

Opinion.

CALLING THE  
PALESTINIANS'  
BLUFF  
A2.



Tradition.

WHY  
CIVILISATIONS  
FAIL  
A10.



WEINSTEIN  
TO DIRECT  
WARSAW  
GHETTO  
FILM  
A11.

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## PA Official Hopes Mounting Legal Troubles Will Lead to Israeli PM's Ouster



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Photo: YouTube screenshot.

BY BARNEY BREEN  
-PORTNOY

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's mounting legal troubles have become the center of attention in Israel, and now Palestinian officials are chiming in as well.

One unnamed senior Palestinian Authority official told the Hebrew news site nrg he was hopeful the ongoing corruption

probes against Netanyahu would lead to the prime minister's ouster from power.

"During the years of Netanyahu's time as prime minister, there has been no progress in the diplomatic arena," the official said. "We've seen only the expansion of settlements and a complete disregard for international decisions on their illegality."

"Your police now say Netanyahu is corrupt and acting

unlawfully — which means that now Israelis understand he is a criminal," the official continued. "Netanyahu needs to end his role. We hope that whoever replaces him will bring about positive change."

Netanyahu tweeted a terse response to the nrg report on Monday, writing simply, "Won't happen."

The nrg report also quoted Fatah official Ahmed Majdalani sounding a

*Continued on Page A3*

## US Urges Expanded Role for UN Force in Lebanon to Restrain Hezbollah

BY JNS.ORG

US Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley on Monday urged the world body's peacekeeping force in southern Lebanon to increase its efforts to prevent the transfer of weapons to the Lebanon-based terror group Hezbollah.

Haley's statement came ahead of a UN Security Council vote later this month to renew the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).



US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley. Photo: Twitter.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres submitted a letter on Friday to the Security Council expressing his desire to disarm "all armed groups in Lebanon," and recommending a renewal of UNIFIL's mandate.

Guterres also conveyed a need to "enhance" the peacekeeping force's efforts against "the illegal presence of armed personnel, weapons or infrastructure inside its area of operations."

Haley commended Guterres' statement, saying, "We share the secretary-general's strong desire to enhance UNIFIL's efforts to prevent the spread of illegal arms in

*Continued on Page A3*

## A Pakistani Lover of Hebrew

page A8



### ShabbatCalendar

Parshat EKEV  
פרשת עקב

Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting  
Shabbat Begins: 7:44pm | Shabbat Ends: 8:42pm



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## Opinion.

# On Terror Payments, Use Taylor Force Act to Call the Palestinians' Bluff



JONATHAN S. TOBIN  
JNS.ORG

The US Congress is just doing what it always does: pandering to the "Israel Lobby." That's how the foreign policy establishment and some on the left regard the bipartisan support for the Taylor Force Act, a bill named after a non-Jewish US Army veteran who was killed in a Palestinian terror attack last year.

The legislation would cut off American aid for the Palestinian Authority (PA), unless the PA stops funding terrorism. The bill passed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on August 3 in a 17-4 vote, with all of the committee's Republicans, and six of its 10 Democrats supporting the measure.

The notion that the US would halt aid to the PA merely because it doesn't want to be morally complicit in a "pay for slay" scheme strikes some on the left as lacking sympathy for the Palestinians, as well as self-defeating — since ending the funding might lead to the collapse of the PA.

Their assumption is that PA President Mahmoud Abbas means what he says when he and his Fatah Party threaten to disband their Ramallah-based government if the foreign money that keeps it afloat is cut off.

This would force Israel to re-assume full control over all of the disputed territories, which most Israelis think would be a disaster.

Stopping the terror payments may also be impossible for Abbas, because doing so would contradict the basic narrative of Palestinian history — in which violence against the Jews is viewed as self-defense, and a heroic act of resistance that is deserving of praise. Asking Abbas to take such a step would be tantamount to requesting that he commit suicide.

So why do it?

The answer is that those demanding a halt to funding the PA are not merely venting their outrage at the Palestinians. They are also pointing the way toward the only possible path to peace.

In just the last four years, the PA has spent more than \$1.1 billion on salaries for terrorists and pensions for their families. In the next fiscal year, The PA will spend half of all the foreign aid that it receives on this effort. The PA has created a set of financial incentives that not only give Palestinians a reason to commit terror, but embolden their belief that only by shedding Israeli blood, will they ensure that their families are provided with enough money to live comfortably.

Those who rationalize the continuation of the current aid to the PA point to the security cooperation that the PA offers to Israel as proof that the Jewish state has a partner for peace. But while this cooperation has value, it has

two main purposes: making sure that Abbas's Hamas rivals don't gain a foothold in the disputed territories, and ensuring the safety of the Fatah leadership against attacks from the Islamists. Thus, when the PA threatens to halt security cooperation, as it did during the recent controversy over the Temple Mount, the biggest potential loser from such an action would be Fatah, not Israel.

That's why the talk of a PA collapse that Abbas and his apologists continue to invoke is a bluff.

Fatah's survival depends on its ability to use foreign donations to fund its corrupt practices in the disputed territories. The Palestinian faction's obstruction of economic development or any measures that might end the corruption that enriches its leaders has created a situation in which much of the Palestinian population in the territories depends on fake jobs that Fatah gives out in exchange for support. Thus, while it is true that ending funding for Palestinian terror would be deeply unpopular and might boost Hamas, it would also be the end of Fatah.

We also shouldn't accept the notion that there is any moral equivalence between anger about Western donations rewarding Palestinians who slaughter Jews, and Palestinian anger about settlements. Even if you accept the dubious argument that settlements are the real obstacle to peace — if you think that building a new house in a place Palestinians think should be free of Jews is just as bad



Taylor Force, who was stabbed to death by a Palestinian terrorist in Tel Aviv in March 2016. Photo: File.

as killing people — then all you are doing is making a case that peace between two peoples with such different moral codes is clearly impossible.

That's why it is imperative that the West force Abbas to choose between giving up power, and giving up the gruesome terror-funding scheme. Far from obstructing the chances for peace, as some on the left claim, compelling the Palestinians to reject a culture of violence is the only hope for the resolution to the conflict. No matter where your political sympathies lie, it's time to realize that opposing the Taylor Force Act undermines any hope for peace.

Jonathan S. Tobin is opinion editor of JNS.org and a contributing writer for National Review. Follow him on Twitter at: @jonathans\_tobin.



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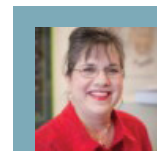
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## Palestinian Propaganda Is Infiltrating US Public Schools



MIRIAM F. ELMAN  
SYRACUSE

Six years ago, a teenager in Newton, Massachusetts — Shiri Pagliuso — asked her father if it was true that Israel tortures and murders women activists in the Palestinian resistance movement.

Then a high school freshman, Shiri had learned the information from her textbook — the *Arab World Studies Notebook*, a 540-page volume so riddled with unabashed bias that it had garnered a scathing 30-page report from the *American Jewish Committee* (AJC).

Back in 2011, Shiri's father — Tony Pagliuso — wasn't yet aware of the AJC's report. But he knew outright propaganda when he saw it.

He contacted his daughter's teacher, the head of the high school's history department, the principal, and eventually the superintendents — who all defended the *Arab World Studies Notebook* as essential for sharpening critical thinking skills. They also praised the book for providing a "balanced perspective" and an "Arab point of view."

Pagliuso realized that he was being stonewalled, which got him thinking: If he looked at Shiri's other course materials, what other dreadful stuff would he find?

Determined to expose the extent of the problem, a bitter multi-year battle ensued that pitted Pagliuso — who was soon joined by a group of other parents and Newton residents

— against a shockingly hostile school district.

Together, the parents and residents fought to get school officials to acknowledge their legitimate concerns, provide access to all the curriculum materials as required by law, and to pull the *Arab World Studies Notebook* and other academically unsuitable materials.

Now, in a new study by CAMERA (the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America), researcher Steven Stotsky carefully traces how these partisan materials — many with scant scholarly value — seeped into a nationally prominent public school system.

The 108 page monograph, *Indoctrinating Our Youth: How a U.S. Public School Curriculum Skews the Arab-Israeli Conflict and Islam*, is the most comprehensive analysis to date of the Newton curriculum controversy.

Piecing together local media coverage, transcripts of school committee meetings and multiple interviews, Stotsky recounts the key events, including the run-around that Pagliuso and the ad-hoc group of concerned parents and residents got from school administrators.



Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas. Photo: Screenshot.

Several chapters are also devoted to a thorough analysis of World History course materials, which the school district was ultimately forced to disclose in 2014 via a court order.

As Stotsky describes, the curriculum included materials rife with erroneous information, such as a radically doctored translation of the Hamas charter, and a handout identifying Tel Aviv as the capital of Israel — and Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine.

