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For Third Time, Netanyahu, Gantz Race Towards Finish Line



Billboards showing Israeli PM and head of the Likud Party Benjamin Netanyahu and Blue and White head Benny Gantz, in Tel Aviv on Feb. 24, 2020. Photo: Flash90.

BY DOV LIPMAN/
JNS.org

Israel has entered the home stretch of its third election within a year, and with polls showing some possible shifts in public opinion, the parties have begun their last-ditch efforts to gain votes.

Blue and White had maintained a lead of two to four seats in almost all polls during

this election campaign. The party's strategy had been to make sure they win a few more seats than Likud—a result it believes will force the president to charge leader Benny Gantz with trying to form a majority coalition. But two polls have shown that Likud now has more seats than Blue and White, according to *Channel 12* at 34 to 33, and according to *KAN* at 35-34. The *Channel 12* poll also showed Netanyahu widening

his lead against Gantz 43 percent to 33 percent in the question of who is most qualified to be prime minister. That reality has reignited both parties in the last week.

Likud Knesset member Yoav Kisch told *JNS* that “the polls are showing that our bringing out the vote effort is working. There are a few hundred thousand Likud voters who didn't vote last time. Our ministers and MKs are

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Child From Israel's South Describes Rocket Trauma

BY BENJAMIN KERSTEIN

The IDF has undertaken retaliatory attacks against Palestinian Islamic Jihad, which it blamed for the rocket fire, in Gaza and Syria.

Roni, an eight-year-old second grader from the border city of Sderot, which has absorbed thousands of rocket strikes over the past two decades, was in a store with her grandmother buying a Purim costume when the warning sirens sounded.

“When I was with grandma in the store, a red alert caught us,” she told Israeli news site N12. “Immediately we got under the table that was in the store. I was under stress.”



A man photographs the damage caused after a rocket landed in a playground in Sderot, southern Israel, Feb. 24, 2020. Photo: Reuters / Ronen Zvulun.

“Every red alert makes me shake in my hands and legs. Every boom terrifies me,” she said.

“My big sister has a bat mitzvah soon and I hope there won't be another red alert,” Roni added.

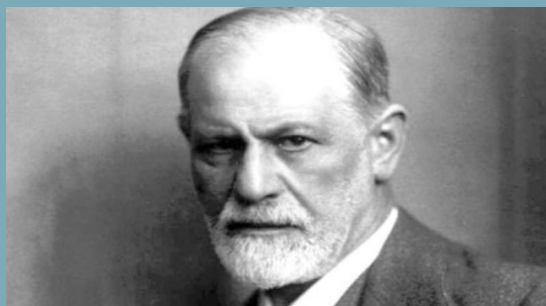
“At school they try to give us tools to deal with the fear with the help of games, and I hope that when I'm grown up I can be a dancer without sirens in the background,” she said.

Two rockets struck a playground in Sderot on Monday.

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What Kind of Jew Was Freud?

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ShabbatCalendar

Parshat TRUMAH
פרשת תרומה

Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting
Shabbat Begins: 5:28pm | Shabbat Ends: 6:27pm



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Opinion.

Another Bernie Sanders Anti-Israel Surrogate



PETRA MARQUARDT
BIGMAN
HAIFA, ISRAEL

A recent article by controversial Bernie Sanders surrogate Amer Zahr has a somewhat misleading headline, which claims that Arab and Muslim Americans are voting for Sanders because he is Jewish. But as Zahr eventually explains, there is a very different reason: “In 2016, Palestinian and Arab American activists made a bet on Bernie. We urged his campaign to speak about justice for the Palestinians. We promised our support in return. He did it, and we delivered. And we are delivering again.”

Of course, there is nothing wrong with all sorts of interest groups trying to persuade presidential candidates to promote their agenda in return for political support. But Sanders — or at least his staff — surely know full well what these kinds of “activists” mean when they demand “justice for the Palestinians,” because this is always a polite way to insist on the elimination of the world’s only Jewish state.

Amer Zahr himself is the best example. Less than four weeks ago, he tweeted: “One State in #Palestine. Democratic. Secular. Open. It’s the only way for #Justice and #Equality.”

That may not sound so bad, but all the sweet talk about “justice” and “equality” conceals a vicious hatred.

Zahr’s relentless demonization of the Jewish state and his antisemitic outbursts have already been documented — including tweets that echo the medieval blood-libel. But given that Zahr now says that activists like him first approached Sanders in 2016, one tweet from 2015 seems particularly interesting — because it suggests that Zahr and his ilk have always regarded Sanders as a staunch anti-Zionist.

As Zahr opined in October 2015:



Amer Zahr
@AmerZahr

Describing defenders of Israel as “scumbags,” “pigs,” and “bastards” is not necessary. “Zionist” is sufficiently insulting.
#Palestine

12 5:36 PM - Oct 9, 2015

17 people are talking about this

So as far as Sanders surrogate Amer Zahr is concerned, the majority of Jews in the world, as well as many non-Jews who also support the existence of the Jewish state, are “scumbags,” “pigs,” and “bastards.” How is it possible that a supposedly progressive presidential candidate, who is doing very well in the polls, can ally himself with someone who promotes such dehumanizing language?

But Zahr’s bigotry almost pales beside his breathtaking hypocrisy. Zahr is, of course, an ardent advocate for the BDS movement that campaigns tirelessly to demonize Israel as a rogue state that must be shunned and boycotted.

However, you would be wrong to think



Democratic US presidential candidate Senator Bernie Sanders at his New Hampshire primary night rally in Manchester, NH, US, February 11, 2020. Photo: REUTERS/Rick Wilking.

that he practices what he preaches. When the popular US comedian Louis CK scheduled a show in Israel, Zahr took to Twitter to urge him to cancel — but Zahr himself is only too happy to perform his “comedic routines” in Israel. As he told *The Jerusalem Post* in an interview four years ago, he “comes to the Palestinian territories and Israel between one and three times annually” — though when he isn’t posing as a semi-reasonable and semi-funny comedian for the media, he tells his social media followers that he’s performing in Haifa in Palestine, and in the Palestinian capital Jerusalem.

To ratchet up the hypocrisy even more, Zahr — who likes to claim that his parents were Palestinian “refugees” who were “driven from their birthplaces of Yafa and Akka by Israel” — once stated in a publicly available exchange on Facebook that he has an Israeli passport because his mother “was born as

an Israeli citizen in akka [presumably Akko/Acre] after 1948.” This allowed Zahr, who was born in Jordan, to apply for Israeli citizenship — which he obviously did successfully. Of course, this also means that his Israeli mother is not a “refugee” who was “driven” out by Israel.

As bizarre as it may seem, Bernie Sanders thus has an Israeli surrogate who despises “defenders of Israel” as “scumbags,” “pigs,” and “bastards.” And while the mainstream media apparently prefer to ignore this story, those of us who care about antisemitism have every reason to conclude that Amer Zahr’s shocking record of amply documented bigotry is yet another alarming indication that progressives have a high tolerance for contemporary versions of the oldest hatred.

Petra Marquardt-Bigman is a German-Israeli freelance writer and researcher with a Ph.D. in contemporary history.

By Boycotting AIPAC, Sanders Hurts the Palestinians

DAVID SUISSA/
JNS.org

When Senator Bernie Sanders blasted the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) on Sunday, while confirming he wouldn’t attend their annual conference, he probably didn’t realize he was hurting the Palestinian cause.

Sanders certainly merited the pushback he received for accusing AIPAC of promoting “leaders who express bigotry and oppose basic Palestinian rights.” Rabbi David Wolpe, for one, tweeted: “I’ve attended AIPAC more than ten times. Every time Palestinian rights were mentioned people applauded. There are a range of views presented, left, right, and center. This dismissal is unwarranted and unworthy.” My friend Sarah Tuttle Singer, who often writes in support of the Palestinian cause, posted this “Dear Bernie” message on Facebook:

AIPAC is not monolithic.

It is a varied and multi-faceted tent encompassing all kinds of folks — including many who supported you back in 2016 and probably still support you this time around.

When I first spoke at [the] Policy Conference, I criticized certain [policies] of the government of the State of Israel, talked about how we have to end the Occupation, restore justice to The Land, and how Israelis and Palestinians — Jews and Arabs — must live together in equality, freedom, and security.

I was invited back to share this message again and again and again.

You should come and see the enormous tent for yourself.

So, yes, it was unfair for Sanders to harshly criticize a conference he has never attended.

As AIPAC noted in its response, Sanders “has never attended our conference and that is evident from his outrageous comment. In fact, many of his own Senate and House Democratic colleagues and leaders speak from our platform to the over 18,000 Americans from widely diverse backgrounds — Democrats, Republicans, Jews, Christians, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, progressives, Veterans, students, members of the LGBTQ+ community — who participate in the conference to proclaim their support for the US-Israel relationship.”

But let’s give Sanders the benefit of the doubt and grant that he really believes those things he tweeted about AIPAC. Wouldn’t it still be in his interest to use this huge platform to convey his message of equal rights for the Palestinians? Sanders has made it his lifelong mission to care for the weak and the downtrodden, often mentioning the plight of the Palestinians.

By blasting and boycotting AIPAC, he missed the opportunity to help his own cause.

Let’s do a thought experiment: Imagine if Sanders decided to attend the conference. If he really cares about the Palestinians, I can only dream that he’d have the courage to send them this message:

“I just returned from the AIPAC policy

conference. It was quite an experience. I dream of the day when you, the Palestinian people, will have your own Palestinian Policy Conference, with speakers from all sides engaging in how best to move your movement forward.

“I dream of the day when Palestinians will shed the shackles of chronic victimhood and emulate your Jewish neighbors. After my people lost six million in the Holocaust, we could have wallowed for a century in justified victimhood. Instead, we accepted what the United Nations gave us and, against all odds, built this flourishing country called Israel.

