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Jewish Groups Unite to Condemn White Supremacist Violence



A Nazi flag on display on Charlottesville, Virginia on Saturday. Photo: Huffington Post reporter Andy Campbell via Twitter.

BY BARNEY BREEN
-PORTNOY

The violence perpetrated by white supremacist demonstrators in Charlottesville, Virginia this weekend has drawn across-the-board condemnation from prominent American Jewish groups and leaders.

"It is utterly distressing and repugnant that such hatred and bigotry still run rampant in parts

of this country," World Jewish Congress President Ronald S. Lauder said in a statement. "There is no place in our democratic society for such violence and intolerance. We must be vigilant and united in our opposition to such abhorrence."

The Anti-Defamation League urged President Donald Trump to "clearly denounce white supremacy in all forms."

Anti-Defamation League

CEO Jonathan A. Greenblatt stated, "This is a moment that demands moral leadership. President Trump should acknowledge that this is not a matter of equivalence between two sides with similar gripes. There is no rationalizing white supremacy and no room for this vile bigotry. It is un-American and it needs to be condemned without hesitation."

The Simon Wiesenthal Center

Continued on Page A4

Boston Holocaust Memorial Vandalized for Second Time This Summer

BY JNS.ORG

The Boston-based New England Holocaust Memorial was vandalized on Monday for the second time this summer.

A 17-year-old male reportedly threw a rock at one of the memorial's glass panels, shattering it to pieces, before being tackled by two bystanders and held at the scene until police arrived.

The suspect was charged with willful destruction of



Workers make repairs to the Boston-based New England Holocaust Memorial. Photo: Combined Jewish Philanthropies.

property, and police are investigating whether the vandalism will be classified as a hate crime.

"Today and every day Boston stands up against hate. I'm saddened to see such a despicable action in this great city," Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh wrote on Twitter.

"It's shocking and it's particularly shocking for us in the Jewish community, coming as it does in a week in which so many of us spent our weekend watching Nazis marching in Virginia," said Jeremy Burton, executive director of the area's Jewish Community Relations Council, the Boston Globe reported.

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Embarrassed to Be Jewish

page A8



ShabbatCalendar

Parshat RE'EH
פרשת ראה

Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting
Shabbat Begins: 7:34pm | Shabbat Ends: 8:32pm



the **algemeiner**

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Opinion.

Mr. Trump: The Charlottesville Attack Was Domestic Terrorism



STEVEN EMERSON
WASHINGTON

The Investigative Project on Terrorism has long criticized those, like President Barack Obama, who refuse to use terms like “radical Islamic terrorism” in the wake of jihadist violence. By the same logic, President Donald Trump’s refusal on Saturday to specifically condemn by name those Ku Klux Klan and neo-Nazi white supremacists was also morally deficient.

Trump spoke of “hatred, bigotry and violence on many sides, on many sides.” Both sides did include people who showed up armed and looking for a fight — but only one side suffered death and severe injury, and only one side showed up to protest the other. Moral equivalency did not belong in that moment. For proof, just read the reaction of white supremacists on social media: they thanked the president profusely for not condemning them by name.

Monday’s statement by Trump condemning Saturday’s racist, white supremacist provocateurs in Charlottesville seemed begrudging. Yes, he finally did condemn “the egregious display of hatred, bigotry and violence” at the “Unite the Right” protests,

and condemned “the KKK, neo-Nazis, white supremacists and other hate groups” involved as thugs. But starting off by citing economic gains was a non-sequitur that appeared to minimize the evil of Americans killing Americans over political differences.

We believe that the deliberate decision to drive a car into a crowd of protesters was an act of domestic terrorism, and the end product of the pure hatred spewed by white nationalists. As the Simon Wiesenthal Center leadership said, “This murderous attack, resembles car rammings in Israel and Europe perpetrated by terrorists associated with ISIS and Hamas. It should be treated as a deliberate act of domestic terrorism.”

This was clear even before 32-year-old Heather Heyer was struck and killed.

On Friday night, torch-carrying bigots marched on the University of Virginia, making Nazi salutes, chanting “Jews will not replace us” and taunting counter-protesters with racist slurs.

James Alex Fields, Jr., 20, is now in custody, charged with second-degree murder and other counts. He reportedly self-identified as a Nazi. He allegedly saw a group of people who opposed his ideology, and floored his accelerator. That’s political violence. That’s terrorism.

Conservatives were justifiably outraged when the Obama administration called Nidal Hasan’s 2009 Fort Hood massacre an act of “workplace violence.” Most were equally

offended on Saturday, when President Trump could only bring himself to condemn the “violence on many sides — on many sides.”

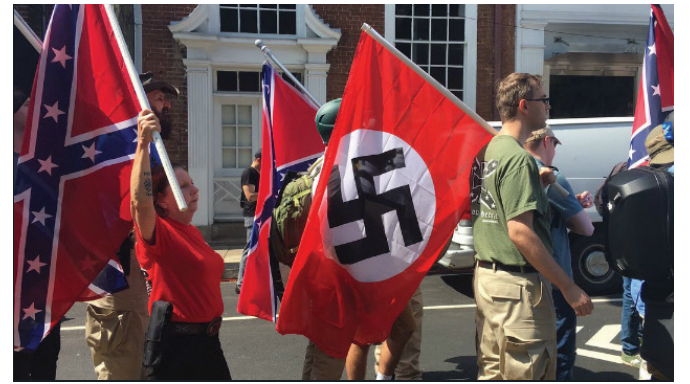
The president needs to disabuse white supremacists of the notion that they have a friend in the White House, US Senator Lindsey Graham told Fox News Sunday. “I don’t know why they believe that, but they don’t see me as a friend in the Senate, and I would urge the president to dissuade these groups that he’s their friend.”

When he wants to, Graham added, the president can speak with great clarity. “He needs to be clear here.”

Actions speak louder than words.

Thankfully, Attorney General Jeff Sessions already has made it clear that the attack “does meet the definition of domestic terrorism in our statute,” and that the crime is being investigated with an eye toward “the most serious charges that can be brought because this is unequivocally an unacceptable evil attack.”

It is an argument for another day, but worth a brief mention, that those on the left who are outraged by the president’s reluc-



A Nazi flag on display on Charlottesville, Virginia on Saturday. Photo: Huffington Post reporter Andy Campbell via Twitter.

tance to name racist, white supremacist bigotry as the cause for Saturday’s bloodshed would be well-served to ditch the “Islam has nothing to do with it” talking points the next time a jihadi kills.

To defeat evil, you have to confront it honestly and clearly, and call it out by its name. On Monday, the president finally condemned by name the evil that neo-Nazis and their racist, white supremacist followers brought to Charlottesville on Saturday.

His daughter Ivanka managed to immediately find the proper moral clarity the first thing on Sunday morning when she wrote, “There should be no place in society for racism, white supremacy and neo-nazis.”

The Ari Harow That I Know



AVI WINTER
TEL AVIV

If you didn’t know any better, you might think that Ari Harow is a celebrity, given all of the media coverage since it was reported that Harow may provide evidence regarding fraud and bribery allegations against Benjamin Netanyahu.

But things are rarely black and white. And the real essence of Ari Harow has been lost amid the media circus. The truth is that Harow is a modest, dedicated and highly-regarded public servant. He has unwittingly been caught up in an episode that is much less about him, and has everything to do with Netanyahu.

Ari Harow is a personal friend of mine. And even though he served twice in the Prime Minister’s Office (PMO) — as Netanyahu’s bureau chief in 2009 and then as chief of staff in 2014 — he has never been a household name. Harow’s relative anonymity means that it is especially important to clear up the misperceptions that have taken hold about him.

Harow has agreed to become what many have termed a “state’s witness.” But that is a misleading description. He is no Shula Zaken — the confidant of Ehud Olmert, who helped the former prime minister pocket large sums of money through corruption. Harow is not accused of having anything to do with the alleged crimes suspected of his former boss. I believe that Harow is simply being targeted for having been one of Netanyahu’s most

trusted and dedicated aides.

The authorities apparently believe that if anyone has key information on Netanyahu, it is Harow. And they seem to be prepared to apply almost unbearable pressure in order to extract it. Harow’s home was searched by officers shortly before his daughter’s bat mitzvah; on another occasion, he was taken for questioning directly after a long international flight, in full view of the public.

