



  
**Dateline**  
MIDDLE EAST

ISRAEL'S  
**INFLUENCE ON  
WESTERN  
SOCIETY**

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ISRAEL'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO WESTERN SOCIETY

## Congratulations from the Founders

It gives me great pleasure, as the Director of the *Canadian Institute for Jewish Research*, to see the superb work embodied in this thirty-fourth volume [!] of our students' outstanding *Dateline: Middle East* journal.

Unique among North American pro-Israel student publications, *Dateline Middle East*, in its Jewishly-informed critical analyses and evident political humanism—embodies the key values which, as this issue argues, the Jewish people have contributed to what is best in Western civilization.

Bradley, Liora, Mitchell, and all the fine contributors, are to be congratulated for their excellent work, in the remarkable and now thirty-year tradition represented by this superb journal.

Sincerely,

**Prof. Frederick Krantz**

**Director, *Canadian Institute for Jewish Research***

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Congratulations to the dedicated students on your hard work and effort. I wish you continued success in all of your endeavours. May this work inform and inspire students about Israel's true image and the Jewish people. *Am Yisrael Chai!*

**Baruch Cohen,**

**Research Chairman, *Canadian Institute for Jewish Research***

## Congratulations from the National Chairman

On North American campuses these days, there is a minority of students who are willing to stand up for what is right in regards to the State of Israel and its importance for Jewish continuity. We have few of these brave and dedicated students right here, at CIJR, assisting on a daily basis in this just and important cause.

Liora, Bradley, Mitchell, Bernard, and all the other journalists have put together the 34<sup>th</sup> volume of *Dateline: Middle East (DME)*, this very unique and informative student publication. *DME* enhances the notion of the centrality of Israel to the free and democratic world and its major contributions to all of humanity in a multitude of fields of excellence. Indeed, browsing through *DME*'s articles, one can notice that the concept of *Israel as a Light Unto the Nations* is reinforced. With freedom of speech and expression denied these days to supporters of Israel on campus, it is vital to fill in the vacuum created with an off-campus publication such as *DME* and extend its reach all around.

Kudos to you, the students, contributors, and CIJR staff, who worked hard to publish this excellent and important pro-Israel student journal.

**Jack Kincler**

**National Chairman, *Canadian Institute for Jewish Research***

Dear Students,  
**Congratulations**



for all of your hard work  
on behalf of  
**the Jewish people.**

We wish you many years of  
success ahead!

**The Shier Family**

(Toronto)



## Israel's Role in Shaping Western Civilization

Editorial by Bradley Martin

Throughout recorded history, the Jewish people have played an integral role in the formation of Western Values and Society. Whether it be through the Bible as the basis for Judeo-Christian ethics or extraordinary individuals who have made astonishing advancements in culture, science and technology, Jews are to be found in every aspect of Western society. In the words of Mark Twain: “all things are mortal but the Jew; all other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality?”

This has continued with the rebirth of the modern State of Israel, which continues the tradition of advancing the best aspects of Western civilization and culture. Land which Mark Twain described, in the late 1800s, as: “[a] desolate country whose soil is rich enough, but is given over wholly to weeds—a silent mournful expanse.” Since independence in 1948, Israel has gone from exporting oranges to high-tech that is valued all over the world. According to the United Nations Human Development Index, Israel enjoys a standard of living that is comparable to European countries like France, Austria and Finland.

It is therefore important to understand Israel's role in shaping Western civilization and values. This copy of *Dateline: Middle East*, which you now hold in your hands, looks to delve deeper into this subject in order to equip you with the ability to defend Israel from attempts at delegitimization.

To begin, our Managing Editor **Liora Chartouni** examines the problems surrounding the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). The UN created UNRWA in order to provide assistance to Palestinian Arab refugees, in order to propel them to create a state of their own. However, UNRWA has not only failed to achieve these goals, but further exacerbated the severity of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Liora details how in her article, titled: “Why the UNRWA Lies At the Core of The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.”

**Mitchell Stein**, Graphic Editor of *Dateline: Middle East*, writes in his article titled “Ensure Israel's Future by Investing In It” on the subject of up-and-coming high-tech ventures in Israel and opportunities for investment.

ISRAEL'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO WESTERN SOCIETY



*The World in a Cloverleaf*, Heinrich Bünting (1581)

“The Maccabiah Games: Experience of a Lifetime” by **David Ratner** details our youngest contributor’s memorable experience at the 20<sup>th</sup> Maccabiah Games in Israel. Dubbed by many as the “Jewish Olympics,” David details how this sports competition brought him closer to his Jewish roots and to the State of Israel.

**Bernard Bohbot**, our French Publications Editor who edits CIJR’s *Communiqué Isranet*, writes « L’État des Relations Israélo-Africaines » which describes the relationship between Israel and countries on the African continent. After the 1967 Six Day War, there was a considerable downgrade in relations between Israel and African nations. Yet recently, under the governance of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, there has been a considerable upswing.

In my article, originally published by *The American Spectator*, titled “Honor Dr King With Love, Not Hate, For the Jewish State,” I explore anti-Israel attempts to label Martin Luther King Jr. as anti-Israel, are simply false. Aside from being an icon of American Civil Rights, Dr. King was also a strong Zionist who supported the State of Israel.

**Vijeta Uniyal** is a Distinguished Senior Fellow at the *Gatestone Institute* and Founder of the organization *Indians for Israel*. In his piece titled: “Israel-India Ties: When Technology Drives Diplomacy,” he details how innovation, technology and common geopolitical threats are bringing these two countries together.

**Menna Abukhadra** is an Assistant lecturer of Modern Hebrew Language and Literature and graduate of Cairo University. In her article, titled: “The Growth of Israel Studies at Cairo University,” Menna chronicles the history of the study of Hebrew language in Egypt’s foremost academic institution.

Finally, we have CIJR Publications Chairman **Rob Coles’** Book Review of “The Zionist Entity”, by David Levy. Not only is this book an informative read for anyone looking for a strong defense of the Jewish State, it unpacks 21<sup>st</sup> Century anti-Zionism through interviews with personal acquaintances and Levy’s knowledge of the region.

