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Trump Takes Hard Line Against Iran in National Security Speech



President Trump waves to the audience in a speech on Monday, Dec. 18, 2017. Photo: Reuters / Joshua Roberts.

BY BEN COHEN
& AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump had harsh words for Iran on Tuesday, as he delivered a speech in Washington, DC unveiling his “America First” national security strategy.

“To counter Iran and block its path to a nuclear weapon, I sanctioned the Islamic Revolu-

tionary Guards Corps (IRGC) for its support of terrorism,” Trump said. “I declined to certify the Iran deal to Congress.”

The president also said that “the Gulf states and other Muslim-majority nations” had “joined together to fight radical Islamic ideology and terrorist financing” following his trip to the Middle East earlier this year.

Trump outlined the four pillars undergirding his strategy

as the protection of the American homeland and its borders, promoting American economic prosperity, boosting spending on the US military and ending the defense budget sequester, and advancing American influence and values abroad.

“Any nation that trades away its prosperity for security will end up losing both,” Trump said.

One former senior

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American, Israeli Envoys to UN Blast ‘Insult’ of Vetoed Security Council Resolution

BY ALGEMEINER STAFF
& AGENCIES

The United States on Monday vetoed a UN Security Council resolution drafted by Egypt that opposed “recent decisions regarding the status of Jerusalem” — a reference to President Donald Trump’s announcement on December 6 recognizing the holy city as Israel’s capital.

The remaining 14 council members — including



US Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley vetoes a resolution on Jerusalem. Photo: Reuters/ Brendan McDermid.

several states who maintain strong bilateral relations with Israel — voted in favor of the Egyptian-drafted text.

Nikki Haley, the US ambassador to the UN, expressed disgust at the resolution following the vote. “What we witnessed here in the Security Council is an insult,” Haley said. “It won’t be forgotten.”

Regarding the veto wielded by the US — a right reserved for the five permanent members of the Security Council — Haley said, “We do it with no joy, but we do it with no reluctance.”

“The fact that this veto is being done in defense of

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Ending the Silence on Abuse

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ShabbatCalendar

Parshat VAYIGASH
פרשת ויגש

Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting
Shabbat Begins: 4:14pm | Shabbat Ends: 5:18pm



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Opinion.

Ten Ways The New York Times Jerusalem Editorial Got It Wrong



IRA STOLL
BOSTON

The *New York Times* greeted President Donald Trump's recognition of Israel's capital with an editorial alluding to the Christian Bible and calling for Jerusalem to be split in two.

The online headline for the *New York Times*' editorial for the Sabbath of Hanukkah was "Donald Trump Seems Confused About Jerusalem."

A more accurate headline would have been "The New York Times Editorial Writers Seem Confused About Jerusalem."

The editorial comes after an onslaught of six previous recent *Times* articles that were negative about Trump's action, against only two that were in favor. Its publication brings the editorial and opinion-page tilt on the Jerusalem issue to seven to two, the same lopsidedness the *Times* showed recently on the Iran nuclear deal.

Here are ten ways the editorial got it wrong:

First, the *Times* complains about President Trump "tossing aside 70 years of careful American neutrality" on the Jerusalem question.

It's not accurate that America has been

"neutral" in relation to Israel. America is Israel's friend and ally. The US government has provided significant support over the years to Israel, both in military aid and diplomatically. And the US has extensive economic and people-to-people relations with Israel.

Second, even on the more particular question of America's position on Jerusalem, "neutrality" is not an accurate description of the American position. The Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995 includes a "statement of the policy of the United States" that "Jerusalem should be recognized as the capital of the State of Israel."

Third, even if the false claim that America had been neutral for 70 years were true, it would be no reason to continue the policy. The *Times* recommends changing longstanding American policy all the time. For decades American law did not recognize gay marriages; when that changed, the *Times* cheered it, rather than letting the past dictate current policy. Likewise, the *Times* cheered former President Barack Obama's decisions to ease sanctions against Cuba and against Iran. It didn't seem to bother the *Times* then that both of those foreign policy moves were departures from longstanding American policy. The weakness of the *Times* appeal to the "status quo" argument is clear by imagining it applied to other events in Jewish history. One can imagine the *Times* editorializing against Abraham's monotheism,

complaining that the patriarch was "tossing aside 70 years of careful Canaanite idolatry." One can imagine the *Times* editorializing against the Exodus, complaining that Moses was "tossing aside years of careful slavery in Egypt." Or recall the *Times*' opposition to Zionism, complaining, in essence, that Herzl, Ben-Gurion, and other early Zionists were "tossing aside years of exile." Or apply it to American history: would the *Times* have opposed abolition during the Civil War on the grounds that it "tossed aside" years of careful national neutrality on the question of chattel slavery? Or civil rights on the grounds that it "tossed aside" years of careful segregation? Or feminism on the grounds that it "tossed aside" years of male chauvinism? Or the American Revolution itself on the grounds that it "tossed aside" years of careful cultivation of the American colonies?

Fourth, the *Times* ties Trump's move to Americans "who staunchly back Israel's hard-line Likud government." But that inaccurately portrays Jerusalem as Israel's capital as a partisan issue in Israeli politics. It is not. I was at the US Capitol on October 25, 1995, and watched as the visiting Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin, of Israel's Labor Party, said, "In Israel, we all agree on one issue: the wholeness of Jerusalem, the continuation of its existence as capital of the State of Israel. There are no two Jerusalems. There is only one Jerusalem. For us, Jerusalem is not subject to compromise, and



The Western Wall and Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

there is no peace without Jerusalem."

Rabin's cabinet had in May 1995 resolved, "the Cabinet will act to strengthen the status of united Jerusalem as the exclusive capital of Israel, and will fight any attempt to impair this status."

Fifth, the *Times* bemoans the fact that "More than 50 Muslim leaders...criticized the decision." The "50 Muslim leaders" are no more good reason to oppose the decision than are the "70 years." One of the leaders was the president of Iran, which has vowed to wipe Israel entirely off the map. If it were up to the Muslim leaders, Israel wouldn't exist at all (though a few of them might actually privately prefer to keep the Jewish state around for propaganda purposes as a way of distracting the residents of their tyrannies from their own misery.)

Sixth, the *Times* claims that "Israel's government has been in West Jerusalem since the state's founding in 1948." It's a small point, but again the *Times* manages

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Is the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict the 'Middle East Conflict'?



HILLEL FRISCH
JERUSALEM

"Can Trump Solve the Middle East Conflict?" ran the headlines in *Al Jazeera* in July 2017. A year earlier, *The New York Times* ran an article on college students and the "Middle East conflict" that referred exclusively to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians.

The media are hardly alone in conflating the Israeli-Palestinian standoff with the Middle East conflict. They take their cue from UN officials and institutions, and other international bodies.

In a statement similar to those of many of his predecessors, UN Secretary-General António Guterres — in August 2017 — "reiterated his call for a political solution to the Middle East conflict."

The UN's official news site on the Middle East deals exclusively with news related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Quartet — the political forum comprised of the US, Russia, the EU and the UN, which came into existence in 2002 in Madrid to bring peace to the area — is officially known as the Middle East Quartet.

But does the conflation of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with the Middle East conflict reflect reality? Not at all.

Not only is the Israeli-Palestinian conflict one of many conflicts in the Middle East (which was true even when it was a conflict principally between Israel and Arab states),

but it is not nearly one of the deadliest or most explosive. In fact, relatively speaking, the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is not very violent, which may be one of the reasons that it has persisted so long.

A cursory comparison with contemporary conflicts in the Middle East brings this point home. During the first intifada, the second intifada, the three rounds of violence between Hamas and Israel in the past decade, and the intermittent waves of low intensity violence, 2,000 Israeli civilians and security personnel and 11,000 Palestinians have been killed (the majority in the Second Intifada). To this one might add about 50 foreigners killed in acts of terrorism against Israelis. All told, the total casualty figures, including both sides, do not exceed 14,000 over the past 20 years, or 700 annually.

Compare this with the hundreds of thousands of deaths in the Syrian civil war, a conflict that is only six years old. True, the Syrian population is more than double that of the combined Israeli and Palestinian populations in the Holy Land. Nevertheless, the death rate proportionately has been at least 15 times higher. Despite the Syrian government's success against the rebels (achieved

with considerable help from Iran, Hezbollah, Iraqi and Afghani Shiite fighters, and Russian airpower), the end of that war is nowhere in sight. Is the Israeli-Palestinian conflict really the Middle East conflict?

And why isn't the internecine Iraqi conflict the Middle East conflict? According to Iraq Watch, more than 100,000 Iraqis were killed during the eight years of massive US military presence in the country. To those one might add the 4,000 US troops and civilians who met their death there. On a proportionate basis, the Iraqi conflict is (and persists in being) at least five times more lethal than the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. And again, despite the gains made by the Iraqi Federal Army and the Iranian-controlled Shiite militias in the war against ISIS, an end to the internecine war between Sunnis and Shiites in Iraq is nowhere in sight. Furthermore, the brutality of the Shiite militias in the "occupied" Sunni areas of Iraq increases the likelihood that variations on ISIS will rise once again.

