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Shock in Germany Follows Election Victory for Far-Right Demagogue



Björn Höcke, leader of the German far-right AfD party in Thuringia and the head of its ultranationalist faction.
Photo: Reuters / Hannibal Hanschke

BY BEN COHEN

The leader of a far-right grouping whose activity is monitored by Germany's official body to defend against political extremism celebrated a surge in support on Sunday in a key regional election in the east of the country.

In a record turnout, nearly one in four voters in the eastern state of Thuringia opted for the

ultranationalist "Alternative for Germany" (AfD), pushing the CDU party of German Chancellor Angela Merkel into third place.

The AfD — led in Thuringia by the extreme-right firebrand Björn Höcke — took 23.4 percent of the vote in the state, coming second to the socialist Left Party, which won the poll with 31 percent of the vote, and ahead of the CDU with 21.8 percent.

With its first representa-

tives elected to the Bundestag, Germany's federal parliament, in 2017, the AfD's star has continued to rise. The party now has 91 MPs in the federal parliament and won second place in two regional elections in the states of Brandenburg and Saxony in September.

Its success in Thuringia — once part of Communist East Germany — may heighten internal tensions within the AfD by

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US Wants to Bolster Fight Against Islamic State After Its Leader's Death

BY REUTERS & ALGEMEINER STAFF

The United States wants to bolster a coalition fighting Islamic State in northeastern Syria, a senior State Department official said on Monday, after the leader of the jihadi movement, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, was killed in a weekend operation.

World leaders welcomed his death, but they and security experts warned that the group, which carried out



A bearded man with Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi's appearance speaks in this screen grab taken from video released on April 29, 2019. Photo: Islamic State Group / Al Furqan Media Network / Reuters TV via Reuters.

atrocities against religious minorities and horrified most Muslims, remained a security threat in Syria and beyond.

The official said that President Donald Trump, by announcing the withdrawal of US forces from northern Syria on Oct. 6, did not suggest that Washington was abandoning the fight against Islamic State.

"There was never an idea that we would abandon the mission of going after ISIS. ... This is a major effort that is continuing," the official told reporters.

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My Torah Goes to Prison

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ShabbatCalendar

Parshat NOACH
פרשת נח

Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting
Shabbat Begins: 5:35pm | Shabbat Ends: 6:33pm



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Opinion.

Fear Itself Isn't the Only Thing American Jews Have to Fear



JONATHAN S. TOBIN
JNS.org

With impeccable timing, a new American Jewish Committee survey came out only days before the one-year anniversary of the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting. The memorials for the single bloodiest day in American Jewish history echoed with renewed outrage about that crime and the subsequent shooting at Chabad of Poway in Southern California. So it was hardly surprising that the poll's findings were hyped in some quarters as an indication that fear of antisemitic violence was rising along with the statistics on hate crimes.

The fact that 88 percent of those polled thought antisemitism was a problem and 84 percent thought it was increasing stopped some observers in their tracks. Even more startling was the fact that 31 percent of the respondents answered that they "avoided publicly wearing, carrying, or displaying things that might help people identify you as a Jew."

Taken on its own, that result makes the United States sound as if it is heading down the path to the same dangerous conditions for Jews as France, Germany, and other European countries where even public officials have cautioned Jews not to stand out lest they be singled out for violence.

That number, combined with other findings in the survey, in which the majority

of Jews blamed Republicans far more than Democrats for antisemitism, and regard President Donald Trump's record on antisemitism unfavorably, has helped some on the left make the case that not only are Jews afraid, but that it's clear the reason for their fear stems from concerns about the White House.

While this survey should be taken seriously, there are some points about it that need to be put in context.

The first is that while the number of those who indicate that they are afraid to be identified as Jews is alarmingly high, it's not entirely apparent whether that kind of fear is justified.

After all, the same survey made it clear how rare open acts of antisemitism truly are.

Only 2% of those polled said they had ever experienced an antisemitic attack in the last five years. While even one such crime is one too many, given that the language of the question is so broad, it's far from certain that even the figure of 2% represents a real antisemitic threat to life and limb in 2019. Indeed, outside of the targeting of ultra-Orthodox Jews in Brooklyn, who are easy to single out, and the rare shootings, attacks on Jews remain truly unusual in the United States.

Even when asked whether they had been the targets of an antisemitic remark, only 23% said yes. Interestingly, the number of those who had experienced such an attack on social media — where extremists are the noisiest and where trolls abound — was only 21%. Again, the fact that so many Jews have been subjected to such remarks is terrible, but it remains a fact that more than three-quarters of the Jewish

people have never undergone that trial.

Even when the questions switched to life on college campuses, which other surveys have identified as the venue where most Jews have had their primary encounter with antisemitism because of attacks on supporters of Israel, the numbers are relatively low. Only 20% of those polled said they either personally experienced antisemitism in an institution of higher learning or knew someone who had.

Despite all our worries, the survey proves that the overwhelming majority of American Jews can live entire lifetimes without once having to navigate through a situation in which their Jewish identity makes them a target.

Should that cause us to downplay the issue of antisemitism? Absolutely not.

The existence of a tiny group of white supremacists who are armed and dangerous, coupled with the growth of antisemitism masquerading as mere criticism of Israel is worrisome. Antisemitism is a powerful virus that has attached itself to a number of different ideologies, including fascism, Nazism, communism, and radical Islam. Even in the country that has proved to be the best home for Jews in the history of the Diaspora, hatred of Jews is never going to completely disappear.

But we should also be aware of the role



Rabbi Jeffrey Myers (r) hosting the US President and First Lady at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.
Photo: Reuters/Kevin Lamarque.

partisanship plays in shaping our views of antisemitism.

When asked which party bears more responsibility for "the current level of antisemitism," on a scale of 1 to 10, most Jews blame Republicans (54%) and Trump far more than Democrats (18%).

That response correlates with the fact that Jews break down on partisan and ideological lines that are similar to those results with Democrats outnumbering Republicans by 53% to 14%, and liberals dominating conservatives by 56% to 21%. Where Trump is concerned, the numbers conform to the usual breakdown of the Jewish vote in presidential elections, with 76% viewing him unfavorably and only 22% favorably.

In an era of hyper-partisanship in which adherents of the two major parties

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'New Hope' in Fight Against Tay-Sachs Disease



IRA STOLL
BOSTON

Researchers at the University of Massachusetts Medical School are touting a possible breakthrough in the fight against Tay-Sachs disease, a genetic disease that killed 50 or 60 Jewish children a year in the US and Canada until widespread screening reduced its incidence.

The genetic testing and pre-conception screening focused on populations such as Ashkenazi Jews that are known carriers. Even so, some babies are born with the disease.

This month, UMass and a gene therapy company, Axovant Gene Therapies, announced that they had treated two such patients by administering a gene therapy.

The chief research and development officer at Axovant, Dr. Gavin Corcoran, called the clinical results "exciting" and said they "suggest an opportunity for gene replacement therapy to improve outcomes for children with this devastating condition."

The dean of the UMass Medical School, Dr. Terence Flotte, who is a professor of pediatrics, said, "This innovative delivery could overcome one of the primary challenges for developing treatments for Tay-Sachs, Sandhoff and many other severe pediatric genetic disorders, providing much needed hope for these families."

The medical school is based in the central Massachusetts city of Worcester.

Kevin Romer, president of the Matthew Forbes Romer Foundation and a past president of the National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases Association, told *The Algemeiner*, "This is important continued progress with our collective efforts to make a treatment available." The foundation is named for Romer's son Matthew, who died of Tay-Sachs in 1996.

The development has until now received little attention in the Jewish community. It did attract press coverage from *WBUR*, a Boston public radio station, whose reporter, Carey Goldberg, cautioned, "It's a very early report, from just two patients, only a few months after treatment." But she also wrote that it "could be landmark news about a terrible genetic disease. ... One [patient], treated at just seven months, has appeared to stabilize instead of following the typical quick slide toward death by age four."

The therapy involves injecting an engineered virus into the thalamus, which is part of the brain. The technique was initially tested by animal doctors on a flock of sheep at Auburn University in Alabama.

The UMass

medical school magazine headlined the news, "New hope for Tay-Sachs disease," reporting, "the death sentence of Tay-Sachs disease is being challenged by a new gene therapy."

The magazine quoted Rick Karl, president of the Cure Tay-Sachs Foundation, as saying, "We have been waiting for this moment for a long time," calling it "the most promising treatment we have seen so far."

It also quoted a researcher who worked on the project, Miguel Sena-Estevés, as saying, "We all realize there is still a long way to go, but taking this new therapy to patients is an important step forward."

Approximately one in 27 adult Ashkenazi Jews are carriers of the genetic disease, according to the article in the UMass Medical School magazine.



Scientists at work in laboratory. Photo: Public domain via Wikicommons.

World News.

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Victory for AfD

strengthening Höcke's leadership ambitions, German political analysts said on Monday.

At present, Höcke leads a hardline nationalist faction within the AfD called Der Flügel ("The Wing"), which is militantly anti-immigrant and anti-Islamic, and which supports the repeal of legislation in Germany banning the denial of the Nazi Holocaust. In an interview with the German news outlet taz in the lead-up to the Thuringia elections, Mike Mohring — the center-right CDU's candidate — said that he was in no doubt that "Höcke is a Nazi."

In January 2019, the official German agency tasked with countering political extremism announced that it was treating both Der Flügel and Höcke's AfD party in Thuringia as a threat to Germany's "democratic governance."

But after the party's success in Thuringia on Sunday, the German news magazine Stern noted, members of the AfD's leadership with known reservations about Höcke found themselves with little choice other than to defend him.

Continued from Page A1
Bolster Fight

Foreign ministers will meet in Washington on Nov. 14 to discuss the mission.

"The United States is determined to prevent a resurgence of ISIS in Syria and Iraq and continues to work with the Global Coalition to destroy ISIS remnants and thwart its global ambitions," the US State Department said in a statement.

It said the Washington meeting's discussions would have a "particular focus on recent developments in northeast Syria and their relationship to stability and security of the region."

Trump has softened his pullout plans for Syria after a backlash from Congress, including from fellow Republicans, who say he enabled a long-threatened Turkish incursion on Oct. 9 against Kurdish forces in Syria who had been America's top allies in the battle against Islamic State since 2014.

US special forces carried out the Syrian operation in which Baghdadi killed himself and three of his children by detonating a suicide vest when he was cornered in a tunnel.

Trump said on Monday he may declassify and release part of the video taken on Saturday of the raid. The video is believed to include aerial footage and possibly footage from cameras mounted on the soldiers who stormed Baghdadi's compound.

Trump said on Sunday that Baghdadi had died "whimpering and crying" in a raid that fulfilled the president's top national security goal.

The United States has given the remains of Baghdadi a burial at sea and afforded him religious rites according to Islamic custom, three officials told Reuters.

'Lone-wolf threat'

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov declined to say if the United States had told Russia about the operation in advance. Trump, in announcing the operation, said Russia "treated us great" by opening up airspace it controlled for the raid.

