



We need more inspiring people like Major General Wingate. —Jeff

UK Christian Was "Father Of The Israeli Army"

By Joseph M. Hochstein, www.JPost.com



February 1944, Burma: British Major General Orde Charles Wingate, far left, founder of "Wingate's Raiders," leads operations.

Israelis may know the name of Maj. Gen. **Orde C. Wingate** in connection with the Wingate Institute of physical education or with various local streets and landmarks. Less familiar is the life story of this Bible-reading Christian and Zionist hero, who has been called the "Father of the Israeli Army."

Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion wrote that Wingate would have become Israel's first Chief of General Staff, had he not been killed in World War II. Moshe Dayan and other Israelis who served in Wingate's Special Night Squads saw him as a leader who, as Dayan put it, "taught us everything we know." *continued pg. 2*

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Chairman Of The Joint Chiefs On Nuclear Iran

The Wall Street Journal, online.wsj.com

When Benjamin Netanyahu became Israel's Prime Minister earlier this year, he could not have been blunter about the strategic challenge ahead: "It is a mark of disgrace for humanity that several decades after the Holocaust, the world's response to the calls by Iran's leader to destroy the State of Israel is weak and there is no condemnation or decisive measures—almost as if dismissed as routine." He added, "We cannot afford to take lightly megalomaniac tyrants who threaten to annihilate us."

Americans in key positions have noticed this Israeli message. In a meeting shortly after Netanyahu's remarks, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mike Mullen, said that "there is a leadership in Israel that is not going to tolerate" a nuclear Iran.



Mike Mullen

continued pg. 3

Wingate came to Israel as a captain in British intelligence during the Arab uprising in 1936. He recruited Jews for counter-insurgency operations, which soon put Arab attackers on the defensive. After Wingate arrived in Israel and told the Jews he wanted to help them, they were suspicious. He was, after all, a British intelligence officer. By Wingate's own account, all other British officials in Israel in those days disliked Jews.

In 1939, his pro-Jewish stand led to his recall to England, with a note in his passport forbidding him from ever returning to Israel. Wingate made an official declaration:

“Neither I nor my wife nor any member of our families has a drop of Jewish blood in our veins.” He said this in a formal appeal against critical evaluations he received from his commanders. He added, “I am not ashamed to say that I am a real and devoted admirer of the Jews.... Had more officers shared my views, the [Arab] rebellion would have come to a speedy conclusion some years ago.”

Wingate grew up in a Protestant movement known as the Plymouth Brethren. He knew the Bible from childhood. He evidently identified with the warrior Gideon. He made his base at Ein Harod, where Gideon recruited his little army. When he was sent to liberate Ethiopia, Wingate called his command “Gideon Force.”

During World War II, Wingate preached long-range penetration — attacking deep behind enemy lines.



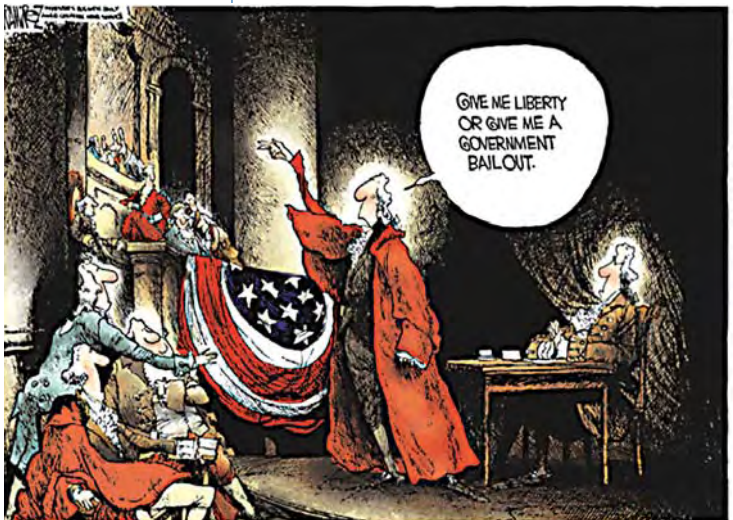
Orde Wingate

He said armies could extend the range of ground forces by exploiting aircraft and radio, two factors then relatively new in warfare.

Wingate often seemed to be an outsider, but he has been called an “insider’s outsider.” Through most of his career he had patrons in high places, among them Sir Archibald Wavell, Sir Edmund Ironside, Lord Louis Mountbatten, and Winston Churchill. Churchill took Wingate with him to the 1943 Quadrant conference in Quebec. There, Wingate briefed President Franklin Roosevelt and won U.S. support for an ambitious airborne operation that became his last campaign. He received Britain’s Distinguished Service Order three times in six years—for valor in Burma in 1943, in Ethiopia before that, and in Mandatory Palestine in 1938.

On March 24, 1944, while commanding a Chindit operation, Wingate died in a plane crash in Burma. He was 41 and a major-general.

In time, the Jews recognized that this unorthodox Christian who aspired to command a Jewish army was indeed their friend. That’s what they came to call him—*Hayedid*, in Hebrew “the friend.” And that’s how Israelis remember him still. At a time when the world was turning its back on the Jews, Orde Wingate chose to be their friend. ★



www.illustrations.com/cartoons

Iraqi Author: Jews' Historic Right to Palestine

www.MEMRI.org

In an Internet article posted in late 2007, 'Aref 'Alwan, an Iraqi author and playwright who resides in London and is the author of 12 novels, stated that the Jews have an historic right to Palestine because their presence there preceded the Arab conquest and has continued to this day.



1948 Arab camp

In the article, titled "Do the Jews Have Any Less Right to Palestine than the Arabs?" 'Alwan calls on the Arab world to acknowledge the Jews' right to Palestine, because justice demands it and also because doing so would end the violence and the killing of Arabs, as well as intra-Arab strife. He adds that such a move would also open up new avenues for the Arab world that would be more consistent with the values and needs of modern society.

'Alwan writes that the Arab League is to blame for the refusal to recognize the 1947 UN partition plan, for starting a war to prevent its implementation, and for the results of that war, which the Arabs call the *Nakba* (disaster). He points an accusing finger at the Arab regimes, the Arab League, and the

educated circles in the Arab world, saying that they had all used the term "*nakba*" to direct popular consciousness toward a cultural tradition that neither accepts the other side nor recognizes its rights—thereby promoting bigotry, violence, and extremism. He also claims there have been attempts to rewrite Palestinian history in order to deny any connection between it and the Jewish people.

'Alwan contends that the "*nakba* mentality" among Arabs has boomeranged, giving rise to tyrannical rulers, extremist clerics, and religious zealots of every description. In his view, the Arab world will never shed the stigma of terrorism in the West unless it abandons this concept and all that it entails.

To boost his claim that the Jews have an historic right to Palestine, 'Alwan provides an overview of Jewish history in the land of Israel. He questions the validity of the Islamic traditions underpinning the Arab claim to Palestine, Jerusalem, and the Temple Mount, and presents evidence that religions that preceded Islam had conducted rituals on the Temple Mount.

As an example of the traditional Arab mentality that does not accept the other or recognize his rights, 'Alwan discusses the Arabs' abuse of the Kurds in Iraq and of the Christians in Egypt and Lebanon.

Read excerpts from 'Alwan's article at www.levitt.com/news. ★

Chairman Of The Joint Chiefs On Nuclear Iran continued from cover

Tehran's atomic designs, he said, were a matter of "life or death" for the Jewish state. "The operative word is 'existential.'" When asked whether Israel was capable of inflicting meaningful damage to Iran's nuclear installations, his answer was a simple "Yes."

The Admiral was also clear about Iran's challenge to the U.S. "I think we've got a problem now. . . . I think the Iranians are on a path to building nuclear weapons." For the time being his counsel is diplomacy, noting that "even in the darkest days of the Cold War, we talked to the Soviets." But, he added, "We don't have a lot of time." If Israel decides to strike Iran, the consequences—intended and unintended—will be felt far and wide, including in Iraq where, Admiral Mullen says, Iran's ability to cause mayhem "has not maxed out at all." We thought readers might like to know how the Chairman sees the threat, and how well he appreciates Israel's peril. ★



Note: Please see the description of our book *The Iranian Menace* on page 36.

History of “Palestine Refugees”

During the past few years it has been very painful for me to witness the deteriorating situation in the narrow strip of Gaza where I lived as a child in the 1950s.

The media tend to attribute Gaza’s decline solely to Israeli military and economic actions against Hamas. But such a myopic analysis ignores the problem’s root cause: 60 years of Arab policy aimed at cementing the Palestinian people’s status as stateless refugees to use their suffering as a weapon against Israel.

As a child in Gaza in the ’50s, I experienced the early results of this policy. Egypt, which controlled the territory then, conducted guerilla-style operations against Israel from Gaza. It was in those years that the Arab League started its Palestinian refugee policy. Arab countries implemented special laws designed to make it impossible to integrate the refugees from the 1948 Arab war against Israel.

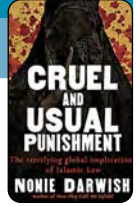
Even descendants of Palestinian refugees who are born in another Arab country and live there their entire lives can never gain that country’s passport. Even if they marry a citizen of an Arab country, they cannot become citizens of their spouse’s country. They must remain “Palestinian” even though they may have never set foot in the West Bank or Gaza.

This policy of forcing a Palestinian identity on these people for eternity and condemning them to a miserable life in a refugee camp was designed to perpetuate and exacerbate the Palestinian “refugee” crisis.

So was the Arab policy of overpopulating Gaza. The UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, whose main political support comes from Arab countries, encourages high birthrates by rewarding families that have many children. Yasser Arafat said the Palestinian

By Nonie Darwish
TheAustralian.news.com.au

Nonie Darwish, who grew up in Gaza City and Cairo, is the author of *Cruel and Usual Punishment*, reviewed on pg. 6 of the May 2009 *Levitt Letter*.
levitt.com/newsletters/2009-05.pdf



woman’s womb was his best weapon.