“I’m not diminishing your pain one bit. I’m not downplaying the difficulty of your struggle. I’m only suggesting a more constructive approach to improving your future — an approach that replaces animosity and bitterness with enlightened self-interest.

“This is what I saw at the AIPAC conference. I saw plenty of love for Israel, yes, but also plenty of genuine struggle. I saw panels where speakers were challenging Israeli policies; others that dealt with the complexity of Israel’s ongoing challenges, with the imperative of resolving the Palestinian conflict, with the religious and ethnic divisions in the region, and even with Israel’s contributions to the welfare of humanity through technology and innovation.

“There’s no reason why you can’t do the same. You have the talent and the drive; all you need is the opportunity. You must demand this from your leaders. You must demand that they sit down and negotiate with Israeli leaders and make a serious counteroffer. You must

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World News.

After Antisemitic Carnival in Aalst, Belgian PM, Top EU Body Hint at Legal Action Against Organizers

BY BEN COHEN

Belgium's prime minister and the European Union's executive branch led the chorus of condemnation of Sunday's annual carnival in the Belgian city of Aalst — which once again featured brazenly antisemitic caricatures — hinting that legal action could yet be taken against the carnival organizers for violating European and national laws against hate speech and incitement.

After 2019's carnival showcased puppets of crudely-stereotyped Orthodox Jews sitting on bags of money to international condemnation, the 2020 event went even further. One group mocked Jews by wearing huge fur hats, long fake noses and ant costumes — bringing to mind the Nazi association of Jews with “vermin.” Other revelers wore fake hooked noses while carrying signs that read “Do not mock Jews” and “Do not tell the truth about Jews.”

The mock noses were reportedly so popular that a week before the carnival, Joel Rubinfeld — who heads the Belgian League Against Antisemitism — was told during a visit to several stores in Aalst that stocks had run out.

Meanwhile, another float at Sunday's event, similarly led by boisterous revelers wearing exaggerated “Orthodox Jew” costumes, poked fun at the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

Responding to the spectacle in Aalst, Belgian Prime Minister Sophie Wilmès said on Sunday evening the antisemitic displays “detract from our values and reputation of our country.”

She also suggested that carnival organizers might yet face legal sanctions.

“Belgium is a state of law,” Wilmès said. “It is for the Justice Department and concerned authorities to determine if the events during the carnival are in contravention of the law.”

In a separate statement, the European



A antisemitic float on parade at the 2020 carnival in Aalst, Belgium. Photo: Reuters / Yves Herman.

Commission — the powerful executive body of the EU that is headquartered in Brussels, just 19 miles from Aalst — said that it was up to the “national authorities” in Belgium to act.

A spokesperson for the Commission told the Belgian newspaper *De Standaard* that it would nevertheless “look at” the large number of complaints that were received on Sunday urging the Commission to act independently against the Aalst carnival.

The spokesperson added that especially as Europe was marking 75 years since the end of the Holocaust, “such images have no place on European streets.”

Top officials in Aalst openly embraced the antisemitic caricatures displayed on Sunday. A smiling Christoph D'Haese — the far-right Flemish nationalist mayor of Aalst — was seen posing with revelers who wore fake hooked noses, while his party colleague Ben Weyts dismissed protests against the carnival as a “grotesque exaggeration,” since “99.9 percent of the carnival-goers have not made any reference to Jewish themes.”

In an interview with the BBC on Monday, a spokesman for D'Haese insisted that the carnival was merely harmless fun.

“We don't wish harm to anyone,” Peter Van den Bossche told the broadcaster. “It's our parade, our humor, people can do whatever they want. It's a weekend of freedom of speech.”

“This is the only country in the world they fire missiles at, and those responsible for our security don't do anything about it. We've tried to reach arrangements and nothing helps,” she added.

“Everyone in politics talks and there is no solution — they talk and our children suffer,” she said. “ Hamas must be disarmed, we are constantly attacked, we have to stop the containment [policy], we're at war.”

you have your first Policy Conference in Washington, DC, know that I will gladly attend.”

David Suissa is editor-in-chief and publisher of Tribe Media Corp and The Jewish Journal. He can be reached at davids@jewishjournal.com.

This article was first published by The Jewish Journal.

majority that would secure him as prime minister within reach, despite the fact that the last two rounds of elections failed to accomplish this. Blue and White leaders are focusing on regaining their lead and building new momentum. Knesset member Boaz Toporovksy, who heads the party's field effort, told *JNS* that more than 15,000 volunteers are canvassing shopping malls and major junctions to try to get more votes. They have a phone squad calling undecided voters who

Nikki Haley Slams Bernie Sanders Over AIPAC Boycott: ‘Go Back to Defending Castro’



US presidential candidate and Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders speaks at a rally at Brooklyn College in New York, March 2, 2019. Photo: Reuters / Andrew Kelly.

BY ALGEMEINER STAFF

Ex-US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley slammed 2020 Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders on Monday over his announced boycott of next week's American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) conference in Washington, DC.

Sanders, Haley pointed out, “has never attended and has no clue what the organization is about or what it stands for.”

“Go back to defending [Fidel] Castro and socialist dictators,” the former South Carolina governor and potential future Republican presidential candidate added. “We will go back to defending peace, democracy, and our ally Israel.”

In a statement on Sunday, Sanders — who has emerged as the frontrunner in the ongoing contest for the Democratic nomination — said, “The Israeli people have the right to live in peace and security. So do the Palestinian people. I remain concerned about the platform AIPAC provides for leaders who express bigotry and oppose basic Palestinian

rights. For that reason I will not attend their conference. As president, I will support the rights of both Israelis and Palestinians and do everything possible to bring peace and security to the region.”

Responding to the Vermont senator, AIPAC said, “Senator Sanders has never attended our conference and that is evident from his outrageous comment. In fact, many of his own Senate and House Democratic colleagues and leaders speak from our platform to the over 18,000 Americans from widely diverse backgrounds — Democrats, Republicans, Jews, Christians, African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, members of the LBGTQ+ community — who participate in the conference to proclaim their support for the US-Israel relationship.”

“By engaging in such an odious attack on this mainstream, bipartisan American political event, Senator Sanders is insulting his very own colleagues and the millions of Americans who stand with Israel,” AIPAC continued. “Truly shameful.”

they view as “right-wing lite” in an attempt to convince them to vote Blue and White. They are also making sure that their teams in all 250 party branches are filling the last events for the party leadership and are prepared for their responsibilities on election day.

“We are working hard to make sure that these elections will be the last in this cycle,” Toporovksy told *JNS*. “Last time, we showed that Blue and White has the best election day team and plan, and that gave us the victory. The election day effort is what will bring us to a decisive victory and will break the stalemate this time around,” he affirmed.

Both Likud, and Blue and White, are fighting for the votes of the undecided in the right-wing sector. Blue and White's message is focusing on the fact that Netanyahu cannot run the country while he has to be in court for his trial on corruption charges, which begins March 17.

Likud has been responding by declaring that even while in trial, Netanyahu can do a better job than Gantz. Likud has also promised a series of action items should they maintain the premiership, including moving forward with US President Donald Trump's Middle East peace plan; further construction in the settlements and Jerusalem; and even erasing

the criminal records of Israelis convicted of possessing or using marijuana.

Complicating matter for Blue and White is the decision by acting state attorney Dan Eldad to open a criminal probe into Fifth Dimension, a now closed intelligence company that was chaired by Benny Gantz, over allegations of illegalities in securing a contract with the Israeli police. While Gantz is not a suspect in the case, Netanyahu has succeeded in convincing undecided swing voters that the Blue and White leader is not as clean as has been portrayed. In response, Blue and White has been contesting the matter with declarations about their zero-tolerance policy for corruption and their legislative plans to support this.

Despite all the herculean efforts on both sides to garner more votes, unless Netanyahu succeeds in bringing 61 seats to the right-wing religious bloc—regardless of who wins more votes—neither he nor Gantz has the ability to reach a majority.

This could mean—the expense and patience of Israeli voters notwithstanding—that a strong likelihood exists that the Jewish state will head to a fourth election, most likely to be held in September.

Continued from Page A1
Rocket Trauma

No one was hurt in the incident, but the playground was almost completely destroyed.

Moran Hila Madmoni, a Sderot mother, expressed anger at the ongoing situation and the government's failure to stop the rocket attacks.

“We're talking about raising children under constant terror,” she told Israeli news site Walla.

Continued from Page A2
AIPAC

demand an end to the rejection of normalized relations with Israel, which only reinforces despair, and demand to begin the long process of coexistence, which is the only path to hope.

“If you choose this path, know that I will support you every step of the way. And when

Continued from Page A1
Race

working with every branch in the country, and the prime minister is doing multiple events every night. We will continue this effort in order to accomplish two goals: to win more seats than Blue and White, and even more importantly, to try to get to 61 seats for the right-wing/religious bloc.”

The polls indicate that Netanyahu's bloc is in the 56 to 58 range, making a 61-seat

World News.



Election campaign posters in Tel Aviv depict Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, head of the Likud Party, as well as the leaders of the Blue and White Party, including Benny Gantz, second from left, Sept. 2019. Photo: Adam Shuldman/Flash90.

For the First Time, Netanyahu Pushes Past Gantz in the Polls

BY ISRAEL HAYOM/
JNS.org

Were Israel's elections to be held today, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud Party would secure 33 Knesset seats, giving the ruling party a slight edge over challenger Blue and White, projected to win 32 seats, a *Channel 13 News* poll found Monday. The poll also projected a tie between the blocs headed by each party, giving each one 56 mandates.

Israel's March 2 elections mark an unprecedented third vote within a 12-month span, but with polls showing a neck-and-neck race between Likud and Blue and White and with neither the right-wing nor the left-wing bloc seeming able to secure the 61-seat majority necessary to form a government, concerns are growing that the country's political logjam will continue and that Israel will find itself facing a fourth vote in the fall of 2020.