Peskov added: "If this information is confirmed, we can talk about a serious contribution by the president of the United States to the fight against international terrorism."

French President Emmanuel Macron said Baghdadi's death was a major blow against Islamic State, but "the fight continues to finally defeat this terrorist organization."

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said: "We will work with our coalition partners to bring an end to the murderous, barbaric activities of Daesh (Islamic State) once and for all."

In Southeast Asia, an important focus for Islamic State, officials said security forces were preparing for a long battle to thwart the group's ideology.

The Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia,

"Der Flügel is not right-wing extremist, Björn Höcke is not right-wing extremist," Alexander Gauland — the leader of the AfD grouping in the federal parliament — declared in a post-election interview.

The most notorious controversy to have embroiled Höcke occurred in Jan. 2017. In a speech to a right-wing youth rally in Dresden, Höcke denounced the existence of Germany's national memorial to the Holocaust in Berlin.

"We Germans are the only people in the world to have planted a monument of shame in the heart of their capital," Höcke said, in remarks that roused the fury of German's centrist parties and the leadership of its Jewish community.

The negative impact of the speech was so great that the AfD's former leader, Frauke Petry, condemned Höcke as a "burden" on the party and attempted to have him expelled. However, following a 2018 internal ruling in favor of Höcke's continued membership of the party, his position within the AfD has continued to strengthen.

home to some of Asia's most organized Islamist militants, said they were braced for retaliation by Islamic State loyalists, including "lone-wolf" attacks by radicalized locals.

The United States on Monday confirmed the killing of Abu al-Hassan al-Muhajir, Islamic State spokesman and a high-ranking figure within the jihadi group, in a separate US operation in northern Syria.

Capable and dangerous

Although Baghdadi's death will unsettle Islamic State, it remains capable and dangerous, said Delfin Lorenzana, defense secretary of the Philippines, where the group's influence has taken a hold in its troubled Mindanao region.

"This is a blow to the organization considering al-Baghdadi's stature as a leader. But this is just a momentary setback considering the depth and reach of the organization worldwide," Lorenzana said. "Somebody will take his place."

Islamic State has no declared successor as leader. But the group has proved resilient, continuing to mount or inspire attacks in the region and beyond despite losing most of its territory in recent years.

Baghdadi had long been sought by the United States — which offered a \$25 million reward — as leader of a jihadist group that at one point controlled large areas of Syria and Iraq, where it declared a caliphate.

Islamic State has brutally attacked religious minorities and launched deadly strikes on five continents in a violent campaign that horrified most Muslims.

In their long hunt for Baghdadi, Iraqi intelligence teams secured a break in February 2018 after one of his top aides gave them information on how he escaped capture for so many years, two Iraqi security officials said.

Baghdadi held strategy talks with his commanders in moving minibuses packed with vegetables in order to avoid detection, Ismael al-Ethawi told officials after he was arrested by Turkish authorities and handed to the Iraqis.

"Ethawi gave valuable information which helped the Iraqi multi-security agencies team complete the missing pieces of the puzzle of Baghdadi's movements and places he used to hide," one of the Iraqi security officials said.

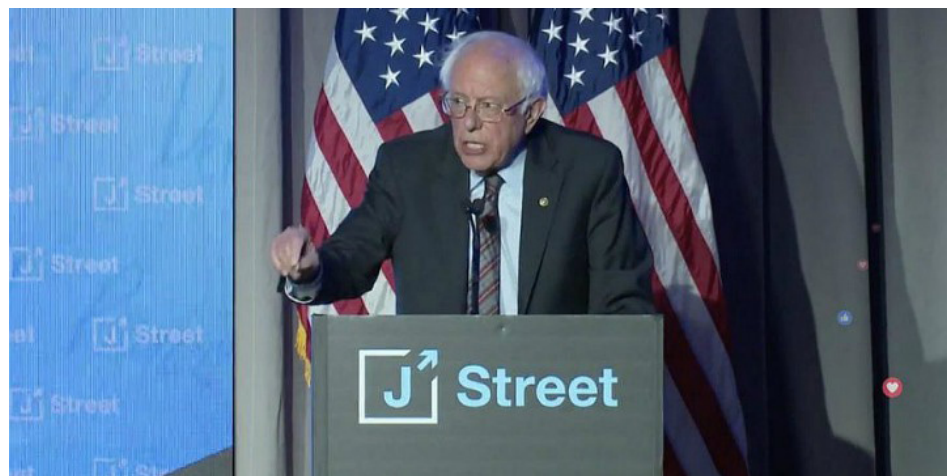
Iraqi security officials said Kurdish intelligence agents had exchanged information with counterparts in Baghdad on the movements of Baghdadi and his aides in Syria. One of the Kurds' sources passed on a "golden tip" earlier this year.

Suspicious movements were spotted by locals at a house in a village in Syria, which was placed under surveillance and turned out to be the house used by Baghdadi, the Iraqi officials said.

US pullback

The raid on Baghdadi comes weeks after Trump announced the withdrawal of US troops from northeastern Syria.

Sanders Says Portion of Israel's Military Aid Should Go 'Right Now' to Gaza



Sen. Bernie Sanders speaking at a past J Street National Conference in Washington, D.C.
Photo: Screenshot.

BY JACKSON RICHMAN/
JNS.org

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), who is running for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination, stated on Monday at the annual J Street Conference in Washington, DC, that a portion of the US military assistance to Israel should go towards humanitarian relief in the Gaza Strip.

"I would use the leverage of \$3.8 billion," Sanders said, referring to the 10-year Memorandum of Understanding between the United States and Israel negotiated by former President Barack Obama. "It is a lot of money, and we cannot give it carte blanche to the Israeli government, or for that matter, to any government at all. We have a right to demand respect for human rights and democracy."

The senator, who received a thunderous crowd ovation from start to finish, remarked that some of the \$3.8 billion the United States annually gives to Israel in assistance should "go right now to humanitarian aid in Gaza."

The Gaza Strip has been under control by the Palestinian terrorist group Hamas since 2007, when it overthrew the Palestinian Authority. Israel has permitted international humanitarian aid transfers to the Gaza Strip, including from Arab countries such as Qatar.

"My proposal in terms of Israeli-Palestinian efforts is not a radical proposal," said Sanders. "All it says is that we need an even-hand proposal for both people. What is going on in Gaza right now, for example, is absolutely inhumane. It is unacceptable. It is unsustainable."

Sanders also attacked Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, arguing that it's not antisemitic to say that the government of Netanyahu has been "racist."

"It is not antisemitism to say that the Netanyahu government has been racist," he

critics expressed concern at the abandoning of the Kurdish fighters who were instrumental in defeating Islamic State in Syria, and said the move might allow the group to regain strength and pose a threat to US interests.

The Pentagon, however, said the United States would repel any attempt to take Syria's oilfields away from US-backed Syrian militia with "overwhelming force," whether the opponent is Islamic State or even forces backed by Russia or Syria.

told the crowd at the conference. "That's a fact."

However, cautioned Sanders, "it is not only Netanyahu's government that has been a problem; let's recognize there has been corruption in terms of Hamas and the Palestinian Authority."

In response to getting endorsements from those on the record for their antisemitic vitriol, including Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.), Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-Mich.), and comedian and law professor Amer Zahr, Sanders said, "Being Jewish may be helpful in that regard. It would be very hard for anybody to call me whose father's family was wiped out by Hitler and who spent time in Israel antisemitic."

Along with Sanders, Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.), former US Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julian Castro, South Bend, Ind. Mayor Pete Buttigieg and Sen. Michael Bennet (D-Colo.) addressed the J Street conference.

They were all interviewed by the hosts of the weekly podcast "Pod Save the World," former National Security Council spokesperson Tommy Vietor and former US Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communications Ben Rhodes to "discuss the future of the US-Israel relationship, their visions for resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, their plans to combat the growing threat of white supremacy and more," according to an email from J Street ahead of the conference.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) and Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-Wash.) were scheduled to address the conference on Monday night.

The conference concludes on Tuesday, when participants will lobby J Street's agenda on Capitol Hill.

Trump said the raid would not change his decision to withdraw troops from Syria.

But killing Baghdadi could help blunt those concerns, as well as boosting Trump domestically at a time when he is facing an impeachment inquiry in the US House of Representatives.

Egypt, which is fighting militants loyal to Islamic State, said the killing of Baghdadi was "an important step towards eradicating terrorism."

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World News.



US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin announces the Trump administration's economic sanctions against the Venezuelan state owned Petroleos de Venezuela (PdVSA), January 28, 2019. Photo: Reuters / Jim Young.

Steven Mnuchin, Israeli Health Officials Discuss Establishment of Israeli FDA Branch

BY SOPHIE SHULMAN/CTech

Israeli medtech and biotech companies are in line for an early Christmas present. On Tuesday morning, US Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin met with Israeli health officials and Marius Nacht, co-founder of life sciences and healthcare venture capital fund aMoon, to discuss the opening of a local branch of the US Food and Drug Administration, according to one person who spoke to Calcalist on condition of anonymity. The

meeting was held at the house of US Ambassador to Israel David Friedman, and was attended by senior executives from Israeli health maintenance organization Clalit and Sheba Medical Center.

The FDA, a federal agency based in Washington, has very few branches outside of the US, and those are located in large countries like China, India, and several European and Latin American countries. No company looking to sell medical devices or formulations can operate in the US without

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Fear

exist in social-media silos where they rarely experience opposing opinions, it's only natural that Republicans blame Democrats and Democrats blame Republicans for antisemitism, with neither group particularly interested in taking on political allies for their role in spreading Jew-hatred. It's no surprise that anger about the president has helped increase the total of those expressing fear, even if they may not personally be in danger.

Yet we should also be encouraged that so many Jews are willing to call out extremists on both ends of the spectrum. While 89% view the "extreme political right" as a threat, 64% also view the "extreme political left" as a similar peril. That number upset some Israel-bashers like The Forward's Peter Beinart, who act as apologists for the antisemitic BDS crowd and want that variant of Jew-hatred left out of the definition.

The main conclusions we should be drawing from the AJC survey is that for all of our justified fears, it's a mistake to think that American antisemitism is no different from the far more serious problems facing European Jews. Nor should we allow our political leanings to obscure the truth that threats to Jews exist from both ends of the political spectrum.

Seen in context, the alarming results don't change the fact that — thanks to American exceptionalism — Jews should still have no qualms about claiming a place in any sector of society. That's still true even if radicals on the right and the left both want to marginalize those who are unafraid to proudly proclaim their Jewish identity.

Jonathan S. Tobin is editor in chief of JNS-Jewish News Syndicate. Follow him on Twitter @jonathans_tobin.

FDA approval, and it is an approval process that opens doors for companies globally.

