

First amendment USA

Constitution : Federal State

City legislation challenges

since 1791 of freedom of

speech comparison 2000 year

Jewish law

Book 93

moshe siselsender

The First Amendment protects speech. The definition of speech is not only talking. It also includes any form of communication :

[a] Acting in plays operas

[b] Protesting example :

A protest by Black Church members at the occasion of a funeral of a United States soldier killed. They chanted that it was a good thing that

the soldier was killed. It was punishment FROM God because the USA tolerated and gave rights to homosexuals. Was this protected speech?

[c]shouting

[d]cursing

[e]defamation. Example .

Protected by First Amendment
Defamation that is printed in newspapers for non public figures that is false are per se a

tort. It is not necessary to prove malice. The victim can collect damages as well as punitive damages and court costs. However, if the victim is a public figure like some one running for office there does not exist libel per se tort. The victim must prove malice.

The reason is because one running for office has an opportunity to publically

defend himself/herself. The one who is not a public figure lacks such relief.

Furthermore , the public has the right to know the full facts of one running ~~for~~ office who will represent them. Is he/she honest reliable?

[f]libeling

[g]contributing funds to political parties to have them legislate given agendas Held.

Limits can be imposed to the amount of money contributed to the candidate. However, if one wants to independently campaign for the candidate there does not exist a cap on spending. Likewise if the candidate is wealthy and finances his/her own campaign they can spend as much as they want.

This distinction to my mind makes no sense. A candidate who is wealthy and has wealthy friends can beat a less wealthy but more competent and trustworthy candidate. By limiting the amount of money the candidate can receive from one contributor it makes fair honest elections a myth.

[h] violating civil laws

[i] black mail -threatening to violate civil or criminal law

Example. Burning a cross on the lawn of a black family or in close proximity conveys a threat that unless they move they will be hurt. This was held not protected by the first amendment. The perpetrators were also criminally charged. Thus not only were they

restrained ab initio but also punished after the act.

[j] inflicting torts damaging property to convey a political message is not covered by the 1st Amendment.

[k] murder Committing murder setting off bombs hijacking planes ships killing and injuring innocent bystanders to deliver a political message is not covered by the 1st Amendment.

Furthermore the participants are guilty of murder 1 and face capital punishment.

[l]gambling in those jurisdictions where gambling is legal they can advertise .There exists the 1st Amendment.

However, where gambling is illegal they can not advertise.

[m]prostitution There does not exist 1st Amendment rights to advertise .

[n] racketeering It is a crime .

There is no 1st Amendment rights to advertise.

[o] exhibiting sexually explicit material in books newspapers plays on radio e mail social networks TV I will discuss this later

[p] plotting to overthrow the government .

[q] Advertisements in general for Commercial purposes.

All advertisement must be honest. If it is not accurate it is fraudulent , not only it does not have the protection of the 1st Amendment; but a tort and possibly a crime misdemeanor or felony has been committed. The legislation banning any honest advertisement has an uphill battle . There exists a presumption that all free speech is permitted. The ones

who want to limit this right have the burden of proof. He legislation must be very narrow. It can not be very broad. It must state and prove the purpose and show that there exists no alternative way to achieve the results other than infringing on the rights of those who want to advertise their products commercially.

[r] Advertisement of professionals - physicians CPAs Attorneys .

Each of the professions have Codes of Conduct that restrict advertisement. As of

January 01,2017 these Codes have eased their restrictions providing the facts stated are accurate. However they still maintain restrictions. Would the Professional Societies be

challenged in Court there exists a very good chance that they would lose on 1st Amendment grounds.

The Code of Conduct for Attorneys claim that they don't want society to view attorneys as ambulance chasers. However they permit attorneys to advertise on TV . This favors attorneys who are very wealthy and can afford to

advertise on TV. They prohibit making phone call to potential clients. Thus one not having deep pockets can not compete with the wealthy attorney. This is similar to the rule that one can spend as much as he/she wants in a political campaign . However one contributor has a cap how much they can contribute. Both favor the wealthy

**AT THE EXPENSE
OF THE POOR
AND STIFLE
COMPETITION AND
DUE PROCESS.**

**I do not believe that the ban
on attorneys from phoning
potential clients in order not to
appear as ambulance chasers
achieves the desired results.**

If the ban achieves the result is an integral part of 1st Amendment . If the ban fails to achieve the results the 1st Amendment trumps the restrictions.

The American people for the past 226 years [2017-1791] have endeavored to assert their rights to protect their communities from the kind of free speech above listed [a]-[r]

They have legislated their concerns or prejudices into law. However the opposition have challenged them. After losing in their efforts to prevent the legislation, they have sued on the grounds that the proposed legislation violated the constitution . The supreme Court arbitrated the disputes.

I will summarize some of the cases where the opposition

invoked the first amendment freedom of speech.

I will first record the cases that the Supreme Court agreed with the legislators.

During the 1950s and 1960s the USA was involved in the Cold War against Russia and Communism . There existed a fear real or imagined that with in the USA there existed individuals who plotted to take

over the government and install a communist regime. As a result legislation was passed banning ab initio any propaganda glorifying communism . That was the era of M'Carthyism. Many careers were shattered by the stigma that they were Communist and or sympathizers involved in a conspiracy to topple the government.

The supreme Court weighed in on the side of the anti Communists. The rationale given was that the founders of the Constitution never intended that the First Amendment be the instrument to destroy freedom for everyone. The Communists and their sympathizers were exploiting the First Amendment TO PREPARE THE GROUND TO

**VIOLENTLY TAKE OVER THE
GOVERNMENT.**

The founding fathers when they crafted the first amendment never intended it as a suicide pill to shackle the authorities. We can not wait until the plotters are ready to pounce.

It will then be too late.

**The Civil War was fought
1860-1864 half a million men**

lost their lives hundreds of thousands were wounded to prevent the Southern States from seceding and destroying the Union. The same rationale should apply and there exists no 1st Amendment rights for those in the African American community who propose that several Southern States be designated for blacks. These States should secede from the

USA and form an independent African American Union.

Individual professing such claims should also be charged with treason and punished if found guilty. They should be banned from seeking any governmental office Federal State or Local. They are the same bed fellows and birds of one feather as the KKK.

THEY ARE HATERS OF
OPPOSITE EXTREMES.THEY
HAVE NO RIGHTS IN AMERICAN
SOCIETY.

Jewish law supports the
position taken by the Supreme
Court regarding all who plot to
over throw the government .

The wicked exploit the law.

Jewish law is very flexible . One
must use common sense in the
application of every right. One

can not be blind and extend human rights to individuals who exploit such rights to harm kill and destroy democracy. This thesis is summarized in the adage:

**“PEKUACH NEFESH DOCHE
KOL HATORAK KULO SAVING
OF HUMAN LIFE TRUMPS ALL
LAWS. THUS SAVING HUMAN
LIVES TRUMPS THE LAWS
THAT EXTEND HUMAN RIGHTS**

TO ALL CITIZENS IF SUCH
EXTENSIONS ENDANGERS
HUMAN LIVES”

There always existed
certain moral standards in the
USA.

[a] Sex is confined in the
marriage setting. Speech that
explicitly portrays vivid sexual
intercourse is considered
offensive. If children under the
age of 18 are exposed to that

speech it is a crime. Therefore legislation was passed on the Federal State and local level banning such speech.

The Supreme Court weighed in with such legislation. The Court in several cases sympathized with the standards of the local community.

However , they also balanced their decision by an other test. If the offending piece would be

acceptable on a national level then the local community must be tolerant . If experts testify that the piece has artistic or historic or educational value then the local community must be tolerant. If it is possible to filter the TV and block the reception for children under 18 then the community must be tolerant. Or else if the

broadcasting was after such children go to sleep 12AM -6 AM then the community must be tolerant . In other words the First Amendment kicks in and the legislation is unconstitutional.

The 1st Amendment forces the government to assume a neutral posture regarding religion.

The Federal government has gone out of their way to accommodate the religious sensibilities of the citizens whose religious values clash with the rights protected of other citizens . The example is the right to contraceptives and abortions . Observant Catholic and Orthodox Jewish Hospitals consider agreeing to handing out contraceptives and

abortions an infringement on their religious rights. The government has given them a pass. Some private observant Catholic and Jewish businesses also request the same dispensation. I do not know what the decision is.

ABORTIONS AND

Same sex marriages is an other example where there exists a clash between freedom of religion and upholding the

*RIGHTS OF COUPLES TO HAVE
A SAME SEX MARRIAGE AND*

rights of a woman to decide if she wants an abortion. The Supreme Court has ruled that an unborn child is not considered a person. They have taken the decision away from the States and the people to decide. In my opinion this is a negation of due process.

Fortunately with Trump election new appointments to the Supreme Court will change

the mass murder of millions of unborn babies. Life belongs to God, not to the mother.

Unborn babies are persons, regardless what the justices believe or not.

However, the limits and boundaries of the conflict and clash between different parts of the bill of rights can be changed by the appointment of different justices. Due process

religious liberty respect for the privacy of women the definition of a who is a person can be changed by appointing different justices.

Such a position is in agreement with Jewish law.

Same sex marriages legalizes homosexuality and lesbianism. Lesbianism is not mentioned in the Bible as a crime. Jewish law forbids it . Homosexuality is

considered a crime in the Bible.
THIS IS THE POSITION OF
Christians Muslims and Jews.
Since 1791 when the
Constitution was ratified for
226 years [2017-1781]
Americans considered same sex
unions forbidden. Along comes
President Obama during the 8
years of his presidency with the
Supreme Court and forces the
majority of Americans to

violate their religious rights and give legitimacy to what the Jewish Christian Bible and the Koran considers an abomination.

Both same sex marriages and abortion are the business of the States not the Federal government. Giving power to the Federal government to determine the legality of abortions and same sex

marriages is a violation of the 5th and 14th Amendments of due process.

Open borders non sufficiently vetted immigration is a formula for suicide that is an other legacy of President Obama.

The Torah - Jewish law explicitly states “habo lehorgech hashkem vehorgo. Who ever comes to kill you

arise and kill him first”

CERTAINLY WE SHOULD
PREVENT THEM FROM COMING
NEAR US AND BE IN A POSITION
TO KILL US.

This lesson is the source for
the observation of the USA
Supreme Court justice that we
should not wait until the
Communist supporters are
ready to strike before we act.
Because it may be too late.

Obama also Refuses to accept God AS THE SOVEREIGN OF THE WORLD. God granted Jews historical Israel- Judea Samaria Old City of Jerusalem .

President Obama spent 20 years listening to the sermons of Reverend Wright. At the end of this essay I will include the attitude of Rev. Wright for Jews and Israel.

At the beginning of his first term Obama in his speech in Cairo he demonstrated that he had imbibed the message of Rev Wright. He accepted the lies of the Arabs that Jews have no historical roots to Israel. They were granted an independent country because of the injustices inflicted upon them with the holocaust.

During the twilight of his
Presidency Obama December
25 2016 during Chanuka and
Christmas exploited his last
breaths of power to try to
enshrine this blatant historical
lie by being the driving force in
formulating the Security
Council resolution spelling out
that all exercise of sovereignty
by Jews in Judea Samaria

Old City of Jerusalem Golan is a violation of international law.

He also inserted that the international community differentiate and consider occupied territory all building by Jews past the 1948 line.

Thus Obama usurps the role of God and the Bible.

