M. ROSENBLATT,

## LEGAL NOTICE

Public Administrator of Queens County, who maintains her office at 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, Queens County, New York 11435, as Administrator of the Estate of Frances Calleo, deceased, you and each of you are hereby cited to show cause before the Surrogate at the Surrogate's Court of the County of Queens, to be held at the Queens General Courthouse, 6th Floor, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, City and State of New York, on the 29th day of October, 2020 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon, why the Account of Proceedings of the Public Administrator of Queens County, as Administrator of the Estate of said deceased, a copy of which is attached, should not be judicially settled, and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow a reasonable amount of compensation to GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., for legal services rendered to petitioner herein in the amount of \$18,100.23 less \$245.75 previously paid, for a total due of \$17,854.48 and that the Court fix the fair and reasonable additional fee for any services to be rendered by GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., hereafter in connection with proceedings on kinship, claims etc., prior to entry of a final Decree on this accounting in the amount of 6% of assets or income collected after the date of the within accounting; and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow an amount equal to one percent on said Schedules of the total assets on Schedules A, A1, and A2 plus any additional monies received subsequent to the date of this account, as the fair and reasonable amount payable to the Office of the Public Administrator for the expenses of said office pursuant to S.C.P.A. §1106(3); and why the balance of said funds should not be paid as follows: 50% to the Fiduciary of the Estate of Gary Calleo, and if none appointed within 90 days of the Decree to be signed, then to the Commissioner of Finance 50% to the Fiduciary of the Estate of Richard Calleo, and if none appointed within 90 days of the Decree to be signed, then to the Commissioner of Finance Dated, Attested and Sealed 24th day of August, 2020 HON. PETER J. KELLY Surrogate, Queens County James Lim Becker Clerk of the Surrogate's Court GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ. (718) 459-9000 1981 Marcus Avenue, Suite 200 Lake Success, New York 11042 NOTICE: THIS CITATION IS SERVED UPON YOU AS REQUIRED BY LAW. AS A RESULT OF THE MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE COURT TO COMBAT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19, PHYSICAL PRESENCE AT THE COURTHOUSE ON THE RETURN DATE IS NOT POSSIBLE. THEREFORE, IF YOU WISH TO CONTEST THE RELIEF REQUESTED, YOU, OR AN ATTORNEY ON YOUR BEHALF, MUST CONTACT THE COURT PRIOR TO THIS DATE IN THE MANNER SET FORTH IN THE ATTACHED NOTICE. IF YOU DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT AS SET FORTH IN THE NOTICE IT WILL BE FOUND YOU CONSENT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED. Accounting Citation AJ; 9/4/11/18/25

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: 171 MELVIN MK LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 07/30/2020. Office location: Richmond 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 Limited Liability Company 171 Melvin Avenue staten

## LEGAL NOTICE

Island, NY 10314 purpose: All lawful activity AJ; 9/4/11/18/25;10/2/9

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: PUBLIC DRIP,LLC . Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 09/03/2020. 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: Neil Tan 185 Putnam Ave.#4 Brooklyn, NY 11216.purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 9/11/18/25;10/2/9/16

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: OTTIMO LLC Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on : 09/08/2020. 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: Leonardo Bellusci 940 54 ST APT IF Brooklyn, NY 11219 purpose:all lawful activity AJ; 9/18/25;10/2/9/16/23

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: MOSS & FERN LLC .Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on : 07/14/2020. 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: James T. Castle ESQ 123 Melrose St., Apt. 251 Brooklyn NY 11206 purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 9/18/25;10/2/9/16/23

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: VERONIKA OSSI LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 09/11/2020 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: Veronika Ossiptchouk 70 Commercial St. Suite 202 Brooklyn NY 11222 -6126 purpose: All lawful activity AJ; 9/18/25;10/2/9/16/23

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: 63 SIMMONS LOOP LLC Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 09/11/2020 Office location: Richmond 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: LLC c/o Nacim Kassa 63 Simmons Loop, Staten Island NY 10314. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 9/18/25;10/2/9/16/23

PLEASE ME LLC. App. for Auth. filed with the SSNY on 09/11/20. Originally filed with Secretary of State of Maine on 03/07/2017. Office: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, c/o La Reddola, Lester & Associates, LLP, 600 Old Country Road, Suite 230, Garden City, NY 11530. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. AJ; 9/18/25;10/2/9/16/23

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: REGINA'S GROUP DAYCARE LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 02/01/2011 Office location: Kings County. SSNY has been designated

Continued from Page A7  
Fake Antisemitism

them trying to buy an election, he was also accused of antisemitism, even though he is an ardent friend of Israel and the Jewish community.

