

# ISRAEL FAX

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Source: *The Six-Day War*. Tel Aviv: M. Mizrahi Publishing (1967). Courtesy of Jack Kinelder. Photographer unknown



Brig.-General Shlomo Goren, Chief Chaplain of Zahal, sounds shofar on Mt. Sinai crest. With him are two helicopter fliers and a reporter.

*(Six Day War, June 5-10, 1967)*

# Combatting the "New" Antisemitism

Frederick Krantz

As we celebrate a New Year, and the anniversaries of both the Six Days War (50<sup>th</sup>) and the Balfour Declaration (100<sup>th</sup>), we are experiencing a phenomenon at once bizarre and unsettling. In the aftermath of the recent neo-Nazi Charlottesville, Va. riot, the "new antisemitism", an odd amalgam of both traditional and contemporary elements, is increasingly evident

Today Israel and the Jewish People are under increasing assault from a loose "anti-Zionist" coalition in which ultra-right, ultra-left, and traditional Christian antisemitic tropes fuse with both "progressive" liberal and violent Islamic anti-Jewish and anti-Zionist expressions

This amalgam is bound together by "moral" outrage against the Jewish State's supposedly Nazi-like oppression of the "occupied" Palestinian Arabs. This ignorant and ahistorical "Holocaust inversion"—first seen after the 1967 Six Day War—turns Israelis [Jews] into Nazi oppressors, and the always-innocent Palestinians into oppressed "Jews". Pro-Palestinianism energizes the anti-Israel "BDS" movement on campuses, informs much distorted media representation, and underlies the international onslaught against Israel in the UN and European Union.

Remarkably heterogeneous, the "new" antisemitism links Neo-Nazis, "progressive" liberals, white supremacists, Black Lives Matter "protesters", violent "antifa" ["antifascist"] thugs, radical feminists and LGBTQ advocates and Muslim and other Islamic terrorism sympathizers (not to mention, particularly on campuses, a useful quotient of "progressive" pro-Palestinian Jews).

Precisely the "new antisemitism"'s ideological looseness and fusion of disparate elements—facilitated by "identity" politics and "social media"—is what characterizes contemporary "social movements" more generally. (One thinks here of various "idealistic" and "apolitical" movements like Greenpeace, the PETA animal defense organization, ecological and gender-identity organizations, and so on, "intersectional" groupings whose linkage, demonstrations [and fundraising] are facilitated by "social media".)

Nevertheless, it should be noted that the "new antisemitism" has, as yet, been markedly unsuccessful as anything like a coherent, sustained, and effective *political* force. Israel's regional-international position has in fact been strengthening, and in North America BDS has failed to even marginally affect Israel's domestic and international economic well-being. Despite its concerning "Israeli apartheid week" campus theatrics, the BDS movement is increasingly opposed by state and federal governments and university trustees and administrations.

It may well be that these disparate groups' very looseness and fractionalization is what prevents them from acting together in a truly threatening *political* manner. This weakness should be exploited in countering these groups, and their hypocritical and ignorant anti-Israel "moralising" aggressively exposed and publically denounced. However "new", they are clearly antisemitic, and should be denied moral, as well as political, legitimacy.

But before heaving a sigh of relief, we should note that other, earlier initially minor "movements" have sometimes coalesced through sustained political and/or social crises. Key variables are social stability and leadership: Were the current socio-political order to go into crisis or even collapse, were a charismatic leader to emerge, these antisemitic groupuscules might well fuse into a more powerful, sustained, and *directly* political force

So, even as we rightly celebrate CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## Rosh Hashanah 5778 – 2017: Sounding the Shofar

Baruch Cohen

*In loving memory of  
Malka – z"l*

The sounding of the shofar is a symbol of the New Year, of renewal, and of unending hope for peace, love, and better world for all.

The blast of the *shofar* reminds us of our mighty and proud Israel Defensive Forces, and of their acts of heroism in Israel's wars. It also reminds us of the ethical and just values of the mighty and proud people of Israel, their heroism, and their love for peace and hope for the ultimate, harmonious gathering of all peoples.

Judaism regards the period between *Rosh Hashanah* (the New Year) and *Yom Kippur* (Day of Atonement) as days of celebration, creation, renewal, and a new beginning, for each individual and for *Am Israel*, The Jewish People. The sound of the *shofar* is a call for peace.

*Tsedek, tsedek, tirdorf*: justice, justice shall you pursue!

Happy New Year to all of CIJR's family, friends, and supporters. May it be a year of peace for Israel, the Middle East, and for the entire world!

*Shana Tova U'Metuka*: a sweet New Year for us all.

*(Baruch Cohen, 97, has been CIJR's  
Research Chairman for thirty years)*

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*We welcome your letters, comments and materials, which can be faxed or e-mailed (see cover.)*

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## WEEKLY QUOTES

“What’s happening now with the Arab bloc states has never before happened in our history – even when we signed agreements...What we have now is greater than anything else during any other period in Israel’s history.” — Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu. Netanyahu said the dramatic shift in the Arab world’s behavior towards Israel was unprecedented, and more significant than the thawing of relations which occurred following the Oslo Accords and peace treaty with Jordan. In Africa, as well, Netanyahu said Israel was fostering closer ties. “Our return [diplomatically] to Africa expands the scope of technological assistance, and that in turn creates a lot of interest [in ties with Israel] on the continent.” (*Arutz Sheva*, Sept. 6, 2017)