Even the actual allegations leveled at Harow are curious. He is accused of having fictitiously sold a consulting firm that he founded, and then to have continued running the business while serving as the prime minister’s chief of staff. Not only did Harow, by most accounts, comply with the authorities in every aspect of the sale, but the suggestion that he would have had time to oversee a business while personally dealing with some of Israel’s most challenging and weighty issues seems unlikely in the extreme.

This is especially true when you consider Harow’s reputation. Although I can personally testify to his integrity, honesty and dedication



Ari Harow. Photo: Provided.

to the State of Israel, these traits are probably best expressed by Harow’s former colleagues. These include people like former-Cabinet Secretary Zvi Hauser, who described Harow as someone who “operated with dignity,” and “often sacrificed his personal interest for the public.” Meanwhile, a former director general of the PMO, Eyal Gabbai, called him “a Zionist and a patriot, devoted to the state and his job.”

In fact, one of the striking features of the intense media commentary on the saga is the near total absence of anyone with a bad word to say about Harow. This is a rare thing, indeed, in the highly-charged and polarized world of politics.

In fact, even some of Harow’s natural adversaries have openly spoken highly of him. HaBayit HaYehudi leader Naftali Bennett, who has occasionally found himself at loggerheads with Netanyahu, has wished Harow well, calling him a “decent, honest Zionist.” And investigative journalist Raviv Drucker, a man considered Netanyahu’s prime media adversary, summed up Harow’s position this week, asking, “The disturbing riddle is how someone like Harow ...who is genuinely far removed from any criminal thinking, got into such trouble?”

The answer to Drucker’s question is simple. The knives are out for Netanyahu; there is a serious attempt to bring him down. And Harow is a sacrificial lamb. Others will also likely find themselves in the firing line along the way. They too should be judged on their own merits. In Harow’s case, the verdict is clear: A passionate Zionist determined to further Israel’s interests, has been caught up in a high stakes game, where the prize is nothing less than the country’s sitting prime minister.



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World News.

Israel Exposes Hamas Terrorist Payment Network in East Jerusalem

BY JNS.ORG

Israel's Shin Bet security agency on Tuesday unveiled the discovery of a complex money-transferring scheme run by the Gaza-ruling Palestinian terror group Hamas.

Hamas operatives in Gaza used the network to send funds to families of Palestinian terrorists residing in eastern Jerusalem. The Israel Police and the Shin Bet uncovered the scheme in a joint operation. Security forces Monday raided eight eastern Jerusalem homes of families receiving the terror funds. At least \$30,000 in cash and a vehicle were seized in the raids.

Among those receiving the Hamas funds was the mother of Tarek Abu-Arafa, who was involved in the 1994 kidnapping and murder of IDF soldier Nachson Wachsmann.

"The involvement of Jerusalem residents in these kind of activities that are funded by Hamas is a severe felony," the Israel Police said in a statement.

The incident follows the Shin Bet's announcement in early August that it had uncovered an intricate money laundering scheme run by Hamas, in which some \$200,000 was illegally transferred to the terror group from Turkey.

PLO Denounces US Congress Over Taylor Force Legislation

BY BEN COHEN

The PLO's Executive Committee thumbed its nose at the US Congress on Monday, accusing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee of having bestowed its "blessings" upon "the herds of [Israeli] settlers" when it passed the anti-terrorist Taylor Force Act earlier this month.

The legislation, likely to be voted on during the forthcoming session of Congress, conditions aid to the Palestinian Authority on a complete and verifiable end to its so-called "martyr payments" policy – monthly salaries to convicted Palestinian terrorists and their families at an annual cost of over \$300 million in foreign aid money.

The Executive Committee – led by PA President Mahmoud Abbas – asserted that "the American Senate Committee on Foreign Relations' approval of stopping American aid to the PA – if it does not stop the aid to the families of the Martyrs and prisoners" is an "unacceptable act that will negatively affect everything that is connected to the Palestinians' rights, and particularly their right to life and protection from the occupation army's violations, and [from] the summary executions that it carries out in the streets and military checkpoints of the West Bank, including occupied East Jerusalem."

The Committee "emphasized that the PLO will continue its national, moral, and humanitarian responsibility towards the occupation's victims, the victims of the organized state terror, and the victims of the herds of settlers and their terror organizations, which the government of Israel supports and provides with protection and



PA President Mahmoud Abbas at prayer in Ramallah with members of the PLO's Executive Committee. Photo: file

patronage, with the blessings of the legislators of the American Congress," its statement, translated by Israeli research institute Palestinian Media Watch, said.

Signaling that there is no compromise to be had on the policy, the Committee ended by sending "a blessing of appreciation and pride to the freedom prisoners of war for their legendary stance, and emphasized that their release is at the top of its agenda."

Announcing the Foreign Relations Committee's 17-4 vote in favor of the Taylor Force Act on August 3, the legislation's sponsor, Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC), denounced the PA's policy as "sick."

"If you're a young Palestinian, maybe the best thing you can do for your family in terms of income is to become a terrorist," Graham said. "That's sick."

The act is named in memory of Taylor Force – a former US Army officer and veteran of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars who was murdered in Tel Aviv in a Palestinian stabbing attack in March 2016. The 28-year-old Force, a Vanderbilt University graduate student, had been visiting Israel as part of a school-organized spring break trip.

a crowd of counter-protesters.

In mid-July, hundreds of people gathered in Boston to rededicate the memorial after it was vandalized in late June. The prime suspect, James E. Isaac, 21, was charged with willful and malicious destruction of property as well as destruction of a place of memorial.

Continued from Page A1
Vandalized

Monday's incident occurred just two days after white supremacists displaying Nazi symbols staged a violent rally in Charlottesville, Va., which saw a 32-year-old woman killed and 19 injured when Ohio resident James Alex Fields Jr. rammed his vehicle into

Iranian Hardliners, Including Holocaust-Denier Ahmadinejad, Consolidate Political Control



Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei has appointed former President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (r) to the influential Expediency Council. Photo: File

BY BEN COHEN

Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, announced on Monday a new head of the regime's influential Expediency Council, consolidating the influence of conservative hardliners.

The new head of the council – which advises the supreme leader and mediates between the Iranian parliament and the much more powerful Guardians Council – is Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi Shahroudi, the former head of the judiciary who has been widely touted as a potential successor to the 78-year-old Khamenei. A fervent critic of the Saudi government, Shahroudi has in the past condemned the "Saudi crimes in Yemen" as being "greater than the Israeli crimes against humanity in Gaza."

Also included in the 44-member council – composed entirely of men – is the former Iranian president, notorious Holocaust denier Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. The appointment of Ahmadinejad flies in the face of predictions that his political career was over after he was barred from standing in the Iranian presidential election earlier this year.

Other appointments to the council include hardline cleric Ebrahim Raisi and

outgoing Tehran mayor Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, both of whom were defeated by current President Hassan Rouhani – often portrayed as a "moderate" by Western media outlets and politicians – in the May election.

Sharoudi's appointment to lead the Expediency Council comes eight months after the death of its former head, Ayatollah Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. One of Rafsanjani's signal achievements during his tenure as president in the early 1990s was the 1994 bombing of the AMIA Jewish center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in which 85 people were killed and hundreds more were wounded – the operation was planned at a meeting at Rafsanjani's house in the city of Mashhad with terrorists from the Lebanese Hezbollah organization.

The Expediency Council's new line-up was announced hours before President Rouhani threatened that Iran would quit the nuclear deal agreed in 2015 with six world powers "within hours" if the US administration imposes further sanctions on Tehran. Rouhani derided the US as an "unreliable partner," citing President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw from the Paris Climate Accord and the possibility of new sanctions against Cuba as examples.

