JUNE 2007

"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved "-ROMANS 10:1

# **Holocaust Survivor:** Hero of Virginia Tech By Richard T. Cooper and Valerie Reitman, Los Angeles Times

If you were lucky enough to have a choice, there were only two ways to go that morning on the campus of Virginia Tech: away from danger or toward it. Seventy-six-year-old engineering professor Liviu Librescu chose the second option, saved a classroom full of students. and became a hero—at the cost of his life.

As a child, he had survived the Holocaust. As an adult, he had survived persecution for defying Romania's brutal Communist regime during the Cold War. With their children grown, he and his wife, Marlena, had spent a quiet two decades on a peaceful university campus in rural Virginia. But on April 16th, trouble found him once more. With bursts of gunfire rattling through the second floor of the school building, Librescu closed his classroom door, giving his students time to escape through the windows. As the students fled, Librescu held the door shut with his body while the gunman, 23-year-old Tech senior Seung-hui Cho, tried to force his way inside.

211

Moments after the last student leapt to safety, Cho apparently forced the door open and shot Librescu to death. "My father has showed a sense of his courage in standing up for what he believed since long ago," said Joe Librescu, his son.

Librescu's actions struck a chord around the world.

(See Jeff Seif's comments on page 2.)



#### INSIDE ITEMS

■ In Praise of Resistancep. 2
■ Jimmy Carter's Financial Friendsp. 3
Letters to ZLMpp. 4-8
Eyes Were Openedp. 9
TV Airing Schedulep. 9
Christian Zionismp. 10
DeSeifering Our Worldp. 11
Shalom From Sandrap. 12
Mark's Finance Focus: Article 3p. 13
• Our Man in Jerusalemp. 14
Zola's Bulletin Boardp. 15
Missions Reportp. 16
Sandra's Reading Listp. 17
Hebrew Lesson
Always Blame the Jewsp. 19
■ Notes & Briefspp. 20-21
■ Editorialspp. 22-28
Select Briefspp. 29-30
Product Order Formp. 31

### We'll Miss Johnny

By Sandra Levitt

Cartoonist Johnny Hart, a dear friend of this ministry, died at his home on April 7, 2007, from a stroke. He was



76 years old. His comic strip, B.C., launched in 1958 and appears in 1,300 newspapers worldwide. His cartoons reflect his Christian faith. Johnny was a native of Endicott, N.Y. He is survived by his wife, Bobby, and two daughters, Patti and Perri.

Johnny Hart use to call Zola just to encourage him. They would talk about what was going on in the world, and golf. We framed several of Johnny's cartoons, drawn just for Zola and hung in our home. I can picture Johnny and Zola together now. Golfing and talking.

Our prayers are with the family.





# **In Praise of Resistance**

By Dr. Jeffrey L. Seif

Dr. Librescu's sacrificial death touched me deeply and prompted me to reflect on the question of how we ought to deal with evil. At face value, those who argue that we should only "pray for deliverance," as per



Matt. 6:13, and simply "turn the other cheek" in the face of abuse, as per Matt. 5:38-42, seem to have the moral and spiritual high ground. Drawing their sanction from the One who said, "love your enemies," in Matt. 5:44, they postulate that we do well to be docile, subservient, and accepting, or "loving" as they call it. Though I appreciate their earnest desire to represent Jesus in the world, I am still left wondering if there might be other biblically sanctioned responses for individuals confronted by, let's say, rapists, terrorists, and insane gunmen—as in the case of Liviu Librescu when he was confronted by the gunman committing America's worst campus massacre.

A father myself, I wondered: Should I direct my boys to be sheepish and passively accept insults to their persons and possessions as "God's will for them"? Or should I advocate that, as brave, young men with Judeo-Christian values, they stand up and accept hazards associated with putting down aggression, even if it means exposing themselves to personal risk? I wondered: Is there not biblical merit in heroically "laying down one's life for friends"? (John 15:13)

My sixteen-year-old son and I discussed this question recently. I admitted that should he ever find himself in proximity to a mad gunman, I preferred that he risk his life in the interest of saving life—his own and others. I suggested that he would do well to charge the aggressor with all the vigor he could muster and yell to his classmates, "Come on guys, let's get him!" Lead—I said! Be swift! Be decisive, Son! Move! Act! Fight! These were my recommendations. While I grant that circumstances might demand otherwise, I was attempting to instill a value in my son, more than just a strategy.

A man overhearing us expressed that mine was the wrong tack. In his estimation, it was better to adopt a defensive posture. Later, when we were alone and while musing, perhaps, on the fellow's contrary response, he asked me a very pointed question: "Dad, what happens if I die?" My response was simple: "We all die one day, Son. Giving a life to save a life is an honorable way to go!" He eventually responded with a line from Shakespeare, something like "Cowards die a thousand deaths; the valiant die but once." He agreed—and I am proud of him. That's my boy! Though many in America are inclined to be "nice," politically correct, and sheepishly compliant in the face of wickedness, some of us still carry the memory that this country is reputed to be the "land of the free" and the "home of the brave." Before we ever had a standing army, brave Christian "minutemen" rose to the occasion on a minute's notice and defended us against forces bent on our demise. Our great country was forged by bakers, butlers, and bootmakers. Teachers, preachers, chimney sweeps, farmers, and others added whatever resources they could muster and, through their joint efforts, brought to reality the dream of the United States of America.

That was then. What have we now?

Chanting, "All we are saying is give peace a chance," the well intended misconstrue what it means to be both a "Christian" and a "man," and they then foist their sheepish non-reality upon others.

Both a "Christian" and a "man"

We get it all the time—though in contexts different from those noted above.

Islamic rhetoric calls for the massacre of the Jews. I take issue with this and hear that I am not being loving. Thousands of rockets are lobbed annually at Israeli civilians by madmen. I respond and am told that I must "love my enemies." Now there is a country in proximity to Israel on the verge of nuclear capabilities, led by a madman who bends over backwards to express hatred toward Jews along with his understanding that the destruction of the Jewish biblical homeland is Allah's will. I report on this, speak out, stand up, shout, and resist—and am censured for not "turning the other cheek." Those of us who are not sheepish, of course, are accused of being unChristian by those who operate with a syrupy sense that being Christian always means being nice and dutifully submitting to oppression.

I trust you will agree that the students who escaped from Professor Librescu's classroom at Virginia Tech will be forever grateful that he did not operate with that misconstrued sense of religious virtue. I trust you will appreciate the difference between accepting a petty insult for Christ's sake (i.e., suffering a "slap" and then



Students hold candles on the Virginia Tech campus, Tuesday, April 17, 2007, to honor the victims.

"turning the other cheek") and sheepishly accepting rape, pillage and plunder; and that you will see that, contrary to the misguided religious pacifists, there are biblically sanctioned approaches to legitimate selfdefense and resistance.





By Patrick Cox, Contributing Editor

Jimmy Carter's concern for the Palestinians over the Israelis is nothing new. He unabashedly supported the late Yasser Arafat, even after it became clear that the PLO founder was telling Muslim supporters, in Arabic, that he had tricked the American by signing the Camp David Accords and would use the agreement to destroy Israel. When Arab leaders cut off Arafat for supporting Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait and attacks on Saudi Arabia, Carter personally went to Riyadh to beg the Saudis to forgive the corrupt terror supporter. After Carter's failed campaign for a second term, his Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, divulged to columnist William Safire that his boss had intended to "sell Israel down the river" upon re-election. Thankfully, he didn't win.

Still, Carter's book, *Palestine: Peace, Not Apartheid,* went too far for many of his natural allies. His book was so biased (and dishonest) that it was derided by even typically anti-Israel media. The founder of the Carter Center's Middle East Program resigned publicly, followed by a raft of other Center employees.

The book utterly ignored the fact that, from its modern inception in 1948, Israel and its right to exist have been attacked by Muslim neighbors. Carter, instead, focused on the hardships suffered by Palestinians, ignoring the role of their own leaders, who continue to concentrate their efforts and resources on the destruction of Israel rather than the needs of their own people. Carter's statement that Palestinians should renounce terrorism "when international laws and the ultimate goals of the Roadmap for Peace are accepted by Israel" may have been the proverbial straw.

Following criticism, Carter's initial defense that he wrote the book to spur discussion was quickly discredited by his refusal to engage in any type of discussion. Then, appearing on the rabidly anti-Israel Al-Jazeera TV, he dismissed critique of his book by declaring, "Most of the condemnations of my book came from Jewish-American organizations."

In one sense, this is laughable. A list of unfavorable reviewers shows that most are gentile. Carter replies falsely that Jewish money in the media taints even non-Jews.

Not laughable is that while Carter dismisses criticisms from anybody who is Jewish or has ever received money from Jewish sources, he holds a very different standard for himself. For decades, Carter has been raking in enormous amounts of money from anti-Israel, and often openly anti-Semitic, Muslim sources.

Although the Carter Center refuses to publish detailed information about its contributors, we know that the Center's principal financial backers include the government of Saudi Arabia and the foundation of Saudi prince Alwaleed bin Talal bin Abdul Aziz al-Saud. If you've forgotten the name, just after 9/11 he offered New York City \$10 million that was rejected by then-mayor Rudy Giuliani because it came with the suggestion that America drop its support of Israel in order to avoid future attacks.

Other large donors listed in the Center's annual reports are the Sultanate of Oman and the sultan himself, and the repressive United Arab Emirates. Carter has accepted money from the brothers of Osama bin Laden through their family company, Saudi and Kuwaiti development funds, and the petroleum cartel OPEC. Listed as a "founder" of the Center is banker Agha Hasan Abedi of the bank found by U.S. and U.K. regulators to have been involved in terror financing and the sale of nuclear technologies — BCCI.



Carter's Center has even taken money from OPEC's only member in this hemisphere, Venezuela. This contribution is particularly interesting because Carter personally observed and vouched for the honesty of the election that ensconced current president Hugo Chavez, though various international agencies have since pronounced it rigged. Chavez, by the way, has a close alliance with Iranian President Ahmadinejad (who promises the destruction of Israel) and said in a Christmas Eve speech, "the descendants of those who crucified Christ…have taken ownership of the riches of the world."

There's lots more, but I'm out of space again. Still, one last thing must be said. Judging by the arguments and language, Carter's **book appears written primarily to convince American Christians that they should support the Palestinians in their conflict with Israel.** Sadly, he may be successful.



### Use a Recorder and Never Miss Zola Again!

#### Dear ZLM staff,

Thank the Lord for TiVo! Sometime back I found your show on a cable channel and pressed a couple of buttons on my TiVo remote control, so, now it is recorded automatically for me every week. I just finished watching the series on the Passover—where you revisited Zola's demonstration of the Passover supper. There were so many blessings in that teaching! So, now may the Lord bless you!

D.E.

#### Dear D.E. -

Digital Video Recorders (DVRs), such as TiVo, let thousands of households order "season passes" to *Zola Levitt Presents* so that they never miss our program! Satellite and cable television companies now offer digital recording devices that use computer hard drives rather than videotape to capture broadcasts for convenient viewing. Your note to us will remind thousands of *Levitt Letter* readers to use their DVRs to search for broadcasts of our program and then select "Get a season pass." To learn more about this technology, please visit www.tivo.com or Google "digital video recorder."

-Mark

#### Judaism?/Christianity?

#### Dear Jeff,

I've spent the last year in the conversion process to Orthodox Judaism. I have a few questions, though, that I haven't found answers to, and before I finish I want to know all I can about why Christians think Jesus is the Messiah. I can honestly say that I don't know if I can walk away from Judaism. But I want the truth no matter what it is.