The same is probably true of the conflicts in Libya and Yemen, where few bother to churn the terrible numbers. In these arenas, too, the end of violence is nowhere in sight. This is not to mention the "persistent, enduring and explosive" (all adjectives used to conflate the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with Middle East turmoil) wars of Sudan, the duration of which is almost as long as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

But perhaps body count is not the only metric to be used when judging the centrality of a conflict. Perhaps foreign involvement

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The Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Photo: Reuters / Ammar Awad

World News.

Missile Fired by Houthis in Yemen Intercepted Over Saudi Capital of Riyadh

BY REUTERS
& ALGEMEINER STAFF

Saudi air defenses intercepted a ballistic missile fired toward the capital Riyadh on Tuesday, the Saudi-led coalition said, the latest attack by a Yemeni group that could escalate a proxy war between the kingdom and regional rival Iran.

There was no immediate report of casualties or damages.

A spokesman for the Iran-aligned Houthi movement said a ballistic missile targeted the royal court at al-Yamama palace, where a meeting of Saudi leaders was under way.

Saudi Arabia has not confirmed this account or whether a meeting of its leaders was taking place.

"Coalition forces confirm intercepting an Iranian-Houthi missile targeting (the) south of Riyadh. There are no reported casualties at this time," the government-run Center for International Communication wrote on its Twitter account.

Saudi Arabia and Iran are locked in struggle for influence in the Middle East. Riyadh is especially sensitive to the civil war in its backyard Yemen, a conflict that has killed more than 10,000 people and displaced over two million.

A Saudi-backed coalition has launched thousands of air strikes against the Houthis and allied forces since intervening in the war on behalf of the government nominally based in Aden.

The Houthis for their part have fired several missiles at the kingdom, mostly in the south since 2015, but not caused any serious damage, in their bid to pressure Saudi Arabia, a strategic US ally and the world's biggest oil exporter.

A blast, and then smoke

Tuesday's attack took place hours before Saudi Arabia was due to announce the country's annual budget in a news conference expected to be attended by senior ministers.

Houthi missiles are often modified by

reducing payloads and rarely hit their targets.

Reuters witnesses described hearing a blast and said they saw smoke in the north-east of Riyadh.

Saudi Arabia's crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman, has described what Riyadh says is Iran's supply of rockets to the Houthis as "direct military aggression" that could be an act of war.

Iran, Saudi Arabia's regional foe, has denied supplying such weaponry to the Houthis who have taken over the Yemeni capital Sanaa and other parts of the country during its civil war.

Saudi Arabia said on Nov. 4 it had intercepted a ballistic missile over Riyadh's King Khaled Airport, an attack that stirred regional tensions and led the coalition to close Yemeni ports.

On Nov. 30 Saudi Arabia shot down another missile near the south-western city of Khamis Mushait.

Last week the United States presented for the first time pieces of what it said were Iranian weapons supplied to the Houthis, describing it as conclusive evidence that Tehran was violating UN resolutions.

The arms included charred remnants of what the Pentagon said was an Iranian-made short-range ballistic missile fired from Yemen in the on Nov. 4 attack, as well as a drone and an anti-tank weapon recovered in Yemen by the Saudis.

In Geneva, a UN human rights spokesman said air strikes by the Saudi-led coalition had killed at least 136 civilians and non-combatants in Yemen since December 6.



The skyline of the Saudi capital of Riyadh.
Photo: Reuters / Faisal Al Nasser.

was an impediment to peace."

In remarks to the Security Council on Monday, Israeli Ambassador to the UN Danny Danon said that those countries "who voted for today's resolution have only reaffirmed the UN's decades-long double standard when it comes to Israel."

Danon declared that those states which voted in favor of the Egyptian-drafted resolution were "guilty of blatant hypocrisy."

"Every other country in the world has the right to designate its own capital city, but when it comes to Israel, this most basic national right is questioned," Danon said, before thanking Trump, Haley and Vice President Mike Pence for proving that "the US does not back down from what it right."

Like Haley, Danon noted that "almost exactly one year ago, this body adopted the shameful Resolution 2334 that had the audacity to designate Israel's presence at the Western Wall, the holiest site in Judaism, as a 'flagrant violation of international law.'"

"Those words pierced the hearts of Jews everywhere," he said, citing the late Lubavitcher Rebbe Menachem Schneerson's description of the UN as a "house of darkness and light."

US VP Pence Postpones Israel Trip, as Tax Reform Push Reaches Capitol Hill Climax



US Vice President Mike Pence. Photo: Gage Skidmore via Wikimedia Commons.

BY REUTERS
& ALGEMEINER STAFF

US Vice President Mike Pence is postponing his trip to Egypt and Israel this week in order to stay in Washington for a congressional vote on President Donald Trump's tax overhaul plan, White House officials said on Monday.

Pence had been scheduled to depart on Tuesday night for Cairo. Instead, the trip will be rescheduled for the week of Jan. 14, officials told reporters.

"The vice president is committed to seeing the tax cut through to the finish line," said Alyssa Farah, a spokeswoman for Pence. "The vice president looks forward to traveling to Egypt and Israel in January."

Pence has been a key figure in the Republican effort to overhaul US tax law. He could provide a tie-breaking vote in the Senate if needed, though on Monday it looked like bill has enough votes among Senate Republicans to pass.

Pence was to have spent three days in the region with stops in Cairo and Jerusalem, the first high-level official to visit after Trump reversed decades of American policy and recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

That decision led to uproar and protest in the region.

The status of Jerusalem, which holds Muslim, Jewish and Christian holy sites, is one of the thorniest obstacles to a peace deal between Israel and the Palestinians, who were furious over Trump's move and have declined to meet with Pence.

White House officials said the delay was not related to the reaction in the region to Trump's decision.

Two Senate Republican holdouts agreed on Monday to support the tax package. Repub-

"One small candle of truth can turn darkness in to light," Danon said. "Tonight, the seventh night of the festival of Hanukkah, Jews will celebrate their eternal bond with Jerusalem."

The UN draft resolution vetoed on Monday affirmed "that any decisions and actions which purport to have altered the character, status or demographic composition of the Holy City of Jerusalem have no legal effect, are null and void and must be

licans hold a 52-48 majority in the body.

"The tax vote is still in very good shape, but we don't want to take any chances," a White House official said, adding there were "several difference scenarios" in which Pence might be needed.

The timing of the vote made the trip tricky.

The House of Representatives was due to vote first at around 1:30 p.m. (1830 GMT) on Tuesday, according to Republican aides, while the Senate vote is expected to follow either later on Tuesday or on Wednesday.

White House officials determined that if Pence could not leave for his trip by Tuesday evening, it would have pushed his meeting with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi on Wednesday to a very late hour and left little time to hold meetings with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and others in Israel before Friday at sunset, when Shabbat, the Jewish Sabbath, begins.

"We ran into time constraints to get it all done before Shabbat," the official said.

Even with the postponement to January, the trip will be overshadowed by Trump's decision on Jerusalem.

Israel considers Jerusalem its eternal capital, while Palestinians want the capital of an independent state of theirs to be in the city's eastern sector, which Israel took control of in the 1967 Six-Day War and later annexed in a move never recognized internationally.

Pence, an evangelical Christian who planned to highlight the plight of Christian minorities during his trip, was not scheduled to meet with Palestinian Christians or with officials from the Coptic Christian church, who declined a meeting in response to the US move. Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas also refused a meeting with Pence.

rescinded in compliance with relevant resolutions of the Security Council."

Addressing the Security Council ahead of the vote, UN Middle East peace envoy Nickolay Mladenov said that Trump's decision on Jerusalem had been destabilizing.

"In the wake of the decision of the United States ... the situation has become more tense with an increase in incidents, notably rockets fired from Gaza and clashes between Palestinians and Israeli security forces," Mladenov claimed.

Continued from Page A1

Insult

American sovereignty and in defense of America's role in the Middle East peace process is not a source of embarrassment for us; it should be an embarrassment to the remainder of the Security Council," Haley said.

The US ambassador also asserted that "the adoption of Resolution 2334 one year ago was a hindrance to peace efforts between the Israelis and the Palestinians."

That resolution — the passage of which was enabled by the abstention of the Obama administration — determined that "the establishment by Israel of settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, has no legal validity and constitutes a flagrant violation under international law and a major obstacle to the achievement of the two-State solution and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace."

Haley said on Monday, "On the surface, Resolution 2334 described Israeli settlements as impediments to peace. Reasonable people can disagree about that, and in fact, over the years the United States has expressed criticism of Israeli settlement policies many times. But in truth, it was Resolution 2334 itself that

World News.



Imam Aymen Elkasaby preaching at the Islamic Center of Jersey City in November 2017. Photo: YouTube.

NJ Imam Who Urged Murder of Jews to Be 'Suspended,' Islamic Center of Jersey City Announces

BY BEN COHEN

The New Jersey imam who issued a call for the killing of Jews is to be suspended for one month and will have to submit all future sermons for vetting, the Islamic Center where he serves announced on Monday.

