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Trump Fires National Security Adviser John Bolton Over Foreign Policy Discord



US National Security Adviser John Bolton during a Cabinet meeting Feb. 12, 2019. Photo: Reuters / Carlos Barria.

BY REUTERS & ALGEMEINER STAFF

US President Donald Trump abruptly fired his national security adviser, John Bolton, amid disagreements with his hardline aide over how to handle foreign policy challenges such as North Korea, Iran, Afghanistan and Russia.

"I informed John Bolton last night that his services are no

longer needed at the White House. I disagreed strongly with many of his suggestions, as did others in the Administration," Trump tweeted on Tuesday, adding that he would name a replacement next week.

Bolton, a leading foreign policy hawk and Trump's third national security adviser, was widely known to have pressed the president for a harder line on issues such as North Korea. Bolton, also a chief architect of Trump's

strident stance against Iran, had also advocated a tougher approach on Russia and Afghanistan.

Bolton, who took up the post in April 2018, replacing H.R. McMaster, had sometimes been at odds with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, one of Trump's main loyalists.

Offering a different version of events than Trump, Bolton tweeted: "I offered to resign last night and President Trump said,

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Israeli PM Netanyahu Pledges to Annex Jordan Valley, If Reelected

BY BENJAMIN KERSTEIN

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pledged on Tuesday to annex the Jordan Valley in the West Bank if he is reelected next week.

Having previously alerted the media he was going to make a "dramatic announcement," Netanyahu stated, "I announce my intention to apply Israeli sovereignty over the Jordan Valley and northern Dead Sea."

Netanyahu cited the context of Trump administration's peace plan, set to be unveiled immediately after the Knesset



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delivers a statement in Ramat Gan, near Tel Aviv, Sept. 10, 2019. Photo: Reuters / Amir Cohen.

elections next Tuesday, calling it "a great challenge" and a "great opportunity."

"This is a historic opportunity," he said, "a one-time moment to apply Israeli sovereignty over our settlements in Judea and Samaria."

Accusing his political opponents Benny Gantz and Yair Lapid of secretly wanting to unilaterally disengage from the West Bank, Netanyahu asked for a "clear mandate" from voters that would allow him to pursue annexation.

However, Netanyahu said, "Out of respect for President Trump, I am waiting... until the unveiling of the [peace] plan."

Despite this, Netanyahu said that "there is one place

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'Why Be Jewish?'

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ShabbatCalendar

Parshat KI TEIZEI | Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting
פרשת כי תצא | Shabbat Begins: 6:51pm | Shabbat Ends: 7:48pm



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Opinion.

A Failure of Leadership: The Culture of Antisemitism on Campus

NATHAN BENTOLILA &
JARED ZONERAICH

To the average American, the resurgence of antisemitism worldwide may come as a surprise. But it is no surprise to Jewish and pro-Israel university students. Our universities have unknowingly become propaganda machines for the most radical professors, and the silent acceptance of this new brand of antisemitism by educational institutions is brainwashing future leaders.

A significant number of Jewish-American college students experience antisemitism during their time on campus. University administrators at elite schools, such as UC Berkeley, the University of Michigan, Rutgers, NYU, and UCLA, have turned a blind eye towards this discrimination, and have allowed radical professors to normalize anti-Jewish racism.

Radical student groups with histories of antisemitism, such as Students for Justice in Palestine, are far less dangerous than the top-down and lecture-based indoctrination by academic authorities inside of the classroom.

Activist professors frequently use their platform to spread hate, knowing that only the most well-read and self-confident student would presume to be more knowledgeable than them or to challenge their assertions. Unfortunately, too often, students do not

object to the lies, fearing reprisal in the form of lowered grades or other means.

During the previous academic year, a professor at the University of Michigan refused to sign letters of recommendation on the basis of a study-abroad program's location in Israel. Additionally, an NYU 2019 convocation speaker received applause after referring to Israel as an "apartheid state," and praising the antisemitic BDS movement.

UC Berkeley, one of the top public universities in the world, is well known for its anti-Zionist and antisemitic radicals. It is also home to some of the most effective and active grassroots Zionist organizations, such as Tikvah: Students for Israel — a student-run club that has carefully documented antisemitic incidents on campus, and the responses from university administrators.

At UC Berkeley, the 2019 Spring semester was plagued by multiple high-profile antisemitic incidents. Antisemitic flyers were posted across the campus comparing Zionism to Nazism. Pro-Israel events were purposely blocked in academic departments, while these departments continued to indoctrinate students with a pre-defined anti-Israel narrative.

The school's student government (ASUC) was turned into a platform for antisemitic diatribes and the targeted harassment of Jewish students during its April 17 meeting. During the meeting, one presenting student shockingly claimed that the IDF trains American police officers to murder black people. Some Jewish students were ordered

to move to the back of the room, as they had allegedly caused some of their peers to feel "uncomfortable."

In response to this widely publicized event, Chancellor Carol Christ emailed the student body: "I have been made aware of what appear to have been disturbing expressions of bias at a public ASUC meeting held Wednesday, April 17th."

But these "expressions" were alarming manifestations of racism and bigotry; to downplay this hate and refer to it merely as "bias" is not only dishonest, but a failure of leadership.

In a statement from October 2018 responding to the deadliest attack on Jews in American history, Chancellor Christ did not once mention the words "Jew" or "antisemitism." There was no statement condemning the antisemitic attack at the Chabad of Poway, nor did she respond to the hateful flyers posted across campus equating Zionism to neo-Nazism.

Pro-Hamas and antisemitic lecturer Hatem Bazian continues to teach multiple courses at UC Berkeley, where he spews hate and misinformation against Israel and the Jewish people on a daily basis — without any university intervention. As early as 2002, Bazian was quoted telling protesters "look at the type of names on the buildings around campus — Haas, Zellerbach — and decide who controls this university."

Furthermore, UC Berkeley academic departments such as the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES), Near Eastern Studies,

and Ethnic Studies utilize their platforms to host anti-Israel and antisemitic guest lecturers. Yet CMES refuses to host any speakers or events that portray the state of Israel positively.

Whether it be antisemitism from faculty, students, or individual departments, the UC Berkeley administration has allowed a climate of intolerance to grow on campus. Time after time, the Chancellor has refused to specifically call out antisemitism, nor has she held its perpetrators accountable. She and her administration have remained silent and have taken no effective steps to change this climate of institutional and systemic antisemitism on campus.

By refusing to address these problems, school administrators have given the green light for faculty to engage in antisemitic behavior and abuse their educational platforms. In turn, universities have trained a whole generation to accept and manifest "academic" antisemitism.

Antisemitism is often the canary in the coal mine, and the top-down indoctrination at American academic institutions should frighten and anger Jews and non-Jews alike. Universities should promote intellectual diversity and critical thought; they should not further polarize America by encouraging groupthink and bigoted narratives.

Nathan Bentolila and Jared Zoneraich are co-presidents of Tikvah: Students for Israel at UC Berkeley. Jared is a senior majoring in electrical engineering and computer science. Nathan is a senior majoring in bio-engineering.



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Omar, Tlaib, and Israel's Nonexistent Anti-Propaganda Agency



MANFRED GERSTENFELD
JERUSALEM

The clumsy manner in which the Israeli government handled the non-visit to Israel of US Democratic Congresswomen Rashida Tlaib and Ilhan Omar was not a mere mishap. It resulted from a structural problem. The government's refusal to establish an anti-propaganda agency has led to repeated public relations failures against vile verbal aggression.

The specific question of what went wrong with the blocking of the visit to Israel of Omar and Tlaib is a minor issue within a much larger framework. No other democratic country in the world is verbally attacked as frequently as Israel. This includes vile verbal aggression by democratic governments and by mainstream politicians from those countries.

Nations under attack create defense organizations. Against enemy armies, Israel set up the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), which is now one of the best armies in the world. So are Israel's three intelligence services: the international security agency (Mossad), the domestic security agency (Shabak), and the military intelligence branch (Aman). Cyberattacks on Israel have led the government to invest in an expensive cyber-defense program that is likely to make the country a world leader in the field.

Yet Israel's defense against extreme propaganda assaults, which have been going

on for decades, remains amateurish. The only successful response to such aggression is: "You hit me and I'll hit you back harder."

Looking back over the decades, we see many cases where Israel failed to deal properly with verbal attacks. The BDS campaign, for example, started as a result of the conference against racism in Durban, South Africa in 2001, which was explicitly a hate-Israel event.

The academic boycott campaigns against Israel started in 2002 without any orderly response from Israel. Foreign academics put their names to open letters and petitions to boycott Israeli academics and divest from pro-Israeli companies. As they incur no risk to themselves in doing this, they have continued ever since; it's an antisemitic free lunch.

Yet academics are easy targets for counterattack. The careers and reputations of some of these people can be damaged without much effort. Had there been an Israeli anti-propaganda agency, it could, for instance, have identified academic boycotters who plagiarized some of their work or had erroneous footnotes in their articles, and gone



Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN) shares a fist bump with Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-MI) in Washington, DC, April 10, 2019. Photo: Reuters / Jim Bourg.

on the counter-attack.

This idea is not original. In 2011, German defense minister Karl-Theodor Guttenberg was stripped of his doctorate because of plagiarism in his thesis. He had to resign from the cabinet. In 2013, the PhD thesis of German education minister Annette Schavan was voided because of plagiarism. She resigned from the cabinet. The doctoral thesis of German family affairs minister Franziska Giffey is currently being investigated for plagiarism.

Heavily damaging a few academically deficient pro-BDS professors, and publicizing their major professional shortcomings, could have a multiplier effect. In almost all societal areas — the academy included — many if not most people are cowards. If supporting BDS becomes risky, only those academics who are hardcore antisemites will remain. Their numbers are probably not very substantial.