God made a covenant with the Jews, a covenant he said he would never break. So why do Christianity and Jesus change that? Why does the Christian Bible say anyone who doesn't believe in Christ is going to hell? Why do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God? Thank you, — C. Greetings C.-

Thanks for writing. Let me begin my response by commending you for your interest in Judaism as you search for a religion. You have good taste! As far as religions go, I honestly believe Judaism is a good one. I believe there's much in traditional Judaism to be appreciated, so I am

not surprised that you are attracted to it and do not wish to, as you say, "walk away from" it. Personally, I think you are on the "right track," though I believe you are going in the "wrong direction."

You care enough to write, to search, to ask... This is good. I believe that your questions are significant, each in its own right, and worthy of a reasoned response. I intend no insult in saying, however, that I believe your thought process to be flawed. Your questions put Christians "over here" and traditional Jews "over there." Let me begin by calling this assumption into question and underscoring the common ground, thus closing the gap some.

Because the first followers of Jesus were themselves all Jews—like the traditional sort you are interested in converting into—I think a better line of questioning is "Why did so many Jews accept Jesus as the Jewish Messiah? Why did His Jewish disciples call Him the "Son of God" (a Jewish expression)? Why did they advocate for Him and write about Him—the fruits of which are preserved in what we call the New Testament?



Sandra in **GOD TV**'s International Master Control Room in Jerusalem where our programming is fed to various satellites and time-delayed for time zones around the world.

#### LETTERS TO ZLM continued

What prompted Jews to embrace Jesus' "renewal stream" within Judaism, and then go forth from Israel to tell the entire world that Israel's long-awaited Messiah has come for all? My point is simple, C: The New Testament is not about Jews against non-Jewish Christians. It is not "them" versus "us;" rather, it is about us Jews who remain Jews, who believe that Jesus is the promised Jewish Messiah, and that He came for the entire world. Your questions do not factor this, but that is understandable as both movements have perpetuated the divide for centuries. Some of us labor to stop that, however, and are given to building bridges.

"Why do Christians think Jesus is the Messiah?" you ask. Good question. Recently, I developed a made-for-TV series entitled, The Gospel According to Isaiah, which argues for Jesus' Messiahship based on Old Testament Scriptures. Let me suggest you acquire it (or view it at levitt.tv) if you want to hear a living, talking head give voice to the New Testament's claim for Jesus based on Old Testament Scriptures. Other resources are available through our ministry as well. Furthermore, if you are interested in "sit down" discussions, I believe you might benefit from conversing with Messianic Jews in your area, often referred to as "Completed Jews." If you find that you are interested in things both Jewish and Christian, as opposed to Jewish or Christian, you might want to contact the Messianic Jewish Alliance and/or the Union of Messianic Jewish Congregations, and learn about Messianic congregations in your area.

Why "hell"? Another great question, C. Let me ask you one, which is the Jewish way of responding, as I am sure you have come to appreciate: *Do people sometimes need to fear in order to take heed*? In the Torah, Moses

literally "scares the hell out of people," warning about calamities that will befall them should they be noncompliant (see Leviticus 26:14-46; Deuteronomy 28:15-68). So, why do 'Christians' talk about hell?, you ask. If we take Moses literally and seriously, I would say that it is because it's the Jewish thing to do! Sounds odd, perhaps. In any event, Scripture in both Testaments guides readers to believe that there will be a Judgment.

Lastly C, though I appreciate the Jewish religion and am sure you are deriving benefit from the rabbi you are studying under, permit me to underscore that a personal relationship with God is available to you through the world's greatest Jewish rabbi —Jesus. Sit at His feet, C. Open up the New Testament and read the Gospels with a new set of eyes. If you opt to read Paul's letters, you'll be hearing from another sage rabbi as well. Come to terms with all of that, C, and you'll experience a Judaism that will transform your life in ways not afforded you through the direction you are headed.

Thanks for writing. Keep in touch!

Shalom,



-Jeffrey Seif

#### Picture Worth 1,000 Words

Dear Sandra and Staff,

The picture on page 4 of the April *Levitt Letter* brought tears to my family's eyes. [The God of Love vs. Allah, The God of Hate] They say a picture is worth a thousand words and I wish there were more just like this in the secular news to show what really happens over there. I have seen very few acts of kindness on any secular news or even Christian channels. Thank you so much. Keep up the good work and may God continue to bless you.

R.E.T. SSG, USA, Retired

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



Sometimes it feels like you and me against the world.

#### Life—a Spectator Sport?

#### Dear Jeff and Staff,

Regarding the article "Amusing Ourselves to Death" in the April 2007 *Levitt Letter:* I agree with the article's overall point that the press made a spectacle of Anna Nicole Smith when more serious things were going on in the world. However, I was disturbed by the phrase "when she was kind enough to die for us" (third paragraph). I think that is inappropriate and unChristian. I understand the author may have intended it as humor. But, as bad an influence as Anna Nicole was, I am not happy she is dead.

— R.J.M.

#### Dear R.J.M. -

Thanks for taking the time to express your concern. None of us here interpreted the comment about Anna

"kindly dying" the same way you did. We did not suppose that the world is better without her. To the contrary, we saw her as a struggling woman who, given more time, might have come to the Lord. How much better would her life have been had society not made it so lucrative for her to be a sex object? The context in which she was said to be "kind enough to die for us" we interpreted as criticism of those who valued her only for providing sound bytes and news clips for the infotainment industry. Thanks to Anna Nicole Smith, you might say, the pandered public stayed glued to their televisions and watched more advertising.

When viewing our pending new TV series, *Jewish Women* of the Bible, you will sense that this ministry opposes, as much as anyone, the objectifying of women in our society or, for that matter, in any other. — Mark

#### Zola on MySpace

Dear Editor, I am writing to agree with A.S. [April '07 *Levitt Letter*] who suggested a MySpace account for this ministry. I believe

that a Zola Levitt profile would be my choice to send my friends when they ask me about the Jewishness of the Messiah. If an account does open, please let me know. I would be honored to list myself as your friend. M. I. Plan to go with us to Israel this fall. See details on page 32, or online at levitt.com

M.I. —You'll be pleased to learn that a friend of the ministry is maintaining a page dedicated to Zola at **www.myspace.com/zolalevitt** — Editor

#### "Seven FEASTS"—Good Gift for Expectant Mothers

Dear Staff,

I have had several copies of *The Seven Feasts of Israel* and seem to give them to expectant mothers. Your ministry is vital.



Order DVD (shown), VHS, audiocassette or CD, or booklet from page 31.

Shalom, -J. McD.

#### **Comments From Our Website:**

I'm very glad ZLM has this website. I'm not sure I can express how many different ways God has blessed me through you. My Dad passed away from lung cancer in February last year. Struggling with his death, I got the idea to look for a website. When I came upon yours and saw Zola had the same disease, I finally had a good, hard cry. I had watched Zola's program years ago with my parents, so I began watching old programs online. There, I met people like Jacob Damkani and fell in love with Israel! I want to learn Hebrew! The amount of grace that covered me was very thick. Our Lord in all his glory allowed Zola to touch this child even after he passed. To think

that through tears and prayer for Zola's family, I was able to cry for my own loss and the Lord was able to heal my heart.

So, in response to Jeff's comment about kids and the website, believe me, it's not just for kids. If it were not for the Web I would not be where I am. The Lord really has a plan and knows what he's doing.

A baby in my new walk, but a fellow follower of the Lord, -C. A.

You guys rock. — R.K.



FOR CREDIT CARD ORDERS OR DONATIONS, YOU MAY CALL 1-800-WONDERS (966-3377).

#### Other Cheek, Please

Dear Zola Levitt Ministries: We have thoroughly enjoyed your teaching materials, thank you.

However, after receiving and reading several *Levitt Letters*, we cannot reconcile your stand in regards to war, killing and conflict. The New Testament states to "love your enemy," "to do good to those who harm you or despitefully use you." It is not only the words of the New Testament, it is the very words of Jesus Christ our LORD and Savior.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus speaks the Lord's prayer and then follows it immediately with the need to forgive, the fullness of forgiveness, so our Father in heaven may forgive us.

We do not look lightly upon the atrocities committed to the Jewish people, yet our LORD commands us to love and forgive. This is not an easy command, yet it is again the very words of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. It can only become accomplished through the Holy Spirit.

The scriptures are numerous and the commands to love and forgive are clearly written. We are asking if you would please remove us from your mailing list as we cannot reconcile areas of your ministry with the commands of Christ Jesus. Thank you.

May the God of peace and love illuminate the fullness of His Word in your hearts.

Mr. and Mrs. C.L.

#### Dear Mr. and Mrs. C.L. -

I have read your letter extolling love's virtues, after which you "slam the door in my face" for allegedly not reflecting Christian love to your satisfaction. Personally, I do not believe that Jesus condones murder, anger and hatewhich you falsely prejudged me as supporting. With Jesus, I believe that "war, killing and conflict" are horrible and that "hate" is unacceptable. Can Believers legitimately resist aggression, and do so by force of arms if needed? What about self-defense? After accepting too-passively the slaughter of six million of our own, I grant that we post-Holocaust Jews are inclined to offer spirited self-defenses. You seem to have trouble with this. Your protestations notwithstanding, the Church accepts legitimate self-defense, and even provides chaplains to assist our troops legitimately engaged in exercising it. If you lock the doors to your house and cars, and have called the police in your lifetime, you believe in self-defense too. I'll grant that you are sincere, but I think you are woefully misinformed.

- Jeffrey Seif

#### **Students Tell Why They Love the Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies**

J.M. –The more I read the Bible, the more God shows me the Jewishness of it all. The New Testament says, "When you become born again in the blood of Christ, you're adopted into the family of God." You don't adopt Him into your family; He adopts you into His family. So, that makes me a "Born-again Messianic Jew" covered in the blood of the Jewish Messiah and I can't learn enough about Him and God's Word. I want to know God's perspective, not mine, not the churches', and not religions'. Because, in reading His Word I have found many mistakes in the church and in religion.

P.M. – I want to teach and speak to others about the Lord. I am a team teacher for my Sunday School class and I want to know more on a deeper level so I can teach intelligently. But I cannot attend college at this time. The IJCS will take me to the level of knowledge on biblical subjects that I would like to achieve without going for a whole college degree. Time is short...the King is coming, and people need the Lord. I happened on your TV program by chance, saw the program on the Passover, and loved it. I believe the Lord led me to see that program and order these studies.

I.B. – My son-in-law and I attended the Seder at the United Methodist Church given by Dr. Seif. It was an enlightening evening, and we agreed that Dr. Seif is a wonderful representative of God's people. I determined to learn more about God's Word and His Beloved People. I have taken on teaching the teenagers in our church. I know what I learn and pass on to these youngsters will enable them to better relate to their Jewish brothers and sisters.

#### **Guns & Moses Book**

In his new book, *Guns & Moses*, Jeff Seif draws on his experience as a police officer and theologian to walk readers through the Law of Moses, the biblical foundation of our Judeo-Christian culture. He describes God's specific instructions on how to use power to secure justice for all and protection for the weak. Anyone wielding any measure



of power and influence—parents, professionals, police, presidents, pastors—can benefit from exposure to the writings of Moses, especially since familiarity with God's precepts guides biblically minded people to the godly use of power in times of war and peace. *Please see page 31 to order*.

- Does "turn the other cheek" condemn abuse victims to accept their tormentors' rage?
- Does the Bible ever sanction war?

#### LETTERS TO ZLM continued

#### **Brotherhood of Peace Officers**

Shalom to you, Dr. Jeff, from a Messianic gentile cop. I have been watching Zola, Sandra, and you online for the past few months. Recently, the Lord showed me the Jewish roots of our faith so that I desire to see the Jewishness of the faith illustrated in our churches. Unfortunately, I believe the American Church has lost the reality that we are nothing without the Jewish people, and nothing without Israel (our true homeland!). My interest in Zola's ministry piqued a little more when I found out that you are a former police officer. I recently enrolled in the Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies. Keep up the good work! I will pass along the good word of you folks as I "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!"