Immediately his decision was hailed by Fatah Abbas Hamas Hezbola and all other terrorists

as a signal of permission to kill Jews. These terrorists make no distinction between Jews living and building in the pre 1948 lines or beyond.

I personally believe that Obama did Jews the greatest favor. Obama by throwing off his mask and showing who he really is encouraged the Arabs to remain intransigent.

Repeating what the Arabs have
said for the last 100 years.

NO

TO

ANY

JEWS

Living

ANYWHERE

IN

ANY

BOUNDARIES

IN

THE

Holy Land

THE LAND OF ISRAEL.

Now

Israel

Is

Free

to

Annex

all of

HISTORICAL ISRAEL

ALL

of

Judea and Samaria. The Old City of Jerusalem and the Golan have already been annexed.

There exists another great favor that Obama has given to the Jews.

Once and for all he has left a legacy that the United Nations and all its institutions including the Security Council are irrelevant and should be abolished.

A good step in this direction is for Congress to vote to stop funding the United Nations. The USA gives 25% of the yearly budget of the United Nations.

President Elect Trump should explicitly threaten to hurt economically any nation that supports resolutions in the UN or acts to hurt economically Israel.

Thank you President Carter and President Obama . Like the Biblical Billam who tried to curse the Jews, the curses miraculously turned to blessings.

So too
in this
season of miracles-
Chanuka
the curses and lies
of Carter and Obama
will usher in
a season
of peace
and blessings

for all people
in the world
including Jews.

History has proven when a leader of a nation harms kills Jews individually personally physically ; or spiritually the Jewish religion that leader is causing the grave harm destruction to his own people and country.

Another infamous legacy of Obama that will not be forgotten is the Iran deal.

A more stupid arrangement could not have been gorged excuse me forged.

Subconsciously I wrote gorged. This is exactly what effect this deal is going to accomplish.

The deal lifts all sanctions from Iran for a period of 10 years. It

enables Iran to recover economically from choking sanctions that would have toppled the Iranian religious leaders who are the real force and determine the direction of Iranian policy and sponsor terrorism in the Middle East and through the world. The economic sanctions would have crushed the head of the snake of terrorism .

Instead billions of dollars uros were freed and made available to Iran.

Instead of demanding that Iran dismantle and destroy all its atom bombing facilities; the deal permits Iran to continue to make progress in the manufacture and invention of old and new means of reaching the breaking out of making an atomic weapon .

Obama must be credited for use of his mouth. He speaks convincingly. He won the presidency twice because of this talent. However other than speaking, his 8 years in office display this tragic Iranian deal that has put the entire world at danger from Iran acquiring the atom bomb and sharing it with the terrorists whom Iran supports.

I will also mention Obama Care another ill conceived venture to provide medical care to all citizens. The thought is very noble. However the technical know how to have it function successfully is a total mess. Payments to insurance companies have sky rocketed. Insurance received is very poor. It is a disaster. That is another one of his legacies.

The legacy of Obama will be that Obama denied the Jewish people the right to historical Israel Judea Samaria Golan Old City of Jerusalem. He was the driving force to force a Security Council resolution to memorialize this biased lie . The same Obama is one of the authors of the disastrous Iran deal.



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Jeremiah Wright: Revisiting Obama's anti-Semitic pastor

Obama did not find it difficult to whitewash his attendance at Wright's church, just the way he whitewashed other uncomfortable issues.

Contact Editor Dr. Manfred Gerstenfeld, 08/12/16 00:48



Leah Hagelburg co-authored this article.

Christian Liberation Theology is a doctrine that began in Latin American Catholicism. Since then it has become a significant current in contemporary Protestantism. At its outset, it dealt with Jews as the antagonists of the New Testament, accusing them of embodying a legalistic and unforgiving religion.[1] It has since been injected with further anti-Semitism as well as anti-Israelism inter alia by the Palestinian Sabeel movement.[2]

One well known supporter of the black version of Liberation Theology is Pastor Jeremiah A. Wright Jr. He has been a major producer of classic anti-Semitic and anti-Israeli anti-Semitic slurs for at least 15 years, both when preaching and in retirement. Formerly he was the Pastor of the Trinity United Church of Christ, a Protestant community in Chicago.

Before he was elected U.S President in 2008, Barack and his wife Michelle were members of his community. Wright married Obama and his wife in 1992 and they left his church only in 2008.

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism was approved by 31 democratic governments, among them the United States.[3] It is largely similar to the State Department working definition of anti-Semitism.[4] By applying the IHRA definition to Wright's statements one can see the extreme character of his anti-Semitic slurs.

The IHRA definition says, that anti-Semitism includes "denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g. by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor." Wright did so a number of times, for instance in 2015 at a talk on racial reconciliation at a church in Chapel Hill N.C. There he spoke about the "illegal state of Israel" and in speaking for the rights of the Palestinians through the lens of ancient Canaanites, said, "What kind of God you got that promised your ass my land?"[5] As a Christian pastor, he should be familiar with what Christians call the Old Testament, in which God promises the land of Israel to the Jews, then called the Israelites.

The Simon Wiesenthal Center publishes every year a ten point-list of the last 12 months' major anti-Semitic slurs and incidents. Wright was mentioned in that publication in 2011 on



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He called Israel an apartheid state. He also claimed that "Jesus was a Palestinian."

the basis of his statement "The state of Israel is an illegal, genocidal place... to equate Judaism with the state of Israel is to equate Christianity with [rapper] Flavor Flav." [6] It was another example of his denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination.

In 2015, Wright participated in a rally with the anti-Semitic leader of the Nation of Islam Louis Farakhan. There he called Israel an apartheid state. He also claimed that "Jesus was a Palestinian." [7] This lie was part of his attempts to disconnect the Jewish people from the land of Israel by wildly distorting history.



The IHRA definition furthermore says that it is anti-Semitic to accuse "Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoings committed by a single Jewish person or even for acts committed by non-Jews." Wright did that when he said: "You don't see the connection between 9/11/2001 and the Israeli-Palestinian? Something wrong, you wanna borrow my glasses?" [8] He remained silent about the fact that the killings were committed by Muslims coming from abroad to carry out mass-murders in the United States.

As can be seen from above, in analyzing the statements of this preacher against the backdrop of the IHRA definition one finds that the category many of his anti-Semitic statements fall into is the earlier-mentioned "denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g. by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor." Yet Wright is a self-appointed advocate for the self-determination of African Americans, through Black Liberation Theology. [9] [10]

The IHRA definition also mentions as anti-Semitic "making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotyping allegations about Jews as such, or the power of Jews as a collective – such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government, or other social institutions." Wright did not even pretend to be talking only about Zionists and Israel as his hate targets when he stated: "Them Jews aint gonna let him talk to me" about Obama. [11]

Also under this category of anti-Semitic defamations comes another remark of Wright's: "The Jewish vote, the AIPAC vote that's controlling him that would not let him [Obama] send a representation to the Darfur [Durban] review conference that's talking this craziness because the Zionists, they will not let him talk to somebody who calls a spade what it is. Ethnic cleansing is going on in Gaza. The ethnic cleansing of the Zionists is a sin and a crime against humanity. They don't want Barack talking like that because that's anti-Israel." [12]

An inciter and producer of hate slurs against the Jews and/or Israel, most probably has also other targets for his hatred. That is also the case with Wright. He has said "Not 'God bless America.' 'God damn America!'" [13] and called his country, "The United States of K-K-K-A." [14] He has also blamed whites for creating HIV. [15]

There is much more to be said about Wright's anti-Semitism, but the above quotes already qualify him as a major anti-Jewish and anti-Israel hate monger

Wright's anti-Semitic incitement has a second relevant aspect: Obama's looking away from it while he was a congregant of Wright's. Obama justified this by saying that Wright had changed over the years [16] and that he had never heard him talk about any ethnic group in derogatory terms. [17] In this remark he avoided the core of the issue.



In retrospect, we know that Obama, if it suits him, has a remarkable capability for looking away from crimes committed by specific groups or individuals. While President, he whitewashed Islam of many of the huge crimes coming out of parts of it. So, for instance, he said that "ISIS and Al-Qaeda were distortions of Islam." [1] It was absurd for a Christian

President to speak as if he were a Muslim theologian. An analysis of his rhetoric, regarding Islam shows in detail his intentional blindness and deafness

More recently, there was a third example of a similar attitude. Fidel Castro committed many barbaric crimes. [20] When he passed away recently, all Obama said was, "History will record and judge the enormous impact of this singular figure on the people and world around him." [21] It is known that deafness concerning anti-Semitism rarely comes alone. Obama demonstrated that during his presidency, both as far as criminality coming from parts of the Muslim world is concerned, and in his ignoring the Cuban dictator's brutality.

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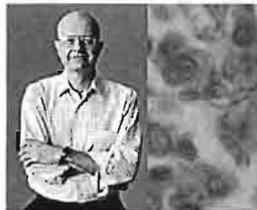
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'He sacrificed himself for the Jewish people'

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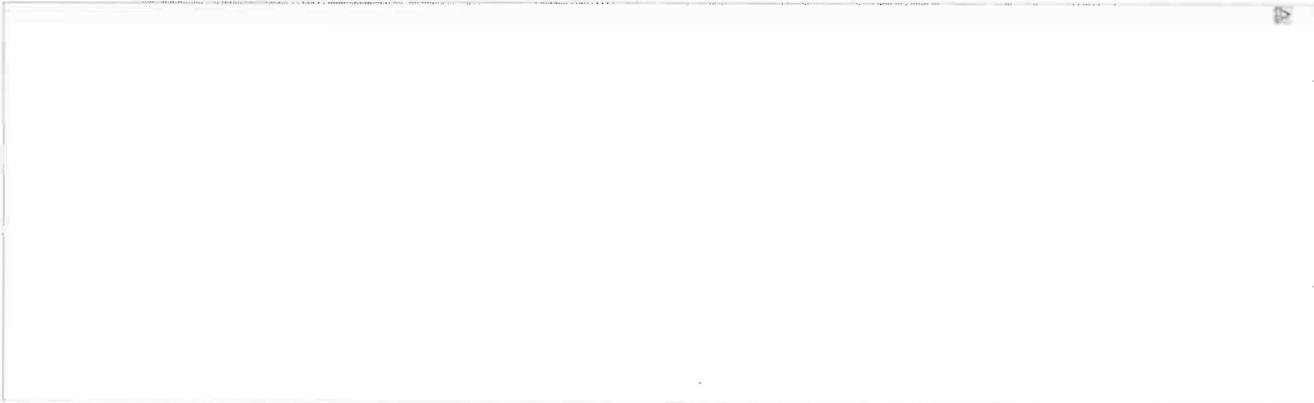
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New York Times to Obama: Hit Israel hard

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The *New York Times* has demanded US President Barack Obama use his last months in office to hit Israel hard diplomatically.

Apparently, this is in response to the fact that the Israeli government "approved the construction of a new Jewish settlement in the West Bank," which is simply "another step in the steady march under Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to build on land needed to create a Palestinian state."



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New York Times to Obama: Hit Israel hard

Assad: We have 'no option' but to expel

Last week, the Israeli government approved a plan allowing Amona residents to move to the neighboring town of Shilo, where they would be housed in a new neighborhood on government land planned specially for them.

Shilo is a town in in the Biblical "hills of Ephraim," and is now under the jurisdiction of the Binyamin Regional Council.