Iran Threatens to Quit Nuclear Deal

BY JNS.ORG

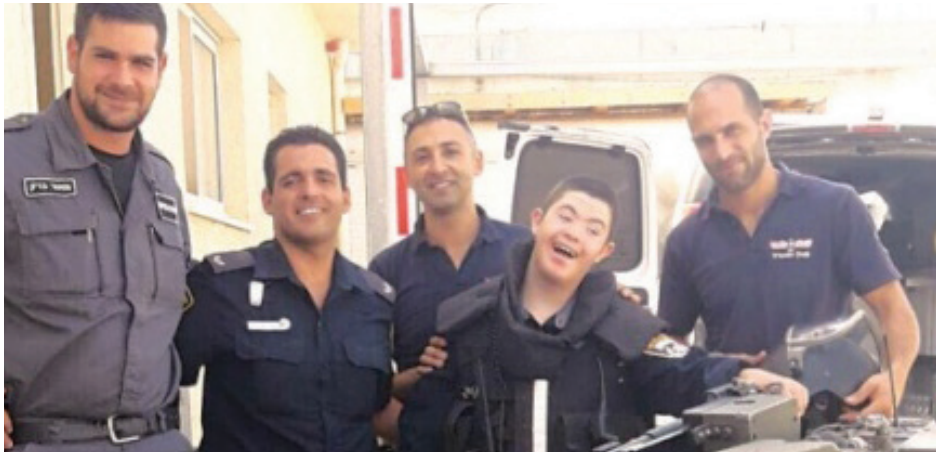
"If America wants to go back to the experience [of imposing sanctions], Iran would certainly return in a short time, not a week or a month but within hours, to conditions more advanced than before the start of negotiations," Rouhani said in an address that was broadcast from the Iranian parliament.

He added, "Iran has remained and will remain committed to the deal, though any breach of promise by other parties will receive appropriate responses."

In June, the U.S. Senate overwhelmingly passed the Countering Iran's Destabilizing Activities Act, which targets Iran's ballistic missile programs and applies sanctions against the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps for its terrorist activities. In early August, President Donald Trump signed the sanctions bill into law.

The new U.S. sanctions came amid Iran's reported fueling of the recent Temple Mount crisis and its agreement to bolster relations with the Hamas terror group.

World News.



11-year-old Ilya Cohen (fourth from left) with police officers from Dimona, Israel. Photo: Israel Police.

Israeli Boy With Special Needs Realizes Dream by Becoming Police Officer for a Day

BY JNS.ORG

Ilya Cohen, an 11-year-old Israeli boy with special needs, realized his dream by becoming a police officer for a day.

The teaching staff at the Tzabar School for Children with Special Needs devotes a day to helping students realize their dreams. Cohen's teachers recently arranged for him to don a uniform and join the police force in the southern Israeli city of Dimona.

Cohen sat in on a morning briefing with station commander Chief Supt. Ilan Shoshan, joined police officers and municipal security officers for a routine patrol, and rode with a police sapper.

"Making Ilya's dream of becoming a police officer for a day come true was important to us, and reflects our strong ties to the community," Shoshan said.

Cohen said he was "the happiest guy in the world, after they made my dream come true."

Polish Jews Call on Nationalist Leader to Denounce Rising Antisemitism in Country

BY JNS.ORG

Polish-Jewish leaders are calling on the head of the country's right-wing nationalist Law and Justice Party, Jaroslaw Kaczynski, to denounce what they say is rising antisemitism in the Eastern European country.

"We are appalled by recent events and fearful for our security as the situation in our country is becoming more dangerous," Leslaw Piszewski, head of the Jewish community in Poland, and Anna Chipczynska, head of the Warsaw Jewish community, wrote in the letter, The Associated Press reported.

The letter said there has been a "rise of anti-Semitic attitudes in recent months, accompanied by aggressive hate speech and

violent behavior that are directed towards our community," and called on Kaczynski to forcefully condemn the growing antisemitism.

The letter points to a number of specific threats to Jews in Poland, including an attack last week on the visiting Israeli soccer team Hapoel Petah Tikva.

The Polish-Jewish leaders wrote that the current climate is reminiscent of 1968, when the former Communist government waged an antisemitic campaign that culminated in the expulsion of thousands of Jews.

"We are afraid for our security and our future in Poland," the Jewish leaders wrote to Kaczynski. "We do not want a return to the year 1968."

Jews Comprised Less Than a Quarter of Tourists Visiting Israel in 2016

BY JNS.ORG

New data obtained by Israel Hayom analyzes the rising number of tourists arriving in the Jewish state, including visitors' age, religion and the nature of their trips.

A record-high 2.9 million tourists visited Israel in 2016. According to a survey by Mertens Hoffman Management Consultants, 47 percent had already visited Israel at least once before, and 80 percent said they would

be willing to visit again.

Fifty-four percent of the tourists who visited Israel last year were Christians. Of the Christian visitors, 38 percent were Catholic, 28 percent were Protestant and 28 percent were Eastern Orthodox. Jews comprised only 24 percent of tourists visiting Israel in 2016. An additional 15 percent of tourists said they had no religious affiliation. Three-percent of the tourists were Muslims, followed by Hindus, Buddhists, Baha'is and members of other religions.

Nearly half of the tourists who arrived in

Kurdish Media Highlights Israeli Support for Independence Drive as Iran Fumes

BY BEN COHEN

Kurdish media outlets reported favorably on Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's support for Kurdish independence on Monday, highlighting the fact that his position is shared by several other leading Israeli officials.

Last week, Netanyahu told a delegation of 33 Republican Congressmen visiting Israel that the Kurds are "brave, pro-Western people who share our values," expressing support for an independent Kurdish state. On September 25, voters in the Kurdistan region of Iraq will cast their ballots in a long-awaited independence referendum.

Broadcaster *Kurdistan 24* noted that "Netanyahu's support differs from the usual US administration's position, which supports a united Iraq, also known as the 'one-Iraq' policy."

"Israel has been the only state to have publicly voiced its support for Kurdish statehood in northern Iraq," the report said.

"Netanyahu is not the only Israeli official to express support for the Kurds in Iraq as others have also highlighted the cause," the report continued. "Former Israel Defense Minister Moshe Yaalon had previously called upon the international community to help the Kurds in the fight against Islamic State (IS)."

The *Kurdistan 24* report added, "Last year, Israeli Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked stated, 'We [the State of Israel] must openly call for the establishment of a Kurdish state that separates Iran from Turkey, one which will be friendly toward Israel. The Kurds are politically moderate, have proven they can be politically committed, and are worthy of statehood.'"

The report noted that in a meeting with former US President Barack Obama in 2014, the late former President and Prime Minister of Israel Shimon Peres had advised the US to



Waving Kurdish and Israeli flags, Israelis demonstrate in solidarity with Iraqi Kurds in Tel Aviv in 2015. Photo: Twitter

support the creation of a Kurdish state.

Also quoted was former Israeli Interior Minister Gideon Sa'ar's observation that, "We Jews, like the Kurds, are a minority in the Middle East. Kurds have proven themselves over decades to be a reliable strategic partner for us."

Kurdish news site *Rudaw* observed that "The Kurdistan Region and Israel do not have official relations but have enjoyed friendly ties."

Rudaw pointed out that "the Kurdish Jewish Community (KJC) says Jews around the world welcomed the decision to hold a referendum on independence." It quoted a June statement from the KJC calling on "all the political parties and social groups to put an end for suppression, mass atrocities, displacement, occupation, destroying civilization, history, and our existence, and for the sake of our future generations to serve humanity and live in a peaceful society, let altogether vote and say (YES) for independence of Kurdistan."

Iranian media outlets seized on Netanyahu's comments as buttressing the claim made by the speaker of the Tehran regime's parliament that Israel wants to sow chaos in Iraq.

"The Zionist regime seeks Iraq's disintegration," Ali Larijani alleged during a meeting with Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi in Tehran on June 21. Larijani and other Iranian officials have also accused Israel of supporting ISIS.

Continued from Page A1
Supremacist

said Saturday's car-ramming attack in Charlottesville — in which one counter-protester was killed and 19 were injured — "should be treated as a deliberate act of terrorism."

"We call upon all American leaders, whatever their political affiliations, led by President Trump, to specifically condemn the extreme alt-right and white nationalists who sow seeds of hate, distrust and violence," Rabbis Marvin Hier and Abraham Cooper — the dean and associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center — stated. "They and all other extremists, left or right, have no place in the mainstream of our nation."

The American Jewish Committee tweeted, "Appalled by white supremacists & neo-Nazis in #Charlottesville preaching #racism, spewing #antiSemitism & #homophobia & glorifying violence."

In a second tweet addressed to Trump, the American Jewish Committee said, "Time for moral clarity. Condemning 'hatred, bigotry & violence on many sides' blurs truth & gives pass to neo-Nazi perpetrators."