Another example of an Israeli public relations failure concerns the 2010 Gaza flotilla provocation. Among its leading organizers was the Turkish IHH, a body known to have terrorist links. The main ship in the flotilla was the Turkish Mavi Marmara. It transported no humanitarian aid for Gaza, only people. Several of the participants onboard were prepared for violence and were carrying weapons. They attacked the Israeli soldiers who boarded the ship. In the resulting fight, a number of these attackers were killed.

Many negative opinions about Israel were hastily expressed by officials of various countries and international bodies. An anti-

Continued on Page A10

World News.

Austrian Hotel Sues Tourist for Remarks on 'Nazi' Portraits of Uniformed Men, Swastikas

BY JNS.org

A tourist who complained in anonymous messages on TripAdvisor and Booking.com about a portrait of "a Nazi grandpa" in a uniform with a swastika at an Austrian hotel has been sued by the four-star hotel. Another showed a young man wearing a uniform with an eagle and swastika badge.

In August, the man, named only in court documents as "Thomas K," and his wife noticed two framed pictures on a wall near the entrance of the hotel in the village of Gerlos in the Tyrolean Alps.

The subject header of the reviews, posted a week after the visit, was "At the entrance they display a picture of a Nazi grandpa."

"This made us wonder what the hotel owners are trying to tell us with this image. This incident speaks volumes about the current state of affairs in this region of Austria," read the post. "Sadly, our desire to visit this mountain region has disappeared completely."

"The owners of the hotel contacted both sites and asked for the reviews to be removed on the grounds that the description 'Nazi grandpa' was libelous and defamatory because the people in the pictures—one a grandfather, the other an uncle of one of the owners—had only been members of the Wehrmacht, the unified armed forces of Nazi Germany from 1935 to 1945," reported The Guardian.

Booking.com deleted the post, while TripAdvisor declined to delete the one on its site, though Thomas K reportedly took it down after the hotel owner's family harassed him by telephone to delete it.

A court in Austria granted the hotel a preliminary injunction against Thomas K, stating that he implied that the hotel owner shared or sympathized with Nazi ideas.

The trial, in addition to a separate one in Germany, is expected to continue until later this year.

The hotel has removed the portraits from its lobby.

Saudi Authorities Said to Arrest Over 60 Hamas Members, Supporters

BY JNS.ORG

Security forces in Saudi Arabia have arrested over 60 individuals identified as Hamas members, Lebanese news outlet Al Mayadeen reported on Tuesday, quoting Palestinian sources based in Saudi Arabia.

According to the Lebanese report, the detainees are Palestinian residents of the Gaza Strip who are members of the Hamas government.

The report said that Saudi forces raided the offices of Palestinian Hamas operatives in the kingdom, seizing computers and documents.

Al Mayadeen reported that for some weeks, Saudi security forces have been arresting and questioning Hamas supporters and operatives in Saudi Arabia. The Saudi government has reportedly issued orders to confiscate the money and assets of Hamas

operatives and supporters, as well as an order banning Hamas activity in the kingdom and banning membership in organizations suspected of helping Hamas launder money.

Hamas put out a statement claiming that on April 4, Saudi authorities arrested senior Hamas official Mohammed al-Khoudari, who is nearing 80 and has been living in the Saudi coastal city of Jeddah for the past three decades. For two decades, al-Khoudari was a prominent figure in Hamas-Saudi relations, as well as filling other roles in the leadership of the terrorist group. He is known as the "Hamas ambassador" to Saudi Arabia.

Since his arrest, al-Khoudari—who is reportedly suffering from a terminal illness—has reportedly been in detention.

Hamas called his arrest a "strange, incomprehensible step."

Turning to the issue of the upcoming elections, Netanyahu said, "I will not do anything without receiving a clear mandate from the public; and therefore, citizens of Israel, I ask you for a clear mandate to do this."

The goal, he asserted, was to create "permanent secure borders for the State of Israel."

Doing so, Netanyahu claimed, would ensure "that Judea and Samaria will never become Gaza, and Kfar Saba, Netanya and Tel Aviv will never become the 'Judea and Samaria envelope.'"

The Israeli news site Walla reported that the head of the Jordan Valley Regional Council, David Elhayani, hailed Netanyahu's announcement even before it was made, describing it as "a historic moment."

Elhayani said that Netanyahu had made not only his dream come true, but also that of "an overwhelming majority of Israelis."

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Annex

where it is possible to apply Israeli sovereignty" before the peace plan is made public — the Jordan Valley.

"This is the eastern border of the State of Israel," he said. "This is the eastern defensive wall. A defensive wall that ensures we will never return to being a state a few kilometers wide. And for this, the IDF must be present in the entire Jordan Valley and not just a narrow strip."

Netanyahu added that he "hopes the IDF will always stay there, and that the Jordan Valley will be under our sovereignty forever."

He pointed out that "we are not annexing a single Palestinian," showing on a map that the Palestinian population centers in the Jordan Valley would not be under Israeli sovereignty and would have access roads connecting them to the rest of the West Bank.

Iran Moves Toward Enriching Uranium With Advanced Centrifuges: IAEA



An IAEA inspector at an Iranian nuclear facility. Photo: IAEA.

BY REUTERS
& ALGEMEINER STAFF

Iran has begun installing more advanced centrifuges and is moving toward enriching uranium with them even though that is forbidden under its nuclear deal with major powers, the International Atomic Energy Agency said on Monday.

The 2015 deal only lets Iran produce enriched uranium with just over 5,000 of its first-generation IR-1 centrifuge machines. It can use far fewer advanced centrifuges for research but without accumulating enriched uranium.

But in response to US sanctions imposed since Washington withdrew from the deal in May last year, Iran has been breaching the limits it imposed on its atomic activities step by step.

Last week the Islamic Republic said it would breach the deal's limits on research and development, the term applied to Iran's use of advanced centrifuges.

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Foreign Policy

"Let's talk about it tomorrow."

Trump had sometimes joked about Bolton's image as a warmonger, reportedly saying in one Oval Office meeting that "John has never seen a war he doesn't like."

Trump's North Korea envoy, Stephen Biegun, is among the names floated as possible successors.

"Biegun much more like Pompeo understands that the president is the president, that he makes the decisions," said a source close to the White House.

Also considered in the running is Deputy Secretary of State John Sullivan, who had been expected to be named US ambassador to Russia.

White House spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said "many, many issues" led to Trump's decision to ask for Bolton's resignation. She would not elaborate.

'He'll bomb you'

Trump would sometimes chide Bolton about his hawkish ways in meetings, introducing him to visiting foreign leaders by saying, "You all know the great John Bolton. He'll bomb you. He'll take out your whole country."

Officials and a source close to Trump said the president had grown weary of his hawkish tendencies and the bureaucratic infighting that he got involved with.

Bolton traveled widely in the role and on his travels, for example, he warned Russia against interfering in US elections and

An IAEA spokesman said Iran had informed it that it was making modifications to accommodate cascades — or interconnected clusters — of 164 of the IR-2m and IR-4 centrifuge. Cascades of the same size and type were scrapped under the deal.

Inspectors from the UN nuclear watchdog have verified that smaller numbers of various advanced centrifuges had been or were being installed, the spokesman added.

"All of the installed centrifuges had been prepared for testing with UF₆," though none of them were being tested with UF₆ on Sept. 7 and 8, he said, referring to the uranium hexafluoride feedstock for centrifuges.

He added that Iran had told the agency it would modify lines of research centrifuges so that enriched uranium was produced, which is not allowed under the deal.

In a confidential report to member states, the IAEA also said Iran had made those modifications on some lines.

promoting strong ties with Israel.

Bolton had opposed a State Department plan to sign an Afghan peace deal with the Taliban militia, believing the group's leaders could not be trusted.

Sources familiar with his view said Bolton believed the United States could draw down to 8,600 troops in Afghanistan and maintain a counter-terrorism effort without signing a peace deal with the Taliban.

U.S. officials have said it was Bolton who was responsible for the collapse of a summit in February between Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Hanoi by recommending the presentation a list of hardline demands that Kim rejected.

North Korea media in May referred to Bolton as a "war maniac" who "fabricated various provocative policies such as designation of our country as 'axis of evil,' preemptive strike and regime change."

Bolton's departure comes a day after North Korea signaled a new willingness to resume stalled denuclearization talks with the United States, but then conducted the latest in a recent spate of missile launches.

A source familiar with Trump's viewed said Bolton had ruffled a lot of feathers with other key players in the White House, particularly White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney because "he doesn't play by the rules."

"He's a kind of a rogue operator but that's kind of how he is," the source said.

World News.



Leigh Engineering Faculty Boulevard, Tel Aviv University. Photo: Ido Perelmutter via Wikimedia Commons.

Tel Aviv University Among 10 Best Undergraduate Programs for Entrepreneurs Globally

BY ADI PICK/CTech

Tel Aviv University (TAU) is the eighth-best global undergraduate program in terms of producing venture capital-backed entrepreneurs, according to the Pitchbook University 2019 index published Thursday. TAU was the only non-American school to make the top 10, and was ranked ahead of Yale, Princeton, and Columbia.

In its annual index, Pitchbook lists the 50 top academic institutions, taking into account the number of founders each university produced, the number of companies established by graduates, and the amount of capital raised by alumni. TAU produced 694 founders to date, compared to 1,288 produced by Stanford, the university program ranked first. TAU graduates founded 577 companies, compared to 1,114 founded by Stanford alumni. In terms of capital raised, Pitchbook

lists \$10.6 billion for TAU compared to \$37.8 billion for Stanford.

Three other Israeli universities made the top 50 list: Technion Israel Institute of Technology came in 14th, the same spot it garnered in 2018, while the Hebrew University of Jerusalem rose one spot from last year to 34. Ben-Gurion University of the Negev ranked 49th this year, after not making the cutoff in 2018.