“As far as Syria is concerned, we have very little to do with Syria other than killing ISIS...What we do is we kill ISIS. And we have succeeded in that respect. We have done better in eight months of my Presidency than the previous eight years against ISIS.” — U.S. President Donald Trump. (*Wall Street Journal*, Sept. 7, 2017)

“The recent self-defense measures by my country DPRK are gift package addressed to none other than the U.S...The U.S. will receive more gift packages from my country as long as it relies on reckless provocations and futile attempts to put pressure on the DPRK.” — North Korea’s Ambassador to the UN, Han Tae Song. (*National Post*, Sept. 4, 2017)

“Israel and countries of the West have a major interest in the establishment of the state of Kurdistan...I think that the time has come for the U.S. to support the process.” — Israeli Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked. Shaked said that Israel supports Kurdish independence, “at least in the Iraqi part.” The Kurdistan Regional Government, the semi-autonomous administration of the Kurdish region in northern Iraq, intends to hold an independence referendum on September 25. (*Ha’aretz*, Sept. 11, 2017)

“...In response to the disruption of a pro-Israel event last May, UC Irvine has taken disciplinary measures against the perpetrators, Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), that include placing the group on probation for two years as well as requiring that members meet with the dean of students to discuss free speech issues and consult with a representative prior to hosting any campus event. While this is a positive step forward, for it to make a meaningful difference to Jewish and pro-Israel students at UCI, it’s critical that the University’s leadership use the lessons from the incident as a springboard to implementing a comprehensive, campus-wide plan to address intolerance and free speech issues that frequently arise on campus and have affected many Jewish and Zionist students.” — Tammi Rossman-Benjamin, cofounder and director of AMCHA Initiative. (Sept. 12, 2017)



Muslim students at an anti-Israel protest at the University of California, Irvine in 2006.

## SHORT TAKES

**FAMILY ROBBED IN ‘ANTISEMITIC’ HOME INVASION** (Paris) — Three members of a Jewish family were kidnapped, tied up, beaten and robbed on September 7 in their home northeast of Paris. Three individuals broke into the house Roger Pinto, the president of a group representing Sephardic Jews. They then tied up Pinto’s son, and held and beat his wife, reportedly telling them, “You are Jewish, you have money.” The incident is one of several cases in France in which criminals singled out Jews out of the belief that they have money. (*Times of Israel*, Sept. 10, 2017)

**IMAGES SHOW DAMAGE TO SYRIAN WEAPONS FACILITY** (Hama) — A satellite released photographs showing the effects of an airstrike on a Syrian weapons base that was attributed to the Israeli Air Force. The Syrian military’s Scientific Studies and Research Center (CERS) facility was hit from the air, damaging several buildings and killing two Syrian soldiers. Officials have long associated the CERS facility with the production of precision missiles, as well as chemical weapons. Israel says it maintains a hands-off policy toward the Syrian civil war, only getting involved when one of its “red lines” is transgressed. (*Times of Israel*, Sept. 10, 2017)

**OFFICIALS INVESTIGATING WHETHER IRAN ASSISTED N. KOREA** (London) — UK officials fear that the advancement in North Korea’s nuclear capabilities may be the result of Iranian aid. According to a report, Iran may have helped Pyongyang in its quest to attach nuclear warheads onto missiles. A British minister said that Iran is at the top of the list of states suspected of providing

North Korea with some kind of aid. The possibility of Russian assistance is also being reviewed. Officials also believe that foreign countries likely supplied North Korea with either the equipment or the expertise needed to become a nuclear state. (*Jerusalem Online*, Sept. 10, 2017)

**CHRISTIANS PROTEST SALE OF CHURCH PROPERTY IN JERUSALEM** (Jerusalem) — About 300 Orthodox Christians staged a demonstration in Jerusalem’s Old City on September 9 against Greek Orthodox patriarch Theophilos III’s decision to sell a substantial portion of the church’s property in Israel. The protestors were demonstrating the sale of property to private buyers in Jerusalem and residential neighborhoods. In addition, the church has sold extensive plots of land in Caesarea, Jaffa, Tiberias and elsewhere. Some demonstrators said that the sales were the product of corruption and called for the patriarch’s resignation. (*Ha’aretz*, Sept. 10, 2017)

**TOURIST ARRIVALS CONTINUE TO BREAK RECORDS** (Jerusalem) — The number of tourists visiting Israel continues to soar with some 254,000 tourists arriving in the country in August – a 20 percent increase from last year. Tourist arrivals for the year so far stand at 2.3 million, up 24 percent from the same period last year, and on course to beat the 12-month record of 2.95 million set in 2013. Since January, tourism in Israel has brought in nearly \$3.5 billion. (*Jewish Press*, Sept. 11, 2017)

# IRAN'S DRIVE FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND M.E. HEGEMONY THREATEN ISRAEL

## The Next Middle East War

### Editorial

Israel launched airstrikes on a military compound in Syria on (September 7), and the bombing should alert the Trump Administration as much as the Syrians. They carry a warning about the next war in the Middle East that could draw in the U.S. Israel doesn't confirm or deny its military strikes, but former officials said they were aimed at a base for training and a warehouse for short- and midrange missiles. The strikes also hit a facility that the U.S. cited this year for involvement in making chemical weapons.