B'nai B'rith International stated, "From each individual through neighborhoods,

communities, towns, cities, states and the nation as a whole, all Americans of good conscience must reject divisiveness and strive to embrace tolerance and unity."

The University of Virginia Hillel said in a Facebook post, "It has been a difficult 24 hours in Charlottesville. The violence, loss of life, and hatred displayed here today is heartbreaking."

"The Jewish Leadership Council [an umbrella organization of Jewish student groups at UVA] strongly condemns the violence and hate that has taken place within our community this weekend," the post continued. "The white supremacist groups who have come to rally in Charlottesville stand for exclusion and inequality, and those things have no place in our community."

"We stand firmly on the side of love and acceptance; it is the diversity at our University and in the city of Charlottesville that makes it such a wonderful place to be. We believe in creating a place where no person feels unsafe or unwelcome, both here in Charlottesville and throughout the United States. No individual should feel unsafe or unwelcome anywhere based on their race, religion, sexual orientation, or anything else that makes them who they are as a human being."

Israel in 2016 were more than 45-years-old. Only 18 percent were younger than 25. More than half (57 percent) came to Israel on their own, and 12 percent came as part of family groups of three or more members. The average stay per tourist was 11.4 nights. At least 64 percent organized

their own trips, compared to the 27 percent who visited Israel as part of a tour group.

Once in Israel, 63 percent of tourists stayed in hotels or resorts, 23 percent stayed with relatives or friends, 7 percent rented apartments and 2 percent stayed in youth hostels.

U.S. News.

ADL Unconvinced by Trump's Condemnation of KKK and White Supremacists

BY BEN COHEN

President Donald Trump finally issued a strident condemnation of white supremacist groups on Monday afternoon, denouncing by name the Ku Klux Klan and other neo-Nazi and white supremacist organizations whose violent actions at Saturday's far right rally in Charlottesville, Va., included a car ramming attack that resulted in the death of one anti-racist protester.

"Racism is evil – and those who cause violence in its name are criminals and thugs, including KKK, neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and other hate groups are repugnant to everything we hold dear as Americans," Trump said.

"Those who spread violence in the name of bigotry strike at the very core of America," the president declared.

But one leading US Jewish organization said that Trump's statement – which came after two days of intense pressure from Republicans and Democrats for the president



US President Donald Trump denounces white supremacist groups on Monday Aug. 14. Photo: Screenshot

Israeli Delegation to Meet White House Officials for Talks on Syria, Lebanon

BY JNS.ORG

A delegation of Israeli security officials, headed by Mossad intelligence agency Director Yossi Cohen, will arrive in Washington, D.C., later this week for talks on the situation in Syria and Lebanon.

The Israeli delegation will reportedly try to encourage the Trump administration to amend the current U.S.-Russia cease-fire in southern Syria, in a way that ensures Iranian forces and the Lebanese terror group Hezbollah are ousted from the war-torn state.

In addition to the Mossad chief, the delegation also reportedly includes head of IDF military intelligence Maj. Gen. Herzl Halevi and the leader of the Israeli Defense Ministry's political-security department, Zohar Palti, Haaretz reported.

The Israeli representatives will meet with National Security Adviser H.R. McMaster, Deputy National Security Adviser Dina Powell, Trump's international negotiations representative Jason Greenblatt and others, according to a White House official.

"Talks will focus on Israel's security needs vis-a-vis Syria and Lebanon, and will not deal with the Israeli-Palestinian peace process," the official said.



The White House. Photo: Matt Wade Photography via Wikimedia Commons.

to call out those responsible for the violence by name – wasn't enough.

"Let's be clear: I think we should expect a leader in the highest office in the land to step above the lowest possible bar," said Anti-Defamation League CEO Jonathan Greenblatt on a Monday afternoon media conference call. "We need to move from words to real action."

Greenblatt urged the White House to adopt a plan of action to confront white supremacist ideology, through such measures as "training every single law enforcement officer" to deal appropriately with hate crime, as well as increasing funds for anti-bias programs at the Department of Education.

But the ADL leader courted controversy when he asserted that Trump needed to ensure that there were no "links" between the current White House staff and white supremacist organizations.

"Individuals who are associated with, for example, the alt-right found their way into positions of authority in the West Wing," Greenblatt said.

Referring to Saturday's car ramming attack, Greenblatt continued, "If this indeed was an act of terror, the president should make sure that no-one on his staff has ties to terrorists."

Asked whether he had any particular White House officials in mind, Greenblatt replied, "I think the appropriate thing is to use the Department of Justice and the Office of Government Ethics to do an investigation and make that determination for themselves." Pressed on whether this might include senior White House officials Steven Bannon and Sebastian Gorka – both of whom have strongly denied frequent accusations of being connected with white supremacist groups – Greenblatt answered, "it's certainly possible."

WARNING



Your bottled water may have some dirty secrets...

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

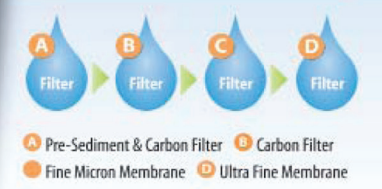
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4-step Purification Process	Benefits
 <p> A Pre-Sediment & Carbon Filter B Carbon Filter C Fine Micron Membrane D Ultra Fine Membrane </p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cost Affective <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>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



Opinion.

Top Israeli, American Experts Concerned About North Korean Nuclear Precedent for Iran

ARIEL BEN SOLOMON/
JNS.ORG

Several top Israeli and American experts on nuclear proliferation and Iran say the failure to successfully deal with North Korea sets a precedent for a similar result with the Islamic Republic.

"The aspect of the North Korean case that needs to be taken into account with regard to Iran is the fact that despite all the differences between the two states, they share a determination to acquire nuclear weapons in violation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) commitment they took upon themselves to remain non-nuclear," said Emily Landau, director of the Arms Control and Regional Security Program at Tel Aviv University's Institute for National Security Studies.

Although North Korea exited the NPT in 2003, the international community did not view that move as giving the rogue state carte blanche to become nuclear, she noted.

"The international community faces a similar challenge in getting [Iran and North Korea] to back down and return to the fold of the NPT," Landau told JNS.org, "and in both cases the strategy chosen for this was negotia-

tions and diplomacy."

The North Korean case entails 25 years of failed negotiations. The country has been a nuclear state for at least a decade and now has demonstrated the ability to reach the US with an intercontinental ballistic missile.

"This raises a question regarding the outcome of negotiations with Iran as well," said Landau. "In 1994, there were celebrations of the deal with North Korea that were viewed as ending the nuclear crisis, but it continued to move forward."

The Obama administration had celebrated the 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers with even greater fanfare, but Landau believes "there is no indication of an Iranian strategic U-turn in the nuclear realm, and the deal itself is severely flawed."

"If a short-term delay causes the international community to be lulled into a false sense that the deal 'is working,' as we are hearing lately from deal supporters, it is likely to wake up with a nuclear Iran that will be as firmly entrenched as North Korea," she said, noting Iran "has been emboldened" in the Middle East since the nuclear deal was reached.

Landau also expressed concern about military collaboration between North Korea and Iran in both the missile and nuclear spheres. This activity needs to be closely monitored by intelligence agencies, she said, explaining that North Korea "will sell anything



An Iranian nuclear facility. Photo: Nanking2012 via Wikimedia Commons.

to anyone for hard cash, and Iran can pay."

Michael Rubin — a scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and a former Pentagon official, whose major research areas include the Middle East, Iran and diplomacy — said the current dilemmas with Iran and North Korea relate to how both nuclear deals were negotiated.

"American diplomats in both cases were so afraid talks would fail that they would agree to a bad deal, and ignore backsliding and cheating just to keep hope alive," Rubin told JNS.org.

"There was also hope in both cases that the regime was at the turning point," he added. "Those negotiating with North Korea were convinced that the regime wouldn't live out the deal anyway, and those negotiating with Iran fooled themselves into thinking reformists mattered."

While the Iranian and North Korean ideologies may be different, their hatred of the West

brings them together, according to Rubin.

"Add into the mix that Iran wants technology and North Korea wants cash, and it's a match made in hell — one could even say it's an axis of evil," he said.

The Middle East is watching North Korea Col. (res.) Dr. Shaul Shay, director of research for the Institute for Policy and Strategy at Israel's IDC Herzliya research college, said Middle Eastern states such as Iran are watching how America deals with the North Korean crisis.