According to the survey, the Joint Arab

List, an alliance comprising the Arab or mostly Arab parties Balad, Ra'am-Ta'al and Hadash, will retain its position as the third-largest faction in the Knesset, with 14 seats.

The Labor-Gesher-Meretz alliance was projected to win 10 seats, followed by Yisrael Beiteinu (8), Yamina, a faction comprising the New Right, National Union and Jewish Home parties (8), Sephardi ultra-Orthodox party Shas (8) and Ashkenazi ultra-Orthodox party United Torah Judaism with seven seats.

The far-right Otzma Yehudit Party failed to pass the four-seat electoral threshold of 3.25 percent of the votes.

Also on Monday, Israel's Central Election Committee said it was mulling punitive action against anyone attempting to influence voter turnout by spreading rumors that polling stations may be unsafe due to coronavirus infection.

The issue was broached after officials in the committee expressed concerns that political elements may try to exploit public fear regarding the virus to sway the vote by making false statements to the media.

Israel-Gaza Ceasefire Takes Hold After Two-Day Flare-Up

BY REUTERS
& ALGEMEINER STAFF

A ceasefire brokered by Egypt and the United Nations took hold on the Israel-Gaza border on Tuesday after two days of fighting between Israel and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad group.

Islamic Jihad had fired 80 rockets towards Israeli communities along the Gaza border since Sunday, an Israeli military spokeswoman said, while Israel attacked sites in Gaza and Syria that killed three members of the Iran-backed organization.

No casualties were reported on the Israeli side of the frontier and many of the rockets were intercepted by Israel's Iron Dome aerial defense system.

The violence came a week before an Israeli election in which Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is seeking a fifth term in office after two inconclusive votes in the past year.

The frontier fell quiet early on Tuesday, after a Palestinian official said Israel and Islamic Jihad had reached a "reciprocal and simultaneous ceasefire" mediated by Egypt and the United Nations.

"This round is over and Palestinian resistance promised its people that every act of aggression by the Zionist occupation would be met by a reaction from the resistance," Khader Habib, a senior Islamic Jihad official, told *Reuters*.

The Israeli military said it reopened roads near the Gaza border on Tuesday that it had closed when the fighting began and that train services would resume in the area.

But citing security concerns, the military kept Israel's border crossings with Hamas-ruled Gaza closed, except for humanitarian cases, and banned Palestinian fisherman from heading to sea.

The violence erupted on Sunday when Israeli troops killed an Islamic Jihad member who the military said was trying to plant explosives near Israel's border fence with Gaza.

Video widely shared on social media showed what appeared to be a lifeless body of the militant dangling from an Israeli military bulldozer as it removed the corpse.

The images created an uproar in Gaza, prompting calls for retaliation that were followed by rockets launched by Islamic Jihad.

Diminished Growth Could Hurt Israel's Credit Rating, Says S&P Global Executive

BY ADRIAN FILUT/CTech

A budget policy is always very political because it is supposed to reflect prioritization, especially in democratic countries, according to Karen Vartapetov, sovereign credit analyst and director at Standard and Poor's (S&P) Global. That is why determining a budget policy in Israel — which is very polarized both politically and socially — is so complicated, he added. In a Monday interview with *Calcalist* ahead of a Tel Aviv conference held by S&P's Israeli credit agency Standard & Poor's Maalot, Vartapetov added that announcing tax raises at the midst of election season is not an easy thing to do but that it is clear all parties are considering it.

The continued political crisis Israel is experiencing is not yet a problem due to the country's strong economic standing, but it does pose a risk, Vartapetov said. Continued political instability will have a negative impact, especially on the business sector, "but we are not there yet," he said. Some of the budget allocation decisions were not beneficial for growth, he added, but, in a polarized society, budget policy does not always reflect long-term interests and that is not a phenomenon unique to Israel.

Vartapetov also brought up the case of Poland. In 2016, following the election of a new government that weakened the independence of key institutions, S&P unexpectedly cut the country's rating from A- to BBB+ with a negative outlook.

In the past two years, Israel has shown signs of fiscal weakening, but the agency has yet to cut Israel's rating as S&P believes the country's macroeconomics are very strong, Vartapetov said, adding that while S&P does take debt levels and the deficit into account, it looks at long-term trends rather than data for a short and specific period. Israel's under-investment in infrastructure, education, and health could threaten growth forecasts at some point in the future, but they are all solvable even in the mid-term thanks to low

interest rates, he said. This will enable the country to invest without significantly hurting its fiscal situation, though those investments will need to be balanced with deficit-reducing steps, he added.

The results of the upcoming election are inconsequential, because any chosen government will have to make the unpleasant but necessary decision to both increase income from taxes and reduce government spending to cut the deficit, Vartapetov said. That is S&P's base scenario, he said, adding that Israel still has some safety cushions before its debt jumps.

Vartapetov based his statements on the fact that over the past decade, Israel was the only country to reduce its debt to gross domestic product (GDP) ratio, a very rare achievement for OECD countries. That is what earned Israel its AA- rating. The country will need to experience very prolonged fiscal weakening for it to be considered in its rating, he said. "In fact, only a combination of a large-scale war and a global recession together could lower the rating, and those two events are not forecasted in our scenario," he said.

Not everything is fine and dandy, though. According to Vartapetov, Israel's current debt level is high when one considers its unique characteristics and geographical challenges. While the country has done well so far to reduce its debt, he said, at least part of it was due to lucky elements such as the shekel's appreciation.

When will S&P's patience regarding Israel's political limbo end? Later than that of Israel's citizens, it seems. According to the numbers presented by Vartapetov, the budget deficit for 2020-2021 stands at 3.6% of the country's GDP, but in 2022, it is forecasted to drop sharply to 2.9% of the GDP, and then to 2.8% of the GDP in 2023. If that expected reduction does not happen, or a new government will not be elected, or a government is elected but does not tackle the budget issues — then S&P might reconsider Israel's credit rating, Vartapetov said.

Israeli PM Netanyahu Expresses 'Deep Sorrow' Over Passing of Ex-Egyptian Leader Mubarak

BY BENJAMIN KERSTEIN

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expressed sadness on Tuesday over the death of 91-year-old ex-Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

"On behalf of the citizens and government of Israel, I would like to express deep sorrow on the passing of President Hosni Mubarak," Netanyahu said in a statement. "President Mubarak, my personal friend, was a leader who led his people to peace and security, to peace with Israel."

"I met with him many times," the Israeli leader added. "I was impressed by his commitment; we will continue to follow his common path. I would like to send condolences to [Egyptian] President A-Sisi, to the Mubarak family, and to the Egyptian people." Mubarak, who was dedicated to regional stability but

became more and more controversial at home as his three-decade rule dragged on, was widely respected in Israel for his preservation of the peace treaty signed in 1979 by his assassinated predecessor Anwar Sadat.

The Israeli Embassy in Cairo also acknowledged Mubarak's death, tweeting in Arabic, "The Embassy of the State of Israel in Egypt mourns with great sorrow the former President of the Republic, Muhammad Hosni Mubarak, and the embassy extends its sincere condolences to his family and the Egyptian people."

According to the *Wafa* news agency, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas on Tuesday praised Mubarak for "supporting the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people."

Abbas, the report said, "mourned [Mubarak's passing] with great sadness and sorrow."

U.S. News.

Jewish Legal Group Joins Fight Against Anti-Israel Protests Outside Michigan Synagogue

BY JNS.org

The Lawfare Project announced on Monday that it has been retained as co-counsel in a lawsuit against both the city of Ann Arbor, Mich., and a group of anti-Israel protesters who demonstrate weekly outside a local synagogue.

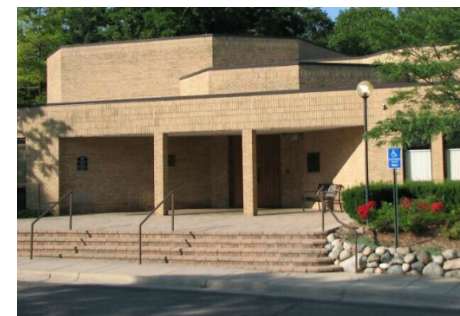
“The City of Ann Arbor has completely abdicated its responsibility to protect the Jewish community from targeted, racist harassment at the hands of these protesters,” said Brooke Goldstein, executive director of the Lawfare Project. “There are few greater civil-rights violations than impeding the free exercise of worship and assembly, and we are here to demand the city hold the protesters accountable under existing federal, state and local laws.”

The plaintiffs in the lawsuit are Beth Israel Congregation member Marvin Gerber and Ann Arbor resident Miriam Brysk, a Holocaust survivor. Ann Arbor Mayor Christopher Taylor, protester Henry Herskovitz and his two organizations—Jewish Witnesses for Peace, and Palestinian Friends and Deir Yassin Remembered—are

listed as defendants.

Every Saturday for the last 16 years, a group of protesters has harassed congregants outside of Beth Israel Congregation and placed in front of the synagogue signs that say “Jewish Power Corrupts,” “Zionism is Racism” and “RESIST Jewish Power,” among other statements. The protesters are in violation of the city’s existing ordinances; however, Ann Arbor has done nothing to limit the protests and refuses to place “even modest restrictions” on them. This has gone on for more than a decade-and-a-half, according to Michigan attorney Marc Susselman, co-counsel in the lawsuit.

Ziporah Reich, director of litigation at the Lawfare Project and co-counsel in the lawsuit, said the suit is aimed at preventing the protesters, “aided and abetted by the city,” from violating the First Amendment rights



Beth Israel Congregation in Ann Arbor, Mich. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

congregants have to exercise their religion without harassment.

The lawsuit is seeking unspecified retribution for emotional distress, JNS previously reported.