Ahmed Shedeed — president of the Islamic Center of Jersey City, where Imam Aymen Elkasaby delivered his incendiary sermon on December 8 — told *The Algemeiner* that he condemned Elkasaby's remarks, "which falsely demonize an entire people."

In an emailed statement, Shedeed outline a number of steps being taken with regard to Elkasaby — who denounced Jews as "apes and pigs" and exhorted followers to "count them one by one, and kill them down to the very last one," in a furious response to US President Donald Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

"Imam Aymen Elkasaby has been suspended without pay for one month," Shedeed said. "The Imam must undergo training with Imams with more interreligious experience."

Shedeed added that Elkasaby "will be permitted to deliver sermons only upon approval from the Imams' Council of the Metropolitan Area and by Dr. Ali Chaudry, leader of the NJ Interfaith Coalition."

The Interfaith Coalition includes a number of Jewish institutions, among them the New Jersey regional office of the Anti-Defamation League, the Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey and several synagogues. Dr. Chaudry's own record includes three years as a commissioner on the New Jersey Commission on National and Community Service, to which he was appointed by Gov. Chris Christie.

Elkasaby is also scheduled to deliver a statement "expressing clarification and regret and making it clear where (he) stands on issues of religious violence and interreligious cooperation," Shedeed said.

"A true Muslim who believes in the scriptures would never call for the genocide of

any people let alone the children of Israel, or denigrate a people whose sacred history is the Muslims' sacred history," he stated.

Shedeed continued: "I acknowledge, as does Imam Elkasaby, that there are people who commit violence in the name of Islam as there are people who commit violence in the name of other world religions ... We stand in opposition to the use of religious texts to justify violence against innocent people."

Shedeed's statement came three days after New Jersey Senator Cory Booker (D) wrote to the Islamic Center president expressing his "anguish concerning the abhorrent remarks of Imam Aymen Elkasaby concerning our Jewish brothers and sisters." Booker urged Shedeed — whose interfaith efforts the senator had previously lauded — to "take a firm and unequivocal stand against this hatred and bigotry so we may continue to work together."

One New Jersey rabbi told *The Algemeiner* that Shedeed had been "responsive" to their concerns.

"Ahmed Shedeed has been an important part of the Jersey City interfaith community for many years," Rabbi Rob Scheinberg of the United Synagogue of Hoboken said. "As we expected, we found him to be understanding and responsive to our concerns and he immediately took steps to address the situation with the Islamic Center leadership."

But a leading US expert on Islamist activity expressed concern over an outcome that means Elkasaby will continue to serve the Muslim community.

"It is gratifying to see that the Islamic Center of Jersey City recognizes the seriousness of calling for religiously-motivated genocide, and that it has no place in a pluralistic society like the United States," Dr. Oren Litwin of the Middle East Forum told *The Algemeiner*, in response to Shedeed's statement. "However, if 'no true Muslim' would ever call for genocide, then Imam Elkasaby is demonstrably unfit to be entrusted with the spiritual welfare of the congregation. He ought to be replaced with an imam more in keeping with the best traditions of Islam."

foreign organization became involved in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was 35 years ago, when the Syrian army tried to stop the Israeli advance into Lebanon in 1982.

In 2006, Hezbollah conducted the longest military campaign to have been conducted against Israel since Israel's War of Independence — and the Palestinians stood on the sidelines. Hezbollah returned the favor during the rounds of clashes between Israel and Hamas in 2008, 2012 and 2014. Its soldiers

After US Jerusalem Move, Palestinians to Seek Full UN Membership, Join Dozens of International Groups

BY JNS.ORG

Palestinian Authority (PA) President Mahmoud Abbas said Monday that the Palestinians will seek full membership in the United Nations and join dozens of additional international organizations in response to the recent US policy changes on Jerusalem. The Israeli government opposes unilateral Palestinian attempts to join international bodies outside of the context of a final status agreement between the parties.

Abbas's comments, which came during a meeting of senior Palestinian officials in Ramallah, echoed threats the PA leader issued last week during an Organisation of Islamic Cooperation conference in Istanbul.

"There are no borders to Israel, and international law is against any recognition of it... We will go once again and many times to get full [UN] membership," Abbas said Monday. "We are a state and an authority, and we have borders and we have the right to get the world's recognition of us."

The Palestinians, he said, "have to take legal, political and diplomatic measures. The US has chosen not to be a mediator for the peace process. We reject it as mediator. The US is with Israel and supports and backs it."

Abbas threatened that the Palestinians would apply for membership in all 522 official international organizations, beginning with 22 that would be announced on Tuesday.

Continued from Page A1
Iran

official in the George W. Bush administration observed that Trump was far less sanguine than his predecessor on the question of alliances with other nations.

"President Trump obviously sees a Hobbesian world with enormous challenges to the United States, and the Strategy sees countries like China, Iran, and Russia as rivals and opponents not partners," Elliott Abrams — who served as deputy assistant to the president and deputy national security adviser in the George W. Bush administration — told *The Algemeiner* on Monday.

"Accordingly it calls for an increase in American military strength," Abrams said. "That is a welcome change from the Obama approach to world affairs."

On the Middle East, Trump's National Security Strategy echoes some of the skepticism of the Bush administration regarding the centrality of the Israeli-Palestinian dispute to the myriad conflicts and human rights outrages across the region.

In 2006, Bush's National Security Strategy declared, "Terrorism is not simply a result of Israeli-Palestinian issues. Al-Qaeda plotting for the September 11 attacks began in the 1990s, during an active period in the peace process."

Trump's strategy document goes even further, arguing, "For generations the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians has been understood as the prime irritant preventing peace and prosperity in the region. Today, the threats from jihadist terrorist organizations and the threat from Iran are creating the realization that Israel is not the cause of the region's problems."

"States have increasingly found common interests with Israel in confronting common threats," the National Security Strategy

remained in the barracks.

As the Israeli-Palestinian trajectory has become increasingly parochial, the trajectories of the other regional conflicts have gone in the opposite direction: They began as local civil wars but evolved into regional and international conflagrations. The Syrian, Iraqi and Yemeni conflicts have become three-tiered conflicts — civil or sectarian wars at their base, proxy wars between regional rivals (Iran, Saudi Arabia and, to a lesser extent, Turkey), and arenas of international contest among world powers. The same Hezbollah

document highlighted.

Overall, the strategy indicates that the Trump administration will work with national governments and regional bodies in the Middle East to counter Islamist terrorism and growing Iranian political and military influence.

"Whenever possible, we will encourage gradual reforms," the strategy said. "We will support efforts to counter violent ideologies and increase respect for the dignity of individuals. We remain committed to helping our partners achieve a stable and prosperous region, including through a strong and integrated Gulf Cooperation Council. We will strengthen our long-term strategic partnership with Iraq as an independent state. We will seek a settlement to the Syrian civil war that sets the conditions for refugees to return home and rebuild their lives in safe."

The document continued: "We will work with partners to deny the Iranian regime all paths to a nuclear weapon and neutralize Iranian malign influence. We remain committed to helping facilitate a comprehensive peace agreement that is acceptable to both Israelis and Palestinians."

The new national security strategy identifies Russia and China as threats to US prosperity, saying that both countries are "developing advanced weapons and capabilities that could threaten our critical infrastructure and our command and control architecture."

Nevertheless, in his speech, Trump presented the US and Russia as allies in the war against Islamist terror groups. The president warmly mentioned a phone call he received from Russian leader Vladimir Putin thanking the US for supplying intelligence that thwarted a major terrorist outrage in the city of St. Petersburg.

"That's a great thing," Trump stressed. "That's the way it's supposed to work."

that stayed home during the high points of violence between Israel and the Palestinians took to the battlefields of Syria on Iran's behalf to prop up the Assad regime.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is the Middle East conflict? Give me a break!

Professor Hillel Frisch is a professor of political studies and Middle East studies at Bar-Ilan University and a senior research associate at the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies.

BESA Center Perspectives Papers, such as this one, are published through the generosity of the Greg Rosshandler Family.

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Conflict

ought to be considered.

It's certainly true that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict commands foreign attention — but it does not command foreign involvement. Whereas the conflict between Israel and the Arab states during the superpower rivalry ran the risk of igniting World War III, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict long ago became parochial. The last time that any Arab state or

U.S. News.

Report: To Secure Iran Nuclear Deal, Obama Admin Derailed Probe of Hezbollah's Global Drug Network

BY JNS.ORG

The Obama administration allowed the Lebanese terror organization Hezbollah to traffic drugs and launder money, in some cases within the US, during its bid to secure the July 2015 nuclear deal with Iran, reported on Monday.

The report revealed that the Obama team deliberately derailed a law enforcement investigation, dubbed Project Cassandra, launched in 2008 by the US Drug Enforcement Administration to target Iranian-backed Hezbollah's criminal network.