"North Korea had supported Syria to build the nuclear reactor in Deir ez-Zor and Tehran used North Korean knowledge to build its nuclear program," Shay told JNS.org.

Shay said failure to thwart North Korea "may be a prelude to a more challenging threat from Tehran." The Americans should use a combination of military and political threats while recruiting China and Russia to defuse the tensions and prevent North Korea from going nuclear, he advised.

"So far, Iran is responding to the US sanctions with further provocations," he said. "Iran's parliament voted Sunday to allocate \$520 million to develop its missile program to fight Washington's 'adventurism' and sanctions, and to boost the foreign operations of the country's Revolutionary Guard."

Ali Alfoneh, an Iran analyst and non-resident senior fellow at the Atlantic Council, told JNS.org that "as long as Tehran complies with the JCPOA (the nuclear agreement's formal name), as it apparently is doing, as the US government recognized on July 18, I see no similarities" between the Iranian and North Korean issues.

If Tehran fails to comply with the nuclear deal, Alfoneh said, then resemblances with North Korea may emerge.

"The campaign against North Korea," said Shay, "may define the American position against Iran."

Some of Trump's Critics on the Left Are Engaging in Similar Behavior



JONATHAN S. TOBIN
JNS.ORG

Many Americans know that the sickness at the heart of our political culture stems from a spirit of intolerance that has become the keynote of discourse. Liberals blame it on President Donald Trump and his supporters. But few of those people seem able to recognize this behavior when it comes from those who share their views. If you think Dennis Prager must be boycotted, or believe that Morton Klein is as much of a threat to American Jewry as Islamist terrorists, then you can't blame Trump for how bad things have gotten.

Prager, a Los Angeles-based talk radio host and author, is a surprising candidate for this kind of opprobrium. Though he's a conservative who believes that Trump must be supported against his critics, Prager is far from the prototype of right-wing incendiary. In my view, his approach is generally fair-minded and never lacks intellectual rigor. He has also spent much of his career promoting interfaith dialogue, and is as interested in helping his audience focus on personal happiness as he

is in politics. In other words, he's not the type of the bomb-throwing populist that many on the Left think are threatening democracy.

But that didn't spare Prager from being treated as if he were the head of a hate group when he agreed to help raise money for the Santa Monica Symphony, by appearing as a guest conductor at a concert. Prager is a music enthusiast and amateur conductor, and has often appeared in a similar capacity with other ensembles. But when some of the symphony's musicians heard that Prager would be conducting, they said they would boycott the concert.

A petition started by two UCLA professors who are violinists in the orchestra said that they would not appear with a "right-wing radio host who promotes horribly bigoted positions." To back up that claim, they cherry-picked a few comments Prager has made about Islam and the implications of gay marriage. One boycotter even said he'd play with a North Korean conductor, but not with Prager.

Prager's positions can be debated — yet to take them out of context is deeply unfair, especially when you consider that it wasn't long ago that both Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton shared his stance on gay marriage. But if you are going to anathematize someone like Prager and render him an untouchable,



Dennis Prager. Photo: Nate Mandos via Wikimedia Commons.

you're saying that anyone who voices an opposing view must not only be shunned, but also be driven from decent society.

The same spirit animated an op-ed in The Forward by Steven Davidson. The piece was a response to commentary from conservative authors about the Left's willingness to excuse hatemongering from Linda Sarsour, a Palestinian-American anti-Israel activist. According to Davidson, there are 19 people who are more dangerous to the Jews than Sarsour. But while his list included some who do fit that bill — like Louis Farrakhan, David Duke and the heads of Hamas, Hezbollah and Iran — he couldn't resist including mere political opponents along with terrorists.

It was bad enough that he lumped Trump as well as White House aides Steve Bannon and Sebastian Gorka together with Farrakhan and Hezbollah. But he also listed Klein, the president of the Zionist Organization of America.

Most liberals don't agree with Klein about the peace process and consider him a strident figure. But he is someone who works

hard to build support for the Jewish state, and his views are actually more in tune with mainstream Israeli opinion than those of The Forward's editorial board. By treating him as a threat to the Jews rather than just someone to be opposed, Davidson is arguing that any deviation from liberal orthodoxy should be punished with isolation and demonization.

In a world in which Google can fire an internal critic in the name of "diversity," it's hardly surprising to see some Jewish liberals playing the same game. But those who refuse to listen to, or to associate with, political opponents are at the core of our society's current political illness — in which we have been divided into two warring camps that have lost the ability to listen to each other. That's why if you think there's nothing wrong with the treatment given to Prager and Klein, then don't bother the rest of us with hypocritical complaints about Trump.

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

Opinion.

As Israel Faces Growing Threat From Enemy Drones, Science Fiction Comes to Life

YAAKOV LAPPIN
JERUSALEM

A quadcopter from the Gaza Strip landed in southern Israel earlier this month, and the IDF released a short message, saying that a unit had arrived to take the copter away. This seemingly mundane incident is, in fact, indicative of a growing trend: the use of drones by Israel's enemies.

Hezbollah, Hamas, the Islamic State and other radical non-state actors now have their own drone programs, each at different stages of development, and posing different levels of threats.

Israel is a world pioneer in the use of military drones; the Jewish state was the first to utilize drones to coordinate strikes on the battlefield in the 1980s. Today, Israel is a global leader in drone technology — but Israel's enemies have begun getting in on the act.

Tal Inbar, head of the Space and UAV Research Center at the Fisher Institute for Air and Space Strategic Studies in Herzliya, told JNS.org about two types of developing threats. The first is the enemy's use of commercial drones, which Inbar said are "very good vehicles. They are accurate, and you can plan their flight paths. Controlling them is comfortable, and they can carry payloads."

In Syria, the Islamic State has used commercial drones to drop a variety of explosives on targets, Inbar said. But even the mere presence of these drones can be utilized as a weapon.

"If they enter a protected area, they can disrupt something like air traffic. If you're running Ben-Gurion International Airport, and suddenly you see two to three quadcopters landing, you wouldn't be giving anyone permission to take off or land," said Inbar.

The second category of threat is the larger fixed-wing unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), which are used by Hamas and Hezbollah. Hamas has its own fixed wing drone production program in Gaza, Inbar said, describing those aircraft as "relatively simple." But Hamas is experimenting with placing weapons under the wings of these UAVs, he added.

Hezbollah, by contrast, imports industrially-produced, sophisticated Iranian-made military drones, which cost considerable money to develop. Hezbollah's drones include guided rockets that can be launched at targets on the ground, a few miles away.

"The [drones] could, in principle, fly over Lebanon, and fire at targets in Israel," Inbar said.

"Hamas is working on achieving that capability, too," he added. "The Hamas drones have rockets, but they're not yet guided. You don't have to be a super engineer to improve these capabilities [though]."

Haim Haviv, head of the Integrated Electronic Warfare Systems for Mountains Terrain program at the Israeli defense company Elbit Systems, said, "We can say that capabilities once reserved for big organizations and militaries are now in the hands of smaller groups like Hamas, ISIS (Islamic

State) and others." These groups are using "high-performance commercial drones to gather intelligence and launch strikes at people and vehicles," he told JNS.org.

A drone purchased on eBay can immediately be used to gather intelligence, delivering quality visual images from afar. Dropping bombs is more complex, but can be done with some relatively simple adaptations, Haviv said.

Elbit sells a defensive counter-measure to the threat of commercial drones, called ReDrone. ReDrone detects the presence of drones using a variety of sensors, and disrupts their communications and navigational systems, blocking radio signals and satellite transmissions that the drones need to know where to fly.

"The ReDrone system is already being sold. We are seeing a lot of interest in the solution we offer, and [we] are ... continuing to develop these capabilities," Haviv said.

Looking ahead, Haviv believes that



An Israeli-developed Heron TP drone. Photo: Tsahi Ben-Ami / Flash 90.

commercial drones will become involved in a growing number of security incidents.

"The future battlefield is becoming increasingly complex," Haviv said, noting that it will be filled with autonomous drones, some of which have the ability to fly like a flock of birds in formation.

To defend an area as large as a state, fighter jets and surface-to-air missiles are the tools to get the job done, said the UAV Research Center's Inbar. Israel has used both to shoot down enemy drones that have intruded into its air space from Gaza and Lebanon in recent years.