Pitchbook also listed the top companies founded by alumni of undergraduate programs in terms of capital. For Stanford, those include Snapchat developer Snap and on-demand food delivery service DoorDash. For TAU, those include online lender BlueVine Capital, team management and productivity startup Monday.com Labs, and home remodeling and design company Houzz.

Prompted by Iran, Palestinian Islamic Jihad Plays Lead Role in Gaza Escalation

BY JNS.org

Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ), the second-largest armed terror faction in Gaza, has in recent days taken a lead role in the latest escalation with Israel. PIJ, which is funded and orchestrated by Iran, has an interest in inflaming the security situation and destabilizing the region.

Unlike Hamas, PIJ has no responsibility for Gaza's estimated 2 million people.

PIJ is challenging Hamas, which for the most part is not interested in an escalation or full-out war with Israel at this time, and is instead interested in reaching an arrangement to prevent an economic collapse of the Gaza Strip and avoid the risk of a popular rebellion against its Islamist militant regime.

It is therefore safe to assume that PIJ fired five rockets into southern Israel on Friday night, narrowly missing an Israeli family fleeing into a safe room in Sderot.

In retaliation, the Israel Air Force struck Hamas military targets in northern Gaza as part of Israel's policy of holding Gaza's ruling entity responsible for what occurs in its territory.

It also seems safe to assume that PIJ is the organization behind the armed drone attack on an IDF Humvee vehicle on Saturday, which caused light damage, but no injuries.

The drone dropped an explosive device on the border before flying back into Gaza. In response, the IAF targeted the squad, though apparently did not hit it. Later on Saturday, the IAF hit Hamas military targets, including naval attack bases, and Hamas's "aerial array" (a reference to its drone program) in northern and central Gaza.

The latest escalation comes after some 6,200 Gazan rioters descended on the Israeli-Gazan border fence on Friday afternoon. They hurled explosive devices, grenades and firebombs at security forces. The IDF described that event as "especially violent," adding that security fence sustained damage in several locations. Two Gazan youths were killed in Israeli fire, as the Israel Defense Forces sought to prevent any intrusions that would endanger southern villages and towns.

In the meantime, Israeli-government officials issued warnings about what would happen if the current violence continues. "The

Continued on Page A5

Diplomats: IAEA Found Uranium Traces at Iran 'Atomic Warehouse'

BY REUTERS
& ALGEMEINER STAFF

Samples taken by the UN nuclear watchdog at what Israel's prime minister called a "secret atomic warehouse" in Tehran showed traces of uranium that Iran has yet to explain, two diplomats who follow the agency's inspections work closely say.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is investigating the particles' origin and has asked Iran to explain the traces. But Tehran has not done so, according to the diplomats, stoking tensions between Washington and Tehran. US sanctions have slashed Iranian oil sales and Iran has responded by breaching its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers.

In a speech a year ago Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who vehemently opposed the deal, called on the IAEA to visit the site immediately, saying it had housed 15 kg (33 lb) of unspecified radioactive material that had since been removed.

Reuters first reported in April that the IAEA, which is policing the nuclear deal, had inspected the site — a step it had said it takes "only when necessary" — and environmental samples taken there were sent off for analysis.

Israeli and US media have since reported that the samples turned up traces of radioactive material or matter — the same vague language used by Netanyahu.

Those traces were, however, of uranium, the diplomats said — the same element Iran is enriching and one of only two fissile elements with which one can make the core of a nuclear bomb. One diplomat said the uranium was not highly enriched, meaning it was not purified to a level anywhere close to that needed for weapons.

"There are lots of possible explanations," that diplomat said. But since Iran has not yet given any to the IAEA it is hard to verify the particles' origin, and it is also not clear whether the traces are remnants of material or activities that predate the landmark 2015 deal or more recent, diplomats say.

The IAEA did not respond to a request for comment. Iranian officials were not available to comment.

Israel's UN ambassador, Danny Danon, said on Twitter that the IAEA had verified Israel version. "The (Iranian) regime must be held to account and not given a free pass," he tweeted.

Netanyahu: 'I'm not relenting'

In a live video chat on Facebook, ahead of an election next week, Netanyahu was asked about the Reuters report.

"I know the issue is being handled by the IAEA. I do not intend to discuss this today. It's very possible that I will have something to say about it tomorrow," Netanyahu said.

"But it is certainly an important issue — let me tell you, it's the most important issue as far as our future is concerned. And I am not relenting for a moment"

The 2015 nuclear deal, which Netanyahu opposed, imposed tight restrictions on Iran's atomic program in exchange for sanctions relief, and was based on drawing a line under Iran's past activities. Both the IAEA and US intelligence services believe Iran had a nuclear weapons program that it ended more than a decade before the deal.

Iran says its nuclear ambitions have always been peaceful.

Hawks such as Netanyahu, who has repeatedly accused Iran of seeking Israel's destruction, point to Tehran's past to argue that it can never be trusted. The Islamic Republic's previous secrecy might explain why uranium traces were found at a location that was never declared to the IAEA.



Iranian flag in front of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) headquarters in Vienna, Austria, March 4, 2019. Photo: Reuters / Leonhard Foeger / File.

The IAEA takes environmental samples because they can pick up telltale particles even long after material has been removed from a site. Uranium traces could indicate, for example, the former presence of equipment or material somehow connected to those particles.

Cornel Feruta, the IAEA's acting director-general, met Iranian officials on Sunday. An IAEA statement said afterwards: "Feruta stressed that these interactions (on its nuclear commitments) require full and timely cooperation by Iran."

The United States, pulled out of the nuclear deal last year by President Donald Trump, is trying to force Iran to negotiate a more sweeping agreement, covering Tehran's ballistic missiles and regional behavior, than the current accord.

Iran says it will not negotiate until it is granted relief from US sanctions, which France is trying to broker. In the meantime, Iran is breaching the deal's restrictions on its nuclear activities step-by-step in response to what it calls US "economic warfare."

A quarterly IAEA report issued a week ago did not mention the sample results because inspection-related matters are highly confidential. But it did say Iran's cooperation could be better.

"Ongoing interactions between the Agency and Iran...require full and timely cooperation by Iran. The Agency continues to pursue this objective with Iran," the report said.

US raising pressure

It is far from the first time Iran has dragged its feet in its interactions with the IAEA over the agency's non-proliferation mandate. The IAEA has made similar calls in previous reports, in relation to promptly granting access for inspections.

The IAEA has likened its work to nuclear accounting, patiently combing through countries' statements on their nuclear activities and materials, checking them and when necessary seeking further explanations before reaching a conclusion, which can take a long time.

The process of seeking an explanation from Iran has lasted two months, the IAEA's safeguards division chief told member states in a briefing on Thursday, diplomats present said. But he described what it was seeking an answer to far more generally as questions about Iran's declaration of nuclear material and activities, since the details are confidential.

"It is not something that is so unique to Iran. The agency has these cases in many other situations," a senior diplomat said when asked about the current standoff with Iran. "Depending on the engagement it can take two months, six months."

That does not mean all member states will be happy to wait.

"IAEA Acting Director General going to Iran just as IAEA informs its Board that #Iran may be concealing nuclear material and/or activities," US National Security Adviser John Bolton said on Twitter on Saturday. "We join with other @iaeaorg Board member states eager to get a full report as soon as possible."

The IAEA's policy-making, 35-nation Board of Governors holds a week-long quarterly meeting starting on Monday.

U.S. News.

On Eve of 9/11 Anniversary, New US Sanctions Target Hamas, Islamic State, Other Terror Groups

BY ALGEMEINER STAFF & AGENCIES

The United States on Tuesday announced sanctions on a “wide range of terrorists and their supporters,” including the Palestinian group Hamas and Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, on the eve of the 18th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

The targets include 15 leaders, individuals and entities affiliated with groups such as Hamas, al Qaeda, Islamic State and Iran’s IRGC, the US Treasury Department said in a statement.

The sanctions were applied using new tools from an executive order recently updated by President Donald Trump.

“Since the horrific attacks of 9/11, the US government has refocused its counterterrorism efforts to constantly adapt to emerging threats,” Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said in the statement.

“President Trump’s modernized counterterrorism Executive Order enhances the authorities we use to target the finances of terror groups and their leaders to ensure they are as robust as possible,” Mnuchin said.

Sanctioned leaders include Turkey-based Zaher Jabarin, the head of Hamas’s financial office; and Muhammad Sa’id Izadi, the chief of the IRGC-Quds Force’s Palestinian office in Lebanon.

Continued from Page A4 - Lead Role

next round will be a general [broad conflict] round, and we are trying to prevent it. In this [next] round, the top terrorist leadership will be destroyed,” vowed Foreign Minister Israel Katz, as told to Kan Radio. “Hamas and PIJ are bringing their end closer, by linking up to Iran and [Quds Force commander Qassem] Soleimani, and by turning into an Iranian tool.” His statement comes as many southern Israeli civilians have expressed despair over the ongoing war of attrition that Gazan terrorists have been subjecting them to for more than 18 months.

PIJ has attempted to cover up the fact that it is doing Iran’s bidding in the region and denies placing Gazans at risk on behalf of a foreign, radical power.

Khader Habib, a senior Palestinian Islamic Jihad official, stated in an interview to the Palestinian news website Donia al-Watan on Aug. 27 that his organization “does not take orders from Iran, but only support and makes decision independently,” according a report by the Meir Amit Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center. Habib was responding to accusations from Israel last month that pointed fingers to his organization for firing rockets from Gaza on Aug. 25, as part PIJ’s response to Israeli airstrikes on Iranian targets in Syria.

Such denials are hollow, and are designed to alleviate pressure from Gazans and Hamas.

However, some observers in Israel also believe that even if Hamas isn’t directly behind the latest attacks, it’s not very motivated to stop them either.

A rise in ‘controlled violence’

Col. (ret.) Reuven Erlich, director of the Meir Amit Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center, told JNS on Sunday that although Hamas did not take a decision to escalate things into war, “it is not trying its best” to stop border attacks.