At first glance, Israel is too small to meet the FDA criteria for a local branch, but the matter is being considered due to the country's unusually large concentration of biotech and medtech companies, the person familiar with the matter said. While it will not replace the need to apply for FDA clearance in the US, it could shorten the application process for Israeli companies. Estimates are that such a branch could be established in Israel in the near future, the person said.

aMoon is one of Israel's largest venture capital funds, with over \$1 billion in assets under management. Managed by co-founder Yair Schindel, the former CEO of Israel's

National Digital Bureau, the fund invests in multi-stage companies in the domains of digital health, medical devices, and biopharma. Its portfolio companies include gut microbiome analysis company DayTwo, cancer diagnosis startup Ibox Medical Analytics, and medical analytics company Zebra Medical Vision.

Nacht started working towards a local FDA branch a year and a half ago, according to the person familiar with the matter. The idea is in alignment with the FDA's strategy under recently resigned FDA commissioner Scott Gottlieb, who championed cutting bureaucratic red tape for new drug approvals and new regulations meant to cut down the ever-rising price of medication in the US.

BETH SHIFRA

Promoting Jewish Identity for 50+ years
www.bethshifra.org

20 Adar I, 5779/ February 25, 2019

In years past, Beth Shifra maintained a Free Soup Kitchen all year round, open seven days a week, serving free meals three times a day, without charge. During the week of Pesach, Beth Shifra sponsored free Kosher for Pesach Sedorim and daily meals around the city for thousands of people. We are personally familiar with the outstanding work that they do under the leadership of Rabbi Chaim Prussman, and urge you to help Beth Shifra with any support that you can, including publicizing their inspiring work in your Shul or organization. This year, 2019/5779, Beth Shifra is sponsoring free Kosher for Pesach Seders and meals daily from Friday, April 19, through Saturday (Shabbat), April 27, at The White Shul, 2102 Avenue T & East 21 in Brooklyn. Free Kosher for Passover food packages will be offered on Thursday, April 18, at the White Shul, 2102 Avenue T & East 21 in Brooklyn from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. We proudly invite you to join us in making this year a memory of a lifetime for those in need. Take the time now to have the merit and joy of helping a hungry family celebrate Passover. Please help Beth Shifra with any assistance that you can, including publicizing their good work in your Shul or organization. May all those that participate in this holy effort be blessed from Heaven. On behalf of the Igud/RAA Presidium and of the Beth Din, I extend greetings of Torah.

Rabbi Mendy Mirocznik Executive Vice - President, Rabbinical Alliance of America

July 17, 2018

For almost 50 years, the Beth Shifra organization, located in Brooklyn, NY, has provided year round daily free meals to those who are most needy in the New York Jewish community. I am personally familiar with the outstanding work that they do under the leadership of Rabbi Chaim Prussman, and urge you to help Beth Shifra in any manner possible, including publicizing their work in your shul or organization. During the Pesach holiday, the organization sponsors Kosher for Passover sedorim, food packages, lectures and programs to hundreds of people who would otherwise be unable to celebrate the holiday. In 2019, they will be sponsoring free kosher for Passover Seders and daily meals from Friday. Pesach food packages will be distributed on Thursday, April 18 at the synagogue between the hours of 12:00-2:00 PM. In the merit of helping the hungry and poor, may you only receive the choicest blessings from Heaven.

Dov Hikind
Member of Assembly



These are some of the FREE programs Beth Shifra ran for the Poor and Russian Families.

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- Jewish Services • Boxing
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- Chess Tournament • Free Bar Mitzvahs and Mezuzas by Rabbi Zalmen
- Several English Classes (Green Cards)
- Work Release Programs • Release Hours
- Free Flee Market • Homeless Shelter

"We urge you to do whatever you can do to help Beth Shifra, תבא עליהם ברכה, רבבי אביגדור מילר ז"ל"

RABBI AVIGDOR MILLER ZT"l

Published in Jewish Press '84

Meir Kahane speaks The Summer of 84'

GREETINGS FROM RABBI MEIR KAHANE BETH SHIFRA

I have always said that in Heaven there is a great Synagogue. And as with all synagogues there is an East wall at which, like in all synagogues, sit the truly distinguished. But, unlike all synagogues where the truly distinguished are distinguished for their money and external attributes, in this great synagogue, we will be stunned to see whom the Almighty - the great Gabbai, warder, of Heaven - seats at the East Wall and who is relegated to the "ordinary" rows.

In every generation there walk in our midst the greatly simple, whose quiet task in life is to be simply great. They are famous in their anonymity. No reporters know their names and no television or cameras record their faces and words. They walk in the streets in perfect tranquility for no one knows that they are people to be touched. They are touched only by the greatness of their deeds.

I rarely use this column to specifically praise someone and urge their support time and space are too precious. But I stand in tribute and ask you to do the same even as you write a generous check, for a simple tzadik (and are there any other?).

His name is Chaim Prussman and no one at Time magazine has ever heard of him. But I tell you that he is famous in the streets of Heaven. Daily, he walks and talks and worries and lives the pain of Jews. In the Brighton Beach section of Brooklyn, where he lives, he sees the talons and fangs of the missionaries ripping away the souls of Jews, simple Jews, mostly from the Soviet Union. With meals and gifts and money they buy and destroy Jewish souls. There are synagogues and organizations and rabbis and leaders but no one stood up to cry out and do, except a little Jew named Chaim Prussman.

With no funding from government or any group Chaim Prussman manages through sacrifice and G-d's help to give the poor Jews:

- a) The only traditional Talmud Torah and nursery school programs offered FREE to underprivileged families, including transportation.
- b) Special religious classes held in local public high schools.
- c) Free Bar Mitzvah lessons.
- d) Assistance for Bar Mitzvah celebrations.
- e) Shabbaton activities.
- f) Trips and rallies celebrating Jewish holidays.

Without your generous support, Beth Shifra cannot compete with the \$0.5 breakfasts and S.010 chicken dinners of the missionaries.

Chaim Prussman is the kind of Jew for whom I stand daily and salute. I urge you to stand, salute and then sit. And write a check. Make it out to Beth Shifra and Save a Jew. And then, in the Great Synagogue of Heaven, you may - as a reward - sit close to Chaim Prussman at the East Wall. Beth Shifra. A monument to simple greatness. Support it. Today.

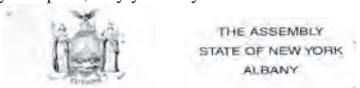




July 17, 2018

For almost 50 years, the Beth Shifra organization, located in Brooklyn, NY, has provided year round daily free meals to those who are most needy in the New York Jewish community. I am personally familiar with the outstanding work that they do under the leadership of Rabbi Chaim Prussman, and urge you to help Beth Shifra in any manner possible, including publicizing their work in your shul or organization. During the Pesach holiday, the organization sponsors Kosher for Passover sedorim, food packages, lectures and programs to hundreds of people who would otherwise be unable to celebrate the holiday. In 2019, they will be sponsoring free kosher for Passover Seders and daily meals from Friday. Pesach food packages will be distributed on Thursday, April 18 at the synagogue between the hours of 12:00-2:00 PM. In the merit of helping the hungry and poor, may you only receive the choicest blessings from Heaven.

Dov Hikind
Member of Assembly



Bogus Purim Service Broken Up

Reprinted from the Jewish Press • Friday, March 20, 1987

A group of missionaries in Brighton Beach who rented Public School 225 on the premise they were holding a social, attempted to hold a bogus "Purim Megilla" reading. The missionaries widely advertised their program in Russian as well as English throughout the Manhattan Beach and Brighton Beach area in an effort to entice young people to their service. However, when the real purpose of the "service" was discovered, groups from Boro Park, Flatbush, Crown Heights and Monsey descended on the area to help the

staff of the Beth Shifra Institutions break up the rally. Since many of the protesters missed the Megilla reading, the staff of Beth Shifra held to Megilla readings, so those who were instrumental in breaking up the rally could observe the Mitzva properly. The Beth Shifra rally, held at the Jewish Center of Ocean Parkway, was termed a huge success by the children and parents who attended. There was a live band and a puppet show to entertain the children.

Tzedaka Donations: : Beth Shifra P.O. Box 700 Bklyn, NY 11229 (718) 449- 1397

U.S. News.

Jewish Schools, Synagogues and Congregations Affected by Fires Raging in California

BY JNS.org

Up and down the state of California, synagogues, Hebrew schools and Jewish residents are dealing with effects of wildfires that have consumed tens of thousands of acres in recent days, from evacuations to school closures, to days with no electricity as authorities try to limit the fire damage and danger.

In the Northern California, the Torah scrolls from Congregation Beth Ami in Santa Rosa were evacuated from the synagogue on Saturday as winds whipped flames from the Kincaid Fire in nearby rural Geyserville and brought the fire danger closer to the city. As of Monday morning, the Kincaid Fire had burned some 66,000 acres and led to the evacuations of an estimated 200,000 people. California Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency as fires raged fueled by dry conditions and strong winds. In some cases, like the Tick Fire in Santa Clarita in Southern California, which had consumed more than 4,600 acres and is 70 percent contained, firefighters are making significant progress. Elsewhere, however, new fires like the Getty Fire, which broke out around 2 a.m. near the famed Getty Center on Monday morning in Los Angeles, are being reported.

"We had Shabbat services yesterday when we got news about communities north of us being evacuated," said Rabbi Mordechai Miller of Beth Ami in Santa Rosa. "We completed services and had our Kiddush because we weren't under a mandatory evacuation. Afterwards, we took the Sifrei Torahs" from the building and moved them to services. Sunday's Hebrew school was canceled. While many from Miller's congregation who were evacuated went to stay with friends and family in nearby communities, Congregation Kol Emeth in Palo Alto, where Miller's daughter Sarah works, opened their homes should anyone need a place to go.

"We have not done this before, but we were very involved, post-fire, in helping that community during the [previous] fire," said Lia Rensin, president of the board of directors at Kol Emeth. "We've had a huge outpouring of support from Kol Emeth congregants. I am beyond grateful to our members and so moved by their generosity. I am sure that if we have extra space, we will contact other synagogues in the areas affected to see how we can help as well."

Miller praised the Kol Emeth congregation, noting that they have a history of being socially active and helping when they are needed.

The Kincaid Fire comes two years after the Tubbs Fire burned through Sonoma and Napa counties, killing more than 20 people, and destroying thousands of homes and structures, and just a year after the Camp Fire destroyed the town of Paradise. Both of those fires had broken out and burned so quickly that people had little if any time to act.

According to Miller, "the Tubbs Fire in 2017 fire had a profound effect on the community. A lot of rebuilding has taken place, but that isn't even fully finished. In 2017, the fire was on Chol Hamoed Sukkot. There was a lot of wind, so I went outside at 2 a.m. to check on my sukkah. It had blown off the deck, and then I saw a lot of traffic coming down the road which borders my backyard and that didn't make sense."

"People didn't know about the fire," he continued. "They didn't know what was happening because it was 2 o'clock in the morning. This time we were aware of the fire because it started in Geyserville a few days ago, so there was always some concern that with the high wind it might spread. I think people were much better prepared."

"This has become all too common"

Continued from Page A3
Bolster Fight

US foe Iran, which accuses the United States and its allies of creating Islamic State, was dismissive. Information Minister Mohammad Javad Azari-Jahromi tweeted: "Not a big deal, You just killed your creature."