Inbar issued a cautionary note about what could happen during a full-scale conflict, when Israel's skies would be crowded with incoming rockets and Israeli air defense interceptors.

"During such times, the freedom to maneuver, and the ability to send an F-16 into the sky to shoot down a drone, won't always be there," he said.

The future will likely see terrorist entities develop heavier drones armed with higher-quality weapons, and — on Israel's side — improved counter-measures, Inbar added.

One day, Inbar said, the sight of drones defending the skies against other drones may not be science fiction.

"Not only is that possible, it is desirable," said Inbar. "Patrolling the skies is a boring mission. If you can assign a UAV to do that, and install a lot of ammunition on it, that would be a good thing."



CHRISTOPHER RUDDY
NEW YORK

While some in America complain about President Trump, in Israel he is a rock star.

I just left Israel after meeting with top officials, media personalities, tech entrepreneurs, and many citizens from all walks of life.

The overwhelming view was that America was lucky to have a strong and resolute president like Donald Trump.

Israelis are well informed and especially clued in on US media — many can catch CNN and Fox News on TV — and they expressed bafflement to me that the American media has been so hostile to President Trump.

For the Jewish state, Trump is a breath of fresh air. After eight years of Obama, who tilted US policy toward Iran and gave Israel a cold shoulder, many are breathing a sigh of relief.

A recent Jerusalem Post poll found that 61 percent of Israel's Jews believe Trump is "pro-Israel" and a Pew survey of all nations found Israel to be the second strongest supporter of Trump, with 56 percent saying they had full confidence in him. (The first was the Philippines with 69 percent expressing support.)

Senior Israeli officials I spoke with say President Trump has been the most supportive of any US president in recent memory, including George W. Bush, who also was quite popular.

Israelis are on the front line of freedom. They are surrounded by hostile states. In their mind, appeasement is dangerous and there is little margin for error when their security is at stake.

One high-ranking Israeli official told me that the equation for Israel has changed because of three key Trump officials: Jared Kushner, the president's special adviser, Secretary of Defense James Mattis, and National Security Adviser H.R. McMaster.

Kushner, to whom the president has given the task of resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict, understands that Israel is the cornerstone of regional stability.

Previous administrations typically began their peace process by blaming Israel. Kushner took a different approach by affirming Israel as a US ally.



US President Donald Trump places a prayer note in the Western Wall during his May 2017 visit to Israel. Photo: Screenshot.

Both Mattis and McMaster, the official said, grasp the strategic role Israel has played for US security in the region and they have been stalwart in their support.

Today, under Trump, ISIS is being crushed.

Qatar, a Gulf state that has "played both sides" but consistently helps fund the bad guys, including the Muslim Brotherhood, is being contained.

Trump is also taking Iran's role in sponsoring terrorism as a great threat to the region. Trump has been praised for being willing to tackle the Iranian problem as he is tackling North Korea.

Trump's outreach to Putin could be crucial in dealing with Iran and North Korea, one official said.

I first came to Israel at the age of 19 as a college student.

Israel was then just over three decades old, a scrawny teenager on the world stage. Now Israel is a muscular adult, not only the military power of the region, but a global hub for technology and culture.

Life in Israel was challenging for its citizens back in those student days of mine. Today Israelis enjoy a first world standard of living.

Through the years the people haven't changed. Israel has always been a nation of realists.

And these realists see President Trump for what he is, a champion of freedom and security.

Christopher Ruddy, a noted journalist and entrepreneur, is CEO and president of Newsmax Media Inc., one of the nation's leading news media companies.

This article was originally published by Newsmax.

Why Don't US Islamic Groups Stand Up for Persecuted Former Muslims?



STEVEN EMERSON
WASHINGTON

In trying to cast their faith as tolerant and accepting of others, many Muslims like to point to the Koran's verse 2:256. It begins with the phrase, "There shall be no compulsion in [acceptance of] the religion."

While dawa, a form of proselytizing, is a key element of the faith, this piece of scripture makes it sound as if there are no repercussions for those who do not accept Islam

But many times, in scripture and in

practice, this simply is not true.

Verse 25:11, for example, warns: "But they have disbelieved the Hour (the Day of Judgment) and for those who disbelieve the Hour, We have prepared a flaming fire." Verse 4:151 similarly, promises "the disbelievers a humiliating torment."

Right now in Malaysia — which is often held up as an example of a moderate Muslim-majority nation — some government officials want the police to "hunt down" non-believers through state-mandated re-education programs, and "fix their faith" if they once were Muslims.

All of this was reportedly instigated by a photograph posted online on August 2 of dozens of young people who are part of the Atheist Republic, a social media group with

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Impressions.

Roger Waters: There Is US Media Conspiracy to Silence My Anti- Israel Views

BY ADAM LEVICK

Roger Waters isn't given the opportunity to discuss his anti-Israel activism in the US media or on late-night talk shows because of a conspiracy to silence him. This claim comes from an interview that the former Pink Floyd bassist gave to the Russian outlet *RT*, as reported by the *Independent*.

Here's the opening of the *Indy* article by Clarisse Loughrey ("Pink Floyd's Roger Waters says US media ignores anti-Israel sentiment"):

Pink Floyd's Roger Waters has criticised the stances of both the US media, and fellow musicians, on Israel. When asked by RT why the issue isn't more openly discussed by the US media, he answered with



Roger Waters. Photo: Screenshot.

what a producer for PBS reporter Charlie Rose had allegedly told him: "We're not quite sure, but it comes from above. So, you can figure it out for yourself. It's not rocket science."

His response in context: the question specifically pertained to why Roger Waters' anti-Israel activism "isn't more openly discussed" in the media.

First, the complaint by Waters — who has an estimated net worth of \$245 million — that he's being effectively "silenced" is absurd.

Moreover, Waters' belief in some sort of media conspiracy ("from above") to avoid giving him airtime needs to be seen in the context of other risible assertions, including his complaint that the "extraordinarily powerful Jewish lobby" frightens many celebrities from joining BDS; his claim that Israel is arguably the most oppressive regime on the planet; and that Israel's oppression of the Palestinians is on par with the Nazis' treatment of Jews.

Perhaps the reason why editors, producers and executives don't want Waters discussing BDS is quite simple: As much as they may love the music of Pink Floyd, they're understandably hesitant to amplify and legitimise political views that are unhinged, conspiratorial and sometimes antisemitic. The anonymous source cited by Waters is certainly right about one thing: it sure isn't rocket science.

Embarrassed to Be Israeli or Jewish?

BY JEREMY ROSEN

This week, I met someone who had just returned from a trip to the Greek islands. He told me that he kept meeting Israelis who confided that they were embarrassed to be identified as Israelis, and preferred to hide it. I have heard similar stories many times over the years — of Israelis who try to hide their identities, or avoid wearing any outward signs that might give them away, because to be identified as Israeli is uncomfortable.

At the same time, I have also heard more and more stories of Jews trying to hide the fact that they are Jews.

I was brought up in an era where one was expected to be a Jew at home, and a good citizen in public — not to stand out in a crowd; to hide rather than expose. It was an era of excessive conformity.

in Tiberias, and that Judaism had no future in Tel Aviv. It was enough to be an Israeli living in Israel. So said Ben Gurion.

Why, then, am I not surprised if some of these people's descendants hate religion, hate Israel, hate settlers, hate rabbis and even hate the very idea of a Jewish state?

And in the Diaspora, what about those Jews who were already detached from Judaism when their immigrant parents struggled to make a living amongst the tenements and slums — and jettisoned anything that might hold them back? Or those who desperately wanted to be accepted by the aristocratic, moneyed classes? So what if they had to give up some of their Judaism along the way?

There were substitutes: secular Zionism, giving money to Israel, Holocaust memorials, historical Judaism, secular Judaism. All legitimate — but fashions that had their moments, then faded for



The Western Wall in Jerusalem. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

I was always instructed not to wear a yarmulke in public, but a hat or school cap. Religion was a private affair — like sex. You did not speak about it in polite company.

Things began to change very slowly with black immigration into post-war Britain. If other minorities could not hide their appearance, then — I thought — why should I? So, for the first time, I wore my kippa wherever I went — and have done so to this day.

But then, I am a very committed Jew — a rabbi, to boot — so why wouldn't I wear my Judaism on my sleeve? After all, every single Haredi man is instantaneously recognizable, and they are now found all around the world. Furthermore, the number of Haredim who have been assaulted, I venture, is relatively few.