The larger context is the confrontation that is building between Israel and Iran as the war against Islamic State moves to a conclusion in Syria and Iraq. Iran is using Syria's civil war, and the battle against the Islamic State, as cause to gain a permanent military foothold in Syria that can threaten Israel either directly or via its proxies in Syria and Lebanon. Tehran has helped Hezbollah stockpile tens of thousands of missiles that will be launched against Israel in the next inevitable conflict. If it can also dominate southern Syria, Iran can establish a second front on the border near the Golan Heights that would further stretch Israel's ability to defend itself.

Israel may have to make more such strikes in Syria because Iran isn't likely to give up on this strategic opening. Iran's Revolutionary Guards know they have Russia's backing in Syria, and the U.S. is signaling that it is loathe to do anything to change that once ISIS is routed from Raqqa. "As far as Syria is concerned, we have very little to do with Syria other than killing ISIS," President Trump



Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei (right) and former head of the Iranian military Hasan Firoz Abadi in 2004.

said... "What we do is we kill ISIS. And we have succeeded in that respect..."

Great, but the problem is that the end of ISIS won't bring stability to Syria, and American interests in the Middle East don't end with ISIS. The danger of a proxy war or even a direct war between Iran and Israel is growing, and it will increase as Iran's presence builds in Syria. Mr. Trump may not like it, but he needs a strategy for post-ISIS Syria that contains Iran if he doesn't want the U.S. to be pulled back into another Middle East war.

*(Wall Street Journal, Sept. 7, 2017)*

## North Korea and Iran

### Editorial

The situation playing out now with North Korea is a nightmare scenario of the dangers of nuclear proliferation. It offers a partial preview of the sorts of dangers the world would face if Iran ever obtained nuclear weapon capability. And it vindicates the use of preemptive military strikes to keep nuclear weapons out of the hands of autocratic regimes... On (September 3, 2017), North Korea... conducted its biggest nuclear test to date, setting off an explosion that Pyongyang said was caused by the detonation of an advanced hydrogen bomb...

US President Donald Trump immediate reaction was registered, as is his custom, on his personal Twitter account. "North Korea is a rogue nation which has become a great threat and embarrassment to China, which is trying to help but with little success." And, in a more strident message, Trump wrote: "South Korea is finding, as I have told them, that their talk of appeasement with North Korea will not work, they only understand one thing!" French President Emmanuel Macron urged the UN Security Council to react quickly and decisively... China, Russia and the International Atomic Energy Agency also weighed in. But what can any of them do? No one wants to play chicken with Kim Jong Un and risk a nuclear Armageddon.

Iran's mullahs, meanwhile, are carefully monitoring the developments. True, North Korea and Iran are radically different culturally. Iran is governed by religious fanatics who look to

usher in a messianic age ruled by Shi'ites. North Korea, in contrast, is run by a secular tyrant. However, North Korea offers Iran a test case in the wonders of obtaining nuclear weapons. And it offers the world a sharp rebuke for past inaction and a foreboding warning for the future. A small but aggressive nation with limited economic and military means has succeeded in leveraging its power to intimidate while remaining utterly immune to the influence of the international community – all accomplished by simply obtaining nuclear weapons.

Tehran has an opportunity to watch how the international community reacts – or rather fails to react – when Pyongyang fires a missile over Japan, as it did in August, or when it detonates a hydrogen bomb, as it did (September 3). Trump might tweet, Macron might threaten, but the real danger of sparking a nuclear war will have a chilling effect on rational decision-making with regard to using military options to stop Pyongyang.

The Islamic Republic's leadership did not need (a) hydrogen bomb test to become convinced of the merits of obtaining an atomic bomb. As a nation of Shi'ites surrounded by a Sunni majority, Tehran's motivation from the outset in obtaining nuclear weapons was first and foremost an insurance policy against being bullying around... Nothing came of the more than two years of negotiations with Pyongyang. No country stopped North Korea. The West ultimately accepted a North Korea with nuclear weapons capability. The same mistake must not be made again with Iran.

*(Jerusalem Post, Sept. 3, 2017)*

# PALESTINIAN ANTISEMITISM AND REJECTIONISM PREVENT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO CONFLICT

## 'Occupation' is a Lie That Inhibits Middle East Peace Process

Sally Zerker

The time has come to tell the world that Israel's so-called occupation is the big lie of our age. The term "occupation" is meant to signify larceny, theft of others' property, abuse of the "other," cheating, immorality. But the truth is that Jews are not guilty of these crimes. Indeed, Jews cannot be occupiers of the biblical lands, which include present-day Israel, Judea, Samaria and some of Jordan. Jews are, in fact, the extant aboriginal people of this land and have international legal rights to this territory.

What defines Jewish indigenism is the consistency of modern Jews with their ancestors of thousands of years ago. They live in a country with the same name – Israel – as that which existed in 1312 BCE. Today's Israelis speak the same language that was spoken by Jews in that land more than 3,000 years ago. Their Temple can be archeologically located in Jerusalem. And Jerusalem still stands as the centre of Jewish sovereignty, as it did when King David ruled the Jews.

Moreover, despite a series of conquests and expulsions over the centuries, Jews retained and rebuilt communities in Jerusalem, Tiberias, Rafah, Gaza, Ashkelon, Jaffa, Caesarea, Safed and elsewhere. Years before the Zionist migrations began in the 1870s, Jews lived continuously over time throughout the land of Israel. When the Arabs did conquer and occupy parts of the land, they did so as occupiers of territories previously settled by Jews.

## The True Palestinian 'Nakba'

Philip Carl Salzman

Seventy years ago..., the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP) introduced a detailed proposal to the UN General Assembly for the partition of Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab state, approved less than three months later by a vote of 33 to 13. Not for the last time, however, a concerted international effort to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict foundered on the shoals of Arab rejectionism.