Cordially, — L.J.

#### Hi L.J. -

Good hearing from you. I have discovered that many cops support our ministry. In fact, I run into cops everywhere I go. Am I a "former" cop? Nope. I am presently a cop. I keep a reserve commission and work 18-30 hours per month, still in the Dallas area, serving in the patrol division. I love it—and I love my fellow cops!—Jeffrey Seif

#### Free and Complete Airing Schedule

#### Dear Sandra and Dear Dr. Seif,

We watched Zola Levitt Presents for many years but, over time, we lost access to it. In March of 2005, we happened across it on what used to be KPAX and is now ION. God allowed us to record almost every broadcast since then and we will always cherish having them.

J.&M.R.

#### Dear J.&M.R. -

You are not the only ones who lose track of our broadcasts when networks such as PAX change their names to iNetwork or ION. It also confuses matters when channel numbers vary between cable and satellite affiliates. The TV Airing Schedule on page 9 of this Levitt Letter includes only our major stateside networks. Our complete TV Airing Schedule, which is free for the asking and posted at www.levitt.com, goes on for four pages. Digital recorders, such as those offered at www.tivo.com, are very effective at locating our broadcasts for you to record and share. Failing that, you can see them at www.levitt.com by clicking on "Watch on Internet TV" or by going straight to www.levitt.tv. — Mark

#### ZLM Will Not Share Your Private Info

Mark,

Someone is giving my name and address to different Christian organizations. Recently I've been asked for contributions to some of these people I've never heard of before. How do these people get my name? If this continues, I shall cancel all my contributions.

God bless you,

H.V.B.

#### Dear H.V.B. -

While it is unfortunately all too common for non-profit organizations, including Christian ones, to sell or swap mailing lists with one another, this ministry has no need or desire to share our names, mailing addresses, email addresses, or any information that our readers entrust to us.

Let me suggest a method to determine which of your charities fail to keep your personal information confidential. Simply give them each a unique version of your name, perhaps just by varying your middle initial or by slightly altering the spelling of your first name. Please feel free to try this tactic with us as well to be certain that we value your trust and respect your privacy.

Blessings

-Mark



## How My Eyes Were Opened to the Barbarity of Islam

By Phyllis Chesler, www.TimesOnline.co.uk

Once I was held captive in Kabul. I was the bride of a charming, seductive, and Westernized Afghan Muslim whom I met at an American college. The *purdah* [isolation] I experienced was relatively posh, but the sequestered all-female life was not my cup of chai—nor was the male hostility to veiled, partly veiled, and unveiled women in public.

I saw how polygamous, arranged marriages and child

brides led to chronic female suffering and to rivalries between co-wives and halfbrothers; how the subordination and forced seclusion of women led to a profound estrangement between the sexes —one that led to wife-beating, marital rape, and to a rampant, but hotly denied, male "prison"-like homosexuality and pederasty; how frustrated, neglected, and uneducated women tormented their daughters-in-law and female servants; how women were not allowed to pray in mosques or visit male doctors (their husbands described the symptoms in their absence).

Nevertheless, Western intellectual-ideologues, including feminists, have demonized me as a reactionary and racist "Islamophobe" for arguing that Islam, not Israel, is the largest practitioner of both sexual and religious apartheid in the world, and that if Westerners do not stand up to this apartheid morally, economically, and militarily, we will not only have the blood of innocents on our hands, we will also be overrun by Sha'ria in the West.

However, my views have found favor with the bravest and most enlightened people alive. Leading secular Muslim and ex-Muslim dissidents—from Egypt, Bangladesh, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Pakistan, and Syria and exiles from Europe and North America—assembled for the landmark Islamic Summit Conference in Florida and invited me to chair the opening panel.

Phyllis Chesler is a Professor Emerita of Psychology and Women's Studies at the City University of New York. Read the full text of her experiences in Afghanistan and among Islamic dissidents at www.levitt.com/news.

#### A Religious Role Model

By Moriah Zeltzer Wallstein, www.ynetnews.com

Fashion model Hava Mond manages to keep her religious obligations and build a successful international modeling career. Though she refuses to pose in swimwear or underwear, she is among Israel's top ten models, working in Israel and abroad. Read her story and see more pictures at www.levitt.com/news.





By Etgar Lefkovits, The Jerusalem Post

Attempting to stem the tide of rising Islamic fundamentalism in Europe, a group of British Evangelical leaders hosted a conference in London seeking to rekindle the faded force of Christian Zionism in the United Kingdom.

The first-ever **Jerusalem Summit Europe**, held earlier this year in London, brought Israeli conservatives and members of the Knesset's Christian Allies Caucus to meet with leaders of Britain's small, pro-Israel Evangelical community who feel increasingly threatened by the spread of radical Islam in Europe, and specifically the U.K.

The event, which was held nine decades after the landmark Balfour Declaration spelled out the British government's support for a "national home" for the Jewish people in Palestine, coincided with worldwide events marking the Holocaust. Christian Zionists in the U.K. are forced to contend with growing Islamic extremism coupled with mainstream political correctness among many Christians.

In an unusual turn of events, Israeli speakers at the event encouraged Christian revival based on biblical beliefs, while members of the British Jewish community called for coordination among members of both faiths in supporting Israel, and in lobbying the British government on its behalf.

"The Bible is the real bridge between us," said the chairman of Israel's Christian Allies Caucus, MK Benny Elon.

**"The main message we are bringing is not a request to support Israel, but to support Christian revival in Europe;** not to save Israel, but to save yourself," said Dmitry Radyshevsky, the executive-director of The Jerusalem Summit.

Radyshevsky, a Moscow-born Harvard Divinity School graduate, noted the irony that an Israeli Jew was calling for Christian revival in Europe, but said that it was part of a common struggle against radical Islam, which struggle requires both Jews and Christians to believe in the moral right of their Bible-based values.

"Either it will be a fundamentally Christian Europe or a Europe of Islamic fundamentalists," he opined.

"Today the people of Israel are more aware than ever



that it is Christians who have stood by our side through thick and thin, and Christians all over the

world are more aware than ever before of what is at the stake... nothing less than our way of life, and the Judeo-Christian values upon which Western civilization was built," said Caucus director Josh Reinstein.

However, "there is a whole new generation of Britons who have no concept of our heritage and ties with Israel, and all they hear in the popular press about Israel is negative, negative, negative day in and day out," said Peter Darg who heads the Christian Broadcasting Network in Europe. A British poll found that 40% of Muslim youth aged 16 to 24 wanted to live under Islamic law instead of British law.

**Women's rights are key to fighting Islamic extremism,** The Jerusalem Summit insisted. Citing a UN report which found that the treatment of women in the Arab world ranked lower even than that of sub-Saharan Africa, Tel Aviv University's Dr. Martin Sherman said that a diplomatic campaign by the West on this issue would transcend the traditional divide between the Left and the Right, and could serve to unite conservatives and liberals in the fight against Islamic extremism.

"Israel is frequently and fallaciously called an apartheid state when, in fact, the Muslims perpetrate a true and perpetual 'gender apartheid' where hundreds of millions of women living in the Muslim world, including in socalled moderate Arab nations such as Egypt and Jordan, are denied basic human rights," said Sherman.

The issue of women is a major dividing line and vulnerable part of Islamic society, which could be effectively used as part of a strategic initiative against Islamic extremism, that could include financing organizations advocating women's rights in Muslim countries, imposing punitive measures against countries which violate women's rights, and even conditioning foreign aid and trade on the issue, Sherman said.

A political campaign by the West against the Islamic fundamentalism on this issue coupled with an international focus on the religious persecution of minorities living in the Muslim world could cause the two central pillars of totalitarian Islamic ideology to crumble, said Radyshevsky. Just as the Soviet empire looked invincible a quarter century ago, Islamic extremism could be weakened over time by such a political campaign.

#### DESEIFERING OUR WORLD

n the last six weeks, I have traveled 5,000 miles by car and 30,000 miles by air, and I am a bit tired. But, I am driven by a vision! By invitation, I visited a number of churches to share that vision and am pleased to report that support has emerged, enabling me to share it with the world.

#### What is that vision?

Is it that one has to hate the Arabs to love the Jews? No! Is it that the church is to be condemned for abandoning the Jews? No! That we are living at the ragged edge of time and that the world is hopelessly spiraling out of control and toward an abysmal future? No! What then?

My vision is simple! I believe that God so loved the world that He sent His Son into it—beginning in Israel. Happily for the world, the Gospel expanded beyond Israel's borders and it went global. Tragically for Israel, however, as the messengers and message went forth, people forgot to look back, and the Christian tree lost sight of the fact that its roots were in Hebraic soil. So what's my vision?

Fix that problem! Fix it for the Jews. Fix it for the Church! Fix it for the world! *"Its roots were in Hebraic soil."* 

As Zola did, we teach the roots and preach the truths long since forgotten, across the continental United States. And most of you know that we now broadcast in Israel proper, and around the world.

We broadcast in Israel because, like most people, a majority of Jews know little about the Gospel's claims. We broadcast in Europe because it seems that there, as elsewhere, enthusiasm has diminished to the extent that the Church is in marked decline.

Observing that traditional approaches may have played themselves out, I am convinced that a feisty and engaging Messianic-Jewish approach, carrying the original message that "the King of the Jews is the hope of the world!" will plant seeds for the Holy Spirit, and that a strong testimony to God's love for Israel being a visible sign of the Invisible God might be "just what the doctor ordered" to get the world's attention and respect!

I know that there are many problems in the world—in America, in Israel, in Arabia, in Europe, and beyond. I also know that it's great to be on the side of The Cure! Jesus is the "Great Physician" and I optimistically embrace His promise that a harvest will be gleaned as the message goes forth—a harvest that we co-labor in, you and I.

Our ministry tells "good news" and "bad news." To keep you abreast of prophecy-related news, we share reports of Islamic advancement and Christian sloth in Europe. Do I report these to stir up anti-Christian and/or anti-



—not against it. And let me remind you that one needn't hate Muslims in order to love Jews! Hating Muslims or anyone—is a sin because hate runs contrary to the Gospel. If I hate anything, I hate ignorance and deceit, not people—particularly the poor who are being deceived. In this context I see Islamic encroachment as particularly ominous; I see threats of Europe's demise and Iran's nuclear capabilities as portents of evil things coming upon humankind. The demise of Judeo-Christian culture in Europe is a declared ambition of Islamic strategists, and the demise of Israel is an item repeated on their religious agenda.

So, what does the world need as its cure? Yeshua—Jesus. I hope the Holy Spirit will open the ears of the world as I talk about Jesus—about a Jewish Jesus and about a Jewish-loving Jesus. I'm banking on it!



#### SHALOM FROM SANDRA LEVITT

• ot a Jewish man proposing to his beloved. I am a hopeless romantic. I love a good love story. And what better love story than that of Yeshua, our Jewish bridegroom and us, His chosen. Remember, Yeshua is Jewish, so it makes sense that His proposal to us would follow the custom of his day—the centuries-old tradi-tion practiced by Jewish couples all over the world. Typically, the two people involved were in their teens. Shorter lifespans and the agrarian soci-you were old one

you were old enough to work, you did. Leisure time

was rare. Zola used to say, "There were children and married people. We invented teenagers standing around with nothing to do."