August saw four attempts by armed terror squads—none of them officially affiliated with any organizations—to infiltrate Israel, before being stopped by the IDF. Several members of the squad were killed in firefights and IDF strikes.

As for the ITIC’s assessment, it noted that at the present time, Hamas is not overly motivated to carry out effective measures to prevent the attempted penetrations because they are popular among the public. Moreover, Hamas considers them as a tool for exerting pressure for the lull ceasefire agreement.

“We call this controlled violence. It rises and falls. We’re seeing a rise now,” said Erlich. “Clearly, this is brinkmanship that can lead to a deterioration.”

Hamas hasn’t stopped contacts with Egypt, which is acting as an intermediary in seeking an arrangement, he explained, “but it is playing a dangerous game and not trying to prevent what others are doing.”

“Iran and the PIJ have a different agenda from Hamas—we’ve seen this in the past. Yet Hamas knows how to confront PIJ when it wants to. After ‘Operation Protective Edge’ [in 2014], we experienced three years of relative calm. PIJ has a separate agenda, but Hamas has the ability to force its strategy and policy on PIJ,” argued Erlich. “The question is: What is its level of motivation?”

The targets also included a Brazil-based al Qaeda member, a Maldivian national who recruits for the Islamic State branch active in Afghanistan, and an operative of the Islamic State affiliate in the Philippines, the statement said.

Several exchange houses, and a jewelry company in southern Turkey, were also designated by the Treasury.

The sanctions mean any property the targets may have in the United States would be blocked and US persons would generally be prohibited from having business dealings with them.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yisrael Katz tweeted, “I welcome the decision of the United States of America to put additional sanctions on the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, Hamas, ISIS and Al-Qaeda. This is the right way to stop the Terror-State of Iran and its proxies.”



Hamas terrorists. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

Israeli Ambassador to the UN Danny Danon tweeted, “@SecPompeo and @stevenmnuchin1

just announced new sanctions targeting Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Corps. This is a great step to increase pressure against terrorist organizations. Time for the international community to do the same.”

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Opinion.

An Election Outcome Reflecting the Will of the People



ISI LEIBLER
JERUSALEM

The decision to hold Israel's second election of 2019 was disgraceful and should have been avoided. Indeed, one of the big questions that could be critical for the outcome are the voters who are fed up with our dysfunctional politics and will simply not bother casting their ballots.

Yet ironically, there is a possibility that the outcome could achieve stability and the new government to be formed may even reflect a national consensus.

Although recent opinion polls have proven to be utterly misleading, it would seem that Likud combined with the haredi and right-wing groups but without Yisrael Beytenu will again fail to win sufficient seats to obtain the majority required to form a right-wing government. As nothing Likud could offer would satisfy Avigdor Lieberman's primary personal goal of politically destroying Benjamin Netanyahu, a repeated deadlock seems inevitable.

Yet, any suggestion of holding a third election is not an option. Besides, the fact is that, apart from supporters of the Joint Arab List and the haredim, most Israelis will vote holding their noses.

Likud supporters will be voting for a government that would include an eccentric like Moshe Feiglin and would support the legalization of marijuana.

Yamina, formerly the New Right, is headed by able and charismatic Ayelet Shaked but will have as one of its leading personalities the coarse, loud-mouthed Bezalel Smotrich, whose views radically contrast with those of religious Zionism's founders, moderates like Haim-Moshe Shapira and Yosef Burg.

Those traditionally supporting Labor Zionist parties are forced to choose between

Amir Peretz's Labor-Gesher party and the Democratic Union, a merger of Meretz with failed former Prime Minister Ehud Barak's Israel Democratic Party.

Blue and White supporters have two issues to contend with. Many shudder at the prospect of Yair Lapid of Yesh Atid — often referred to as “flapping gums” — becoming prime minister after a rotation of two years with Benny Gantz, unless, as is likely, the partnership is abruptly terminated after the elections.

The other concern is the lackluster pre-election performance of Gantz himself, who is devoid of charisma, contradicts himself, and seems to be a monotonously “nice guy” but hardly the leader Israel requires. This is highlighted with comparisons to Netanyahu who — despite a viciously hostile press, major diplomatic and military challenges, constant legal pressures, and an impending election — remains as cool as a cucumber.

Aside from the extent to which the powers of the Supreme Court to override government decisions are to be limited, there are no major political differences between Likud and Blue and White.

Setting aside the right and left extremes in both parties, there is a consensus that:

- Both major parties have identical security objectives.
- Both agree that an independent Palestinian state at this time would mean creating a terrorist state on our borders that Iran could employ as a launching pad to destroy us.
- There are various streams in both parties regarding applying Israeli law to settlements and, if the US does not resist, possibly annexing and applying sovereignty to Area C. This will come to a turning point after the elections when the Trump peace plan is finally revealed.
- Both parties oppose dividing Jerusalem or ceding further territories unless a final settlement is reached.
- Both agree that in the context of the status quo, all efforts should be made to improve

the living conditions of Palestinians in the hope that they will ultimately have leaders willing to peacefully coexist.

In actuality, there are only two issues motivating voters.

The principal issue is “Bibi fatigue.” Those who have it argue that after 13 years, Netanyahu has outlived his political life and it is time for change, so he should go. Ten years is usually regarded as the optimal political life of a democratic leader.

The secondary factor is the chance for a government in which the haredim are denied the opportunity to exert even more power and intensify their narrow interests with the Chief Rabbinate imposing even more stringent interpretations of halacha. Lieberman's anti-haredi incitement has successfully touched a responsive chord and led to an apparent substantial increase of voters to his party.

But what will happen after the elections when no juggling of political musical chairs with the smaller parties enables a government to be formed?

There is a possibility that, despite all the obstacles facing him, Netanyahu may still lead Likud to achieve a majority. Aside from last-minute electoral gimmicks, which Bibi has often successfully pulled off, many who despise him, when in the ballot box, may think twice before supporting an inarticulate novice to head their government in these troubled times. Even those who detest Netanyahu cannot deny that, whatever his personal weaknesses, he stands out today as a world-class leader enjoying excellent relations with US President Donald Trump, Russian President Vladimir Putin, and other world leaders and now forging diplomatic channels with Arab former adversaries inching closer to open relations with Israel.

In the context of what we face, it would surely be counterproductive to divest ourselves of him at this time when existential threats challenge us and agreements with the Americans and Russians could either have good or disastrous implications for us in the



Israeli Prime Minister and Likud Party head Benjamin Netanyahu delivers a statement to the media at the Knesset on May 27, 2019.
Photo: Hadas Parush/Flash90.

long term.

If Netanyahu is unable to form a right-wing government, he may make a generous offer to Gantz, possibly resulting in a split with Lapid, who would become leader of the opposition.

A national unity government would then be achieved, to the satisfaction of most Israelis. The haredim could remain within the government, but they would no longer hold the balance of power and thus would not be in a position to veto government initiatives.

Even if politically victorious, Netanyahu will still face legal charges, but allowing for the presumption of innocence until proven guilty, which has not been the case with the scurrilous media campaign against him, the court may face a tough and lengthy battle to convict him.

In the alternative scenario should Likud not top the polls, there will be pressure from all sides, including his own party, for Netanyahu to step down and for a national unity government, with or without the haredim, to be formed, headed in rotation by Gantz and a new Likud leader.

Although this election is somewhat like a lottery, voters should try to set aside their personal feelings and, even if it means holding their noses, support the party whose leader they feel will be best equipped to head our nation over the crucial year facing us. Our choice could have existential repercussions on the nation.

Isi Leibler is a veteran international Jewish leader with a distinguished record of contributions to the Jewish world and the cause of human rights. The writer's website can be viewed at www.wordfromjerusalem.com. He may be contacted at ileibler@leibler.com.

Robert Mugabe: Death Without Justice



BEN COHEN
/JNS.org

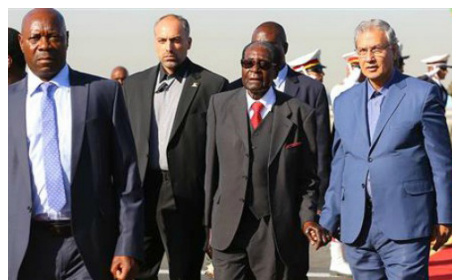
The world awoke to the sad news on Sept. 6 that Robert Mugabe, the former president of Zimbabwe, had died at the age of 95. The sad aspect of that news was not Mugabe's actual death. Rather, it was the fact that he died both a free man and a rich man in a luxury hospital in Singapore, when by any standard of justice he should have met his end while serving a lengthy prison sentence for his terrible crimes against humanity.

Mugabe was a prominent member of the club of dictatorships that spread throughout much of the developing world in the decades after World War II. Like many African dictators, he launched his career by fighting for a

just cause: the removal of the white minority regime in what was then known as Rhodesia, a country that in 1965 unilaterally declared independence from the United Kingdom in order to delay the advent of black-majority rule.

As a political prisoner and guerrilla leader during those years of white minority rule that were reminiscent of apartheid in neighboring South Africa, the dynamic Mugabe was seen by many as force for hope in Africa. But any illusions on that score were quickly laid to rest after he came to power in 1980.

Mugabe remained in office until 2017, when he was finally removed in a coup, but even then he wasn't arrested or sent for trial. Instead, he received the finest medical care for his various ailments. His death in those gilded circumstances is yet another example of the post-Holocaust pledge of “Never Again!” sounding uncomfortably hollow. Consider Mugabe's record, after all. His first victims during a dictatorship that was to last for the next 37 years were the Ndebele and Kalanga



Zimbabwe's former dictator Robert Mugabe arrives in Tehran for the inauguration of President Hassan Rouhani, August 4, 2017.
Photo: Iran official

peoples, whom he suspected of mass political disloyalty. “We will kill those snakes among us; we will smash them completely,” Mugabe pledged, as he ushered in the “Gukuruhundi,” or “People's Storm” — an ostensible campaign against dissidents that escalated into genocidal mass murder in the northern territory of Matabeleland in 1983-84.