Photocopies of PLO-produced propaganda maps downloaded from the Internet — and used by the school district — provided falsehoods about Israel's "theft" of "Palestinian land." Other textbook chapters and outdated Internet timelines omitted key historical and contextual information, like Israel's many far-reaching offers of peace, and the hate-filled rhetoric and incitement that saturates Palestinian discourse.

And a lot of the materials glossed over controversial topics.

Stotsky's report demonstrates how the religious components of the Israeli-Arab conflict were concealed from students, including the fact that for many Arabs, the conflict is a holy war — with Jews seen as infidel interlopers on sacred Islamic lands.

Course materials about Islamic history also downplayed negative societal practices. Woefully simplistic expositions and misleadingly rosy texts portrayed Muslim conquerors as tolerant toward their subjects, and presented embellished descriptions of the status of women in many Muslim-majority societies. The inferior status and often precarious situation of non-Muslims under Islamic

Continued on Page A4

## World News.

## Iranian Blogger to Be Granted Asylum in Israel

BY JNS.ORG

Israel's Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely said on Monday that Turkey-based Iranian blogger Neda Amin has been offered asylum in Israel and will arrive in the Jewish state during "the coming days."

Soon after Hotovely made the comments in an interview with Israel's *Reshet Bet Radio*, the station reported that Amin, 32, had been arrested at Turkey's Istanbul Airport en route to Israel.

David Horowitz, founding editor of *The Times of Israel*, which has featured Amin's articles, tweeted that reports of her arrest were "not true."

Amin was offered asylum in Israel on Sunday after facing deportation from Turkey to Iran, where she would be at risk of being arrested due to her work as a Persian-language blogger with *The Times of Israel*.

The blogger relocated from Iran to Turkey in 2014 and has since been embroiled in a legal battle to prevent her deportation back to Iran. Amin sought asylum as a refugee in several other countries and, after Israel's journalistic associations appealed to the

Israeli government, Interior Minister Aryeh Deri said on Sunday that Amin would be issued a special visa granting her asylum in the Jewish state.

"This is a journalist whose life is in real danger," Deri said. "Given the clear humanitarian circumstances, I authorized her entry without delay."



Neda Amin. Photo: Twitter.

## First-Ever Volunteers From Thailand and Honduras Among Newest Batch of IDF Foreign Recruits

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

This summer, 153 foreign volunteers from 12 different countries are enlisting in the IDF, according to data published on Sunday by the Israeli Defense Ministry.

The group of new recruits — 122 males and 31 females — features the first-ever volunteers from Thailand and Honduras, the ministry said.

The leading source of soldiers from abroad in the current July-August draft cycle is the United States (68), with France coming in second (58). Other countries on the list include Britain, South Africa, Belgium, Mexico, Australia, Canada and Austria.

18-year-old Bangkok native Marisa Avram — the daughter of an Israeli father and a Thai mother who converted to Judaism — told the Hebrew news site nrg, "I think that serving in the IDF will be an amazing experi-

ence for me, and I'd be very happy to serve in a combat role."

Aliyah and Immigration Minister Sofa Landver wished the volunteers a "pleasant and challenging service."

"I'm sure you will [serve] with the same motivation that pushed you to come here," she said.



IDF soldiers during basic training. Photo: IDF via Wikimedia Commons.

Continued from Page A1  
**Legal Troubles**  
more detached tone.

"The matter of the Netanyahu investigations are an internal Israeli affair," he said. "When the authorities decide to prosecute him, the Israeli Knesset will have to decide whether to dissolve his government or change

Continued from Page A1  
**Restrain**

southern Lebanon."

She added, "These arms — which are almost entirely in the hands of Hezbollah terrorists — threaten the security and stability

its composition. This is an Israeli issue and we must not interfere in it."

*Haaretz* on Monday cited associates of PA President Mahmoud Abbas as saying that the uncertainty regarding Netanyahu's political future has made any potential bids to revive the long-stalled peace process "irrelevant."

of the region. UNIFIL must increase its capacity and commitment to investigating and reporting these violations."

Guterres is expected to address the subject of UNIFIL's mission in Lebanon during his first visit as UN leader to Israel later this month.

## In Landmark Ruling, Court Revokes Arab Terrorist's Israeli Citizenship



The courthouse building in Haifa. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

BY JNS.ORG

The Haifa District Court on Sunday approved a request from Israel's Interior Minister Aryeh Deri to revoke the Israeli citizenship of convicted Arab terrorist Alaa Zayud, who was sentenced to 25 years in prison after a terror attack that wounded four Israelis in 2015.

The court's unprecedented move was enacted due to Zayud's "breach of loyalty" as an Israeli citizen. The decision — based on Article 11 of Israel's Nationality Law — sets a precedent for future legal rulings against convicted terrorists who hold Israeli citizenship.

The ruling is due to go into effect in

October and will replace Zayud's Israeli citizenship with a temporary permit that requires periodic renewal. In 2015, Zayud, 23, from the northern Israeli city of Umm al-Fahm, carried out a combined car-ramming and stabbing attack.

During his trial, Zayud denied having any intention of carrying out a terror attack and claimed he had lost control of his vehicle.

"I did nothing," he said. "They want to turn me into a terrorist. I don't know what they want from me. I am not a terrorist."

Deri indicated he also plans to pursue the cancellation of Zayud's father's permit to reside in Israel. The terrorist's father is reportedly married to an Israeli citizen, but is not an Israeli citizen himself.

## Israeli Man Barely Escapes Palestinian Lynch Mob on Main West Bank Road

BY ALGEMEINER STAFF

An Israeli man was nearly lynched by a group of masked Palestinian rioters this weekend while he was driving in the West Bank south of Jerusalem.

The incident occurred on Saturday on a main road near the Israeli community of Tekoa in the Gush Etzion region. Following a funeral for a terrorist killed during a recent attempted stabbing attack, local Palestinians established an improvised checkpoint and began looking for Israelis to attack.

One Israeli — who came upon the scene before security forces arrived to disperse the rioters and barely escaped with his life — recounted, according to Channel 2, "They smelled me a kilometer away. They had set up a roadblock there, it was impossible to pass. I immediately pulled out my gun and cocked it,

so they would see I was armed, but that didn't stop them at all."

Fortunately, the man — a Tekoa resident — was able to drive away as the rioters closed in on him



A still image of footage of Saturday's incident. Photo: Channel 2 screenshot.

World News.



Diving with a dolphin in the Red Sea along the coast of the southern Israeli city of Eilat. Photo: Tony Malkevist / Israeli Ministry of Tourism.

## Israel's Beaches Designated as an Important Dolphin Habitat

BY JNS.ORG

The beaches of Israel have been designated as an important habitat for dolphins by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The IUCN, widely considered the world's most authoritative international entity in the field of nature protection, is known for its "red lists" of endangered species.

Israel was one of 26 spots in the Mediterranean region named as being of importance to marine mammal life after a yearlong scientific process conducted by the IUCN. The process

involved convening a panel of experts that included representatives from every Mediterranean country. Israel was represented by Dr. Aviad Scheinin, director of the Dolphin and Sea Educational Center in Ashdod, which is run by the Israel Marine Mammal Research and Assistance Center nonprofit and the Morris Kahn Marine Research Center at the University of Haifa.

"This makes Israel proud. We are a beam of light in the total darkness of an absence of information about marine mammals in the eastern and southern Mediterranean," Scheinin said.

Continued from Page A2  
Propaganda

Stotsky relates how one textbook (*Early Islam*) even preposterously asserted that Muslim rulers were "especially liberal with the Jews and Christians" — as if they had equal rights and opportunities, and were free from discrimination.

In short, *Indoctrinating Our Youth* is a deep-dive into what went so very wrong in Newton, and Stotsky is right to come down hard on headstrong school administrators and an uncooperative elected school body.

These individuals created a bewildering degree of obstruction that exacerbated the controversy and made a timely removal of the problematic materials difficult. There's some indication that local Jewish organizations — including the JCRC and, at least initially, the local chapter of the Anti-Defamation League — were also less than helpful to the parents than they might otherwise have been.

Still, the teachers shouldn't be let off the hook.

After all, they chose the curricula materials in the first place, and were inexcusably dismissive of the parents. (In an interview, Pagliuso admits that had Shiri's 9th grade history teacher been more responsive to his concerns about the *Arab World Studies Notebook* passage, he probably wouldn't have pursued the curriculum issue any further).

School officials repeatedly intoned that "we trust our teachers." Yet they were unable to properly evaluate the noticeable biases contained in the course materials, especially those downloaded from sketchy, non-authoritative Internet sources and provided to them free of charge by virulently anti-Israel, BDS-affiliated faculty members at Harvard University's Middle East Outreach Center.