Some 30 US and foreign security agencies were involved in the undercover operation to map Hezbollah's drug smuggling operations. The investigation tracked Hezbollah-controlled shipments of cocaine from Latin America to West Africa, and through Europe, the Middle East, and the US.

As the operation managed to infiltrate the highest levels of the terror group's hierarchy, the Obama administration created obstacles to hinder the investigation.

"This was a policy decision, it was a systematic decision," David Asher, a veteran



Hezbollah terrorists on parade in Lebanon. Photo: File.

illicit finance expert who helped establish and run Project Cassandra, told. "They serially ripped apart this entire effort that was very well supported and resourced, and it was done from the top down."

The Obama administration's move was an effort to "defang, defund and undermine the investigations that were involving Iran and Hezbollah," Asher claimed.

Israeli Challenges German Court Ruling on Kuwait Air Travel Ban

BY REUTERS & ALGEMEINER STAFF

Kuwait Airways has not commented on the decision.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel and other top officials have vowed to fight antisemitism and xenophobia with the full force of the law in recent weeks after protests that included the burning of Israeli flags.

Merkel's spokesman Steffen Seibert said Germany had a historic responsibility to stand by Israel and Jews everywhere.

Antisemitism remains a sensitive issue in Germany, one of Israel's closest allies, more than 70 years after the end of the Nazi-era Holocaust, in which six million Jews were killed.

The Frankfurt court last month ruled Kuwait Airways had the right to refuse to carry the Israeli man on a flight to Bangkok that began in Frankfurt and included a stopover in Kuwait City since it was abiding by the laws of Kuwait, a country that does not recognize the state of Israel.

It said Germany's anti-discrimination law applied only in cases of discrimination on the basis of race, ethnic background or religion, not citizenship.

The ruling was sharply criticized by German government officials and the Central Council of Jews in Germany, which said the Kuwaiti law was reminiscent of Nazi policies.

Three German state parliaments in Bavaria, Hesse and North Rhine-Westphalia, have passed resolutions condemning the airline for its policy.

Acting Transportation Minister Christian Schmidt also raised concerns about the issue in a letter to Kuwaiti officials, saying it was "fundamentally unacceptable to exclude citizens because of their nationality," according to the Lawfare Project.

No comment was immediately available from Schmidt's office. A foreign ministry spokesman said Germany's ambassador to Kuwait had met Kuwaiti officials on Nov. 28 to deliver the letter and discuss the issue.


A spate of antisemitic acts in Germany in recent weeks, including the burning of Israeli flags, have triggered concern and calls by top officials to put more emphasis on the Holocaust in integration courses for migrants.

Rights groups say antisemitism and violent acts have increased in recent years amid growing support for far-right political groups and the influx of over a million migrants from Syria and other countries that are at war with Israel.



A Kuwait Airways Boeing 777. Photo: Mark Harkin via Wikimedia Commons.

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Opinion.

Aaron Sorkin's Powerful Bar Mitzvah Speech



SHMULEY BOTEACH
ENGELWOOD

Last week I attended the New York City premiere of "Molly's Game." I'm not one to frequent star-studded Hollywood film-premieres. But, considering this film represented the newest script from legendary screenwriter Aaron Sorkin — and is his directorial debut — I figured, what the heck.

As the master wordsmith behind "The West Wing" and "The Social Network," Sorkin has — like Ben Hecht before him — become arguably the greatest Hollywood screenwriter of his generation. For me, then, this premiere represented not only a cinematic showcase, but a literary one as well.

Aaron Sorkin has an interesting relationship with his Judaism.

In 2012, he told NPR that he wanted to have a bar mitzvah, but his parents had not arranged for him to be tutored. So he picked up a phone book, found the name of a rabbi, called him and asked him to teach him the Torah in six weeks. The rabbi demurred, saying that there wasn't enough time.

Yet, when he saw me and my son at the premiere, he made a beeline for us and wished us a very happy Hanukkah. I, in turn, invited him to our annual gala on March 8 at the Plaza Hotel in New York City.

In the meantime, I saw his new film, "Molly's Game." And it had a Jewish values message.

"Molly's Game" triumphs on all ends of this reviewer's scoreboard. The story is fascinating and appealing, with its twists and turns arranged in quick, riveting succession. Sorkin covers a lot of ground in the film (which could have been a mini-series), giving the story that non-stop rapid-fire feel. Still, the film remains steadily focused on its core themes.

As is the case in many of Sorkin's prior

works, although the plot delves often into unfamiliar complexities — such as the myriad rules of the legal system and poker — the viewers can confidently follow the deeper and simpler plot that Sorkin has hardwired into his script.

His characters, too, felt authentic and compelling; their often long, uninterrupted dialogues: flawless. The acting, led by Golden Globe winners Jessica Chastain and Idris Elba, was compelling and heartfelt.

As I said, this film scores high.

However, being that I am rabbi, and not a professional film reviewer, none of that is what truly caught me. What I found striking, rather, was the important message that lay behind the film.

"Molly's Game" follows the true story of a young woman named — you guessed it — Molly, who, by way of her outsized wits and ambitions, lands herself a self-employed gig running the highest level poker game in North America.

Though most of the story takes place in the New York and LA, it begins in the Rocky Mountains, where Molly spent her formative years. Molly was a near-perfect student and athlete, on her way to both Harvard Law School and the American Olympic ski-team. In an instant, though, her dreams are derailed. She is in the final Olympic qualifiers, halfway down the track in a perfect performance, when her ski hits the frozen twig of a pine tree. Her bindings are undone, her foot is released, and she careens off from a jump and into a devastating injury.

From there, the story unfolds. With her Olympic hopes dashed, she opts for a gap-year to unwind before beginning law school. Her elemental need to prove herself, however, declines to take a break. A hard worker with an eye for opportunity, she soon finds herself running poker games with \$50,000 buy-ins. Like the players she herds in and out of the games, she decides repeatedly to raise the stakes. This brings her millions of dollars, encounters with the Russian mob, and eventually toward the brink of personal and professional ruin.

By the end of the film, the one-time "Princess of Poker" has become mentally, legally and financially embattled. Her father, played by Kevin Costner — whom she hasn't seen in years — appears suddenly in New York. A renowned psychologist, he offers to provide years of therapy in just a few minutes. Following some lighthearted rumination, he gets to the point. He asks his daughter how she, the brilliant and promising overachiever, had been brought to such desolation. His answer, in my opinion, is the moment for which this film will be forever remembered.

"Because," he says, "you hit a twig."

That was it. The single, tragic circumstance that had killed her life-defining dream.

I realized then that this was not the story of a dream realized, but the story of a dream deferred.

As put best by Langston Hughes in his poetic masterpiece "Harlem," many things can happen to the "dream deferred." He famously offers a few possibilities in question form, for example, asking whether such dreams "dry up/like a raisin in the sun?"

(In a well-played move by Sorkin, who is known for his literary Easter eggs, Hughes' poem is actually referenced briefly in the film by a drunk card player who, in an attempt to flirt with Molly, delivers an incoherent mashup of poetry — his final line being the apogee of "A Dream Deferred.")

Then, Hughes ends with the unforgettable question: "Or do they explode?"

"Molly's Game," it seems, is the story of the explosion of the American Dream.

Here you have a girl with the grandest dreams. She gave these dreams everything she had, training and studying for hours on end. And then, in a singular moment, she was jilted.

For the modern American, this story is all too familiar. America is the fabled "land of opportunity," the ultimate meritocracy. In and of itself, that isn't a bad thing. But, for many, it offers the conditions for a personal crisis. We all grow up with dreams — of wealth, power and renown, even the helm of the presidency itself. Eventually, though, the day arrives when



Aaron Sorkin. Photo: Reuters / Lucy Nicholson.

we realize that we either haven't achieved what we set out to — or, if we did, that it is strikingly underwhelming.

This deflation of national expectations is amplified by the fact that, more often than not, we define ourselves by our dreams. Thus, if we don't achieve the success we'd apportioned our ideal selves, we become lost and hollowed at our core.

For years, I've argued that our self-esteem should be based more upon the virtues of our character than the richness of our coffers. This film, however, offers an important reason why. Because character, unlike the prospects for our success, is actually under our control. We can be the masters of our destiny so long as we know that destiny is defined more by heart than the hedge fund, more by conviction than currency, more by contributing to our communities than winning a gold medal.

This is, one might say, the message that is given to every bar mitzvah boy or bat mitzvah girl. That with all the professional aspirations accompanying budding adulthood, contributing to one's people, studying the Torah and living a life of righteousness and values is where the action's really at.

So while Sorkin may never have had a bar mitzvah, in "Molly's Game," he offers a pretty convincing — albeit somewhat delayed — bar mitzvah speech. And in a world obsessed with money and power as never before, it's a message even more timely now than when Sorkin turned 13.

Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, "America's rabbi," whom *The Washington Post* calls "the most famous rabbi in America," is founder of *The World Values Network* and is the international best-selling author of 31 books, including "The Israel Warrior," which has just been published. The winner and record holder of *The London Times Preacher of the Year* competition, he has also received the *American Jewish Press Association's Highest Award for Excellence in Commentary*. Follow him on Twitter @RabbiShmuley.