Illinois House Candidate’s 2018 Ad Resurfaces, Criticizing AIPAC and Supporting BDS

BY JNS.org

A previously unseen 2018 campaign ad for a Illinois Democrat currently running for the U.S. House of Representatives features attacks on her opponent for his support for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and stance against the BDS movement.

Marie Newman, who is running in a primary against incumbent Democratic Rep. Dan Lipinski in the state’s 3rd Congressional District, which leans Democratic, narrowly lost to Lipinski by less than 3 percentage points in the 2018 Democratic primary.

In the resurfaced ad, Edwards Realty Company president Edward Hassan says Lipinski “was the first one that signed to outlaw the BDS,” referring to the Protect Academic Freedom Act, which the congressman introduced in 2014 with then-Rep. Peter Roskam (R-Ill.). The legislation would have prohibited federal funds towards institutions that participate in boycotting Israeli institutions or scholars.

In an email to JNS, Lipinski said, “I make no apologies for being opposed to BDS and standing strong to condemn anti-Semitism in every form it takes. As co-chair of the International Religious Freedom Caucus, I remain focused on eradicating anti-Semitism and religious intolerance of any kind. It speaks volumes about my opponent that she would make this divisive ad and that her campaign chair would make such inflammatory statements.”


Also in the ad, Shadin Maali, a mother, community advocate and small-business owner, states that Newman “doesn’t pander to special interest groups like AIPAC.” (Malin also happens to be Newman’s campaign chair.)

Lipinski’s district contains the headquarters of the American Muslims for Palestine, an anti-Israel group that supports BDS and was founded by Hatem Bazian, who co-founded Students for Justice in Palestine.

The district is also the location of the Mosque Foundation, whose leadership mostly consists of members belonging to the Muslim American Society and has “strong ties” to the Muslim Brotherhood.

According to the David Horowitz Freedom Center’s “Discover the Networks” project, it has even “raised money to honor the memory of Palestinian suicide bombers.”

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Opinion.

Honor Your Parents, the Bible's Hardest Commandment



SHMULEY BOTEACH
ENGELWOOD

I've been shuttling between New York and Los Angeles to visit my father who has not been feeling well. It is a ritual I've observed for years but now with far greater frequency as his health has faced challenges. At first I did not disclose any of this, feeling it was a private matter. But then, watching so many publicly call for prayers to be said for ailing loved ones, I decided to harness the millions of followers I am fortunate to have on social media to pray for my father's health. The response was bigger than almost any call to action I have ever made on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and our mailing lists. Tens of thousands of messages poured in for prayers for my father from people from all over the world, from every religion, from every ethnicity, for Yoav ben Eshrat, my father's Hebrew name.

The overwhelming response touched me deeply. And it made me ponder the question why.

I have always promoted family and have spent so much of life saving marriages and promoting healthy, intimate relations between husband and wife. But why were people so interested in how to properly honor parents?

I believe the reason is this: of all the commandments in the Torah, honoring our parents is easily the most difficult and nearly everyone struggles with it to some degree or another. I am fortunate to have a father I truly love. But so many children feel their parents have caused them incalculable pain and harm.

The hardest commandments in Judaism are not the religious strictures but the moral imperatives, with honoring your father and mother being at the top of the list.

On the one hand, most children automatically love their parents, those who gave you unconditional love, raised you, nurtured you, and validated you. To return that love is natural. So why would God have

to command it?

On the other hand, if your parents gave you none of those things — if they ignored you or inflicted serious psychological and emotional scarring — why should you be obligated to honor them? In my 30 years as a rabbi, countless people have approached me who are struggling with honoring abusive, toxic or delinquent fathers and mothers. Is a father who abandoned his children worthy of honor? Is a mother who did nothing but condemn her daughter, making her feel like garbage, deserving of respect?

Every person has a right — an obligation even — to distance themselves from a dysfunctional, toxic relationship. No one would tell a woman to remain in an abusive marriage. So why would we tell her to stay in a relationship with parents who have spent their lives making her feel worthless? This conundrum becomes all the more potent when the stress of a noxious relationship with one's parent begins to bleed into one's own nuclear family — consuming one's marriage, for example — as is often the case.

In the book of Genesis, a variation of this saga seems to play out. Esau is a ruthless hunter and a terrible brother. But the one thing the Bible credits Esau with was that he honored his father, even as he seemingly did not much honor his mother. But honoring parents is a virtue attributed to Esau, which the Torah says is worthy of emulation.

By contrast, Jacob is faulted for not sufficiently honoring his parents and, the Talmud says, experienced the pain of separation from Joseph as karma for not having seen his parents for two decades. Yet Jacob is the father of the Jewish people and we all bear his name, Israel. We are not Abramites or Isaacites, but Israelites. Why? Because Jacob alone, unlike father Isaac or grandfather Abraham, kept his own nuclear family together amid Herculean challenges — even at the cost of a decades-long distance from his own parents. True, Jacob made catastrophic errors, such as favoring one child above others, leading to near-fatal jealousy among his children who ultimately sell Joseph into

slavery. Yet, whenever we read about Jacob, his kids always surround him. Before anything else, he is a patriarch, a family man.

Abraham is the father of monotheism. Isaac kept that faith alive. But Jacob is the man who raised a family dedicated to the principle of one God, none of whom diverged from that faith. Jacob created the family — however seriously flawed — that he never had. In so doing, he became the patriarch of a nation that at its core is a family. Esau, who did not create a nuclear family, fathered tribal chieftains who gained tremendous power but were cut off from the Jewish nation.

So, can a child marginalize parents for the sake of creating his or her own nuclear family?

Well, God tells us no. Even as our own families take precedence, and even if parents can cause us severe psychological harm — and even as the founder of the Jewish people seemed to fall short in this regard — God still demands in the moral bedrock of his Torah, the Ten Commandments, that we live a life of gratitude by honoring not only our creator, but our creators as well.

The most serious error in understanding the commandment to honor our parents is to believe it's about patriarchy or honoring our elders when, in truth, it's about an emotional indebtedness — an eternal sense of gratitude — to those who gave us life. The former would allow us to ignore parents who are not our ethical elders but our moral inferiors — or worse, moral degenerates. The latter, however, forces us to acknowledge that of all the gifts God gives us, the gift of life is by far the most precious. We dare never forget it. We are forever indebted to those who bequeathed it.

Gratitude is the highest Jewish value, the mountain's summit of virtue. It speaks to a human ability to be touched by the kindness of strangers, to have the love shown to us by others make a serious impression, a lasting impact. To have our DNA respond to affection, service, and whatever else has been gifted to us by others.

It was in an effort to obviate humankind's most deeply felt problem — that of isolation and loneliness — that God commanded us to honor our parents. The creator made sure

that the government "poison the water of the Palestinians."

In 2018, he launched into an antisemitic rant calling Israel a "colonial enterprise that has nothing to do with Jewishness." He said, "The Jews did not want to emigrate even with murder and slaughter. Even during the Holocaust, they did not emigrate." He claimed Herzl advocated the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians.

Abbas also dismissed the idea that Jews were massacred because they were Jews, citing books he claimed showed "hostility against Jews is not because of their religion, but rather their social function," meaning their involvement in banking and money-lending. He also falsely stated that Jews had not been persecuted in the Arab world.

Abbas was one of the PLO's founding fathers, which means he has been part of the leadership throughout the organization's long history as a terrorist organization. The idea that he is now opposed to terrorism is belied by the continued incitement from the Palestinian Authority, Abbas' unwillingness to condemn Hamas attacks on Israelis, and the ongoing terror emanating from the West Bank. Apologists ignore the stabbings, shootings, and other incidents and probably are not even aware the Shin Bet foiled more than 450 attacks last year.



Moses Breaking the Tables of the Law (1659), by Rembrandt. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

we would struggle almost daily with the eternal article of gratitude and emotional indebtedness, leading us to live on an incline toward those whom we might otherwise ignore, forget, or even reject.

Even to those who have told me in counseling sessions that their parent ruined their lives, I say, "But that presupposes that you had a life to ruin, a life which they gave you." It may not be the most profound argument, but its truth is as evident as our very existence.

I'm not saying we always have to be around parents who destroy us. To the contrary. A certain distance sometimes is essential and necessary. There will be times when we need a respite from the relationship. And if a parent is guilty of serious sexual, physical, or violent abuse, a permanent break may be necessary, however unfortunate and tragic. Still, visiting, phoning, caring, and showing love to our parents and having our children do the same makes us into the moral giants our fathers and mothers may have failed to be. By modeling love and respect for parents, the next generation can be healed.

In the case of "bad" parents, moreover, perhaps we honor them most by becoming the people they failed to be and ceasing the heirloom of generational dysfunction that consumes so many families. But that is impossible if we live lives suborned with bitterness and absent of gratitude. In the obligation to honor our parents, God is enjoining us to choose love over hatred, harmony over discord, gratitude over bitterness, and life over the death of a relationship.

God knows we are capable of it. Therefore, He commands it.

Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, whom *The Washington Post* calls "the most famous Rabbi in America," is the international best-selling author of 33 books, including *Renewal: A Guide to the Values-Filled Life*. Follow him on Twitter and Instagram @RabbiShmuley.

Olmert's Joke: Abbas Is a Man of Peace



MITCHELL BARD
NEW YORK

In one of the more bizarre scenes in the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, disgraced and formerly jailed Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert appeared with Palestinian dictator Mahmoud Abbas at the UN to denounce President Donald Trump's peace plan. Unbelievably, Olmert sat beside Abbas and called him "a man of peace" who is "opposed to terror" and "willing to negotiate at any given time with the State of Israel."

Perhaps less surprising was the response of J Street's Jeremy Ben-Ami, who said the joint appearances "underscore why we must reject the right's false narrative about a Palestinian people who don't really want peace — and why we must stand up to those who suggest

we simply give up on hopes for a two-state solution."

I've already documented why advocates of the two-state solution ignore reality, but let's focus on the ahistorical statements made by Olmert and the truths about Abbas that his fan club ignores.