At the height of its power, Islamic State ruled over millions of people from northern Syria to the outskirts of Baghdad.

Thousands of civilians were killed by the group as it mounted what the United Nations called a genocidal campaign against Iraq's Yazidi minority. It also caused worldwide revulsion by beheading foreign nationals from countries including the United States, Britain and Japan.

The group has claimed responsibility for or inspired attacks in cities including Paris, Nice, France, Orlando, Florida, Manchester, England, London and Berlin, and in Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

In Los Angeles on Monday, firefighters were working to stop a brushfire that broke out before dawn. Jewish schools including Milken Community School and the American Jewish University were closed for the day. Many residents who live near the Getty Center were evacuated overnight as the fire quickly grew in the dark.

Late last week, it was the town of Santa Clarita, northwest of Los Angeles, that was dealing with a fast-moving wildfire. The Tick Fire has since been contained, and according to rabbis there, life is back to normal.

"We canceled Hebrew school on Thursday evening, and our preschool was closed on Friday. Our synagogue was outside the evacuation zone; however, some of our congregants were evacuated," said Rabbi Jay Siegel of Congregation Beth Shalom in Santa Clarita. "Many of those evacuated stayed with other congregants until it was safe for their



A view of a home burning in the Kincaid Fire in Northern California, October 2019. Photo: Screenshot.

return. We had services Friday night and Saturday morning."

Members of Temple Beth Ami in Santa Clarita were also evacuated last week, said Rabbi Mark Blazer, adding that "No one has lost homes, fortunately, and we had services Friday night."

"Unfortunately, this has become too common," he continued. "We almost expect it every October."

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Opinion.

Hate the ISIS Leader, but Don't Rejoice at His Death



SHMULEY BOTEACH
ENGELWOOD

Abu Bakr Al Baghdadi is dead. He was a monster. The world is a much better place without him. He was one of those who was created in the image of God, but chose to erase the Creator's countenance from his visage by murdering, raping, plundering, and beheading.

Beasts like Al Baghdadi rejoice in seeing their helpless victims cover before them. They dress them up in orange jumpsuits and then saw off their heads with glee. But when confronted with their own deaths, they blow themselves up along with their innocent children to escape their captors. Death by cowardly suicide — think of Hitler, Goebbels, and Goering — is always the escape of cowardly murderers.

Still, we should not rejoice in Al Baghdadi's death. There should be no spontaneous celebrations outside the White House, as there were for arch-butcher Osama bin Laden. It would have been better if Al Baghdadi had never been born.

It is not a cause for celebration when evil is defeated. Rather, we bow our heads in silent resignation amidst the ferocious determination to eradicate evil wherever it is found.

To be sure, we should thank President

Trump, the heroic American military, and the American people for having neutralized a monster. But we should heed the words of the Bible: "Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, and let not your heart be glad when he stumbles" (Proverbs 24:17).

This is not a time for celebration or parades, but rather a time for thanks and humble gratitude to God Almighty that evil had been rooted out and innocents have been protected through the elimination of a vile, bloodthirsty killer.

That we do not rejoice at the fall of our enemies does not mean that we should not hate evil. To the contrary, we must. Judaism stands alone as a world religion in its commandment to excoriate wickedness. Psalm 97 is emphatic: "You who love God must hate evil." Proverbs 8 declares: "The fear of the Lord is to hate evil." Amos 5 demands, "Hate the evil and love the good." And Isaiah 5 warns, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil."

And concerning the wicked, King David declares unequivocally: "I have hated them with a perfect hatred. They are become enemies to me" (Psalm 139). Hatred is a valid emotion, the appropriate moral response, to the human encounter with inhuman cruelty. Mass murderers must be reviled with our contempt.

But hating evil does not mean that we dance over the charred fragments of the putrid remains of Al Baghdadi. At the Passover Seder, Jews, upon recalling the Ten Plagues, pour wine out of our glasses 10 separate times to demonstrate that we will not raise a glass

to the suffering of the Egyptians, even as they were engaged in genocide. We wanted their evil destroyed. But the fact that evil exists at all is a flaw in creation that must be corrected without celebration.

We wish there never was evil in the world. It would have been far better for there never to have been a Pharaoh, a Hitler, or an Al Baghdadi. When Hitler escaped Allied justice by blowing his brains out in a Berlin bunker, we gave thanks to God that his unspeakable evil had finally come to an end. But who could possibly rejoice after so many innocents had been annihilated? The same is true of the death of the ISIS leader. Who can celebrate? The victims' families are still bereft. They are still gone. We do not gloat over the triumph over evil, because its very existence must forever be mourned.

Many readers will no doubt point out that on Purim, Jews celebrate the death of Haman. But this is incorrect. We celebrate the deliverance of an innocent people from genocide.

But for my Christian brothers who would go further and quote to me Jesus' injunction that we are to love our enemies, I respond that to love murderers is to practice contempt for their victims. Those who do not hate Al Baghdadi have been morally compromised. A man who rapes a woman and then decapitates her has cast off the image of God from his countenance and is no longer our human brother.

As a Jew who has studied the New Testament, I state emphatically that Jesus never meant to forgive God's enemies. His words are specific. He says to love your enemy. Your



A member of the Emergency Response Division holds an Islamic State militants flag in the Old City of Mosul, Iraq, July 10, 2017. Photo: Reuters / Thajer Al-Sudani / File.

enemy is the guy who steals your parking space. God's enemies are those who stone women to death. Jesus meant to forgive petty slights rather than monstrous evil.

I do not believe in revenge, something the Bible explicitly prohibits. The ancient Jewish understanding of the Biblical injunction of "an eye for an eye" was always financial restitution for the lost productivity of an eye rather than the barbaric taking of an organ itself. But I do believe in justice, and forgiving murder or loving a terrorist makes a mockery of human love and a shambles of human justice.

Ecclesiastes expressed it best: There is not just a time to love, but also a time to hate. I hate Abu Bakr Al Baghdadi — but I will not rejoice in his death. It would have been better for the world had he never been born. But once he was, and once he directed his life to unspeakable cruelty, it was necessary for him to be stopped and killed. And for that I give thanks to God and the brave soldiers of the American military for making the world a safer, more just and innocent place.

Rabbi Shmuley Boteach is the author of Judaism for Everyone and founder of the World Values Network. Follow him on Twitter and Instagram @RabbiShmuley.

The Hong Kong Protests: It's Monotheism, Stupid



SCOTT A SHAY
NEW YORK

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party domination of China, Chairman Xi Jinping, adorned in a Mao suit, rode in an open-top armored Hongqi Limo. The ceremony he presided over as the guest of honor began with a monumental musical concert, followed by a gargantuan civilian-military parade, and culminating in his rousing speech.

It is 2019, but the celebration would have been familiar to the Pharaohs of yesteryear. The bombastic music, exuberant dance, carefully choreographed theatre, stunning pageantry, fanning oratory, and public "chariot ride" were straight out of the playbook of ancient Egypt. The objective: to show Xi's total authority as the god-king of the People's Republic and his regime's robust and commanding military/police power.

Hong Kong's Christians recognize the Communist regime for exactly what it is — idolatry. As reported in the ecumenical religious journal *First Things*, a pastor at a Hong Kong rally recently proclaimed, "They [the Chinese government] have already canceled the First Commandment — I am the

Lord thy God, thou shalt have no other gods before me — because it challenges the power of the Chinese President."

The Christians of Hong Kong and the mainland understand what the West has forgotten. Idolatry is not some frivolous outmoded bowing before statues. Idolatry is a set of lies about power: it is about ascribing super power and super authority to finite beings, ideologies, and in the ancient world, natural processes and animals. Such divine power and authority are used to justify pronouncing any law, controlling all resources, and ruling over all the people.

Modern dictators without exception have all indirectly proclaimed their divinity. Stalin had his image projected into the sky by the Soviet space agency, Mao's image was given the iconography of the Buddha, and North Korean children are taught that Kim Jong-il was a god who could read minds. Other examples abound. With such unfettered power, it is no wonder that these dictators did as they pleased, including the murdering of millions. In China, Mao alone directly caused the death of some 75 million Chinese. He once said that it would be acceptable if 300 million Chinese died if it was to ensure Communist victory. Mao succeeded in this gruesome feat and died peacefully himself because the people recognized him as a god-king.

China, of course, wants to present a kind, gentle face, as the People's Republic. But as an



The Hong Kong skyline at night.
Photo: public domain.

idolatrous regime, it must control the "truth." Thus, it must first and foremost outlaw and control all other religions, since no idolatrous god-king can tolerate a larger god. This is why China has murdered over 1.2 million peaceful Tibetans and imprisoned countless others. This is also why the 11 million Uighur Muslims are subject to constant surveillance via DNA testing, facial recognition, and physical security checks. It is unclear how many have vanished, never to return.

This is why Christianity is tightly controlled. During my career, I met Chinese Christians at business conferences abroad. They are very circumspect and careful about discussing beliefs even outside of their county, wary of informants. The Chinese government has also censored the Bible to make it more compatible with Communist ideology and does not permit unredacted Bibles among its 1.4 billion people. Religious services are surveilled and attendees subject to heightened scrutiny.

China's crackdown on the Bible, Islam, and Christianity is emblematic of all modern idolatrous states. The Bible's prohibition against idolatry is the conceptual foundation for all political and economic justice. If there is no God but God and all humans are created in His image, then we must treat each other as we wish to be treated. Therefore, the Bible rejects unlimited

power for any government, forbids economic and political monopolies, and separates powers. The Biblical king was to be a commander-in-chief and executor of the divinely legislated laws of the Bible. He was constrained by the institution of the High Priest/Temple, which had its own financial base.

The judicial branch, the Sanhedrin, ruled independently and the Prophets acted in place of the Fourth Estate; however, none were financed by the king. Within this framework, individuals — including women — could buy and sell freely, provided they did so honestly. Not surprisingly, the Bible's laws and political model inspired modern liberalism and most of the 19th and 20th century movements for political and economic justice from abolitionism to the civil rights movement. Clearly, it seems the Bible threatens ideologies that want to control their subjects completely.

The Bible's story of the liberation from idolatrous power is a story that dictatorships need to suppress. The Israelites escaped Pharaoh, thanks to the covert civil disobedience of five women: two Egyptian midwives and Pharaoh's daughter as well as Moses' sister and mother. All of them knew that if they failed, they would be killed. Yet, understanding Pharaoh's lies about power gave these women the courage to take huge risks. This understanding also inspires Hong Kong Christians. They "Sing Hallelujah to the Lord" as a clear rejection of the Pharaoh of Beijing. It is the reason that the Hong Kong protests are not losing momentum as analysts had expected.

The minds of the Hong Kong protesters are not focused on the specific issues such as the proposed extradition law, but rather on the danger of becoming controlled by the idolatrous religion of Communism. Once

Opinion.