As a result of 60 years of this Arab policy, Gaza has become a prison camp for 1.5 million Palestinians. Both Israel and Egypt are fearful of terrorist infiltration from Gaza—even more so since Hamas took over—and have always maintained tight controls over their borders with Gaza. The Palestinians continue to endure hardships because Gaza continues to serve as the launching pad for terror attacks against Israeli citizens. Those attacks come in the form of Hamas rockets that indiscriminately target Israeli kindergartens, homes, and businesses.

And Hamas continued these attacks for more than two years after Israel withdrew from Gaza, a step that was hoped would begin the process of building a Palestinian state, eventually leading to a peaceful, two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. There was no cycle of violence then, no justification for anything other than peace and prosperity.

But, instead, Hamas chose Islamic jihad.

Arabs claim they love the Palestinian people, but they seem more interested in sacrificing them. If they really loved their Palestinian brethren, they first would pressure Hamas to stop firing rockets at Israel, and then would end the Palestinians’ refugee status.



It’s time for the 22 Arab countries to open their borders and absorb the Palestinians who wish to start a new life. ★

Vigilance Still Needed

By Zola Levitt

Ten years ago, as the new millennium approached, Zola declared 1999 the year for prophecy teaching because he couldn't get to all of the churches and conferences that were afraid the world would end very soon. Excerpts from Zola's March 1999 column:

Correct Christian teaching would remind all Believers (and unbelievers) that the Lord can come today. Certainly the Rapture of the Church depends on no particular happening in prophecy, but the events after it, the Tribulation, etc., are clearly announced in Scripture. The text of Matthew 24, by itself, paints a very cogent picture of what we have confronting us in this world today.

In connection with prophecy, I thought about Israel's existence from the '40s through the '90s and how it squares with the Dry Bones vision. Ezekiel pictures a step-by-step process, starting with the Jews coming back to their Land and slowly becoming more spiritual until, finally, the Kingdom would come and "The King will rule over them." Ezekiel 37 is very heartening when one looks at modern Israel.

The '40s – the remarkable restoration of the Jews to the Land—the decade of the horrors of the Holocaust (Deut. 28:64, etc.) and the restoration of the Jews to the Land (Deut. 30:1-5).

The 1950s – tremendous emigration to Israel.

The 1960s – the dramatic recapture of Jerusalem in the Six Day War and the reoccupation of Judea and Samaria by the Jewish people. King Hussein of Jordan might have named Judea and Samaria "The West Bank," but there can be no question of ownership of the land on a biblical basis.

The 1970s – the Arabs turn to a propaganda war on Israel after the failure of the Yom Kippur attack (1973). Oil boycotts had Americans waiting in long lines at gas stations. Israel began to get a black eye in the media.

The 1980s – the media continue to pound on Israel, criticizing the thrust into Lebanon, which had the effect of chasing the PLO over to Tunis. Now Israel was regarded as rough and tough, and a bully of the Middle East. This reasoning, still given in the newspapers and electronic media today, flies in the face of the actual populations involved. There are less than 5 million Jews and 200 million Arabs! The Jews do not "occupy" Lebanon and have never occupied anyone else's country in history. They maintain a force just north of Galilee in a strip of southern Lebanon simply to keep the terrorists out of Jewish villages in the Golan Heights and Galilee.



The 1990s – offer of a false peace. The Arabs effect the pretense of coming to terms with Israel, dividing up the land, agreeing at the conference table, etc. It's the same old war, which was tried in '48, '56, '67, and '73, but now the Arabs are using the tongue rather than the teeth to try to untie this knot. Arafat was even given a Nobel Peace Prize! I think that one fact alone will characterize the 20th century for a long time to come.

A false peace decade will lead to the Tribulation period, definitely a time of false peace. If you believe there is peace in Ireland today, or Bosnia, or South Africa, or Israel, etc., you'll love the antiChrist's peace covenant. He will convince most of the world that war will not happen anymore and then he will lead it to Armageddon.

I must say again: the Bible gives no date, and correct scriptural study does not subscribe to date setting. With all that said, everything seems so ready for the Tribulation that the Church should be well aware that "night cometh." (John 9:4, Matt. 24:43) ★

Anglican Bishop Fights Jihad

By Mark Tooley, www.theIRD.org



Michael Nazir-Ali

Britain's leading ecclesiastical critic of radical Islam is retiring early to help persecuted Christians suffering under Islamist regimes. Church of England Bishop **Michael Nazir-Ali** of Rochester aroused jihadist death threats last year when he publicly warned about encroaching Islamism in Britain. Born in Pakistan and from a family that converted from Islam, Nazir-Ali has championed Britain's Christian roots and condemned multicultural accommodations towards anti-Western ideologies.

Nazir-Ali was a candidate to become the Archbishop of Canterbury in 2003 but was overlooked in favor of Rowan Williams, who fecklessly suggested last year that *Britain accommodate some aspects of Islamic law*. Only age 59, Nazir-Ali is young enough that he possibly could have been considered for the title when Williams presumably retires in 2014. But Nazir-Ali seems to have been called to a different vocation.

"Bishop Michael is hoping to work with a number of church leaders from areas where the church is under pressure, who have asked him to assist them with education and training for their particular situation," according to a news release from Nazir-Ali, who is Britain's only bishop of Asian descent, and who was Britain's first non-white diocesan bishop.

Archbishop Williams hailed Nazir-Ali's contribution to bioethics and "clarity of mind" without mentioning what the Bishop of Rochester has become best known for: his tireless defense of Christendom and Western Civilization, spoken from the perspective of a Pakistani who knows well the contrast with Muslim cultures. Williams did commend Nazir-Ali's impending work with "churches in minority situations," not typically a major concern among most of the Church of England's prelates.

The Dean of Rochester cited Nazir-Ali's "ability to communicate across cultural divisions,

and this has opened doors of influence that he has always been courageous enough to walk through, often at personal cost."

One of several courageous doors through which Nazir-Ali has recently walked was challenging the Archbishop of Canterbury and others who seemed to accept some aspects of Islamic sharia law in Britain. The Bishop of Rochester responded by provocatively asking if all parties submitting to Islamic courts in Britain were there voluntarily, as Britain's multicultural elites would prefer to think: "Both in terms of submission to a tribunal and in accepting its decisions, are women genuinely free or is it possible that there are elements of family, social, and even religious coercion?"



Nazir-Ali wondered if Muslims who supposedly were eager for Muslim courts still had full access to the authority of impartial civil courts. The bishop insisted that Muslim courts must not be permitted to enforce what is "contrary to public law" in Britain. Nazir-Ali cited Muslim inheritance, divorce, and child custody laws discriminating against women. He also wondered if bigamy, still illegal in Britain, would be protected by Muslim courts.

"Muslim law assumes not only inequality between men and women but also between non-Muslims and Muslims. Will courts in Britain abide this discrimination?" the Bishop of Rochester asked. British public law assumes that "all citizens must be treated alike," based on the nation's Judeo-Christian tradition. But this legal equality is now challenged by Islamic law's "entirely different set of assumptions."

The Bishop of Rochester will retire from his diocese in September.

Mark D. Tooley directs the United Methodist committee at the Institute on Religion and Democracy. ★

I first met Israel's new Foreign Minister, **Avigdor Lieberman**, in 1997 when he was serving as Director General of the Prime Minister's office during Benjamin Netanyahu's first stint as head of government. Like Ehud Olmert, Jerusalem's mayor in those days, Lieberman often rose early to exercise at the prestigious King David Hotel's in-house gym, as did I, and we shared the same Moroccan-born trainer who worked there.



Israel's New Foreign Minister

I would sometimes hear interesting tidbits of governmental gossip from my trainer, who soon became a friend. Although he would never say for sure, I suspected that the ultimate tidbit source was often Avigdor Lieberman.

It was no secret that there was little love lost between the Likud Prime Minister and his Russian-speaking office chief, despite the fact that both men shared similar political views. Lieberman was known as a very ambitious man, as was his boss. That Lieberman was born and reared in the former Soviet Union (in what is now the independent country of Moldova) while Netanyahu was a virtual American who spent his high school and college years in the United States, provided a fascinating angle to their post-Cold War political wrangling in Israel.

Fast-forward to 2009 and the two men are sitting next to each other in the most senior cabinet chairs, despite the fact that Lieberman left the Likud party in 1999 to form his own party known as Yisrael Beiteinu—which translates as Israel Is Our Home. Mostly backed by fellow Russian-speaking immigrants, the party adopted political positions that were usually further to the right than Likud's.

Lieberman joined Ariel Sharon's first government in March 2001, serving



as Infrastructure Minister. He became Transport Minister in early 2003. But the populist politician resigned from the government in May 2004 due to his strong opposition to Sharon's plan to uproot all Jewish settlers from the Gaza Strip and four communities in Samaria. I encountered the newly-resigned Lieberman at our gym and congratulated him for what I called his "courageous decision" to pull his party out of Sharon's government, agreeing with him that the planned Gaza withdrawal would prove disastrous for tiny Israel, as has certainly been the case.

It is not clear just how long Lieberman, who resides with his wife and three children in the Judean desert settlement of Nokdim, will serve as Netanyahu's Foreign Minister, given that he is under police investigation for several crimes allegedly committed in the 1990s, including accepting bribes and fraud. But he is certain to remain a colorful and controversial political figure. ★

Dry Bones DEFAMATION



Ask your children and grandchildren if you don't believe me. The Jonas Brothers are just about the hottest band in today's youth culture. At their sell-out concerts, multiple tens of thousands of kids—young girls mostly—sway back and forth, screaming with abandon while hanging on every word from the band.