Mugabe continued in this vein over the next three decades, imposing famine on his people, engaging in brutal slum clearance programs that left 2.4 million people homeless, and routinely punishing the country with instruments that ranged from eye-watering hyperinflation to brutal pro-government thugs meting out discipline in the streets.

The response of the outside world was painfully slow and, in the event, rather feeble. It wasn't until 2002 that the European Union imposed a regime of travel restrictions and sanctions on Mugabe and his lieutenants, but the dictator was still spotted at UN gatherings in New York and Rome, as meetings at international organizations were conveniently exempted from the ban. In 2015, perhaps as a gift to mark Mugabe's 90th birthday, the EU lifted most of these restrictions in recognition of his status as chairman of the African Union.

When it came to sections of the Western left and the world's authoritarian regimes, Mugabe was lauded as an anti-imperialist hero. Had Western nations gathered to bring his regime down, he would doubtless have become an icon of the anti-war movement in the West. Among his allies would have been Jeremy Corbyn, the current leader of the British Labour Party and stalwart defender of Saddam Hussein in Iraq, and Slobodan Milošević in Serbia — two dictators whose overthrow was kindled by their military confrontations with Western powers and who, in the interim, enjoyed Corbyn's solidarity in his capacity as chair of the Stop the War Coalition.

As is customary on this political territory, Mugabe's foreign policy was stridently pro-Palestinian. Among his close friends

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Opinion.

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Without Justice

on the international stage was the late PLO leader Yasser Arafat, whose coterie of murderous African dictators also included Idi Amin in Uganda and Moammar Qaddafi in Libya. After Arafat visited Mugabe in May 2001, a few months after launching a new intifada against Israel, he praised the dictator's empathy with "how much we have suffered as Israel destroys our cities, homes, and villages."

Just four years later, Mugabe showed the world the true face of destruction when he unleashed "Operation Murambatsvina" (the literal translation is "Operation Clear Out Trash") against millions of slum-dwellers. A UN report at the time noted that Mugabe had acted "in an indiscriminate and unjustified manner, with indifference to human suffering." Even more poignantly, given the political colors Mugabe wore, the same report noted that his offensive against human beings he had written off as "trash" had been "based on a set of colonial-era laws and policies that were used as a tool of segregation and social exclusion."

Hezbollah's Demographic Problem Explains Its Restraint



HILLEL FRISCH
JNS.org

Israel's three-pronged attacks over the past two weeks in Syria, Iraq, and, above all, in Dahiya — the vast Shiite neighborhood in Beirut where Hezbollah is headquartered both above and below ground — were met with a very limited Hezbollah response. An IDF truck was struck by two missiles with the obvious objective of killing Israeli soldiers in retaliation for the killing of two Hezbollah soldiers in an Israeli attack on Syria.

This limited response — against Israeli military personnel only — sent a clear signal, acknowledged by the Israeli side, that Hezbollah wants to avoid escalation that could lead to all-out war.

The object of the Israeli attacks was to destroy equipment that would have facilitated the local manufacture of precision-guided missiles that could target Israel's key strategic infrastructure of power plants, airbases, seaports, and airports. Israel has been taking this kind of action in Syria for nearly two years and felt compelled to do the same in Lebanon as well.

There are several reasons why Hezbollah restrained its response. The most important is probably its demographic predicament. Despite the pretense of being an all-encompassing Islamic resistance movement — Hezbollah rhetoric almost never directly refers to Shiites or Shiism and instead conjures pan-Islamic enemies, primarily Israel — the organization is perceived, both inside and outside Lebanon, in strict sectarian terms as almost exclusively Shiite.

Its promotional material features photos of Iranian Ayatollah Khomeini and present-day spiritual leader Ayatollah Khamenei. It supplies links to their speeches and carries detailed coverage of Sunni suppression of Shiites in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. It runs articles that advocate the rule of Khomeini as supreme jurist, which arouses antagonism not only among Sunnis but also among a

That Robert Mugabe died without ever having to answer for his crimes will come as a boost to the world's remaining tyrannies, from the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Mugabe was an enthusiastic backer of the "Red-Green" alliance forged between the Islamists in Iran and the Socialists in Venezuela, correctly understanding that these alignments were a necessary counter not just to American and Western power, but also to Western ideas about liberty and democracy. For Mugabe — as for Nicolas Maduro in Venezuela or Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in Iran — the liberty of the individual to think, speak, pray, write and organize freely was a petty anachronism, infinitely less important than the "sovereignty of the nation," the "solidarity of the peoples," and similar slogans adopted by repressive regimes in the name of human rights. After a lifetime of denying freedom to others, Mugabe stubbornly retained his own until the end.

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

considerable segment of Shiites in Iran, Iraq, and Lebanon.

Hezbollah has also been at odds, often violently, with the Sunni community in Lebanon — especially in Tripoli, where since 1984 Hezbollah has sided with the small, Syrian-backed Alawite minority against the Sunni majority at the behest of the Syrian regime. The Hezbollah-Sunni rift widened to include suppression of Sunni fundamentalist organizations in the south, and later of mainstream Sunni political organizations. This culminated in the assassination of Sunni Prime Minister Rafik Hariri in 2005.

Relations are equally tense with most of the Christian and Druze communities in Lebanon, though Hezbollah has succeeded in allying with former Maronite general and president Michel Aoun and his supporters. What all this means is that Hezbollah's recruitment pool is strictly limited to the Shiite community in Lebanon — and there's the rub.

Not only is the Shiite community relatively small (between 1 million and 1.5 million people), but it is suffering from a rapidly declining birthrate very similar to that of Iran, the only large country with a Shiite majority.

The Shiite birthrate has declined from five to six children per woman of child-bearing age in the 1980s to fewer than the 2.05 needed to maintain the existing population 25 years later. This has many implications. By far the most important for Hezbollah is that small families are reluctant to sacrifice the person who is all too often their only son in a society where the two-child family is becoming the norm.

We see something similar in Israeli data. Every year, the IDF identifies the high schools with the highest percentages of male graduates who volunteer for fighting units. Five to seven of them are both religious and situated in the West Bank, and seven to nine of the ten belong to the national religious stream. The common denominator is that these recruits come from larger families than those found at secular schools.

Hezbollah has been sacrificing Shiites for 37 years, with only a brief hiatus of five short years between the second Lebanese war in

BBC Imagery Implies Israeli Airstrikes Target Children



SIMON PLOSKER
JERUSALEM

Unidentified aircraft, widely believed to be Israeli, recently carried out overnight airstrikes on targets belonging to Iran-backed militias near Syria's border with Iraq.

The BBC's report on this stated:

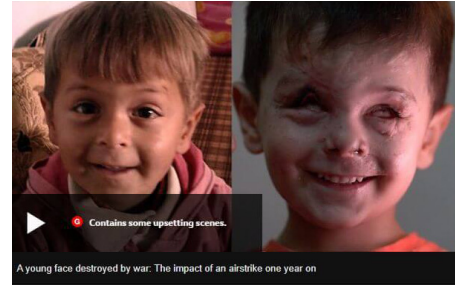
It was not clear who carried out the overnight strikes in and around the town of Albu Kamal.

But Israel has carried out hundreds of attacks on Iranian-linked targets in Syria during the country's civil war. [emphasis added]

It has sought to thwart what it calls Iran's "military entrenchment" in Syria and shipments of Iranian weapons to militant groups such as Hezbollah in Lebanon.

Having made it clear that Israel is the prime suspect (which is entirely possible, even probable), this text is followed by a video.

Here is a screenshot of the video image:



An emotive and disturbing image of a Kurdish child disfigured by an airstrike.

But when included immediately after text suggesting that Israel has just carried out an airstrike, it is clear what the average reader will take away.

The BBC report itself refers to the airstrike's targets as "bases, arms depots, and vehicles" belonging to a militia. This was certainly an airstrike aimed at a specifically military target and not civilians.



Hezbollah supporters in Marjayoun, Lebanon, May 7, 2018. Photo: Reuters / Aziz Taher / File.

2006 and the outbreak of the Syrian civil war in 2011. Ardor for sacrifice is hard to maintain. Iran has to work very hard to get non-Iranian Shiites to fight its battles after the loss of hundreds of thousands in the prolonged war with Iraq over 30 ago. That is a magnification, many times over, of what 1973 was to many Israelis.

Hezbollah is up against a similar problem, and it is not one the organization can easily counter. Declining birthrates are the result of urbanization. Most Lebanese Shiites live in the multi-storied apartment buildings of the Dahiya, not the small villages and towns of the past from which they were bused in on election day to vote for Hezbollah.

In the city, children are no longer helping

Yet a child's face is what we see, and not those of the "wounded fighters" who were the actual targets of the airstrike.

Whether Israel is responsible for this incident or not, its Air Force never deliberately targets civilians. And the BBC's placement of its graphic video image is inflammatory, misleading, and inappropriate. It belongs in a story concerning airstrikes that Syrian government and Russian forces have carried out against unarmed civilians during the Syrian civil war, not one about an alleged Israeli attack on military targets.

Even if the placement of this video is due to an algorithm rather than human editing, the video should be removed and we asked the BBC to do just that.

They responded to our complaint with the following:

We don't agree that the inclusion of this video would make readers assume that Israel willingly targets civilians, or that it injured the boy.

The caption refers to A young face destroyed by war: The impact of an airstrike one year on and it's clear on watching the video that Israel was not involved in the attack which disfigured the boy.

Furthermore, as our story says, Israel has neither confirmed nor denied involvement and so your wider point is based on a supposition that Israel was involved.