So what is all this hiding about?

Israel as a political state was founded predominantly (though not by any means exclusively) by Eastern European socialists and Marxists, and semi-assimilated Middle European refugees. They hoped to set up a secular, liberal paradise without rabbis or religious coercion. Many identified Judaism with the ghetto, and wanted it to have no place in their brave new world. The secular kibbutz was the perfect paradigm of the New Israel.

When I first set foot in Israel in 1957, I was spat at for wearing a kippah in Haifa. I was told that there was no need to keep Shabbat anymore

lack of a coherent, identifiable lifestyle.

Haven't we always lost the greater part of our numbers — from Joshua to this very day — except when we were forced to be kept together by our enemies? Yet we, as a people, survived. Didn't the Bible already tell us that we would be the smallest of all nations? As my father liked to say, "The individual Jew might disappear, but the people won't."

The fact is that for all the intermarriage — scary as it is — and all the defection and disillusionment, Judaism has never been stronger. Never before have we had so many people really educated in Jewish scholarship of all sorts, so many studying Torah full-time, so many young men in kippot fighting to protect our homeland. Jews are occupying the highest positions in society and government, sitting in the boardrooms of the largest companies, heading the largest firms in Israel and the Diaspora — and all proud to be wearing kippot in public. It was not this way 50 or 100 years ago.

We beat ourselves up. That's our nature. Perhaps it is the conditioning of the Day of Atonement. But I am so proud and happy to be a Jew at this time in history, and I don't care who knows it. Of course, I regret that so many Jews and Israelis want to leave. But good luck to them. They must do what they feel is necessary. I have always preferred quality to quantity, and I am more optimistic about our future than I have ever been in my entire life.

Legal Notice.

LEGAL NOTICE



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; 8/4/11/18/25

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 upon whom process against it may be served. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.
AJ; 7/21/28; 8/4/11/18/25

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; 8/4/11/18/25

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

LEGAL NOTICE

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-COOMBS, 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 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)

LEGAL NOTICE

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 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

LEGAL NOTICE

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 COURT-HOUSE, ROOM 224, 360 ADAMS STREET, BROOKLYN NY 11201, on September 14, 2017 at 2:30 PM, premises known as 630 CHAUNCEY 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

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

LEGAL NOTICE

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: AUGUST 18, 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., 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, NY. 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, NY. 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 228 East Main Street, Suite 1800 Rochester, NY. 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

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION ("FANNIE MAE"); Plaintiff(s) vs. ILENE BENSOUSSAN; et al; Defendant(s) Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 2 Summit Court, Suite 301, Fishkill, New York, 12524, 845.897.1600 Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about April 19, 2017, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at Public Auction in Room 224 at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. On September 21, 2017 at 2:30 pm. Premises known as 1450 EAST 65TH ST, BROOKLYN, NY 11234 Block: 8386 Lot: 67 ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the building and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough

Continued on Page A10

Tradition.

Legal Notice.

The Limits of Grief



JONATHAN SACKS
LONDON

"You are children of the Lord your God. Do not cut yourselves or shave the front of your heads for the dead, for you are a people holy to the Lord your God. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, the Lord has chosen you to be His treasured possession" (Deut. 14:1-2).

These words have had a considerable history within Judaism. The first inspired the famous statement of Rabbi Akiva: "Beloved is man because he was created in the image [of God]. Beloved are Israel for they are called children of the All-present" (Avot 3:14). The phrase, "Do not cut yourselves," was imaginatively applied by the sages to divisions within the community (Yevamot 14a). A single town should not have two or more religious courts giving different rulings.

The plain sense of these two verses, though, is about behaviour at a time of bereavement. We are commanded not to engage in excessive rituals of grief. To lose a close member of one's family is a shattering experience. It is as if something of ourselves had died too. Not to grieve is wrong, inhuman:



Judaism does not command Stoic indifference in the face of death. But to give way to wild expressions of sorrow – lacerating one's flesh, tearing out one's hair – is also wrong. It is, the Torah suggests, not fitting to a holy people; it is the kind of behaviour associated with idolatrous cults. How so, and why so?

Elsewhere in Tanakh we are given a glimpse of the kind of behaviour the Torah has in mind. It occurs in the course of the encounter between Elijah and the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. Elijah had challenged them to a test: Let us each make a sacrifice and see which of us can bring down fire from heaven. The Baal prophets accept the challenge:

Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. "O Baal, answer us!" they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made. At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said. "Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought,

or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened." So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. (I Kings 18:26-28)

This was, of course, not a mourning ritual, but it gives us a graphic sense of the rite of self-laceration. Emil Durkheim provides us with a description of mourning customs among the aborigines of Australia. When a death is announced, men and women begin to run around wildly, howling and weeping, cutting themselves with knives and pointed sticks.

Despite the apparent frenzy, there is a precise set of rules governing this behaviour, depending on whether the mourner is a man or woman, and on his or her kinship relationship with the deceased. "Among the Warramunga, those who slashed their thighs were the maternal grandfather, maternal uncle and wife's brother of the deceased. Others are required to cut their whiskers and hair and then cover their scalps with pipe clay." Women lacerate their heads and then apply red-hot sticks to the wounds in order to aggravate them.

(A similar ritual is performed by some Shia Muslims on Ashura, the anniversary of the martyrdom of Imam Hussein, the prophet's grandson, at Karbala. People flagellate themselves with chains or cut themselves with knives until the blood flows. Some Shia authorities strongly oppose this practice.)

The Torah sees such behaviour as incompatible with *kedushah*, holiness. What is particularly interesting is to note the two-stage process in which the law is set out. It appears first in *Vayikra/Leviticus* Chapter 21.

The Lord said to Moses, "Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them: A priest may not defile himself for any of his people who die, except for a close relative . . . They may not shave their heads or shave the edges of their beards or cut their bodies. They must be holy to their God and must not profane the name of their God." (Lev. 21:1-6)

There it applies specifically to *cohanim*, priests, on account of their holiness. In *Deuteronomy* the law is extended to all Israel (the difference between the two books lies in their original audiences: *Leviticus* is mainly a set of instructions to the priests, *Deuteronomy* is Moses' addresses to the whole people). The application to ordinary Israelites of laws of sanctity that apply to priests is part of the *democratisation of holiness* that is central to the Torah idea of "a kingdom of priests." The question remains, however: what has restraint in mourning to do with being "children of the Lord your God," a holy and chosen people?

[1] Ibn Ezra says that just as a father may cause a child pain for his or her long-term good, so God sometimes brings us pain – here, bereavement – which we must accept in trust without an excessive show of grief.

[2] Ramban suggests that it is our belief in the immortality of the soul that is why we should not grieve overmuch. Even so, he adds, we are right to mourn within the parameters set by Jewish law since, even if death is only a parting, every parting is painful.

[3] R. Ovadiah Sforno and Chizkuni say that because we are "children of God" we are never completely orphaned. We may lose our earthly parents but never our ultimate Father; hence there is a limit to grief.

[4] Rabbenu Meyuchas suggests that royalty does not defile itself by undergoing disfiguring injuries (*nivul*). Thus Israel – children of the supreme King – may not do so either.

Whichever of these explanations speaks most strongly to us, the principle is clear. Here is how Maimonides sets out the law: "Whoever does not mourn the dead in the manner enjoined by the rabbis is cruel [*achzari* – perhaps a better translation would be, 'lacking in sensitivity']" (*Hilkhot Avel* 13:12). At the same time, however, "One should not indulge in excessive grief over one's dead, for it is said, 'Weep not for the dead, nor bemoan him' (Jer. 22:10), that is to say, weep not too much, for that is the way of the world, and he who frets over the way of the world is a fool" (*ibid.* 13:11).

Halakhah, Jewish law, strives to create a balance between too much and too little grief. Hence the various stages of bereavement: *aninut* (the period between the death and burial), *shiva* (the week of mourning), *sheloshim* (thirty days in the case of other relatives) and *shanah* (a year, in the case of parents). Judaism ordains a precisely calibrated sequence of grief, from the initial, numbing moment of loss itself, to the funeral and the return home, to the period of being comforted by friends and members of the community, to a more extended time during which one does not engage in activities associated with joy.