Examining the BBC's Claim of Palestinian Support for the Two-State Solution



HADAR SELA/
ISRAEL

Back in May, in a report concerning Palestinian rejection of the as yet unpublished US peace initiative, BBC News told its audiences that:

It is unclear whether the [US] plan will be based on the so-called "two-state solution" — a long-standing formula for resolving the conflict by creating a Palestinian state alongside Israel, with Jerusalem a shared capital.

The Palestinians and most of the international community support this approach in principle, while the Israeli leadership is cooler towards it. [emphasis added]

As was noted here at the time, the BBC has been promoting the theme of Palestinian support for a two-state solution at least since December 2016 — while amplifying the PLO's interpretation of that shorthand:

In addition to avoiding the obviously inconvenient fact that the Palestinians have repeatedly rejected offers based on the

two-state solution which the BBC claims they "support," the BBC's implication that there is one unified Palestinian voice which supports the two-state solution is clearly inaccurate and misleading. ...

The BBC's wording does not inform readers that an essential part of the two-state solution is the concept (repeatedly endorsed by the Quartet) of "two states for two peoples" — a definition which would require Palestinian recognition of Israel as the Jewish state — and that Fatah and the Palestinian Authority have repeatedly refused to do so.

So what really is the approach of the PLO, Fatah, and Palestinian Authority (PA) clique to the idea of a two-state solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict?

Earlier this month, the University of Chicago's Pearson Institute held a conference in Berlin. One of the speakers was Husam Zomlot — currently head of the Palestinian mission to the UK — who readers may recall gave a briefing to BBC journalists just before the Bahrain economic workshop in June, and who has been a regular contributor to BBC content.

For those interested in the topic of how the PA promotes its selective narrative in the West — and the contradictions and falsehoods

all their courageous predecessors, that when you stand up against idolatry, then God will provide a tailwind to defeat Pharaoh.

Scott A. Shay is Chairman and co-founder of Signature Bank of New York and the author of In Good Faith; Questioning Religion and Atheism (Post Hill Press, 2018). A version of this article was originally published in The Asia Times.

Maimonides said things that many may have sensed before, but no one had expressed so cogently and powerfully. He showed that it is possible to be utterly devoted to Jewish faith and law and yet be creative, showing people spiritual and intellectual depths they had not seen before. That was his way making a tzohar, a window for the tevah, the Divine word.

On the other hand, the Zohar conceives of Torah as a precious stone that gives light of itself and needs none from the outside. Its world is a closed system, a very deep, passionate, moving, sustained search for intimacy with the Divine that dwells within the universe and within the human soul.

So we are not forced to choose either the one or the other. Recall that Chizkuni said that Noah had a precious stone for the dark days and a window for when the sun shone again. Something like that happened when it came to Torah also. During the dark days of persecution, Jewish mysticism flourished, and Torah was illuminated from within. During the benign days when the world was more open to Jews, they had a window to the outside, and so emerged figures like Maimonides in the Middle Ages, and Samson Raphael Hirsch in the 19th century.

I believe that the challenge for our time is to open a series of windows so that the world can illuminate our understanding of Torah, and so that the Torah may guide us as we seek to make our way through the world.

Shabbat Shalom

that lie behind that narrative — Zomlot's contribution (from around 2:30:00 here) is worth watching in full.

But one section in particular (from 3:04:43) has gained attention on social media because it reveals what actually lies behind that BBC claim that the Palestinians support the two-state solution. [emphasis in italics in the original, emphasis in bold added]

Zomlot: OK: about the two-state solution. Let me explain something that I think is missed in the discussion. People think the two-state solution is a Palestinian demand. Wherever we go now they tell us "oh I know that you demand a two-state solution." [...] This really, really must end.

Number one, the Palestinians...you know the two-state solution was never a Palestinian demand. It was a Palestinian concession. And it was a Palestinian concession towards becoming aligned with international [inaudible]. For Palestinians, it doesn't make sense that early on, the starting point of forgoing 78% of what was rightly yours. You don't start there. You start somewhere else. Having said that, for us, the Palestinians, let me confirm we have two positive acceptable outcomes for the future. The first is two states on the 1967 borders [sic]. A state of Palestine, sovereign — we're not talking about Mickey Mouse state — sovereign, independent. East Jerusalem is our capital. Not a capital in East Jerusalem. Not shared capital in Jerusalem. Not the fantasy that we will establish a capital in Abu Dis. East Jerusalem from the exact line [...] and this is final by the way. It's final. One of the biggest mistakes that people thought that us accepting and recognizing the two-state solution was the beginning of our concessions. No, no, no: it was the end of our concessions. [...]

The second option is one person, one vote: one democratic, egalitarian state that provides for all of its citizens regardless of your language, your religion, your color, your height, your width. A state in the meaning of a state. And I say it maybe on behalf of my Palestinian side: we will accept either. It's not like we are obsessed. We are obsessed about a solution. But we know that the second option is a non-starter in Israel. We know that. And you know why? Do I need to dwell on it? Because Israel sees us, the Palestinians, primarily as

a demographic threat. Because the dream of establishing a state of all its citizens might be generations away. Because only few months after the Israeli state ... nation-state law that discriminated against the Palestinian citizens of Israel and deliberately told them that they can never have the right of self-determination — it's exclusive to Jews. In such an environment to aspire to that is really to be almost like wanting to fight a heavyweight boxer when



An aerial view of the Temple Mount in the Old City of Jerusalem. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

you are unable to even defeat a lightweight. And that's why we are more in the area of possibility than desirability and from a possibility point of view we remain to be convinced that the two-state solution is still possible. And we remain convinced that it is the best course to the immediate future.

In other words, Zomlot is saying that although the Palestinians would prefer a more "desirable" one-state option which would eradicate the Jewish state and bring an end to Jewish self-determination, they are prepared to settle in "the immediate future" for their partisan interpretation of a two-state solution which — notably — does not include recognition of Israel as the Jewish state, because they consider all of Israel to be "rightly" theirs.

That of course is significantly different to the way in which the BBC portrays the Palestinian position to its audiences. The problem is not that Palestinian officials such as Zomlot and Saeb Erekat do not get enough BBC airtime to explain their stance, but that BBC journalists refrain from asking challenging but relevant questions such as why the PA's interpretation of the two-state solution does not include recognition of Israel as the Jewish state.

Hadar Sela is the Managing Editor of BBC Watch, an affiliate of the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America (CAMERA).

How UNIFIL Can Still Succeed in Lebanon

KENNETH GLUECK &
FRANK J. GRASS
NEW YORK

There is a growing risk of war along the Israeli-Lebanese border. The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) has failed to disarm Hezbollah, forcing Israel to expand its operations to counter the group. Recent changes to UNIFIL's mandate are productive first steps at holding Hezbollah accountable, but greater pressure will be necessary to de-escalate the situation.

In August, the UN Security Council voted to renew UNIFIL's mandate, and Hezbollah launched an attack on UNIFIL peacekeepers. Soon after, on August 24, the IDF struck an Iranian-controlled base in Syria and launched a drone attack into Beirut. Hezbollah responded by firing an anti-tank missile at an IDF military jeep and base. Israel responded by firing back roughly 100 artillery shells and

other munitions at Hezbollah targets.

Since the 2006 Lebanon War, UNIFIL has proven incapable of enforcing UN Security Council Resolution 1701, which calls for all armed militias in southern Lebanon to disarm. Hezbollah continues to operate freely in the area. Under UNIFIL's watch, Hezbollah has grown its missile arsenal from 10,000 rockets in 2006 to roughly 120,000 rockets and dozens of precision missiles today, which it hides amongst the Lebanese civilian population. UNIFIL has previously argued that it lacks the legal authority to search for weapons on private property. Israel recently discovered a network of tunnels from southern Lebanon into Israel, despite UNIFIL's claims that none existed.

UNIFIL's mission to provide an independent peacekeeping force along the Israeli-Lebanese border has never been more important. The next conflict in Lebanon would likely create unprecedented casualties and destruction. If an extended war occurs, Hezbollah may seek to overwhelm Israel's missile defense system by firing two to four

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Monotheism

idolatry rears its power, it is difficult to turn back, but monotheism does hold out hope.

Few expected Nelson Mandela in South Africa, Mohammad Hatta in Indonesia, Costilla and Morelos in Mexico, Lech Walesa in Poland, and a host of others to be successful. Indeed, many prior to them were not. The Hong Kong protesters believe, like

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Ark

modern age in a variety of forms. Devotees of Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch called it Torah im derech erez, "Torah with general culture." In Yeshiva University it came to be known as Torah u-Madda, "Torah and science." Together with the late Aaron Lichtenstein zt"l, I prefer the phrase Torah ve-Chochmah, "Torah and wisdom," because wisdom is a biblical category.

Recently, the science writer David Epstein published a fascinating book called Range, subtitled, How Generalists Triumph in a Specialised World.[4] He makes the point that over-concentration on a single specialised topic is good for efficiency but bad for creativity. The real creatives, (people like the Nobel prize winners), are often those who had outside interests, who knew other disciplines, or had passions and hobbies outside their subject. Even in a field like sport, for every Tiger Woods, who had a feel for golf even before he could speak, there is a Roger Federer, who exercised his skills in many sports before, quite late in youth, choosing to focus on tennis.

Lehavdil, it was precisely Maimonides' breadth of knowledge of science, medicine, psychology, astronomy, philosophy, logic, and many other fields that allowed him to be so creative in everything he wrote, from his letters, to his Commentary to the Mishnah, to the Mishnah Torah itself, structured differently from any other code of Jewish law, all the way to The Guide for the Perplexed.

Impressions.

Continued from Page A7

UNIFIL

thousand rockets per day, while launching small raids across the border into Israel. To defend itself, Israel must be prepared to conduct preemptive strikes against Hezbollah targets.

We have seen some progress at the UN, where the Security Council has made a small but noteworthy improvement to UNIFIL's authorization that demands that Lebanon allow UNIFIL to fully execute its mandate.

The new resolution directs the Lebanese government to allow UNIFIL increased physical access to report on weapon transfers to known terrorists. This should serve as a deterrent to the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF), whose troops often impede UNIFIL movements and investigations of Hezbollah activities.

Additionally, the UN Secretary-General will provide an assessment on UNIFIL's performance by June 1, 2020, and issue a report at least every four months about any violations of Resolution 1701 or UNIFIL's freedom of movement within Lebanon. UNIFIL's new mandate adds additional requirements for UNIFIL to justify its budget, force size, and ability to accomplish its mission.

Hezbollah remains a powerful domestic force in Lebanon. The Lebanese government and military may continue to thwart UNIFIL's mandate, and must be held accountable.

Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri recently argued that "Hezbollah is not a Lebanese problem, only — it is a regional problem." But the region cannot solve this problem if Lebanese institutions continue to



A woman holds a Lebanese flag as riot police confront Hezbollah supporters during ongoing anti-government protests in downtown Beirut, Lebanon, Oct. 25, 2019. Photo: Reuters / Alkis Konstantinidis.

turn a blind eye to Hezbollah's aggressive activities and restrict UNIFIL's ability to accomplish its mandate.