Arab Muslims roundly condemned UN partition — and more broadly the very principle of a Jewish state anywhere in Palestine — striving instead for complete victory. Following the tribally-based principle of those closer uniting against those more distant, the opposition to the Jews was both organizational and religious. Jews were not kinsmen and, worse, were infidels.

The Arabs acted according to their tradition, refusing compromise with inferiors. For over a millennium, Islamic empires had spread by the sword from Arabia across the Middle East and North Africa to much of Europe and as far east as India. God bestowed upon Muslims a right — no, a duty — to dominate Dar al-Islam (the house of Islam) forevermore. Not only did Jews, long a subservient and despised minority in Dar al-Islam, lack the right to have an independent state in Palestine, but the Arab residents of Palestine had no right to concede it to them...

While maintaining their uncompromising rejection of any Jewish state in the Holy Land, the Arabs eventually abandoned their triumphalist rhetoric in favor of a more useful narrative. In this

As for international law, Israel's legal position begins after the First World War. The victors – Britain, France, Italy and the United States – convened the Paris Peace Conference of 1919, which led to the creation of the League of Nations, which introduced the mandate system to the Middle East. The Arabs were granted sovereignty over 96 per cent of the territory, while Palestine was granted to the Jewish People worldwide, as per the recommendations of the Balfour Declaration of 1917, which then became international law.

The map drawn up by the San Remo Conference on April 25, 1920, resulted in the creation of new exclusively Arab states – Syria, Lebanon and Iraq. It also drew the borders of the geographic region hitherto known as Palestine since Roman times, which was designated for the reconstitution of the Jewish national homeland. Note the decisive language here: it is a reconstitution, not a new entity or the novel creation of a Jewish national home in that territory, which includes both east and west of the Jordan River...

There is therefore absolutely no doubt on the basis of both law and history that Israel cannot be an occupier of any lands west of the Jordan River to the sea. And yet, "occupation" is a very central signal for the Palestinians' core cultural and political position, namely the rejection of Israel. Thus, the concept and use of this term is not only a falsehood, but an inhibitor of any chance of peace with the Palestinians, since it is identified with the Palestinians' refusal to accept the existence of a Jewish state in any part of the land, land that is legally and historically within the rights of the Jews.

*(Dr. Sally F. Zerker is a professor emerita at York University and academic co-chair of CIJR's Toronto chapter. CJNI, Sept. 7, 2017)*

retelling, Israel is responsible for seven decades of mayhem, not the victim of unremitting hostility. That role would now be played by the Arab residents of Palestine, now called "Palestinians" — indeed, they would be forced to play it by the refusal of Arab states to naturalize, or even provide humane accommodations, to the so-called "refugees."

Arab states marshalled their collective influence to sell this narrative to the rest of the world, with much success. Most Europeans and their governments...and many Americans risk apoplexy in their violent denunciations of Israel, while tripping over themselves offering sympathy and money to the Palestinians... This narrative has received a particularly warm reception in the academic world, where Western imperialism, rationalized by disparaging "Orientalist" stereotypes of Middle Easterners, is seen as the single greatest cause of the region's ills.

Of course, blaming all Palestinian problems on Israel makes even less sense than attributing the Arab-Islamic world's economic, political, and cultural decline in recent centuries to relatively brief and limited Western interventions. Though the narrative has grown more and more fantastical over the years, its acceptance remains disturbingly widespread... In the end, of course, the Palestinian victimization narrative hurts Palestinians by obscuring the actual sources of their misery — their failed supremacist ideology, despotic and corrupt leaders, and irrational hate of Jews — preventing the emergence of genuine solutions to a tragic, festering problem.

*(Philip Carl Salzman is a professor of anthropology at McGill University and a CIJR Academic Fellow. Algemeiner, Sept. 3, 2017)*

# ISRAEL: NATIONAL HOME FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE

## TIMELINE: FROM THE BALFOUR DECLARATION TO THE SIX-DAY WAR

Liora Chartouni

**2 November 1917:** Balfour Declaration. Sir Arthur Balfour, at the time the English Foreign Secretary, writes a letter to Lord Lionel Walter Rothschild, the head of the British Jewish Community, assessing that the Crown was in favour of the creation of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. "His Majesty's government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country".

**1918-1920:** Collapse of the Ottoman Empire. Once powerful and effective, 'The Sick Man of Europe' finally collapsed, entirely reshaping the Middle East, and led western powers to intervene in the region.

**10 August 1920:** Treaty of Sèvres. The Allied Powers, notably France, Britain, Japan and Italy, under the aegis of the League of Nations, take possession of former Ottoman controlled Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Palestine and Jordan and divide them into Mandates. The Treaty of Sèvres marks the official annihilation of the Ottoman Empire.

**29 September 1923:** British Mandate established in Palestine. After the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, Britain had taken control of then Palestine, with the objective of ruling over it until it was able to stand alone. The mandate was supposedly put into place in order to implement the Balfour Declaration of 1917.

**24 August 1929:** Hebron Massacre. Murder of 67 Jews in the city of Hebron by Arabs incited to violence, claiming that Jews were planning to seize control of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Jewish homes and synagogues were also pillaged. Shortly after the massacre, all remaining Jewish families were evacuated by the British Authorities. The massacre led Jews to form a military organization, the Haganah, which is the ancestor of the Israel Defense Forces.