It's true that some attacks on Soros, especially in his native Hungary, where he has supported the opposition to the Victor Orbán government, are antisemitic. But in the context of American politics, his funding of the Democrats is fair game.

The line between normal political warfare and actual dog-whistling to haters is one that seems to depend on party preferences.

Democrats say that when Republicans like President Donald Trump called Bloomberg an "elite" and a "globalist," that's dog-whistling to antisemites because those terms have been used by hate groups against Jews. But Republicans can argue that resentment against an out-of-touch press magnate and politician is permissible even if they are Jewish.

Trump was also denounced this week for referring to Israel as "your country" during his annual Rosh Hashanah conference call with Jewish leaders. Democrats say that he was invoking the dual-loyalty canard against Jews that encourages far-right antisemites to smear Jews.

A president who was more careful about his speech would never have said something like that. American Jews are Americans, not Israelis, and Trump's use of the phrase was, as it has been in the

as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: S Guney 164 President St. Brooklyn, NY 11231. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 9/25/10/2/9/16/23/30

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: 89 B&D LLC . Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 02/28/2020. 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: 89 B&D LLC 89 Bergen St., Brooklyn NY 11201 purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 9/25/10/2/9/16/23/30

RT Trucking & Transportation LLC Art. Of Org. Filed Sec. of State of NY 9/16/2020. Off. Loc.: Richmond Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY to mail copy of process to The LLC, 7 post lane Staten Island, NY 10303. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity AJ; 9/25/10/2/9/16/23/30



past, inappropriate and wrong. But the notion that he was expressing antisemitism while promoting support for the Jewish state is more than a stretch. Israel is the nation-state of the Jewish people to which most Jews feel deep ties and for whose security many work tirelessly to help ensure. To the extent that extremists speak of Jews manipulating American policy for Israel's sake — the "Zionist occupation government" or ZOG, they are also usually referring to Trump and his pro-Israel policies.

The same people who are screaming "antisemitism" about that were silent when former Vice President Joe Biden and his running mate, Sen. Kamala Harris, met with an open antisemite who happened to be the father of a victim of a police shooting in Kenosha, Wis. Harris saying she was "proud" of Jacob Blake's family, despite the fact that Jacob Blake Sr. promotes antisemitic smears and is an open supporter of Nation of Islam hater Louis Farrakhan could be said to legitimize his extremism. Had Trump met with such an extremist from the right — no matter what the circumstances — he would be pronounced guilty by association.

Democrats also saw nothing amiss about Pelosi's endorsement of Reps. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.) and Rashida Tlaib (D-Mich.), despite their backing for the antisemitic BDS movement and for spouting memes of Jew-hatred directly rather than engaging in dog-whistling. The speaker's party and its mainstream media cheerleaders gave both the coddling of the congresswomen and the meeting with Blake a pass.

All of these actions can be labeled questionable or worse. But it's also true that using them to validate claims that Biden, Harris, or Pelosi are Jew-haters are unjustified. And as much as many Democrats take it as an article of faith that Trump is an antisemite, it is equally untrue.

There are plenty of examples of real antisemitism, both in terms of violence and open advocacy for hate, without seeking to weaponize words or actions that, while debatable, were clearly not intended to be hateful for partisan purposes.

In a country in which politics has replaced religion for many people and in which loyalty to their political tribe has priority over anything else, it's hardly surprising that too many Jews only see antisemitism when it can be associated with their political enemies and are blind to it when it comes from those they see as allies.

With the Jewish New Year and the traditional period of *cheshbon hanefesh* ("accounting of the soul"), it's time for American Jews to stop politicizing antisemitism. The only people who benefit from such tawdry partisan exploitation of a real problem are actual antisemites.

Jonathan S. Tobin is editor in chief of JNS—Jewish News Syndicate. Follow him on Twitter @jonathans\_tobin.

## Tradition.

## “Building The Future”



JONATHAN SACKS  
LONDON

A *shana tova*, a good New Year to you, to your family, and to the Jewish people throughout the world.