Zola would start this teaching, "When the young man saw the girl he wanted, or the girl his father said he wanted .... "He always got a laugh from the audience. Anyway, when the young man found his intended, he would go to her house,



Order CD (shown), audiocassette or booklet on pg. 31

taking a contract, wine, and money. After knocking on her door, he'd enter and display his gifts. The contract spelled out each marriage partner's responsibility exactly. The wine sealed the contract. When the young man put the cup of wine in front of the young woman, she had about 10 seconds to decide if she wanted to spend the rest of her life with this man. To be fair, he was probably already known in the com-munity. She even may have flirted with him at the well or in the fields. But, arranged marriages were also common. The money was the "bride price." Sons were prized for fieldwork, but when it came time to marry, daughters benefited their parents. The young man would present a large sum, usually his life savings. He wanted this girl. She would count the money, read the contract, and either pick up the wine or leave the table. By picking up the wine, she said "yes" and the bridegroom would say, "I go to prepare a place for you" (John 14:2-4). The young woman would cover her face with a veil, symbolizing her consecration and her separation from the available young women. A veil, not an engagement ring, told other men she was spoken for.

Off the young man went to his father's house to prepare a room for his bride-to-be. It took about a year to prepare a room properly. Only the young man's father could declare the room finished, lest the anxious young man build a jiffy lean-to and rush back to get the girl. The engagement period tested their resolve to be true to each other. They had no idea when the wedding would be. Yeshua says in Mark 13:32, "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the son, but only the Father."



While the bride waited, she gathered her trousseau and kept her oil lamp filled, ready in case her bridegroom came for her at night, which was often the case. Walking down the uneven stone streets of Israel at night is difficult without a light, even today. Matthew 25:1-13 speaks about being ready for the bridegroom's arrival in the night. Not a night should pass when we don't expect our bridegroom to appear.

Just before he arrived, the bridegroom would call out or sound a trumpet so as not to catch her with cold cream on her face. Then off they'd go to the bridegroom's father's house for the bridal night and banquet. They'd enter the bridal chamber, and when the marriage was consummated, the friend of the bridegroom announced it. John 3:29 says, "He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice."

The bride and groom emerged from the bridal chamber seven days later as husband and wife. The banquet gave time for rejoicing that the bride and groom were now one, before they set off for their own place.

Our Jewish bridegroom, Yeshua, enacted this same tradition for us: He came from His Father's house (Heaven), brought the contract (the New Testament), presented the wine (blood), and paid the "bride price" for us (His life, the highest price ever paid for a bride). He has gone to prepare a place and will come back for us (John 14:3). We are sanctified, set apart by the veil of Believers. He will call us up with a shout and trumpet (Rapture) and after seven days/years we will have the marriage supper with our Lord. We will live with Him forever. The ultimate love story. (See Sandra's Reading List on page 17.)

Speaking of love, come with us to Israel. You will fall in love with the sights, sounds, smells, and spirituality of your home. And, please pray for the peace of Jerusalem,

Blessings,

Faulker

Israel Tours info on pgs. 15 & 32. Sandra is back in Israel this June. Check out her blog at www.levitt.com/israelblog

### Wise As a Serpent: Saving, Spending, and Investing



As the person entrusted to oversee this ministry's finances, I hope to strengthen the body of Christ by sharing lessons in stewardship that I've learned since graduating from UT Austin with a management degree. Life's three biggest purchases are typically house, car, and funeral. This article is the third in my "Wise as a Serpent" series, and it offers a brief strategy for managing personal finances. For home buying basics, please see the February 07 *Levitt Letter*, p. 13, posted at **www.levitt.com**. The April edition, p. 9, features pointers on buying cars.

To begin with, the Bible doesn't seem to favor or oppose retirement. Working at least part time in our golden years helps us live longer. Whether or not the Rapture is right around the corner (and I think and pray that it is), I believe in living mortal life as if we could die tomorrow or live forever. That means living boldly in faith, but also managing conservatively all that God provides.

If you tithe, tithe first. Then, pay yourself—before committing to discretionary expenditures—by saving ten percent of your net income and dipping into savings only for emergencies. Aside from preparing reserves for rainy days, by saving a tenth of what we make, we acclimate to a slightly lower standard of living and provide a hedge against the tendency to forever spend and acquire. Maintaining savings of six months' worth of net income provides a cushion and acknowledges God's abundance. Please bear with me as I suggest these general guidelines, intended for those who live above the poverty line.

Families who routinely carry credit card debt must avoid certain luxuries in order to catch up and put their financial houses back on solid ground (Matt. 7:24). It makes better sense to pay off debt, in most circumstances, than to invest, and it is foolhardy to borrow in order to invest. The widely read Christian financial counselor Larry Burkett (1939 – 2003) taught me some key financial principles, and you can find worthwhile reading on Christian stewardship at

#### www1.crown.org/library/default.aspx?catId=19.

When it comes to investing, most Christians reflect on Jesus' parables of the servants whose masters entrusted each of them with sums of money (Matt. 25:14-30 and Luke 19:12-27). Believers typically hope to resemble the faithful servants who successfully multiplied what they received. Unfortunately, many gentle doves (Matt. 10:16) will rely on the stock brokerage industry, which, when it comes to selecting individual stocks, is about as rigged against the individual investor as Las Vegas against the gambler.

The website www.dallasnews.com/business/scottburns is a source of varied information on retirement planning, prudent spending, and the pitfalls of trusting financial consultants (read: self-interested salesmen). Conflicts of interest pressure them to sell whatever investments maximize income for them in the short run, rather than long-term security for investors. Scott Burns endorses no-load (commission-free) mutual fund companies, like Vanguard (www.vanguard.com), that offer the option of flat-fee financial advice. Or, on your own, you can pick several broadly diversified mutual funds-but only once you have six months' worth of net income in the bank. Scott Burns also recommends Daniel Solin's book The Smartest Investment Book You'll Ever Read: The Simple, Stress-Free Way to Reach Your Investment Goals.

Most investors aren't aware that stock brokerage contracts disallow litigation and, in the event of a dispute, require arbitration with NASD cronies. NASD stands for National Association of Securities Dealers. Would you force a consumer with a complaint about a used car purchase to be judged by a jury of used car salesmen? From what I have read and experienced, the Securities and Exchange Commission is about as effective in protecting the individual investor as the Department of Homeland Security is in securing this country's borders.

I share these thoughts with you in the context of applying biblical principles to cope with this increasingly complicated world. I offer them as illustrations of biblical principles that are worthwhile in the here and now. And, finally, I submit them as an example of this ministry's belief in sound business principles.



### Munich's New Jewish Museum

By Will King, www.imagesofisrael.com

Munich—the birthplace and headquarters of the Nazi party, and site of the 1972 Olympics where 11 Israeli athletes were murdered by Palestinian terrorists—lives



under the shadow of its past even to this day. The city's seeming reluctance to come to terms with its gruesome history with the Jews receded in 2001 when the city finalized plans to build a Jewish museum. After years of planning and a cost of \$93.5 million, the Jewish museum opened in late March at Jacob's Square in the city's center alongside a new synagogue, school, and community center.

Upon entering the museum's modern, cleanly-designed structure, one encounters first a sound presentation by Jewish residents telling their often tragic stories. Just beyond, a map of Munich spreads across the floor, on which several stands display information about what happened to the Jews at various sites around the city. Lifting up on one of these stands illuminates the picture corresponding to that particular event on the wall in front of the map.

Running lengthwise along one wall, a timeline of Munich back to 1229 details various events that befell Jews there. Very few of the events are happy ones, a testament to the difficulties of Munich's Jewish community. Items from various Jewish holidays and rituals, including a Passover plate, *shofar*, and Hanukkah menorah, make up part of the permanent exhibit. The museum's two upper floors contain an exhibit of rare Jewish books, paintings that were stolen by the Nazis from one of Munich's Jewish families, and more religious objects. A room with several computers offers visitors a chance to learn about various aspects of the Jews in Munich through articles and pictures, although most of the articles are in German. A reading room houses hundreds of volumes on a variety of topics, all available for viewing.

Only a few weeks after its opening, the museum already hosts 600 visitors each day. According to one museum worker, most people are pleased, though some complain that it's too small and doesn't have enough on display. However, it seems to me that this is a good complaint as it shows that the Munich population is eager to learn more about this difficult relationship in their city's history. One long-established Munich family said that the museum surpasses anything before, and that "some things are very astonishing for Munich."





While Munich's museum isn't on the same large scale as Washington D.C.'s or Berlin's, it's a great achievement for a city like Munich, on its way to healing its past. Munich is also home to one of Germany's largest Muslim populations. Coupled with the worries of rising anti-Semitism across Europe, the new museum complex with its synagogue, school, and community center goes a long way in contributing to a strong and safe Jewish community for Munich's future.



# October 9 Israel Tour

H Charles and a state

Tourism is up! There is room for you! Join Dr. Seif, Sandra and many other Believers who adore the Lord, Israel, and both Testaments! Reserve your spot early so you won't have to wait until next year. The **Deluxe Tour** (Israel only) is scheduled for October 21-31; **Grand 4 Petra** (Israel & Petra) October 21-November 4; **Grand Athens** (Greek Isles cruise & Israel) October 16-31; and our all-inclusive **Ultra Grand Tour** (Greek Isles cruise, Israel & Petra) will be October 16-November 4. For your tour folder, please call Tony at **(214) 696-9760** during office hours or our answering service **1-800-WONDERS** (800-966-3377) anytime.



### Five Classic Articles

Zola Levitt was possibly the most prolific Messianic Jew of his generation. To read some of Zola's best newsletter articles ever, please visit the *Levitt Letter* section at www.levitt.com and see the following editions' cover articles:

- July '95: How to Avoid the Messiah (The timing of First Fruits)
- January '96: The Father of Lies
- August '99: A Letter to Dan and Mike
- March 2000: Does It Really Matter?
- October 2000: Israel, My Love

On the way to our complete newsletter archive, you will notice our *Levitt Letter Extra News* items, which are supplemented every few days, featuring expanded *Levitt Letter* articles and an essay collection—plenty of theologically-sound, concise writing.

Available ZLM Speakers: Sandra, Tom, Jeff & Todd. See page 32.

# \$5 Rush Orders!

Our order forms offer the option of a \$5 rush charge. Rush orders are placed at the "front of the line" for immediate processing and shipping. Instead of the computers doing the work, our mail processors personally prepare rush-shipping labels and deliver them to our shipping department. This is a processing fee only and does not upgrade the shipping mode. Fortunately, we recently increased our mailing and shipping staff, so orders go out much faster than a few months ago.

### America Gunder Siege

The video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=n7WJeqxuOfQ, entitled "Immigration Gumballs," offers a daunting perspective on Revelation's prophecy about food shortages, particularly in the USA. Demographers assert that our country's immigration policies, progressively lax since 1970, threaten our social fabric and environmental resources. This youtube video offers insight on poverty in the world and the importance of secure national borders— which includes Israel's wisdom in defending her own sovereignty. Bonus: Raj

Bhakta, running for Congress, demonstrates how porous our borders are by illegally riding across the Rio Grande on an elephant. His six-man mariachi band, also there, plays loud and clear, but our border patrol is nowhere to be seen. www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2XB1YJeQjE

### Recruiting Mystery Shoppers

Some service-oriented organizations hire professional "customers" to report on their experiences when role-playing as shoppers. Sparing that expense, this ministry is asking you to advise how we're doing. How satisfied are you with the speed and accuracy of our order processing? Do we follow through adequately on customer service requests? Are we sourteous and efficient on the telephone? Our answering service answers 1-800-WONDERS (800-966-3377) around the clock. Calling (214) 696-8844 during business hours (CST) on weekdays puts you in touch with a ministry report if you include the name of whomever assists you. Thanks.