This brings me to the CAMERA monograph's most sobering insight about how anti-Israel and pro-Islamist propaganda is working its way out of higher education, and into US public schools.

The process often starts with federally-

funded university centers for Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, many of which have also been generously supported for years by multi-million dollar gifts from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf Arab states, and are top-heavy with faculty at the forefront of the anti-Israel movement, and who favor anti-Western perspectives.

In Newton, as Stotsky documents, Harvard's center had an outsized influence on high school educators. But these gown-to-town collaborations are well-established in other places, and in some cases, they're likely having a similar disastrous impact on the public school curriculum.

How many people are aware that pushing vehemently anti-Israel and pro-Islamist materials into K-12 educational programming is now the BDS movement's new frontier? It's hard to say, but most Jewish American organizations have yet to take up the issue as a matter of major concern.

*Indoctrinating Our Youth* is a warning that this problem can no longer be ignored. What happened in Newton was especially appalling, but it's really just another instance of a trend that's already well underway in public schools, where students are increasingly "learning" from textbooks and supplemental readings that are horribly slanted against Israel, and in some instances, even by classroom lectures and lesson plans that traffic in blatant antisemitic tropes.

For years high schoolers in Newton, Massachusetts, were taught a tale of Jewish-inflicted misery. But then they got lucky. A discerning classmate flagged a troubling reading assignment, and her stalwart dad was willing to raise hell. Will the rest of America's school kids be as fortunate?

Note: an earlier, separate version of this article was featured in *Legal Insurrection* on July 23, 2017.

Miriam F. Elman is an Associate Professor of Political Science and the Robert D. McClure Professor of Teaching Excellence at the Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs, Syracuse University. Follow her on Twitter @MiriamElman.

## Israel's Netafim Drip Irrigation Pioneer Bought by Mexican Company for \$1.5 Billion

BY JNS.ORG

The Mexican chemical company Mexichem has agreed to acquire an 80-percent stake in the Israeli drip irrigation pioneer Netafim for about \$1.5 billion, the Hebrew-language news website Calcalist reported on Monday.

The acquisition boosts Netafim's value to \$1.9 billion. Netafim, the world's largest producer of drip and micro-irrigation systems, was founded in 1965 in the Negev-based Kibbutz Hazerim, and pioneered the cutting-edge agricultural technology.

The kibbutz, which held a 32.7-percent stake in the company, will sell 12.7 percent of its holdings to Mexichem in the deal, with Israel's Permira fund selling 61.4 percent of its holdings and Kibbutz Magal selling 6 percent of its stake.

The global investment group Goldman Sachs was hired to facilitate the sale, according to Netafim. Following the deal, Mexichem vowed to maintain Netafim's manufacturing presence in Israel for an additional 20 years.

In a quest to conserve water while watering plants, Simcha Blass discovered drip irrigation in Israel in the 1930s. Blass realized that instead of irrigating land with uncontrolled amounts of water, he could create a device that uses friction and water-pressure loss to regulate small leaks.

After Netafim established its first production facility in 1965, it eventually improved Blass' original design with new technology. The company now has operations in 112 countries, with 13 factories and approximately 2,000 employees outside of Israel.



Netafim's drip irrigation technology. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

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February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 | 1st Adar 5777  
In years past, Beth Shifra maintained a Free Soup Kitchen all year round, open seven days a week, serving free meals three times a day, without charge.  
During the week of Pesach, Beth Shifra sponsored free Kosher for Pesach Sedorsim and daily meals around the city. We are personally familiar with their significant work and urge you to help Beth Shifra with any support that you can, including publicizing their inspiring work in your Shul or organization. In years past Beth Shifra, maintained a free soup kitchen. This year, Beth Shifra is sponsoring free Kosher for Pesach Sedorsim and meals daily from Monday April 10th, through Tuesday, April 18th, at The White Shul, 2102 Avenue T & East 21st in Brooklyn. Free Kosher for Passover food packages will be offered on Monday, April 10th, at the White Shul, 2102 Avenue T & East 21st in Brooklyn from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. We proudly invite you to join us in making this year a memory of a lifetime for those in need. Take the time now to have the merit and joy of helping a hungry family celebrate Passover. Please help Beth Shifra with any assistance that you can, including publicizing their good work in your Shul or organization.  
May all those that participate in this holy effort be blessed from Heaven. On behalf of the Igud/RAA Presidium and of the Beth Din, I extend greetings of Torah.  
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U.S. News.

# Report: Arab League Working to Undermine Israel's Bid to Win UN Security Council Seat Next Year

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

The Arab League is working to undermine Israel's bid to win a seat on the UN Security Council next year, the Hebrew news site Walla reported on Sunday, citing an unnamed Israeli diplomatic official.

The official said Israel was "concerned" by the Arab League's activities and would take steps to counter them.

Israel is the only country in the Middle East never to have held a Security Council seat. The 10 non-permanent spots — which are two-year terms — on the 15-member council (the five permanent members are the US, UK, France, Russia and China, all of which have veto power) are allocated in accordance with regional blocs.

Since 2000, Israel has been part of the Western European and Others Group (WEOG).

The elections for the 2019-2020 term will be held in June 2018. To get a Security Council seat, Israel will have to receive the support of at least two-thirds of the 193 members of the General Assembly.

Israel's competitors for the WEOG seats are Belgium and Germany.

# 53 US Lawmakers Visiting Israel in August

BY JNS.ORG

Fifty-three members of the US House of Representatives are visiting Israel during the first half of August.

The delegations are facilitated by the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF) and are primarily comprised of US lawmakers in their first term.

AIEF — an independent non-profit organization affiliated with the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) — is sponsoring the congressional visits with the goal of providing "first-hand knowledge of the US-Israel relationship and critical issues facing American policymakers in the Middle East," the group said in a statement.

The lawmakers are being briefed on issues related to strategic threats in the region and how recent events may influence the future of the Middle East. They are meeting with Israeli and Palestinian political leaders as well as Israeli security officials, academics and media representatives.

The congressional groups are also visit historic and strategic locations in Israel, including the Jewish state's borders with Lebanon, Jordan and Syria.

House Majority Leader Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) and Democratic Whip Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) are leading the groups during their time in Israel. Eighteen Democratic members of Congress met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem on Monday. Netanyahu is scheduled to meet with Republican lawmakers Aug. 9.



Democratic US lawmakers meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (front row, fifth from left) in Jerusalem on Monday. Photo: Saguy Moran.



The UN Security Council. Photo: Twitter

In April, Israeli Ambassador Danny Danon wrote in a Politico op-ed, "Now, more than ever, it is time for Israel to take its place as a leader in the world's premiere international organization. Our country is qualified,

well equipped and well prepared for this important role."

"By electing Israel to serve on the Security Council, the members of the UN will make a strong statement finally accepting the Jewish state as a full and equal member," Danon went on to say. "More important, the international community will gain a leader committed to tirelessly furthering the noble goals upon which the parliament of nations was founded almost 72 years ago."

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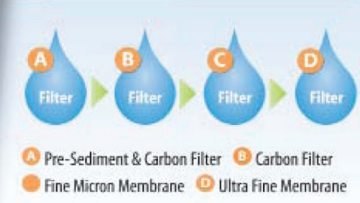
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## Opinion.

# Israel Tolerates the Intolerable by Allowing Terrorists to Live



SHMULEY BOTEACH  
ENGELWOOD

I have long argued that Israel's policy toward convicted terrorists is a tragically misplaced mercy.

In the nearly 70 years of its existence, the State of Israel's civil-court system has never ordered execution against those convicted of capital crimes. There was, of course, one famous exception: After his apprehension by the Mossad, Israel executed Adolph Eichmann, one of the chief architects of the Holocaust on May 31, 1962. Aside from this monster, Israel has allowed a nearly incalculable number of murderers to escape a similar fate.

To name just a few examples:

*Abu-Musa Atia murdered 67 year-old Holocaust survivor Isaac Rotenberg — a man whose entire family was exterminated at the Sobibor death camp — by repeatedly striking at his neck with an axe.*

*Ra'ai Ibrahim Salam Ali axed another 79-year-old Holocaust survivor to death, as the victim read a book on a park bench.*

*Salah Mugdad beat a 72-year-old hotel worker to death with a steel rod.*

*Sha'at Azat Shaban Ata was an accomplice in the murder of Simcha Levi, a Jewish woman who spent her days transporting Palestinian day laborers to work in Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip — until being beaten to death by her very passengers.*

*Abu Satta Aladdin and Abu Sita Ayman murdered David Dadi and Haim Weizman, even cutting off their victims' ears as proof of the killing.*

All of these Palestinian terrorists, and thousands of others, were tracked down, arrested, tried and convicted by the State of Israel for their murderous crimes. They apparently could not escape the long, heavy hand of justice.