DeSeifering Our World

By Dr. Jeffrey Seif



Reflecting on their popularity with my own seventeen-year-old musical son, Zack put it to me like this: “Dad, when Disney picks you up, it pretty much guarantees your success.” That may be true—and Disney did pick them—but his assessment may be only half the truth in the case of the **Jonas Brothers** (below). They also appear to be picked-up by God—and He couldn't have picked a nicer family to elevate.



You see Kevin Jonas, the boys' father, is an old friend and associate of mine. For a few years we served together on a Bible college faculty, where he taught music ministry and I taught the Bible and Jewish studies. I remember when Kevin felt an urge to go into pastoral work full time, and left the music faculty to pastor a small church in northern New Jersey. Given its close proximity to New York, one of his sons went into the big city for fine arts lessons, as did another, and then another. Eventually discovered by Disney, these pastor's kids became the best-known boys in America.

It had been a few years since I'd spoken with him, so I ran him down and exchanged some emails recently.

Kevin confessed that he watches *Zola Levitt Presents* and enjoys the programs. That not only encouraged me, but also reminded me of the disparity among the millions of people who watch us.

ZLM's general manager, Mark Levitt, long-standing television producer, Ken Berg, and I wrestle with the question of how to steward our massive media resource. Some of our viewers are rock stars, while others' lives are “on the rocks.” What should we say to them, and to those whose circumstances fall somewhere in between? This is the million-dollar question.

For months now, I have listened to commentators, pundits, and analysts who offer complex assessments of politics and economics, with the religious ones salting their appraisals with Bible prophecy perspectives. Engaging each of these fields individually—politics, economics, religion, and eschatology (the End Times)—presents its own perils, does it not? Treating them together, especially at a time when many people are on pins and needles, has the net effect of compounding problems while trying to solve them.

Happily, experts looking through the economic malaise now say they can see an end in sight—and soon. While many put their stock in the advice of this or that expert broker, I try to look through the blurry crowd to catch a glimpse of the shepherd—the “Good Shepherd” of Psalm 23.

I take stock in the One whose promises lead to the declaration that “I shall not want;” I expect Him to “make me lie

down in green pastures;” and I still believe that “though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,” He is “with me.” So, I search for His presence and voice in this crowded world, amid clamorous opinions. For all these years, this Shepherd-Savior has served me well, as has the promise that “surely [His] goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

So, I’ll focus on telling this Messiah’s story—and salting it with Jewish perspectives. For thirty years now, Zola Levitt Ministries has made high quality, Bible-based television programming. The presses continue to run as we print timely books and articles, and reproduce the worthwhile observations of others in our *Levitt Letters*.



Rare Temple Mount view from a Western Wall worker's crane. (see pgs. 26-27)

Without interruption, we take pilgrims to Israel to follow in the footsteps of the Shepherd. As with all our projects, we’ve worked on this magazine in the hope that you’ll hear His voice through it. If He is beckoning you to Israel this June 7 or October 13 or 18 (see page 36), please respond to Him and join me. Call (214) 696-9760 to begin your journey. Even if you don’t hear a call to travel in person, please pray for us as we take millions there via television. And, if you want to help materially in that effort, we’d really appreciate it, especially at this time.

Your messenger,

Jeff Seif

Death Penalty For Selling Land To Jews

By Khaled Abu Toameh
www.JPost.com



The Palestinian Authority has issued yet another warning to Palestinians against selling their homes or properties to Jews, saying those who violate the order will be accused of “high treason”—a charge that carries the death penalty.

The latest warning was issued by the Chief Islamic Judge of the Palestinian Authority, Sheik Tayseer Rajab Tamimi, in response to reports that Jewish businessmen from the U.S. had purchased land from Palestinians on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. Warning the Palestinians against engaging in “suspicious real estate deeds,” the religious leader said that according to Islamic teachings it was a “grave sin” to sell houses and lands to Jews. He said that the ban also applies to real estate agents or middlemen who are involved in such transactions.

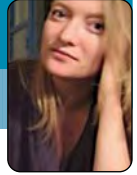
He warned that anyone who ignores the warning would be punished in accordance with Islamic teachings and would also be ostracized by his community and family. Sheik Tamimi also issued a ban on renting out property to Jewish individuals and organizations under the pretext that they would spread moral, political, and security corruption there.

He said that the ban was necessary to counter the Israeli government’s efforts to change the Arab and Islamic culture of Jerusalem by expelling its Arab residents and turning it into a Jewish city, claiming that it is “the religious, political, and spiritual capital of the Palestinians. The Jews have no rights in Jerusalem.”

Scores of Palestinians have been murdered over the past three decades for allegedly selling their property to Jews or for acting as intermediaries in real estate deeds involving Jews.

Several *fatwas* [religious decrees] issued by PA Islamic clerics have ruled that any Palestinian who sells his property to Jews would face the death sentence. ★

Israeli Heart Shines In Africa



By Karin Kloosterman (right)
www.Israel21c.org

As Westerners, there are some things we really can't understand about Africa unless we've been there. That's what Sivan Achor-Borowich discovered over the last decade. While working for a clothing manufacturer and then the United Nations, the Israeli woman fell in love with Africa. She understood how very small things—like a single light bulb shining at night—could drastically improve peoples' lives.

With this in mind, 30-year-old Achor-Borowich founded A Jewish Heart for Africa in New York, raising money in America but using technology developed in Israel. In the year since it began work, she estimates that the organization has changed the lives of more than 30,000 Africans in Ethiopia, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Connecting America to Israel was logical for Achor-Borowich. Noticing that Africans lack basic needs like fresh water, or a refrigerator to store medicines in their clinics, Achor-Borowich got an idea.

"We started with solar power because without energy you cannot do much," she says. And as an Israeli, she turned to the obvious: Israeli solar technologies are well known around the world. The first project, Project Sol, is designed to bring solar power to African clinics and schools. Solar power is an obvious choice in Africa where the sun shines about 12 hours a day.

"At night if a doctor has to treat patients, he has to do it with candles. With \$4,000 we are installing solar panels and eight to 10 lights in a clinic. We put the lights both inside and outside so people can actually find the clinic at night," she says.

The solar panels, bought at cost price from Israeli company Interdan, are also used to power refrigerators used to store and preserve medicines and to power water pumps. With rapid deforestation in Africa, finding clean drinking water is becoming more of a problem every day. The solar-powered pumps pull water from 700 feet below the ground. Water pumped from beneath the ground will be fed into water-saving drip irrigation pipes to help African villagers expand agricultural production in locations where food is scarce.

"It's changed the entire economics of the village and the peoples' health. They can grow food," says Achor-Borowich, who came up with the idea while studying at Columbia University in New York, where she received an MA in International Energy Management and Policy, and later at her job with the United Nations Development Program.

A Jewish Heart for Africa is also powering a synagogue in Uganda for the Ugandan Jews who converted to Judaism 100 years ago. "We've powered their chicken farm and a community center, a library, synagogue, and we're powering their homes," she says. ★

Sivan Achor-Borowich, founder of Jewish Heart for Africa, below on the right.



Ask the Professor

By Dr. Jeffrey Seif

Q. A friend suggested I write to you, given my interest in the Messianic Jewish faith. I am confused by the variations between all the Christian sects. I know Christianity is the only true belief system, yet to which variation do I pledge my loyalty and devotion? I wonder if the only way to fully seek out the truth is to go to its original source: the Hebrew language. I also want to learn about the early Church. Could you suggest how I get started? At long last, my struggle to comprehend God's truth—previously ambiguous and hidden from me—is about to bear fruit. I am at a spiritually-turbulent crossroad and look forward to hearing from you. Yours, D.W.

A. While learning Hebrew or Greek has its merits, I believe that the Bible's message is discernible without the help of those wonderful tools. Going to the original source causes me to consider what Jesus said plainly, and then wrestle with the not-so-plain implications. It's confusing when individuals and even organizations can't agree on what Jesus meant. What's important, however, is not that we differ but that we care to ask; and it's this concern that unites us, even though our end product might differ every now and again.

The essence of what it means to be truly "Christian" will be spelled out in a television series that I am working on. Instructions for the new way of being are amply outlined in His "Sermon on the Mount," so I'm going to unpack its particulars and broadcast the story worldwide. Let me give you a preview.

As for the essence of what it means to follow Jesus, in Matthew 5:1-12 Jesus describes the characteristics of what will constitute a "new" person in what's called the "beatitudes"—the "blessings." He says that we're to be hopeful and optimistic, and mindful of a variety of coming rewards. He places a premium on our being noble witnesses in the world (vv. 13-16) and says that He came

to fulfill the Torah in order to help us live out the above (vv. 17-20).

We are to hold at bay the tendency to rage (vv. 21-26) and keep our sexual impulses in check (vv. 27-30).

The sanctity and binding nature of marriage is articulated in vv. 31-32, as is the binding nature of all human speech (vv. 33-37).

Verses 38-48 consider the need to be flexible and accommodating.

In chapter 6, Jesus extols the virtue of charity (vv. 1-4) and models how to pray (the "Lord's prayer," vv. 5-15). In the prayer, He praises God's imminent Kingdom, and suggests that our Spirit-led behavior will indicate our participation in it.

He speaks of the pietistic discipline of fasting (vv. 16-18) and encourages us to do it for God, not to impress others.

Jesus speaks in detail about sharing, caring, and giving (vv. 19-34), with a reminder that those who "seek first the Kingdom" will have earthly needs attended to—"these things shall be added unto you" (v. 33).

Jesus warns us not to be excessively critical (7:1-6), but rather, resolute (vv. 7-14). He promises that those who are will be noted by our "fruits" (vv. 15-20). Insincere people will be noted and excluded from Heaven (vv. 21-23); therefore, Jesus exhorts His followers to build their lives atop the foundation He just laid out (vv. 24-29).