There's something very strange about Rosh Hashanah. I wonder if you've noticed. Rosh Hashanah is the beginning of the *Aseret Yemei Teshuvah*, the Ten Days of Penitence, culminating in Yom Kippur. Therefore, you would have thought that we should begin that process of penitence *with* penitence: confessing our sins;



*ashamnu, bagadnu, gazalnu; al cheit shechatanu; slach lanu avinu ki chatanu; slach u'mechal* etc.

And yet, of course, if you look in the prayers for Rosh Hashanah, there isn't a hint of any of this, none of it, not one real word about *teshuvah*. What there is, is talk about *malchiyot, zichronot* and *shofarot*, that's the basic structure of Musaf: God's kingship and sovereignty over the universe, His remembrance of things past, and the *Shofarot*, the clarion call of the ram's horn. Those are the basic structures of the Musaf Amidah, and they're about God, they're not about us.

When we try and define Rosh Hashanah, in terms of the machzor, we see *hayom harat olam*, today's the anniversary of creation. It's the birthday of the world. Nothing about *teshuvah* in that, so little hints here and there, little hints. *Zochreinu lechayim, kotveinu lechayim*, writes us in the Book of Life. *Avinu malkeinu chadesh aleinu et ha'shana hazot letova, hazireinu b'teshuvah sheleima lefanecha*, bring us back with perfect repentance. But we say that at other times of the year. So there is virtually nothing about penitence on Rosh Hashanah.

Why not? Why leave the penitents to Yom Kippur, the very last moment? "Please, God, I've just thought about something. I've sinned, I've committed," etc. It's an extremely strange thing. And I worried about this, I thought about it for years. There's something missing here. What am I missing?

In the end, I discovered the answer through the people who I came to know, who became my mentors in moral courage, and that

is the Holocaust survivors. Now every Holocaust survivor had a different story and had a different way of coping. But by and large, there was a general pattern, which is that they did not talk about what had happened to them. They didn't talk about it to their spouses or to their children. For years and years, sometimes many decades, they just avoided the subject.

What did they do? They set about making a home in a new country. They set about having a family, getting married, having children, because most of them had lost their families in any case. They set about having a job, building a career, building a life. They set

about helping and strengthening one another. And only much, much later, often fifty years later, did they tell their story, sometimes wrote their story or got somebody else to write their story. Many of the survivors that I knew went around schools, non-Jewish schools, as well as Jewish ones telling their story to the pupils because they really wanted them to understand how precious and how fragile freedom actually is. And I suddenly realised that there was a simple structure to what they did. First, build the future. Then you can remember the past.

I knew a very, very successful businessman who was struck by some very savage blows of bad luck. The result of which was that he lost almost everything he had built. Would have been a devastating blow, I think for anyone, but he was a man of iron will and he worked day and night for ten years to rebuild what he had lost. After ten years, he happened to be giving a talk and he said, "I'm going to spend the next minute saying something I haven't spoken about for ten years." And he referred very briefly to that blow of bad luck and he said, "I haven't spoken about this because I knew that if I spoke about it before ten years had passed, I simply would not be able to carry on." And from him too, I learned first you build the future and then you can remember the past.

And that is when I understood the relationship between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Rosh Hashanah is about the future. It's about the *shana tova*. It's about the Jewish future because what do we read about on the first day of Rosh Hashanah? The birth of the first Jewish child, Isaac, and the birth

of the prophet and King maker, Samuel, to the previously childless Hannah. Children are the symbol of the Jewish future, and that is what we choose to read about on Rosh Hashanah. Then once we have prayed for the future and thought about the future and our responsibilities for it, then once we have secured the future, on Yom Kippur we can remember and lament the past. Sometimes the past is so difficult that if you focus on it, you fall into depression and despair. And the Jewish way is to say no, just look forward and build a future, and then when everything is secure, you can turn back and look at the past.

That to me is the message for this very, very challenging year. We have just passed through a year of the coronavirus pandemic, which has been, in many ways, the worst crisis the world has faced since the end of the Second World War. It's been very, very challenging. It's been hard for everyone. It seems to me that the most important thing to do is to focus on the future, not on the past. I don't think we should spend particularly, these precious moments of spirituality lamenting the past, when the first thing we have to do is secure the future. We actually have to ask and pray for God's help to be able to mend what has been broken, to rebuild what has been harmed, and to begin to build the future together. That is the spiritual imperative of this moment.