The BBC fails to address the point that the inclusion of its video and image works on an assumption that all airstrikes are similarly negative in their impact, drawing a moral equivalence between airstrikes aimed at civilians and those aimed at military targets.

In addition, it assumes that most readers will actually click on the video, which is likely not the case, and acknowledges that they will only find out the relevant background information by being forced to watch it.

Simon Plosker is managing editor of HonestReporting, the world's largest grassroots organization monitoring anti-Israel media bias. A version of this article was originally published by HonestReporting.

on the family farm. They are consumers, not producers. Their parents want them educated and professional, and many would rather see them in Canada or Australia than fighting Iran's wars in Syria, Iraq, and Yemen. Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah also knows that the declining reservoir of recruits will be needed on the domestic front.

The balance between Sunnis and Shiites has grown in favor of the former as hundreds of thousands of Syrian Sunnis have found refuge in Lebanon. Essentially, the Alawite regime has exported its problem to Lebanon, and more specifically to the Shiite areas on Lebanon's eastern border. Hezbollah has not only paid in blood to prop up the Syrian regime. It faces a more uncertain future in Lebanon itself as a result of that support. Under such circumstances, restraint is a reasonable response.

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. This is an edited version of an article published in The Jerusalem Post and at The BESA Center.

Impressions.

Former Obama Speechwriter Offers Answers to 'Why Be Jewish?' Question in New Book

BY IRA STOLL

Why be Jewish?

Nowadays, embracing Jewish identity and practice is optional, even for those who were born into it. Sarah Hurwitz's own story is an example. By her own account, after dropping out of Hebrew school in sixth grade, she attended services on Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur but otherwise wasn't much Jewishly involved or engaged until, after a bad break-up at age 36, she enrolled in an introduction to Judaism class at the Washington, D.C., Jewish Community Center.

Hurwitz — who was a speechwriter for Hillary Clinton, Michelle Obama, and Barack Obama — was so impressed by what she discovered that she kept learning and doing. She has now written a book aimed at, as she puts it, showing others that "Judaism is worth choosing," that it is full of "deep wisdom" and "can provide meaning, joy, and connection."

At one point in *Here All Along: Finding Meaning, Spirituality, and a Deeper Connection to Life* — in Judaism (After Finally Choosing To Look There), (Spiegel & Grau, \$28, 353 pages), Hurwitz, who is admirably open about grappling with anxiety, jokingly mentions an inner voice telling her to "write a book about Judaism that no one but your parents might ever read."

I am not one of Hurwitz's parents. I have read the book. I can report that it's surprisingly good. It accomplishes something that's pretty difficult: It manages to preach without being preachy, to be right without being self-righteous.

That should help it reach some of its intended audience, the 63 percent of American Jews who, Hurwitz says, do not belong to either a synagogue or a Jewish organization. Many of them face a barrier she describes as "lack of basic Jewish literacy."

One reason this book is so good is that Hurwitz makes generally smart choices about the sources she reads and relies on. It's a politically and religiously diverse group that includes Joseph Telushkin, Dennis Prager, Jonathan Sacks, Lawrence Hoffman, Ze'ev Maghen, Yoram Hazony, Shai Held, Avi Weiss, Shaye Cohen, Adam Kirsch, Jonathan Rosen, Art Green, Elliot Dorff, Donniel Hartman, Judith Shulevitz, and Elie Kaunfer. Just reading over that list of names — all alive today, and many of them living in America — is enough to make me cheerful about the current state of American Judaism, about which I am sometimes glum.

She draws from these sources in chapters about the Torah, prayer, the sabbath, Jewish holidays, and death. There is not a chapter about Israel, which she says deserves an entire book of its own, though there are a couple of pages describing its founding and flourishing as "a modern miracle, one that fills you with pride and awe," and also expressing dismay about "settlement expansion in the West Bank" and "the daily treatment of Palestinians."

My favorite chapter in the book was the one about God, a topic that American Judaism has an unfortunate habit of avoiding. She writes, "the choices are not just 'Man-in-the-Sky-Who-Controls-Everything' or atheism." She rhetorically challenges those who blame belief in God for violence: "I would like to see someone argue that a godless movement like Stalinism that was

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New Dershowitz Memoir Is a Must-Read for Israel Advocates

BY JAMES SINKINSON / JNS.org

World-renowned author, criminal lawyer, Harvard law professor and civil rights defender Alan Dershowitz sets the tone for his support of Israel in the introduction to his new memoir, succinctly explaining the global injustice — based on unrelenting antisemitism — meted out against the world's only Jewish state:

No country faced with comparable threats can boast a better record of human rights, a higher regard for the rule of law, or greater efforts to reduce civilian casualties. Nor has any country in history contributed as much to humankind — medically, scientifically, environmentally, academically, culturally — in so short a time than has Israel in its relatively brief existence as an independent state.

The memoir is an inspiring primer to all who advocate for Israel — especially those who support the Jewish state from a posture of liberalism: Passionate support for democracy and free speech, combined with uncompromising, often heroic opposition to bigotry in all its forms, especially antisemitism.

For while Dershowitz is one of Israel's most prominent and effective defenders, his support is strictly principled. He hasn't hesitated, for example, to criticize Israel's drift away from a two-state solution, but he just as indignantly condemns the racist hypocrisy of the American left for excluding pro-Israel Jews, unfairly characterizing Jews as privileged, colonialist white people.

Defending Israel: The Story of My Relationship with My Most Challenging Client (All Points Books, 2019) is, like most of Dershowitz's writing, a masterpiece of self-promotion — but it is also an ammunition locker filled with arguments against almost every attack on Zionism over the past 70 years.

Though *Defending Israel* is told in the first person, it is more accurately a history of Zionism — particularly the arcs of increasing then decreasing global public support for Israel, as well as political trends within Israel, from socialist leftism to capitalism and hard-line conservatism.

Dershowitz relates a debate he had with Israel critic Peter Beinart:

Beinart began by saying how much he admired me for the work I had done to help Soviet Jews immigrate to Israel. Then in the same breath, he condemned me for supporting Israel as it moved to the right. I pointed out the obvious contradiction in his two statements. It is the very fact that a million Soviet Jews immigrated to Israel that moved Israeli politics to the right. I asked him whether he would want to deport or disenfranchise the millions Soviet Jews so that Israel could move back to its traditional left-wing orientation. He laughed, but failed to respond to my deeper point — that Israel is a democracy in which the majority view prevails.

In the course of the book's 292 pages, Dershowitz regales readers with tales of his impressive public jousts with such Israel enemies as Noam Chomsky, Norman Finkelstein, Daniel Berrigan, and Desmond Tutu.

But he also candidly reveals his ambivalence towards Barack Obama, whose presidential candidacy he supported but who in December 2016 engineered, then failed to veto a UN Security

Council resolution that "perniciously changed the status of Jewish Jerusalem" — asserting that key Jewish parts of the city were illegally occupied by Israel and "a flagrant violation of international law."

Dershowitz writes of the incident:

I wrote a scathing attack on Obama for changing long-standing American policy in order to exact revenge on [Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu and tie the hands of his successors. I urged the next president to immediately and officially recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital and move its embassy there.

However, when President Donald Trump did exactly that, the Zionist advocate was distressed at some of the responses.

Many left-wing Democrats — even some who had opposed President Obama's decision to push the anti-Israel resolution through the Security Council and who had urged Obama to move the embassy to Jerusalem — thoughtlessly condemned the move without providing coherent arguments. For them it was enough that this was President Trump who had ordered the relocations of the embassy. If the same actions had been taken by a



Harvard University law professor Alan Dershowitz. Photo: REUTERS/Andrew Innerarity.

President Hillary Clinton ... it would have been greeted with joy and approval.

In the book's penultimate chapter, Dershowitz takes on "The New Antisemitism" — from Black Lives Matter, the Women's March, the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement, and intersectionality to outright attempts to silence pro-Israel advocates, of which Dershowitz has often been a victim, primarily on college campuses.

This fervent Zionist closes by describing an attempt to smear him with fantastically fabricated stories about his alleged sexual misconduct — and his defiance in the face of all lies.

It doesn't matter to Israel haters whether the allegations are completely disproved, struck, withdrawn, mistaken and made up — as they were in this case — as long as it negatively impacts my ability to defend Israel. I will continue to fight back against these anti-Israel motivated defamations.

We who deal with the daily drumbeat of wild, baseless lies against the Jewish state can appreciate Dershowitz's frustration in the face of such incessant unfair attacks — but we can also draw strength from his determination to stand tall against the haters. At 80 years old and still unbowed, may Dershowitz continue to provide such empowering inspiration for years to come.