My word to you, D.W.—as to everyone else reading this—is that you focus on these points specified by Jesus. By following His instructions—whether or not you ever study Hebrew and the early Church fathers—you'll know what it means to walk in the footsteps of Israel's Messiah. If you want my Messianic Jewish perspective on all this, stay tuned for the soon-coming series. ★



Anti-Zionism More Dangerous Than Anti-Semitism

By Judea Pearl, www.MiamiHerald.com

Distinguishing anti-Semitism from anti-Zionism helps us focus attention on the discriminatory, immoral, and more dangerous character of anti-Zionism.

Anti-Zionism rejects the very notion that Jews are a nation—a collective bonded by a common history—and, accordingly, denies Jews the right to self-determination in their historical birthplace. It seeks the dismantling of the Jewish nation-state: Israel.

Anti-Zionism earns its discriminatory character by denying the Jewish people what it grants to other historically bonded collectives (e.g., French, Spanish, etc.), namely, the right to nationhood, self-determination, and legitimate coexistence with other indigenous claimants.

Anti-Semitism rejects Jews as equal members of the human race; anti-Zionism rejects Israel as an equal member in the family of nations.

Are Jews a nation? Some philosophers would argue Jews are a nation first and a religion second. But, philosophy aside, the unshaken conviction in their eventual repatriation to the birthplace of their history has been the engine behind Jewish endurance and hopes throughout their turbulent journey that started with the Roman expulsion in A.D. 70.

More important, shared history, not religion, is today the primary uniting force behind the secular, multiethnic society of Israel. The majority of its members do not practice religious laws and do not believe in divine supervision or the afterlife. The same applies to American Jewry, which is largely secular.

There are of course Jews who are non-Zionists and even anti-Zionists, but these are marginal minorities at best; the vital

tissues of Jewish identity today feed on Jewish history and its natural derivatives—the State of Israel, its struggle for survival, its cultural and scientific achievements, and its relentless drive for peace.



Judea Pearl

Given this understanding of Jewish nationhood, anti-Zionism is, in many ways, more dangerous than anti-Semitism.

First, anti-Zionism targets the most vulnerable part of the Jewish people, namely, the Jewish population of Israel, whose physical safety and personal dignity depend crucially on maintaining Israel's sovereignty. Put bluntly, the anti-Zionist plan to do away with Israel condemns more than 5 million human beings, mostly refugees or children of refugees, to eternal defenselessness in a region where genocidal designs are not uncommon.

Second, modern society has developed antibodies against anti-Semitism but not against anti-Zionism. Today, anti-Semitic stereotypes evoke revulsion in most people of conscience, while anti-Zionist rhetoric has become a mark of academic sophistication and social acceptance in certain extreme, yet vocal, circles of U.S. academia and media elite.

Finally, anti-Zionist rhetoric is a stab in the back to the Israeli peace camp, which overwhelmingly stands for a two-state solution. It also gives credence to enemies of coexistence who claim that the eventual elimination of Israel is the hidden agenda of every Palestinian.

It is anti-Zionism, then, not anti-Semitism that poses a more dangerous threat to lives, historical justice, and the prospects of peace in the Middle East.



Palestinians Close Youth Orchestra

news.bbc.co.uk

Local residents closed down a West Bank children’s orchestra after it performed a concert for Holocaust survivors in the Israeli town of Horon earlier this year.

Adnan Hindi, a social leader in Jenin, accused the group’s director of “exploiting” the children for political reasons. Hindi, the head of a city organizing committee, said the concert had overstepped the purely recreational mandate of the Strings of Freedom orchestra. Thirteen children travelled to Israel to play for an audience which included Holocaust survivors as part of the Good Deeds Day event set up by an Israeli billionaire.



The room where the teenagers practiced in the house of the orchestra’s director, Wafa Younis, has been locked and boarded up, local residents say. Parents are also said to have stopped their children from participating in the group, saying they were not informed of the nature of the trip to Israel.

“I have no political agenda,” Ms. Younis told Reuters, and dismissed the decision to close down the orchestra as “ignorant.”

Members of the Horon concert audience were surprised to discover the performers were from Jenin, known for brutal fighting between Palestinian militants and Israeli forces in 2002. And reports said the concert was the first time some of the young people

had heard about the Holocaust, or even seen Israeli civilians, rather than the soldiers they encounter in the West Bank.

“If I had known this was a political excursion, I would not have let my son go,” said the father of the 18-year-old boy who plays the *kamanja*, a traditional Arab stringed instrument.

Good Deeds Day is an annual event to foster “hope and brotherhood” founded by Israeli billionaire Shari Arison.

Update: Orchestra director, Wafa Younis, has been banned from Jenin until she apologizes publicly for the concert. ★

Dry Bones THE STRINGS OF PEACE!



www.drybonesblog.com

The Red Sea Might Save The Dead Sea

By Douglas Hamilton, Reuters

Abundant water from the Red Sea could replenish the shrinking Dead Sea if Jordan, Israel, and the Palestinians decide to commission a tunnel north through the Jordanian desert from the Gulf of Aqaba.

The Red Sea-Dead Sea Water Conveyance project would supply the biggest desalination plant in the world, running on its own hydroelectric power and providing Jordan with enough water for the next 40-50 years. Israel and the Palestinian-occupied West Bank would also benefit.

A decision on whether to go ahead could come by the end of next year and the likely cost would be in the region of \$7 billion.

“The idea of linking the Red Sea and the Dead Sea was first suggested by a British military engineer in the 1880s. That was for hydropower. But the drivers today are water supply and saving the Dead Sea,” said engineer David Meehan, who leads the study team for French consultants Coyne et Bellier.

Three potential systems are being examined: a buried pipeline, a low-level tunnel all the way, and a higher-level tunnel-and-canal system.

If a tunnel is chosen, it would be about 21-24 feet in diameter. Red Sea water would take about 3-4 days to flow 105 miles, relying

entirely on gravity and dropping some 1200 feet below sea level, to the lowest point on Earth where the Dead Sea is rapidly retreating.

Some estimates say it could more or less dry up in 50 years if no action is taken. Its level is falling by about three feet per year due to a sharp decrease in inflow from the Jordan and other rivers, whose waters now irrigate fields, and to Dead Sea chemical industry use by Israel and Jordan.

“For Jordan it is a water-supply project,” said Meehan. “While for Israel it has perhaps as much to do with regional politics. For them, desalinating Mediterranean water is much more practical.”

Nearly half of the 530 billion gallons of water flowing north each year through the system would be desalinated and made potable. The brine would go into the Dead Sea, whose waters are 10 times more saline than the ocean.

The tunnel would be on Jordanian territory, following the line of the border with Israel. Jordan and Egypt, Israel’s next-door neighbors in the Gulf of Aqaba, are the only two Arab countries that have full relations with the Jewish state, and the project in an earlier incarnation was quickly dubbed the “peace canal.”

The main concerns are the effects on marine life in the Gulf of Aqaba of the extraction of such large volumes of water, the effects of that water mixing with the Dead Sea, and the funding of the project, said Meehan. ★



A Dead Sea “floater” enjoys its saltiness

Clever But Evil

By Cliff May, www.ScrippsNews.com

Let's not call political cartoonist **Pat Oliphant** an anti-Semite or even an Israel-basher. Let's just be clear about what he is doing: encouraging those whose intentions are genocidal.

Hamas falls into that category. The Hamas Charter calls for Israel to be "obliterated." Hamas' founder, Sheik Ahmad Yassin, said Israel must "disappear from the map." Hamas spokesman and legislator Sheik Ahmad Bahr has said that both Israel and America "will be annihilated," adding: "Kill them all, down to the very last one." Hamas-owned Al-Aqsa TV has promised: "We will wipe out the people of Zion, and will not leave a single one of them."

Oliphant is not just any opinion monger. He is the most widely syndicated political cartoonist in the world, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and other awards. The drawing he distributed in March (below) shows a headless (therefore inhuman) figure representing Israel. The creature wears jackboots and is goose-stepping (because Nazis wore jackboots and goose-stepped). It has a brawny, hairy arm wielding a sword (to suggest it is primitive and bellicose). It is pushing a Star of David (the symbol of both Israel and

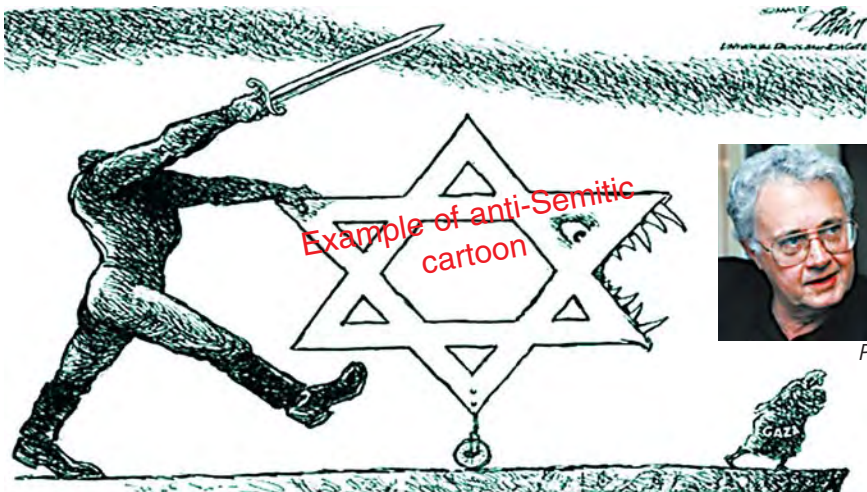
Judaism) that has a shark's open mouth and long, sharp teeth (no explanation needed). It pursues a tiny, defenseless mother and child labeled "Gaza."