In order to truly cherish Western Civilization’s values, we must understand how it came to be and the important role the Jewish people and the State of Israel has played in its formation. It is our hope with this edition of *Dateline: Middle East*, that you, the reader, will experience a renewed appreciation of Israel’s influence on Western society.

*Bradley Martin is Deputy Editor at the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research and Fellow with the news and public policy group Haym Salomon.*

## Why UNRWA Lies at the Core of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

*Liora Chartouni*

A lot of ink has been spilled about the Israeli-Arab conflict since its eruption, but very little has been said as to whom ought to bear the responsibility for history's longest war, other than Israel, which is relentlessly and wrongfully accused of committing the world's most heinous crimes. Many difficult and complex issues surround this conflict, but arguably, the most striking one is the Palestinian refugee crisis. Delving into this self-created and daunting problem will allow us to comprehend the core of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and to focus on the Palestinians' refugee organization, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

Following the 1948 War of Independence, the United Nations created a special branch dedicated to solve the problem of the Palestinian refugees who were displaced because of the conflict, which they called UNWRA. Upon its creation, UNRWA was given the goal of providing assistance and services to the Palestinian refugees, and eventually propelling them to create a state of their own. However, over the years, the organization has not only failed to achieve its goals, but has further exacerbated the severity of the Arab-Israeli conflict, by expanding the refugee problem.

The first staggering and malicious flaw of the organization is its unique policy of transferring refugee status from generation to generation, consequently modifying its definition of what it is to be a refugee. Yet, UNRWA itself clearly states, in its mission statement, that it seeks to protect "persons whose normal place of residence was Palestine during the period 1 June 1946 to 15 May 1948, and who lost both home and livelihood as a result of the 1948 conflict"<sup>1</sup>.

Indeed, upon its creation in 1949, the organization sought to help the estimated 650,000 Palestinians who were affected by the Arabs' defeat. But to this day, it has constantly expanded and modified its definition of a refugee, assessing that one is considered such if one is the child or grandchild of a refugee, if one is registered with UNRWA, or living in areas under its operations, or is in need. These added components change significantly the initial "refugee" definition the organization had once stipulated. Consequently, the organization's definition now encompasses several millions of Palestinians, which makes it quite unprecedented. "In no other case has a refugee status been expanded to subsequent generations over a period of decades", claims Asaf Romirowsky, the Executive Director of *Scholars for Peace in the Middle East*, and an expert on the functioning of UNRWA.

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<sup>1</sup> UNRWA website, <https://www.unrwa.org/who-we-are>



Not only has UNRWA played a significant role in exacerbating the Palestinian refugee problem, but it also appears that the organization's very survival is dependent on the perpetuation of this seemingly endless issue. Indeed, UNRWA employs nearly 30,000 individuals, most of whom are Palestinian, and therefore contributes significantly to the weak Palestinian economy. Furthermore, since the refugees are the organization's *raison d'être*, even if it claims it seeks to solve the refugee problem once and for all, it has no intention of doing so, since this would trigger its very extinction. Moreover, none other than Lance Bartholomeusz, chief of UNRWA's International Law Division, admitted himself that UNRWA "does not have a mandate as such to seek durable solutions for Palestine refugees"<sup>2</sup>.

Another compelling issue related to the Relief Agency, and directly linked to the first one, is its unconditional and relentless support for the "right of return", which lies at the core of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This concept seeks to destroy the State of Israel as a Jewish sovereign entity, since the right of return, if implemented, means that all Palestinian refugees, those displaced during the 1948 and all of their descendants, which today total more than five million people, have the right to resettle in Israel as well as to get large amounts of

compensation. This supposed "right" underlies a desire to destroy Israel demographically. Indeed, if so great a number of Palestinians were to settle in Israel, its Jewish population would be overwhelmed, and Jews would no longer be sovereign over their own land and country.



Lastly, it has been proven that UNRWA has forged strong ties with terrorist groups. Indeed, the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), the official representative of the Palestinian people which has, for most of its short history, tailored its political statements to violent ends, has used UNRWA facilities as terrorist niches in the recent Gaza wars. Therefore, the Agency has proved everything but being reliable and trustworthy. It has failed in every aim it had set to attain, and seems to be more self-serving than of real aid to the Palestinians.

<sup>2</sup> The Middle East Forum, 2012

But a question remains: what ought to be done with this branch of the United Nations? Can it be reformed or must it be dismantled? If the latter, how can we solve the refugee problem? Firstly, a reformation of such an organization does not seem to be viable. UNRWA is already quite corrupt and distorted, and trying to reform such a system would be nearly impossible. Dismantling it is a better option, since it currently does more harm than good, both for Palestinians and for Israelis. Yet, if it is dismantled, who bears the responsibility of taking care of all the Palestinian refugees? Three main alternatives may be considered.

The first option would be for the Palestinian Authority (PA) to absorb them, which would make the most sense, since it constitutes the quasi-governmental body representing the Palestinian population. However, if they have not done so by now, it is certainly, because they do not intend to do so. Its unsteadiness and weak economy do not make the PA capable of integrating millions of people in its territories. It rather prefers to blame Israel on the refugees' precarious state.

The second option, which has also been extensively discussed, would be the absorption of the Palestinian refugees by an official Palestinian state, otherwise known as the two-state solution. But a two-state solution, despite some advocates, is simply not viable. Indeed, a Palestinian state would certainly endanger not only the Israeli state, but the Palestinian refugees themselves. Palestinian terrorism is omnipresent in the political and social spheres and thus the creation of a Palestinian state would inevitably rely on that system, and would create a 23<sup>rd</sup> unsteady, violent and weak Arab state. A two-state solution is therefore not beneficial for any party, whether is it the Palestinian refugees or the Israeli citizens.

The last one argues that Jordan should absorb them, most particularly those living in the West Bank. Surprisingly enough, Jordan is the only country to have taken legal actions to integrate the Palestinian refugees. Indeed, its 1952 constitution asserts that once integrated, they are Jordanian citizens by law. But it seems that the Jordanian government would not be ready to take such a step, due to the heavy implications and responsibilities that it implies.