The more we learn about the psychology of bereavement and the stages through which we must pass before loss is healed, so the wisdom of Judaism's ancient laws and customs has become ever more clear. As it is with individuals, so it is with the people as a whole. Jews have suffered more than most from persecution and tragedy. We have never forgotten these moments. We remember them on our fast days – especially on *Tisha B'Av* with its literature of lament, the *kinot*. Yet, with a power of recovery that at times has been almost miraculous, it has never allowed itself to be defeated by grief. One rabbinic passage epitomises the dominant voice within Judaism:

After the Second Temple was destroyed, ascetics multiplied in Israel. They did not eat meat or drink wine . . . Rabbi Joshua told

them: "Not to mourn at all is impossible, for it has been decreed. But to mourn too much is also impossible."

In this anti-traditional age, with its hostility to ritual and its preference for the public display of private emotion (what Philip Rieff, in the 1960s, called "the triumph of the therapeutic"), the idea that grief has its laws and limits sounds strange. Yet almost anyone who has had the misfortune to be bereaved can testify to the profound healing brought about by observance of the laws of *avelut* (mourning).

Torah and tradition knew how to honour both the dead and the living, sustaining the delicate balance between grief and consolation, the loss of life that gives us pain, and the re-affirmation of life that gives us hope.

Continued from Page A7 Persecuted

more than one million followers worldwide. Founder Armin Navabi created the group while still living in Iran, one of 13 Muslim-majority countries that punishes apostasy with death.

The group's recent meeting in Kuala Lumpur "was such a blast," the Facebook post said. "Atheists from all walks of life came to meet one another, some for the very first time... each sharing their stories and forming new friendships that hopefully will last a lifetime! We rock!"

They did harm to no one. But Malaysian cabinet minister Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim learned of the gathering, and saw a threat to Malaysia's national well-being. He called for authorities to "hunt down" those present, noting that Malaysia's constitution is silent about atheists. "This clearly shows that the group goes against the Constitution and basic rights," he said.

While Malaysia is one of the countries that can carry out the death penalty for apostasy, no government official is using such terms. So far. The country's social media sites, however, are filled with death threats against the Malaysian atheists.

"Advise them and tell them that Islam is not to be played with," Danizaynal Dani wrote. "If they refuse to repent we burn them alive. An apostate's blood is halal for slaughter."

"It is better to die from hanging for murder, than to die as an apostate," wrote Irfan Samsuri.

Navajo — who founded the Atheist Republic — also co-hosts a podcast with other ex-Muslims, called, "Secular Jihadists from the Middle East." In an emotionally-charged special episode on Tuesday night, he said that the police had already visited at least one of the people in the photograph. Navabi was surprised by the reaction of Malaysian authorities — but he was less surprised by the lack of attention that Western news outlets and supposed liberal activists have given the situation.

"If this was happening to any other group, any other group, there would be an outcry right now," he said. "If this was a group of Muslims

LEGAL NOTICE

Continued from Page A9

of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale. Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale. Approximate amount of judgment \$400,308.58 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 24572/12 Gregory T. Cerchione, Esq., REFEREE AJ; 8/18/25; 9/1/8

Notice of Formation of 176 WASHINGTON AVENUE LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 08/03/17. Office location: Kings County. Princ. office of LLC: c/o James P. Clark, 127 Nassau Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11222. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of its princ. office. Purpose: Any lawful activity. AJ; 8/18/25; 9/1/8/15/22

being treated like this, if this was a group of Christians being treated like this, the whole world would be reacting to it right now."

Navabi's observation leads to the simple question: Why isn't this attack on freedom gaining more attention? None of the Islamist activist groups in the United States, which would organize protests and marches if the targets were Muslims, have said anything. The same groups have pushed the "no compulsion in religion" argument, though, so it might be difficult to acknowledge the rights of ex-Muslims in Malaysia without grappling with some uncomfortable realities.

Unfortunately, the same also can be said for a series of other cases in which Muslim-majority countries prosecute or persecute people for thought crimes. One hears very little about these cases outside of the interest groups directly affected.

Saudi Arabia, for example, has jailed writer Raif Badawi for more than five years for the crime of writing about secularism. His sentence also includes 1,000 lashes, the first 50 of which nearly killed him. His wife described the scene that she later saw in an online video:

But I saw clearly that he was striking Raif with all his might. Raif's head was bowed. In very quick succession he took the blows all over the back of his body: he was lashed from shoulders to calves, while the men around him clapped and uttered pious phrases.

In Bangladesh, a series of brutal machete attacks have led to the deaths of at least 11 secular and atheist bloggers since 2013. One, Avijit Roy, was an American citizen. His wife was severely injured — but she survived, and continues to speak out about freedom of speech there.

Regardless of one's views on religion, these Malaysian people's plight — like Raif Badawi's and like the slaughtered Bangladeshi writers — is about the right to free speech, free thought and peaceful assembly. These ideals are the foundation of a free society.

It would be nice if more people — of any or no religion — called out these human rights abuses.

Social.



Mayim Bialik. Photo: Facebook.

‘Big Bang Theory’ Star Mayim Bialik Talks About Being a ‘Proud’ Zionist and Not Worrying About Backlash

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

Jewish actress Mayim Bialik, who stars in the hit CBS series “The Big Bang Theory,” proclaimed pride in being a Zionist in an interview published on Thursday by the UK’s *Jewish Chronicle*.

The award-winning actress was talking about showing solidarity with the Jewish state when she told the publication: “I have proudly declared that I am a Zionist who supports the right of my homeland to defend herself. I travel to Israel frequently to see my family and I teach my children that Zionists go to Israel. My family and many friends have served in the IDF and I support their right to exist as soldiers in a complicated situation.”

The 41-year-old mother-of-two added that she was also a “lover of peace” and never felt conflicted about being a liberal Zionist, including the times she disagreed

with the actions of the Israeli government. She told the *Jewish Chronicle*, “Not for one second have I worried about backlash. As a scientist, I dissect everything and weigh things seriously before committing to them, especially in regard to my relationship with Israel and its citizens.”

Thursday’s interview was not the first time Bialik has discussed her Zionist beliefs in public. In 2015, she urged people not to be apologetic in voicing their support for the Jewish state and made headlines for a Facebook post in which she blasted critics who boycott her on social media for being a Zionist.

Bialik also discussed in her interview with the *Jewish Chronicle* her recent campaign with SodaStream, how reading Jewish prayers helps her decompress and her thoughts on the best way to celebrate a bat mitzvah.

Daughter of US Ambassador to Israel Makes Aliyah

BY JNS.ORG

The 23-year-old, a practicing nurse, was greeted by her diplomat father at Ben Gurion Airport soon after the El Al Airlines Boeing 777 chartered by the Nefesh B’Nefesh aliyah agency touched down on the runway.

“We’re so proud of our daughter Talia. She always wanted to live in Israel, and she’s realizing her dream. Our whole family is very proud of her,” David Friedman told reporters at the airport.

The ambassador also praised Nefesh B’Nefesh



U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman and his daughter, Talia, embrace. Photo: Twitter.

for coordinating the large flight of North American immigrants.

“What’s amazing is that you have so many Americans coming to Israel and they’re going to remain American and they’re going to become Israeli...they add a lot to both countries. It’s very encouraging to see the connection strengthened between Israel and America,” he said.

Among the 233 new immigrants, 70 will join the IDF after receiving their Israeli citizenship. Other newcomers aboard the flight included immigrants from 19 U.S. states and two Canadian provinces, 64 children, six sets of twins, and 26 medical professionals.

Israeli Wins Bronze Medal at Thai Boxing Championships After Palestinian Competitor Refuses to Fight Him

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

An Israeli athlete won the bronze medal on Tuesday at a Thai boxing championship held in Bangkok, Thailand, after his rival, a Palestinian, refused to fight him, the UK’s *Jewish Chronicle* reported.

Amit Mdah, 16, defeated a competitor from Madagascar to reach the bronze medal quarter-finals fight

in the World Youth Muaythai Championships, only to have the bout cancelled. The Palestinian athlete who declared he would not fight against Mdah — who hails from Sumei, an Arab town in the Galilee — may now face a penalty for refusing to compete, according to the report.

More than 2,000 athletes from around the world competed in the Thai boxing championships.



Amit Mdah. Photo: Ayelet: The Federation of Non-Olympic Sport in Israel.

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