Until they did.

By abolishing the death penalty, Israel

allowed all of these murderers to live. Worse, Israel freed all of the men listed above — along with 1,021 other murderers — in exchange for the kidnapped Gilad Shalit. That crime was, of course, committed with the express intent of freeing murderers from Israeli prisons.

The Shalit prisoner swap, just one of a series of such exchanges in the past decades, allowed more than 1,000 unrepentant murderers — men who beat, stabbed and shot their helpless victims — to be granted a new birth of freedom.

I will never forget how Hamas and the Palestinian Authority ululated and celebrated the return to their society of these monsters. Israel will be forever haunted by the horror-infused festivities that followed the prisoner release.

Now again, after the horrific recent murders in Halamish, the issue of capital punishment has come to the fore of Israeli public debate.

On a warm Friday night last month, 19-year-old Omar al-Abed walked three kilometers from his home with a Koran, a water bottle and a knife. After jumping a protective fence, the young man arbitrarily entered the home of the Salomon family, stabbing to death a father and his two children as they sat around their Shabbat table celebrating the birth of a grandchild.

After being shot by an attentive neighbor, the attacker feigned death in order to attack the rescue workers when they arrived to help revive him — another attempted murder that was, thankfully, less successful.

A few years ago, I visited the Fogel home — where yet another terrible massacre had taken place, and five family members were slaughtered to death. The terrorists were later caught, and — after initially denying their involvement in the massacre — they subsequently bragged about it. They are currently serving life sentences in Israeli prisons, but as with all terrorists in Israel, there exists the permanent possibility that they can be released at any moment in a prisoner exchange, making it so much more painful for the victims' families to heal.

And now the butcher of Halamish will join them. He too, will have within his heart



The bloody floor in the Salomon family home in Halamish. Photo: IDF Spokesperson's Unit.

the lingering hope that he will be released once Hamas kidnaps the next Israeli soldier, and negotiates another vertically-lopsided prisoner exchange. He, too, will look forward to a chance at freedom that rests entirely within the realm of possibility.

Or, perhaps, not.

Israelis from all across the political spectrum have risen to whatever platforms they can to call for a capital trial and execution of the cold-blooded Halamish killer. According to a recent poll, 70 percent of Israelis now see capital punishment as the singular path fit for so cold-blooded a killer. Several Israeli politicians, including Avigdor Lieberman and even Michael Oren, have questioned the leniency of Israel's court systems against senseless killers like this monster. Even Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, called for the death penalty to be finally invoked.

During a meeting with the grieving family in the week after the killing, Netanyahu made his views perfectly clear: "My position as the prime minister is that in this case, with such a lowly murderer, he has to be executed. He should simply never smile again."

Any morally-minded individual bent with commitment toward justice ought to join this call. Like America with Timothy McVeigh — the Oklahoma bomber who murdered 168 and was executed in 2001 — Israel should have a death penalty for terrorists.

Terrorists must know — without the shadow of a doubt — that when they stab, axe and pummel innocent men, women and children to death, they will never survive to celebrate their gruesome records in the

streets of Gaza city.

There are those who will argue that by refusing to execute convicted murderers, Israel has opted toward a path that is more humane. After all, how, by killing those who kill, do we truly demote the act of killing?

To that, I answer that we are not calling for the killing of killers; we are calling for the killing of murderers. The Bible never says that one cannot kill. On the contrary, in the case of self-defense in a life-threatening situation, all ethicists agree that killing may be required. The prohibition, rather, is against murder. Murder is not just an act of killing. It is an act of killing the innocent: Those who did not deserve their deaths. Those who never received the most cursory of trials. Those who lived a life of peace and virtue, like the wholesome family of Halamish, yet were murdered with undisguised savagery.

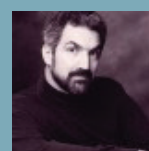
Repentance, too, cannot be a part of this equation. The capital cases of terrorism are not those of an individual caught up in the heat of rage, or who've succumbed to a certain sickness, or were in a drunk and uncontrollable fury. These, rather, are individuals who carefully organize, plan and execute their evil plots. These are men who have lost their ability to see the humanity in their fellow man. These are people so steeped in the passion of their own hatred that it becomes an inextricable part of who they are.

McVeigh was executed after a fair trial and an appeal, with no public outcry whatsoever in the United States. Why? Because a man who takes so many lives so coldly has erased the divine countenance from his visage. Why would Israel lock up the most rancid, heartless and cold-blooded killers in its jails just so that they can serve as a lure for more Gilad Shalits to be kidnapped to force their release?

For the 1,027 murderers released in the Shalit deal, it would be logistically impossible to rearrest them, and give them the sentences that they truly deserve. It is also impossible to stop them from returning to blood-thirsty terrorism. But with the Halamish terrorist in custody, Israel ought to finally heed Netanyahu's words: those who bring endless grief to innocent families should smile no more.

*Shmuley Boteach, "America's Rabbi," whom the Washington Post calls "the most famous Rabbi in America," is founder of The World Values Network and is the international best-selling author of 31 books. Follow him on Twitter @RabbiShmuley.*

## Palestinian Rejectionism Is Weakening



DANIEL PIPES/  
PHILADELPHIA

A recent poll showed that Israelis want a tougher policy towards the Palestinians. As for the Palestinians — beyond occasionally rampaging and murdering Israelis — what do they want?

Dan Polisar of Shalem College reviewed 400 opinion polls dating from 2000, and found that the Palestinians hold three main views of Israel: it lacks a historical or religious justification; it is by nature aggressive; and it will soon disappear. But attitudes might be changing slightly, judging by a recent poll

that suggests a growing apathy toward the rejectionist priorities of both the Palestinian Authority (PA) and Hamas.

Conducted from May 16-27, under the direction of the Washington Institute's David Pollock — and implemented by the Palestinian Center for Public Opinion — the survey-takers asked detailed in-person questions of 1,540 Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza and eastern Jerusalem.

Only 12 percent of West Banker residents and 25 percent Gazans said that their priority was to "establish a Palestinian state," while 49 and 40 percent, respectively, said that their priority was "a good family life." (The dual numbers will be used throughout this article for the West Bank and Gaza; Jerusalem results are not included here.)

Preference for "a good family life" also emerged from replies about current issues.

Only 12/25 percent considered relocating the US embassy to Jerusalem as a very important issue. On the subject of special financial benefits paid by the PA for "martyrs," 66/67 percent said that the PA "should give prisoners' families normal benefits, like everybody else."

Palestinians sampled in the poll also appear significantly more pragmatic than political in their attitudes toward Israel:

- Employment opportunities within Israel were favored by 63/70 percent.
- When it comes to BDS, close to half wanted more employment from Israeli companies.
- Increased direct personal contacts with Israelis was favored by 55/57 percent respectively.
- Arab states offering both Israelis and Palestinians incentives "to take more moderate positions" was favored by 58/55 percent, respectively.

The Palestinians also realize that 1948 cannot be undone, with 60/46 percent agreeing with the statement: "Most Israeli settlers will probably stay where they are, and most Palestinian refugees will not return to the 1948 lands," and 41/51 percent saying that they would accept extra aid "to resettle Pales-



The Israel-Gaza Strip border. Photo: Mary Madigan via Wikimedia Commons.

tinian refugees in the West Bank or Gaza but not inside Israel."

Two replies show that an Israeli state is far more acceptable than one for the Jewish people, with 75/62 percent consenting permanently to end the war with Israel and create a state of Palestine based on the 1949 borders, but only 45/37 percent agreeing to "Two states for two peoples — the Palestinian people and the Jewish people ... if it might help to end to occupation."

The discrepancies between these two

## Opinion.

# New York Times Art Critic Attacks Israel-Sponsored Exhibit on Eichmann Trial



IRA STOLL  
BOSTON

Just when you may have thought that the New York Times couldn't possibly sink any lower when it comes to Israel or Jewish issues, along comes one Jason Farago, an art critic for the newspaper, who manages to review an exhibit about the murderous Nazi Adolf Eichmann and fault it for being, of all things, insufficiently sympathetic to Eichmann.

Farago complains: "The trial was transformative, but whether it was entirely just is not a question raised by this exhibition, which prefers the relics of James Bond-like spycraft to moral and legal dilemmas."

Perhaps the reason the exhibit doesn't dwell on these so-called "moral and legal dilemmas" is because they weren't truly dilemmas at all.