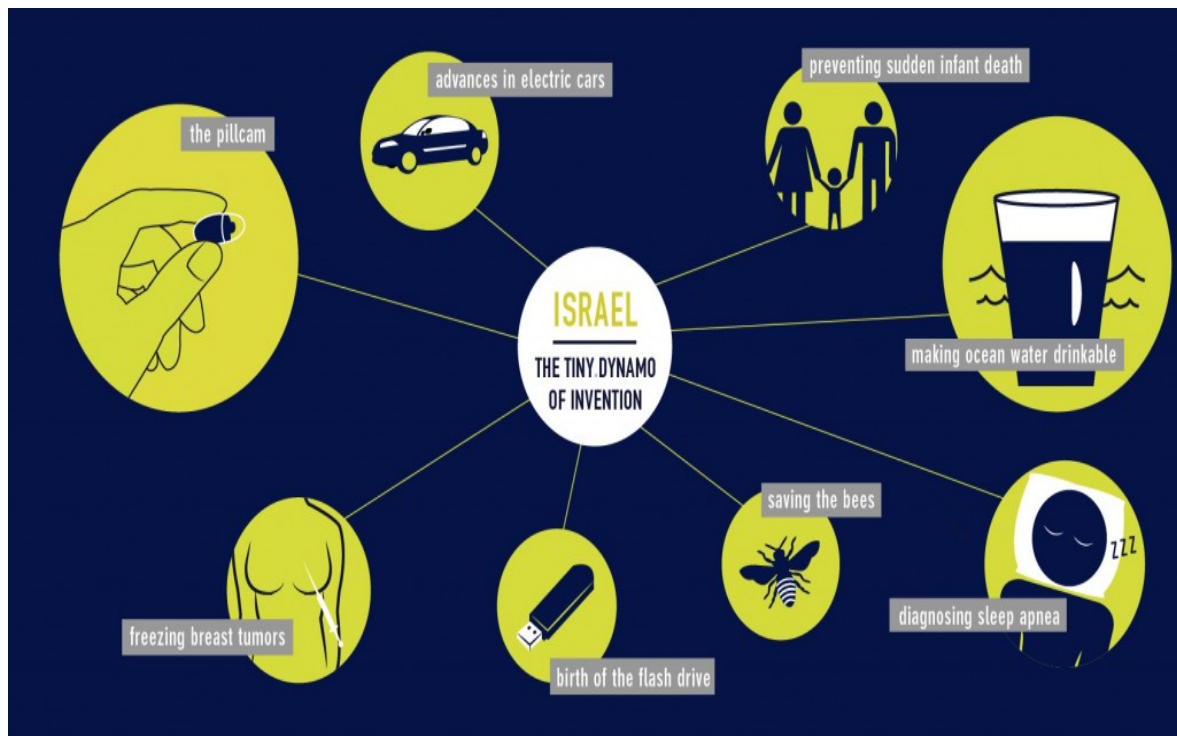
One can conclude that the Palestinian refugee problem is certainly ongoing, but no entity appears ready to make any substantial effort to solve it finally, particularly not UNWRA. Indeed, it has done anything to ameliorate the refugee problem. On the contrary, it has only exacerbated it and caused further conflict and tension between Palestinians and Israelis, just like many other UN entities. At this point, no plausible solution is apparent. The main party involved for the so-called resolution of the Palestinian refugee crisis is corrupt and works hand-in-hand with terrorists. The only way to ameliorate the Palestinian refugee problem would be for the Palestinians to cease their corruption and establish a democratic government. But no one expects such a change from them anytime soon.

*Liora Chartouni is the Managing Editor for the Dateline: Middle East*

## Ensure Israel's Future by Investing in It

*Mitchell Stein*

Since the very moment that Israel gained her independence as a free state, the Jewish nation has always struggled to be a leader in the technological front. From the very beginning, Israel was faced with challenges, including fighting a war waged by those who denied its right to exist. To win this war, Israel, a country with few resources, would need to find new strategies to survive. Hence, the birth of Israeli innovation began as early as the state itself. Nearly seventy years later, that passion for creativity and innovation has only grown stronger, and will likely continue to expand in years to come. But, like many things with which Israel is familiar, the future of its innovative industry is often met with a set of challenges of their own, and a future that might remain uncertain if not for our help and support.



*Illustration from the new book 'Tiny Dynamo,' which promotes the most important and interesting innovations to emerge from Israel. (photo credit: Courtesy Megan Flood)*

The passion to constantly move forward and strive for innovative ideas is what helped Israel become one of the world's largest leaders on the technological frontier. From mobile electronic applications to sophisticated military equipment, Israel is the world's largest leader per capita, in one of the largest technology industries, second only to Silicon Valley.

However, unlike the technology capital in San Francisco, California, Israel's political status, economic stability, and the return on investment are questioned, after being viewed as 'unstable' by many Western societies. However, this challenge never stopped Israel from

building the powerful industry that she is known for today, and from developing a successful entrepreneurial spirit that has helped drive large Western corporations, such as Intel, Google, Facebook, and Microsoft, to invest in research and development centers in Tel Aviv. It is clear that Israel's booming industry will likely continue to grow, even if its future is always difficult to predict.

While Israel will continue to innovate and create new technology, its future often hinges on the support it receives from its allies across the world, and from the growing interest of those who dare to shape the future of global innovation. At Tel Aviv's newly opened State of Mind Innovation Center, operated by the Israeli government and Taglit-Birthright, Israel hopes to showcase its experimental edge, and inspire visitors to consider a life devoted to what the "start-up nation" has to offer.

"It's important that we showcase the amazing work that Israel is capable of, and that our visitors see Israel as a progressive, modern culture" says Uri Gafner, who acts as Operations Manager at the facility. "Many of our visitors don't realize that so many items from their daily lives, like Waze or Fiverr, were actually founded and created right here in Israel". With projects like the Innovation Center, Israel is hoping not only to continue to expand its presence in the industry, but to help inform others from around the world.

Now that we are aware of the monumental contributions that Israel is making to our society, how can we, especially those who don't live in Israel, play a role in determining its future? The role of Israel's start-up industry is perhaps one of the most important integral elements of its economic success. Therefore, the underlying importance behind the message of organizations such as the State of Mind Innovation Center, helping spread a common understanding of Israel as a modern, progressive state, to ensure support for Israel's booming future. While many attempts at delegitimizing Israel's prominence or support have failed, such as the ongoing "Boycott, Divest, Sanction" movement (often abbreviated as BDS), attacks on Israel will continue so long as the Jewish nation continues to exist. It is therefore important to show our support for Israel's crucial economic technical component, the guarantor of its future.