First, a bit of history. Abbas is an antisemite whose Ph.D. dissertation was an exercise in Holocaust denial. He claimed Zionist leaders conspired with the Nazis against the Jews. He argued that fewer than one million Jews perished, but it was "in the interest of the Zionist movement to exaggerate the numbers of those tragically killed in the war for the sake of the [political] profits it received from making the number as large as possible. This was why the number [six million] was established: So [the international community] would feel pangs of conscience and sympathy for Zionism."

In 2016, Abbas disseminated the blood libel that a group of Israeli rabbis demanded

In 1995, Abbas reached an agreement with Israeli negotiator Yossi Beilin to establish the capital of a future Palestinian state on the outskirts of Jerusalem in Abu Dis — and, soon after, the Palestinians erected a parliament building there which still stands. Abbas is now outraged by the Trump proposal for a Palestinian state with its capital in Abu Dis.

In 2005, when Ariel Sharon ordered the evacuation of all Israeli civilian and military personnel from the Gaza Strip, Abbas had an opportunity to support the "end of occupation" and begin building the infrastructure of a state. Instead, he emphatically opposed the withdrawal, preferring "occupation" to a step towards independence. Two-staters continue to ignore the inconvenient truth that Israel got terror instead of peace for the disengagement, and advocate that Israel concede more land to Abbas.

Despite the experience of Gaza, Olmert did offer to make concessions. In 2008, Olmert held more than 30 meetings with Abbas, the Palestinian man of peace, offering to withdraw from approximately 94% of the West Bank, the creation of a passage from the West Bank to Gaza, and a land swap that would allow Israel to annex its major settlement blocs. Olmert even proposed to divide Jerusalem and absorb a few thousand Palestinian refugees.

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Opinion.

J'Accuse! Our Dreyfus and Theirs



BEN COHEN
/JNS.org

Two months after its shellacking in the United Kingdom's general elections, the Labour Party continues to remind British voters of why they chose the "anyone-but-Jeremy-Corbyn" option.

Last week, it was the turn of John McDonnell — Corbyn's main lieutenant and a stalwart of the party's far-left — to plumb the depths of illogical, offensive, and plain ignorant political rhetoric. Speaking immediately after a visit to Julian Assange, the founder of WikiLeaks, in the grim surroundings of south London's Belmarsh prison, McDonnell produced an unforgettable soundbite. Just not in the way he intended.

"I think this is one of the most important and significant political trials of this generation, in fact longer," said McDonnell, referring to the possibility that Assange will be extradited to the United States to face 18 charges related to national security violations, of which 17 are covered by the Espionage Act.

Warming to his subject, McDonnell then ventured, "I think it's the Dreyfus case of our age."

Perhaps McDonnell believed that this comparison would send journalists scurrying onto Google for a quick refresher course on "Dreyfus," and that he would consequently be congratulated for having offered such a thoughtful, historically resonant observation. No such luck.

Diligently performing their duties as representatives of the Jewish community, organizations including the Community Security Trust and the Holocaust Educational Trust swiftly countered McDonnell's claim. Whatever Assange might be, they said, he is



WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange April 11, 2019. Photo: REUTERS/Henry Nicholls.

no Dreyfus.

This, by the way, is not a slight towards Assange. Even if you temporarily forget McDonnell's breathtaking gall in appropriating one of the seminal episodes of modern antisemitism to make his point that Assange is facing a show trial, on a purely empirical level, the comparison with Dreyfus is hopeless.

Firstly, no one would dispute — least of all Assange himself — that WikiLeaks' disclosures were done for the purpose of exposing and embarrassing the Western alliance. Always eager for as much publicity as he could get, the key point is that Assange did these things of his own volition in the aggressive pursuit of a political mission.

By contrast, one of the more heartbreaking aspects of the ordeal of Capt. Alfred Dreyfus was that he didn't leak secrets to the enemy, nor compromise the lives of allies, nor conspire to weaken France in any way before he was drummed out of the French Army in a grotesque ceremony of humiliation. Other than faithfully discharging his responsibilities as an officer in the French artillery, Dreyfus didn't actually do anything to warrant the charges of treason that were deliberately and falsely laid at his door in 1894.

But then — and this may be what John McDonnell simply didn't grasp — the Dreyfus case was never about Dreyfus as an individual. Dreyfus was not, as is Assange, one of a handful

of famous whistleblowers in an ongoing conflict with the security establishment. One did not become a *Dreyfusard* (a supporter of Dreyfus) to portray this falsely convicted man as a speaker of truth to power, shining a beacon of light upon the murky secrets of the state. One became a *Dreyfusard* because Dreyfus was punished for what he was, not for what he did or didn't do.

This basic fact was well understood by the great French writer Emile Zola, among the most eloquent defenders of Dreyfus. "I accuse General [Jean-Baptiste] Billot of having held in his hands the unquestionable evidence of Dreyfus's innocence and of suppressing it, guilty of this crime that injures humanity and justice, with a political aim and to save the compromised Chief of High Command," Zola wrote in his famous text *J'Accuse!*

And if it was easy to frame the only Jewish officer on the army General Staff, it was because — as the rabidly antisemitic newspaper *La Civiltà Cattolica* put it at the time — what was really on trial in the Dreyfus case was the "treacherous character" of the "deicidal people" to whom he belonged.

Unquestionably, Dreyfus suffered terribly as a man prior to his being officially exonerated in 1906, but his fate came to him because he was a Jew in the wrong place at the wrong time. In that ugly environment, stoked by antisemites determined to roll back the clock on a century of Jewish emancipation, any Jew would have done.

These truths have already been pointed out to McDonnell by commentators in Britain. Writing in the left-wing *New Statesman* weekly, Karen Pollock of the Holocaust Educational Trust argued that McDonnell's comparison "downplays the institutionalized antisemitism, hatred and degradation that embodies what happened to Dreyfus and is

particularly ludicrous when Assange himself has perpetuated antisemitic conspiracy theories."

However, unsurprisingly for a man who decided against immediate resignation after helping his party sink to a historic electoral low, McDonnell is sticking to his guns. "It was quite clear what I meant," he countered the following day, clearly bruised from the criticism. "Just like the Dreyfus case, the legal action against Julian Assange is a major political trial in which the establishment is out to victimize an innocent."

Why, though, choose Dreyfus specifically as an analogous case, if the only purpose is to make a generic point about someone's alleged innocence? Why not pick another example closer to home? As a longtime supporter of Irish republicanism, McDonnell is doubtless aware of the high-profile terrorism trials of the 1970s, when British courts locked up entirely innocent Irish people after framing them for atrocities that were committed by the IRA. Why not invoke these?

Here's why: For much of the left, the history of Jewish suffering is something that can be universalized and "de-Judaized" for political purposes in ways that would be condemned as grossly insensitive if, for example, the subject was African-American slavery instead. The version of Alfred Dreyfus that John McDonnell gives us is a Dreyfus whose Jewish identity is so incidental, it doesn't even need to be mentioned.

If our history is to be openly and shamelessly manipulated in this way, you can be forgiven for wondering whether it's worth talking about at all.

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

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We Receive

are not tainted by original sin. We are not incapable of good without Divine grace. Faith is not mere submission. We are God's image, His children, His ambassadors, His partners, His emissaries. He wants us not merely to receive but also to give. And He is willing to live in the home we build for Him, however humble, however small.

This is hinted in the word that gives our parsha its name: Terumah. This is usually translated as an offering, a contribution. It really means something we lift. The paradox of giving is that when we lift something to give to another, it is we ourselves who are lifted.

I believe that what elevates us in life is not what we receive but what we give. The more of ourselves that we give, the greater we become. Shabbat shalom

Continued from Page A6
Joke

Condoleezza Rice called the offer "amazing" and warned that "Yitzhak Rabin had been killed for offering far less." The usually pro-Palestinian Haaretz newspaper noted, "Aficionados of the Palestinians again found a million and one reasons why the peace-loving Palestinian leader had refused the offer." Ben-Ami, one of those aficionados, inventively claims they "came closer to achieving a genuine, viable two-state solution than any leaders before them." Unfortunately, close only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades.

Next came the most pro-Palestinian administration in US history, with Barack Obama pressuring Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to institute a 10-month settlement freeze even though the Palestinians had never made this demand. Abbas still refused to negotiate.

In 2011, Abbas attempted to bypass negotiations by requesting that the United Nations recognize the independence of a unilaterally declared Palestinian state. That too failed.

In another propaganda stunt, Abbas stated in April 2016 that he was willing to meet with Netanyahu for peace talks. Netanyahu said he was willing to meet at any time. Two days later, the Palestinians rejected Netanyahu's offer.

Abbas, meanwhile, said he hoped the Obama administration would force Netanyahu out of office and declared his willingness to wait years until that happened. True to his word, Abbas has now boycotted

peace talks with Israel's leader for 12 years.

In another expression of his attitude toward coexistence, Abbas has repeatedly said, "We will never recognize the Jewishness of the State of Israel."

Abbas has also said, "In a final resolution, we would not see the presence of a single Israeli — civilian or soldier — on our lands." Maybe Ben-Ami will be happy with a Judenrein Palestinian state, but can you imagine his reaction if Arabs were banned from Israel?

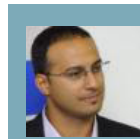
The same people who lambaste Netanyahu for being "anti-democratic" extol the virtues of a corrupt autocrat, who denies his people civil and human rights, who is now in the 15th year of a four-year term as president, and who a majority of Palestinians want to resign.

Two-staters are not only out of touch with the majority of Israelis who oppose the creation of a Palestinian state, but the latest poll shows that 59% of Palestinians oppose a two-state solution. And, of course, Hamas openly calls for Israel's destruction.