In an article written by their "Editorial Board," the *NY Times* writes that, "The best idea under discussion now would be to have the United Nations Security Council, in an official resolution, lay down guidelines for a peace agreement covering such issues as Israel's security, the future of Jerusalem, the fate of Palestinian refugees and borders for both states."

The article continues to say that this neighborhood "is designed to house settlers from a nearby illegal outpost, called Amona, which an Israeli court has ordered demolished because it is built on private, Palestinian-owned land."

Ellen's Goodbye SHOCKS Her Fans!



Her fans were outraged when they found out her secret ! >> READ THE STORY

In truth, no one has yet come forward claiming ownership of the land Amona is built on. Instead, left-wing organizations have found property deeds given out by King Hussein of Jordan. No taxes were paid on the land, no one did anything to it, no one knows who the owners are, and the founders of Amona built in good faith on land they were told was unowned.

Though there has been a de-facto building freeze in Judea and Samaria for several years, the *NY Times* insists that, "A failure to freeze settlements has long been at the center of tensions between successive American administrations and Israel. This latest decision was especially insulting...If the new settlement was known earlier, it might have affected those [military aid package] negotiations. "

The article continues, "The most plausible pressure would come from Mr. Obama's leading the Security Council to put its authority behind a resolution to support a two-state solution and offer the outlines of what that could be...it is the kind of political pressure Mr. Netanyahu abhors and has been working assiduously to prevent."

The *New York Times* ran its editorial just one week before the United Nations Security Council is set to hold a public debate on Israeli "settlement activity" in the Judea and Samaria, as well as Jewish building in greater Jerusalem.

This meeting is known as an Arria Formula meeting, and was set in response to the Palestinian Authority's request. The Palestinian Authority, headed by former KGB agent Mahmoud Abbas, has tried several times to pressure the UN Security Council members to issue a resolution, such as the one described above. The PA also hopes that the Arria Formula meeting will spur UNSC action against Israel.

For years, the Palestinian Arabs have insisted that "settlement activity" is the obstacle to peace and the creation of a two-state solution.

Preferring instead a directly negotiated agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, both Israel and the US have opposed any UNSC efforts to dictate the terms of a two-state solution.

US State Department spokesman Mark Toner emphasized the US's longstanding position to oppose biased and one-sided UN resolutions against Israel.

"With regard to the UN Security Council and any action at the UN, our position hasn't changed. We're always concerned, frankly, about one-sided resolutions or other actions that

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could be taken within the UN, and we're always going to oppose those kinds of resolutions that we believe legitimize Israel and undermine its security," said Toner.

Toner explained, "We're going to carefully consider our future engagement, if and when we reach that point, and determine how to most effectively pursue and advance the objective that we all at least claim to share, which is that of achieving a negotiated two-state solution."

PA chairman Mahmoud Abbas has repeatedly stated that "all of Israel is the occupation," even cities like Tel Aviv and Haifa, which are within the "Green Line."

Though the US has historically blocked Palestinian-led attempts by the UN to issue condemnations or resolutions against Israel, particularly with regard to the settlements, there is speculation that US President Barack Obama might utilize his lame duck last two months in office to pressure Israel and aid the "Palestinian" cause.

The Palestinian Authority has consistently refused to conduct direct talks with Israel until a list of pre-conditions are met, though Israel has repeatedly called on the Palestinians to hold such talks without pre-conditions.

Even though PA chairman Abbas constantly talks about peace and a two-state solution, he continues to incite hate and encourage terror attacks, in addition to paying salaries to imprisoned terrorists and their families and naming schools and streets after them.

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Hybrid of a monkey and lame duck ?!

Yosef - Verified Heyoya User

There exists a hybrid of a brown monkey and a lame duck: it keeps polluting the White house and still is a danger both to the U.S. and to Israel ! The next U.S. President (after a thorough fumigation of the W.H.) will have to begin the arduous task of salvaging the once great land and restoring some of the leadership and greatness the United States demonstrated, before the pathological liar-hypocrite Oh'bama became the worst "leader" and C.i.C. in history.

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Sarah Esther

Look at the list of NYT stock owners and you will understand WHY.

It was bought up by Saudi Arabia and George Soros and other similar people LONG TIME AGO. ALL part of their political strategy.

They may be evil but they aren't stupid.

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Joseph Hartman

They're definitely stupid. As for evil, we'll take your word for it.

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While the UN calls it “Palestinian territory,” history says it’s not

STEPHEN M. FLATOW | DECEMBER 25, 2016, 3:18 PM |

The United Nations Security Council resolution condemning “Israel’s establishment of settlements in Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem” was one-sided and unfair. That’s obvious.

The resolution certainly won’t encourage the Palestinians to negotiate, since they see they can get what they want without negotiating. No doubt about that.

And the countries that voted for it are brazen hypocrites, since every one of them is occupying territory to which they have much less claim than Israel has to Judea-Samaria and Jerusalem.

But I think the most important point in this debate is being overlooked: The UN is condemning Israeli settlements in “Palestinian territory”—but the territory in question is not “Palestinian.”

It may be unfashionable to talk about the Jewish claim to the Land of Israel when the whole world is so determined to give that land a different name and award it someone else. But the truth is the truth, whether the rest of the world likes it or not.

The truth is that according to the Bible, the historical record, and international law, Judea-Samaria and Jerusalem belong to the Jews, not the Palestinian Arabs.

The words “Palestine” and “West Bank” do not appear in the Torah or the New Testament. The Hebrew bible calls the whole area the Land of Israel, and those specific regions “Judea” and “Samaria.” So does the Christian bible. In fact, many of Christianity’s foundational events took place in the Old City section of Jerusalem, the Mount of Olives, and Judea.

The terms “Palestine” and “West Bank” do not appear in the Koran, either. During the many centuries that the Muslims ruled the area (starting in the 7th century CE), they never created a state of “Palestine.” Muslims didn’t regard it as a separate territory and the Muslim residents didn’t consider themselves “Palestinians.”

It was only in the 1960s that the Arabs in those areas began calling themselves "Palestinians" and started calling the area the "West Bank." Those terms had no historical basis and were invented to advance the anti-Israel agenda. The fact that the United Nations and the Western news media adopted that language does not make it legitimate.

It's not just a matter of religious and historical rights. It's also a matter of international law. The Balfour Declaration of 1917, the San Remo Conference of 1920, and the League of Nations Mandate for Palestine, in 1922, affirmed the right of the Jews to a national home in an area that included Judea-Samaria (in fact, it also included the area that today constitutes the Kingdom of Jordan). Israel's capture of Judea-Samaria in 1967 was a matter of self-defense, which international law recognizes as a legitimate basis for taking and holding territory.

The only reason there are more Arabs than Jews in Judea-Samaria at the moment is because the British tolerated massive illegal Arab immigration to those areas in the 1930s-1940s, and the Jordanians barred Jews from living there from 1949 to 1967. Those two acts of historical injustice do not make the Palestinian Arabs the rightful owners of those territories.

No matter what biased and hypocritical resolutions the UN adopts, Judea-Samaria and Jerusalem are Jewish territory, not Palestinian territory.

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Jimmy Carter's biggest lie yet

STEPHEN M. FLATOW | DECEMBER 4, 2016, 4:50 PM |

Mark Twain once reiterated that “there are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies and statistics.” And former president Jimmy Carter has made a post-presidential career out of lying about Israel. The latest is this doozy, which appeared in his November 29 op-ed in the New York Times: “Over 4.5 million Palestinians live in these occupied territories...Most live largely under Israeli military rule...”

Not only is that a lie, but Carter knows it's a lie. The former president has visited Ramallah, the Palestinian Authority's capital city with a population of more than 57,000 residents, on numerous occasions — most recently in May 2015, when he placed a wreath at the tomb of arch-terrorist Yasser Arafat there. He has seen with his own eyes that there are no Israeli troops occupying that city, or any of the other cities where 98% of the Palestinian Arabs reside.

Carter knows that the PA, not Israel, rules those areas. He knows that the PA, not Israel, runs the schools, the courts, the police department, and all other aspects of daily life.

Since Carter used the figure 4.5-million in his op-ed, he must have been including Gaza in his accusation. Yet he knows there are no Israelis occupying Gaza. He knows that Hamas rules that area.

So how can the ex-president knowingly tell such blatant lies? The same question might be asked about many of his past statements about Israel:

— He wrote a book in 2006 accusing Israel of apartheid, and gave an interview to Tikkun in which he said that Israeli policies are actually “worse than what happened in South Africa.”

— He charged that “university campuses with high Jewish enrollment” blocked him from speaking about his book.

— He asserted that beginning in August 2004, Hamas “meticulously observed a cease-fire commitment” with Israel. (That period included the Hamas suicide-bombing massacre of 16 Israelis in Haifa and many other Hamas attacks.)

— He claimed (in his 1985 book, *The Blood of Abraham*) that Israel's secret “goal” is to attain “boundaries similar to those in the time of King David.”

These are just a small sample from Carter's record on Israel.

So we see that Carter's lie about the Israeli “occupation,” in his *New York Times* op-ed, is just the latest in a long series of fabrications. It's as if when it comes to Israel, he just can't control himself. But what is the *Times*' excuse for publishing such a blatant falsehood? Were the *Times*' fact-checkers asleep when Carter submitted his op-ed?

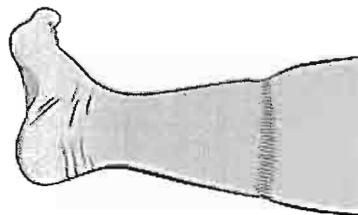
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Goodbye John Kerry, we won't miss you

STEPHEN M. FLATOW | DECEMBER 7, 2016, 3:13 PM |

John Kerry just couldn't resist.

Even though his public career is about to end—even though the Israeli-Palestinian “peace process” is long dead—even though he has absolutely nothing to gain from it—the 73 year-old Kerry just could not resist unleashing one final blast at Israel.

Kerry's disingenuous and mean-spirited attack on Israel at the Saban Forum on Sunday served as a powerful reminder of how good it is that he is about to leave office—and how dangerous for Israel it would have been if he had remained as secretary of state.

Kerry said he finds it “profoundly disturbing” that many members of the Israel cabinet think a Palestinian state isn't such a great idea. Kerry acts as if Palestinian statehood has been an enshrined part of U.S. policy since time immemorial. In fact, only two presidents have endorsed Palestinian statehood; it has been part of U.S. foreign policy for only a very brief time. Future presidents have every right to disagree with the wisdom of that proposal. And certainly Israeli cabinet members have even more of a right to question its wisdom.

Israelis are sick and tired of Kerry's hypocritical lecturing. He never says a word about the massive illegal Palestinian construction in the territories

“There will be no advance and no separate peace with the Arab world without the Palestinian process and Palestinian peace,” Kerry absurdly declared. Apparently he has forgotten that Israel already has separate peace treaties with two of the four neighboring Arab states, Egypt and Jordan. Israel does not need a peace treaty with Lebanon, and Israel has nothing to gain from a peace treaty with Syria, since Syria is no longer a functioning state. So what “peace with the Arab world” is Kerry blabbering about? Does Israel really need the recognition of Morocco or Qatar?