Dehumanizing Jews in cartoons is a tradition that dates back at least to Germany in the 1930s. Nor is it novel to equate 21st century Jews with their 20th century executioners. But until now, such images have rarely, if ever, been so legitimized in the mainstream media. A corner has been turned.

Israeli scholar Barry Rubin does not charge the cartoonist with anti-Semitism. "What is involved here," he writes, "is a lack of understanding," but one that is "so enormous that it will incite hatred; cause violence and death; and block policies needed to help people—including Palestinians who are supposedly the object of (Oliphant's) sympathy but thus doomed to suffer under a repressive regime with a permanent war policy."

Rubin asks us to "imagine the exact same cartoon but with the Magen David replaced by the Stars and Stripes—the evil America attacking the Taliban or al-Qaeda, or Iraq, or Muslims in general."

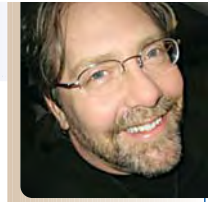
Which raises this question: Do Oliphant and others like him believe that no people under attack by militant Islamists have the right of self-defense? Or are only Israelis expected to accustom themselves to absorbing punishment indefinitely? ★



Example of anti-Semitic cartoon



Pat Oliphant



Saved by Hope...

By John J. Parsons

כִּי־אַתָּה תִּקְוַתִּי

For you are my hope (Psalm 71:5)

כִּי־	אַתָּה	תִּקְוַתִּי
(3)	(2)	(1)

tikvati

my hope

ki attah

for you (arc)

Most of us are familiar with Yeshua’s famous statement, “You must be born again” (John 3:3), but after recently witnessing the birth of my son Judah Abraham, I have a new appreciation of this analogy. Just as natural birth occurs in the physical world, when a person is born in the Spirit there are “contractions,” labor pains, recurring hurts, and ultimately deliverance. It’s rare to hear of the person who comes to faith in the Messiah without such a “birth struggle.” Usually there are repeated pressures, convulsions, and a final breaking of the will that evidences

spiritual life within the soul. The process of “regeneration,” then, no less than the process of generation, is often painful, messy, and difficult, and yet it ultimately produces something unimaginably beautiful...

In the case of the generation of human life, there are the biological facts: a seed and an egg are united and new life begins its advent into the physical world. There is gestation, labor, and the release of life. In the realm of the Spirit, however, the divine and imperishable “seed” is united with the believing heart (1 Pet. 1:23, 1 John 3:9). This “seed” is the Word of God, which must undergo gestation, labor, and the release of an abiding and transforming hope within the soul.



The Scriptures declare that “we are saved by hope” (ἐλπίδι ἐσωθημεν), that is, we are saved through an earnest expectation of good to come on account of the promises of the LORD God of Israel. The LORD is called “The God of Hope” (Rom. 15:13), indicating that He is its Author and its End. God both gives birth to our hope and is the satisfaction of our heart’s deepest longings. For those with God-given hope, *gam zu l’tovah*—all things work together for good (Rom. 8:28).

Yeshua said that we should become as “little children” in order to enter the Kingdom of God (Matt. 18:2-4), though this doesn’t mean we are to become childish, absurdist, or inane in our understanding. There is Spirit *and* there is Truth—and we can’t have one without the other. No, Yeshua was talking about the straightforward trust that a child gives his parents—the spontaneous optimism and unreflective humility that are present in most healthy children. I often see that hope in the eyes of my four-year-old son, Josiah, as he engages life with wonder and joy.

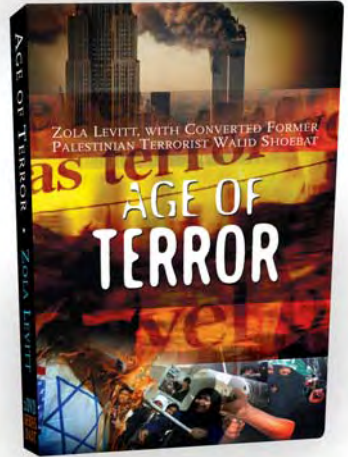
Many of us can quote that we are “saved by grace through faith” (Eph. 2:8), yet we are also clearly told that we are saved *by hope* (Rom. 8:24). The grace of God is the agency (work) of divine love performed on our behalf, declaring us justified, sanctified, glorified, and so on. The heart’s response is solely one of hope, and hope is the one “work” that we are called to vigorously perform: “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” Yeshua answered, “Here’s what the work of God is: to trust (i.e., hope) in the one he sent!” (John 6:28-29).

May you find your hope in Him today.... ★

Age of Terror

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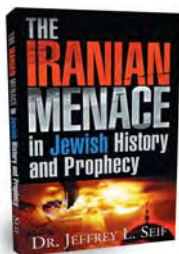
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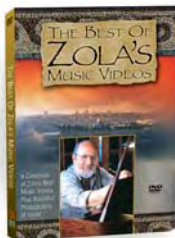


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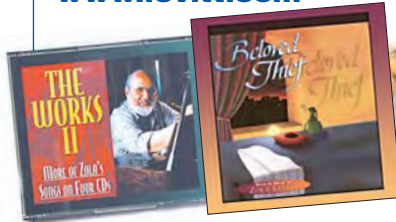
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ZLM Bulletin Board

Bible Exchange Praise Report

Page 16 of our March *Levitt Letter*, www.levitt.com/newsletters/2009-03.pdf, declared a “yellow alert” and asked whether your church might have an “extra case or two” of used Bibles. One kind soul sent 11 cases—132 brand new King James Bibles. Plus we are anticipating an even larger shipment. In one week alone, we shipped 200 Bibles. Rather than purchasing Bibles to send us, please try to locate “surplus” Bibles. But we ask that they be in good condition (though we see a testimony when we receive ones that are well used). The large print and pocket-size editions are particularly popular. **And, if you happen to need a Bible, just “ask and ye shall receive.”**



Israel's and ZLM's Birthdays

Israel became a nation on May 14, 1948. Zola Levitt Ministries incorporated on May 17, 1979. In some years, those dates will be the same due to differences in the Jewish and Gregorian calendars. Happy birthday, Israel—and happy birthday to this ministry, which is now 30 years old!

Pamphlet of the Month

All women need to take control of their long-range financial and estate plans. The free pamphlet entitled “Questions & Answers About Estate Planning for Women” answers eight core questions. Here are some of its tips. Even a married woman needs a separate plan, of which joint ownership can play a part. Spouses should have separate plans that complement each other. When marital status changes, it's wise to review the will, life insurance beneficiaries, and retirement plans. To receive this pamphlet at no charge, email us at staff@levitt.com or write to our P. O. Box.

Free Ministry TV Shows

Although we sell our programs on high-quality DVDs, we provide lower quality versions of over 400 shows at www.levitt.tv for you to watch or download. Search for what you want. Make it automatic by subscribing to our free podcasts. Go to www.levitt.com/podcast for details. Our downloads can be watched on your computer or iPod.

We also provide audio-only MP3 files that you can listen to on any portable music player—an iPod is not required.

Last year, **194,000 videos** were watched or downloaded (530/day) while **129,000 audio** MP3 files were downloaded (353/day). Imagine the impact of those **64,500 hours** of audio recordings on our subscribers as they commuted to work, waited in doctors' offices, and took their daily walks!

“Come Home!”

Zola's
Tours to
Israel:



See page
36 for details



Depression AssetBuilders

By Mark Levitt



Mark Levitt

Dear Mark,
How can we protect ourselves in case of a depression? Hoarding money, gold, or silver would only bring about security problems as I see it. I am not wealthy, but I would like to know how to prepare. I have no debt and have two years' of income in investments. I have tried to find information on how to keep money during a depression, but there seems to be none. —D. K.

Dear D. K.—

In his book *The Only Investment Guide You'll Ever Need*, Andrew Tobias offers ways to brace for financial upheaval, including stashing silver dimes. My review of his book appears on page 7 of the June 2008 *Levitt Letter*; www.levitt.com/newsletters/2008-06.pdf.

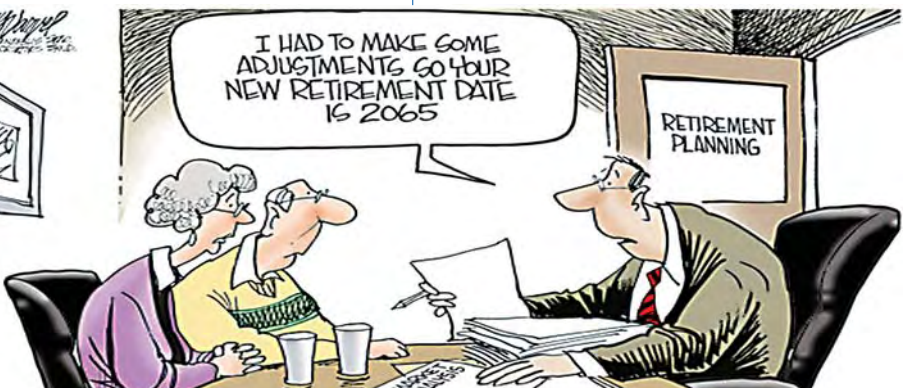
Perhaps no one can “survive” a depression financially unless he has: 1) assets to liquidate to pay for necessities during the depression, plus 2) assets that will retain their value or at least recover their value soon afterwards—such as real estate and marketable skills. Balancing our investment in these “treasures” reminds me of Mt. 6:19, which mentions the risks of moth, rust, and thievery and admonishes us to store our riches in Heaven. Keep the faith and “consider the lilies of the field.” Matt. 6:28

Half of this ministry’s modest reserves sits in a Vanguard treasury bill mutual fund. The other half is in a balanced fund called the Vanguard STAR Fund. Many investors gravitate toward one of Scott Burns’s nine “Couch Potato” portfolios. His variations hinge primarily on splitting investments between two to nine mutual funds, primarily from Vanguard.