Obama, the UN, and the EU raised Palestinian hopes that Israel could be forced to capitulate to their demands. Trump threw a wrench into those expectations, but Ben-Ami, some Democratic presidential candidates, and other ostriches are trying to reassure the Palestinians there is still hope, a grave disservice that only ensures they will remain frustrated and see the size of any possible state continue to shrink.

Mitchell Bard is Executive Director of AICE and Jewish Virtual Library.

The History of the Land Is Jewish, Not Palestinian



YECHIEL SHABIY
JNS.org

The elected representatives of Israel's Arab community claim that the Palestinians are the original owners of the land — an indigenous minority disinherited by foreign invaders. According to this notion, which is aimed at undermining the Zionist narrative about the Jewish people's return to its historical homeland, the Arabs of the Land of Israel — like the Native Americans in America, the aborigines in Australia, and the Zulu tribes in South Africa — are victims of European imperialism/colonialism, which turned them into a disenfranchised and oppressed minority in their own land. From this standpoint, Zionism is a crude perversion of Judaism because the Jews do not constitute a people but only a religious community with no national attributes or aspirations, let alone any right to a state of their own in even

a tiny part of the Islamic-Arab-Palestinian patrimony.

That thesis is not only baseless, but a complete inversion of the historical truth.

It was Arab/Muslim invaders who came to the Land of Israel as an ascendant imperialist force in the decade after the Prophet Muhammad's death and laid the groundwork for the colonization of this land by a long string of Muslim empires up to the fall of the Ottoman Empire at the end of World War I. During this lengthy era, the non-Jewish and non-Christian residents of the land identified themselves as Muslims — not as Arabs, and certainly not as Palestinians — until World War I, when the idea of Arab nationalism gathered steam with the help of British imperialism.

One need only look at common family names among the Palestinians to see their colonialist origins: Hijazi, from the Hijaz in the Arabian Peninsula, from which the original invaders came; Bosniak, from Bosnia; Turk, from Turkey; Halabi, from Syria; Hindi, from India; Yemeni, from Yemen; Masarwa/Masri, from Egypt; Mughrabi, from the Maghreb, and

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Impressions.

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The History

so on. In contrast, countless place names in the Land of Israel testify to a Jewish presence over thousands of years. Take, for example, the Narbata River in northern Samaria. Narbata, which is the Aramaic pronunciation of Arubot, the biblical city in which one of King Solomon's 12 governors lived, ruled the whole region of northern Samaria. In Narbata, as Yosef ben Matityahu (Josephus) recounts, the Romans slaughtered thousands of Jews during the Great Revolt (66-73 CE). The area teems with archaeological relics from the Second Temple, Mishnaic, and Talmudic eras.

The Jewish population did not take to Roman-Byzantine rule and over the centuries rebelled against it repeatedly. The Great Revolt considerably depleted the Jewish population, but it was the Bar Kochba Revolt (132-35), and the subsequent religious and economic decrees, that devastated the population, particularly in the Judea region. Harsh taxes were levied on the owners of Jewish estates and on farmers, and those who were struggling sought respite in nearby lands, especially Syria.

Concerned about the Jewish character and demography of the Land of Israel, the sages promised life in the next world to those who dwelt in the land and even for those who simply walked four cubits in it. In the words of Rabbi Meir: "Whoever raises his children in the Land of Israel is promised a place in the World to Come." Settlement flourished, particularly in the Galilee, Samaria, and the South Hebron Hills. Dozens of communities developed, among them Tiberias, Baram, Gush Halav, Yota, Eshtemoa, Halhoul, Kfar Kanna, Arraba, and Sakhni.

With the Christian conquest of the Roman Empire, the Jews' lot worsened. Whole populations of Jews and non-Jews converted to Christianity and the Jewish presence dwindled greatly. Not for nothing did the Jews of the Land of Israel play a major role in helping the Persian conquerors in 614.

In 628, Byzantine Emperor Heraclius defeated the Persians. Though he had promised the Jews and their leader Benjamin of Tiberias that if they laid down their arms nothing would befall them, he quickly broke his promise and murdered thousands of Jews.

Less than a decade later the Muslims conquered the land, with the help of the Jewish population. Although during Muslim rule, the agricultural and urban Jewish population remained in good condition, it was hit hard by the Crusader conquest and the subsequent Mamluk conquest.

As evidenced by descriptions of Jewish and Christian pilgrims, Jews lived in Jewish villages in the Galilee such as Kfar Hanania, Parod, Baram, Alma, Ein Zeitim, Kfar Kanna, and others until the 18th and 19th centuries. It was the Ottoman Turks who forced the Jewish villagers to leave their homes, either by expelling them, discriminating against them, persecuting them, or increasing their taxes, causing Jews to migrate to the cities of Safed, Tiberias, Acre, Haifa, and even Tyre and Sidon.

In the northern Samaria region, Jews lived in Anin, near Umm al-Fahm, growing citrons for trade, until the Turks settled Yemenite Arabs there. In addition, the community of Bitra (Bitron in Aramaic) became Barta'a. In this village and its vicinity the large Kaba clan, a branch of the Banu-Hilal tribe of Saudi Arabia, came to settle, as did the Masarwa clan from Egypt.

The northern Samaritan mountains are strewn with thousands of relics of wine presses and of terraces that served as vineyards for the Jewish and Samaritan residents of the region. As the Muslim population took over, the wine industry collapsed and was replaced by olive and carob cultivation.

The land speaks Hebrew. The names of the communities have a linguistic meaning in Hebrew: Jaffa = *yafeh* (beautiful), Haifa = *hofa shel ihr* (shore of a city), Shikmona = *shkamim* (sycamores), Nazareth = *notzeret/shomeret* (guardian), Beit Guvrin = *ihr hag'varim/hat'kifim* (city of the strong), and so on. When the Arabs conquered these places, they pronounced the names in their own way, distorting

What Kind of a Jew Was Freud?

BY HAROLD BRACKMAN

Sigmund Freud described himself as a "Godless Jew." Freud made heroes of "Semitic conquerors" like Carthaginian general Hannibal. Speaking before Vienna's B'nai B'rith Lodge in 1926, Freud attributed his special gifts to two Jewish traits: freedom "from many prejudices that hampered others" and a willingness "to take my place on the side of the opposition."

Then why did Freud downplay his parents' Judaism, and obscure his own knowledge of Hebrew? I believe it was to reinforce his claim that psychoanalytic science owed no debts to religion.

Freud's family arrived in Vienna from Galicia in the east, and like many Jews, were despised by Viennese antisemites. Freud wanted to ensure the safety of his own child — psychoanalysis — from antisemitic slanders. To protect his movement, Freud recruited prestigious non-Jew Carl Jung. But Freud's perceived betrayal by Jung was traumatic; it cured him of "my last predilection for the Aryan cause." In an intimate letter, Freud wrote, "We are Jews and remain Jews" because men like Jung "will never understand or appreciate us."

Freud's American Jewish admirers were legion. Some may have been predisposed to psychoanalysis by A Bintel Brief in the Forvertz, the popular column that read almost like a Yiddish version of Freud's "talking cure."

When visiting the US for the only time in 1909, Freud was ambivalent. He appreciated Americans' "open-mindedness," but criticized America as uncivilized with indigestible food, insufficient hotel lavatories, young women who were too bold, and young men who dared to call him by his first name.

Yet with the blessing of Harvard philosopher William James and the dedication of Jewish popularizers including Isador H. Coriat and Adam A. Brill, Freud became an American icon. During World War I, some Americans criticized psychoanalysis as Austrian or German "devil worship"; but the US Army used psychoanalysts to treat "shell-shock."

Post-World War I, Jazz Age youth adopted Freud's gospel of sexual liberation, and his cause was also embraced in Hollywood. Freud died in London

in 1939 a refugee from Hitler, but psychoanalysis' influence did not fade despite attacks on Freud's "Viennese Talmudic" methods.

After World War II, Jewish Freudians such as Rabbi Joshua L. Liebman offered grief counseling to soldiers' widows, as well as Holocaust survivors. Popular books combined Freudian concepts with Hasidic tales. Elie Wiesel and Martin Buber both became best-sellers.

Since the 1960s, Freud's influence has been challenged by Eastern mysticism, behaviorist critiques, and new drug therapies. But in contrast, there has been a boomlet in studies of Freud's Jewishness and psychoanalysis' Kabbalistic roots.



Sigmund Freud. Photo: Wiki Commons.

Now the question is being asked: Can the rediscovery of this "Jewish Freud" help to revitalize 21st century Jewish identity?

Wary of a modern Jewish state in Palestine sparking Arab-Jewish violence, Freud nevertheless told Hans Herzl: "Your father is one of those people who have turned dreams into reality." Freud accepted election as a Board Member of the Hebrew University. He remembered a dream in which Theodor Herzl (with whom he corresponded) told him of "the necessity of immediate action" to save the Jewish people.

Did psychoanalysis have "a hidden Zionist theme" as claimed by psycho-historian Peter Loewenberg? And what would Freud have done if he had lived until 1948?

Historian Harold Brackman is coauthor with Ephraim Isaac of *From Abraham to Obama: A History of Jews, Africans, and African Americans* (Africa World Press, 2015).

them and changing their meaning: thus Shfaram (meaning "a people whose luck has improved") became Shfa'amr. Ganim became Jenin, Bitra became Barta'a, Ashdod became Isdud, Tur Karem (meaning "mountain of the vineyards") became Tulkarem, and Jordan became Urdan — names with no linguistic meaning in Arabic.

As Israeli military and political leader Yigal Allon said, a people that does not know its past has a meager present and an unknown future. When Ahmed Tibi, an Israeli Arab member of Knesset, protested to President Reuven Rivlin that the Arabs of Israel are the land's indigenous residents and hence its masters, the president should have answered him appropriately, as in the dictum of the Jewish sages: know how to answer an ignoramus.