Kerry also rambled off into a long denunciation of “the settlements” for supposedly “blocking peace.” He said how bothered he was that Israel has ignored his “warnings” about settlements. Maybe one of the reasons Israel has ignored those “warnings” is that Israelis are sick and tired of Kerry's hypocritical lecturing. He never says a word about the massive illegal Palestinian

construction in the territories. He acts as if it's a given that a Jew residing in Judea-Samaria or many parts of Jerusalem is illegal and illegitimate while it's perfectly fine for Arabs to build anywhere and everywhere they please.

At the Saban Forum, Kerry also launched into another tired recitation of the claim that Israel's "can't be both democratic and Jewish" unless it permits creation of a Palestinian state. This old canard has been discredited innumerable times, but Kerry just won't let go of it. "There are more Arabs than Jews living between the Mediterranean and the Jordan River," Kerry pompously asserted, as if Israelis are unaware of that questionable fact, which demographic changes are altering.

Yes, there are a lot of Arabs living in those territories. But they're not Israeli citizens. They're citizens of the Palestinian Authority. There is no threat to Israel's democratic majority, because non-citizens don't vote in Israel—just as they don't vote in the United States or any other country. The "demographic threat" is a myth.

Kerry has repeatedly demonstrated both a poor grasp of the facts and a troubling willingness to harass, threaten, and pressure Israel.

In February 2014, he warned that if Israel did not make more concessions to the Palestinians, it would face "an increasing delegitimization campaign"—a campaign that he boosted with his comment, as he surely knew he would. In April 2004, he said Israel would turn into "an apartheid state" if it did not quickly agree to a Palestinian state.

Last October, Kerry declared at Harvard University that "there's been a massive increase in settlements over the course of the last years" —a total lie, since Israel has not authorized the establishment of a single new "settlement" in Judea-Samaria since Prime Minister Yitzchak Rabin froze the creation of new communities there in 1992. Even worse, he said the mythical settlement-building causes Palestinian "frustration" which then causes Palestinian violence —thereby providing a justification for Palestinian Arabs to stab, shoot, bomb and run over Israelis.

Kerry met Palestinian Authority chairman Mahmoud Abbas in Amman last February 21. It was the height of the so-called Knife Intifada, the daily Palestinian stabbings of Israeli women and children, and incessant anti-Jewish incitement in the official PA press, radio, and television.

It could have been the moment that defined Kerry's career as secretary of state. It was his opportunity to speak the truth, to display moral fiber, to exhibit strength of character and fortitude. It was his chance to tell Abbas, in no uncertain terms, that the violence and to stop, immediately and completely, or the PA would forfeit the \$500-million it receives each year from the Obama administration.

Instead, what did Kerry tell Abbas? He called for "calm and a decrease in violence, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric." That was it. "A decrease." Not an end to violence—just a decrease. Thanks a lot, Mr. Secretary.

Kerry will be remembered as a secretary of state who appeased Palestinian terrorists and tyrants, while lecturing and pressuring America's democratic ally. Goodbye, John Kerry. We won't miss you.

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Predates the Dead Sea Scrolls by centuries

Oldest Hebrew mention of Jerusalem found on rare papyrus from 7th century BCE

Reference to consignment of wineskins 'to Jerusalem' appears on 2,700-year-old First Temple-era scrap believed plundered from Judean Desert cave

BY ILAN BEN ZION | October 26, 2016, 12:03 pm |

A rare, ancient papyrus dating to the First Temple Period — 2,700 years ago — has been found to bear the oldest known mention of Jerusalem in Hebrew.

The fragile text, believed plundered from a cave in the Judean Desert cave, was apparently acquired by the Israel Antiquities Authority during a sting in 2012 when thieves attempted to sell it to a dealer. Radiocarbon dating has determined it is from the 7th century BCE, making it one of just three extant Hebrew papyri from that period, and predating the Dead Sea Scrolls by centuries.

The IAA's Eitan Klein said the dating of the papyrus had been confirmed by comparing the text's orthography with other texts from the period.

The slip of papyrus, which was formally unveiled by the Israel Antiquities Authority on Wednesday, measures 11 centimeters by 2.5 centimeters (4.3 inches by 1 inch). Its two lines of jagged black paleo-Hebrew script appear to have been a dispatch note recording the delivery of two wineskins "to Jerusalem," the Judean Kingdom's capital city. The full text of the inscription reads: "From the female servant of the king, from Naharata (place near Jericho) two wineskins to Jerusalem."

The fact that the note was written on papyrus, rather than cheaper clay ostraca, suggests the consignment of wineskins may have been sent to a person of high status.

Speaking at a press conference in Jerusalem with IAA officials on Wednesday, Israel Prize-winning Biblical scholar Shmuel Ahituv said the mention of a "female servant of the king" sending the wineskins to "Yerushalem," indicated that it was sent by a prominent woman to the capital.

Ahituv also said it was significant that the text features the “Yerushalem” spelling of the city’s name that is more commonly found in the Bible. There are only four instances in the bible, he noted, of Jerusalem being spelled “Yerushalayim,” with an additional letter Yod, the way it is pronounced in modern Hebrew.

Ahituv studied the papyrus after its acquisition by an individual who has requested anonymity.

Amir Ganor, head of the IAA’s antiquity theft prevention division, said the papyrus was determined to have come from a cave in Nahal Hever in the Judean Desert. The arid, cool location near the Dead Sea enabled the fragment’s preservation over the millennia. Since the bust, 14 members of the ring of looters based near Hebron were arrested and sentenced to 18 years in prison.

While there are more than a handful of ancient Hebrew texts etched into stone and scrawled on bits of pottery from this period, the only other known Hebrew papyrus texts from before the fall of the Judean Kingdom in 586 BCE were the Marzeah Papyrus, believed to be from mid-to-late 7th century BCE trans-Jordan, and a papyrus palimpsest found at Qumran.

The Israel Antiquities Authority has moved to prevent antiquities thieves plundering the country’s archaeological heritage, with particular emphasis on the limestone caves dotting the cliffs leading down to the Dead Sea. Those remote caverns have yielded two of the most significant collections of ancient Hebrew texts: the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Bar Kochba letters.

Stings in recent years have busted treasure hunters and traders in the act in Judean Desert caverns and Jerusalem hotels, while archaeologists race to excavate the area’s remaining caves in the hopes of discovering scientific data and, possibly, more scrolls.

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The First Jewish Americans

New-York Historical Society exhibit looks at Jews before the Revolution and after

BY JOANNE PALMER | December 1, 2016, 5:17 pm |

You know that feeling that there are Jews just about everywhere? Not many in any one place, necessarily, but at least a few of them just about always. Well, it's true.

Among those places was the Caribbean, in the seventeenth century, as well as in North America just a bit later, as "The First Jewish Americans: Freedom and Culture in the New World," an exhibit at the New-York Historical Society in Manhattan, shows. That is, of course, well before the birth of the American Republic.

Of course, Jews were there — in the Caribbean, in Mexico, in New York and Philadelphia and Charleston and Newport — because Jews always were running; these communities were established by European exiles, driven out of their homes by bigotry in general, and by the Spanish Inquisition in horrifying particular.

It's not surprising, as one of the exhibit's curators, Debra Schmidt Bach, points out, that the names of the congregations those immigrant Jews established had emotional, forward-thinking names — the Hope, the Remnant, or the Salvation of Israel, to name just a few. (That's Mickve Israel in Savannah, established in 1735; Shearith Israel — The Spanish Portuguese Synagogue in Manhattan, established in 1654, and Jeshuat Israel, better known as the Touro Synagogue, in Newport, R.I., established in the 1670s.)

Jews also seem always to be involved in social issues, and sometimes they're on the wrong side. That was true about slavery; as the exhibit shows, the Jewish community was not entirely free from the taint of this country's original sin. They were genuine Americans, then as now.

The exhibit opens with a visually not particularly compelling but historically heart-stopping document, the memoir by Luis de Carvajal the Younger. De Carvajal was a converso, a Jew who had to become Catholic, a Spaniard who became a Mexican, all to escape the reach of the Inquisition. De Carvajal the Elder, his uncle, was a governor of territory in Mexico; the younger, after torture, named names to the Inquisition but was burned at the stake anyway. He was 30 when he was brutally murdered, in 1596.

The memoir had vanished, mysteriously, from the Mexican government's archives, and reappeared, again mysteriously, for sale, many years later. It was bought by the American Jewish collector Leonard Milberg, who returned it to the Mexican government. Mexico loaned

the New-York Historical Society this object, but much of the display comes from the collections of Mr. Milberg and his family.

Meanwhile, there this book is, a physical remnant of a terrible time. Somehow it has survived.

And artifacts from the Caribbean show how well Jews were integrated into society there. A map of Suriname from 1718 shows local landmarks, including synagogues. There is an 18th-century document that includes a religious service for circumcising slaves, although, Dr. Bach said, no one is exactly sure what that meant for the slaves who were so marked. Did they become Jews? Or did they remain the property of Jews? And speaking of circumcision, there also is a list of mohalim in Europe and the Caribbean.

The exhibit also includes two paintings by Camille Pissarro, who was born to Jewish parents on St. Thomas in 1830.

Next, the exhibit moves to the heart of the New World, the settlements that perched at the Atlantic shore. Jews came to New York early; its governor, Peter Stuyvesant, notoriously did not want them, and kept them waiting as he importuned his employers, the Dutch West India Company, to reject them. But the company cared far more for business, and for the Jews' well-know ability to conduct it well, then for their peg-legged governor's intolerance, so they were allowed to stay.

Those Jews established Shearith Israel way downtown in Manhattan, where everyone lived, very early; it still thrives today, uptown, on Central Park West, and it has spun off Ashkenazi communities that also continue to flourish.

The exhibit includes many artifacts from Shearith Israel, including silver-and-brass rimmonim — a pair of belled crowns that go on top of the wooden poles that hold a Torah scroll. They're beautiful, intricately made objects, created by silversmith Myer Myers, who belonged to Shearith Israel. It also includes a Torah scroll defaced and burned by British soldiers during the Revolutionary War.

There also are six paintings of members and branches of the community's most prominent families, the Franks. Painted by Gerardus Duyckinck and dating from the 1690s into the middle of the 18th century, the paintings show the family as aristocrats; Jacob Franks, the paterfamilias, one of the founders of Shearith Israel, looks full-on Whig. (Yes, he's wearing one. A very full one.)

The exhibit includes a prayer book from 1776 — "Prayers for Shabbath, Rosh-Hashanah, and Kippur, according to the Order of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews" — and an English and Hebrew grammar book from 1771.

And there also is the upsetting, straightforward account book documenting Martin Lopez's purchase of property — five slaves. Elsewhere, another New York Jew, Jacob Levy Jr., is said to have freed four of his.

The Jewish community, like the rest of New York, was divided in its loyalties as the revolutionary war grew unavoidably closer. Some supported the new Americans — Haym Salomon, a Polish-born Sephardic Jew who moved to New York, provided the revolution with vitally important funding. But others stayed loyal to Britain. The New-York Historical Society displays a faded document, signed by Abraham Gomez, Moses Gomez Jr., Uriah Hendricks, and other Jews, as well as non-Jews, pledging their loyalty to British Admiral Richard Howe and his brother, General William Howe.