Just a few weeks ago, we lost one of the great figures, leaders, and teachers of our generation, the late Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm z"l. Rabbi Lamm, President of Yeshiva University, one of the great thinkers of our time, one of the great speakers of our time, one of the great institution rescuers of our time—because when he took over as President of Yeshiva University, the university was facing almost certain bankruptcy. He lifted it from bankruptcy to the most remarkable financial health. I don't know how he was so good at fundraising, but he was exceptional. He rebuilt Yeshiva University, but he really sustained the whole *Torah Umadda* philosophy of the university by what he wrote and what he organised through things like The Orthodox Forum.

I want to tell you a little story about Norman Lamm because it taught me so much. I knew Norman Lamm quite well. The first time I met him, he didn't know me at all. It was fifty-two years ago. It was 1968. I had gone to America in 1968. That was the year that Simon and Garfunkel counted the cars on the New Jersey turnpike; they all came to look for America. I wasn't counting the cars on the New Jersey turnpike. I was counting the rabbis in America, going round to visit as many as I could. I wanted to meet Rabbi Lamm. I had heard about him.

So with my typical polite English understatement, I phoned him up and I said, "Rabbi Lamm, I've just travelled 3000 miles to meet you. Do you think you could fit me in?" Well, *chutzpah* works says the Gemara. So he said, "Yes." He didn't know who I was. I was

20 years old. I was a sophomore. I was a nobody. And this man who was already rabbi of the Jewish Centre and professor of Jewish Philosophy at Yeshiva University sat with me in his office in the Shul for an hour, *for an hour*, talking me through the various approaches to *Torah Umadda* and the difference between Rabbi Shimshon Raphael Hirsch's approach to Rav Kook's approach and how he preferred Rav Kook's approach and so on. I have never kept a diary. I've never made notes so I'm remembering this from fifty-two years ago.

And then he did something that I actually found extraordinary. He said to me, "Where is your next appointment?" So I told him, "It's the other side of Central Park." He said, "Let me take you there." And this man got up from his office and drove me to my next appointment. Sorry, forgive me...I don't know anyone who would do something like that in the middle of Manhattan on a busy day for a student, 20 years old, that he never met before and had no reason to see in the first place! This was *menschlichkeit* in capital letters. It was absolutely extraordinary.

But on one occasion he said to me, "Jonathan, you know, there's only one joke in the Mishnah." I said, "What's that?" He said, "Well, *talmidei chachamim marbim shalom b'olam*, rabbis increase peace in the world." He said, "That has to be a joke, right? The more rabbis, the more rows, that must be a joke." I said, "Rabbi Lamm, if I may suggest, it isn't actually a joke. But to understand it, you have to go to the end of the sentence. It says, *marbim shalom b'olam shene'amar*, as it is said, *v'chol bonaich limudei Hashem v'rav shalom bonaich*, the verse from Isaiah, all your children should be learned of the Lord and great shall be the peace of your children, *al tikrah banaich*, don't read it your children, *elah bonaich*, call it your builders." I said, "If rabbis are children, they do not increase peace in the world. But if they are builders, they do." And the proof is Moshe Rabbenue because when he got the Israelites to build the Mishcon, there was no argument between them, absolutely none. There was perfect peace. Why? Because they were building. Rabbi Lamm was supremely a builder. It's what he dedicated all his life to. It was a privilege, a privilege, to know him. And it was a privilege for our generation to have a man like that in our midst.

I have to say that is our challenge in the coming year, so much has been lost, so much has been destroyed. We have to become builders. We have to build that future. Then we can go back and think about the past, but not now, not yet. That is not the *tzav hash'a'ah*, the command of our time. First, let us build that future. Let us repair everything that has been damaged. Let us build something even more beautiful in place of that which has been lost. May Hashem give us the strength to build, and in that building may we find peace. *Shana tova*.

Continued from Page A2  
*Rapprochement*

of the National Arab Movement, signed an agreement on Jewish-Arab cooperation, as part of which the Arabs recognized the right of Jews to establish a homeland in Israel.

Regional history could have been different, more stable and prosperous, had Jews and Arabs been able to cooperate. But Pales-



Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas meets with Arab League Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit (not pictured) in Cairo, Egypt, Jan. 31, 2020. Photo: Reuters / Mohamed Abd El Ghany.

tinian rejectionism dragged the Arab world into a protracted confrontation with Israel.

Now both sides have gone back to the same starting point, hoping not to waste another century.