Today the wineries and vineyards have returned to the mountains of Samaria, and on the holiday of Tu B'shvat more and more grapevines were planted. US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's declaration about the legality of Jewish communities in the West Bank, along with President Trump's peace plan based on that principle, offers a unique opportunity to apply sovereignty to all of the Israeli West Bank communities, including those in northern Samaria where the Narbata River flows.

Dr. Yechiel Shabiy is a researcher at the BESA Center and a political science lecturer at Bar-Ilan University.

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

Legal Notice.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: 6 MILDRED PLACE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 06/27/2019. Office location: Kings county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Anderson registered agents 7014 13th Avenue,Suite 210 Brooklyn, NY 11228.purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 1/24/31; 2/7/14/21/28

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: SOMETHING FRENCH,LLC Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY)on 10/10/2019. 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: Osher Battal 2247 E. 66 street Brooklyn, NY 11234. Purpose: All lawful activity AJ; 1/24/31; 2/7/14/21/28

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: BRIDGETTE'S DINING & EVENT HALL, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 01/23/2020 . 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: Bridgette's Dining & Event Hall,LLC 200 Utica Avenue store Brooklyn, NY 11213 purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 1/31; 2/7/14/21/28; 3/6

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. Bank, National Association, as Successor Trustee to Bank of America, N.A., as Successor By Merger to LaSalle Bank, N.A. as Trustee for the Certificateholders of The MLMI Trust, Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-AR1, Plaintiff AGAINST Cheryle Williams a/k/a Cheryle E. Williams a/k/a Cheryle E. Dent a/k/a Cheryl E. Dent; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated December 5, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on March 12, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 297 Decatur Street, Brooklyn, NY 11233. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block: 1675 Lot: 42. Approximate amount of judgment \$754,004.40 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 20070/2013. Meryl L. Wenig, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: January 29, 2020 67721 AJ; 2/7/14/21/28

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings Citibank, N.A., Plaintiff AGAINST Arthur Breuer, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 8/9/2018 and entered on 9/10/2018, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on March 12, 2020 at 02:30 PM premises known as 1144 51st Street, Brooklyn, NY 11219. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and

LEGAL NOTICE

improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 5654, LOT: 24. Approximate amount of judgment is \$402,986.71 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 508190/2013. Jeffrey R. Miller, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 AJ; 2/7/14/21/28

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS, WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, D/B/A CHRISTIANA TRUST, NOT INDIVIDUALLY BUT AS TRUSTEE FOR PRETIUM MORTGAGE ACQUISITION TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. SERAFIN VASQUEZ, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on February 6, 2019, and an Order Order Pursuant to CPLR 2004 Extending The Time to Set Sale filed December 19, 2019, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on March 12, 2020 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 293 Powell 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 03763 and Lot 00111. Approximate amount of judgment is \$850,187.63 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 21054/13. Julie A. Clark, Esq., Referee Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, 565 Taxter Road, Suite 590, Elmsford, NY 10523, Attorneys for Plaintiff Cash will not be accepted. AJ; 2/7/14/21/28

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - COUNTY OF KINGS DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY AS TRUSTEE FOR FIRSTFRANKLINMORTGAGELOAN TRUST 2006-FF11 MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2006-FF11, V. WILLIAM BLAGROVE, ET. AL. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 29, 2018, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, wherein DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY AS TRUSTEE FOR FIRSTFRANKLINMORTGAGELOAN TRUST 2006-FF11 MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2006-FF11 is the Plaintiff and WILLIAM BLAGROVE, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the KINGS COUNTY COURTHOUSE 360 ADAMS STREET, ROOM 224, BROOKLYN, NY 11201, on March 12, 2020 at 2:30 PM, premises known as 1603 E 95TH ST, BROOKLYN, NY 11236: Section , Block 8298, Lot 29: ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE BOROUGH, CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 510180/2014. Jeffrey Miller, Esq. - Referee. RAS Boriskin, LLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. AJ; 2/7/14/21/28

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: KOZIE DESIGN LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New

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York (SSNY) on 12/02/2019. Office location: Bronx county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served.SSNY shall mail copy of process to:Legalinc Corporate Services Inc.1967 Wehrle Drive Suite 1 #086 Buffalo ,NY 14221 purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 2/7/14/21/28; 3/6/13

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: JAMONIX GLOBAL LLC Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York (SSNY) on: 01/27/2020 . 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: Matthew Rogers 26 Bergen St., Brooklyn, NY 11201. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 2/14/21/28; 3/6/13/20

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC)Name: MIKEGEEZ FITNESS BOUTIQUE LLC . Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on : 01/29/2020 . 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: MIKEGEEZ Fitness Boutique LLC 318 Nelson Ave., Staten Island, NY 10308. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 2/14/21/28; 3/6/13/20

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT KINGS COUNTY CITIBANK, N.A., Plaintiff against ALIZA SHREM, et al Defendants Attorney for Plaintiff(s) Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, 565 Taxter Road, Suite 590, Elmsford, NY 10523 Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered January 17, 2018 and amended November 15, 2018. I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11201 on March 19, 2020 at 2:30 PM. Premises known as 2238 West Street, Brooklyn, New York 11223. Block 7151 Lot 71. 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. Approximate Amount of Judgment is \$441,324.93 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No 5872/2012. Cash will not be accepted at the sale. Doron Leiby, Esq., Referee 11582 AJ; 2/14/21/28; 3/6

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County of Kings Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB et al, Plaintiff v Kirk Gibson, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to the provisions of the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, Index # 2427/2008., the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction, at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, N.Y; on March 26, 2020 at 2:30 PM, all that parcel of land, with the improvements erected thereon; premises known as 729 Macon Street, Brooklyn, NY a/k/a Block 1493, Lot 66. Approximate amount of judgment is \$1,065,650.42 plus interest and costs. Aaron Tyk, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive Williamsville, NY. 67256 AJ; 2/21/28; 3/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff AGAINST MARCUS SMITH, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated December 15, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on March 26, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 570 RALPH AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11233. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK 1387, LOT 47. Approximate amount of judgment \$571,443.47 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 4836/2014. DANA JENKINS, ESQ., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 68115 AJ; 2/21/28; 3/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings U.S. Bank NA, successor trustee to Bank of America, NA, successor in interest to LaSalle Bank NA, as trustee, on behalf of the holders of the Washington Mutual Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, WMALT Series 2006-8, Plaintiff AGAINST Eric D. Games, individually and as surviving joint tenant of Delia Curtis, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 10/10/2018 and entered on 10/18/2018, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on March 26, 2020 at 02:30 PM premises known as 245 E 46th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11203. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 4851, LOT: 40. Approximate amount of judgment is \$780,358.49 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 505910/2015. For sale information, please visit Auction.com at www. Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832. Steven Z. Naiman, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 AJ; 2/21/28; 3/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings M&T Bank, Plaintiff AGAINST Dennis Sam, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 12/11/2019 and entered on 1/27/2020, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on March 26, 2020 at 02:30 PM premises known as 566 Van Siclen Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11207. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 4073, LOT: 51. Approximate amount of judgment is \$859,142.81 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 501945/2012. Kent D. Arthur Sr., Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 AJ; 2/21/28; 3/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings CitiMortgage, Inc.,

LEGAL NOTICE

Plaintiff AGAINST Gwendolyn Rossi, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 2/4/2019 and entered on 2/11/2019, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on March 26, 2020 at 02:30 PM premises known as 756 East 86th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 8006, LOT: 62 and 63. Approximate amount of judgment is \$657,122.50 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 507529/2013. Randolph Jackson, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 AJ; 2/21/28; 3/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings CitiMortgage, Inc., Plaintiff AGAINST Amarnauth Ramotar; et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 5/11/2018 and entered on 6/11/2018, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on March 26, 2020 at 02:30 PM premises known as 97-24 Drew Street a/k/a 442 Drew Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 4185, LOT: 43. Approximate amount of judgment is \$405,883.49 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 504301/2014. For sale information, please visit Auction.com at www.Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832. Betty Lugo, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 AJ; 2/21/28; 3/6/13

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: PEACHES PRIME LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the secretary of state of New York(SSNY) on 02/04/2020. 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 : peaches prime LLC 590 Fulton Street Brooklyn, NY 11217. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 2/21/28; 3/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT: COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A Plaintiff, vs. GLORIA DEBLANCO, et al., Defendants 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 May 23, 2019, I, Aaron Tyk, Esq., the Referee named in said Judgment, will sell in one parcel at public auction on March 26, 2020 in Room 224 of the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, County of Kings, State of New York, at 2:30 P.M., the premises described as follows: 437 Forbell St Brooklyn, NY 11208 SBL No.: BLOCK 4290 LOT 12 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

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Tradition.

What Do We Receive When We Give?



JONATHAN SACKS
LONDON

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Tell the Israelites to take an offering for Me; take My offering from all whose heart moves them to give" (Ex. 25:1-2).

Our parsha marks a turning point in the relationship between the Israelites and God. Ostensibly what was new was the product: the Sanctuary, the travelling home for the Divine Presence as the people journeyed through the wilderness.

But a case could be made for saying that even more than the product was the process, summed up in the word that gives our parsha its name, Terumah, meaning, a gift, a contribution, an offering. The parsha is telling us something very profound. Giving confers dignity. Receiving does not.

Until that moment, the Israelites had been recipients. Virtually everything they had experienced had been God-given. He had redeemed them from Egypt, liberated them from slavery, led them through the wilderness, and created a path for them through the sea. When they were hungry, He gave them food. When they were thirsty, He gave them water. Apart from the battle against the Amalekites, they had done almost nothing for themselves.

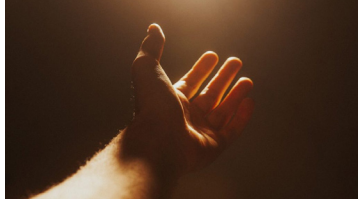
Though at every physical level this was an unparalleled deliverance, the psychological effects were not good. The Israelites became dependent, expectant, irresponsible and immature. The Torah chronicles their repeated complaints. Reading them, we feel that they were an ungrateful, querulous, petulant people.