**1936-1939:** The Arab Revolt of Palestine



Map depicting military operations from 15th May 1948 to 10th June 1948 during Israeli War of Independence. Symbols used in the map are NATO military symbols.

was a nationalist uprising by Palestinian Arabs in Mandatory Palestine against British Administration, and demanding Arab independence and the end of Jewish immigration as authorized by the League of Nations in 1922. Mohammed Amin al-Husseini, the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, who encouraged violence against Jews and British authorities, initiated the revolt.

**1939.** White Paper. The White Paper is a policy paper issued by the British government in response to the Arab Revolt explained above. The policy advocated for the establishment of a Jewish national home in an independent Palestinian state within ten years, rejecting both the idea of the creation of a Jewish state and the idea of partitioning Palestine. It also limited Jewish immigration to 75,000 for five

years and ruled that further immigration was to be decided by the Arab majority. Restrictions were also imposed on Jews to buy land from Arab owners. In the context of increasing Nazi persecutions against Jews, it made clear that Britain would allow a Jewish State only with Arab support.

**1930s-1940s:** Britain limits Jewish immigration in Palestine, in reaction to Arab violence, and under the pretext that the country could not absorb an excessive amount of people. The population was at the time one million (and now it is seven million). The British also restricted land acquisition by Jews. On the other hand, the British did not impose any restrictions on Arab immigration to Palestine. During the Second World War, Britain closed Palestine's borders entirely, which doomed

# OPLE AND A BEACON OF LIGHT TO THE WORLD

many Jews to perish in Hitler's concentration camps.

**7 July 1937:** Peel Commission. The Peel Commission's Report was meant to investigate the reasons behind the high conflict level between Arabs and Jews in Palestine and to appease tensions by proposing a two-state solution. It was proposed by the British Royal Commission, and sought to create one state for the Jews (20% of the land) and one for the Arabs (the remaining 80%). The Arabs rejected the plan. In response to accusations made against Jewish immigration, the Commission writes: "The shortage of land is, we consider, due less to the amount of available land acquired by Jews than to the increase in the Arab population"

**1939-1945:** Second World War and the Holocaust. Nazi Germany takes control of almost all of Europe, and annihilates 6 million Jews. In the meantime, Palestine is very difficult to access due to immigration quotas imposed by the British. Many Arab leaders, such as the Mufti of Jerusalem, side with Germany and express Nazi-like anti-Semitic views.

**November 29 1947:** UN Partition plan. The United Nations General Assembly, under Resolution 181, voted a partition plan separating the Land of Palestine into two states, one for the Arabs and the other for the Jews. The resolution also included a Special International Regime for the city of Jerusalem, which means that it would not belong to any party and would be an international city. The Partition plan stipulated the end of the British Mandate, the progressive withdrawal of British forces, and the delineation of boundaries between the Jewish and Arab state.

**14 May 1948:** Declaration of Independence. Following the Independence War of 1947-1948, David Ben-Gurion declares Israel a sovereign country. First Arab-Israeli War begins (15 May 1948). Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon attacked Israel after it declared its sovereignty. At the end of the war in 1949, Israel retained all the territories that the Resolution 181 had assigned to Israel, as well as almost 60% of the Arab territories.

**24 February 1949:** Armistice agreement between Israel and Syria, Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan, following the Israeli-Arab War

of 1948. Following the War, Israel makes a territorial armistice with its opponents.

**29 October 1956:** Suez Canal Crisis. The nationalization of the Suez Canal by Egyptian dictator Nasser provokes Israel's invasion of the Canal, followed by France and Britain. The aim was to regain Western Control of the Canal and take Gamal Abdel Nasser out of power, which failed as U.S President Dwight Eisenhower supported the Egyptians .

**2 June 1964:** Formation of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) in Jerusalem. The Palestinian National Council's initial goal was to liberate Palestine through armed struggle, mainly targeting Israeli civilians. It comes to be recognized as the "sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people". Until the Madrid Conference of 1991, the PLO was seen by Israel and the United States as a terrorist organization. In 1994, the PLO supported Israel's right to live in peace and in return, Israel deemed the PLO to be

the official representative of the Palestinian people.

**June 5 1967: Six-Day War.** Nasser closes the Red Sea's Straits of Tiran to Israeli vessels, just as it did prior to the Suez Canal Crisis. After that crisis, Israel had won a U.S. and U.N. guarantee that the Straits of Tiran would remain open, which Egypt failed to respect and announced its intention to destroy the Jewish State. Egypt then massed its troops along Israel's border. As a result, Israel launched pre-emptive strikes against Egypt, and ended up waging war against Jordan and Syria, when they entered as well. The Egyptian forces are caught by surprise, and Israel manages to destroy most of them; as well as gaining air superiority, Israel also launches a ground offensive in Gaza and the Sinai Peninsula, and against Syria and Jordan when they get involved, try to prevent imminent Egyptian defeat. Israel wins the war after only six days, and takes control of numerous areas, such as the Western Wall and East Jerusalem (from the Jordanians), the Golan Heights (from Syria), and the Gaza Strip, the West Bank and the Sinai Peninsula (from Egypt).