The US should exert greater pressure on the Lebanese government and its armed forces to ensure that they comply with Security Council resolutions and allow UNIFIL freedom of movement. This pressure could include limiting military equipment that it provides to the LAF, review of any arms sales to Lebanon, and joint military training activities.

The US can bolster UNIFIL's mission by continuing to impose robust sanctions against Hezbollah and designate Hezbollah members and those who aid the group. The US should also sanction those who impede UNIFIL freedom of operations in Lebanon, as these actions indirectly aid Hezbollah. If the Lebanese government or military continues to obstruct UNIFIL, the Security Council could bypass them entirely by directing UNIFIL to act unilaterally when it wants to investigate Hezbollah's illegal infrastructure.

If after these reforms UNIFIL remains unwilling or unable to investigate Hezbollah activity, the UN Security Council should reconsider the force's utility. In its place, the Security Council could replace the peacekeeping force with a more aggressive multinational force designed to proactively move against Hezbollah's entrenched position in southern Lebanon.

For now, the international community remains largely committed to UNIFIL and it is therefore the best option for disarming Hezbollah. The UN Security Council's recent renewal of UNIFIL's mandate makes it clear that continued failures to remove Hezbollah from southern Lebanon are unacceptable. It is now time for UNIFIL to accomplish its mandate and reduce

My Torah Goes to Prison

BY ALAN DERSHOWITZ

I was recently honored for my pro bono work in the criminal justice arena, including my work on several successful clemency efforts, by having a Torah dedicated to me. It was a deeply spiritual moment when I wrote the last letters a few months ago (with the help of a professional scribe) of the Torah that was started just days after my efforts helped secure the release of Sholom Mordechai Rubashkin, bringing a father back to his yearning family and righting a grave sentencing injustice.

Now, I have had another deeply felt moment when my Torah was borrowed by the Aleph Institute — one of the organizations that I have assisted pro bono on occasion — and brought to prisons over the Jewish High Holidays. My Torah was chanted for the Jewish prisoners as part of the services conducted by Aleph rabbis around the country.

The cover of the Torah was especially designed for me with the inscription "Justice, justice must you pursue," a command from the book of Deuter-

accused of bringing about injustice, especially if I win, or if I get a good deal for my client. Justice for my clients is seen as injustice for their alleged victims. The justice system is seen by some as a zero sum game in which every winner produces a loser.

The message of the Torah with its repetition of "justice" — and of the Aleph Institute with its humanitarian and religious outreach work on behalf of the imprisoned — is that justice can be fair to both the accuser and the accused.

Unjustly long sentences and unjustly brutal prison conditions do not serve the interests of anyone — or of justice, however defined. The imprisoned — whether guilty, innocent, or somewhere in between — deserve to be treated humanely and with an eye toward rehabilitation and eventual return to society. In too many of today's prisons and jails, practices such as long-term solitary confinement and tolerance of rape produce high rates of recidivism that benefit no one. Suicide and mental illness are rampant in many prisons, especially those operated for profit by private companies.

Prisoners who lose contact with the outside world — with relatives, friends, and their religious or social contact — have the highest rates of failure and recidivism.

The Aleph Institute joins many other similar organizations in performing an important role by caring for the religious and humanitarian needs of prisoners. It is these prisoner-oriented organizations and programs that make life in prison tolerable, and a non-criminal return to society more likely.



Sefer Torah. Photo: Sarah Junik

onomy. That particular verse was in my bar mitzvah portion, which I chanted 68 years ago. It has always inspired me.

The Biblical commentators have been intrigued by the repetition of the word "justice," since every word and letter of the Torah has a meaning. Various interpretations have been offered, including the following: one justice represents strict compliance with the demands of the law, while the other represents compassion and mercy; one justice relates to the substance of the law, the other to fair procedures; one justice is for the victim, the other for the accused.

My favorite interpretation is that the word justice is repeated because no two people can agree on what constitutes real justice. When I represent defendants accused of horrendous crimes, I am

I'm thrilled that my Torah has become part of Aleph's mission to help prisoners. I hope my Torah is taken into many prisons and chanted to many prisoners. The message of the Torah can inspire prisoners to change their lives and become productive citizens. Perhaps this will give rise to a new interpretation of "Justice, justice must you pursue": it is not enough to pursue justice for those of us outside of prison; it is imperative to pursue it as vigorously for the forgotten who are serving time in some of the most brutal places in the world. So I hope my Torah is taken to many prisons and chanted to many prisoners.

Alan M. Dershowitz is the Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law Emeritus at Harvard Law School. Follow him on Twitter @AlanDersh and Facebook @AlanMDershowitz.

the possibilities of future conflict.

Lt. Gen. (ret.) Kenneth Glueck is former commander, US Marine Corps Combat Development Command and a member of the Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA)'s Hybrid Warfare Task Force. General Frank J. Grass, USA (ret.) was the 27th Chief of the National Guard Bureau and a program partici-

part of JINSA's 2019 Generals and Admirals Program. He serves as a Senior Mentor for the United States Army. The views expressed in this article are solely those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or position of the United States Army, Department of Defense, or US Government.

Legal Notice.

LEGAL NOTICE



Notice of formation of 2325 Astoria Blvd LLC, Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 9/13/2019. Office located in Kings County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail process to 2325 Astoria Blvd LLC, 1202 Halsey Street Brooklyn NY 11207. Purpose: any lawful purpose. AJ; 9/27; 10/4/11/18/25; 11/1

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: THE BOYS' ROOM LLC Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York (SSNY) on 07/18/2019 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: the LLC 382 Lefferts Avenue #7E Brooklyn, New York 11225. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 10/4/11/18/25; 11/1/8

COLIN KING STUDIO LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/17/2019. Office loc: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 60 Clark St., Apt 2E, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. AJ; 10/4/11/18/25; 11/1/8

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: PEGASUS COACH LINE LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 09/03/2019 Office location: Richmond County SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Pegasus Coach Line LLC 388 Mclean Ave. Staten Island, NY 10305. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 10/4/11/18/25; 11/1/8

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: PLEASANT 30 LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 08/09/2019. Office location: Richmond County . SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail copy of process to: Yan Xing 85 Tompkins Circle, Staten Island, NY 10301. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 10/4/11/18/25; 11/1/8

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY. PENTEX HOLDINGS, LLC, Pltf. vs. DAPHNE RODNEY, et al, Defts. Index #511699/2014. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale entered Aug. 27, 2018 and order entered Mar. 8, 2019, I will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams St., Brooklyn, NY on November 14, 2019 at 2:30 p.m. prem. k/a 716 Logan Street, Brooklyn, NY. Said property beginning at a point on the Westerly side of Logan St., distant 298 ft. Northerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the Westerly side of Logan St. with the Northerly side of Hegeman Ave., being a plot 100 ft. x 24 ft. Approx. amt. of judgment is \$471,392.39 plus costs and interest. Sold subject to terms

LEGAL NOTICE

and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale. DANA JENKINS, Referee. THE MARGOLIN & WEINREB LAW GROUP, LLP, Attys. for Pltf., 165 Eileen Way, Ste. 101, Syosset, NY. #97716 AJ; 10/11/18/25; 11/1

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE RMAC TRUST, SERIES 2016-CTT, Plaintiff AGAINST MARIE JOSEPH, JEAN SENAT, ET AL., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated May 16, 2019 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 November 14, 2019 at 2:30PM, premises known as 687 EAST 42ND 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 New York, BLOCK 4989, LOT 65. Approximate amount of judgment \$407,397.32 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 503915/2017. DORON A. LEIBY, ESQ., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 65930 AJ; 10/11/18/25; 11/1

PROBATE CITATION File No. 3064/A-2019 SURROGATE'S COURT-NEW YORK COUNTY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK By the Grace of God Free and Independent TO-Edward Stern, Public Administrator of the County of New York, Attorney General of the State of New York, To the heirs at law, next of kin, and distributees of MARGOT HERSCH, deceased, if living, and if any of them be dead, to their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, legatees, executors, administrators, assignees, and successors in interest, whose names are unknown and cannot be ascertained after due diligence. A petition having been duly filed by RONALD G. HERSCH who is domiciled at 1220 Friendly Way, St. Petersburg, Florida 33705. YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court New York County at 31 Chambers Street, Room 509, New York, New York on November 19th 2019, at 9:30 o'clock in the fore noon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of MARGOT HERSCH, lately domiciled at 4523 Broadway, Apt. 4G, New York, New York 10040 admitting to probate a Will dated July 15th, 2019, a copy of which is attached, as the Will of MARGOT HERSCH, deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that Letters Testamentary issue to: RONALD G. HERSCH. Dated, Attested and Sealed September 25th, 2019 Hon. Nora S. Anderson Surrogate - Diana Sanabria Chief Clerk. Wimpfheimer & Wimpfheimer, Esqs. Attorney for Petitioner, Telephone number: (212) 247-8448, Address of Attorney: 330 West 58th Street, Suite 308, New York, New York 10019 AJ; 10/11/18/25; 11/1

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: VANSARY, LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on: 08/09/2019. 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: Liang Zhao 461 Dean St., Apt. 19L Brooklyn, NY 11217. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 10/11/18/25; 11/1/8/15

NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC AUCTION Supreme Court of New York, KINGS County. MVMF III FIN TRUST, Plaintiff, -against- JOSEPHINE JEAN PIERRE; PHENICIEN JEAN PIERRE; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR MORTGAGEIT INC.; PRA FUNDING, LLC; CRIMINAL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK; KINGS SUPREME COURT; NEW CENTURY FINANCIAL SERVICES; CAVALRY PORTFOLIO SERVICES, LLC, ASSIGNEE OF CALVARY SPV I LLC, ASSIGNEE OF SPRINT; ARROW FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC; MIDLAND FUNDING NCC-2 CORP; NYC ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; NYC TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU; NYC DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE PARKING VIOLATION BUREAU; EMMA JEAN PIERRE, Index No. 6953/2009. Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated, January 3, 2017 and entered with the Kings County Clerk on January 26, 2017, Elena K. Makau, Esq., the Appointed Referee, will sell the premises known as 689 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11230 at public auction in Room 224 at Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on November 21, 2019 at 2:30 P.M. 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 known as Block: 5240; Lot: 80 will be sold subject to the provisions of filed Judgment, Index No. 6953/2009. The approximate amount of judgment is \$1,476,235.56 plus interest and costs. FRIEDMAN VARTOLO LLP 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. AJ; 10/18/25; 11/1/8/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS, WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, D/B/A CHRISTINA TRUST, NOT INDIVIDUALLY BUT AS TRUSTEE FRO CARLSBAD FUNDING MORTGAGE TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. MEIR WEISS; WILLIAM SPIEGEL, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on January 31, 2018 and a Decision and Order filed September 10, 2019, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on November 21, 2019 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 1524 49th Street, Brooklyn, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 5453 and Lot 1004. Approximate amount of judgment is \$645,305.90 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 501008/2014. Philip J. Smallman, Esq., Referee Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, 565 Taxter Road, Suite 590, Elmsford, NY 10523, Attorneys for Plaintiff Cash will not be accepted. AJ; 10/18/25; 11/1/8/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS, FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. BRENDA A. BULL,