Philadelphia also attracted many Jews; some went there before the revolution but others fled there during or even after. It provided them with a haven from the more British-leaning New York community. The exhibit includes the Resolution of Non-Importation made by Citizens of Philadelphia in 1776, signed by some of the city's Jews. It also includes paintings of the Gratz family; the merchant Barnard Gratz signed the resolution and provided supplies to American fighters. There is also a lovely portrait of his niece, Rebecca Gratz. In real life, she set up the Female Hebrew Benevolent Society; in fiction, she was Sir Walter Scott's model for Rebecca, Ivanhoe's true love, the Jewish girl he does not marry. (Rowena was the sappy heroine who gets him in the end.) Like Scott's Rebecca, Rebecca Gratz never married.

Charleston had more Jews than any other American city in the 19th century. The Reform movement in the United States began there, when the leaders of Congregation K.K. Beth Elohim refused a request to include English in services. The disgruntled congregants left and established their own organization, the Reformed Society of Israelites for Promoting True Principles of Judaism According to Its Purity and Spirit. The exhibit includes a painting of the elegant Orthodox shul, along with a copy of the Reformed Society's prayer book.

The exhibit does not look at the Civil War; that's one period of American Jewish history that's been well covered elsewhere, Dr. Bach said. But it does include information about other American Jews, including figures as diverse as the War of 1812 hero Commodore Uriah Phillips Levy and the New Orleans-born composer and pianist Louis Moreau Gottschalk, whose father was Jewish. There is also some information about Lorenzo Da Ponte, who was born in Italy but moved to New York, where he spent the rest of his life. Who knew that Mozart's librettist was Jewish? But actually he wasn't, so it's okay not to have known. Da Ponte was born a Jew but converted to Roman Catholicism and ended his days as a priest.

The exhibit goes on to discuss Jews as artists, scientists, doctors, lawyers; finding themselves in a society that on the whole accepted them, and certainly accepted them more openly and thoroughly than any other place at any other time, they breathed deeply, thought freely, acted authentically, evolved naturally, and flourished.

The exhibit ends with a quick look at the places that were home to large numbers of Jews by the end of the 19th century — Cincinnati, San Francisco, Los Angeles. Jews, in other words, moved west along with everyone else. And that's pretty much the message of this exhibit. In the United States, Jews were able to retain their Jewishness, allow it to change in response to changed conditions, and still be part of the larger world.

That's always been part of the promise of America. Let us hope it always will be.

What: The New-York Historical Society presents “The First Jewish Americans: Freedom and Culture in the New World.”

Where: 170 Central Park West, at the corner of 77th Street, in Manhattan

When: Now through February 26

What else: On Monday, January 23, at 3 p.m., co-curator Debra Schmidt Bach will lead a gallery tour.

On Monday, January 30, at 6:30 p.m., the New-York Historical Society’s president and CEO, Louise Mirrer, will moderate a discussion between Dale Rosengarten, founding curator of the Jewish Heritage Collection and director of the Center for Southern Jewish Culture at the College of Charleston, and Rabbi Meir Y. Soloveichik of Congregation Shearith Israel — the Spanish Portuguese Synagogue.

On Wednesday, February 15, at 6:30 p.m., the emeritus director of the ADL, Abraham Foxman, and writer Thane Rosenbaum will discuss Jewish-American history.

For more information: Go to www.nyhistory.org or call (212) 873-3400.

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Recent archaeological find confirms Talmudic passage

In spite of Talmudic passage saying that the town of Kursia was Jewish, archaeologist had believed it was pagan.

Raphael Poch, 18/12/15 14:59



Move over Professor Jacob Neusner and post-modern historians and archaeologists. A group of Israeli archaeologists just proved that yet another piece of the Talmud is historically accurate.

Dr. Haim Cohen, chief archaeologist of the Kursi dig site, which is being excavated by a team from Haifa University's archaeology department, spoke to *Arutz Sheva* about [his recent finding](#) that proves the historical accuracy of one of the Talmudic passages. According to Cohen, the find provides evidence for the historical accuracy of the claims that the area around the Eastern Kinneret had Jewish settlements during the time period of the Mishna and Talmud.

Cohen said that due to the recent find, they were able to prove that the village which is known in the Talmud as Kursia, can be identified with the modern archaeological site of Kursi. Cohen said that the town likely remained Jewish until the Arab Conquest of Israel in the 7th century.

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Until now the leading theories believe that the area around the eastern section of the Kinneret was populated only with Pagan towns. In the world of archaeology, people believe that until you have facts in the ground, then a theory is unproven. So here we have proof that this area had Jewish inhabitants. Something which was refuted before. It was believed that this entire area was pagan. But moreover, it confirms passages from the Talmud that claim that this town was a Jewish town," said Cohen.

The find was a 1,600 hundred year old marble slab, that has a reference to the name of the Talmudic town, as well as a blessing with the word Amen at the end of it, thus leading archaeologists to believe that it was indeed a Jewish settlement. the find was a made on Tuesday during Hanukkah.

The excavation was supervised by Prof. Michal Artzi of Haifa University and Dr. Haim Cohen in concert with the Israel Antiquities Authority and the Israel Nature and Parks Authority.

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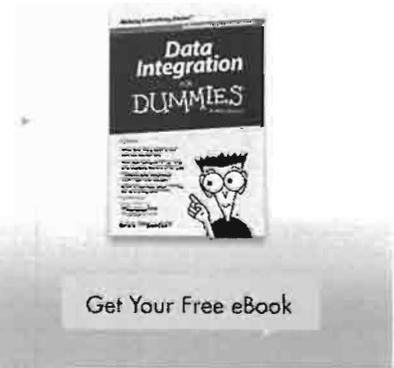
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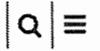


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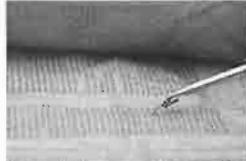
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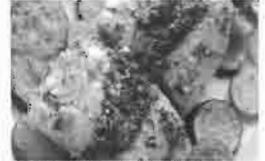
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Yerushalayim is hidden for a reason

Yerushalayim is the most precious jewel of the Jewish people.

Joseph Frager MD. 02/09/16 10:10



Torah (Rachael Carroli - Flash 90)

The word Yerushalayim is cryptic in the Five Books of Moses. It is found 660 times in Nach. Parshat Re'eh is one of the 19 places it is found hidden in the Five Books of Moses.

"Rather, only at the Place that Hashem, your G-d will choose from among all your Tribes to place his Name shall you seek out His Presence and come there" (12:5). "It shall be that the Place where Hashem, your G-d, will choose to rest his name-there shall you bring everything that I command you: your elevation offerings and your feast-offerings, your tithes and what you raise up with your hands and the choicest of your offerings that you will vow to Hashem."(12:11)

Rabbeinu Bachya asks the question as to why is G-d so cryptic when it comes to the Temple Mount and Yerushalayim? Why is Mt. Moriah which was known as a special place even to the nations of the world and certainly to the Children of Israel in the Desert who knew from their ancestors that this was the place of the Akeidah, not specified by the Torah? Why does G-d Almighty only refer to it as "the Place"-"Hamakom"? Parshat Re'eh is not the only place where Yerushalayim and specifically the Temple Mount is left as a "Sod" (secret).

In Parshat Va'etchanan Moshe alludes to the Temple Mount when he says, "Let me now

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cross and see the Land that is on the other side of the Jordan, this good mountain and the Lebanon." (4:25). Tashi says "the Good Mountain" relates to the Temple Mount and "the Lebanon" relates to the Holy Temple. Again the terminology is cryptic. Yerushalayim is hinted at previously in Breishit (14:18): "But Malchizedek, King of Salem ("Shalem" in Hebrew) brought out bread and wine: he was a Priest of G-d, the Most High." Chazal identify Malchizedek as Shem-son of Noah.

As the most honored of Noah's children, Shem was made the priest of G-d in Yerushalayim (Ramban). The Priesthood was handed over from Shem to Abraham. The Akeida took place on the Temple Mount where Abraham held the Priesthood. "And Abraham called the name of that site "Hashem Yireh" as it is said to this day, on the mountain Hashem will be seen."(Breishit 22:14) According to the Medrash G-d synthesized both names for Yerushalayim-Shalem and Yireh into one-Yerushalayim. According to Historical records under Jebusite rule the city was divided into western part called "Jeru" (Yere) and the eastern part called Shalem (Salem). Around the time of Yehoshua's conquest the Amorite consolidated the two halves of the city and combined the two names (Jerusalem).

The Rambam in Moreh Nevuchim (3:45) gives 3 reasons why the Torah says "HaMakom" "The Place" instead of specifying the word Yerushalayim. 1)Although the nations of the world knew of Har Moriah(hence G-d made reference to Moriah 22:2) they did not realize that it was the direct conduit of prayer and sacrifices to G-d where they would be heard and accepted- more so than any other place in the world for if they knew this secret every nation would want to acquire this site. The result would be War and conflict.(My editorialization follows:) This is precisely what happened during the 2000 years since the destruction of the Second Temple. Jerusalem is one of the Oldest cities in the world.

The Amarna Letters of the 14th Century BCE seems to mention the name Yerushalayim-"from headman of "urusalim" and his suzerain Amenhotep III". The city has been captured and recaptured more than any other city in the world. It has been attacked 52 times. It has been besieged 26 times and razed to the ground 13 times. It has been captured and recaptured 44 times. 2)The Canaanites with their knowledge would have destroyed the mountain so as to prevent Israel from being able to even build a Beit Hamikdash. 3)The Israelite Tribes would have fought amongst themselves for the rights to possess Yerushalayim. Once the Jews had conquered and divided the Land most of these problems ceased to exist. G-d in his infinite wisdom knew well when and when not to precisely identify a location. G-d, Almighty knew well that Yerushalayim was his most precious Jewel he was bestowing upon the Jewish People.

Like all precious Jewels they are kept in a Vault for safekeeping. G-d kept it in his Vault and did not let out the secret till the Jews had conquered Eretz Yisrael and King David came to power. The Koran which was written nearly a thousand years after the Torah and had total access to the Neviim and Ketuvim where Yerushalayim was mentioned 660 times, did not mention or reference Yerushalayim even once.

It was no doubt done to make sure that the Muslim World would give much greater Honor to Mecca and Medina. The direct and purposeful deletion in the Koran by the Muslim World, I believe, was meant as a slight to Yerushalayim. It is much more of a modern phenomenon that the Muslim World considers Yerushalayim as a Holy Site. This probably started at the time of Saladin when he conquered Yerushalayim in 1187 in order to fight the Christian claim to the city.

The Muslims pray in the direction of Mecca and Medina and face their backs to the area where the Temple stood. The Muslims never denied that the Jews had the Rights to the Temple Mount and Yerushalayim until the 20th Century. Testimony to this fact was pointed out to me by the Great Philanthropist Dr. Manfred R. Lehmann Z'L and was written about in one of the many Full Page Ads we did together in the New York Times(Friday July 29, 1994-A17).

The Arabic name for Jerusalem is "El-Quds". "El Quds" is an abbreviation for "Al-Bayit Al Muqqadash"-the name of the Jewish Temple of Solomon ("Beit Hamikdash"). The Ad was signed by former Chief Rabbi of Israel Rabbi Avraham Shapira TZ"L and Rabbi Aaron Soloveitchik TZ'L. The Day is soon approaching when King David's words will be fulfilled (Psalm 24) "Who may ascend the Mountain of Hashem, and who may stand in the place of His Sanctity? One with clean hands and pure heart, who has not sworn in vain by My Soul and has not sworn deceitfully." Shabbat Shalom

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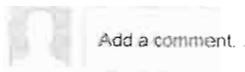
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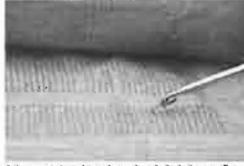
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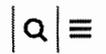
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MKs split along party lines on PM's 'ethnic cleansing' video

Likud ministers defend Netanyahu for claiming Palestinians want a Jew-free West Bank, while Livni accuses him of harming US ties

BY TIMES OF ISRAEL STAFF | September 11, 2016, 4:35 pm |

Falling in line with their political allegiances, Knesset members rushed Sunday to either defend or condemn a video released Friday by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in which he claimed Palestinians wanted to "ethnically cleanse" Jews from the West Bank.