By supporting Israeli innovation, whether it is by investing in research in Israel, or simply informing others of the benefits of innovation in Israel, our support is what is instrumental to Israel's continued success. Israel offers an opportunity for those who are inspired to push the limits of technology and create new ideas to shape our future. Israel will continue to create new ideas, but it's up to us that while Israel does so, our vision does not get lost as well.

*Mitchell Stein is the Graphic Editor and Designer for the Dateline: Middle East magazine, as well as a freelance writer, journalist, and content creator. He seeks to help provide compelling discussions and marketing goals able to push the boundaries of digital storytelling. Read more or get in touch by visiting him online at [MitchellStein.ca](http://MitchellStein.ca)*

## Maccabiah Games : The Experience of a Lifetime

*David Ratner*

Growing up as a boy who had a passion for basketball, my spiritual Jewish connection never changed the way I viewed life and people. I always honored my Jewish heritage and respected my people's homeland, yet I never really understood its true connection to Israel. Participation in the Twentieth Maccabiah Games, the largest international Jewish and Israeli multi-sport event and often called “the Jewish



*David and his team, which finished with the bronze medal, following the tournament.*

Olympics”, became the moment when the countless hours of hard work and passionate dedication to playing basketball eventually paid off. For going to the Games filled one long year with excitement, fundraising, nervousness, and acquiring gear--always marked by the undying passion to continue perfecting our basketball skills. As the time came, I realized that there was no proper routine to prepare myself for such a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

I had always heard stories about Israel's unique beauty and the overwhelming harmony of its Land. However, nothing could be compared to the feeling of representing Canada as a proud Jew in my homeland. It was only once our plane flew over the infinitely blue oceans and I set eyes on one of the most beautiful countries in the world that I realized the principal mission of the Maccabiah Games: strengthening Jewish athletes' connection to the State of Israel by staging the highest possible levels of athletic competition. Upon exiting the plane and leaving the airport, a very special, different and unique feeling of belonging came over me.

Other than the Middle Eastern heat, a whole new culture and a special style of life was everywhere evident. Even though this was my first time in the Holy Land, I immediately felt a connection to the country, its people and the Jewish religious life surrounding me. It was at this moment that I realized what Israel truly meant to my people: a Jewish Homeland.

After many exciting hours of touring the Jewish state, experiencing its captivating beauty, food and people never ceased to amaze me. Our visit to the Kotel, Jerusalem's eternal Western Wall, remains one of my most touching spiritual moments. This holy site, the last surviving part of the ancient Temple, is filled with Jews from all over the world, who come to pray and thank Hashem for all that we are blessed with--including this amazing land! The many

stories of people dropping a note with a wish in the Wall's cracks, or praying at this holy site, were inspiring, but actually being present there and being part of it was truly amazing!

Other than visiting Israel's renowned landmarks, such as the Tel Aviv beaches, Baha'i Gardens, Carmel Mountain, the Jaffa Port, Caesaria, the Dead Sea, Massada, the Kotel and much more, I was really overwhelmed by the picturesque sunsets, and stunned by the country's unique agriculture and the wonderful people who flourish in Israel. To open the Maccabiah Games, 10,000 Jewish athletes from 80 countries all over the world were welcomed in the long anticipated and incredible Opening Ceremony! While exchanging pins, trading gear and creating new friendships, Jews from around the globe were together, celebrating in excitement. It was amazing to see that while the athletes had different backgrounds from different parts of the world, everyone shared, and was united by, the same Jewish faith.

As the last fireworks lit the dark sky and the final buses departed, the joyous memories of Jewish athletes being united as one will forever stay fresh in each participant's mind: this is the power of Israel. After many practices, training camps and "off-court" efforts, the games had finally begun! Other than the phenomenal feeling of representing the top Jewish athletes from their respective countries and competing very seriously, sportsmanship and friendships were constantly developed. Prior to the Games, the competitive spirit of winning a medal is what fuels every team's ambition. However, once they began, even as our main goal was to beat our competition, we would always show respect to the other team by trading gifts and shaking hands pre- and post- game, regardless of the score.

To broaden the focus of the tournament from strictly winning, many parties were organized to create new friendships and help enable us to understand Israel's joyous side. However, as the end was growing near, winning a medal became almost crucial. Team Canada's Junior Boys Basketball team, *my* team, fought its way down to the last whistle, and managed to win (63-60) a well-earned bronze medal over Israel's own national team. The feeling of winning such a prize was remarkable, and will remain engraved in each team member's memory forever.

Discovering Israel was the *Maccabiah's* most sacred gift, strengthening the bond between thousands of participants through sport, life-long friendships and religious faith. Every single participant will bring home not only athletic medals and achievements, but also fond memories to recount for many generations to come. These Jewish athletes will become ambassadors of Israeli pride and achievements among all eighty participating countries from the Twentieth Maccabiah Games (2017).

*David Ratner is a student at Bialik High School. He is part of the U16 Junior Boys Maccabiah Basketball Team, which played in Israel in the context of the Maccabiah Games from July 4<sup>th</sup> to July 18<sup>th</sup>*

## L'état des relations israélo-africaines

*Bernard Bohbot*

À l'été 2016, le Premier ministre israélien, Benyamin Netanyahu, a fait une tournée en Afrique de l'Est. Une seconde tournée dans le continent a eu lieu en juin dernier, alors qu'il fut le premier dirigeant non-africain invité à participer au sommet des pays de la Communauté économique des États d'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO), qui s'est tenu à Monrovia, au Libéria. Un sommet Israël-Afrique doit également avoir lieu à Lomé, au Togo, en octobre prochain.