An Ex-State Department Official Is Obsessed With Creating 'Palestine'



STEPHEN M. FLATOW/
JNS.ORG

"Creating a full-blown Palestinian state in virtually all the West Bank ... would be a reward to the suicide bombers who have terrorized Israel. ... It would invite more terrorism. ... It would send the terrible message that terrorism pays."

That's what journalist-turned-State Department "peace processor" David Makovsky once wrote. Yet today, the very same Makovsky is campaigning for the creation of a full-blown Palestinian state in virtually all of that region, and the mass expul-

sion of 100,000 Jews from their homes.

What gives?

Makovsky's declaration opposing a Palestinian state appeared on the op-ed page of the *Los Angeles Times* on June 14, 2002. The problem with demanding a Palestinian state, Makovsky wrote, was that it ignored the behavior of the Palestinian leadership — "the terrorism, smuggling, lying, corruption and mismanagement" of the Palestinian Authority (PA).

He ridiculed Palestinian statehood advocates for saying, in effect, "let's wipe the slate clean and give the Palestinians everything [they are demanding] — a virtual return to the 1967 borders." Doing that would "reward" terrorists and thereby "invite more terrorism," Makovsky wrote.

And, of course, he was right.

In the years since then, the PA has continued its terrorism, smuggling, lying,

corruption and mismanagement. In fact, the PA's track record is even worse now, because at the time Makovsky was writing, it had been doing those things for only eight years. Now the PA has a 23-year record of terrorism and corruption.

Based on the length and severity of the PA's record, one must conclude that a Palestinian state today would be ever more dangerous to Israel than it would have been in 2002.

Yet ten days ago, Makovsky unveiled his latest "peace plan," which involves creating a Palestinian state in virtually all of Judea and Samaria. He claims to have discovered that most Israeli residents of those areas live close to Israel's old border, so it would be necessary to expel "only" 100,000 Jews from their homes in order to make way for the new "State of Palestine."

But if the Palestinian leadership has not changed since the time of Makovsky's *Los Angeles Times* article, why is he now advocating exactly what he previously opposed?

The answer is that it's Makovsky who changed. Changed jobs, that is. He had been a journalist, then a think tank wonk. But in 2013, he suddenly became the right-hand man of Martin Indyk, a former ambassador to Israel and the Obama administration's chief Mideast peace negotiator. Indyk is widely recognized as one of the most pro-Palestinian American diplomats in the history of US diplomacy. Makovsky spent 2013-2014 working with

Indyk to try to force Israel to accept the creation of a Palestinian state.

Despite ongoing Palestinian terrorism against Israel, despite the non-stop PA incitement to murder, despite the PA's corruption and totalitarianism that prove that it cannot run a civilized state — Makovsky and Indyk devoted themselves to trying to become the godfathers of "Palestine."

Makovsky claims to be an expert on maps of the region. If so, he knows that creating a Palestinian state means that Israel would be reduced to just nine miles wide at its vulnerable mid-section. An enemy tank column could cut Israel in half in less time than it takes Makovsky to commute to work each morning.

And he knows that a Palestinian terrorist with a shoulder-fired missile would be able to shoot down planes taking off from Ben-Gurion Airport. That's just one small sample of what life would be like with "Palestine" next door.

The Indyk-Makovsky mission of 2013-2014 failed, but Makovsky's crusade to create "Palestine" continues. His obsession is as dangerous as it is disheartening.

Stephen M. Flatow, a vice president of the *Religious Zionists of America*, is an attorney in New Jersey. He is the father of Alisa Flatow, who was murdered in an Iranian-sponsored Palestinian terrorist attack in 1995. He may be contacted at sflatow@gmail.com.

Opinion.

Continued from Page A2
Wrong

to get it incorrect. David Ben-Gurion stated on December 13, 1949, "In the stress of war, when Jerusalem was under siege, we were compelled to establish the seat of Government in Tel Aviv.... When the First Knesset convened in Jerusalem on 14 February 1949 the necessary arrangements to enable it to function normally in the capital did not yet exist, and we had to hold the Knesset sittings temporarily in Tel Aviv." The Knesset website explains that "Consequently, the Knesset decided that after Hanukkah 1949 it would renew its sessions in Jerusalem."

Seventh, the *Times* editorial refers to "the Arab-Israeli War of 1967," going out of its way to avoid calling it "the Six-Day War," which is a term commonly used by Jews.

Eighth, then there's this: "White House officials made clear their expectation that Jerusalem's Western Wall, which lies outside Israel's pre-1967 borders and abuts some of Islam's most sacred sites, will eventually be declared part of Israel." Hmm. If Jerusalem's Western Wall "lies outside Israel's pre-1967 borders," how precisely does the *Times* think the Wall got there? It's as if the *Times* editorial writers think that the entire history of Jerusalem began in 1948 and ended in 1967, with a possible exception for earlier visits by Jesus of Nazareth and by Muhammad's winged horse. Did "Israel's pre-1967 borders" not ever include the Temple Mount of Jerusalem? Ben-Gurion was clear on the issue. He said on December 5, 1949:

what has been in Israel's heart since it became a united nation under King

David three thousand years ago as regards Jerusalem its holy city... Jewish Jerusalem is an organic, inseparable part of the State of Israel, just as it is an integral part of Jewish history and belief. Jerusalem is the heart of the State of Israel.... Twice in the history of our nation were we driven out of Jerusalem, only after being defeated in bitter wars by the larger, stronger forces of Babylon and Rome. Our links with Jerusalem today are no less deep than in the days of Nebuchadnezzar and Titus Flavius, and when Jerusalem was attacked after the fourteenth of May 1948, our valiant youngsters risked their lives for our sacred capital no less than our forefathers did in the time of the First and Second Temples.

A nation that, for two thousand and five hundred years, has faithfully adhered to the vow made by the first exiles by the waters of Babylon not to forget Jerusalem, will never agree to be separated from Jerusalem. Jewish Jerusalem will never accept alien rule after thousands of its youngsters liberated their historic homeland for the third time, redeeming Jerusalem from destruction and vandalism. ... The attempt to sever Jewish Jerusalem from the State of Israel will not advance the cause of peace in the Middle East or in Jerusalem itself. Israelis will give their lives to hold on to Jerusalem, just as the British would for London, the Russians for Moscow and the Americans for Washington.

Ninth, the *Times* concludes by suggesting that Trump specify "that the embassy, when moved, would be in West Jerusalem," and indicate "that the United States wants to recognize East Jerusalem as

be sure. Was Joseph aware, all along, that the many blows of misfortune he suffered were all part of a divine plan, or did he only realize this when he was taken from prison to interpret Pharaoh's dreams, and then made Viceroy of Egypt?

The text is silent on this point, but it is suggestive. More than any other character in the Torah, Joseph attributes all his achievements to God. This allows him to do what, in secular terms, Frankl, Beck and Seligman would all have advised him to do if he had been one of their patients: think of a mission he was being called on to fulfill (Frankl), reinterpret misfortune as possibility (Beck) and see the positive elements of his situation (Seligman). Not only was Joseph freed from a physical prison; he freed himself from an emotional prison, namely resentment toward his brothers. He now saw his life not in terms of a family drama of sibling rivalry, but as part of a larger movement of history as shaped by Divine providence.

That is what makes me think that the work of Frankl, Beck and Seligman is Jewish in a way that Freudian psychoanalysis is not. At the heart of Judaism is the idea of human freedom. We are not prisoners of events but active shapers of them. To be sure, we may be influenced by unconscious drives, as Freud thought, but we can rise above them by "habits of the heart" that hone and refine our personality.

Joseph's life shows that we can defeat tragedy by our ability to see our life not just as a sequence of unfair events inflicted on us by others, but also as a series of divinely intended moves, each of which brings us closer to a situation in which we can do what God wants us to do.

We can't all be Joseph, but thanks to R. Shneur Zalman of Liady in spiritual terms, and to Frankl, Beck and Seligman in secular ones, we can learn what it is to change the way we feel by changing the way we think, and the best way of doing so is to ask, "What does this bad experience enable me to do that I could not have done otherwise?" That can be life-transforming.

Palestine's capital as part of a peace agreement." This rhetorical attempt by the *Times* to divide united Jerusalem into "East Jerusalem" and "West Jerusalem" — restoring the status of the city to the brief period between 1948 and 1967 when it was divided in two and Jews were denied access to eastern Jerusalem — makes no more sense than re-dividing Berlin into East and West. The same Jerusalem Embassy Act that Trump was moving belatedly to bring America into compliance with states not only that "Jerusalem should be recognized as the capital of the State of Israel" but also that, as the "policy of the United States," "Jerusalem should remain an undivided city." The last time Israel withdrew from territory, in the Gaza Strip, it was taken over by the Hamas terrorist group and used as a base for tunnel and rocket attacks on neighboring Israeli civilians. If a majority of Israeli voters ever want to turn part of Jerusalem over to Palestinian control, maybe America might then want to amend the Jerusalem Embassy Act. Until then, there's no reason for an American president to promote the division of the city.