Farago goes on: "The legality of Eichmann's abduction and juridical legacy of the trial are also shortchanged. Eichmann, after all, was kidnapped from a sovereign nation without warning, and American newspaper editorials, not to mention the American Jewish Committee, sharply criticized Israel's actions. (Argentina lodged a complaint with the United Nations Security Council, which was later withdrawn.)"

Farago doesn't mention it, but these "newspaper editorials" included one in the Times itself that, as the New York Sun put it, "concluded by referring the Jewish people to the Sermon on the Mount, in which Jesus talks of turning the other cheek." The term "kidnapped" suggests Israel committed a crime. Eichmann wasn't "kidnapped," he was captured. Had Israel warned Argentina, Eichmann might have escaped. The South American country hasn't brought to justice

the terrorists who bombed the AMIA Jewish community center in Buenos Aires. Why would it have been trusted to bring to justice a Nazi? As for the American Jewish Committee, it, like many (though not all) largely German-Jewish, Reform individuals and institutions — including the Times itself — had been skeptical of Zionism for years.

Farago writes: "These philosophical dilemmas and legal repercussions don't much trouble 'Operation Finale,' whose overly pat narrative may reflect its genesis within an Israeli government institution." What is the word "Israeli" doing in that sentence? Perhaps government institutions in general prefer simplicity, but Israelis — at least the ones I know — are perfectly comfortable with complex narratives. The Times comment is a slur against the government of Israel.

If anyone is guilty of "overly pat narratives," it is the Times, which portrays Israel's elected prime minister as bloodthirsty. The Times writes:

Eichmann was convicted, sentenced to death and hanged in 1962: the only civil execution in Israel's history. (That could change if Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli prime minister, has his way; last week he called for a reintroduction of the death penalty after the killings of several Israeli settlers in the West Bank.)

The Times calls it "the killings of several Israeli settlers in the West Bank," but it could also, in a less tendentiously sanitized way, call it "the murder of a Jewish family in their home on the Sabbath by a Palestinian Arab terrorist."

The Times' true game, and that of its critic, is disclosed in full in the review's concluding paragraph, which claims that Eichmann's glass-enclosed courtroom cage "serves as a quiet commendation of the troubled institution built to prosecute the Eichmanns of our own age. That is the International Criminal Court in The Hague, which the United States — and Israel too — refuse to join."

should maintain its cease-fire with Israel, a 55/80 percent affirmative reply points to the impact that the constant warfare is having on Gaza.

When it comes to Washington, "pressure on Israel to make concessions" is not the Palestinians' priority. For West Bankers, it is US pressure on the PA to make it "more democratic and less corrupt"; for Gazans, the priority is "increased economic aid."

These replies suggest that some Palestinians have moved away from grand anti-Zionist ambitions, and that they are not imbued with an infinite spirit of resistance; they are not supermen. Like everyone else, they are prone to despair, a collapse of will and defeat.

This conclusion points to the utility of an Israeli victory strategy that increases the pressure on Palestinians until their dictators in Ramallah and Gaza accede to this turn toward the practical. This could potentially start the long process of ending the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

*Mr. Pipes (DanielPipes.org, @DanielPipes) is president of the Middle East Forum. © 2017 by Daniel Pipes. All rights reserved.*

*A version of this article was originally published by Israel Hayom.*

A more accurate word than "commendation" here would be "condemnation," which means the opposite. Israel and America refuse to join that court because it was set up by their enemies as a trap to try to put Israelis and American government officials on trial for totally non-criminal actions they took to defend the security of their countries.

The Times is essentially claiming that the people that the International Criminal Court's advocates would want to put on trial — Paul Wolfowitz, George W. Bush, Donald Rumsfeld, Ariel Sharon, Richard Perle — are the Eichmanns of our age. Grotesque, false accusations of war crimes made against those who were actually defending the Jews and other innocents in Israel and America against terrorism demonstrate why justice

is better left to free and democratic nation states like Israel and America rather than to unaccountable and unelected newly invented institutions such as The Hague. The Eichmann example, in other words, proves precisely the opposite of what the Times says it does.

The exhibit the Times reviews is at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Manhattan through December 22; feel free to use the money you save by canceling your Times subscription to go buy a ticket and see it. The Times review itself is a fine reminder of why such a museum, and such exhibits, sadly remain necessary. Perhaps the article could be clipped and added to the museum as an example of the kind of mindset that makes the Jewish state necessary to defend the Jewish people.

## Trump's Foreign Policy: The Light and the Darkness



BEN COHEN/JNS.ORG  
NEW YORK

As much as President Donald Trump enjoys taking a metaphorical sledgehammer to even the merest of slights against him, there is no reason to repeat the commander-in-chief's behavior in judging his administration.

That there is so much darkness around Trump, his character and his intentions should not obscure the occasional rays of light emanating from his administration.

In foreign policy, one can list a few achievements on this score. There was the appointment of Nikki Haley as US ambassador to the United Nations. In a few short months, she has done sterling work in confronting UN bias against Israel; exposing the various threats posed by Iran, North Korea and Russia; and shining a light on the forgotten civilian victims of conflicts from Africa to the Middle East.

Then there was the US airstrike on the Syrian regime in response to its use of chemical weapons — not a strategy, to be sure, nor even that meaningful in a military sense, but at least a signal of a moral opprobrium that was conspicuously absent from the former Obama administration.

Then, this week, there was the placing of sanctions on Venezuela's criminal dictator Nicolas Maduro, who has lost all legitimacy by usurping the democratically elected National Assembly and replacing it with a crony "constituent assembly." Again, the sanctions on Maduro could have been tougher, but their very existence is a far cry from Obama's belief that Maduro should be negotiated with — "We don't want to do more sanctions," he told a contact of mine in the Venezuelan opposition in 2013 — rather than be isolated and removed from power.

But none of this really tells us a great deal about how Trump thinks the world should be organized — assuming that he thinks about that subject at all. Does he agree, for example, that the State Department should remove "democracy promotion" from its mission statement, as Secretary of State Rex Tillerson is rumored to want to do?

Just going by his various statements on Syria's Assad regime — running the spectrum from a potential ally against Islamic State to the embodiment of the evil humans are

capable of — one realizes that Trump could go either way. But one should also realize that as long as Trump remains ambiguous on the serial violations of tyrants, those same tyrants will interpret his lack of clarity as acquiescence, and push the envelope even more. This, in fact, is what men like Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Russia's President Vladimir Putin are already doing — and with gusto.

On two critical fronts, North Korea and



President Donald Trump and his French counterpart, Emmanuel Macron. Photo: Screenshot.

Iran — both fine examples of the dictum that war chooses you, and not the other way around — Trump is severely, even dangerously, wanting. North Korea now presents a credible nuclear threat to the continental US — the culminating moment of the regime's "Songun" ideology that puts North Korea's military prowess before anything else, including the empty stomachs of thousands of ordinary North Koreans. If Trump is seriously considering using the military option against North Korea, as some Congressional Republicans are suggesting, then we can only guess whether he will make the case for conflict to a worried American public — or whether he will announce any attack on Twitter, in order to retain the element of surprise.

This lack of systematic thinking, against the backdrop of the bitter factional divides that Trump cultivates among his staff, is even more pronounced when it comes to dealing with Iran.

As the result of a July 7 agreement between the US and Russia creating four "de-escalation zones" in Syria, Iran and its proxies are becoming even more entrenched on Syrian territory. This is happening with the full consent of the Russians, who have several-thousand troops on the ground there as well. Israel is furious with Trump for reaching an agreement that now presents a danger even

Continued on Page A10

## Impressions.

# Former Homeless Israeli Woman Featured as 'CNN Hero' for Dedicating Life to Helping At-Risk Teens

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

An Israeli woman was recognized as a "CNN Hero" last week for opening a center that provides temporary housing and long-term support for at-risk teens in Israel.

"To be homeless at a young age is very lonely," said Mariuma Ben Yosef, who has helped more than 46,000 young people over the last 32 years through her organization, the Shanti House. Ben Yosef, a survivor



Mariuma Ben Yosef. Photo: Facebook / CNN Heroes.

of sexual abuse, was homeless herself and without a family at the age of 14. She slept on benches and ate from garbage cans with other children who also had no home.

"At the age of 20 I opened my home to serve dinner to children, teenagers and people who didn't have any place to eat," she told CNN. "Before I knew it, I set a place for all these children to sleep in my own home. That was more than 30 years ago. Now we have two homes."

Ben Yosef said her goal is to make every child "feel at home, so secure and so happy" at the Shanti House. She added, "These are my children, these are my life. We are there for them 24/7. I didn't have a family. Neither did these kids. So that created a cosmic family...I want these children to see there is always light in the dark; [that] we can conquer it."