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

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TCB 730 BROADWAY LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/26/2019. Office loc: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Zaheer A Bukhari, 730 Broadway, Brooklyn, NY 11206. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. AJ; 8/9/16/23/30; 9/6/13

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: POPROW LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 02/27/2019. Office location: Kings county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of the process to: POP ROW LLC 135 Bay 17 street Apt. 1, Brooklyn, NY 11214 Purpose: All lawful activity AJ; 8/16/23/30; 9/6/13/20

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: INSPIRE HOME MANAGEMENT LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 08/06/2019. Office location: Kings county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Amy D. Littleton 545 Quincy Street 2ND floor Brooklyn, NY 11221. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 8/16/23/30; 9/6/13/20

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Trustee for Nomura Asset Acceptance Corporation Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-AF2, Plaintiff AGAINST Deborah Martinez; Roberto Martinez; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated July 4, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on September 26, 2019 at 2:30PM, premises known as 938 Herkimer Street, Brooklyn, NY 11233. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 1714 Lot 12. Approximate amount of judgment \$1,054,086.92 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 504322/2014. Steven Naiman, Esq., Referee Shapiro DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: August 14, 2019 65133 AJ; 8/23/30; 9/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings, Homebridge Financial Services, Inc., Plaintiff, AGAINST Josianne Valery; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated February 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 September 26, 2019 at 2:30PM,

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premises known as 871 East 46th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11203. 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 4980 Lot 51. Approximate amount of judgment \$405,534.36 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 501049/2014. AJ; 8/23/30; 9/6/13

A Notice of Formation of Giraonline LLC, Art. of Org. filed Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/25/2019. Office location: Kings County. SSNY Designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: The LLC, 561 39th St., Apt 1E, Brooklyn, NY 11232. Purpose: any lawful activity. AJ; 8/23/30; 9/6/13/20/27

GRIGAS REALTY, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/13/19. 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, 26 Delavan Street, Brooklyn, NY 11231. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. AJ; 8/23/30; 9/6/13/20/27

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: BUS BABY LLC Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York (SSNY) on 07/23/2019. Office of 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: Victor Zaraya 311A 15th Street Brooklyn, NY 11215. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 8/30; 9/6/13/20/27; 10/4

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT KINGS COUNTY EMIGRANT BANK F/K/A NEW YORK PRIVATE BANK AND TRUST F/K/A EMIGRANT SAVINGS BANK, Plaintiff against ORCHID JOAZARD, et al Defendants Attorney for Plaintiff(s) Fein, Such & Crane, LLP, 28 East Main Street, Suite 1800, Rochester, NY 14614 Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered October 31, 2018, I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11201 on September 26, 2019 at 2:30 PM. Premises known as 1270 Herkimer Street, Brooklyn, NY 11233. Block 1567 Lot 19. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. Approximate Amount of Judgment is \$570,846.46 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No 5551/2011. Shmuel D. Taub, Esq., Referee XCHJC350 AJ; 8/23/30; 9/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS 21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff AGAINST ANDREW GRANT, ET AL., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 1-10-2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on October 3, 2019 at 2:30PM, premises known as 433 Jerome Street, Brooklyn, NY 11207. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improve-

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ments erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, BL: 4030/39. Approximate amount of judgment \$753,960.02 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #503926/2014. Bruno Codispoti, Esq., Referee Carter Conboy Case Blackmore Maloney & Laird, PC 20 Corporate Woods Blvd. Albany, NY 12211 26743 64750 AJ; 8/30; 9/6/13/20

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC). Name: HOTSPOT STATION LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York (SSNY) on 08/21/2019. Office of 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: Legalcinc Corporate Services inc. 1967 Wehrle Drive suite 1 #086 Buffalo, NY 14221. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 8/30; 9/6/13/20/27; 10/4

1694CARROLLST JIANG LLC Art. of Org. Filed Sec. of State of NY 8/13/19. Off. Loc. : Kings Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served & shall mail proc.: c/o Yan Jiang, 1694 Carroll St, Brooklyn, NY 11213. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity. AJ; 9/6/13/20/27; 10/4/11

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON MORTGAGE SECURITIES CORP., CSMC MORTGAGE-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-6, Plaintiff AGAINST MOSES OTOTE, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated October 11, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on October 10, 2019 at 2:30PM, premises known as 193 SUMPTER 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 New York, BLOCK 1519, LOT 54. Approximate amount of judgment \$1,183,755.14 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 22250-12. ARNOLD JOEL LUDWIG, ESQ., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 65394 AJ; 9/6/13/20/27;

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CARRINGTON MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2006-OPT1, ASSET BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-OPT1, V. BESSIE C. LEE; ET AL. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 27, 2019, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CARRINGTON MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2006-OPT1, ASSET BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-OPT1 is the Plaintiff and BESSIE C. LEE; ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the KINGS COUNTY

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COURTHOUSE 360 ADAMS STREET, ROOM 224, BROOKLYN, NY 11201, on October 17, 2019 at 2:30PM, premises known as 1247 E 86TH ST, BROOKLYN, NY 11236: Block 8065, Lot 21: ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN, COUNTY OF KINGS, CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK, Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 514557/2015. Bruno Codispoti, Esq. - Referee. RAS Boriskin, LLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. AJ; 9/13/20/27; 10/4

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT. COUNTY OF KINGS. U.S. BANK TRUST, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR LSF9 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST, Pltf. vs. JUDY BRATHWAITE, et al, Defts. Index #502954/2013. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale entered Dec. 20, 2018 and order entered June 10, 2019, I will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams St, Brooklyn, NY on October 17, 2019 at 2:30 p.m. prem. k/a 211A Lewis Avenue, Brooklyn, NY a/k/a Block 1625, Lot 8. Said property beginning at a point on the Easterly side of Lewis Avenue, distant 40 ft. Southwesterly from the Southeasterly corner of Lewis Avenue and Lexington Avenue; being a plot 20 ft. x 80 ft. Approx. amt. of judgment is \$709,220.23 plus costs and interest. Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale. For sale information, please visit Auction.com at www. Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832. BRUNO CODISPOTI, Referee. COHN & ROTH, Attys. for Pltf., 100 East Old Country Rd., Mineola, NY. #97516 AJ; 9/13/20/27; 10/4

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: MAGS77 LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 06/03/2019. Office location: Kings county. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail process to: MAGS77 LLC 25 Washington st. #8A Brooklyn ,NY 11201. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 9/13/20/27; 10/4/11/18

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR FREMONT HOME LOAN TRUST SERIES 2006-3, Plaintiff AGAINST PAUL ZAGARI, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated October 03, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on October 17, 2019 at 2:30PM, premises known as 114 BAY 32ND STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11214. 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 6416, LOT 56. Approximate amount of judgment \$1,256,098.02 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 31789/09. HELENE E. BLANK, ESQ., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 65235 AJ; 9/13/20/27; 10/4

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NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR NOMURA ASSET ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2005-AP3, Plaintiff AGAINST ANTOINE Y. CHERESTAL, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated March 27, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on October 17, 2019 at 2:30PM, premises known as 761 HART STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11237. 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 3219, LOT 48. Approximate amount of judgment \$1,235,598.05 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 511359/2014. ANGELIQUE M. MORENO, ESQ., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 65122 AJ; 9/13/20/27; 10/4

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: XIN YUE PROPERTY LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York (SSNY) on 08/19/2019. Office location: Kings county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: XIN YUE Property LLC 611 57th St, Brooklyn, NY 11220. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 9/13/20/27; 10/4/11/18

Notice of formation of Limited liability company(LLC) Name: ROJAH LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 08/05/2019. Office location: Kings county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Roger Girard 1405 Prospect Place A3 Brooklyn, NY 11213 purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 9/13/20/27; 10/4/11/18

Continued from Page A8 Speechwriter

responsible for millions of deaths was somehow better than the Crusades or the terror perpetrated by groups like ISIS."

At one point, trying to describe her own experience of the divine, Hurwitz confesses that it "is beyond the reach of my skill as a writer."

She sells her own skill short. It is formidable, and extends to the research and thinking that are essential to excellent writing. Whether that skill is or isn't the result of a divine gift is a judgment I will leave to readers. I predict, though, that they will be more likely to think so after reading Hurwitz's book for themselves.

Ira Stoll was managing editor of The Forward and North American editor of The Jerusalem Post.

Tradition.

Animal Welfare



JONATHAN SACKS
LONDON

Ki Teitse is about relationships: between men and women, parents and children, employers and employees, lenders and borrowers. Strikingly, though, it is also about relationships between humans and animals.

Descartes thought that animals lacked souls. Therefore you could do with them as you pleased. Judaism does not believe that animals lack souls – “The righteous person cares about the nefesh of their animal,”



says the book of Proverbs (12:10). To be sure, nefesh here probably means “life” rather than “soul” (neshama in Hebrew). But Tanach does regard animals as sentient beings. They may not think or speak, but they do feel. They are capable of distress. Therefore there is such a thing as animal distress, tza’ar baalei chayim, and as far as possible it should be avoided.

So we read in Parshat Ki Teitse: “Do not muzzle an ox when it is treading grain” (Deut. 25:4). What is intriguing about this law is that it parallels provisions for human beings as well: “When you come [to work] in your neighbour’s vineyard, you may eat as many grapes as you desire to satisfy your hunger... When you come [to work] in your neighbour’s standing grain, you may take the ears with your hand” (Deut. 23:25–26). The principle is the same in both cases: it is cruel to prevent those working with food from eating some of it. The parallel is instructive. Animals, not just humans, have feelings and they must be respected.

Another law is: “Do not plough with an ox and donkey together” (Deut. 22:10). The ox is stronger than a donkey, so expecting the donkey to match the work of an ox is cruel. Each animal species has its unique role in the scheme of creation that we must respect.

The most fascinating animal legislation in this parsha is the law of “sending the mother bird away”:

If you come across a bird’s nest beside the road, either in a tree or on the ground, and the mother is sitting on the young or on the eggs, do not take the mother with the young. You may take the young, but

be sure to let the mother go, so that it may go well with you and you may have a long life. (Deut. 22:6–7)

Much has been written on this command. Here I discuss only the analysis given by Moses Maimonides, fascinating in its complexity. There is a law that appears wice in the Mishnah, stating that if a leader of prayer says, “Your mercies extend even to a bird’s nest,” they are to be silenced. The Talmud offers two possible explanations, of which one is that such a prayer “makes it seem as the attributes of God are an expression of compassion, whereas in fact they are sheer decrees.”

In both his commentary

to the Mishna and his law code, Maimonides adopts this view. He adds: If the reason for sending the mother bird away were Divine compassion towards animals then, in consistency, God should have forbidden killing animals for food. The law therefore should be understood as a decree without an obvious rationale (*gezerat hakatuv*), and he states that this has nothing to do with compassion, human or Divine.