According to the “Couch Potato Cookbook” article at <http://assetbuilder.com>, “Couch Potato investors tend to lose less in a down market and make more in an up market... almost always in the top 50 percent and frequently in the top 25 percent in portfolio categories called ‘Moderate Allocation.’” The article answers these questions: 1) Where do I belong? 2) Can you make substitutions? 3) But suppose I hate to cook? Then what do I do? and 4) Will I benefit from having an AssetBuilder portfolio?

Yes, the seven members of the team at AssetBuilder have a service to sell. But they give you enough specifics to deal directly with Vanguard, which offers optional flat-fee financial advice. Though I see merit in all that Burns has to say, I’m still investing only with Vanguard.

If you click on “Couch Potato Results,” you’ll see that nothing stock-market-related looks very pretty right now. However, once a prospective investor is out of debt and has six months’ worth of income in the bank, he may gravitate toward the Couch Potato’s basic goal of investing: quick, simple, cheap, and effective. ★





Letters to ZLM

ZLM Is His Church

Dear Dr. Seif and staff,
God Bless you!

I do not have a home church, so I hope that you don't mind that I have made you my home church. I am now retired and can no longer work. I am homebound and really enjoy your TV programs. You always make them so interesting. I love the way you put your programs together.

I miss Sandra Levitt, but she needs her time too! You have done wonders. God Bless you all for all the work that you do. It is appreciated and loved! Yours, -J. L.

Thanks, J. L.—

Your gifts are greatly appreciated. Though I don't mind filling in for a home church, temporarily, please find a good Bible-believing church in your area. Look for one that provides homebound visitation. —Jeff

The First Step Toward Salvation

To Whom This May Concern,

I am Jewish and do not accept the Christian Messiah. However, I have a friend who can be annoying at times, who is also supposed to be a Jew and associates with the Messianic Jewish sect. I do not recognize it as Jewish but only as a different Christian sect. My friend suggested I read your publication, so I have agreed to write you for a subscription, and start reading and thinking about those articles. I still refuse to believe that anyone there is a Jew. But I admire my friend. I personally will not be like him and think he has been misled. But, for my friend's sake, I will try out this *Levitt Letter* to read with careful thought all the articles written. Yours, G. T.

Dear G. T.—

Yours was one of thousands of letters that came in last month, and I found it delightful. I understand that you can't believe anyone here is a Jew. Please, however, accept that I might be a bad Jew, a foolish Jew, a deluded Jew, but a Jew even so. I understand that Jesus was the greatest rabbi who ever lived and walked.

His messages have been granted a worldwide hearing. Why consider me a non-Jew or a bad Jew for recognizing the obvious and giving Him His just deserts? Please pick up a New Testament and hear what the Rabbi from Galilee had to say—along with the *Levitt Letter*. Thanks for writing. Do keep in touch. —Jeff



**Scenes of
life bursting
forth in Israel**

Photo courtesy
Gil Shmueli

A ZLM Fan

Dear Dr. Seif,

I have been following your teaching on television and have purchased some of your DVDs. I will purchase more in the future, as I appreciate the content and the photography. Your *Levitt Letter* is outstanding for its mix of objectivity, hard data, and humor. I am supporting your ministry because of your efforts to keep God's message alive in the here and now. Blessings, A.C., Ph.D.

Thanks for the help and encouragement, Dr. A. C. —Jeff



Jewish Converts To Christ

Levitt Staff,

I am a Christian and I was wondering if you have an idea of how rapidly Christ is being accepted by Jews as a whole? It seems to me that the Gospel is now having major impact in Jewish communities and in Israel as well, but I may be mistaken.

Thank you,
S. S.

Greetings S. S.—

The Caspari Center conducted a formal, systematic demographic study of the Gospel's penetration into modern Israeli people and culture. At the time of the study's completion in 2000, there were some 10,000 Messianic Jewish Believers in Israel, a number closer to 15,000 now. Recently, I read a paper presented at the Lausanne Conference on Jewish Evangelism by a senior missionary of Jews for Jesus who estimated the number of Jewish Believers worldwide to be better than 300,000. —Jeff

Is ZLM Too Polite?

Dear Dr. Seif and ZLM,

Thanks for the wonderful magazine. You and your staff are such gentlemen! I urge you to get more radical. Confront the State Department. Picket Muslim speakers! If I had your platform, I'm sure some ayatollah would issue a *fatwa* against me! Shalom, Dr. L.

Greetings Dr. L.—

Willing to swing a sword when necessary, I appreciate your prayers for wisdom. I haven't gotten any *fatwas* lately. But I do get my fair share of hate mail; so thanks for the encouragement that counterbalances it.
—Jeff



Greek, Hebrew, or Aramaic?

Zola Levitt Ministries,

I was surprised to hear Dr. Jeffrey Seif say that the Gospel of Matthew was first written in Hebrew and then translated into Greek. I can find no reference that indicated that Hebrew was used when the book was written. Can you give me a reference or indication how you came to the conclusion? Thanks, C. A.

Greetings C. A.—

Kirsopp Lake and J. E. L. Oulton translated Eusebius' *Ecclesiastical History* and noted the quote from Papias in the *Loeb Classical Library* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1926, 1932). The ancient churchman Papias (ca. 60-130CE) wrote: "Matthew interpreted the oracles in the Hebrew language." There is some debate whether this was Hebrew or Aramaic, which is a Semitic tongue and thus akin to Hebrew. In any case, if the perspective prevails, the Greek translation, which survived, came later. —Jeff

A Muslim Seeks Jesus

Hello Friend,

Will you send me the *Levitt Letter* news magazine? I am a Muslim and I really don't like the intolerance and disrespect to women in Mohammed's world. My grandmother turned to Christ at 80 and lived two more years. I didn't believe her then, but now I want to learn about Jesus. Thank you, R. S.

Dear R. S.—

Glad to send the *Levitt Letter* to you. Coming from the Jewish world, I know firsthand how accepting Jesus can shock people in our webs of relationship who have differing religious perspectives. Blessed as I am by receiving Him years ago, I'm all about helping people come to know Jesus. Please let me know if I can help further. —Jeff

God-fearing Methodist

Dear ZLM,

Thanks so much for your study materials and your programs. They are a real blessing to me and my congregation. We appreciate the extra copies of your *Levitt Letter* that you send to us. Ours is a United Methodist congregation that stands with Israel, despite what the political wing of the UMC does. Also, our youth group loves to read your booklets.

Yours, Rev. B.S.

Dear Rev. B. S.—

Keep letting that light shine! Knowing that God has His own in all kinds of places and circumstances warms my heart—as it does His, no doubt. —Jeff



Finding Jesus In Prison

Dear ZLM,

I am in prison and came to surrender my life to Christ three years ago. I want to thank you for following God's will for your life, because without you doing what you do, I wouldn't be drawing closer to Christ through your newsletter. I love Israel and pray for their awakening. In Christ Always, Ms. M.R.

Dear Ms. M. R.—

Sinners without exception, we've all been tried, found wanting spiritually, and are deserving of "doing time." I'm glad that you are spending your time getting to know God's will and ways better. That this ministry is able to provide biblical teaching to you is a great source of encouragement for the team on this end. Thanks for writing. —Jeff

Balance Please

Dear Dr. Seif,

It's amazing how you can bash Obama after only a few weeks in office, yet you never said a word about the evil deeds of Bush. If Obama helps the poor, that's socialism; if Bush gives tax cuts to the rich, ahhh... that's capitalism at its best.

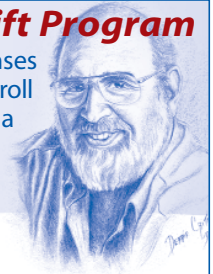
Yours in Christ, H. H.

Dear H. H.—

The new president's policies invoke the ire of many conservative Christians like me. I am trying to be fair, restrained, and non-reactive. If this doesn't suffice, please pray for me. —Jeff ★

Automatic First Aid! Zola's Monthly Gift Program

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.



If you wish to use your **checking account** for donations, please follow directions numbered 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 below:

1. Transfer date: (please circle one) 5th 20th
2. Withdrawal amount: (please circle one) \$8 \$12 \$16 Other _____
3. Enclose your check payable to Zola Levitt Ministries (ZLM) for this month's gift. The monthly transfers will begin in about 4 weeks, and you can cancel at any time.
4. Signature _____ (required for processing)
5. Printed Name _____ Date Signed _____

If you wish to use your **credit/debit card** for donations, please follow directions 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10 below. Your charge date will be between the 15th and 20th of each month. You may cancel at any time.

6. Withdrawal amount: (please circle one) \$8 \$12 \$16 Other _____
7. Credit card: MasterCard Visa Discover AMEX Card ID# required _____
8. Credit card #: _____ Exp. date ____/____
9. Signature _____ (required for processing)
10. Printed Name _____ Date Signed _____

REPAIRING THE WESTERN WALL

By Avraham Zuroff
www.IsraelNationalNews.com



Israeli archaeologists are inspecting each exposed stone of the Western Wall as part of conservation efforts to preserve the nearly 2,000-year-old retaining wall of the Temple Mount, by the holiest site of the Jewish People. In April, workers

suspended on a hydraulic platform cleaned stones along the top of the 62-foot-high wall. Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) archaeologist Jon Seligman said that the repairs are intended to ensure that none of the heavy stones would crash upon worshippers praying below.

Reaching new spiritual heights at the Western Wall

The Jerusalem Western Wall Heritage Foundation has submitted a plan to preserve the site by treating the wall's stones and improving their stability, one of the most complex projects of its kind ever undertaken in Israel. The plan was generated after a survey one year ago of the wall's state revealed deterioration.