The UAE, Bahrain, and hopefully in the near future Sudan, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and others, are not really embarking on an uncharted course. Israel and the Arab states have long been in the same boat, coordinating positions and cooperating to counter the same threats and challenges.

After all, Israel is no longer the major issue the Arab world is facing. The immediate and tangible threat comes from Iran and its allies in the region, as well as from Turkey, which also seeks to impose its hegemony over the Arab world.

Faced with this complicated reality, Qatar has chosen to side with Turkey and flirt with Iran, betraying most of its Arab brethren. But other Arab countries long ago chose Israel as a friend and ally.

The end of the Israeli-Arab conflict has left Israel to deal with two major issues: the Palestinian issue, which has thus been rendered an internal Israeli issue, given that its own moves will now determine how events unfold; and Iran, whose proxies — Hamas and Hezbollah — will, to great extent, determine stability in the region.

The breakthrough achieved between Israel and the Arab world with the signing of the Abraham Accords opens the way to Israeli initiative and allows it to become more proactive vis-à-vis its regional adversaries.

No one wants to provoke a military conflict that serves neither side's interests. But a more resolute policy will be formed to counter any threat, be it from the Gaza Strip or from Lebanon.

Eyal Zisser is a lecturer in the Middle East History Department at Tel Aviv University. A version of this article first appeared in *Israel Hayom*.

## Social.



The late US Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Photo: Reuters / Jonathan Ernst / File.

## Celebrities Eulogize ‘Trailblazer’ Jewish Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

Many celebrities are mourning the death and celebrating the life of late US Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who died on Friday at the age of 87.

Actress Felicity Jones, who played Ginsburg — who was Jewish — in the biopic about her life “The Basis of Sex,” said, “Ruth Bader Ginsburg gave us hope, a public figure who stood for integrity and justice — a responsibility she did not wear lightly. She will be missed not only as a beacon of light in these difficult times but for her razor-sharp wit and extraordinary humanity. She taught us all so much. I will miss her deeply.”

Kate McKinnon, who played Ginsburg on “Saturday Night Live,” remembered her in a released statement, saying she cherished meeting the Supreme Court justice last year at an off-Broadway production of “Fiddler on the Roof.”

“For so many of us, Justice Ginsburg was a real-life superhero: a beacon of hope, a warrior for justice, a robed crusader who saved the day time and again,” McKinnon wrote. “Playing her on *SNL* was a profound joy because I could always feel the overwhelming love and gratitude that the audience had for her. It was one of the great honors of my life to meet Justice Ginsburg, to shake her hand, and to thank her for her lifetime of service to this country.”

In a lengthy Instagram post, Israeli-American actress Natalie Portman called Ginsburg “my hero” and “a beacon of light, wisdom, and justice.”

Portman also cited a Jewish teaching about Rosh Hashanah and how Ginsburg — who passed away shortly ahead of the start of the Jewish holiday — was “the most righteous among us.”

Talk show host Kelly Ripa said that Ginsburg, who was nicknamed “Notorious RBG,” was the “right kind of notorious,” and actress Mandy Moore called Ginsburg “a trailblazer in every way.”

Actress Connie Britton wrote on Instagram, “I know for a fact that my life as a woman and an American is better because of her work and brilliance.”

“She was small in stature but even the tallest looked up to her,” singer Dolly Parton wrote on Instagram. “Her voice was soft but her message rang loud and clear and will echo forever. Thank you, RBG. Rest In Peace.”

“The Morning Show” star Reese Witherspoon said, “Thank you for fighting for us. May your legacy be our motivation to be actively in pursuit of true justice for all.”

Singer Jennifer Lopez posted a detailed tribute to Ginsburg on Instagram, and recalled her first time meeting the Supreme Court justice. She called Ginsburg “a true champion of gender equality” and “a strong woman for me and all the little girls of the world to look up to.”

“Little Fires Everywhere” star Kerry Washington wrote on Twitter, “Her rest is earned. It is our turn to fight.”

Emmy-winning actor Mark Ruffalo called on the public to “fight like RBG did for us every single day.”

“What she means to our past was only rivaled by what she still meant for our futures,” said “Girls” creator Lena Dunham. “There are no proper words to thank Ruth Bader Ginsburg— all we can do is promise to keep fighting in her name, for the many freedoms she gave us and the rights she proclaimed as unassailable. Rest in ferocity, #RBG, knowing you really did it.”