*(Liora Chartouni is the Managing Editor of CIJR's Dateline Middle East student magazine)*



*On June 7th, 1967, the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem were breached, and Israel's fighters poured through to take possession of Temple Mount.*

The Six-Day War. Tel Aviv: M. Mizrahi Publishing (1967). Courtesy of Jack Kincler. Photographer unknown

## Balfour Declaration's Centenary a Historic Moment

Mike Fegelman

This year marks the historic centennial of the Balfour Declaration. One hundred years ago on Nov. 2, the declaration was issued by the United Kingdom's foreign secretary, Arthur Balfour, to Walter Rothschild, a leader of the British Jewish community, which saw the British government endorse the creation of the Jewish national home in Palestine. The declaration represented a national commitment by the British government for Zionist aspirations in Palestine, which ultimately laid the groundwork for Israel's founding, without which the Jewish state may never have been created.

Balfour himself was a preeminent Zionist, despite claims to the contrary. Arthur Balfour and the Balfour Declaration's legacy deserves to be remembered in history with due accuracy and integrity. To that end...an important organization called Canadians For Balfour 100 is in the vanguard in promoting this historic milestone. Composed of distinguished experts in international law, former diplomats and prominent businesspeople, the organization serves to educate the world about the irrefutable legal rights afforded to the Jewish people that emerged following the issuance of the Balfour Declaration.

According to Richard Bass, a Middle East historian, educator and author of the book *Israel in World Relations*, the Jewish legal right to a national home in Palestine was derived from the fact that the Mandate for Palestine incorporated the Balfour Declaration.

The mandate specifically referred to "the historical connections

of the Jewish people with Palestine" and to the moral validity of "reconstituting their National Home in that country." The mandate's term "reconstituting" shows recognition of the fact that Palestine had been the Jews' home (a de facto Jewish national home existed at the time the Balfour Declaration was issued, as 90,000 Jews resided in the area of Palestine that was to be Israel). Furthermore, the British were to "use their best endeavours to facilitate" Jewish immigration, to encourage settlement on the land and to "secure" the Jewish national home.

The mandate itself — and its incorporation of the Balfour Declaration — affirmed the 4,000-year connection of the Jewish people to the land of Israel and their right to self-determination. (While the Jews received their rights to self-determination in Palestine, Arabs received those rights in all the remaining territories of the Middle East: millions of square miles, compared with Palestine's 10,000 square miles.)

Bass points out that the Balfour Declaration's principles and commitments were endorsed, signed and recognized internationally at the San Remo conference in 1920 and by the Council of the League of Nations on July 24, 1922, when it approved the Mandate for Palestine. Both were internationally sanctioned vehicles that enshrined the Balfour Declaration's provisions which then became binding international law...

Despite these facts, Arab protagonists have, since time immemorial, sought to undermine the historical and legal rights of the Jews to the Holy Land...Make no mistake: Arthur Balfour supported a Jewish-majority nation-state. If alive today, he would revel in this fact and not be repulsed by it.

*(Mike Fegelman is the executive director of Honest Reporting Canada. Winnipeg Free Press, Apr. 5, 2017)*

## The Palestinians' War on the Balfour Declaration

Ruthie Blum

Encouraged and empowered by the recent UNESCO resolution that rejects Jewish ties to the Temple Mount and the Western Wall, the Palestinian Authority is boasting about plans to hold a series of global events throughout the coming year to decry the establishment of the State of Israel. The purpose of the campaign...is to "make the international community, and especially Britain, confront their historical responsibilities and call on them to atone for this major crime committed, and raise the issue of the historical injustice inflicted on the Palestinian people."

The "major crime" in question is the November 2, 1917 Balfour Declaration, sent by the UK foreign secretary to Jewish community leader Walter Rothschild, to be delivered to the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland... Though this was well before the term "Palestinians" — or people calling themselves "Palestinians" — even existed — distorting history is part and parcel of their effort to delegitimize Israel in any and every way possible. The UNESCO vote is but one tiny example of this practice, which is gaining momentum with the help of Western leftists.

Another is the incessant cacophony about Israeli settlements constituting an "obstacle to peace." Ironically, the very fact that all PA

factions make no bones about considering the Jewish state a catastrophe worthy of annual mourning — and deserving of the slaughter of innocent Jews — does not serve to dissuade proponents of a two-state solution from their claim that new apartments in the West Bank are unnecessarily provocative. On the contrary, though PA President Mahmoud Abbas said clearly that no Jews would be welcome in PA-controlled territory under any circumstances, when Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called attention to this blatant anti-semitism, it was he who was mercilessly berated far and wide, especially by the White House and State Department.

Saeb Erekat, the Palestinians' chief "peace" negotiator, took the opportunity, as he always does, to use US criticism of Israel as a way to prove that the Jewish state was born and lives in sin. In a *Washington Post* op-ed... Erekat did this in the context of the Balfour Declaration, which he called the "symbolic beginning of the denial of our rights." Chastising the world for not taking significant steps to end the travesty of Israel's existence, he spewed customary lies about how the Jewish state came into being...

Erekat's piece was in keeping with Abbas' announcement in July that the PA was going to file a lawsuit against Britain for the Balfour Declaration... "after which hundreds of thousands of Jews arrived from Europe and other places in Palestine at the expense of our people." With such a blatant admission of its actual position on Jewish statehood — going so far as to wage war on the Balfour Declaration — the PA should be treated with the disdain and derision it deserves.

*(Algemeiner, Oct. 30, 2016)*



# DECISIVE VICTORY IN 1967 ESTABLISHED PERMANENCE OF THE JEWISH STATE

## The Burden of Israel's 1967 Victory

Efraim Inbar

In June 1967, the Israel Defense Force (IDF) waged war alone against Egypt, Jordan, and Syria. It achieved a stunning victory in six days. The military skill demonstrated by the Israelis was remarkable – so much so that battles from the Six-Day War continue to be studied at war colleges around the world. Israel's military achievement had another extremely important effect. It went a long way towards convincing the Arab world that Israel cannot be easily destroyed by military force; Israel is a fact the Arabs must learn to live with...