*Le premier ministre israélien Binyamin Netanyahu avec le président togolais, Faure Gnassingbé.*

Assiste-t-on à la naissance d'une nouvelle ère dans les relations israélo-africaines ? Tout laisse penser que oui, car les relations entre le continent noir et l'État juif n'ont pas toujours été au beau fixe. Depuis la Guerre des Six-jours, les relations entre les pays d'Afrique subsaharienne et Israël, fructueuses jusqu'alors, se sont solidement dégradées. Il a fallu attendre la fin de la Guerre froide et les Accords d'Oslo, pour qu'elles renaissent timidement. Mais plus rien ne semble aujourd'hui les arrêter. Ce court essai vise justement à faire le point sur l'histoire des relations israélo-africaines et sur leur état actuel.

Rappelons que dans les années 60, Israël avait fortement soutenu l'indépendance des pays africains. Cette politique avait alors deux volets. Dans un premier temps, elle découlait d'un désir réel de venir en aide aux peuples noirs qui ont connu, avant leurs indépendances, l'humiliation et l'oppression au même titre que le peuple juif. Rappelons que bien avant la création de l'État d'Israël, Herzl écrivit dans *Alneuland*, en 1902 :

*« Des hommes, car des hommes malgré leur couleur, sont enlevés, transportés, vendus. Leurs enfants grandissent en exil haïs, méprisés, parce qu'ils sont de peau colorée. Je n'ai pas honte de le dire, dusse-je paraître ridicule : moi qui ai vu le retour des Juifs, je voudrais encore travailler à préparer le retour des Noirs. <sup>3</sup> »*

<sup>3</sup> Nouhou, A.B. (2003) Israël et l'Afrique : une relation mouvementée. Paris : Karthala, 25

Cependant, comme le rappelle Yossi Alpher, l'ancien officier du Mossad qui dirigea également le Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies (JCSS) dans les années 90, la realpolitik ne peut pas être ignorée. Cette politique s'inscrivait également dans ce que l'on a appelé la politique dite « périphérique », qui consistait à s'allier aux pays non-arabes ceinturant Israël, afin d'éviter qu'ils n'adoptent une attitude hostile envers l'État juif.

Le premier pays africain qui a réellement bénéficié de l'aide israélienne est le Ghana, qui bénéficia de l'aide de l'agence de coopération israélienne, Mashav, dans le domaine de l'agriculture, mais aussi de l'assistance militaire de ce pays.

Si bien que Kwame Nkrumah, figure de proue du tiers-mondisme des années 50 et 60, résista longuement aux pressions arabes pour mettre un terme aux relations avec Israël. À l'époque, Israël votait contre l'Afrique du Sud de l'apartheid aux Nations-Unies et refusait de normaliser ses relations avec cette dernière -- bien que cela mettait en danger l'importante communauté juive du pays.

Ainsi, jusqu'à la Guerre des Six-jours, Israël resta le principal contributeur à l'aide au développement des pays africains après l'Union soviétique et les Etats-Unis, et ce, malgré sa faiblesse démographique et sa pauvreté relative. À l'époque, en signe de gratitude, les pays africains s'abstenaient de voter contre Israël aux Nations-Unies.

Ce n'est pas tout. Les étudiants africains venaient étudier par milliers à l'Université hébraïque de Jérusalem dans le cadre d'échanges bilatéraux. De plus, Israël prenait carrément en charge le développement de l'infrastructure de certains pays. Anecdote intéressante, l'aéroport international d'Entebbe en Ouganda fut construit par des Israéliens, ce qui a largement contribué au succès du Raid d'Entebbe de 1976, visant à libérer les otages Israéliens.

Mais dès le lendemain de la Guerre des Six-jours, les pays d'Afrique noire se sont rangés du côté arabe, et au lendemain de la Guerre de Kippour, en 1973, la grande majorité des pays de la région avaient rompu leurs relations diplomatiques avec Israël. Ils furent d'ailleurs quasi-unanimes à voter la résolution assimilant sionisme et racisme aux Nations-Unies en 1975. Évidemment, il ne faut pas se leurrer. Les pays du Golfe et la Libye menaçaient les États africains refusant de rompre avec Israël, dont le Tchad qui dût se soumettre aux dictats de Kadhafi faute de quoi il menaçait de déstabiliser le régime alors au pouvoir. Ironiquement, l'Égypte sera le premier pays africain à établir des relations diplomatiques avec Israël en 1979, suite à l'Accord de Camp David. Cela entrouvrit une brèche, car dès le début des années 80, quelques autres États tels que le Cameroun et la Côte d'Ivoire renoueront timidement avec l'État hébreu. Mais il faudra attendre les Accords d'Oslo en 1993, pour que la grande majorité des pays africains rétablissent les relations diplomatiques avec Israël. À l'époque, même la Mauritanie, pays arabe, normalisa ses relations diplomatiques avec l'État hébreu (en 1999), avant de les rompre en 2009.



La gauche radicale antisioniste aime bien rappeler qu'Israël fut l'un des derniers pays à imposer des sanctions à l'Afrique du Sud (en 1987), et qu'il renforça ses liens avec ce pays alors qu'il était mis au ban de la communauté internationale. Or, rappelons que ce rapprochement entre les deux pays ne débuta qu'en 1974, alors que les États d'Afrique noire avaient tourné le dos à Israël, ce qui fut vécu par les Israéliens comme une véritable trahison. N'empêche, que dans les années 80, l'Afrique du Sud était devenu le principal client de l'industrie militaire israélienne et les relations entre les deux pays furent telles qu'Israël aida le régime de Pretoria de se doter de l'arme nucléaire.

Cela explique largement la hargne de l'actuel gouvernement sud-africain envers Israël qui encourage ouvertement le boycott de ce pays. Or, ne nous détrompons pas. Sur la question israélienne, c'est bien l'Afrique du Sud et non Israël qui se retrouve isolée. Les relations entre Israël et les autres pays d'Afrique subsaharienne se sont réchauffées à un point tel que le premier ministre Netanyahu pense pouvoir les convaincre de suivre l'exemple du Rwanda, et de ne plus voter systématiquement du côté des Palestiniens aux Nations-Unies. Lors du dernier congrès de l'American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), le 26 mars dernier, le Président rwandais, Paul Kagame, est d'ailleurs venu exprimer son soutien à Israël. Le 10 juillet, il a réitéré l'amitié entre les deux pays lors de sa visite officielle en Israël.