Meghan Markle said in a statement, “With an incomparable and indelible legacy, Ruth Bader Ginsburg will forever be known as a woman of brilliance, a Justice of courage, and a human of deep conviction. She has been a true inspiration to me since I was a girl. Honor her, remember her, act for her.”

Others who posted tributes on social media include Chris Evans, Julia Roberts, Demi Lovato, Goldie Hawn, Kristen Bell, Zoe Kravitz, Jennifer Aniston, Priyanka Chopra, Gal Gadot, Mindy Kaling, Viola Davis, Elizabeth Banks, Brie Larson and Cara Delevingne.

## Guy Niv Becomes First Israeli to Complete Tour de France

BY JNS.org

Israeli cyclist Guy Niv made history on Sunday, becoming the first-ever Israeli cyclist to complete the Tour de France. He was riding as part of the Team Israel Start-Up Nation squad, which was competing in the Tour for the first time.

Completing the biggest professional cycling race of all represents a remarkable accomplishment for the 26-year-old who, until three years ago, was primarily a mountain biker and had little experience in road racing.

“I felt shivers when I crossed the finish line on the



Israeli cyclist Guy Niv is seen on Chemin de la Polytechnique, during the second lap of the Grand Prix Cycliste de Montréal 2018. Photo: Maniacduhockey via Wikimedia Commons.

Champs-Élysées,” said Niv. “It was a sense of vast relief and sheer happiness: I have done it for the next generation of young Israeli cyclists. They can now dream of achieving this and more.”

He was visibly emotional as he finished the race, acknowledging that it was far from a “walk in the park,” saying “I had to dig deep inside at times.” In general, he surprised both his team with the relative ease with which he was able to handle his first Tour de France. “Guy impressed us all,” said the team’s sports director Eric Van Lancker. “He knew that the whole country— Israel—was looking up to him, and he dealt with that pressure admirably. We are proud of him.”

Team owner Sylvan Adams added that Niv faced “the country’s and the team’s expectations, and never blundered. As a team, we were in the game in almost every stage, and although we did not get the coveted stage win, ISN finished with seven ‘top 10’s, and we were part of many breakaways. I can promise you that we will be back next year with a strengthened team, which will be led by the greatest cyclist of the generation: Chris Froome. We are just getting started.”

Niv’s accomplishment has been covered widely in the Israeli media, making him one of the country’s most celebrated athletes in a sport that’s usually eclipsed by football and basketball.

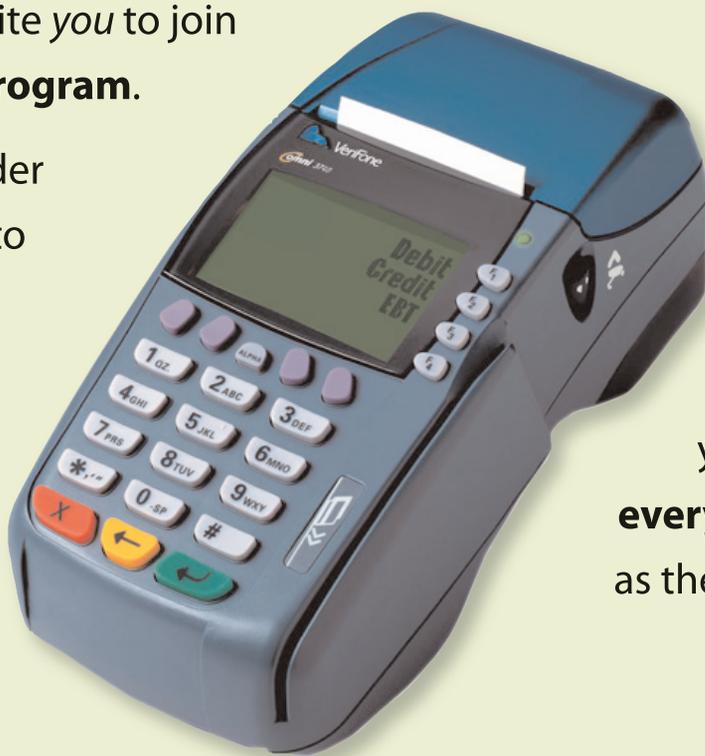
“I dreamed about racing in the Tour as a kid,” recounted Niv. “I even witnessed it as a spectator on the side of the road. Now, I hope that this dream will be shared by many Israeli kids who will follow my footsteps and surpass me.”

# Attention Not-For-Profit Organizations

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