Yet, what else were they to do? They couldn't have crossed the sea by themselves. They couldn't have found food or water in the wilderness. What produced results was complaining. The people complained to Moshe. Moshe turned to God. God performed a miracle. The result was that, from the people's perspective, complaining worked.

Now, however, God gave them something else entirely. It had nothing to do with physical need and everything to do with psychological, moral and spiritual need. *God gave them the opportunity to give.*

One of my early memories, still blazing through the mists of forgotten time, goes back to when I was a child of perhaps six or seven years old. I was blessed with very caring, and also very protective, parents. Life had not given them many chances, and they were determined that we, their four sons, should have some of the opportunities they were denied. My late father of blessed memory took immense pride in me, his firstborn son.

It seemed to me very important to show him my gratitude. But what



could I possibly give him? Whatever I had, I had received from my mother and him. It was a completely asymmetrical relationship.

Eventually, in some shop I found a plastic model of a silver trophy. Underneath it was a plaque that read, "To the best father in the world." Today, all these years later, I cringe at the memory of that object. It was cheap, banal, almost comically absurd. What was unforgettable, though, was what he did after I had given it to him.

I can't remember what he said, or whether he even smiled. What I do remember is that he placed it on his bedside table, where it remained – humble, trite – for all the years that I was living at home.

He allowed me to give him something, and then showed that the gift mattered to him. In that act, he gave me dignity. He let me see that I could give even to someone who had given me all I had.

There is a strange provision of Jewish law that embodies this idea. "Even a poor person who is dependent on tzedakah (charity) is obligated to give tzedakah to another person." On the face of it, this makes no sense at all. Why should a person who depends on charity be obligated to give charity? The principle of tzedakah is surely that one who has more than they need should give to one who has less than they need. By definition, someone who is dependent on tzedakah does not have more than they need.

The truth is, however, that tzedakah is not only directed to people's physical needs but also their psychological situation. To need and receive tzedakah is, according to one of Judaism's most profound insights, inherently humiliating. As we say in *Birkat ha-Mazon*, "Please, O Lord our God, do not make us dependent on the gifts or loans of other people, but only on Your full, open, holy and generous hand so that we may suffer neither shame nor humiliation for ever and for all time."

Many of the laws of tzedakah reflect this fact, such that it is preferable that the giver does not know to whom they give, and the recipient does not know from whom they receive. According to a famous ruling of Maimonides the highest of all levels of tzedakah is, "to fortify a fellow Jew and give them a gift, a loan, form with them a partnership, or find work for them, until they are strong enough so that they do not need to ask others [for sustenance]." This is not charity at all in the conventional sense. It is finding someone employment or helping them start a business. Why

then should it be the highest form of tzedakah? Because it is giving someone back their dignity.

Someone who is dependent on tzedakah has physical needs, and these must be met by other people or by community as a whole. But they also have psychological needs. That is why Jewish law rules that they must give to others. Giving confers dignity, and no one should be deprived of it.

The entire account of the construction of the Mishkan, the Sanctuary, is very strange indeed. King Solomon said in his address on the dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem, "But will God really dwell on earth? Even the heavens to their uttermost reaches cannot contain You, how much less this House that I have built!" (1 Kings 8:27). If that applied to the Temple in all its glory, how much more so of the Mishkan, a tiny, portable shrine made of beams and hangings that could be dismantled every time the people journeyed and reassembled every time they encamped. How could that possibly be a home for the God who created the universe, brought empires to their knees, performed miracles and wonders, and whose presence was almost unbearable in its intensity?

Yet, in its small but human way, I think what my father did when he put my cheap plastic gift by his bedside all those years ago was perhaps the most generous thing he did for me. And *lehavdil*, please forgive the comparison, this is also what God did for us when He allowed the Israelites to present Him with offerings, and then use them to make a kind of home for the Divine Presence. It was an act of immense if paradoxical generosity.

It also tells us something very profound about Judaism. *God wants us to have dignity. We*

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LEGAL NOTICE

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No. 501627/2016 in the amount of \$550,398.66 plus interest and costs, subject to the HPD Liens recorded against the mortgaged premises. Kirstin M. Bolduc, Esq. Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP Plaintiff's Attorney 500 Bausch & Lomb Place, Rochester, New York 14604 Tel.: 855-227-5072 68065 AJ; 2/21/28; 3/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for RASC 2006-EMX6, Plaintiff AGAINST Norma Tirado; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated December 7, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on March 26, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 281 Ashford Street, Brooklyn, NY 11207. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 3984 Lot 7. Approximate amount of judgment \$865,788.92 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 4148/2013. Gregory T. Cerchione, Esq., Referee Shapiro,

Legal Notice.

LEGAL NOTICE

DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: February 13, 2020 67905 AJ; 2/21/28; 3/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS, CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff, vs. IAN SMITH, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to an Order Confirming Referee's Report and Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on March 14, 2019, and a Decision and Order filed February 4, 2020, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on March 26, 2020 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 398 Amboy 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 3585 and Lot 1. Approximate amount of judgment is \$775,434.60 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 506946/2016. Aaron Tyk, Esq., Referee Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, 565 Taxter Road, Suite 590, Elmsford, NY 10523, Attorneys for Plaintiff Cash will not be accepted. AJ; 2/21/28; 3/6/13

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS E*TRADE SAVINGS BANK, Plaintiff AGAINST JOSEPH LONETTO, BARBARA LONETTO, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated December 11, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on April 02, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 310 2ND STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11215. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK 974, LOT 1144. Approximate amount of judgment \$1,041,870.93 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 16430/12. RICHARD A. KLASS, ESQ., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 68464 AJ; 2/28; 3/6/13/20

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 April 2, 2020 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.,

LEGAL NOTICE

Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: February 12, 2020 68214 AJ; 2/28; 3/6/13/20

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, Plaintiff AGAINST RICARDO JACKSON, ASTRID ARMORER, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated June 26, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on April 02, 2020 at 2:30PM, premises known as 530 JEFFERSON AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11221. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK 1654, LOT 22. Approximate amount of judgment \$922,617.75 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 2924/2013. LEONARD C. SPECTOR, ESQ., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 67829 AJ; 2/28; 3/6/13/20

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - COUNTY OF KINGS FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION (FANNIE MAE), A CORPORATION ORGANIZED AND EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, V. ELDA M. MANGROO, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS ADMINISTRATOR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF VICTOR MANGROO; ET AL. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated December 12, 2019, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, wherein FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION (FANNIE MAE), A CORPORATION ORGANIZED AND EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is the Plaintiff and ELDA M. MANGROO, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS ADMINISTRATOR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF VICTOR MANGROO; ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the KINGS COUNTY COURTHOUSE 360 ADAMS STREET, ROOM 224, BROOKLYN, NY 11201, on April 2, 2020 at 2:30 pm, premises known as 260 ARLINGTON AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11208: Block 3940, Lot 12: 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 Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 510961/2014. Gregory M. LaSpina, Esq. - Referee. RAS Boriskin, LLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. AJ; 2/28; 3/6/13/20

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: THE FIX LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/07/2020. 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 315 3RD Avenue,2ND floor Brooklyn, NY 11215. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ; 2/28; 3/6/13/20/27; 4/3

Social.



Director Quentin Tarantino and his wife Daniella Pick pose as they arrive for the London premiere of 'Once Upon a Time in Hollywood,' July 30, 2019. Photo: Reuters / Simon Dawson.

US Filmmaker Quentin Tarantino and Israeli Wife Daniella Pick Welcome First Child, a Boy Born in Tel Aviv

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

Quentin Tarantino's wife, Israeli singer and actress Daniella Pick, gave birth to the couple's first child, a boy, on Saturday.

The name of the baby, who was born at a hospital in Tel Aviv, has not been announced yet.

He will reportedly undergo a Jewish ritual circumcision, and his parents might be waiting until then to reveal his name.

Tarantino and Pick, who had a small role in

her husband's latest movie "Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood," had a Jewish wedding in November 2018.

They met and began dating in 2009 when he was promoting his film "Inglourious Basterds" in Israel. They later broke up, but began seeing each other again in 2016.

The couple currently live in Ramat Aviv Gimel, a small neighborhood in north Tel Aviv, and Tarantino talked earlier this year about how much he enjoyed residing in Israel.

His wife is the daughter of the popular Israeli singer and composer Svika Pick.

Hollywood Icon Sophia Loren Stars as Holocaust Survivor in New Film Acquired by Netflix

BY SHIRYN GHERMEZIAN

Online streaming giant Netflix has acquired global rights to Hollywood icon Sophia Loren's first feature film in a decade, in which she will star as a Holocaust survivor, it was announced last week.

In "The Life Ahead," directed by her son Edoardo Ponti, the legendary Italian Oscar-winning actress plays Madame Rosa, a Holocaust survivor living in seaside Italy who has a daycare business and takes in



Sophia Loren in a scene from "The Life Ahead." Photo: Netflix.

a 12-year-old Senegalese Muslim boy, named Momo, who has no home and recently robbed her. "The two loners become each other's protectors, anchoring an unconventional family," according to a Netflix synopsis of the film.

"The Life Ahead" will be released on Netflix later this year, *Deadline* reported.

The film is an adaptation of Romain Gary's novel "La vie devant soi," which was previously adapted for theatrical release by Israeli filmmaker Moshe Mizrahi as "Madame Rosa." It won the 1978 Oscar for best foreign language film.

Ted Sarandos, chief content officer at Netflix, said, "Sophia Loren is one of the most admired and celebrated actresses in the world. We're honored to welcome her, Edoardo and the talented team who made this film to the Netflix family. 'The Life Ahead' is a beautiful and brave story that, much like Sophia herself, will be embraced by audiences in Italy and all around the world."

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