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**JUNE 2007** 

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the Truth.

www.levitt.com/speakers.html

# 18 "To The Jew First" Missionaries



By Scott Phillips, ZLM Engagement Scheduler

It is an amazing thing to see the hearts of young adults open to the reality of what God is doing in Israel. In March, the "To The Jew First Fund" of Zola Levitt Ministries helped sponsor 14 Bible school interns from my church, the student pastor and his wife, and my wife and me on an outreach trip to Israel. We set off with the intent to help the poor in Israel, to make our solidarity known to the Jewish people, to watch the Holy Spirit plant a love for Israel in the students' hearts, and, of course, to share the Good News of Messiah with God's first-Chosen.

On a breezy Saturday night in downtown, modern Jerusalem, as the streets buzzed back to life with the ending Sabbath, we decided it was the perfect time to pull out the video camera and interview Israelis on the street. We asked three questions: "What is it like to live in Israel, the ups and the downs, the good things and the challenges?"; "What is your concept of God?"— a large percentage of Israel is secular, so we thought this a valid question; and, "What is your idea of the Messiah and do you think He is coming soon?" Surprisingly, the young Israelis were very open to talking with us as we shared that we were Believers in Yeshua, the Jewish Messiah, and that we loved, supported, and prayed for Israel. Many of them expressed extreme gratitude and surprise that we, as Christians, were praying for them.

In one instance, a team member shared the Gospel with a young man who became so interested in hearing more about Yeshua that he repeatedly calls that team member, asking when we are coming back to Israel. Another time, we approached a group of young Orthodox men who, after we spoke with them, thanked us enthusiastically. We see God doing something amazing in Israel. He is slowly, but surely, awakening the people of Israel, His first love, and welcoming them into a relationship with Him through the Messiah. They are thirsting for a relationship with God and we are glad to provide the Living Water.

In a unique opportunity, we teamedup with a kindred ministry in Jerusalem to remodel and repair kindergartens in south Tel Aviv where the poorest residents, including many foreign workers, bring their children for care. We were the hands of Jesus to these youngsters, giving them clean care centers and taking the opportunity to have oneon-one interaction with them as well—a great blessing for us and them.

Several occasions of worship and fellowship with Messianic Believers highlighted our trip. On one particular evening, we met with a Jerusalem youth group. The unity we felt as we worshipped God together, prayed for one another, and shared our hearts encouraged and inspired us. I believe that meaningful relationships began that evening, which will endure and be of future use in furthering the Kingdom of our God.

But none of these opportunities and experiences overshadows the effect God had on the hearts of the 14 students. They were truly changed, gaining a new perspective on Israel and God's heart for Israel. One student expressed: "The more people I met, the more I could feel God's love for his Chosen People. In fact, I believe one of the greatest blessings of this trip is being able to put a face to every prayer for Israel, whether for the Believers, observant Jews, secular Jews, or Arabs."

Financial assistance from Zola Levitt Ministries' "To The Jew First Fund" meant that a few more Jewish people heard the Good News about their Jewish Messiah. It's no small thing that Israel now has an additional 14 zealous, lifelong advocates who will stand with it and proclaim to the daughter of Zion, "Your salvation has come" (Isaiah 62:11).



FOR CREDIT CARD ORDERS OR DONATIONS, YOU MAY CALL 1-800-WONDERS (966-3377).

#### **ITEMS OF INTEREST**

#### Sandra's Summer Reading List –

Recommended for beach or easy chair

*Exodus* by Leon Uris (1958) – novel about the founding of the state of Israel, based on the name of the 1947 immigration ship Exodus.

From Time Immemorial: The Origins of the Arab-Jewish Conflict Over Palestine by Joan Peters (1984) – about the constant presence of Jews in Israel. Peters set out in support of the Palestinian cause, but discovered their false history in the land.

*The Haj* by Leon Uris (1984) – historical fiction about a Palestinian-Arab family before and after the 1948 War for Israeli Independence .

*Our Man in Damascus: Eli Cohn* by Eli Ben-Hanan (1969) – the story of Israel's greatest spy. This book may be over thirty years old, but it is short, readable, and tremendously relevant for those who seek to understand the Arab mindset and the problems Israel faces as a nation today.

#### EU's Attitude Toward Palestine Unlikely to Change Palestinian Media Watch

Former foreign minister and member of the Palestinian Legislative Council, Mahmoud Al-Zahhar: "During (Chancellor of Germany) Angela Merkel's office as the president of the European Union, reliance on the European role is diminished, since Germany is imprisoned by a complex of the so-called 'Holocaust' and they suffer from it. Therefore, I do not foresee a fundamental change taking place, during her time, regarding the Palestinian issue." Good going, Angela! — Ed.

#### We Need Your Help... Automatically!

You can increase the effectiveness of your contributions by reducing our expenses in processing them, plus save your time and postage. Once you enroll in our **Monthly Gift Program**, our ministry will electronically receive a monthly offering from either your checking account or credit card.

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2. Transfer date: (please circle one) 5th 20th		
3. Enclose your check payable to Zola Levitt Ministries (ZLM) for	this month's gift.	La Lation
The monthly transfers will begin in about 4 weeks, and you can	cancel at any time.	The state of the second s
4. Signature	(required for processing)	
5. Printed Name	Zola's	
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10. Printed Name	Date Signed	

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Conceptwizard offers free Flash presentations on the Internet that teach you in minutes what otherwise might take hours to learn. Their newest of six riveting presentations are entitled, "Hamas: A Profile of Terror" and "The New Wave of Anti-Semitism." Just go to **www.concept wizard.com/info.html**. At our website you can see the "History of Israel," which covers centuries of development in a matter of minutes.

### **Replenish Our Missionary Fund**

Interested in sowing Gospel seed in Israel? Since March 2001, this ministry's *To The Jew First* commitment has sent 49 volunteer missionaries to Israel, 8 of them in the first half of this year alone. In addition, we substantially subsidized the separate group of 18 volunteers pictured

on page 16. Now we are behind on finances and request contributions that are designated for our To The Jew First Fund. It has been years since we requested funds for this effort, primarily because you have helped us generously along the way. We remain prayerfully confident that we will replenish the Fund sufficiently to send increasingly more missionaries. Thanks in advance for your assistance. -



Being the hands of Jesus — painting a kindergarten room in Tel Aviv.

### **Hebrew**Lesson

Wholly Committed to the Lord By John J. Parsons





### תּוֹרַת יְהוָה הְמִימָה מְשִׁיבַת נָפֶשׁ:

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul. - Psalm 19:7



#### Temimut Torah

According to Jewish midrash, before you were born, the LORD called your soul to appear before Him and said, "After you are born, become a *tzaddik* (righteous person); don't become a *rasha* (wicked person)." Then He brought you into the world, but tested you by means of the *yetzer hara* the natural inclination to be selfish and bad. You therefore entered the world incomplete, lacking the wholeness and integrity that could only be obtained by submitting yourself to His righteous will.

This verse says that the Torah of the LORD is *temimah*, an adjective that means faultless, whole or complete (*temimut* is the state of being *tam*, meaning unblemished or defect-free). The Jewish scribal arts maintain that if a Torah scroll has a single blemished or missing letter, it is no longer *temimut* and therefore *pasul* (unfit) for use in services.

Animal sacrifices offered at the *mishkan* (Tabernacle) were required to be *temimah* (Lev. 4:32), as was the red heifer (Num. 19:2). When applied to the human soul, *temimut* means wholly committed to the

paths of righteousness. Therefore Noah was called *ish tamim b'dorotav*—"a blameless person in his generation" (Gen. 6:9); Job was described as *tam v'yashar*—"blameless and upright" (Job 1:8; 2:3); and Abraham was instructed to walk before God and "be *tamim*"—blameless (Gen 17:1). Indeed all Israel was told, *tamim tiheyu im Adonai Elohekha* "you must be wholehearted with the LORD your God" (Deut. 18:13), indicating the uncompromised devotion that is required to be in a sanctified relationship with Him. Those permitted to dwell with the Lord in His holy mountain are *tamim*, doing what is right, and acknowledging the truth in their hearts (Psalm 15:1-2).

Psalm 119 begins, "Happy are those who are blameless (*tamim*) in their way, who walk in the Torah of the Lord." For those of us who are sinful, broken, and incomplete, the Torah of the Lord is indeed *temimut*, providing all we need to have our souls turned back to the way of true righteousness, soundness, and integrity.

#### "Letter in the Torah" Project

www.Ynetnews.com

"Letter in the Torah," a unique and original project that aims to unite surfers from Israel and abroad in funding the writing of a *Sefer Torah* (Torah scroll) by purchasing a letter in the Torah on www.otbatorah.com, is set to be completed in a year's time.

The *Sefer Torah* will be donated to the IDF (Israel Defense Forces) through Friends of the IDF and placed in an army synagogue on Israel's 60th independence anniversary next year. The ten surfers who purchase the largest amounts of letters will be the guests of honor at the ceremony and will be honored with writing the final letters of the Torah.

A share of project revenues will be donated to the Friends of the IDF, starting with the first letter sold on site.



# **Always Blame the Jews!**

By David Meir-Levi, www.factsandlogic.org Facts & Logic About the Middle East

David Brooks's recent *New York Times* opinion piece, "A War of Narratives," really hits the nail on the head. In the prevailing Arab "narrative," all the problems in the Arab world are due to Israel. In the Arab world, where Osama bin Laden is the Arabs' most adulated hero because he committed the 9/11 deed (though everyone in that world also knows that "Israel's Mossad was responsible for 9/11"), the crazy logic that "Israel is the cause of all Arab misfortunes" does indeed make sense.

However, in our world, a world that strives for rational analysis by means of objectivity and the evaluation of all relevant facts, things look different.

#### In the real world, Israel cannot be blamed for:

- The blatant religious apartheid of the Saudi government in Arabia,
- The mass murder of Arabian Shi'ites by the Saudi royal family,
- The de facto maintenance of slavery as an economic institution in Arabia,
- Saddam Hussein's murder of hundreds of thousands of his own Iraqi citizens during his 32 years of repressive tyrannical rule,
- The current Muslim-vs.-Muslim terrorist carnage in Iraq,
- The Taliban reign of terror in Afghanistan,
- The Muslim repression of Hindus in Bangladesh,
- The brutal Islamic subjugation of women prevailing in many Muslim countries for the last millennium,
- The Muslim persecution of Christians and Jews throughout the Muslim world since the beginning of Islam,
- The fact that the "religion of peace" spawned a 1,300-year war against the non-Muslim world (Jihad) a thousand years before Israel came back into existence,
- The grinding poverty and lack of productivity that typify even the richest of Arab countries, as documented in three recent UN-sponsored studies,
- The fact that, while not all Muslims are terrorists, almost all terrorists, for the past 30 years, are Muslims,
- The fact that millions of Muslims every year flee their home states, Sha'ria law, and Islamic sovereignty, to seek refuge, a better life, broader opportunities, freedom and a brighter future for their children... in Western states.

The appalling Arab narrative described by Brooks reflects a steadfast denial of reality, rooted concretely and unshakably in the Arab concepts of *ash-Sharaf* (male honor) and *al-Haram* (shame). To accept blame for failure causes loss of face, shame, loss of honor. So the political and religious and intellectual leadership of the Arab world descend to the irrational fantasy of what Brooks correctly calls the "Zionist-centric mythology," in order to supply a face-saving scapegoat for their own failures.

Until Arab leaders are willing to accept responsibility for their own cultural dysfunction, they and their unfortunate subjects are unlikely to emerge from social, economic, and political bankruptcy.

Obviously, blaming Israel does not merely miss the point; it also creates a profoundly dangerous misrepresentation of the root cause of the conflict. It confuses the arsonist (obdurate Arab hatred of Jews) with the firefighter (Israel defending itself against Arab terrorism).