Enfin, les relations entre Israël et l'Égypte n'ont jamais été aussi bonnes comme en témoigne la visite du ministre égyptien des Affaires étrangères à Tel Aviv, Sameh Shoukry, le 10 juillet 2016. Bref, si Israël semble être de plus en plus isolé en Europe, c'est tout le contraire qui se produit en Afrique. Il semble bien que les vraies victimes du colonialisme européen ne voient pas Israël comme le dernier avatar du fardeau de l'homme blanc !

*Bernard Bohbot est responsable du Communiqué Isranet, l'unique publication hebdomadaire francophone de l'Institut canadien de recherche sur le judaïsme.*



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## Honor Dr. King With Love, Not Hate, for the Jewish State

*Bradley Martin*

As we pay tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., it is necessary to distinguish between his true beliefs and the distorted exploitations of demagogues and poverty profiteers.

Dr. King would be terribly disheartened to see decades of anti-Semitism preached by African-American leaders who sell themselves as Dr. King's heir to the civil rights movement. He'd be particularly ashamed of how Black Lives Matter and its offshoots have resorted to vilifying Israel and even partnering with terrorists.



History clearly shows that those white Americans that stood by Dr. King in the 1950s and 1960s were the Jews. From activism to financial support, American Jewry was there to support the African-Americans. And just as Dr. King preached equality and justice for African-Americans, he was equally supportive of the idea of a Jewish homeland. In other words, Dr. King was a Zionist. "The whole world must see that Israel must exist and has a right to exist, and is one of the great outposts of democracy in the world," said Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during a 1967 interview.

As far back as 1968, Dr. King warned of the hatred behind using "Zionism" as code for "Jews." In the December 1969 issue of *Encounter* magazine, political sociologist Seymour Martin Lipset wrote about a Cambridge dinner he attended with Dr. King:

“One of the young men present happened to make some remark against the Zionists. Dr. King snapped at him and said, ‘Don’t talk like that! When people criticize Zionists, they mean Jews. You’re talking ‘anti-Semitism!’”

“Martin... warned repeatedly that anti-Semitism would soon be disguised as anti-Zionism,” noted Clarence B. Jones, Dr. King’s personal attorney and close adviser. Aside from disgracing his memory, BLM misappropriates the legacy of Dr. King. King was a student of history and brilliantly understood the evolution of hate and how enemies of peace and justice would adapt their tactics to fit modern times. Today, college campuses are flooded with students led by progressive and anti-Israel groups who claim they aren’t anti-Semitic, just anti-Zionist. In the eyes of Dr. King, these folks are bigots.

Under the guise of human/civil rights activism, attacks against Israel and Jews range from Nation of Islam’s Louis Farrakhan praising Hitler as “a very great man” while vilifying Judaism as a “gutter religion,” to Jessie Jackson labeling Jews as “hymies” and New York City as “Hymietown.”

Yet, these snowflakes on college campuses and the silver-spoon leaders of BLM have no idea what real hate looks or feels like. “[MLK] understood that a special relationship exists between African-Americans and Jews,” wrote Rep. John Lewis, a former civil rights leader who worked with Dr. King. “He knew that both peoples were uprooted involuntarily from their homelands. He knew that both peoples were shaped by the tragic experience of slavery. He knew that both peoples were forced to live in ghettos, victims of segregation...”

BLM embarrasses itself by accusing Israel of being an “apartheid state.” Even before the State of Israel was established, its founders consciously avoided the apartheid system of South Africa by incorporating into its Declaration of Independence safeguards for equal rights for all its citizens.

Moreover, Israel airlifted thousands of Ethiopian (black) Jews facing starvation, marking the first time in history when thousands of Africans were being brought into a country as equal citizens and not as slaves. The country is now home to an estimated 126,000 citizens of Ethiopian origin. Israel also provides millions of dollars in aid to Africa, while building vitally needed infrastructure projects throughout the continent.

A major tenet of Dr. King’s philosophy was his strong commitment to non-violence. In a recent editorial for the *Hill*, Bridget Johnson of the Haym Salomon Center highlights how Dream Defenders (a BLM offshoot) sent delegations to the Middle East and pledged solidarity with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. A State Department-designated foreign terrorist organization, PFLP is committed to the annihilation of Israel through “paramilitary operations.”

Al-Qaeda and other terrorist organizations have encouraged BLM activists to feel reciprocal sympathy for jihadist groups.

Most disturbing is the BLM offshoot's wholehearted embrace of terrorism. Executive Director of the *Haym Salomon Center* Paul Miller revealed in a recent article for Fox News how Dream Defenders not only lionizes the PFLP, but emulates it. An educational series produced by Dream Defenders condones violent PFLP strategies such as "hijackings, assassinations, car bombings, suicide bombings and paramilitary operations against civilian and military targets."

Dr. King's opposition to terrorism is on the record. The anti-Jewish bigotry of BLM and its association with anti-Semitic and terror organizations taints the legacy of what Dr. King and other civil rights activists suffered and died for. As long as BLM traffics in hate, they have more in common with the KKK than with MLK.

*Bradley Martin is Deputy Editor for the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research, is a Fellow with the news and public policy group Haym Salomon, and Editor-in-Chief for the Dateline: Middle East magazine.*

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“אם אשכחך ירושלים תשכח ימיני”

“IF I FORGET THEE OH JERUSALEM, MAY MY RIGHT HAND WITHER”

THE REMER AND BRATIN FAMILIES

## Israel-India Ties: When Technology Drives Diplomacy

*Vijeta Unival*

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's historic visit to Israel, the first ever by an Indian Premier, has managed to capture international media attention. Media commentators were fascinated by Prime Ministers Netanyahu and Modi's 'hug diplomacy', which went beyond the usual protocol in welcoming the visiting Indian leader. Prime Minister Modi too made no secret of his personal affection towards Israeli leaders and the Jewish people in general.

Since India established full diplomatic ties with the Jewish State almost 25 years ago, cooperation in the fields of trade and technology has increased substantially. Bilateral trade has risen from a modest \$200 million in the early 1990s to over \$4 billion in recent years. For nearly a decade, Indian space agency ISRO has been launching Israeli satellites into orbit, including the reconnaissance satellite TechSAR. Israeli defense giants like Rafael and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) have been developing defense systems with researchers from India's defense research agency (DRDO).