Finally, and tenth, it's worth noting that the print version of the *Times* editorial bore the headline "Oh! Jerusalem..." The reference was unexplained. Maybe there is some other more innocent reason for it. But it struck this reader as an unmistakable reference to Jesus' lament over Jerusalem, from the Christian Bible. The phrase occurs in Matthew 23:37. That is an account by Matthew of a speech by Jesus, a bitter attack on the Jews: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" The next two verses, which conclude the chapter, are "behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not

see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." Some have read this and other passages as suggesting that Jewish exile from Jerusalem is punishment for Jewish refusal to accept Jesus. The Christian Bible's book of Luke carries a similar account in Chapter 13, verses 34 to 35: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord."

The New York *Times* staff editorial on Israel's execution of the Nazi Adolf Eichmann, as The New York Sun put it, "concluded by referring the Jewish people to the Sermon on the Mount, in which Jesus talks of turning the other cheek." It would seem pretty hard to top that one. But now The New York *Times* staff editorial on President Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of the modern Jewish State of Israel is headlined with what sure looks like an approving *Times* reference to Jesus — or Matthew — in their quarrel with Jerusalem's Jews of their time. The *Times* doesn't come all the way out and say clearly that until or unless Israeli Jews accept Jesus as their savior, they should be denied access to Jerusalem's Old City, including the Western Wall, and their capital should be divided. But the "Oh! Jerusalem..." headline, together with the text of the editorial, suggest that's where they are coming from. Plenty of Christian Zionists have, thankfully, managed to progress beyond this sort of nonsense. The *Times*, alas, prefers a desolate and divided Jerusalem to a Jewish one.

Continued from Page A10
Psychotherapist

developed by the first Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liady (1745-1812). The word Chabad stands for the initial letters of the three intellectual virtues, chokhmah, binah and da'at, "wisdom, understanding and knowledge," which influence the more emotional attributes of chessed, gevurah and tiferet, "kindness, self-restraint and beauty or emotional balance." Unlike the other Chassidic movements, which emphasized the emotional life, Chabad Chassidism focused on the power of the intellect to shape emotion. It was, in its way, an anticipation of cognitive behavioural therapy.

Its origins, however, lie far earlier. Last week I argued that Joseph was the first economist. This week I want to suggest that he was the first cognitive therapist. He was the first to understand the concept of reframing, that is, seeing the negative events of his life in a new way, thereby liberating himself from depression and learned helplessness.

The moment at which he does so comes when, moved by Judah's passionate plea to let Benjamin return home to their father Jacob, he finally reveals himself to his brothers:


"I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God."

Note what Joseph is doing here. He is reframing events so that the brothers will not have to live under an unbearable burden of guilt for having sold Joseph as a slave and deceived their father, causing him years of undiminished grief. But he is only able to do so for them because he has already done so for himself. When it happened, we cannot


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Impressions.

On Upcoming India Visit, Netanyahu to Gift Modi Israeli Mobile Desalinization Vehicle

BY ALGEMEINER STAFF

When Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu travels to New Delhi next month, he will bring a special gift for his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi — a Gal-Mobile water desalinization and purification jeep.

Modi rode in such a vehicle with Netanyahu on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea when he visited Israel this past summer.



Indian PM Narendra Modi and Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu ride in a Gal-Mobile vehicle in July. Photo: Kobi Gideon / GPO.

According to the Hebrew news site Walla, the gesture — which was approved by the Foreign Ministry — will cost Israel around 390,000 shekels (roughly \$111,000 dollars).

Israel and India are currently celebrating the 25th anniversary of the official establishment of diplomatic relations. Ties between the two countries have flourished in recent years and Modi's tour of Israel in July was the first ever by a sitting Indian prime minister.

Watch a video of Netanyahu and Modi taking part in a display of the Gal-Mobile



Indian PM Narendra Modi and Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu in July. Photo: Kobi Gideon / GPO.

Ending the Silence on Abuse

BY JONATHAN S. TOBIN
JNS.org/

In the last two months, the avalanche of stories about sexual abuse and harassment has touched virtually every sector of American society. The revelations about deeply troubling behavior on the part of politicians, journalists and figures in the entertainment industry have transfixed the country.

As more victims come forward to tell their stories, the consequences have gone beyond the disgrace of some prominent individuals, the end of careers, and — in Alabama — a surprising election result. What began with a shocking story about movie mogul Harvey Weinstein has led to what may well be a crucial turning point in the way that sexual misconduct is viewed.

while eagerly consuming accounts of the various stories about celebrities who have been exposed as abusers, don't want accounts of misconduct within their own community to be published.

The impulse to regard journalism about bad behavior by Jews — especially those connected to vital Jewish organizations — that are published in the Jewish press as an unnecessary airing of dirty laundry is, in one sense, understandable. Such stories are seen as something that ought to be kept in the family and away from the view of outsiders who might use them to denigrate Jews or harm Jewish institutions. There will always be a tendency to regard any accounts that portray Jewish life in an unflattering context as betrayals of tribal loyalty if they come from Jewish sources.

But as it should have already become clear — as society comes to grip with the pervasive nature



Harvey Weinstein. Photo: David Shankbone via Wikimedia Commons.

We are no longer in an era in which all forms of abuse — be it violent crime, abuse of minors, as well as unwanted physical touching, abusive verbal comments and forms of pressure — that might have once been viewed as permissible if unpleasant behavior can be ignored or dismissed.

Under these circumstances, it is only to be expected that some of these stories would involve the Jewish community. This week's JNS feature by Elizabeth Kratz concerning alleged abuse carried out by a since-retired United Synagogue Youth (USY) director follows the same pattern of the rest of the #metoo scandals. A powerful person used his position to carry out sexual abuse — in this case, against minors. The victims felt unable to step forward at the time, both because of the shame they were made to feel by the predator and also because they felt nobody in a position to do something about it would listen. Organizations that should have been on guard against abuse were, like the rest of society, not listening or indifferent about what was going on under their noses.

The Conservative movement responsible for the USY program in question was not alone in this respect. In fact, such scandals have, in one form or another, touched other Jewish denominations. To its credit, the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism appears now to have taken appropriate action, not only to sever any ties with alleged abusers, but also to ensure, as much as is possible, that similar misconduct doesn't recur.

This story is so similar to numerous other sex scandals that many readers who have become so accustomed to such discussions may have lost their ability to be shocked by the topic. But it is also true that there will be some in the Jewish world who,

of sexual harassment — keeping quiet does nobody any good. The mindset that regarded the reporting of such crimes and misbehavior as bad form or disreputable scandal mongering, or what Jewish tradition regards as "lashon hara," is a big part of the problem that enabled the abusers to get away with their crimes for so long. When the New York Jewish Week reported on the abuse going on in the Orthodox movement in 2000, it was subjected to a storm of criticism from those who thought this wasn't the sort of thing that Jewish media outlets should publish. But this is exactly that kind of reporting that is a necessary precondition for action that will prevent future crimes of this nature.

While there may still be some Jewish readers who prefer to avert their eyes from coverage of these issues, responsible Jewish journalists cannot be part of a conspiracy of silence about this — or any other — subject that directly affects the welfare of the community. It is the duty of JNS and every other reputable outlet of Jewish journalism to responsibly report the facts about sexual misconduct. That obligation is even more important when the safety of children is at stake.

The days when the predators could count on the silence of the Jewish world to protect them from the consequences of their crimes should be over. Let's be sure never again to let a desire to avoid negative coverage of our own community lead us to keep quiet about criminal acts. Never again should such sentiments serve as an excuse for the sort of cover-ups that are part of the reason why it took so long for us to learn the awful truth about this subject in the first place.

Jonathan S. Tobin is editor-in-chief of JNS.