Given this intransigent Arab hatred of Jews and Israel as well as the message of misappropriated blame—it is not just folly for the U.S. to pressure Israel to make concessions when negotiating Middle East peace deals; it is actually a mechanism that stokes violence by supporting the Arab lie, and it weakens Israel's ability to defend itself.

It's time that Western governments stop pretending to believe the Arab lie. It's time to address the real root causes of the relentless Arab war against Israel and the Jews.



#### Muslims Take Advantage of Absent Christians

By Khaled Abu Toameh, The Jerusalem Post

Dozens of Christian families from the Bethlehem area are about to discover that their homes and lands have been "sold" to Muslims without their knowledge. Palestinian Authority security officials said that members of a local Muslim gang have been arrested on suspicion of stealing land and property registration documents from the Bethlehem Magistrate's Court.

Bethlehem Governor Salah Ta'mari confirmed that an investigation was under way to determine who was behind the theft. He said most of the stolen documents belonged to families living abroad. A Christian businessman said that most of the victims were Christian families living in the U.S. and Latin America.

The scam was uncovered when court officials complained that many files relating to cases involving ownership of property had disappeared, a security official said. Initially, police thought thieves had broken into the court and stolen the files. However, further investigation revealed that the theft was an inside job. Three court employees and five land dealers were later arrested in connection with the case.

"These are people with close ties to the Palestinian security forces," the sources said. "We have written to the Palestinian Authority demanding a full inquiry. This is one of the biggest scandals in Bethlehem and many families are very worried that they may lose their property."

"The phenomenon of forging land registration documents has existed in Bethlehem for nearly 15 years," Ta'mari said. This is the first time the PA has acted against land thieves in Bethlehem. The arrests have aroused hope within the local Christian minority that the investigation will lead to the restoration of their land.

#### Days of Noah

By Jack Kinsella, The Omega Letter

When asked of the signs of His return, among the signs Jesus gave was the "sign of Noah."

But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. (Matthew 24:37)

Genesis 6:5-6 give us the Lord's perspective on the days of Noah: And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. Are we approaching those days when, compared to the 1999



Columbine shootings, the Virginia Tech massacre didn't seem to have such a devastating effect on us? Or, it seems, on most of America? Not because it wasn't as terrible as Columbine—the VT massacre claimed more than twice as many lives—but because it isn't as shocking as it used to be.

As we wade through rivers of blood, our souls callused over by a constant barrage of unspeakable evil, it seems only logical that either judgment is due this old world, or God owes an apology to Sodom and Gomorrah.

Read the full text of Kinsella's thought-provoking observations at www.levitt.com/news.

# Schools Drop Holocaust Lessons to Avoid Offending

By Alexandra Frean, The London Times

Teachers are dropping controversial subjects such as the Holocaust and the Crusades from history lessons because they do not want to offend children from certain races or religions, a report claims.

A lack of factual knowledge among some teachers, particularly in primary schools, is also leading to "shallow" lessons on emotive and difficult subjects, according to the report.



The report, produced with funding from the Department for Education, said that where teachers and staff avoided emotive and controversial history, their motives were generally well intentioned.

"Staff may wish to avoid causing offense or appearing insensitive to individuals or groups in their classes. In particular settings, teachers of history are unwilling to challenge highly contentious or charged versions of history in which pupils are steeped at home, in their community, or in a place of worship," it concluded.

However, it was concerned that this could lead to divisions within school, and that it might also put pupils off history.

# Briefs

#### The Blame-America-First Crowd

By Michael Barone, www.JewishWorldReview.com

There appears to be an

assumption spreading that causes

people to see this country and its people as the source of all evil in the world.

A HISTORY

OF THE

ENGLISH

PEOPLES

SPEAKING-

SINCE 1900

People fall prey to this common assumption because their education lacks an accurate view of history and America's place in it. Many adults actively seek what they have been missing: witness the robust sales of books on the Founding Fathers. Witness, also, the robust sales of British historian Andrew Roberts's splendid *A History* of the English-Speaking Peoples Since 1900.

Roberts points out that almost all the advances of freedom in the 20th century have been made by Englishspeaking peoples—Americans especially, but British, as well, and also (here his account will be unfamiliar to most American readers) Canadians, Australians, and New Zealanders. And he recalls what held and holds them together by quoting a speech Winston Churchill gave in 1943 at Harvard: "Law, language, literature these are considerable factors. Common conceptions of what is right and decent, a marked regard for fair play, especially to the weak and poor, a stern sentiment of impartial justice, and above all, a love of personal freedom ... these are the common conceptions on both sides of the ocean among the English-speaking peoples."

Churchill recorded these things in his four-volume *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples* up to 1900: the development of the common law, guarantees of freedom, representative government, independent courts.

More recently, Adam Hochschild, in his *Breaking the Chains,* tells the story of the extraordinary English men and women, motivated by deep religious belief, who successfully persuaded Britain to abolish the slave trade and then slavery itself. Their example was followed in time, and after a bloody struggle, by likeminded Americans. The common assumption, on the other hand, portrays American slavery as uniquely evil (which it wasn't) and ignores the fact that the first campaign to abolish slavery was worded in English.

The common assumption gets this almost precisely upside down. Yes, there are faults in America's past. But Americans and the English-speaking peoples have been far more often the lifters of oppression than the oppressors.

# PBS Silences Film on Radical Islam

By Susan MacAllen, www.FamilySecurityMatters.org

The road to include Martyn Burke's film Islam vs. Islamists: Voices from the Muslim Center in the popular PBS series America at a Crossroads has been rocky from the beginning. The film means to explore the ways in which moderate Muslims in the U.S. are threatened and silenced by radical Islamists. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting fully funded the film with federal grants but, early on, PBS and project managers at an affiliated station, WETA, demanded that Burke fire two colleagues who had brought him into the project in the first place. In a formal letter of complaint to the Corporation and to PBS, Burke stated that the demand was on political grounds: Frank Gaffney and Alex Alexiev were vocal conservatives and both have written on the threat of Islamofacism to the West. They also are president and vice-president, respectively, of the Center for Security Policy, a conservative think tank.

Burke says that before filming began, a *Crossroads* project manager, Jeff Bieber of WETA in Washington, D.C., said to him, "Don't you check into the politics of the people you work with?" This is an ironic question, given that WETA created an advisory board to deal with the making of the film; the board included Aminah Beverly McCloud, director of World Islamic Studies at DePaul University. McCloud took segments of the film that she considered objectionable (insulting to radical Islam) and showed them to a Muslim journalist and to Nation of Islam leaders. This action led to outrage in the Muslim community over the film, and the Nation of Islam has threatened to sue. In other words, McCloud instigated the very thing the film tried to portray: the tendency of radical Islamists to use threats and lawsuits to silence moderate Muslims and others who object to their ideology.

Burke's letter cited various other incidents of tampering with the film, including *Crossroads* managers beginning a new film *after grants were already made*, which used the same interview subjects Burke had used and overlapped his material. WETA openly wanted a key theme in Burke's film eliminated: the claim that Islamists work to establish parallel societies in the Western societies they inhabit, setting up Sha'ria law and "Islamic Courts." The evidence that this has been attempted repeatedly in Europe and America is extensive, but WETA apparently feels that this fact is too inflammatory for the general public to handle.

View the full text of this article at www.levitt.com/news.

# Father Knows Best

By Brent Hambrick, M.D.

Every father wants his child to excel, to exceed the father's own station and condition. This applies not only to sports, intelligence, and wealth, but also to the child's moral character—honesty, kindness, and integrity. What can a father do to help his children develop these qualities?

When God created a development program for His children, for the Israelites, He gave them neither equipment nor money. He gave them scriptural instruction—more valuable than fine gold. He told them that it would be their greatest possession; that if they obeyed it, and taught their children to obey it, they would live long and prosperous lives in the land they were to inhabit.

Remember Isaac's twin sons, Jacob and Esau, and how Jacob tricked his older brother out of both his birthright and his father's blessing?

The birthright in those days equaled the majority of the father's estate—mainly the family's land. The eldest son inherited it all and the other children had to leave and make their own ways in the world, acquiring their own properties. Jacob, however, had to abandon his stolen birthright and flee for his life before Esau killed him. Jacob himself was treated badly in exile: His fatherin-law tricked him into working much longer than originally agreed, and continually changed his wages. Jacob survived it all and emerged prosperous because his father had given him two things more valuable than worldly wealth: character and his blessing.

How can we develop our children's character and bless them? The first and simplest thing we can do is give them knowledge of and appreciation for the Scriptures. We cannot guarantee that our children will be Believers, but we can guarantee that they will be Bible literate at least knowing the way, whether or not they opt to walk along it.

In our home on a typical night, the whole family piles onto our king-size bed for story time. After a chapter from a book, one parent tells a story from their childhood. We talk about things that no longer exist: phone booths, typewriters, and alleys in town where as children we would shoot tin cans with our BB guns. Then we have a Bible story and give our children the most important legacy—the Word of God.

We also give our children scriptural laws through family rules. Children need love and discipline and they generally accept rules that are fair and consistently enforced. External, parental discipline ultimately leads to internal, self-discipline. The second thing we must do for our children is give them our time. Deuteronomy 11:18-21 (below) tells us to discuss the Bible with our children when we sit at home, when we walk along the road, when we lie down, and when we get up. The Word of God is clear: we need to spend time with our children. Quality time is important, but doesn't diminish the quantity of time our children need.



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A favorite way I spend time with each of my children I call our "special day." Being both a missionary and physician puts extreme demands on my time, so when I run errands, I take a child with me. Each child gets a unique special day with dad. As principal of our homeschool, I can give permission to skip class for this "field trip." The child gets me all to him/herself without having to compete with nine siblings for my attention. I am always surprised at how each child opens up and blossoms during these one-on-one trips, talking about things that would never be mentioned in front of siblings.

When I tuck my children into bed I tickle, wrestle, and pray with them. When I ask them to name their fondest memories, I don't hear about the expensive things we do like scuba diving or skiing. Instead, they tell me that their favorite times are when it was just the two of us doing the million things that seem mundane to me. To my children, our time together is their greatest blessing. It is their inheritance.

After you read the following, consider what applications might best work for your family.

#### Deuteronomy 11:18-21

Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land that the LORD swore to give your forefathers, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.

# Giving to Organizations that Teach Your Values

By Walter Williams, www.JewishWorldReview.com

James W. McGlothlin, chairman and CEO of The United Company of Bristol, Va., and a former member of The College of William & Mary's Board of Visitors and longtime donor, withheld his pledge of \$12 million to the college. He made his decision because of the actions taken by Gene Nichol, the college president, who ordered the removal of the cross from Wren Chapel. [See *Levitt Letter* Jan '07, p. 21.] The cross had been displayed on the chapel altar since around 1940. Nichol's justification was that he wanted to make the chapel welcoming to non-Christians.

That's a lie. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has maintained an attack on religious symbols for decades, but usually through the courts. As a former president of the North Florida ACLU and a member in North Carolina and Colorado, President Nichol's actions simply spared them a costly court battle to remove the religious symbol from William & Mary's Wren Chapel.

Nichol's actions caused a storm of controversy that he probably didn't anticipate. Caving in to the pressure, on March 6th he agreed to return the cross to Wren Chapel. The ACLU has enjoyed phenomenal success in attacking our religious values. Unless they are stopped, I guarantee you they won't be satisfied until they get some judge to order the removal of crosses from the graves at Arlington and other military cemeteries.

The Wren Chapel cross issue is simply the tip of a much larger problem. For decades, college administrators and professors have sanctioned or participated in an attack on traditional American values. They've denied campus access to military recruiters, promoted socialism and attacked capitalism, and instituted race and sex quotas in admissions and in the awarding of scholarships. They've used their positions of trust to indoctrinate students with anti-Americanism. Despite this attack, taxpayers and private donors have been extremely generous, pouring billions upon billions of dollars into institutions that often hold a generalized contempt for their values.