This growing partnership is not limited to state agencies alone. Indian private sector players too have discovered Israel in a big way. Indian conglomerates like Tata, Reliance, Mahindra and Infosys have made substantial and long-term investments in Israeli technology and start-up eco-system. Technology-driven Indian multinationals, keen to make a mark at the global stage, have come to see Israel as a preferred destination for acquiring the best talent and cutting-edge solutions.

Not just limited to big-ticket acquisitions and large investments, cooperation in start-up and innovation between Israel and India is often driven by personal networking and people to people contact. Last July, more than 150 binational start-up teams, located in various Israeli and Indian cities, came together to develop healthcare solutions for Indian market. 'India-Israel Med4Dev Hackathon' invited Israeli and Indian participants to develop medical solutions tailored for rural India -- a low profit-margin segment often ignored by the healthcare giants and big pharma.

"Israel has proven time and again that it is India's technological partner," Israel's envoy to India, Ambassador Daniel Carmon, noted ahead of Israeli Technology Minister's visit to India last December. "Our ecosystems of innovation and technology do not compete but rather complete each other. Solutions created in the Development Laboratory that is Israel, are adapted to answer the shared challenges India and Israel face together."

Looking back at the last 25 years of cooperation covering varied fields, the agricultural technology has undoubtedly emerged as the cornerstone of Israel-India relations. Nearly ten years ago, Israeli government decided to joined hands with the Indian counterparts to launch the India-Israel Agriculture Project (IIAP). Under the auspices of this ambitious project, specialised agriculture technology centres were to be set up across the country. Today, 15 such centres are operational in various Indian states -- run by MASHAV, Israel's agency for international development in cooperation with India's Ministry of Agriculture. In coming years, 12 additional centres are expected to be launched, taking the number of agriculture centres to 27.



The project not only facilitates the transfer of agriculture technology and solutions to India, but promotes joint development of crops and techniques, keeping the local needs and challenges in mind. "My young friends, you are the technology and innovation bridge between India and Israel. Both I and Benjamin Netanyahu are convinced that the backbone of our ties will be science, innovation and research," Prime Minister Modi told an Israeli youth audience during his visit. This hope, expressed by the Indian leader, is shared by millions of aspiring young men and women across India. If, years ago, Cold War conflicts had pulled these two nations apart, then today innovation, technology and mutual interests are bringing them together.

*Vijeta Uniyal is the founder of the Israel advocacy group Indians4Israel*

**To all the dedicated students of the *Dateline* magazine, we admire your sacred work on behalf of the Jewish People.**

**May you go from strength to strength!**

**Assaf and Betty Drori**



## The Growth of Israel Studies at Cairo University

### *Menna Abukhadra*

In Egypt, the first university-level Hebrew courses were offered at Cairo University, a Cairo institution that holds a very special place in the hearts of all Egyptians. Inaugurated as a civil university on December 21, 1908,<sup>4</sup> it was moved to El-Azhar Square several years later as a result of World War I. Because of this, the teaching of Hebrew at the time was underdeveloped.

The study of Hebrew started with the establishment of the Faculty of Arts, in 1925,<sup>5</sup> the first faculty opened in Cairo University in its new location.<sup>6</sup> It began in the Department of Arabic and Oriental Languages and was initially limited to Biblical Hebrew. By that time, the main purpose of teaching Hebrew was to aid comparative study with Arabic, as two main Semitic languages with a common origin, and many similarities in grammar and corresponding consonantal sounds.



The first generation of professors teaching Hebrew in Cairo University appeared in 1925. In 1926, the first Hebrew educational textbook titled *Hamatmon* [The Treasure] was composed by Prof. Mohammed Badr. The second Hebrew-teaching textbook was titled *Alasas* [The Basis], which was released by a group of Cairo University professors. Both books present the basic grammar of the Hebrew language, focusing on comparative analysis between Arabic and Hebrew. It should be noted that many difficulties were encountered when publishing these books, because Egyptian printing presses were not equipped with Hebrew characters.<sup>7</sup>

During the 1950s, the establishment of Israel as an independent state in the region marked a major transformation in the study of Hebrew in Egypt. It became necessary to keep up with sociopolitical developments through learning Modern Hebrew with more focus on Israel Studies. By that time, the Department of Oriental languages was separated from the Department of Arabic Language. A new phase began, through the teaching of Modern Hebrew.

<sup>4</sup> Samira, H. (2005, July 9). Emergence of the University and its Development. Retrieved February 9, 2015, from <http://1cu.edu.eg/page.php?pg=contentFront/SubSectionData.php&SubSectionId=222>

<sup>5</sup> Algeme3y, Abdulmenem. (1976). The Old Egyptian University: Its establishment and its role in society. Cairo. 2 Rozalyoussif. P26

<sup>6</sup> Abbas, Raouf. History of Cairo University.

<sup>7</sup> Badr, Mohammed. (1926). *Hamatmon* [The Treasure]. Cairo. Commercial Printing Press. P1.

Sobhy Alnaggar, a Palestinian teacher who migrated to Egypt in the early 1950s, made remarkable progress in teaching Modern Hebrew at Cairo University. In developing the curricula and the teaching styles of Hebrew language, he decided to teach Hebrew to Egyptian students with the same books used to teach new Jewish immigrants to Israel. These included “עלה לישראל” [Migration to Israel] and לינגואפון [Linguaphone].<sup>8</sup> He also helped other Egyptian professors achieve fluency in Modern Hebrew, giving them the ability to read Hebrew books. Since then, the academic staff for Modern Hebrew and Israel Studies has increased significantly. After the emergence of Modern Hebrew literature as a specialization, a number of other departments began to appear. Groups emerged which focused on the history of Zionism, Israeli politics, Israel society, medieval Hebrew literature, Judaism, Talmud, Old Testament criticism, among others.

Modern advances in communications represented a major milestone in the development of Israel studies at Cairo University. Since it is no longer difficult to listen to Hebrew language spoken by Israelis themselves, or to read Israeli newspapers, it became easy to follow sociopolitical developments in Israeli society as they occur!