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NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF Kings, MTGLQ Investors, L. P, Plaintiff, vs. Rogelio Clark, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale and Order to Amend Caption duly filed on October 25, 2017, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on January 04, 2018 at 2:30 p.m.,

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premises known as 269 East 52nd Street, Brooklyn, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 4658 and Lot 40. Approximate amount of judgment is \$441,593.93 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 510070/2014. Shmuel D. Taub, Esq., Referee Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, 565 Taxter Road, Ste. 590, Elmsford, NY 10523, Attorneys for Plaintiff
AJ; 12/1/8/15/22/

Supreme Court County Of Kings Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee, in trust for the registered certificate holders of First Franklin Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-FF5, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-FF5, Plaintiff AGAINST Christopher Grey, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 1/26/2017 and entered on 2/16/2017, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on January 04, 2018 at 02:30 PM premises known as 1207 East 94th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 8202, LOT: 21. Approximate amount of judgment is \$536,440.96 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 503201/2015. Shmuel D. Taub, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706
AJ; 12/1/8/15/22/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS Selene Finance LP, Plaintiff AGAINST Mary Gomes a/k/a Mary A. Gomes a/k/a Maryann Gomes; Dayne Gomes; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated March 15, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on January 4, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises known as 133 Milford Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 4189 Lot 8. Approximate amount of judgment \$446,679.50 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 512354/2015. ***No Cash Deposits Accepted*** Doron A. Leiby, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: October 25, 2017 49571
AJ; 12/1/8/15/22/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS Wells Fargo Bank, NA, Plaintiff AGAINST Jose Valdez a/k/a Jose M. Valdez; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated September 25, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on January 4, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises known as 17 Jerome Street, Brooklyn, NY 11207. All that

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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 3922 Lot 22. Approximate amount of judgment \$311,718.71 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 504851/2015. Jageshwar Sharma, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: October 25, 2017 49578
AJ; 12/1/8/15/22/

984 BERGEN LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/28/17. 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, 44 Ferris Estates Road, New Milford, CT 06776. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.
AJ; 12/1/8/15/22/29; 1/5

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS MTGLQ Investors, L.P, Plaintiff AGAINST Winston Rose; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated April 26, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on January 11, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises known as 664 New Jersey Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11207. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block: 3840 Lot: 37. Approximate amount of judgment \$545,094.48 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 6131/2013. Stuart Adler, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: October 26, 2017 49583
AJ; 12/8/15/22/29;

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Trustee for the Certificate-holders of Park Place Securities, Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-WCW3, Plaintiff AGAINST Karen Black, Margaret Carroll, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 7/29/2016 and entered on 8/23/2016, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on January 11, 2018 at 02:30 PM premises known as 733 East 102nd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 8190, LOT: 22. Approximate amount of judgment is \$585,101.53 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 502049/2012. Sean R. Smith, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706
AJ; 12/8/15/22/29;

347 BERRY LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/09/2017. Office loc: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 32 Court Street Penthouse, Brooklyn, NY

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11201. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.
AJ; 12/8/15/22/29; 1/5/12

Notice of Formation of Brooklyn Perfume Company LLC. Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 9/21/17. Principal Office: 120 Wyckoff St. Brooklyn, NY 11201, Kings County. SSNY designated as process agent. Process Service address: 120 Wyckoff St. Brooklyn, NY 11201. Purpose: any lawful purpose.
AJ; 12/8/15/22/29; 1/5/12

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. Bank, National Association, as Successor Trustee to Bank of America, N.A., as Successor By Merger to LaSalle Bank, N.A. as Trustee for the Certificate-holders of The MLMI Trust, Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-AR1, Plaintiff AGAINST Cheryle Williams a/k/a Cheryle E. Williams a/k/a Cheryle E. Dent a/k/a Cheryl E. Dent; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated December 5, 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 January 18, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises known as 297 Decatur Street, Brooklyn, NY 11233. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block: 1675 Lot: 42. Approximate amount of judgment \$754,004.40 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 20070/2013. Meryl L. Wenig, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: November 22, 2017 50188
AJ; 12/15/22/29; 1/5

SUPREME COURT – COUNTY OF KINGS QUICKEN LOANS INC., Plaintiff against ALEKSANDER KHARKOVER, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on November 29, 2016, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY. on the 18th day of January, 2018 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 235 OCEAN PARKWAY CONDOMINIUM." Together with an undivided 5.56% interest in the Common Elements. Said premises known as 235 Ocean Parkway, 2A, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11218. (Block: 5339, Lot: 1103). Approximate amount of lien \$ 504,479.28 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 501108-14. Robert L. Howe, Esq., Referee. McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, P.C. Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 145 Huguenot Street – Suite 210 New Rochelle, New York 10801 (914) 636-8900
AJ; 12/15/22/29; 1/5

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

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Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on the 18th Day of January, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings City and State of New York. Premises known as 1425 East 98th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236. (Block: 8263, Lot: 21) Approximate amount of lien \$438,999.76 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 11772/2013. Roger Siegel, Esq., Referee. Davidson Fink LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 28 East Main Street, Suite 1700 Rochester, NY 14614-1990 Tel. 585/760-8218 Dated: November 14, 2017
AJ; 12/15/22/29; 1/5

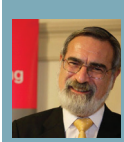
NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF Kings, CIT Bank, N.A. f/k/a OneWest Bank, N.A., Plaintiff, vs. Katherine A. Chavis, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on October 25, 2017, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on January 18, 2018 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 310 Greene Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 1967 and Lot 22. Approximate amount of judgment is \$591,015.57 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 500301/2016. Philip Kamaras, Esq., Referee Windels, Marx, Lane & Mittendorf, LLP, 156 West 56th Street, New York, New York 10019, Attorneys for Plaintiff
AJ; 12/15/22/29; 1/5

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, Plaintiff AGAINST Edgardo G. Marquez, Valeria T. Marquez, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 3/2/2017 and entered on 4/6/2017, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on January 18, 2018 at 02:30 PM premises known as 163 Montauk Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11208. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 4008, LOT: 9. Approximate amount of judgment is \$492,922.05 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 502154/2014. David J. Hernandez, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706
AJ; 12/15/22/29; 1/5

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: ALWAYS A DOLLAR LLC .Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 10/24/2017. 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 4022 Baychester Ave., Bronx, NY 10466. Purpose: all lawful activity
AJ; 12/15/22/29; 1/5/12/19

Tradition.

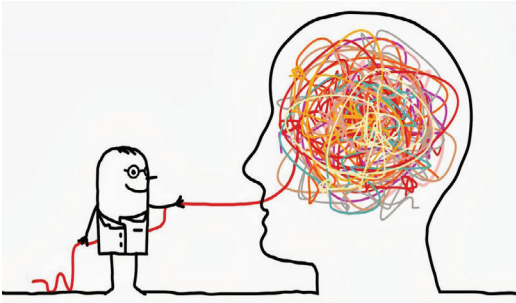
The First Psychotherapist



JONATHAN SACKS
LONDON

The phrase “Jewish thinker” may mean two very different things. It may mean a thinker who just happens to be Jewish by birth or descent – a Jewish physicist, for example – or it may refer to someone who has contributed specifically to Jewish thought: like Judah Halevi or Maimonides.

The interesting question is: is there a third kind of Jewish thinker, one who contributes to the universe of knowledge, but does so in a recognisably Jewish way? The answer to this is never straightforward, yet we instinctively feel that there is such a thing. To give an analogy: there is often something recogni-



sably Jewish about a certain kind of humour. Ruth Wisse has interesting things to say about it in her book, *No Joke*. So does Peter Berger in his *Redeeming Laughter*. Humour is universal, but it speaks in different accents in different cultures.

I believe that something similar applies to psychoanalysis and psychotherapy. So many of the early practitioners of psychoanalysis, with the marked exception of Jung, were Jewish that it became known in Nazi Germany as the “Jewish science.” I have argued – though my views on this have been challenged – to the contrary, that by taking the Greek myth of Oedipus as one of his key models, Freud developed a tragic view of the human condition that is more Hellenistic than Jewish.

By contrast, three of the most significant post-war psychotherapists were not merely Jewish by birth but profoundly Jewish in their approach to the human soul. Viktor Frankl, a survivor of Auschwitz, developed on the basis of his experiences there an approach he called Logotherapy, based on “man’s search for meaning.” Though the Nazis took away almost every vestige of humanity from those they consigned to the death factories, Frankl argued that there was one thing they could never take away from their prisoners: the freedom to decide how to respond.

Aaron T. Beck was one of the founders of what is widely regarded

as the most effective forms of psychotherapy: Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. Among patients suffering from depression, he found that their feelings were often linked to highly negative thoughts about themselves, the world and the future. By getting them to think more realistically, he found that their mood tended to improve.

Martin Seligman is the founder of Positive Psychology, which aims not just to treat depression but actively to promote what he calls “authentic happiness” and “learned optimism.” Depression, Seligman argued, is often linked to pessimism, which comes from interpreting events in a particular kind of way that he calls “learned helplessness.” Pessimists tend to see misfortune as permanent (“It’s always like this”), personal (“It’s my fault”) and pervasive (“I always get things wrong”). This leaves them feeling that the bad they suffer is inevitable and beyond their control. Optimists look at things differently. For them, negative events are temporary, the result of outside factors, and exceptions rather than the rule. So, within limits, you

can unlearn pessimism, and the result is greater happiness, health and success.