In *Guide for the Perplexed*, however, Maimonides adopts the opposite approach. There he rejects the very idea that there are commands that have no reason. There is a purpose to killing animals for food is, he says, because meat-eating is necessary for human health. *Shechitah* (ritual slaughter), however, has been ordained because it is the most painless way to kill an animal. He continues:

It is also prohibited to kill an animal with its young on the same day, in order that people should be restrained and prevented from killing the two together in such a manner that the young is killed in the sight of the mother, for the pain of the animals under such circumstances is very great. There is no difference in this case between the pain of human beings and the pain of other living beings, since the love and tenderness of the mother for her young ones is not produced by reasoning but by imagination, and this faculty exists not only in man but also in most living beings... The same reason applies to the law which enjoins that we should let the mother bird fly away when we take the young.

So Maimonides, contrary to the position he takes in his law code, here states that the law does have compassion as its logic. Moreover, what it seeks to avoid is not physical pain to the animal but psychological distress. Maimonides’ view of animals has been confirmed by recent findings in biology that suggest that many species do indeed resemble humans in their ability to form groups, engage in reciprocal altruism, and display a range of emotions. In most animal species, it is the mother that forms an ongoing bond with the young. Among animals, fatherhood is usually far less developed. So Maimonides’ explanation in *The Guide* is empirically well-founded.

However, elsewhere in his *Guide*, Maimonides takes yet a third position. Divine Providence, he says, extends to individuals only among humans. Amongst animals, it applies solely to a species as a whole. So the reason we must not cause animals pain or distress is not because the Torah is concerned about animals but because it is concerned about humans. We should not be cruel.

There is a rule laid down by our Sages that it is directly prohibited in the Torah to cause pain to an animal. This rule is based on the words [of the angel to Bilaam], “Why have you beaten your donkey?” (Num. 22:32). The object of this rule is to make us better, that we should not assume cruel habits, and that we should not needlessly cause pain to others – that on the contrary, we should be prepared to show pity and mercy to all living creatures except when necessity demands the contrary.

Maimonides thus seems to embrace three sharply conflicting views:

1. The law of the mother bird is a Divine decree with no reason.
2. This law is intended to spare the mother bird emotional pain.
3. This law is intended to have an effect on us, not the animal, by training us not to be cruel.

In fact all three are true, because they answer different questions.

The first view explains why we have the laws we have. The Torah forbids certain acts that are cruel to animals but not others. Why these and not those? Because that is the law. Laws will always seem arbitrary. But we observe the law because it is the law, even though, under certain circumstances, we may reason that we know better, or that it does not apply. The second view explains the immediate logic of the law. It exists to prevent needless suffering to animals, because they too feel physical pain and sometimes emotional distress as well. The third view sets the law in a larger perspective. Cruelty to animals is wrong, not because animals have rights but because we have *duties*. The duty not to be cruel is intended to promote virtue, and the primary context of virtue is the relationship between human beings. But virtues are indivisible. Those who are cruel to animals often become cruel to people. Hence we have a duty not

*Continued from Page A2
Anti-Propaganda*

propaganda agency would have had no difficulty teaching some of them a lesson and straightening out some of the misperceptions.

These cases are minor compared to the findings of a study published in 2011 by the University of Bielefeld. This report showed that in seven EU countries, large parts of the population agree with the assertion that Israel is carrying out a war of extermination against the Palestinians. The lowest percentages of those who agreed were in Italy and the Netherlands, with about 38 percent. The highest was Poland with 63 percent.

This study and its implications were barely noticed in Israel, yet it demonstrated what anti-Israeli propaganda has achieved. No significant action whatsoever has been taken by the Israeli government to expose the massive anti-Israel hate-mongering in European countries that led to these opinions.

An anti-propaganda agency would systematically study, analyze, and monitor Israel’s enemies in the propaganda field. It would propose actions against them to be approved by the government. One senior American Jewish leader told me he has repeatedly suggested the estab-

to cause needless pain to animals, because of its effect on us. Hence the third proposition. Interestingly, Maimonides’ analysis was repeated almost exactly, six centuries later, by the greatest philosopher of modern times, Immanuel Kant.

This is a subtle and nuanced approach. Animals are part of God’s creation. They have their own integrity in the scheme of things. We now know that they are far closer to human beings than philosophers like Descartes thought. This would not have been news to the heroes of the Bible. Abraham, Moses, and David were all shepherds who lived their formative years watching over and caring for animals. That was their first tutorial in leadership, and they knew that this was one way of understanding God Himself (“The Lord is my shepherd” [Ps. 23:1]).

Judaism also reminds us of what we sometimes forget: that the moral life is too complex to summarise in a single concept like “rights.” Alongside rights, there are duties, and there can be duties without corresponding rights. Animals do not have rights, but we have duties towards them. As several laws in Parshat Ki Teitse and elsewhere make clear, we must not cause them unnecessary pain or emotional distress.

As we saw last week in the case of environmental legislation in Shoftim, Genesis 1 gives us the mandate to “subdue” and “rule” creation, including animals, but Genesis 2 gives us the responsibility to “serve” and “guard.” Animals may not have rights but they have feelings, and we must respect them if we are to honour our role as God’s partners in creation.

Shabbat Shalom

lishment of such an agency to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. (A more detailed description of how such an agency would function requires another article.)

Had such an anti-propaganda agency existed, it would have started to prepare as soon as Omar and Tlaib announced their plans to visit. It would have collected opinions from experts who could assert with authority that it is the sovereign right of nations to decide who enters their country. It would have prepared a collection of Omar’s and Tlaib’s anti-Israel remarks. It would have established lists of people who were not allowed in by other democratic countries. For instance, during the Cold War, the US refused wholesale entry to communists and their sympathizers.

The Israeli government could have then made its reasoned decision public. Flip-flopping would have been avoided. It is doubtful whether President Trump would have felt the need to comment if Israel had been prepared in this way.

In the meantime, the next sizable public relations problem has emerged. The HBO channel is broadcasting — in collaboration with the Israel Keshet broadcaster — a series entitled *Our Boys*. The series focuses on the exceptional case of the kidnapping and murder of a Palestinian teenager by three Jewish terrorists in summer 2014, as well as the kidnapping and murder of three Israeli teens by Hamas terrorists.

The decision to focus on the murder of one Palestinian youth by three marginalized Israelis who represented no one but themselves and who were publicly denounced by the entirety of Israeli society, is an extremely biased choice. In other words, the series has turned an extreme exception into a supposed rule while overlooking a longstanding murderous societal pattern on the part of the Palestinians. There are many cases of Israeli youngsters killed by Palestinian terrorists. Parents of Palestinian terrorists are often proud of the murderous crimes of their children. Israel’s response to the series so far has, once again, been tepid and amateurish.

No opposition politician has raised the issue of the government’s failure to establish an anti-propaganda agency. Nor has it come up in the current election campaign. The radical failure to fight back systematically against massive, hateful propaganda aimed at Israel is highly demoralizing for the Israeli people and has a serious negative impact on the country.

Dr. Manfred Gerstenfeld is a Senior Research Associate at the BESA Center and a former chairman of the Steering Committee of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs. He specializes in Israeli-Western European relations, antisemitism, and anti-Zionism, and is the author of The War of a Million Cuts.

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

Social.



Bonnie Wright. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

'Harry Potter' Actress Visits Israel to Celebrate Friend's Upcoming Wedding

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

British actress Bonnie Wright, best known for playing the role of Ginny Weasley in the "Harry Potter" film series, is visiting Israel for her friend's wedding and posted photos from her trip on social media.

Wright, 28, shared photos on Instagram on Wednesday of her in Tel Aviv overlooking the ocean while holding a glass of wine.

She captioned the series of shots "here for love #maya4flower." The hashtag is a reference to her engaged friend Maya, who is getting married in the Jewish state on Thursday.

The actress also shared a photo of her friend on her Instagram story and said they were in Israel to celebrate the "bride to be."

Mellanox Opens Sixth Israeli Development Center

BY GOLAN HAZANI /CTech

Israeli chipmaker Mellanox Technologies is opening a sixth development center in Israel, according to one person familiar with the matter who spoke to Calcalist on condition of anonymity. The company has leased a 300-square-meter space in Jerusalem's tech park for the new center, the person said.

Mellanox is headquartered in Israeli northern town Yokne'am and has development centers in Tel Aviv, Ra'anana, Kiryat Gat, Be'er Sheva, and Tel-Hai. The company also has centers in three Palestinian cities — Gaza, Nablus, and Rawabi — and additional centers in the US, Ukraine, China, India, Denmark, and Singapore.

In March, Mellanox announced a deal with Nvidia to be acquired by the latter for \$6.9 billion. The deal is



The logo of Mellanox Technologies is seen at the company's headquarters in Yokne'am, in northern Israel on July 26, 2016. Photo: REUTERS/Ronen Zvulun.

currently awaiting regulatory approval in China.

Sasha Baron Cohen Acknowledges Past Reluctance to Play Jewish Characters: 'I Didn't Want to Be Typecast'

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

British comedian and actor Sasha Baron Cohen said in a recent interview that he used to pass up offers that he feared would "typecast" him as a Jewish actor.

Cohen, who currently stars as Mossad agent Eli Cohen in the Netflix miniseries "The Spy," told The New York Times, "I used to be reluctant to play anyone Jewish, because I didn't want to be typecast as the Jewish actor. There are other Jews in Hollywood besides me. But somehow, people thought of me as 'a Jewish actor' even after I played Borat, the most outwardly antisemitic character probably since Leni



Sacha Baron Cohen in the trailer for "The Spy." Photo: Screenshot.

Riefenstahl directed movies."

"Finally, a number of years ago, I read Gideon [Raff]'s script, and I couldn't put it down. So I gave up this position of avoiding Jewish or Israeli roles," he added, referring to the Israeli director's project, "The Spy."

The Netflix show is based on the true story of Eli Cohen, who was selected by the Mossad to infiltrate the Syrian government in the 1960s and given a fake identity as a wealthy Syrian businessman named Kamel Amin Thaabet. The Syrian government discovered his double-agent status and he was publicly hanged in Damascus in May 1965.

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