After the revolution of January 25, 2011, Israeli Studies evolved in Egypt, for the reason that Arabs in general –and Egyptians in particular–sought to provide the world with information on what was happening in Tahrir Square. There was a great interest by some of the students in Cairo University in showing their distinctiveness through a good command of Hebrew language and their ability to communicate with Israelis.

In spite of these advances, there are still many obstacles that are faced in Cairo University, the majority of which is related to security issues, mixed with psychological barriers. Perhaps the most prominent and important problem is the lack of direct communication with Israeli universities, the difficulty of access to the Hebrew books from Israel, the lack of scholarships, the growing number of students choosing to learn Hebrew and the lack of places that can accommodate them, and the lack of appropriate teaching aids for such large numbers.

*Menna Abukhadra, an Assistant lecturer of Modern Hebrew Language and Literature, is a graduate of Cairo University, Faculty of Arts, Department of Oriental Languages. She holds a Master of Literature degree from Cairo University, and is currently a PhD student of Modern Hebrew poetry, focusing on its deep connection to the Old Testament in the modern era.*

*Contact: [menna.zean@cu.edu.eg](mailto:menna.zean@cu.edu.eg)*

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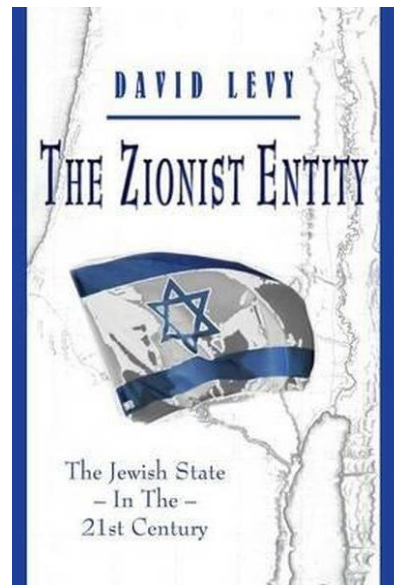
<sup>8</sup> Ibid.



## Book Review: *The Zionist Entity* (David Levy, Mazo Publishers, 2015) Rob Coles

“Zionist entity” is a label critics of Israel use to delegitimize the Jewish State. The roots of the term lay in the Arab and Muslim anti-Israel propaganda war to deny the Jewish People the right to a nation in their historical homeland in the Middle East. Former Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, a notorious anti-Zionist and Holocaust denier, once called on the world to “abandon the filthy Zionist entity which has reached the end of the line.” Labelling Israel the “Zionist entity” emphasizes Zionism as an ideological movement, rather than a nation. The end goal is to delegitimize Israel and facilitate its destruction.

Levy’s book, a strong defense of the Jewish State, unpacks 21<sup>st</sup> century anti-Zionism through interviews with personal acquaintances, both pro- and anti-Israel, and his own knowledge of the region. The book is not an academic study, but rather a contemporary oral history written in a casual, and, at only 159 pages, sparse style.



As a lecturer on cinema history, Levy has direct experience with anti-Israel crusaders in the film industry. A cinema conference at Tel Aviv University provides an introduction to the controversial topic of anti-Israel “BDS” boycotts. Although the conference, *Cinematic Traces of Things to Come*, included films unrelated to the Middle East, such as an entry about a massacre that took place in Indonesia in 1965, some academics, Jew and non-Jew, nonetheless promoted a boycott of the event. Levy concludes that the boycott was not directed at the themes explored in the conference or the films presented, but the venue itself, Tel Aviv University. It wasn’t clear if the boycott endorsers had any knowledge of the films screened or the topics discussed, but for “BDS” advocates these details are irrelevant. In the black-and-white world of Israel boycotts, it’s Israel and its institutions that are on trial.

One of Levy’s interviewees, a retired sociology professor named Ben, fully supported the boycott. Ben represents what the author calls a “Jihadi Jew,” A.K.A. “self-hating Jew,” an unusual phenomenon of hard-left Jewish anti-Israel activist. In the polarized world of the “Jihadi Jew,” Levy explains, there is no middle-ground. Ben had never been to Israel and knew virtually nothing about the country except for a handful of biased, pro-Palestinian articles he had read. And this, in a nutshell, is a big part of the problem. Many of Israel’s harshest critics have never visited the country or read any nuanced interpretations of Israel’s politics and history. Levy suggests that Ben should read Ari Shavit’s *My Promised Land*, a balanced, non-

partisan depiction of the Jewish State. Nonetheless, Ben, like many critics of Israel, are too intellectually lazy to read books that challenge their own biases and political viewpoints. Never mind that Shavit, a journalist for the left-wing Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz*, has been critical of Israel's policies *vis-à-vis* the Palestinians and the so-called occupation. Shavit's crime is to be a Zionist, the "absolute lowest form of humanity" in the opinion of "Jihadi Jews."

Although Israel continues to have its enemies in the Arab and Muslim world, the Jewish State's contemporary detractors are often found among Western liberals. Levy asks how is it that Israel has become the "*bête noir*" of our time. 21<sup>st</sup> century Anti-Zionism is assumed to be a result of a "perverse left-wingism in league with a rising tide of anti-Semitism and some formidable and persistent Big Media bias." But even more baffling is the phenomenon of Western leftists who, in the name of "social justice" and "human rights," are unyielding in their critique of Israel — the only true democracy in the region — where religious freedom, racial equality, women's rights, and freedom of sexual orientation are championed.

As a Canadian non-Jew, I am perplexed by the ongoing and shameful negativity towards Israel, particularly among self-identified liberals. I think that by visiting Israel, critics of the Jewish State should realize that the situation is not as black-and-white as they perceive and the socio-political life of the "Zionist entity" is complex. Those without the means for the trip should read a balanced analysis of Israel, such as Levy's, for a view of the region free of anti-Israel spin so pervasive in Western media.

*Rob Coles is the Publications Manager at the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research*

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# Congratulations,

and best wishes to CIJR and Dateline for the great work that you are doing to arm our young people with facts and knowledge to counteract the lies and misinformation that abound, the truth will ultimately prevail.

We would also like to wish great success to Liora Chartouni on her Aliyah to Israel where she will no doubt be an asset to Israel and the Jewish People.

**Marlene & Joel King  
and Family**





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