What links all three thinkers is their belief that (1) there is always more than one possible interpretation of what happens to us, (2) we can choose between different interpretations and (3) the way we think shapes the way we feel. This gives all three a marked resemblance to a particular kind of Jewish thought, namely Chabad Chassidut, as

Continued on Page A7

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Continued from Page A9

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO BANK OF AMERICA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF BEAR STEARNS ASSET BACKED SECURITIES I LLC, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-HE2, Plaintiff AGAINST Davrin Faison, Stephanie Faison FKA Stephanie Bennett, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated January 12, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on January 18, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises

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known as 937 EAST 103RD STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11236. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK 8211, LOT 25. Approximate amount of judgment \$919,651.37 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 9736/13. Nancy Mottola Schacher Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 50308
AJ; 12/15/22/29; 1/5/

Notice of Formation of With Gratitude Box LLC. Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 12/7/17. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 305 Nevins St, Brooklyn, NY 11215. Purpose: any lawful activity.
AJ; 12/15/22/29; 1/5/12/19

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: SEAY STRATEGIES LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 08/14/2017. 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 process to: Seay Strategies LLC 57 Herkimer apartment 208, Brooklyn, NY 11216. Purpose: all lawful activity
AJ; 12/15/22/29; 1/5/12/19

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF Kings, J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp., Plaintiff, vs. Kathy R. Jones, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale and Order to Amend Caption duly filed on October 31, 2017, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on January 25, 2018 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 1239 East 88th Street, Brooklyn, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 8067 and Lot 23. Approximate amount of judgment is \$518,052.84 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 4095/2013. Jeffrey R. Miller, Esq., Referee Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, 565 Taxter Road, Ste. 590, Elmsford, NY 10523, Attorneys for Plaintiff
AJ; 12/22/29; 1/5/12/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO BANK OF AMERICA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR MORGAN STANLEY MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2006-6AR, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-6AR, Plaintiff AGAINST MICHAEL GARNETT, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated August 18, 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 January 25, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises known as 1185

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EAST 92ND STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11236. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in Canarsie, Town of Flatlands, Kings County, New York (now Borough of Brooklyn, City and State of New York), BLOCK 8200, LOT 34. Approximate amount of judgment \$799,453.97 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 511466/2014. JAGESHWAR SHARMA, Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 50274
AJ; 12/22/29; 1/5/12/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust, Plaintiff AGAINST 778 Logan LLC; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated November 1, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on January 25, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises known as 778 Logan Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 4480 Lot 18. Approximate amount of judgment \$561,530.86 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 500021/2015. Helene Blank, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: November 30, 2017 50204
AJ; 12/22/29; 1/5/12/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. Bank National Association, As indenture trustee successor in interest to Bank of America, National Association, as trustee, successor by merger to LaSalle Bank National Association, as indenture trustee, for LXS 2007-5H, asset backed notes, series 2007-5H, Plaintiff AGAINST Almarie Maxwell; Betram Maxwell; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated March 13, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on January 25, 2018 at 2:30PM, premises known as 8713 Avenue J, Brooklyn, NY 11236. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 8024 lot 4. Approximate amount of judgment \$761,913.57 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 23760/08. Sol Needle, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: November 17, 2017 50086
AJ; 12/22/29; 1/5/12/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDERS OF THE TERWIN MORTGAGE TRUST 2006-7, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-7, WITHOUT RECOURSE; Plaintiff(s) vs. JUDIE C. HUTCHINSON; et al; Defendant(s)

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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 September 29, 2017, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder in Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. On January 25, 2018 at 2:30 pm. Premises known as 772 Lincoln Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11208 Block: 4465 Lot: 111 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 Sate 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 \$937,638.04 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 3370/08 Barton Slavin, Esq., Referee AJ; 12/22/29; 1/5/12/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY. WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB D/B/A CHRISTIANA TRUST, NOT INDIVIDUALLY BUT AS TRUSTEE FOR PRETIUM MORTGAGE ACQUISITION TRUST, Pltf. vs. ALEXANDER KOGAN, et al, Defts. Index #507379/15. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and entered May 11, 2017 and order amending the judgment of foreclosure and sale dated Oct. 10, 2017, I will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams St. Brooklyn, NY on Jan. 18, 2018 at 2:30 p.m., prem. k/a 135 Oceana Drive East, Unit 2F, Brooklyn, NY a/k/a The Residential Unit (the “Residential Unit”) in the Condominium Oceana Condominium No. 9 (the “Condominium”) (comprised of the building known by the St. No. 125 and 135 Oceana Drive East, Brooklyn, New York 11235) which Residential Unit #2F is situated on the building known as and by the St. No. 135 Oceana Drive East, Brooklyn, NY 11235 (the “Building”) said Residential Unit being designated and described as Residential Unit No. 2F in that certain declaration dated Mar. 9, 2005 made by the Grantor under the Article 9-B of the Real Property Law of the State of New York (the Condominium Act) establishing a plan for condominium ownership of the Building and the land (the Land) upon which the Building is situated (which Land is more particularly described on Schedule A annexed hereto and by this reference made a part hereof) which declaration was recorded, collectively, as the Declaration); the Residential Unit is also designated as Tax Lot 2726 in Block 8720 Section 6 on the Tax Map of the Real Property Assessment Department of the City of New York for the Borough of Brooklyn and the Floor Plans of the building (the “Floor Plans”) certified by Schuman, Lichtenstein, Clamon and Efron, Architect and filed in the City Register’s Office, County of Kings on April 11, 2005 in CRFN No. 2005000206354. Together with an undivided 0.91% interest in the Common Elements (as such terms is defined in the Declaration) appurtenant to the Residential Unit Approx. amt. of judgment is \$2,201,391.27 plus costs and interest. Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale LEO SALZMAN, Referee. COHN & ROTH, Attys. for Pltf., 100 East Old Country Rd., Ste. 28, Mineola, NY. #93492
AJ; 12/15/22/29; 1/5

Social.



Jerry Seinfeld. Photo: Michelle Mivzari.

Jerry Seinfeld Jokes About Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process, Reveals Why He Won't Have Trump on His Show

BY SHIRYN SOLNY

Comedian Jerry Seinfeld tried a joke about the Middle East peace process on an Israeli reporter during their recent interview leading up to his upcoming shows in the Jewish state.

When a reporter from Israel's *Channel 2*, Dana Weiss, asked the Jewish-American comedian and writer to practice a new joke on her, Seinfeld asked, "What is the latest on the peace initiative?" Weiss replied, "They're working on it. Trump's working on it," to which Seinfeld added, "Oh yeah, it'll be fine." Weiss found the remark funny and then asked Seinfeld to try on her a joke he's working on for Israeli audiences and he said, "I just did!"

Seinfeld then talked about making jokes focused

on politics. He said, "It's not really my world. Comedians talk about the things that make them laugh and politics is not really my world of comedy." The Seinfeld star previously said President Donald Trump was "God's gift to comedians," but admitted during his *Channel 2* interview that he would not have the commander-in-chief on his show "Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee." He said about Trump, "He doesn't have any comedic talent... If you have humor then you can be on the show."

Seinfeld is bringing his family with him to Israel when he returns there to perform two shows in Tel Aviv on December 30. He also talked with *Channel 2* about living on a kibbutz and how his career as a comedian started in Israel.

Pop Rock Band HAIM Releases Hanukkah Holiday Song

BY SHIRYN SOLNY

Popular American pop rock band HAIM celebrated the first night of Hanukkah on Tuesday with a new song that pays homage to the Festival of Lights.

The trio of Jewish sisters uploaded a video onto Twitter that shows Este Haim playing a bass guitar and singing in the new track, "Shred me like a potato latke/ You be the Manischewitz/ And I'll be the vodka/ Like a page out of the Torah/ You light me up like I'm a menorah." She also sings about "courageous Maccabees" and spinning dreidels, before her sisters and fellow band members, Danielle and Alana Haim, join in with a "Light me up like I'm a menorah" refrain.



HAIM. Photo: Twitter.

The band posted the video along with the message "First night of Haimukkah. Sandler, we're coming for you," referencing Adam Sandler and his famous "Hanukkah Song."

'Millions of Iraqi Women Live in Fear,' Says Miss Iraq After Her Family Is Forced to Leave Over Photo With Miss Israel

BY SHIRYN SOLNY

Miss Iraq Sarah Idan responded on Thursday to the recent revelation that her family was forced to leave her country after she took a photograph with her Israeli counterpart at last month's Miss Universe pageant.

"I'm not the first nor the last person to face prosecution over a matter of personal freedom. Millions of Iraqi

women live in fear," Idan, who has described herself as a "hardcore feminist," wrote on Twitter along with the hashtag "freeiraqiwomen."

The spiral of events began with Idan posting a selfie with Miss Israel Adar Gandelsman on Instagram in November along with the caption, "Peace and Love from Miss Iraq and Miss Israel."

The photo caused an online stir and Idan, who is

Muslim, was attacked on social media soon after for publishing the picture. She did not remove image from her account, but posted a statement in Arabic apologizing "to all those who consider [the picture] harmful to the Palestinian cause," the UK's Jewish Chronicle reported. She added that "posting this does not mean that I am supporting the Israeli government and does not mean that I accept any of their policies toward the Arab world." During a recent interview with Israel's Hadashot News channel, Gandelsman talked about the incident and revealed that "people made threats against [Idan] and her family that if she didn't return home and take down the photos, they would remove her title, [and] that they would kill her. Out of fear, they left Iraq at least until the situation calms down."

Gandelsman — who also posted a picture with Idan on her own Instagram page — added that Miss Iraq now lives in the United States and said she did not regret posting the photo.

"She did it so that people can understand that it's possible to live together," Gandelsman explained. "In order for people to see that we can connect, in the end we are both human beings."

Idan was the first beauty pageant contestant from Iraq to participate in the Miss Universe competition in 45 years.

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