The swift and decisive victory of 1967 became the standard to which the IDF aspired – and the kind of victory expected by Israeli society in future engagements. This is problematic, considering the ways Israel's opponents have changed and the means they now deploy. The unrealistic anticipation that victories on the scale of 1967 should be the end result of any military engagement hampers clear thinking and impedes the adoption of appropriate strategy and tactics...

Israelis, many of whom have limited military experience, still long for decisive victories in the Gaza and South Lebanon arenas. The wars in which the IDF has participated so far in the twenty-first century, which appeared to end inconclusively, left many Israelis with a sense of unease. They miss the victory photographs of the 1967 war... But grand-scale conventional war, in which the IDF faces large armored formations and hundreds of air fighters as it did in 1967, is less likely today. The 1982 Lebanon War was the last to display such encounters...

To a significant extent, the statist dimension in the Arab-Israeli

conflict has itself disappeared. Egypt and Jordan are at peace with Israel. Syria and Iraq are torn by domestic conflict and are hardly in a position to challenge Israel militarily. Many other Arab countries, such as the Gulf and Maghreb states, have reached a de facto peace with Israel, an orientation buttressed by the common Iranian threat.

For the past three decades, Israel has been challenged primarily by sub-state actors, such as Hamas (a Sunni militia) and Hezbollah (a Shiite militia). Such organizations have a different strategic calculus from that of states. Because of their religious-ideological zeal, they are more difficult to deter than states, and their learning curve is much slower. It took Egypt three military defeats (1948, 1956, and 1973) and a war of attrition (1968-70) within a span of 25 years to give up the goal of destroying Israel...

Hamas and Hezbollah do not possess arsenals of tanks and air fighters, which would be easy targets for Israel. The decentralized structure of their military organizations does not present points of gravity that can be eliminated by swift and decisive action. Moreover, their use of civilian populations to shield missile launchers and military units – a war crime – makes IDF advances cumbersome and difficult due to slower troop movement in urban areas and the need to reduce collateral damage among civilians...

Israel is engaged in a long war of attrition against religiously motivated enemies who believe both God and history are on their side. All the IDF can do is occasionally weaken their ability to harm Israel and create temporary deterrence. In Israeli parlance, this is called "mowing the grass" – an apt metaphor, as the problem always grows back...

*(Efraim Inbar is the founding director of the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies. BESA, April 5, 2017)*

## What If: Fifty Years After The Six-Day War

Daniel Pipes

Israel's military triumph over three enemy states in June 1967 is the most outstandingly successful war of all recorded history. The Six-Day War was also deeply consequential for the Middle East, establishing the permanence of the Jewish state, dealing a death-blow to pan-Arab nationalism, and (ironically) worsening Israel's place in the world because of its occupation of the West Bank and Jerusalem... How did a spectacular battlefield victory translate into problems that still torment Israel today? Because it stuck Israelis in an unwanted role they cannot escape.

First, Israeli leftists and foreign do-gooders wrongly blame Israel's government for not making sufficient efforts to leave the West Bank, as though greater efforts could have found a true peace partner. In this, critics ignore rejectionism, the attitude of refusing to accept anything Zionist that has dominated Palestinian politics for the past century... Recent manifestations include the "anti-normalization" and ...BDS movements. Rejectionism renders Israeli concessions useless, even counterproductive, because Palestinians respond to them with more hostility and violence.

Second, Israel faces a conundrum of geography and demography in the West Bank. While its strategists want to control the

highlands, its nationalists want to build towns, and its religious want to possess Jewish holy sites, Israel's continued ultimate rule over a West Bank population of 1.7 million mostly hostile Arabic-speaking, Muslim Palestinians takes an immense toll both domestically and internationally. Various schemes to keep the land and defang an enemy people – by integrating them, buying them off, dividing them, pushing them out, or finding another ruler for them – have all come to naught.

Third, the Israelis in 1967 took three unilateral steps in Jerusalem that created future time bombs: vastly expanding the city's borders, annexing it, and offering Israeli citizenship to the city's new Arab residents. In combination, these led to a long-term demographic and housing competition that Palestinians are winning, jeopardizing the Jewish nature of the Jews' historic capital. Worse, 300,000 Arabs could at any time choose to take Israeli citizenship...

And today, what can Israelis do? The Jerusalem issue is relatively easy, as most Arab residents have not yet taken out Israeli citizenship, so Israel's government can still stop this process by reducing the size of Jerusalem's 1967 borders and terminating the offer of Israeli citizenship to all the city residents... The West Bank is tougher. So long as Palestinian rejectionism prevails, Israel is stuck with overseeing an intensely hostile population that it dare not release ultimate control of. This situation generates a vicious, impassioned debate among Israelis (recall the Rabin assassination) and harms the country's international standing... But returning

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## Zioness! Hear Me Roar!

Barbara Kay

I can't think of a Judaism-related neologism that has struck me with such positive force in my lifetime than "Zioness." It's a word I'd have given much to have coined.