The video drew quick rebuke from the United States, who said the terminology used by the prime minister was "inappropriate and unhelpful."

Netanyahu, speaking in English in a video message posted on his Facebook page, asked whether people in other parts of the world would accept such demands for the removal of a specific ethnic group in their own countries.

It's "outrageous that the world doesn't find it outrageous," Netanyahu said, urging viewers to ask themselves whether they would accept "a territory without Jews, without Hispanics, without blacks" in their nation. "Since when is bigotry a foundation for peace?" he asked.

Politicians from the government coalition supported Netanyahu's remarks, saying he "spoke the truth," while opposition members accused him of distorting reality and further driving a wedge between Israel and the United States.

Likud ministers Tzachi Hanegbi and Yuval Steinitz sprang to Netanyahu's defense.

"When you speak the truth, you can assume that there are those whom the truth will outrage," Hanegbi told Army Radio.

"The Palestinians have held the belief for many years that any future agreement with the State of Israel will have the condition that no Jews will be allowed to live in Judea and Samaria," he said, referring to the West Bank by its biblical designation.

"And what is that if not ethnic cleansing?" Hanegbi added.

In his defense of Netanyahu, Energy Minister Yuval Steinitz called Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas duplicitous for making very different statements in English and in Arabic.

"In English [Abbas] wants to clear out the settlements because they're illegal and a barrier for peace, but in Arabic he says he wants to cleanse Palestine of Jews," Steinitz said ahead of this week's cabinet meeting.

"And he doesn't just talk about settlements, he also talks about cleansing Tel Aviv, Kfar Saba, Haifa and Beersheba," he added.

Meanwhile, Zionist Union MK Tzipi Livni said Netanyahu was just "playing with videos" but was not going to effect any real change.

"The settlements are on the docket in the [International] Criminal Court in The Hague, and the prime minister is playing with videos and speaking in amazing English, but he's not going to convince [anyone], and is instead going to cause damage," Livni told Army Radio on Sunday morning.

MK Ayman Odeh, chairman of the Joint (Arab) List, accused Netanyahu of creating "an imaginary reality" and rejected the comparison between Arab Israeli Arabs and Jewish West Bank settlers, who he said were the ones implementing a policy of "ethnic cleansing."

"Netanyahu doesn't care that it is the settlements that were established precisely in order to cruelly expel Palestinian populaces from the West Bank to limited territories around the major cities," he wrote on Facebook on Saturday night.

This was not the first time Netanyahu has claimed Palestinians were trying to carry out ethnic cleansing. Following statements made by the United Nations' envoy to the Middle East last month, denouncing the expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, the Prime Minister's Office released a written statement making a similar claim.

"The claim that Jewish construction in Jerusalem is illegal is as absurd as the claim that American construction in Washington or French construction in Paris is illegal. The Palestinian demand that a future Palestinian state be ethnically cleansed of Jews is outrageous and the UN must condemn it instead of adopting it," Netanyahu's office said.

In an interview on Canadian television in 2014, the prime minister made a similar claim, yet neither of those incidents prompted US condemnation.

Netanyahu is scheduled to travel to the United States later this month for the United Nations' General Assembly in New York. As of now, no meeting has been scheduled between the prime minister and US President Barack Obama.



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Netanyahu's rebuke to the UN is well-earned

The UN is an organization whose hypocrisy when it comes to Jews is straight out of Kafka.

David Singer, 19/09/16 06:33



United Nations member States need to examine their own consciences and policies following Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu castigating them for promoting a Jew-free Palestinian Arab State in Judea and Samaria ('West Bank') and East Jerusalem.

In a [video presentation](#) last week – Netanyahu [declared](#):

"Israel's diversity shows its openness and readiness for peace.

"Yet the Palestinian leadership actually demands a Palestinian state with one pre-condition: No Jews.

"There's a phrase for that: It's called ethnic cleansing.

"And this demand is outrageous. It's even more outrageous that the world doesn't find this outrageous.

"Some otherwise enlightened countries even promote this outrage."

The Oxford Dictionary defines ***"enlightened"*** to mean ***"having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook"***



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David Singer
David Singer is an Australian lawyer who is active in Zionist community organizations in their country. He founded the "Jordan is Palestine" Committee in 1979.
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ARUTZ SHEVA "the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to independence in their State of Palestine on the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967"

Among the 138 countries voting for the Resolution were "enlightened" States such as:

Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Serbia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Uruguay and Venezuela

Canada, the Czech Republic, Israel, and the United States voted against the Resolution while 41 others – including Australia - abstained.

800000 Jews currently live in Judea, Samaria and East Jerusalem under rights vested in them by:

- Article 6 of the 1922 Mandate for Palestine,
- Article 80 of the 1945 United Nations Charter,
- Israel's 1967 annexation of East Jerusalem
- The 1993 Oslo Accords.

Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas declared in 2010:

"We have frankly said, and always will say: If there is an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital, we won't agree to the presence of one Israeli in it."

Like Hitler – Abbas made no secret of his racist plan to create a Jew-free State.

Member States of the United Nations remained silent. In voting for the Resolution they chose to march to the same tune.

Abbas repeated his evil message in 2013: "But when a Palestinian state is established, it would have no Israeli presence in it." "Enlightened" States still said nothing.

Abbas repeated his evil message in 2013: **"But when a Palestinian state is established, it would have no Israeli presence in it."**

"Enlightened" States still said nothing. They had said nothing after every single Jew had been ethnically cleansed from Judea, Samaria and East Jerusalem following Jordan's conquest of these areas between 1948 and 1967 when the following events happened:

"After the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem was captured, the destruction, desecration and systematic looting of Jewish sites began and continued. 57 ancient synagogues (the oldest dated to the 13th century), libraries and centers of religious study were ransacked and 12 were totally and deliberately destroyed. Those that remained standing were defaced, used for housing of both people and animals. The city's foremost Jewish shrine, the Western Wall, became a slum. Appeals were made to the United Nations and in the international community to declare the Old City to be an 'open city' and stop this destruction, but there was no response."

The independent Jew-free Palestinian State promoted by the United Nations in 2012 could have been created between 1948 and 1967 with the stroke of an Arab League pen when not one Jew lived in Judea, Samaria and East Jerusalem. That 19 year window of opportunity will not return.

Netanyahu's rebuke of the world was certainly justified.

Enlightened – and unenlightened - States need to affirm their total opposition to any settlement of the Jewish-Arab conflict involving the ethnic cleansing of any Jews from Judea, Samaria and East Jerusalem.



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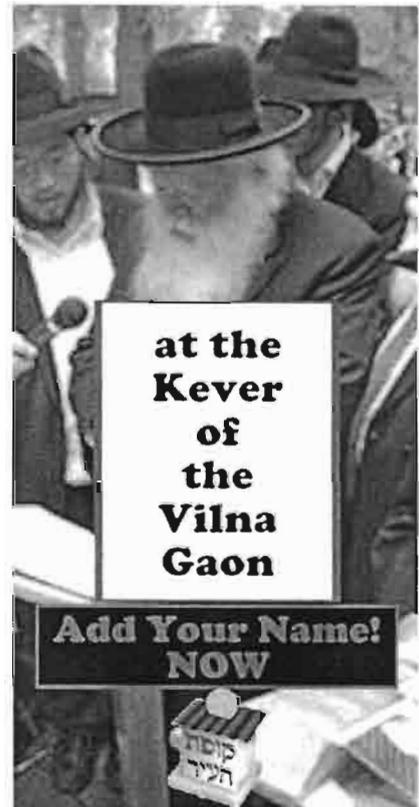
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Abbas: Israel is the one that performs ethnic cleansing

PA chairman fires back at Netanyahu's video, says the remarks are "toxic wind gusts".

Orli Harari, 12/09/16 04:15



Mahmoud Abbas (Hadas Parush/Flash 90)

Palestinian Authority (PA) chairman Mahmoud Abbas responded on Sunday to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's video from Friday in which he said that the PA's demand that a Palestinian state be free of Jews is ethnic cleansing, and stated that the concept of ethnic cleansing for peace is absurd.

Speaking in a speech broadcast on official PA television, Abbas described Netanyahu's remarks as "toxic wind gusts", adding that the purpose of the video is to break the will of Palestinians.



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"We are not even mentioned as the Israeli government is trying to show. The government of the occupation is the one that's isolated, because it does not want to advance one step in the direction of peace," he charged.

"[The Israeli government] continues to build settlements, desecrate holy sites, perform ethnic cleansing and premeditated murder, which brings them international criticism all over the world. We do not blow balloons in the air about peace. We call to implement it on the ground," continued Abbas.

The State Department on Friday also condemned Netanyahu's video, saying the administration believed that using the term "ethnic cleansing" was "inappropriate and unhelpful."

"We obviously strongly disagree with the characterization that those who oppose settlement activity or view it as an obstacle to peace are somehow calling for ethnic cleansing of Jews from the West Bank. We believe that using that type of terminology is inappropriate and unhelpful," State Department spokeswoman Elizabeth Trudeau told reporters, adding that Israeli construction in Judea and Samaria raises "real questions about Israel's long-term intentions in the West Bank."

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The myth of 'Private Arab Lands' in Judea and Samaria

On the backdrop of the efforts to legalize Jewish towns, one resident explains that King Hussein simply distributed lands.

Hillel Fendel, 20/09/16 21:27



Yoav Elitzur resides in Ofrah, the first Jewish community in the Binyamin area of Judea and Samaria in the modern age (founded in 1975). He has produced a short video, in Hebrew, in which he explains succinctly how the myth of, "privately-owned Arab lands in Judea and Samaria," came to be. His explanation, if disseminated sufficiently far and wide, should take the air out of the sails of the left-wing organizations which are seeking to destroy the Jewish presence in Judea and Samaria, by claiming that it is founded upon lands that belong to others. In Elitzur's words:

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"My name is Yonah Eilat. I grew up in Ofrah, and my children are now on the verge of raising the fourth generation of Eilaturs in Ofrah. In the heart of my town, at the end of my block, are nine houses that the Supreme Court has ruled must be razed within a few months. In addition, from my window I can see the community of Amona, the entirety of which must be destroyed by the end of the year, by the demand of the High Court. Why? Because, the High Court says, 'they are located on privately-owned lands.'

"The question that lies at the base of the entire issue is simply an ethical one: How can we allow ourselves to build homes and communities on lands that belong to individuals, whether it be Ahmed, or Sa'id, or another; who bought it with his own hard-earned money, and who uses it to support his family? How can we take lands that belong to someone else?

"To understand this, we must answer a simple question hovering in the air, but which no one in the media is asking: How can it be that a full 90% (!) of the homes that the Supreme Court ruled must be razed have no claimants? Never did that Ahmed, or that Sa'id, come and say, 'This is my land!' No one knows who he is! If he exists, why doesn't he come and claim it? After all, all the work has already been done for him. There has already been a court case, and he has won; now all he has to do and come and say, 'It's mine!'