One of the youths helped through Ben Yosef's organization became homeless at the age of 16 and told CNN, "Life in the streets was very hard. When I got to the Shanti House I was taught that I can achieve anything. I always wanted to finish school and they made that dream come true. The Shanti House is not just a roof over my head, it's my family."

CNN first reported on Ben Yosef's efforts in April. The network started honoring individuals as "CNN Heroes" in 2007 as a way to recognize those are changing the world. Nominees for the CNN Hero of the Year award close on Sept. 4 and the winner will receive a money prize to continue their work.

# A Pakistani Lover of Hebrew

BY SARAMAD IQBAL

Despite the fact that my country — Pakistan — doesn't have any diplomatic relations with Israel, and despite the ubiquitous antisemitism in Pakistan, I have mustered up enough courage to articulate my love for Hebrew — and the Jewish people.

I have always been very curious to explore Judaism. Jews are always seen as the "bad guys" in my country, even though — ironically — Pakistan doesn't have a Jewish populace. But this nonexistent Jewish community, and the nonexistent diplomatic ties between our countries, are what peaked my curiosity about Israel and the Jewish people.

Sadly, I can't even travel to Israel, as it's written clearly on my Pakistani passport that, "This Passport is valid for all countries of the

discovering the historical background of Hebrew, and was astounded when I discovered that Greek and Roman had also influenced the language — but that despite these pressures, Hebrew has remained a distinct language for centuries.

Learning and studying this great language also assisted me in studying Jewish holy books, such as Talmud and Torah. After studying Judaism, I was able to figure out why Jews and Muslims have so much in common — from Shalom and Salaam, to male circumcision, to the Quran labeling Jews as "people of the book." Yet sadly, too many Muslims today don't see the ties between the two religions for what they really are.

I found Hebrew more fascinating when I discovered that the language shares many words with Arabic — and Arabic, in turn, has so many words in common with Urdu, which is the



Karachi, Pakistan. Photo: wiki commons.

world except Israel." Instead, I decided to explore Israel through the cultural mediums of music, cinema and TV shows.

I have always been vehemently against all of the antisemitism that is practiced and preached by many in Pakistan. But this hatred led me to explore what Israel really is, and what Jews really are. So Israeli movies like *The House on Chelouche Street*, and TV shows like *X factor Israel*, became my means to explore an Israel that is different from all the negative stereotypes we see in Pakistan. Israeli movies, songs and TV shows augmented my interest in exploring Israel and Judaism — through studying Hebrew.

One day, while I was looking for a Beyoncé song on YouTube, I came across "Ahava Katana" by Israeli singer Shiri Maimon; that song was even better than the Beyoncé song that I had been looking for.

Shiri had a mesmerizing voice that soothed me, even though the song wasn't in a language that I could understand. But the song led me to study, and fall in love with, Hebrew. I started studying the language intensely, and found it immensely enthralling. I also started eagerly

national language of Pakistan.

Hebrew has words like "Bracha" for blessing, and Arabs have almost the same (Baraka). In Urdu, Pakistanis have "Barkat" — which shows how we (Urdu and Hebrew speakers) are connected through our respective languages, even though the link between Hebrew and Urdu is distant and has Arabic in the middle.

Other common words between Hebrew and Urdu include the word for father — both use "Aba." Pakistanis have the word "Ilahi" for Divine, which is similar to the Hebrew "Elohi." We also have the word for death in common, as both call it "Mot." Hebrew speakers have "Kol" for "all," and Pakistanis have "Kul" in Urdu. There are so many other common words between our languages — but I will write about them soon.

Until then, Shalom everyone.

*Sarmad Iqbal is a Pakistani writer, blogger and student who has a penchant for reading, writing, learning languages, and studying cultures, religions and geo-political affairs. He can be followed on Twitter: @sarmadiqbal7.*

# Legal Notice.

## LEGAL NOTICE



Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: 916 56 Street BK , LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 06/19/2017 . Office location kings county SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served SSNY Shall Mail copy of process to: The LLC 916 56th St. 2R Brooklyn, NY 11219. Purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 7/7/14/21/28; 8/4/11

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: DEBRAM Consulting.LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/20/2017 Office location: Bronx County SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to: DEBRAM Consulting LLC, 3865 Amundson Avenue #2, Bronx, NY 10466 Purpose: Consulting  
AJ; 7/7/14/21/28; 8/4/11

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) . Name: SPARK ARTS STUDIO LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 03/20/2017 . Office location: Kings county. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of process to: Legalinc corporate services inc. 1967 wehrle drive suite 1 #086 Buffalo, NY 14221. Purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 7/14/21/28; 8/4/11/18

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC). Name: WUFFY,LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 06/22/2017. Office location: Kings county . SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to: United States corporation agents,inc. 7014 13th Avenue suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 7/14/21/28; 8/4/11/18

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: 4204 NAPIER AVENUE LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York (SSNY) on 07/06/2017 . Office location: Bronx county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to: Amy Hahn 90 Maplewood Dr., Brewster, NY 105 09 Purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 7/21/28; 8/4/11

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: Derek Bradley Studio LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on May 16, 2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 970 Kent Ave, Apt 706, Brooklyn, NY 11205. Derek Elijah Bradley, 970 Kent Ave, Apt 706, Brooklyn, NY 11205, has been designated registered agent of the LLC

## LEGAL NOTICE

upon whom process against it may be served. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.  
AJ; 7/21/28; 8/4/11

NOTICE OF SALE STATE OF NEW YORK, SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY- Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance, Inc., Plaintiff(s) vs. Henry Francis, et al, Defendants. Index No. 12688/14. In pursuance and by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure and sale in the amount of \$698,608.49 plus interest and costs duly granted by this Court and entered in the Kings County Clerk's Office on the 16th day of March, 2017, I, the undersigned Referee, duly appointed in this action for such purpose, will expose for sale and sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder therefor in Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY, on the 17th DAY OF AUGUST, 2017 at 2:30 P.M., the real estate and mortgaged premises directed in and by said judgment described as follows: ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York; said premises known as 789 Fountain Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11208, known and designated as Block: 4565, Lot: 70. Premises sold subject to provisions of the filed judgment and terms of sale. SUBJECT TO restrictions, covenants, etc. of record, prior lien(s), if any, and an easement, if any, contained in Deed recorded January 9, 2007 in CRFN 2007000016340. THOMAS P. ANSELMO, ESQ., Referee Helfand & Helfand, Attorney(s) for Plaintiff, Office address, 350 Fifth Avenue - Suite 5330, New York, NY 10118  
AJ; 7/21/28; 8/4/11

Notice of Formation of 424 7TH AVE, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/10/17. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 125 Court St., Apt. 7EN, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Purpose: Any lawful activity.  
AJ; 7/21/28; 8/4/11

SUPPLEMENTAL CITATION File No. 2015-4036 SURROGATE'S COURT, Kings COUNTY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, By the Grace of God Free and Independent TO: The unknown spouse, if any, and any and all unknown distributees, heirs-at-law, and next of kin of Stanley Katz, deceased, if living, and if any of the aforementioned persons be dead, their respective husbands or wives, if any, executors, administrators, heirs-at-law, next of kin, distributees, legatees and successors-in-interest generally, all of whose names and places of residence are unknown and cannot after diligent inquiry be ascertained A petition having been duly filed by Barbara Arnold who is/are domiciled at 6149 Pointe Regal Circle, #304, Delray Beach, Florida 33484 YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Kings County, at 2 Johnson Street, Room 319, Brooklyn, New York, on August 29, 2017, at 9:30 o'clock in the fore noon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of Stanley Katz, lately domiciled at 1490 Ocean Ave. #3E Brooklyn, NY 11230 United States admitting to probate a Will dated September 6, 2007 and Codicil(s), if any, dated a copy of which is attached, as the Will of Stanley Katz deceased, relating to real and personal

## LEGAL NOTICE

property, and directing that: Letters Testamentary issue to Barbara Arnold. Dated, Attested and Sealed, July 17, 2017 HON.: Margarita Lopez Torres, Surrogate, Doreen A Quinn Chief Clerk. Ira M. Kopito 32 Court Street, #1805, Brooklyn, New York 11201 (718) 834-9200 NOTE: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. If you fail to appear it will be assumed you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you.  
AJ; 7/21/28; 8/4/11/

Notice of Qualification of CS 1158 McDonald Ave, LLC. Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 7/10/17. Office location: Kings Co. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 7/6/17. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 111 8th Ave, NY, NY 10011. DE address of LLC: 1209 Orange St, Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Formation filed with DE Secy of State, 401 Federal St. Ste 4, Dover, DE 19901. The name and address of the Reg. Agent is CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave, NY, NY 10011. Purpose: any lawful activity.  
AJ; 7/28; 8/4/11/18/25; 9/1