LEGAL NOTICE

ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on September 15, 2016, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on November 21, 2019 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 609 East 96th Street, Brooklyn, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 4756 and Lot 31. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 12064/13. Dominic J. Famulari, Esq., Referee Berkman, Henoch, Peterson, Peddy & Fenichel, P.C., 100 Garden City Plaza, Garden City, NY 11530, Attorneys for Plaintiff AJ; 10/18/25; 11/1/8/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Plaintiff AGAINST Enid Mason; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated August 18, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on November 21, 2019 at 2:30PM, premises known as 722 East 38th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11210-1938. 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: 4984 Lot: 27. Approximate amount of judgment \$405,503.98 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 20693-13. Aaron Tyk, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: August 27, 2019 65240 AJ; 10/18/25; 11/1/8/

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: BKLN CLEAN LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 06/22/2017. Office location: Kings county. SSNY Has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: BKLN Clean LLC 445-56 Street Apt. 1 Brooklyn, NY 11220. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 11/1/8/15/22/29; 12/6

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, Plaintiff AGAINST Shellyann Chinkeeffatt a/k/a Shellyann E. Chinkeeffatt, Administratrix of the Estate of Sandra Perez; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated September 4, 2019 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on December 5, 2019 at 2:30PM, premises known as 510 Watkins Street, Brooklyn, NY 11212. 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 3605 Lot 131. Approximate amount of judgment \$236,599.57 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 517795/2017. Paul Groman, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester,

LEGAL NOTICE

New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: September 27, 2019 AJ; 11/1/8/15/22/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee, on behalf of the holders of the Asset Backed Securities Corporation Home Equity Loan Trust, Series NC 2005-HE8, Asset Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series NC 2005-HE8, Plaintiff AGAINST Alisa Smith a/k/a Allisa Smith Skeffers; Arieta Smith; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated August 16, 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 December 5, 2019 at 2:30PM, premises known as 525 East 38th 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 4955 Lot 66. Approximate amount of judgment \$706,479.39 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 521173/2016. Gregory Laspina, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: October 14, 2019 66035 AJ; 11/1/8/15/22/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee, in trust for the registered holders of Morgan Stanley ABS Capital I Trust 2006-HE8, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006 HE8, Plaintiff AGAINST Hoathi Kilichowski a/k/a Hoa Kilichowski; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated January 2, 2019 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on December 5, 2019 at 2:30PM, premises known as 686 Leonard Street, Brooklyn, NY 11218. 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 2598 Lot 6. Approximate amount of judgment \$1,690,463.41 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 507853/2014. Steven J. Baker, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: October 14, 2019 65713 AJ; 11/1/8/15/22/

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR SECURITIZED ASSET BACKED RECEIVABLES LLC 2005-FR5 MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-FR5, Plaintiff against GALO MONTESDEOCO A/K/A GALO MONTESDEOCA, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on March 28, 2016, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY, on the 5th day of December, 2019 at 2:30 p.m. premises described as follows: All that certain

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Tradition.

Legal Notice.

The Light in the Ark



JONATHAN SACKS
LONDON

Amid all the drama of the impending flood and the destruction of almost all of creation, we focus on Noah building the ark, and hear one detailed instruction:

Make a tzohar for the ark and terminate it within a cubit of the top. (Gen. 6:16)

There is a difficulty understanding what "tzohar" means, since the word does not appear anywhere else in Tanach. Everyone agrees that it is referring to a source of illumination. It will give light within the ark itself. But what exactly is it? Rashi quotes a Midrash in which two Rabbis disagree as to its meaning:

Some say this was a window; others say that it was a precious stone that gave light to them.

The precious stone had the miraculous quality of being able to generate light within the darkness.

Bartenura suggests that what is at stake between the two interpretations is the etymology of the word tzohar itself. One relates it

tempestuous days? What is the lesson for the generations?

I would like to offer a midrashic speculation. The answer, I suggest, lies in the history of the Hebrew language. Throughout the biblical era, the word *tevah* meant an ark – large in the case of Noah and the flood, small in the case of the papyrus basket coated with tar in which Yocheved placed the baby Moses, setting him afloat on the Nile (Ex. 2:3). More generally, it means "box." However, by the time of the Midrash, *tevah* had come also to mean "word."

It seems to me that the Rabbis of the Midrash were not so much commenting on Noah and the ark as they were reflecting on a fundamental question of Torah. Where and what is the tzohar, the brightness, the source of illumination, for the *tevah*, the Word? Does it come solely from within, or also from without? Does the Torah come with a window or a precious stone?

There were certainly those who believed that Torah was self-sufficient. If something is difficult in Torah it is because the words of Torah are sparse in one place but rich in another. In other words, the answer to any question in

total scheme of things: that is the source of fear.

The case Maimonides made in the 12th century, long before the rise of science, has been compounded a thousand times with our accelerated knowledge of the nature of the universe. Every new discovery of the vastness of the cosmos and the wonders of the micro-cosmos, fills the mind with awe. "Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these?" (Is. 40:26).

Maimonides did not think that science and philosophy were secular disciplines. He believed that they were ancient forms of Jewish wisdom, that the Greeks had acquired from the Jews and sustained at a time when the Jewish people, through exile and dispersion, had forgotten them. So they were not foreign borrowings. Maimonides was re-claiming a tradition that had been born in Israel itself. Nor were they source of independent illumination. They were simply a window through which the light of God's created universe could help us decode the Torah itself. Understanding God's world helps us understand God's word.

This made a significant difference to the way Maimonides was able to convey the truth of Torah. So for example, his knowledge of ancient religious practices – albeit based on sources that were not always reliable – afforded him the deep insight (in *The Guide for the Perplexed*) that many of the Chukim, the statutes, the laws that seem to have no reason, were in fact directed against specific idolatrous practices.

His knowledge of Aristotelian philosophy enabled him to formulate an idea that exists throughout both Tanach and the rabbinic literature, but that had not been articulated so clearly before, namely that Judaism has a virtue ethic. It is interested not just in what we do but in what we are, in the kind of people we become. That is the basis of his pathbreaking *Hilchot De'ot*, "Laws of ethical character."

The more we understand the way the world is, the more we understand why the Torah is as it is. It is our roadmap through reality. It is as if secular and scientific knowledge were the map, and Torah the route.

This view, articulated by Maimonides, was developed in the

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plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. Said premises known as 1101 Greene Avenue, Brooklyn, NY. 11221. (Block: 3284, Lot: 39). Approximate amount of lien \$ 639,228.21 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 7907-13. Betty Lugo, Esq., Referee. McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 420 Lexington Avenue – Suite 840 New York, NY. 10170 (347) 286-7409 AJ; 11/1/8/15/22/

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT: COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, NA Plaintiff, vs. CARLOS VILLANUEVA, RAMPHIES LOPEZ, et al., Defendants NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT In pursuance of a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the office of the County Clerk of Kings County on September 12, 2019, I, Bruno Codispoti, Esq., the Referee named in said Judgment, will sell in one parcel at public auction on December 5, 2019 at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, County of Kings, State of New York, at 2:30 P.M., the premises described as follows: 57 Stillwell Place Brooklyn, NY 11236 SBL No.: Block: 8055 Lot: 56 ALL THAT TRACT OF PARCEL OF LAND situate in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York The premises are sold subject to the provisions of the filed judgment, Index No. 511340/2014 in the amount of \$824,574.03 plus interest and costs. Lydia M. Rainey, Esq. Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP Plaintiff's Attorney 500 Bausch & Lomb Rochester, New York 14604 Tel.: 855-227-5072 AJ; 11/1/8/15/22/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS, FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. KEHINDE AYOOLA A/K/A KOHINDE AYOOLA A/KA/ KEHINEE AYOOLA, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to an Ex Parte Order Extending Time to Set Sale duly filed on September 11, 2019 and Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale filed March 15, 2019, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on December 5, 2019 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 1593 East 94th Street, Brooklyn, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 8297 and Lot 33. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 21398/13. Steven Z. Naiman, Esq., Referee Berkman, Henoch, Peterson, Peddy & Fenchel, P.C., 100 Garden City Plaza, Garden City, NY 11530, Attorneys for Plaintiff AJ; 11/1/8/15/22/

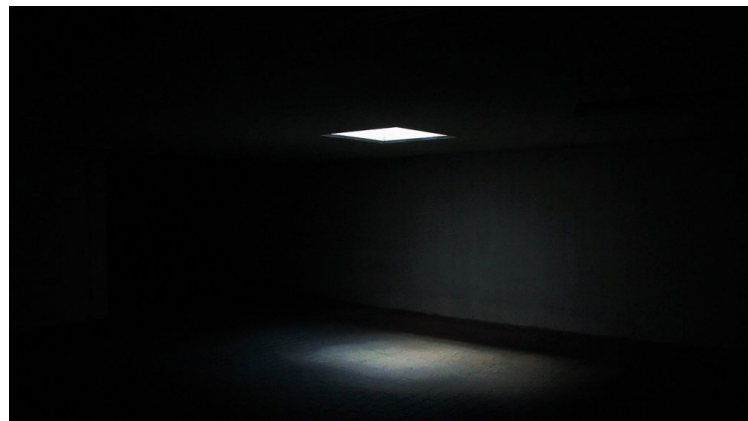
File No.: 2018-1980/A CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK BY THE GRACE OF GOD, FREE AND INDEPENDENT To: Attorney General of the State of New York The unknown distributees, legatees, devisees, heirs at law and assignees of MARIA JALBA, deceased, or their estates, if any there be, whose names, places of residence and post office addresses are unknown to the petitioner and cannot with due diligence be ascertained. Being the persons interested a copy of this citation and account and all amendments to it, if any, shall be served on the Guardian Ad Litem Lorraine Falco, Esq. as creditors, legatees, distributees or otherwise in the Estate of MARIA JALBA, deceased, who at the time of death was a resident of 25-85 36th Street, Astoria, NY 11103, in the County of Queens, State of New York. SEND GREETING: Upon the petition of LOIS M. ROSENBLATT, Public Administrator of Queens County, who maintains her office at 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, Queens County, New York 11435, as Administrator of the Estate of MARIA JALBA, deceased, you and each of you are hereby cited