At that time, the IAA responded by conducting an urgent physical and engineering study of the wall's condition. The conservation plan is the product of the two surveys and will be overseen by the IAA Conservation Department.



The Western Wall's weekday crowd of worshippers—prayers beware!

The Western Wall and the monuments around it are among the most important cultural heritage sites in the world. Every year, millions of people come to Jerusalem to see them. In order to ensure a safe and comfortable experience, the site needs constant upkeep; additional services are provided for the benefit of the visitors.



Repairing a Hasmonean tunnel (right)

The work focuses on the conservation treatment of the stones in the Western Wall and their stability, in accordance with their degree of preservation and the level of risk they present to the visiting public.

The task of preserving Judaism's holy site requires knowledge and professionalism in a wide range of fields. The project is being directed by the Israel Antiquities Authority Conservation Department, which is staffed with architects, engineers, and conservators that specialize in different areas. "In touching the stones of the Western Wall, the conservators of the Israel Antiquities Authority are touching what has been the very heart of Jewish heritage for generations," the IAA said in a statement.

***Inside Warren's Arch***

The Western Wall, also called the *Kotel* ("wall" in Hebrew) or Wailing Wall, is the western retaining wall of the Temple Mount, Judaism's holiest site. The actual mount is occupied by two Muslim structures and Jewish worship there is severely restricted. The Western Wall is highly symbolic as it has been the focal point of Jewish worship in the most recent

return to Zion. It was approachable via a small alleyway prior to the War of Independence, was off-limits to Jews under Jordanian rule following the 1949 armistice, and was liberated in the 1967 Six Day War. Among the most famous photos in Israel's history is that of IDF paratroopers looking up at the wall with awe following their participation in the battle for the Old City. Shortly after the victory, Israel bulldozed the area around the wall, creating a huge prayer plaza. The prayer section is 62 feet high and 197 feet wide. Below the surface of the prayer plaza are another 17 rows of stones, dating to the Herodian Period.

The original wall didn't use cement. Today, workers are filling in the cracks (below).

Muslims have recently been staking a claim not only to the Temple Mount, but to the Western Wall, as well. They call it Al-Burak and say the religion's founder, Mohammed, tied his horse there during a midnight journey that took him to "the farthest mosque"—which they say is a reference to the Jerusalem mosque later given that name. ★



Israel's Contributions: SCIENCE



Israeli Bio-Diesel Project

By Ehud Zion Waldoks
www.JPost.com

One effort that epitomizes Israel's emerging stature as a clean technology wizard is the bio-diesel project at the Agriculture Ministry's Volcani Center. The Center just signed a contract to produce two types of plants that can be converted into bio-diesel. The project has no chance of being implemented in Israel, however, because it requires vast tracts of land. Nevertheless, Prof. Yedidya Gafni, project manager, said that it was uniquely suited to Israel.

"Our advantage is the technology, the agricultural science, where we are among the best in the world. It is not that the U.S. and Europe don't have the capabilities, but they don't have the knowledge of these plants that we do," Gafni explained.

Over and above the plants themselves, there are also the protocols for enriching the earth and dealing with plant diseases, which Israel is uniquely suited to address, he continued.

Gafni started the project four or five years ago by assessing which plants to use. **"The two plants we use are not food plants. Food plants backfired. We invested a year-and-a-half in a profit assessment and biology assessment. We chose these plants because they are plants that can grow in marginal lands; they are hardy and suitable for growth in the Third World.**

"This won't solve the oil crisis. Most of the world's oil does not go to cars. Bio-diesel is to put in cars. Even then, it has to be a mixture of oil and bio-diesel. You can add up to 20% without having to change the engine. Still, 20% is huge," he said.

Oskar Schindler (right)

Schindler's List Discovered In Australia

www.JPost.com

A copy of the list compiled by German businessman Oskar Schindler which saved hundreds of Jewish workers during the Holocaust has been discovered by a researcher at an Australian library. Workers at the New South Wales State Library found the list containing the names of 801 Jews, as they sifted through boxes of manuscripts of Australian author Thomas Keneally. The 13-page document, a yellowed and fragile carbon typescript copy of the original, was discovered between research notes and German newspaper clippings in one of the boxes, library co-curator Olwen Pryke said. "The list was one of the most powerful documents of the 20th Century."

"This list was hurriedly typed on April 18, 1945, in the closing days of WW II, and it saved 801 men from the gas chambers," she added. "It's an incredibly moving piece of history." She said the library had no idea the list was among six boxes of material acquired in 1996 relating to Keneally's Booker Prize-winning novel, originally published as *Schindler's Ark* and which was the basis for the Oscar-winning 1993 film, *Schindler's List*. Pryke said that Schindler actually compiled a number of lists as he urged Nazi bureaucrats not to send his workers to the death camps. She said the document found by the library was given to Keneally in 1980 by Leopold Pfefferberg—named on the list as Jewish worker number 173—when he was persuading the novelist to write Schindler's story.



Oskar Schindler's grave



Israeli “Bubble” Cancer Breakthrough

By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich
The Jerusalem Post

The side effects of chemotherapy and other treatments for cancer can be devastating, but drug-delivery research at Tel Aviv University based on nano- and microtechnology might provide much-needed relief, as well as more effective treatments.

New drug-delivery technology developed by Prof. Rimona Margalit of TAU's biochemistry department allows drugs to target specific cancer cells, leaving healthy cells intact and thus reducing the side effects of chemotherapy. The science uses tiny bubbles visible only through microscopes that contain payloads of therapeutic drugs.

“This development is on the leading edge of drug delivery and cancer treatment,” says Margalit. “Bubble technology can also be applied to other medical conditions, including diabetes, osteoarthritis, wounds, and infectious diseases. In 20 years, it could be widespread.”

Currently, cancer drugs travel throughout the body, delivering powerful medication to all the cells they encounter, both healthy and cancerous. When healthy cells are

damaged by unnecessary medication, a patient can experience unpleasant side effects ranging from hair loss to nausea. More worrisome are further health risks due to the damage the medication does to the immune system.

The new technology, applied in both cancer and osteoarthritis therapies, was published recently in *nature nano-*

technology and in the *Journal of Controlled Release*. The technology allows cancer treatment medication to be placed inside bubbles so small that millions fit along a single centimeter. The surface of the bubbles contains an agent that allows them to distinguish cancer cells from healthy ones. When the bubbles “recognize” a cancer cell, they deliver their medication to that cell.

Not only does more of the drug get directly to the diseased cells, enhancing the effectiveness of the treatment, but also healthy cells continue to function normally.

The TAU drug-carrier technology has performed well in animal models. The next step is to apply the technology to humans. ★



Rimona Margalit



U.S. Relationship With Israel Leaning Leftward

By Chad Groening,
www.OneNewsNow.com

A conservative Christian activist and former presidential candidate is concerned that President Barack Obama is sending early signals that he is taking the United States in a different direction in its policy toward the nation of Israel.

As chairman of American Values, **Gary Bauer** has previously expressed his concerns about the \$900 million aid package for Gaza, which he fears will wind up in the pockets of terrorists if approved. The conservative Christian leader believes the president is sending early signals that he wants to tilt U.S. foreign policy toward Israel's Islamic enemies.



"His first television address was on an Arab network in the Middle East, in which he came very close to apologizing for America—for what I'm not sure, but nonetheless that certainly was the tone of it. Some of the appointments he's been making to key positions in government, I'm very, very concerned. And I think we have reason to be concerned that even if one didn't like everything George W. Bush did, he tilted toward Israel," he points out. "And I'm seeing increasing signs that President **Barack Obama** intends to tilt toward the radical Islamic enemies of Israel and the United States."



Bauer says he is concerned that the United States might do something to undermine the nation of Israel from a geopolitical standpoint as well as a biblical standpoint.

"Jesus" Banned— So Chaplain Resigned

By Allie Martin, www.OneNewsNow.com

A former chaplain with the Virginia State Police says he had no choice but to step down after a new policy took effect requiring generic prayers at department events.

Last summer, Rex Carter and five others resigned from the volunteer chaplain program. The move came after a new rule was instituted that restricted prayers by the volunteer chaplains. Carter, who is still a state police officer, said he had no other choice once he was told he could not pray in the name of Jesus.

He says many people in society today simply do not want to be confronted with the truth of the Gospel of Christ.



"The Cross reveals man at his worst. People don't want to look in the mirror and say, 'I'm just an old rotten sinner.'"

"When you preach a precept like that, that bothers people," he notes. "So what do we do? Well, let's [quiet] people and let's let the Christian crowd be quiet because we don't want to hear that we serve a righteous and holy God, we don't want to hear there's judgment coming, we don't want to hear that there was a Man who died for my sins."

Recently, a State Senate panel killed a bill that would have prohibited state police officials from restricting prayers by volunteer chaplains.

Muslims Win Discrimination Suit

By Chris Serres, www.StarTribune.com

A federal judge has given approval for Gold'n Plump Inc. and an employment agency to pay \$1.35 million to settle lawsuits alleging religious discrimination against Muslims at a chicken processing plant in Cold Spring, Minnesota.

The money will go to 128 Somali Muslims who claim that St. Cloud-based Gold'n Plump violated their religious rights by refusing to allow them prayer breaks during work hours, and to another 28 workers who said a St. Paul employment agency, The Work Connection Inc., required them to sign forms acknowledging they might be required to handle pork at Gold'n Plump.

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission investigated the allegations and said it found cause to believe discrimination occurred, according to lawsuits filed last year.

In a settlement approved recently by U.S. Magistrate Judge **Jeanne Graham**, Gold'n Plump will add a paid break during the second half of each shift to accommodate Muslim employees who wish to pray. The break is in addition to one early in



the shift and lunch breaks required by law.