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"Maybe it's hard to find him? Not quite. The left-wing organizations are investing tremendous efforts to find these 'owners,' but have not succeeded. How can this be?

"The answer is that the subject of, 'private lands,' is, on the whole, a total lie. Most of these lands never actually belonged to any Arab. So how could it be that they are registered in the names of private Arab individuals?

"For this we need a short historical explanation. In 1950, King Hussein of Jordan decided to annex Judea and Samaria to Jordan. No one in the world other than Great Britain recognized this annexation, and certainly none of the Arab states. For some reason, possibly in order to shore up his regime, Hussein decided to organize the lands [over which he had no recognized claim] by simply dividing them up – no matter if they were rocky hillsides or otherwise unusable – to various individuals. He started the process in the Ramallah area, the area of Binyamin – where Ofrah, Beit El, and many other Jewish towns are now located. Whatever parcels of land were left over, King Hussein gave to the local mukhtars, so that they would register them in the names of their village residents.

"Thus was created a situation in which people had land in their names, but they never saw it, never knew about it, and certainly never invested even one shekel in it. Precisely because of the rocky, unusable nature of these lands is why Amona and other Jewish towns were built specifically there – so that it would be certain that it is now owned by individuals.

"Thus, 90% of the lands are simply unowned, no matter how many times the falsehood and lie to the contrary is repeated.

"But what about the 10% that truly *are* privately-owned? In such cases, the policy must be exactly as it is everywhere else in the country: The owners should be compensated. And in fact, this is exactly what we did here in Ofrah. We went to Arabs who owned land encompassing the town, we paid them, and then we built our chicken coops on the land that we had just bought. Not long afterwards, however, the Arab who sold us the land was found dead at the bottom of the well in his village.

"Thus, it was the Arabs who actually set the stage for the continuation of the story. They told their fellow Arabs: 'You are not allowed to sell your land, for it is actually not really yours. We are in the midst of a national struggle, and you cannot do with this land as you wish. If you do, you will die.'



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"In other words, the Arabs changed it from an issue of 'individual' ownership to a national issue—and thus there are no more privately-owned lands.

"In this national struggle, then, of the Arabs against the Jewish People and the State of Israel, they'll take their approach [video backdrop shows Muslims beheading their victims], and we will take our approach [backdrop shows irrigated and blossoming fields]. We will try to purchase, or officially annex, lands; and to do what we can to settle the Land of Israel and build our communities.

"Thus it is totally dishonest to relate to these lands as if they are privately owned, when in fact the matter is one of a struggle between peoples over the Land of Israel."

Here is the original Hebrew video:



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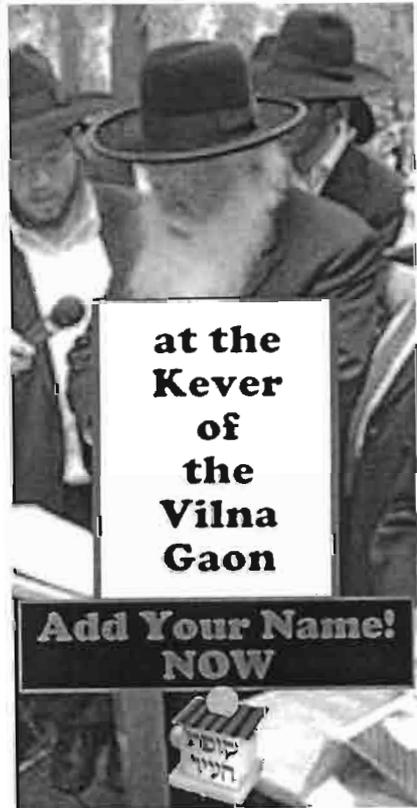
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Sarah Esther

Our PM and the government don't KNOW THIS?

Of course Hussein just gave away chunks of land, but he never had a legal right to the land therefore he what he gave away was not his to give.

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WE NEED A REBELLION and REVOLUTION in this country against the SC.

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Yosef Yankelev · The Juilliard School

Fear, Cowardice and Godlessness of successive Israeli governments ARE at the Root of this situation - one example:

after the 1967 war Moshe Dayan gave away Holy Jewish towns and places to arabs - on a silver platter !

This blasphemous general distributed what was not HIS to give !

Until and unless the Leadership ANNEX all that is ours

BY DECLARATION, the Jewish state is doomed !

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Yvonne Pennink · Gemeentelijk Lyceum v. Meisjes, HBS-B

This story may be a little different. When people are nomads, no one owns land. It is agriculture that makes land ownership a necessity, to claim and protect the planted and tended crops and farm animals. The next phase after nomadic life is the appearance of Royals, and nobility serving under them. The Royals may give land to nobility, who parcel it out and lease it to sharecroppers. Thereafter sharecroppers are allowed to buy the land, and get ownership of the land they plant, and tend. That is, sort of how things happened.

In such a context must land ownership be researched in Arab Lands.

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Did the Jews bring Israel with them when they left Africa, Egypt? No. They found it. Claimed their god gave it to them and He took it back again three times according to their own scripture. Their own god has yet to grant them permission to return. Why do they ignore this. If all is done by their own god, he must be persecuting them through the Palestinian people.

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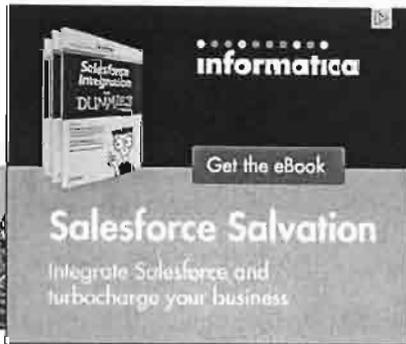
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Islam originally recognized Jews as owners of Israel

Middle East expert Prof. Nissim Dana says that originally Islam saw the Jews as the owners of land of Israel and Jerusalem

Yoel Domb. 19/10/16 15:32



In the wake of the latest UNESCO decision, Prof. Nissim Dana of the Middle Eastern Affairs Department at Ariel University discussed in an *Arutz Sheva* interview the early Islamic attitude towards the connection between Jerusalem and Israel and Judaism.

Dana stated that he had investigated the early Islamic sources and had even published a book on the subject entitled *To Whom Does This Land Belong?: New Insights into the Koran*, revealing that Islam absolutely does not have a claim on the Land of Israel - even by its own

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standards, as it recognizes the Jews as the owners of this country and of Jerusalem.

Nowadays, however, he explained, Muslims seem to be following the maxim 'Don't confuse us with the facts' and it is impossible to change beliefs which they have assimilated over the last few generations even by presenting them with facts from their own sources.

Dana said that "Islam was born in the seventh century C.E. and the Jewish Temple existed many years before that so that it is impossible to mistake those historical facts. Hundreds of years before Islam there was a connection between Jews and Jerusalem."

If Islam is aware of historical events preceding it, how can it change such things as the binding of Isaac to the 'binding of Ishmael' and create an entire festival around it?

Professor Dana agrees that this is a problem, saying that "about twenty five percent of the Koran is stories culled from the Bible. Some are brought as they were written and others are ascribed to Muslims. One of these is the story of the binding of Isaac, the biblical Akeidah, which was changed and ascribed to Yishmael. Islam is not ashamed to doctor history. This is a well-known fact and on their Sacrifice Festival they talk about the binding of Ishmael and not Isaac."



Prof. Dana adds that the greatest commentator of the Koran, Tabari, who died at the beginning of the eighth century, candidly stated that it was Isaac who was bound by Abraham. However the general consensus in Islam is that Ishmael was bound. Dana says that this also brings to mind the absurd expression "don't confuse me with the facts."

However Prof. Dana adds that for the sake of honesty we should mention that Dr. Sari Nusseibeh, one of the heads of the Al-Quds University in Jerusalem, recognized the fact that Temple Mount originally housed the Temple before the mosques were built there. He nearly paid with his life for an article he wrote to this effect.

Don't Muslims realize the linguistic connection between 'Quds' and the Hebrew word for holy, *kodesh*, and the expression Beit El-Muqads which is almost identical with the Hebrew term Beit Mikdash (Holy Temple)? Doesn't this testify that the holy Islamic sites are built on places which were originally holy to Jews?

Prof. Dana says that "Logic would dictate that this is indeed the case but they are not concerned with the facts which contradict the widespread Islamic belief that they were here and we threw them out, claiming that we threw out earlier nations like the Canaanites who were Arabs. They see themselves as descendants of the Canaanites." This is, of course, impossible as the Canaanites were pagan idol worshipers who disappeared centuries before Islam arose and the Arab hordes swept out of the Arabian Peninsula in the 7th century CE to conquer the Holy Land of Israel.

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Josephus: 'The beginning of the third wall was at the tower Hippicus, whence it reached as far as the north quarter of the city'

Archaeologists find battle site where Romans breached Jerusalem walls

Discovery confirms Josephus's account of the conflict that saw destruction of Second Temple nearly 2,000 years ago, says Israeli Antiquities Authority

BY GAVIN RABINOWITZ | October 20, 2016, 5:02 pm |

Israeli archaeologists found the site of a fierce battle where the Roman army bombarded and breached the walls of Jerusalem before conquering the city and destroying the Second Temple almost 2,000 years ago, officials said Thursday.

They said that the discovery, made last winter during an excavation of a construction site for the new campus of the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design outside the Old City, also finally confirmed the description of the wall that was breached provided by the historian Josephus Flavius.

During the dig, the archaeologists found the remains of a tower surrounded by scores of stones and boulders fired by Roman catapults at the Jewish forces guarding the wall, the Israel Antiquities Authority said in a statement.

"This is a fascinating testimony of the intensive bombardment by the Roman army, led by Titus, on their way to conquering the city and destroying the Second Temple," the statement said.

"The bombardment was intended to attack the sentries guarding the wall and provide cover for the Roman forces so they could approach the wall with battering rams and thereby breach the city's defenses," it said.

The part of the wall that was breached was known as the Third Wall. It was found in the area of modern Jerusalem known as the Russian Compound. According to accounts by Josephus, this part of the wall was designed to protect a new quarter of the city that developed outside the other two existing walls.

For much of the 20th century, scholars have been debating the route of this Third Wall and “the question concerning Jerusalem’s boundaries on the eve of the Roman onslaught,” the statement said. “It seems that the new discovery in the Russian Compound is proof of the wall’s existence in this area.”

In his “The War of the Jews,” Josephus describes the wall as follows: “... the beginning of the third wall was at the tower Hippicus, whence it reached as far as the north quarter of the city, and the tower Psephinus ... It was Agrippa who encompassed the parts added to the old city with this wall, which had been all naked before.”

The Third Wall had been completed as part of preparations by the Jews for the Great Revolt against Rome that began in 66 CE and ended in 70 CE when the Romans breached the walls of Jerusalem and destroyed the Second Temple. Hundreds of thousands of Jews were killed, and the rout heralded the start of nearly two thousand years of exile.

The excavation findings will be presented in a conference at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem later this month.

News of the discovery comes during a week in which Israel has been engaged in a fierce diplomatic spat with UNESCO, over a decision by the United Nations cultural body that Israel says ignores Jewish and Christian historical ties to Jerusalem’s holiest sites.