LEGAL NOTICE

to show cause before the Surrogate at the Surrogate's Court of the County of Queens, to be held at the Queens General Courthouse, 6th Floor, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, City and State of New York, on the 12th day of December, 2019 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon, why the Account of Proceedings of the Public Administrator of Queens County, as Administrator of the Estate of said deceased, a copy of which is attached, should not be judicially settled, and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow a reasonable amount of compensation to GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., for legal services rendered to petitioner herein in the amount of \$30,858.32 and that the Court fix the fair and reasonable additional fee for any services to be rendered by GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., hereafter in connection with proceedings on kinship, claims etc., prior to entry of a final Decree on this accounting in the amount of 6% of assets or income collected after the date of the within accounting; and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow an amount equal to one percent on said Schedules of the total assets on Schedules A, A1, and A2 plus any additional monies received subsequent to the date of this account, as the fair and reasonable amount payable to the Office of the Public Administrator for the expenses of said office pursuant to S.C.P.A. §1106(3); and why each of you claiming to be a distributee of the decedent should not establish proof of your kinship; and why the balance of said funds should not be paid to said alleged distributees upon proof of kinship, or deposited with the Commissioner of Finance of the City of New York should said alleged distributees default herein, or fail to establish proof of kinship. Dated, Attested and Sealed 11th day of October, 2019 HON. PETER J. KELLY Surrogate, Queens County JAMES LIM BECKER Clerk of the Surrogate's Court GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ. (718) 459-9000 1981 Marcus Avenue, Suite 200 Lake Success, New York 11042 This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not obliged to appear in person. If you fail to appear it will be assumed that you do not object to the relief requested unless you file formal legal, verified objections. You have a right to have an attorney-at-law appear for you. Accounting Citation AJ; 11/1/8/15/22/

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: KIDZ INSPIRED,LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 08/23/2019. 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: Leslie Hendrickson 374 E 53rd ST Brooklyn ,NY 11203 Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 11/1/8/15/22/

1010 Avenue K LLC Notice of Formation of limited liability company (LLC): 1010 Avenue K LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York on 10/23/2019. NY office location: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon it is Thomas V. Tuffey, Esq. 4024 Ave U - 2nd Floor, Brooklyn NY 11234. Purpose: any lawful purpose. AJ; 11/1/8/15/22/



to the word *tzahorayim*, meaning "midday." In that case, the brightness was to come from the sun, the sky, the outside. Therefore *tzohar* means "a window, a skylight." The other view is that *tzohar* is related to *zohar*, "radiance," which suggests something that radiates its own light, hence the idea of a miraculous precious stone.

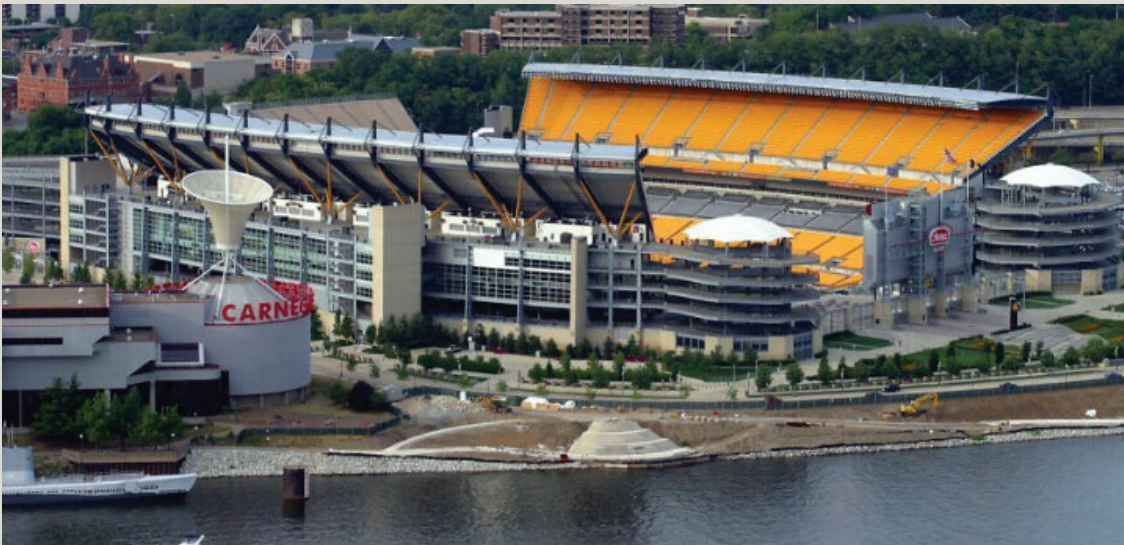
Chizkuni and others suggest Noah had both: a window (from which he later released the raven, Gen. 8:6) and some form of artificial lighting for the prolonged period of the flood itself when the sun was completely overcast by cloud and the world was shrouded in darkness.

It remains fascinating to ask why the Rabbis of the Midrash, and Rashi himself, would spend time on a question that has no practical relevance. There will be – God promised this in this week's parsha – no further flood. There will be no new Noah. In any future threat to the existence of the planet, an ark floating on the water will not be sufficient to save humankind. So why should it matter what source of illumination Noah had in the ark during those

Torah can be found elsewhere in Torah. Turn it over and turn it over for everything is within it. This is probably the majority view, considered historically. There is nothing to be learned outside. The Torah is illuminated by a precious stone that generates its own light. This is even hinted at in the title of the greatest work of Jewish mysticism, the *Zohar* (see Bartenura above).

There were, however, other views. Most famously, Maimonides believed that a knowledge of science and philosophy – a window to the outside world – was essential to understanding God's word. He made the radical suggestion, in the *Mishnah Torah* (*Hilchot Yesodei Ha-Torah* 2:2), that it was precisely these forms of study that were the way to the love and fear of God. Through science – the knowledge of "He who spoke and called the universe into existence" – we gain a sense of the majesty and beauty, the almost infinite scope and intricate detail of creation and thus of the Creator. That is the source of love. Then, realising how small we are and how brief our lives in the

Social.



Heinz Field, home of the Pittsburgh Steelers. Photo: Tom Murphy VII via Wikimedia Commons.

Pittsburgh Steelers Hold Moment of Silence for 2018 Synagogue Shooting

BY JNS.org

The Pittsburgh Steelers held a moment of silence before their Monday-night game to commemorate the one-year anniversary of Tree of Life*Or L'Simcha Synagogue shooting, when a lone gunman killed 11 Jewish worshippers during Shabbat-morning services.

"On this anniversary of the tragic day in our city when innocent people were gunned down in the Tree of Life Synagogue, we pause to offer our thoughts and prayers for the families of those who lost their lives, as well as those who survived that terrible day. Since that day, our community has resolved to stay stronger than hate and anti-Semitism," said Steelers' president Art Rooney II in a statement released on Sunday, announcing the moment of silence that will be held before the team's game against the Miami Dolphins.

The team also held a moment of silence one year ago, the day after the Oct. 27, 2018 shooting—the deadliest attack in American Jewish history.

Other Pittsburgh sports teams also held a moment of silence.

Statement from #Steelers Team President Art Rooney II on the anniversary of the shooting in the Tree of Life Synagogue.



ON THIS ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC DAY IN OUR CITY WHEN INNOCENT PEOPLE WERE GUNNED DOWN IN THE TREE OF LIFE SYNAGOGUE, WE PAUSE TO OFFER OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILIES OF THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES, AS WELL AS THOSE WHO SURVIVED THAT TERRIBLE DAY. SINCE THAT DAY OUR COMMUNITY HAS RESOLVED TO STAY STRONGER THAN HATE AND ANTI-SEMITISM. AS WE DID A YEAR AGO, WE WILL AGAIN ASK OUR FANS AT THE GAME ON MONDAY NIGHT TO STAND TOGETHER AND OBSERVE A MOMENT OF SILENCE IN HONOR OF THE VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

ART ROONEY II
STEELERS PRESIDENT

Upcoming Netflix Docuseries Focuses on Story of Nazi Guard John Demjanjuk

BY JNS.org

A new Netflix docuseries centers on the story of a retired Ukrainian-American autoworker in Cleveland who was accused of being "Ivan the Terrible," one of the Holocaust's most notorious SS guards.

In the 1980s, a group of Holocaust survivors claimed that John Demjanjuk, a family man and respected member of his community, had allegedly tortured and killed nearly 1 million Jewish prisoners as a Nazi death-camp guard in the Treblinka extermination camp during World War II. While he did serve as a guard, it remained questionable as to whether he was that guard.

He was arrested and extradited to Israel, where he stood trial for crimes against humanity.

He died at a senior home in Germany on March 17, 2012 at the age of 91. The docuseries, "The



John Demjanjuk in Israel's Supreme Court in Jerusalem. Photo: Flash 90.

Devil Next Door" examines whether Demjanjuk really was "Ivan the Terrible" or if it was a case of mistaken identity, as well as covers the media frenzy around his case. The series includes raw footage from Demjanjuk's trial, in which he claimed he was innocent, and shows Holocaust survivors testifying on the stand.

The trailer was released on Wednesday. Its five episodes hit Netflix on Nov. 4.

Israeli Crowned Miss Congeniality at Miss Asia-Pacific Pageant in Philippines

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

Israel's Noy Ben Artzi was crowned Miss Congeniality at the Miss Asia Pacific International pageant held in the Philippines earlier this month.

The Tel Aviv native, 22, was chosen by her fellow 53 competitors to receive the title at the Manila event.

She said about receiving the honor, "In my eyes, this is the most significant award, because I won it by the vote of the other contestants, and to me that means

I also have character, and not just beauty."

According to an Israeli publication, in one segment of the pageant Ben-Artzi requested to walk hand-in-hand with a pageant contestant from Lebanon, but the latter refused to cooperate and the joint walk was cancelled.

Following the competition, Ben-Artzi described on Instagram how "grateful" she was to represent Israel in the pageant.

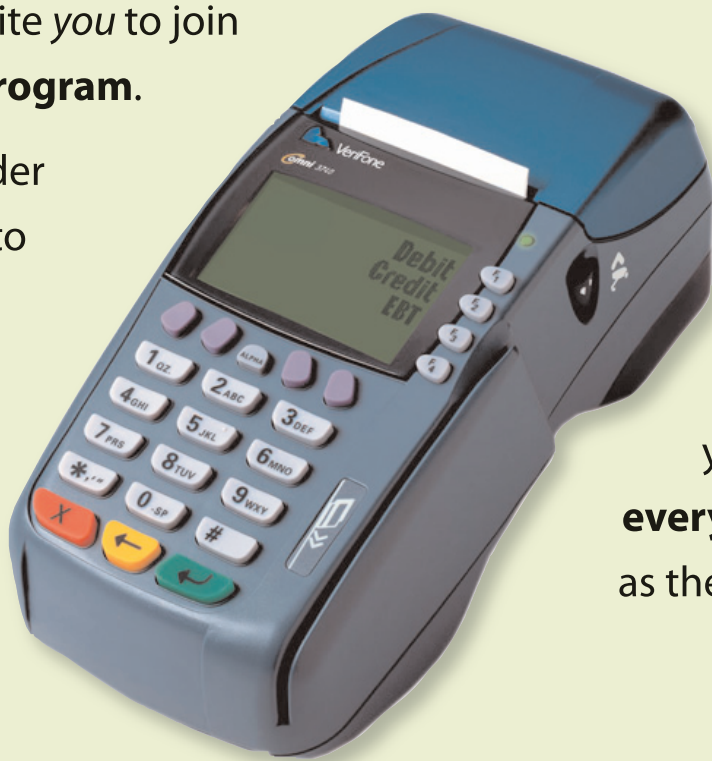


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