Mr. McGlothlin is to be congratulated for his courage in taking a stand against this attack on American values. Other donors ought to emulate Mr. McGlothlin's courage by withholding their donations to colleges that foster or sanction attacks on traditional American values and decency. While it's a bit more difficult, since their money is taken from them, taxpayers ought to rebel as well by pressuring their legislators.

Many college benefactors fondly recall their experiences at their alma maters some 20, 30, or 40 years ago. Often, what they remember bears little or no resemblance to what goes on at campuses today. With relatively little effort, benefactors can become more informed simply by visits to the college's website to discover whether there are activities offensive to their values. If there's an office of diversity, it strongly suggests the college is practicing some form of race or sex discrimination.

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) provides information about colleges that have "politically correct" speech codes that suppress debate. The Young America's Foundation (YAF) publishes information about inane courses at some of our colleges, such as UCLA's "Queer Musicology" or Johns Hopkins's "Mail Order Brides."

Some colleges have brazenly violated donor intent. Princeton University has been taken to court by the Robertson family for misuse of \$207 million of a gift estimated at \$700 million in today's prices. Because they violated donor intent, Boston College, USC, UCLA, Harvard, and Yale have been forced to return multimillion-dollar gifts. It's high time that donors large and small summon some of Mr. McGlothlin's courage and hold colleges accountable to standards of decency and honesty.



Because of this cartoon, Johnny Hart was accused of attacking Islam, although, as you can see, that conclusion is questionable.

### **Eurabian Nights and the Future of Once-Christian Europe**

By Daniel Pipes, www.nationalinterest.org

The most critical issue facing Europe is the long-term relationship between the continent's natives and its burgeoning Muslim minority. There are but three outcomes— Islamic takeover, Muslim expulsion, or harmonious integration—and the end result has profound implications not only for Europe, but for humanity as a whole.

#### **Muslim Rule**

The first scenario capitulates Europe into Muslim control by means of immigration and the high Muslim birthrate, three times that of indigenous Europeans.

Immigrant Muslims widely disdain Western civilization, especially the open sexuality shown through pornography, divorce, and homosexuality. Yet they stay.

At the same time, what some see as Europe's political correctness reflects the alienation of many Europeans from their civilization—a sense that their culture is not worth fighting for or even saving. Perhaps the country least prone to this alienation is France, where traditional nationalism still holds sway and the French take pride in their identity. Britain is most disconnected, as symbolized by the government program "ICONS—A Portrait of England." "ICONS" hopes to rekindle patriotism by connecting Britons to their "national treasures," such as Winnie the Pooh and miniskirts.

Entrenched secularism also means empty churches: London is home to seven times more born-Christians than born-Muslims, but more people attend mosques on Friday than churches on Sunday. As Christianity fades, Islam beckons. As G. K. Chesterton contends, "When men stop believing in God, they don't believe in nothing; they believe in anything."

#### **Muslims Rejected**

American columnist Ralph Peters dismisses the first scenario. Instead, depicting Europe as the place "that perfected genocide and ethnic cleansing," he predicts its Muslims "will be lucky just to be deported" and not killed.

This second scenario has indigenous Europeans—who still constitute 95 percent of the population—waking up one day and asserting themselves. *"Basta!"* they will say and reclaim their historic order. This is not so remote; some Europeans loudly protest the changes already underway. Examples include the anti-hijab legislation in France, irritation over restrictions on national flags and Christian symbols, and the insistence on serving wine at state dinners. In early 2006, several French cities saw a spontaneous movement to serve pork soup to the poor, thus excluding Muslims.

These are minor issues, to be sure, but insurgent antiimmigrant parties have emerged in many countries. They are beginning to demand not just border control, but the expulsion of illegal immigrants—a whole European nativist movement has gone largely unnoticed. However meager its record so far, it has huge potential. These parties generally have neo-fascist backgrounds, but are growing more respectable over time, shedding their anti-Semitic origins and dubious economic theories to focus on questions of faith, demography, and identity.

Once in power, nationalist parties will reject multiculturalism and try to re-establish traditional values and mores. One can only speculate about their means and about the Muslim reaction. Peters dwells on the fascistic and violent aspects of some groups and expects an anti-Muslim backlash to take ominous forms.

# Europe+lslam=??

#### **Muslims Integrated**

In the happiest, hoped-for scenario, Europeans and Muslim immigrants live together harmoniously. Perhaps the classic statement of this was a 1991 study, "France, an Opportunity for Islam," by Jeanne-Hélène and Pierre-Patrick Kaltenbach. "For the first time in history," they wrote, "Islam is offered the chance to waken in a democratic, rich, laic, and peaceable country." That hopefulness lives on. In 2006, Jocelyne Cesari, associate professor of Islamic studies at the Harvard Divinity School, claimed, "Islam is changing Europe, Europe is changing Islam." She finds that "Muslims in Europe do not want to change the nature of European states" and expects them to adapt themselves into the European context.

Such mindless optimism has little foundation because Muslims cultivate grievances against, and hold ambitions at odds with, their indigenous neighbors.

Worryingly, each generation appears more alienated than the last. Polls of British Muslims, for example, find that a majority perceive a conflict between their British and Muslim identities and want Islamic law.

As Dennis Prager writes, "It is difficult to imagine any other future scenario for Western Europe than its becoming Islamicized or having a civil war." Indeed, these two deeply unattractive paths appear to define Europe's choices, with powerful forces pulling in both directions. Within the next decade or so, today's flux will end, the Europe-Islam equation will harden, and the continent's course should become apparent.

# Why Islamists Want to Kill Ayaan Hirsi Ali

By Cliff May, www.townhall.com

Muhammad Bouyeri, a militant Muslim outraged over *Submission,* a film that took an unsparing look at the oppression of women in Islamic lands, shot the film's director, Theo van Gogh, in broad daylight on a street in van Gogh's hometown of Amsterdam,



sawed into his throat with a butcher knife, and stabbed a five-page letter into his chest.

Prominently named in that letter was Ayaan Hirsi Ali, the remarkable woman who wrote *Submission*. Bouyeri vowed to kill her as well. [See May '07 *Levitt Letter* p. 13.]

Such intense hatred and violence is difficult for many of us to comprehend. Not so Hirsi Ali. Growing up in Somalia, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, and Kenya, she experienced multiple forms of cruelty and became, for a time, a devout believer in the radical brand of Islam preached by the Muslim Brotherhood. She has now written *Infidel*, a book about her extraordinary geographical, spiritual, and intellectual journey. Anyone who aspires to understand the global conflict now underway—why it's happening and where it may be leading—needs to listen to her.

Hirsi Ali's personal story is by now familiar. She grew up in poverty and on the run—the daughter of a celebrated Somali revolutionary. When she was 22 years old, her father arranged for her to marry a man he thought suitable. She ran away, settling in the Netherlands where she cleaned toilets and worked on a factory assembly line. Before long, she also learned fluent Dutch, attended university, and was elected a member of parliament.

But after van Gogh's murder, the threats against her life impelled her to leave Holland for Washington where the practice. They are offended by her refusal to agree that Islam is "a religion of peace" and that a lunatic fringe has "hijacked" the faith to justify flying planes into buildings and dispatching suicide bombers to murder children.

Hirsi Ali argues that there are shortcomings and perhaps even pathologies within Islam that must be acknowledged and addressed. Such ideas came to her immediately after the 9/11 attacks. The chairman of the Dutch Labor Party said to her: "It's so weird, isn't it, all these people saying this has to do with Islam?"

"I couldn't help myself," Hirsi Ali writes. "I blurted out, 'But it is about Islam. This is based in belief,'" in particular the belief that a war must be waged to force infidels to submit. Al-Qaeda members are not protesting policies, they are fulfilling what they see as religious obligations. To fail to recognize this is, Hirsi Ali writes, "a little like analyzing Lenin and Stalin without looking at the works of Karl Marx."

She adds, "The kind of thinking I saw in Saudi Arabia, and among the Muslim Brotherhood in Kenya and Somalia, is incompatible with human rights and liberal values."

Although Hirsi Ali is no longer an observant Muslim, it is unfair to call her anti-Islamic. The Prophet Mohammed, she says, "did teach us a lot of good things. I found it spiritually appealing to believe in a hereafter. My life was enriched by the Koranic injunctions to be compassionate and show charity to others." But what she found increasingly difficult to accept, particularly as she disobediently befriended infidels, was the teaching that "if you don't accept Islam, you should perish."

Hirsi Ali believes that just as the West long ago "freed itself from the grip of violent organized religion" so, too, must Muslims today "hold our dogmas up to the light, scrutinize them, and then infuse traditions that are rigid and inhumane with the values of progress and modernity."

Those are revolutionary ideas. No wonder Muslim totalitarians plot to kill her, and Western apologists for Islamism conspire to discredit her.

American Enterprise Institute gave her a place to think and write about freedom, religion, and ideology. Her detractors worldwide continue to be outraged that Hirsi Ali dares to question Islamic doctrine and



# Europe's Muslims: Their Impact on Policy

By Konrad Pedziwiatr, www.europeancourier.org

Just thirty years ago, Muslims living in European nations were not a real political force. With few educated leaders, and many without the full rights of citizens, Europe's Muslims were barely noticed in the corridors of power. Today, most Muslims in France, Great Britain, the Netherlands, and other Western European countries with large Muslim populations not only have full citizenship rights, but sufficient organization and sophistication to actively take part in political debate. Domestic politicians might continue to ignore their voices, as Tony



Blair's government did when it joined the military intervention in Iraq. But European Union leaders now need to be aware that hundreds of thousands of Muslims may protest in the streets. Europe's Muslims are getting better organized, and are forming a cohesive interest group capable of entering into strategic alliances with other political groups. Europe's Muslims are also growing in numbers, exerting significant influence on Western European policy in the Middle East, and on transatlantic relations. Currently, the European Muslim community participates in policy making indirectly by joining and shaping the general debate on social and political issues in the countries where they live. Muslim organizations successfully lobby for their interests with the national authorities. In the future, their lobbying skills will improve and the growing number of Muslims in Europe will lend demographic weight to these efforts. Before addressing the effect of Muslim public assertiveness and lobbying on EU foreign policy and transatlantic relations, let us briefly look at who Europe's Muslims are.

There are over 15 million Muslims living in Western Europe, making up one of the most diverse religious minorities on the continent. The different forms of Islam brought to European soil from around the globe have undergone rapid changes, as acculturation and integration have created a new, European Islam, and distinctly European ways of practicing this religion.

The second largest religion in Europe is also characterized by its rapid growth, mainly due to Muslims' high fertility rate. Europeans already encounter Muslims in every sector of daily life and at every level. In contrast to the U.S., where only this year has a Muslim congressman been sworn in with a Koran, this has been happening in Europe for years. In civil rights and their improving political skills lies the power of the Muslim minority in Europe. In contrast to the majority of Muslim believers in the world, Europe's Muslims possess a political voice that can make itself heard in elections.

How Muslims in Western European countries vote depends on their opinions at the moment. Despite huge national, ethnic, and religious diversity, one thing, besides the Five Pillars of Islam, unites the majority of Muslims around the globe: their support for Palestinians and Palestine. In their uncritical backing of the Palestinians, they unquestionably exceed other Europeans. Muslims are also united by a critical view of the United States, and Americans generally, viewing them far more unfavorably than other Europeans.

The strong empathy Europe's Muslims feel toward the Palestinians unfortunately does not only reveal itself in ideological debate, but manifests in hostility and even violence toward Israelis and Jews.