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, Plaintiff AGAINST DAINTY A. CLARKE and CYNTHIA V. WAGGONER, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated February 21, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on September 07, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 705 LINWOOD STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11208. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK 4083, LOT 9. Approximate amount of judgment \$506,908.91 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 4415/13. M. Randolph Jackson, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 47292  
AJ; 8/4/11/18/25;

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: Corner The Market Real Estate Investors,LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 04/03/2017. Office location Bronx County. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to the LLC c/o United states agents,inc. 7014 13th Ave. Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 8/4/11/18/25; 9/1/8

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR STANWICH MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2010-2 ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, Plaintiff -against- PAMELA ELLIS-COUMBS, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and dated January 3, 2017, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Courthouse 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY on September 7, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. premises situate, lying and being in

## LEGAL NOTICE

the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the westerly side of East 49th Street, distant 90 feet southerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the westerly side of East 49th Street with the southerly side of Avenue I; being a plot 100 feet by 18 feet by 100 feet by 18 feet. Block 7774 and Lot 51. Said premises known as 12-72 EAST 49TH STREET, BROOKLYN, NY Approximate amount of lien \$795,765.44 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale. Index Number 12567/2007. ANTHONY M. ABRAHAM, ESQ., Referee Jeffrey A. Kosterich, LLC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 68 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Tuckahoe, NY 10707  
AJ; 8/4/11/18/25;

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: RENIBEST, LLC Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 06/06/2017. Office location Bronx County. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to the LLC Att: Marcial Brooks 3362 Wilson Ave. Bronx, NY 10469 Purpose: all lawful activity  
AJ; 8/11/18/25; 9/1/8/15

Notice of Formation of BIENVENIDA GIL LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/28/17. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 1820 Ave. M, Ste. 675, Brooklyn, NY 11230. Purpose: Any lawful activity.  
AJ; 8/11/18/25; 9/1/8/15

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, Plaintiff AGAINST FREDERICK L. GRANT, et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated August 02, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on September 14, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 660 WARWICK STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11207. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK 4078, LOT 45. Approximate amount of judgment \$653,662.17 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 6144/2013. William D. Bowman, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 46958  
AJ; 8/11/18/25; 9/1

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for RASC 2006-EMX6, Plaintiff AGAINST Norma Tirado; Joao F. Camilo a/k/a Joao Camilo; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated December 7, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on September 14, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 281 Ashford Street, Brooklyn, NY 11207. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements

## LEGAL NOTICE

erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 3984 Lot 7. Approximate amount of judgment \$865,788.92 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 4148/2013. Gregory T. Cerchione, Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: June 2, 2017 46517  
AJ; 8/11/18/25; 9/1

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: BROOKLYN 2 BACKCOUNTRY LLC . Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 07/19/2017. Office location kings county SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to Brooklyn 2 Backcountry LLC 1835 W. 7th St., Brooklyn, NY 11223. Purpose:all lawful activity  
AJ; 8/11/18/25; 9/1/8/15

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, V. JASON FREDERICK, et al. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated April 24, 2017, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, wherein NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC is the Plaintiff and JASON FREDERICK, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the KINGS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM 224, 360 ADAMS STREET, BROOKLYN NY 11201, on September 14, 2017 at 2:30 PM, premises known as 630 CHANCEY ST, BROOKLYN, NY 11221: Block 3450 Lot 14: ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN, COUNTY OF KINGS, CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 511662/2014. Helene Blank, Esq. - Referee. RAS Boriskin, LLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 106, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff  
AJ; 8/11/18/25; 9/1

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Adjustable Rate Mortgage Trust 2006-3, Adjustable Rate Mortgage-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-3, Plaintiff AGAINST Sharifa Small, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 9/12/2016 and entered on 9/27/2016, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on September 14, 2017 at 02:30 PM premises known as 166 Stuyvesant Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11221. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 1620, LOT: 50. Approximate amount of judgment is \$973,919.86 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 012554/2009. Jerome D. Cohen, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706  
AJ; 8/11/18/25; 9/1

## Tradition.

## Legal Notice.

## Why Civilisations Fail



JONATHAN SACKS  
LONDON

What is the real challenge of maintaining a free society? In parshat Eikev, Moses springs his great surprise. Here are his words:

*Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God... Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery... You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me..." If you ever forget the Lord your God... I testify against you today that you will surely be destroyed. (Deut. 8:11-19)*

What Moses was saying to the new generation was this: You

their social solidarity. The people then become prey to a conquering enemy, less civilised than they are but more cohesive and driven.

Vico described a similar cycle: *"People first sense what is necessary, then consider what is useful, next attend to comfort, later delight in pleasures, soon grow dissolute in luxury, and finally go mad squandering their estates."*

Bertrand Russell put it powerfully in the introduction to his *History of Western Philosophy*. Russell thought that the two great peaks of civilisation were reached in ancient Greece and Renaissance Italy. But he was honest enough to see that the very features that made them great contained the seeds of their own demise:

*What had happened in the great age of Greece happened again in Renaissance Italy: traditional moral restraints disappeared, because they were seen to be associated with superstition; the liberation from fetters made individuals energetic and creative, producing a rare fluorescence of genius; but the*



thought that the forty years of wandering in the wilderness were the real challenge, and that once you conquer and settle the land, your problems will be over. The truth is that it is then that the real challenge will begin. It will be precisely when all your physical needs are met – when you have land and sovereignty and rich harvests and safe homes – that your spiritual trial will commence.

The real challenge is not poverty but affluence, not insecurity but security, not slavery but freedom. Moses, for the first time in history, was hinting at a law of history. Many centuries later it was articulated by the great 14th century Islamic thinker, Ibn Khaldun (1332-1406), by the Italian political philosopher Giambattista Vico (1668-1744), and most recently by the Harvard historian Niall Ferguson. Moses was giving an account of the decline and fall of civilisations.

Ibn Khaldun argued similarly, that when a civilisation becomes great, its elites get used to luxury and comfort, and the people as a whole lose what he called their *asabiyah*,

*anarchy and treachery which inevitably resulted from the decay of morals made Italians collectively impotent, and they fell, like the Greeks, under the domination of nations less civilised than themselves but not so destitute of social cohesion.*

Niall Ferguson, in his book *Civilisation: the West and the Rest* (2011) argued that the West rose to dominance because of what he calls its six "killer applications": competition, science, democracy, medicine, consumerism and the Protestant work ethic. Today however it is losing belief in itself and is in danger of being overtaken by others.

All of this was said for the first time by Moses, and it forms a central argument of the book of Devarim. If you assume – he tells the next generation – that you yourselves won the land and the freedom you enjoy, you will grow complacent and self-satisfied. That is the beginning of the end of any civilisation. In an earlier chapter Moses uses the graphic word *venoshantem*, "you will grow old" (Deut. 4:25), meaning

that you will no longer have the moral and mental energy to make the sacrifices necessary for the defence of freedom.

Inequalities will grow. The rich will become self-indulgent. The poor will feel excluded. There will be social divisions, resentments and injustices. Society will no longer cohere. People will not feel bound to one another by a bond of collective responsibility. Individualism will prevail. Trust will decline. Social capital will wane.

This has happened, sooner or later, to all civilisations, however great. To the Israelites – a small people surrounded by large empires – it would be disastrous. As Moses makes clear towards the end of the book, in the long account of the curses that would overcome the people if they lost their spiritual bearings, Israel would find itself defeated and devastated.

Only against this background can we understand the momentous project the book of Devarim is proposing: *the creation of a society capable of defeating the normal laws of the growth-and-decline of civilisations.* This is an astonishing idea.

How is it to be done? By each person bearing and sharing responsibility for the society as a whole. By each knowing the history of his or her people. By each individual studying and understanding the laws that govern all. By teaching their children so that they too become literate and articulate in their identity.

Rule 1: Never forget where you came from.

Next, you sustain freedom by establishing courts, the rule of law and the implementation of justice. By caring for the poor. By ensuring that everyone has the basic requirements of dignity. By including the lonely in the people's celebrations. By remembering the covenant daily, weekly, annually in ritual, and renewing it at a national assembly every seven years. By making sure there are always prophets to remind the people of their destiny and expose the corruptions of power.

Rule 2: Never drift from your foundational principles and ideals.

Above all it is achieved *by recognising a power greater than ourselves.* This is Moses' most insistent point. Societies start growing old when they lose faith in the transcendent. They then lose faith in an objective moral order and end by losing faith in themselves.

Rule 3: A society is as strong as its faith.