The resolution, passed last Thursday in the committee stage at UNESCO, referred to the Temple Mount and Western Wall only by their Muslim names and condemned Israel as “the occupying power” for various actions taken in both sites. The resolution was confirmed by UNESCO’s executive on Tuesday.

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Archaeologists spotlight first Solomon's Temple-era artifacts ever found on Temple Mount

Carried out in rare cooperation with Muslim authorities, series of digs in recent years at flashpoint site yielded unprecedented proof of biblical-time activity, scholars say

BY ILAN BEN ZION | October 27, 2016, 9:20 pm |

Israeli archaeologists on Thursday presented new details of what they said were the first tiny artifacts, unearthed in situ on the Temple Mount, ever conclusively dated to the time of the First Temple over 2,600 years ago. The discoveries were made during limited scientific excavations carried out atop the flashpoint Temple Mount in the past decade, the first of their kind since the British Mandate.

The highly sensitive Israeli excavations were conducted with minimum publicity in cooperation with the Islamic Waqf which manages the incendiary holy site. The artifacts excavated from the mount, detailed in a paper and presentations at a conference at Hebrew University, are said to include olive pits, animal bones and pottery fragments dating to the time of the First Temple, between the 8th and 6th Centuries BCE.

Archaeologists have previously found a limited number of artifacts from First-Temple-period Jerusalem, but none of those finds were uncovered atop the mount itself. Rather, they were recovered from the Ophel excavations to the south of the Mount, and from the Temple Mount Sifting Project, which examines rubble credibly believed to have been removed from the holy site and dumped in the nearby Kidron Valley.

"It's the first time that we've found artifacts from this period in situ on the Temple Mount," Yuval Baruch, the head of the Israel Antiquities Authority Jerusalem region, said Thursday of the discoveries. "As far as the biblical period is concerned, the Temple Mount is a *tabula rasa*, nobody knows anything," said Baruch, who headed the archaeological work. It's still "very limited," but the tiny fragments of clay and bone are at least something: "It exists."

The digs at the Mount were carried out between 2007 and the past year after the Waqf requested authorization from Israel to perform maintenance work on infrastructure servicing the Al-Aqsa Mosque and Dome of the Rock, the main structures situated atop the Temple Mount. Previous Waqf projects carried out on the Temple Mount, such as construction of the Marwani Mosque in the late 1990s, did not involve cooperation with archaeologists and resulted in the destruction of antiquities and severe tensions between Israel and the Islamic authorities.

The IAA had made limited announcements in the past about its activity on the Mount, releasing brief details of First Temple finds, but Thursday's conference marked the most detailed presentation of the near-decade of work, the finds, and their significance.

Excavation of a trench for electric cables in 2007 allowed archaeologists the first opportunity to delve below the surface of the contested holy site since Israel captured it in the 1967 Six Day War. All work was conducted with police escort due to the sensitivity of the site.

Although the Waqf received permission from the Israel Police and Electric Corporation to lay the power cable, some archaeologists at the time criticized the operation, saying it wasn't conducted with "professional and careful archaeological supervision involving meticulous documentation."

Presenting the finds on Thursday after their examination also marked an opportunity for the IAA to rebuff critics who claim the Temple Mount is a scene of archaeological bedlam.

While the Temple Mount Sifting Project has rummaged through fill from the holy site excavated during the construction of the Marwani Mosque in the 1990s, these newly described digs were the first archaeological study atop the Temple Mount since the 1930s.

The finds on the Temple Mount itself range from a previously undocumented monumental structure believed to be from the 11th and 12th centuries — the period preceding and including the Crusades — to artifacts from Roman times and, unprecedentedly in situ, finds from as far back as the First Temple period.

"It's not an excavation that you go to a place and dig," Baruch said of the work on the Mount. "It's more inspection, and in that framework finds are discovered."

Among the most significant of those finds, dug up during the laying of the power cable approximately 400 feet southeast of the Dome of the Rock, was a jumble of remains dating to the First Temple period.



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"This layer included pottery fragments characterized in the 8th and 7th centuries BCE, as well as animal bones and charred olive pits," Baruch, Ronny Reich and Deborah Sandhaus, authors of the accompanying paper on the discoveries, wrote. "Carbon 14 dating of the olives yielded dates from the 6th to 8th centuries BCE. This date is confirmed by the dates of the pottery."

Another segment of the same trench turned up a Roman coin dating to 383 CE, and iron arrowheads, which the authors said could be "rare evidence of activity in the Roman period in the courtyard between the raised part of the Temple Mount and the Al-Aqsa Mosque."

Additional findings from the work carried out on the Temple Mount by the IAA have yet to be published, Baruch said, including conservation work conducted in Solomon's Stables, a subterranean vault beneath the Temple Mount's platform, in the past year.

The publication "points to the fact that, despite all the statements and such, we're on the Temple Mount and working, overseeing, and business is done under the authority of the IAA," Baruch told The Times of Israel on the sidelines of the conference.

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Dome of the Rock is mentioned in ancient text as 'the rock of the Bayt al-Maqdis' -- literally 'The Holy Temple'

Centuries before trying to deny it, Muslims carved Jewish link to Jerusalem into mosque

Newly studied inscription from Mosque of Umar dated to 9th or 10th centuries highlights correlation between Dome of the Rock and biblical Jewish temples

BY ILAN BEN ZION | October 31, 2016, 9:50 pm |

A recently studied inscription from a mosque near Hebron offers insight into how, until the mid-20th century, the Muslim world considered Jerusalem's Dome of the Rock to be the successor to two ancient Jewish shrines that formerly stood atop the Temple Mount.

The previously overlooked dedicatory inscription from the Mosque of Umar in Nuba, a village nearly 26 kilometers (16 miles) southwest of Jerusalem, mentions the village as an endowment for the Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa Mosque. But what's striking is that the Dome of the Rock is referred to in the text as "the rock of the *Bayt al-Maqdis*" — literally, "The Holy Temple" — a verbatim translation of the Hebrew term for the Jerusalem temple that early Muslims employed to refer to Jerusalem as a whole, and the gold-domed shrine in particular.

Local tradition ascribed the construction of the mosque to Caliph Umar ibn al-Khattab, under whose rule Arab armies conquered Jerusalem and the rest of Byzantine Palestine in the mid-7th century. It was under his eventual successor Abd al-Malik, the fifth caliph, that the Dome of the Rock was completed in 691 CE.

The limestone block into which the Kufic script was carved stands above the mosque's mihrab, the niche pointing toward Mecca, and reads: "In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate, this territory, Nuba, and all its boundaries and its entire area, is an endowment to the Rock of Bayt al-Maqdis and the al-Aqsa Mosque, as it was dedicated by the Commander of the Faithful, Umar ibn al-Khattab for the glory of Allah."

Two Muslim scholars who previously described the inscription ascribed it to the 7th century, the time of Umar. But Israeli researchers, who presented their findings during a conference on

Jerusalem archaeology last week, dated it to the 9th or 10th centuries CE, based on the Arabic writing's orthography and formulation comparable to dedicatory inscriptions from mosques in Ramle and Bani Naim.

The Jerusalem archaeology conference coincided with a UNESCO resolution that ignored Jewish and Christian ties to the Temple Mount and referred to the controversial holy site solely by its Muslim names, "Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Al-Sharif," and defined it only as "a Muslim holy site of worship."

The distinction between the Al-Aqsa Mosque and Dome of the Rock in the text, authors Assaf Avraham and Peretz Reuven wrote, "together with the Hadith tradition and [Arabic] literature praising Jerusalem [from the 11th century], leads us to posit that the term *Bayt al-Maqdis* as it appears in the Nuba inscription... alludes directly to the Dome of the Rock."

Further, medieval Muslim traditions surrounding the Dome of the Rock cited by the authors "identified the mount again and again with David and Solomon's temples" and "understood that the mount is the ancient temple rebuilt, the Quran is the true faith and the Muslims the true Children of Israel."

The 10th-century Muslim historian Muḥammad ibn Aḥmad Shams al-Din al-Muqaddasi wrote in his description of Syria and Palestine that "in Jerusalem is the oratory of David and his gate; here are the wonders of Solomon and his cities," and that the foundations of the Al-Aqsa Mosque "were laid by David."

Likewise Nasir-i Khusraw, an 11th-century Persian travel writer, recorded in his description of the Haram that "Solomon — upon him be peace! — who, seeing that the rock was the Kiblah point, built a mosque round about the rock, whereby the rock stood in the midst of the mosque, which became the oratory of the people."

"Rites imitating activities performed in the Jewish temple were held in and around the Dome of the Rock in the Umayyad period," Avraham and Reuven wrote. "Performers of those rituals purified themselves, changed clothes, burned incense, anointed the stone with oil, opened and closed drapes and lit oil lamps."

"In effect, the Muslims saw themselves as the ones continuing the biblical tradition of the temple," Avraham explained; they considered themselves the "new Jews."

In that vein, the Muslims built the third temple in the 7th century in the form of the Dome of the Rock.

For several centuries, until the fall of Jerusalem to crusading Christians in 1099, Muslims associated the Haram al-Sharif with the former temples, Andreas Kaplony wrote. After Jerusalem was conquered in 637, "their plan is to rebuild as a Muslim mosque the destroyed Temple," he explained.

“Muslim traditions identify the Haram again and again with the Temple of David and Solomon, from where the Ark of the Covenant and God’s Presence had been removed, where the Children of Israel killed John, the son of Zechariah (the biblical prophet Zechariah), and Nebuchadnezzar in revenge slaughtered them,” Kaplony wrote in a chapter of “Where Heaven and Earth Meet: Jerusalem’s Sacred Esplanade.”

“With the sanctuary destroyed and transformed into the city’s garbage dumps by Helena, mother of the first Christian emperor, Constantine, when she built the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, but recognized and cleaned by Umar; and with the Furthest Mosque visited by Muhammad on his Night Journey. To cut a long story short, this is the Former Temple rebuilt, the Qur’an is the true Torah, and the Muslims are the true People of Israel,” he wrote.

Despite the fact that Muslim texts and historians associated the Temple Mount with the two ancient Jewish temples that stood there, since the foundation of the State of Israel that narrative has been expunged from the Palestinian narrative.

A guide to the Haram al-Sharif, the Arabic term for the Temple Mount, published by the Islamic Waqf in 1925 informed visitors that the fact that the Dome of the Rock was built atop the site of Solomon’s Temple was “beyond dispute.”

Even as late as 1951, historian — and then-Palestinian mayor of East Jerusalem — Aref el-Aref’s history of the Dome of the Rock stated unequivocally that “the ruins of Solomon’s Temple are under al-Aqsa” and that Umar built a mosque atop the former building’s site. But by 1965, “A Brief Guide to the Dome of the Rock and Haram al-Sharif,” published by the Supreme Awqaf Council, completely avoided mentioning the ancient Jewish temples.

Amid clashes between Palestinians and Israeli police on the Temple Mount last October, the grand mufti of Jerusalem, the Muslim cleric in charge of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, said that there was never a Jewish temple atop the Temple Mount, and that the site has been home to a mosque “since the creation of the world.”

Sheikh Muhammad Ahmad Hussein told Channel 2 that the site, considered the third-holiest in Islam and the holiest to Jews, was a mosque “3,000 years ago, and 30,000 years ago” and has been “since the creation of the world.”

“This is the Al-Aqsa Mosque that Adam, peace be upon him, or during his time, the angels built,” the mufti said.

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