The Work Connection has agreed to provide offers of employment to the 28 job seekers who were turned away for not signing the "pork form." The \$1.35 million settlement includes \$985,000 for legal costs and \$365,000 in cash payments to the 156 workers.



If you don't like grease, you shouldn't apply to work at a garage. —Editor

Hamas Brainwashes Kids

Palestinian Media Watch, www.pmw.org.il

Hamas continues its compelling message to children that death, not life, is the prime value. The following lyrics have been appearing regularly in a song on the children's program *Tomorrow's Pioneers* on Hamas TV: "Teach the children that death is honor and victory. Through death, we seek to bring the dawn and the day." [Al-Aqsa TV (Hamas), March 20, 2009]

While the words are being sung, a young girl throws darts shaped like missiles at a target shaped like the Star of David, promoting another repeating Hamas message: violence against Israel. When the target is hit and the Star of David falls, the young girl raises her hands in victory.



PA TV Celebrates 1978 Massacre

www.IsraelNationalNews.com

Palestinian Media Watch has released a video report on the Palestinian Authority's television station's full-length special devoted to the glorification of the most murderous attack on Israeli civilians in history: the 1978 Coastal Road massacre.

Terrorists from Lebanon landed by Zodiac boats on a beach near Ma'agan Michael, north of Tel Aviv. They reached the Coastal Highway and commandeered a bus that was carrying Egged Bus Company drivers and their families on a day outing.



The bus continued driving south on the Coastal Highway while the terrorists fired and threw grenades at passing cars, shot passengers, and dumped at least one body out of the bus. An explosion set the bus on fire, killing 38 civilians, 13 of them children. 71 Israelis were wounded.

Britons “De-Baptize” To Renounce Faith

www.breitbart.com

More than 100,000 Britons have recently downloaded “certificates of de-baptism” from the Internet to renounce their Christian faith. The initiative, launched by a group called the National Secular Society (NSS), follows atheist campaigns in the UK and elsewhere, including a London bus poster that triggered protests by proclaiming, “There’s probably no

God.” “We now produce a certificate on parchment and we have sold 1,500 units at three pounds (\$4.35) a pop,” said NSS president Terry Sanderson, 58.

John Hunt, a 58-year-old from London and one of the first to try to be “de-baptized,” held that he was too young to make any decision when he was christened at five months of age.

The male nurse said he approached the Church of England to ask it to remove his name. “They said they had sought legal advice and that I should place an announcement in the *London Gazette*,” said Hunt, referring to one of the official journals of record of the British government. So that’s what he did—his notice of renouncement was published in the *Gazette* in May 2008 and other Britons have followed suit.

Michael Evans, 66, branded baptizing children as “a form of child abuse”—and said that when he complained to the church where he was christened he was told to contact the European Court of Human Rights. The Church of England said its official position was not to amend its records. “Renouncing baptism is a matter between the individual and God,” a church spokesman said. “We are not a ‘membership’ church, and do not keep a running total of the number of baptized people in the Church of England, and such totals do not feature in the statistics that we regularly publish,” he added.



De-baptism movements have already sprung up in Spain, Italy, and Argentina.



One day, little Jacob is praying to God, when Arthur, the town “grouch,” passes by.

“Why in the world are you praying?” asks Arthur. “You’re wasting your time.”

“God forbid!” says Jacob. “I’m praying to the Almighty God, who has performed wonders and miracles like leading the Jewish people out of Egypt and helping them cross the Red Sea.”

Arthur scoffs and says, “Please, you think that really happened? I read that the Red Sea was only about 10 inches deep when the Hebrews left Egypt, so there was no miracle at all!”



Arthur walks towards the bus stop, but looks back and sees Jacob still praying. He can’t resist so he turns back and asks Jacob, “Why are you still praying? I told you that God didn’t perform any miracles in Egypt!”

“Oh no,” says Jacob, “the Almighty God is greater than I thought. How miraculous that He was able to drown an army of Egyptians in only 10 inches of water!”

Zola Levitt Presents TV Airing Schedule

ION (PAX) Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	9:30 am Thurs	8:30 am Thurs	8:30 am Thurs	9:30 am Thurs

DirectTV East-Channel 305 **DirectTV** West-Channel 347 **Dish**—Channel 280

ABC-FAM Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	10 pm Sun or 1 am Mon	11 pm Sun or 2 am Mon	12 am Mon	1 am Mon

DirectTV—Channel 311 **Dish**—Channel 180

INSP Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	3:30 am Wed 5:30 pm	4:30 am Wed 6:30 pm	5:30 am Wed 7:30 pm	6:30 am Wed 8:30 pm

Daystar Airing Day & Time by Zone

Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day New	3 pm Fri 2 pm Wed	4 pm Fri 3 pm Wed	5 pm Fri 4 pm Wed	6 pm Fri 5 pm Wed

DirectTV—Channel 369 **Dish**—Channel 263

TCT on DirecTV Channel 377 — Sundays
7:30pm ET www.tct.tv

CTN on DirecTV Channel 376 — Tuesdays
8pm ET www.ctnonline.com

Our entire TV Airing Schedule is posted at
www.levitt.com.



UK Muslim Imprisons Daughters-in-law

By Jaya Narain, www.DailyMail.co.uk

A mother locked up her three daughters-in-law and treated them as slaves for more than a decade. **Naseebah Bibi**, (right) 62, is said to have ruled the women by fear—beating and slapping them if they disobeyed her, threatening to break their legs, and denying them food. Their ordeal only came to light when one wife managed to break free and ran into the street to alert a neighbor.

Tazeem, Nagina, and Nisbah arrived in Britain over several years after arranged marriages to Bibi's sons Nahim, Fahim, and Nadeem in Pakistan. Instead of living with their husbands and raising families, the women were put to work by their mother-in-law cooking and cleaning and using an industrial sewing machine.

Bibi, a mother of six, denies three charges of false imprisonment of the three women between 1993 and 2006. Her son Nadeem, 31, denies falsely imprisoning his wife Nisbah between 2005 and 2007 and one count of actual bodily harm. The English prosecutor said: "Mrs. Bibi was clearly exploiting each of these women. They were treated like children, slaves, or dogs by a regime of threats of force or actual force. These young women had been rejected by their husbands of their arranged marriages, they couldn't speak English, they couldn't go back to Pakistan, they were in limbo and so they were exploited by the defendant for her own purposes."

Preston Crown Court heard that the first wife was Nagina who had married her husband, Fahim in 1993. The couple had three children, but she spent her days cleaning and making clothing on a sewing machine. She sewed all day, every day, for money; but she didn't

see any of the money.

Her nightmare ended in October 2006, when her son Umar, three, told nursery staff that he had seen his grandmother beating his mother. Nagina was taken to a refuge by domestic violence workers and her children were taken into care.

The second wife was Tazeem, who married Nahim in Pakistan and came to Britain in 2001.

According to testimony, she came expecting to live and have children with her husband. She did not know that Nahim already had a partner, a white woman, and had two children. He had no intention of living as her husband, and she only discovered that on the first day she arrived. She was also put to work by her mother-in-law and allowed to eat only when given permission.

The third wife was Nisbah—Tazeem's sister—who married Nadeem in Pakistan and arrived in England in December 2005.

The court heard that in October 2007 an argument broke out between Bibi and Nisbah, which resulted in Nisbah's husband punching her in the face and locking her in a bedroom. She pretended she needed the toilet and managed to escape, running out of the front door into the street. A neighbor alerted police, and Bibi and Nadeem were questioned.

Note: See *Arab Men Seek Israeli Brides* on page 34 of the May 2009 *Levitt Letter*, www.levitt.com/newsletters/2009-05.pdf. Some "picture bride" marriages involve white slavery traps instead of legitimate matrimony. ★



U.S. Sells Israel Short

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On his recent visit to Washington, Israel's chief of staff, **Lt. Gen. Gaby Ashkenazi**, was denied interviews with U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates and the chairman of the U.S. chiefs of staff, Adm. Mike Mullen. He cut short his visit after seeing national security adviser Gen. James Jones and Iran envoy Dennis Ross, lesser lights in terms of their direct influence on President Barack Obama.



Gaby Ashkenazi

Since then, the U.S. president has decided the snub was ill judged.

During 2008 and up until his exit from the White House, George W. Bush found Ashkenazi useful for conveying to the former prime minister, Ehud Olmert, and defense minister, Ehud Barak, his administration's strong objections to an Israeli military strike on Iran's nuclear sites. The U.S. effort to hold Israel's hand brought Mullen and an array of top U.S. generals calling at the chief of staff's Tel Aviv headquarters almost every ten days in the last months of 2008.

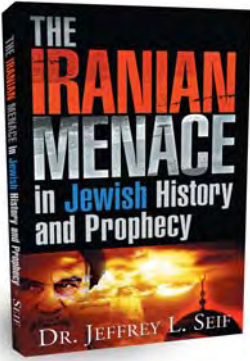
Mullen wanted to keep this effort afloat, but President Obama thought otherwise, which is why Ashkenazi was so coolly received in Washington in mid-March. However, the inception of Benjamin Netanyahu as prime minister with Barak held over at defense occasioned a spate of declarations that worried the new administration: Netanyahu declared at his swearing-in that if American sanctions and diplomacy fail, Israel will be forced to take action against Iran's nuclear weapon drive and time was running out. His words were echoed by Barak.

Obama decided to revive the Ashkenazi track while he was still abroad at the G20 in London and the NATO summit at Strasbourg. Ashkenazi was therefore invited to Strasbourg to carry some more bad news to his government: that the Obama administration wants *Iran as its key military and intelligence partner for resolving America's Afghanistan-Pakistan (known now as "Afgpak") predicament. The shape of this alliance lacks final form, but the U.S. president has set his course.



*Please see the description of our book *The Iranian Menace* on page 36.





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