Only faith in God can lead us to honour the needs of others as well as ourselves. Only faith in God can motivate us to act for the benefit of a future we will not live to see. Only faith in God can stop us from wrongdoing when we believe that no other human will ever find out. Only faith in God can give us the humility that alone has the power to defeat the arrogance of success and the self-belief that leads, as Paul Kennedy argued in *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers* (1987), to military overstretch and national defeat.

Towards the end of his book *Civilisation*, Niall Ferguson quotes

## LEGAL NOTICE

IGLOO EMERSON LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/25/17. 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 Igloo NYC LLC, 184 North 8th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. AJ; 8/11/18/25; 9/1/8/15

REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT – COUNTY OF KINGS CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff – against – LUIS BUSTAMANTE A/K/A LUIS ALBERTO BUSTAMANTE, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on June 14, 2016. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction, in Room 274 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on the 14th Day of September, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings City and State of New York. Premises known as 1425 East 98th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236. (Block: 8263, Lot: 21) Approximate amount of lien \$438,999.76 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 11772/2013. Roger Siegel, Esq., Referee. Davidson Fink LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 28 East Main Street, Suite 1700 Rochester, NY 14614-1990 Tel. 585/760-8218 Dated: July 7, 2017

AJ; 8/11/18/25; 9/1

SUPREME COURT – COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST TO WACHOVIA BANK, N.A.,

**Continued from Page A7**  
**Foreign Policy**

more immediate than the Iranian nuclear program.

One Israeli official put it starkly in an interview with *Al-Monitor*: "This is not just some disagreement. This is a real clash, pitting Israel against Russia and the United States. It reflects Israel's conspicuous disappointment with the way that the Americans let Putin outmaneuver them, leading to the sellout of Israeli interests in the Golan Heights and Lebanon versus the Shi'ite axis."

On this point, Trump needs to make clear to the Israelis that they will enjoy the full, unqualified support of the US in the event of any confrontations with Russia, as Israel carries out its mission to interdict Iranian weapons shipments. Trump should also tell Putin that the US wants the Iranians and their proxies

a member of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, part of a team tasked with the challenge of discovering why it was that Europe, having lagged behind China until the 17th century, overtook it, rising to prominence and dominance.

At first, he said, we thought it was your guns. You had better weapons than we did. Then we delved deeper and thought it was your political system. Then we searched deeper still, and concluded

## LEGAL NOTICE

AS TRUSTEE, FOR JPMORGAN MORTGAGE TRUST 2005-A7, Plaintiff against RUBIN AMINOV; OCHER AMINOV A/K/A OSHER AMINOV, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on May 11, 2017. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. on the 14th day of September, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. premises lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn and State of New York. In the condominium known as "The Bella Vista Condominium." Together with an undivided 8.39 % interest in the Common Elements. Said premises known as 2517 East 13th Street, Unit 2C, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11235. (Block: 7434, Lot: 1006) Approximate amount of lien \$ 533,698.52 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 506391-14. Philip Kamaras, Esq., Referee. Fein, Such & Crane, LLP Attorneys for Plaintiff 28 East Main Street, Suite 1800 Rochester, N.Y. 14614 (585) 232-7400

AJ; 8/11/18/25; 9/1

Notice of Qualification of J SQUAD LLC Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/27/17. Office location: Kings County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 05/02/17. NYS fictitious name: OFFICINA J LLC. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Tarter Krinsky & Drogin LLP, 1350 Broadway, 11th Fl., NY, NY 10018. DE addr. of LLC: 251 Little Falls Dr., Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with Secy. of State of the State of DE, 401 Federal St. - Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

AJ; 8/11/18/25; 9/1/8/15

out of Syria – not least because groups like Hezbollah represent a threat as barbaric and potentially more deadly than the Islamic State.

It is true that in these long, humid summer days – dominated as they are by the internal antics of the White House – such global dangers seem remote, with nobody wanting to believe that the worst-case scenarios are possible. But this is one reason why we trust our elected leaders to protect the national interest – and why, when they fail to deliver, we tend to find out only once it's too late to matter.

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

that it was your economic system. But for the past 20 years we have realised that it was in fact your religion. It was the (Judeo-Christian) foundation of social and cultural life in Europe that made possible the emergence first of capitalism, then of democratic politics.

Only faith can save a society from decline and fall. That was one of Moses' greatest insights, and it has never ceased to be true.

## Social.



Roger Waters. Photo: Jethro via Wikimedia Commons.

## Jewish Group Educates on Roger Waters' BDS Activism Ahead of DC Concerts

BY JNS.ORG

Ahead of former Pink Floyd frontman Roger Waters's performances in Washington, DC this weekend, the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of Greater Washington has launched a social media video campaign explaining the rocker's role as a prominent activist in the anti-Israel BDS movement.

The JCRC said the video aims to educate Washington-area residents on "the ways Waters uses

music to divide people, rather than bring them together," and details the musician's history of "antagonizing other musicians who chose to perform in Israel" as well as his controversial comparisons of Israel to Nazi Germany.

In April, Waters and South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu spearheaded a BDS petition against the British rock band Radiohead's July concert in Tel Aviv.

Waters is performing at Washington's Verizon Center from Aug. 4-5.

## Legendary Movie Mogul Harvey Weinstein to Direct Film on Warsaw Ghetto Revolt

BY BENJAMIN KERSTEIN

Jewish Hollywood movie mogul Harvey Weinstein has announced that he will produce and direct a film about the 1943 Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

Weinstein made his announcement in an article published by the Deadline Hollywood website, in which he wrote that his connection to the memory of the Holocaust was "personal" because he "lost eight great aunts and uncles to Auschwitz."

While on a trip to Israel as a child, Weinstein was given the Leon Uris-authored book *Mila 18*, which depicts the Warsaw Ghetto revolt.

"It's the story of the uprising in the Warsaw ghetto,"

the 65-year-old Weinstein wrote. "It's the triumph of a few Jewish rebels (men and women) who think they're going to die and instead defeat thousands of German soldiers in the ghetto, and half of them escaped. I've already started to talk to people about it after delaying it for so many years. I am now committed."

Beginning as distributors of small, low-budget independent films, Weinstein and his brother Bob conquered Hollywood with their company Miramax and later The Weinstein Company. They have won a plethora of Oscars, including Best Picture for films like *Shakespeare in Love*; fostered blockbusters like *Scream*; launched the careers of dozens of filmmakers, such as Quentin Tarantino and Kevin Smith; and made stars of

actors like Ben Affleck, Gwyneth Paltrow and Matt Damon, among others.

Weinstein's personal friend, artist Ron Agam, confirmed in an interview with The Algemeiner on Tuesday that Weinstein will be directing *Mila 18*, the first time he has gone behind the camera since 1986.

Agam said that a film of the Warsaw Ghetto revolt has been on Weinstein's mind for decades. "This is a book that he had as a young man, and I think it marked him very seriously," Agam stated. "This is something that was always in his head to one day do this movie. And he was a great admirer of Leon Uris as well. I guess it was always in his consciousness to do it."

In particular, Agam believes Weinstein was motivated by the recent death of his mother. "His mother was a big Zionist," Agam said, "and I think it's possible that this is also a tribute to his parents, to his family. Sometimes you can't explain these things, but he was interviewed at the 92nd Street Y with his brother a few months ago just after his mother passed away. The interviewer asked him so many questions about his life and then he came out and said this is a project that he really cares to do and this is *Mila 18*."

The project is also deeply connected to Weinstein's Jewish identity, Agam noted. "Harvey admires the heroism of what happened in the Warsaw Ghetto," he noted. "You know there's two events in Jewish life that are markedly different. This is Masada and the Warsaw Ghetto revolt, where Jews showed their heroism in the worst of times. I think he was very impressed by this."

Agam also related the subject to Weinstein's famously pugnacious personality, saying, "You know Harvey is a bit of a tough guy also, and he sees that revolt as something that inspired him when he was



Harvey Weinstein. Photo: David Shankbone via Wikimedia Commons.

a younger man. Harvey is a fighter, and I think that there is some sort of a connection. Harvey likes strong Jews."

Asked if Weinstein had a strong Jewish identity, Agam replied, "Oh yes! You know, the core values that Harvey has are totally Jewish values. Look at his trajectory in life, and see where he came from and where he is today. If that's not Jewish I don't know what is Jewish."

In addition, Agam asserted that Weinstein was more deeply committed to Judaism and the Jewish people than many realized. "Every time Jews were attacked or Jews had to fight a fight and they needed Harvey's help he was always there," he said. "Sometimes he acted behind the scenes but he's always there. Always at the forefront."

*Mila 18*, Agam predicted, will be a major cinematic event. "This movie is really very important to him," Agam said. "I know he told it to me so many times and it will be an extraordinary project. You have to expect that you will see something incredible coming out from his mind and from his experience."

DOVID EFUNE  
DIRECTOR

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