The global politicization of Islam has given Muslims in Europe new strength and importance. Muslim partners and experts are in growing demand. This is helping moderate Muslim leaders find a new voice and a new confidence.

As more EU countries assign priority status to Muslim minority matters, Muslim leaders in those countries have growing influence on domestic and foreign policy. They may not be able to directly alter policy, for example the unsuccessful efforts of the Muslim Council of Britain trying to change the foreign policies of Tony Blair's government. But Muslims have been gaining more and more direct influence by actively shaping major public political debates in their countries. One eventual result of this influence may be a harshening of European attitudes toward Israel.

The Middle Eastern policy of the largest EU member states is for now only slightly influenced by the presence of considerable Muslim minorities. But it is a factor that should not be forgotten or underestimated. In the future, the importance of Europe's Muslims will only increase.

Konrad Pedziwiatr is author of the book *From Islam of Immigrants to Islam of Citizens: Muslims in the Countries of Western Europe.* 

# British Muslims Debate Among Themselves

At a recent debate over the battle for Islamic ideals in England, Anjem Choudary, the public face of Islamist extremism in Britain, claimed that Muslims have no choice but to take the fight to the West.

"What are Muslims supposed to do when they are being killed in the streets in Afghanistan and Baghdad and Palestine? Do they not have the same rights to defend themselves?" he said.

"We are the Muslims," said Omar Brooks, an extremist. "We drink the blood of the enemy, and we can face them anywhere. That is Islam and that is jihad. Mohammed's message to nonbelievers is: 'I come to slaughter all of you.'"



But in the same debate, held on the grounds of Dublin's Trinity College, many people in the crowd objected.

"These people, ladies and gentleman, have a good look at them. They actually believe if you kill women and children, you will go to heaven," said one young Muslim, who waved his finger at the radicals. "This is not ideology. It's a mental illness."

This war of words is part of a larger debate going on in Britain—the war within the Muslim community for the hearts and minds of young people.

While Islamic extremists are believed to be a minority of Britain's 1.6 million Muslims, they have no problem getting heard. They have disdain for democracy—and, most of all, the Bush administration's war on terror policies.

"Foreign policy has a lot to do with it," said Hanif Qadir, a youth worker and a moderate voice for Islam. Young Muslims are easy prey because they believe the British government has scapegoated them because of their religious beliefs. The youth also can empathize with those who castigate the Bush administration.

When Qadir asked several youth why they think "blowing people up is quite cool," they answered, "When a bomb goes off in Baghdad or in Afghanistan and innocent women and children are killed over there, who cares for them? So if a bomb goes off in America or in London, what's wrong with that?"

Qadir is trying to get mosque leaders to communicate with the younger generation. But he says it is an uphill battle when radicals like Choudary dominate the debate, getting their faces—and their message—out in the public. "Our scholars are not coming out of their holes—their mosques and their holes—to engage with these people," Qadir said. And many youth see no way out of ethnic ghettos.

"They're into all kinds of vices—street crime, gun crime, drugs, car theft, credit card fraud. But then now you've got another threat," Qadir said. "The new threat is radicalism. It's a cause. Every young man wants a cause."

Choudary, a lawyer, made clear he wants to see Islamic law for Britain. "All of the world belongs to Allah, and we will live according to the Sha'ria wherever we are. This is a fundamental belief of the Muslims."

Asked if he believes in democracy, Choudary said, "No, I don't at all." He cited passages from the Koran that he says justify jihad.

Others say there is no justification for jihad in England. Imam Usama Hasan, who fought in Afghanistan against the Soviets, said, "If you have the wrong intention, you can justify your criminal actions from any text-whether it's the Koran or Bible or Shakespeare." He said it makes him "furious" when radicals quote the Koran out of context to justify killing of innocents. It's a "very tiny" minority with such beliefs, he said, but "it only takes a handful to create devastation. Many people are terrified of Muslims. They are terrified of the Eastern dress, hat, and beard because they have seen these images associated with suicide bombers. It is up to us to dispel that fear—to smile at people, to tell them that the message of Islam is not about bits of cloth. It is not about the beard or headscarf or the face veil or violence. It is about peace." -



### Connecting The Dots By Gary Bauer, End of Day Report



Watching the nightly news, it would be easy to think that jihadist violence is primarily limited to the Middle East, but recent events elsewhere suggest that Islamic terrorism is not geographically limited. In Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim nation, three Islamic militants were sentenced recently for their part in decapitating three Christian schoolgirls and dumping their heads in nearby villages, leaving a handwritten note close to the bodies of the teenagers that read, "Wanted —100 more heads." The man who "masterminded" the beheadings got 20 years, while his accomplices each got 14 years—very light sentences for these gruesome murders.

In a similarly grisly incident, Muslim students in northern Nigeria beat a Christian teacher to death for purportedly tearing a portion of the Koran she seized from a female student during an examination. The students also burned the teacher's car and three blocks of classrooms, and the school's principal was attacked when he tried to protect the teacher. Where did these kids get the idea that it was acceptable to kill their teacher and burn their school down? Were they just lashing out from a sense of oppression and poverty? No. From a very early age, many Muslim youth are taught to equate Jews and Christians with animals and that murder in the name of Allah is the path to salvation. More proof of that indoctrination came in newly published Palestinian textbooks, which teach that working to destroy Israel is a religious duty. In one of the textbooks, the authors write of the 1948 war: "Palestine's war ended with a catastrophe that is unprecedented in history, when the Zionist gangs stole Palestine and expelled its people from their cities..."

Even more disturbing, Islamic justification for violence is taking hold in the heart of Europe. A German judge recently refused a Muslim woman's plea for a divorce even though her husband beat her and threatened to kill her. Why did the judge refuse to protect this woman? Noting that the couple came from Morocco where it is common for husbands to beat their wives, this everso-tolerant judge wrote in her decision that the Koran sanctions such abuse. While the judge's decision has created quite a controversy, she in fact may have done us a favor. Let's stop deceiving ourselves about "poverty' and "occupation," and let's have a serious debate about the real source of jihad.

### — Marriage — Christianity Offers

#### **Ephesians 5**

25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. 28 In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church.

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.23 For the husband is the head of the wife even asChrist is the head of the church.

#### **Islam Offers**

#### Koran Sura 4:34:

Men have authority over women because God has made the one superior to the other, and because they spend their wealth to maintain them. Good women are obedient. They guard their unseen parts because God has guarded them. As for those from whom you fear disobedience, admonish them and send them to beds apart and beat them. Then if they obey you, take no further action against them. Surely God is high, supreme.

When Satan is knocking at your door, simply say, "Jesus, could You please get that for me?"



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#### Politically Incorrect Video Spoof Invokes Ire

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A judge issued an order prevent-

ing the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University from taking further action against several students who made a mock hostage video, and the students apologized and said they didn't intend to offend Muslims.

With some three dozen Post students supporting the "C.W. Post Five," their lawyer, Frederick K. Brewington, announced the temporary restraining order issued by State Supreme Court Justice Antonio I. Brandveen pending a hearing.

"This is a victory," said Brewington.

Brewington also filed a \$2.5 million wrongful termination and discrimination suit in State Supreme Court against the college and three staff members. The students were fired from their campus jobs as resident assistants.

Brewington charged the administrators had "defamed" the students by calling them racists and psychologically troubled, and had likened the video spoof to the 1998 dragging death of a black man in Jasper, Texas. He added the administrators had made the students out to be like "monsters. They are not."

College spokeswoman Rita Langdon said in a statement: "The matter is in litigation and we cannot comment at this time."

The students said they are dismayed by treatment from administrators, who told one, "to keep this quiet because I [the student] wouldn't want this to come back and hurt my political career in the future."

Said another, "I feel like we were all thrown to the curb."

In their two-minute video, "A Duck Napping," four of the students appear in ski masks holding hostage the dorm's mascot, a rubber duck. In broken English, they make demands for ransom items. Middle Eastern-sounding music can be heard in the background, and the words "Mohammed" and "jihad."

"Respectfully, if we offended anyone, we have been very forthright in saying we are sorry and we have apologized to them," the students said. "That being said, it is what it is. It is a satire on terrorism..."

Many of the lines in the video, they said, were taken from *Team America: World Police,* the 2004 film written by the *South Park* creators.



#### Less-Invasive Heart Diagnosis Tool By Judy Siegel, *The Jerusalem Post*

Innovative technology, which researchers say is sure to become the standard, provides an accurate diagnosis of clogged coronary arteries—the same level as invasive catheterization, but much more accurate than ordinary CT imaging of the heart alone. This will make many diagnostic catheterizations, which pose risks to the patient, unnecessary, they said.

Cardiologists from Rambam Medical Center in Haifa have proven for the first time that a prototype hybrid device combining a computerized tomography coronary angiography



(CTCA) with an advanced nuclear camera (single-photon emission computed tomography, or SPECT) can be much safer and more accurate in determining whether patients with chest pains need invasive treatment to prevent a heart attack.

Prof. William Wijns, president of the European Cardiology Society and one of the world's leading cardiologists, praises the Israeli research as an international achievement that "represents another validation milestone in the search for a non-invasive imaging strategy that will eventually provide integrated evaluation of anatomy and physiology in patients with coronary artery disease."

One of General Electric Healthcare Technology-Israel's hybrid devices was installed at Rambam, and another at a leading clinical cardiology institute in the U.S. Rambam completed a comparative study with 130 patients suffering from chest pains who were examined with both the hybrid, non-invasive device and invasive catheterization. The prototype device examines the heart muscle and maps the flow of blood inside it in one examination.

Invasive insertion of a catheter into the heart's coronary arteries via a vessel in the groin or the wrist presents some risks. In recent years, CTCA has been developed to provide anatomical information about the arteries that supply blood to the heart muscle. But this examination does not provide information about the physiological significance (the amount of disruption in the blood supply) of the narrowed artery. SPECT makes possible an assessment of blood flow to the heart muscle when the patient is alternately at rest and active so that the healthy, damaged, and scarred regions of heart muscle can be identified. But this device cannot be used optimally alone. Rambam and GE combined to develop and test the first hybrid device that conducts both CTCA and SPECT in one examination.

**BRIEFS CONTINUED NEXT PAGE** 



# Anti-inflammatory Drug from IsraeliBiochemistBy Patricai Golan, www.israel21c.com

The transformation in her laboratory mice was so dramatic that Israeli biochemist Prof. Rachel Levy could not believe her eyes when she first saw the results. The mice, suffering from



severe rheumatoid arthritis, had been unable to move because of their extremely swollen and deformed paws and limbs. But within six days of treatment with an innovative anti-inflammatory antisense drug, the inflammation was reduced so significantly, the mice were running about normally.

Levy's breakthrough in discovering the drug, labeled BL-3030, was the result of years of extensive research focused on host defense mechanism against infections and inflammation, a common cause of death particularly among the elderly.

At present, inflammatory diseases are treated with steroids or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. These drugs have either limited therapeutic benefit or severe side effects, which prevent their long-term use.

Levy's BL-3030 molecule prevents the synthesis of a protein known as cytosolic phospholipase A2, which has a critical role in the development of inflammation.

"It is a very specific molecule and, at least in the mouse model, has no side effects. Arthritis in mice is very similar to that suffered in humans," said Levy, a professor of clinical biochemistry and head of the Division of Basic Sciences in the Faculty of Health Sciences of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev; and also head of the Infectious Diseases Laboratory at Soroka University Medical Center in Beersheva.

BioLine, Israel's leading drug development company, is investing a reported \$9 million into the development and

commercialization of the BL-3030 drug. Testing on humans is expected to begin in about two years.

Conny na tor of B.C. and the WIZARD of ID

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Hope you noticed Johnny's cartoons sprinkled throughout this issue.

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