What a marvellous symbiosis of ancient and contemporary tropes. *Lion of Judah*? Yes yes, very good, but old news. But *lioness* of Judah and defender of Israel? Zioness does more than express pride of heritage and support for Israel. It suggests gender equality, for the lion and the lioness are equal partners in their hunting and parenting duties, a great fit for our gender-equal age. It carries a tone of defiance, a refusal to accept the word "Zionist" as a term of opprobrium, and it is therefore a denunciation of radical feminism's embrace of anti-Semitism in the guise of anti-Zionism. Most relevant to its inspiration, it snarls contempt at the prevailing notion among progressives that feminism and Zionism cannot co-exist in harmony. Indeed, even the "ess" sound in both Zioness and progressive subtly enhances the intended symbiosis.

The Zioness initiative took wing with the Chicago Dyke March in June, when three Jewish participants carrying LGBTQ Pride flags with the Star of David on them were ejected from the march, accused of advocating for Israel for the Star's association with the Israeli flag at a proudly anti-Zionist event. The 'flag' excuse was of course a shameless fig leaf for the anti-Semitism at the heart of the exclusion.

Then, on August 12, SlutWalk Chicago (what's in the water in Chicago?) expressed their hostility to participation by Zioness, whose aim was to emblemize the compatibility of feminism and Zionism. To that end the Zionesses joined a pre-march rally at a park, some wearing Star of David necklaces or T-shirts with Stars of David on them. A Palestinian activist told the crowd, "you cannot be a Zionist and a feminist." The Zionesses and others dropped

out of the march during its downtown progression.

Later, SlutWalk Chicago issued a statement entitled, "Palestinian Rights are a Feminist Cause." In it, Linda Sarsour, a virulent hater of Israel, is cited: "You either stand up for the rights of all women, including Palestinians, or none." But Zionesses *do* support women's rights everywhere, including the rights of Palestinian women as *women*. Sarsour's brazen implication that the political situation is responsible for Palestinian women's gender woes is of course an absurd "justification" for excluding Zionesses from their march.

Let's be clear on this point. Whatever gender inequality is present in Palestinian society – indeed, in virtually the entire Arab world – predates any significant presence of Jews in the modern Middle East. Arab women's status has nothing to do with political events involving Israel as a state, and everything to do with Arab culture. It is a special irony that feminists should look for moral guidance from Linda Sarsour, an avid promoter of Shariah law, a legal code in which women are accorded lesser status and fewer rights than men, whose views make her the worst possible choice for the public face of feminism. But logic is not the progressives' strong suit.

The irrationality and simmering anti-Semitism entrenched in radical feminism can only be fought by insiders. Zionesses may succeed in disrupting the sickness within, where outside critics have failed. I love their fervour and refusal to be intimidated. "What we're asking for is to be included in important movements in the United States. We are asking not to be excluded," Amanda Berman, a 30-something attorney who lives in New York City, recently told *The Jewish Week*. "We are true progressives, this is sincere for us," she added. "It's something that [Zionist] progressive women have been struggling with for a long time."

May the Zioness movement go from strength to strength, with the support of all Jews, whatever our political leanings.

*Barbara Kay is a National Post Columnist and a CIJR Academic Fellow*

### KRANTZ – continued from page 2

Israel and the Jewish People's remarkable achievements in the 100 years since the Balfour Declaration, we must always keep our guard up. Still, the various anti-semitisms, "new" and "old", come and go, Amalek makes his repeated, often vicious, historical appearances and, defeated, exits. And *Am Yisrael chai*—the Jewish People lives.

Let us all, then, hope for a happy, and a peaceful, New Year!

*(Frederick Krantz, a Professor of History at Liberal Arts College, Concordia University, is Director of the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research and editor of its Israfax journal and Isranet Daily Bulletin.)*

### PIPES – continued from page 9

to 1949's "Auschwitz lines" and abandoning 400,000 Israeli residents of the West Bank to the Palestinians' tender mercies is obviously not a solution.

Instead, Israel needs to confront and undermine Palestinian rejectionism, which means convincing Palestinians that Israel is a permanent state, that the dream to eliminate it is futile, and that they are sacrificing for naught. Israel can achieve these goals by making victory its goal, by showing Palestinians that continued rejectionism brings them only repression and failure...

*(Daniel Pipes is president of the Middle East Forum and a CIJR Academic Fellow)*

### KINCLER – continued from page 12

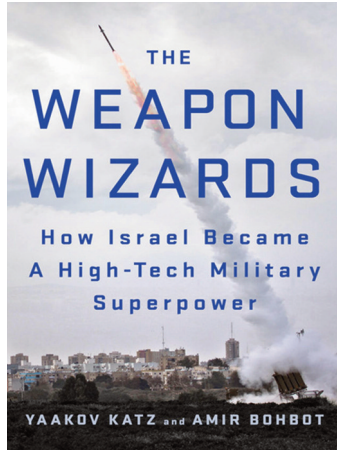
the office every day, turns 98 this year. *Yishar Koach* Baruch and to Sonia, his beloved wife and companion—many more active years of good health. And our Founder, Prof. Fred Krantz and Lenore, make their second home at CIJR—we wish you both good health, and remember, CIJR needs your amazing contribution of time, ideas, energy and creativity.

May I wish all members of the CIJR community and their families a *Shana Tova U-Metukah*, a Happy and Sweet New Year, and may we have a more peaceful and harmonious world and a prosperous, strong and safe Israel in the year to come.

**Yaakov Katz & Amir Bohbot. *The Weapon Wizards: How Israel Became a High-Tech Military Superpower.* New York: St. Martin's Press, 2017**

Bradley Martin

In regard to dangers ranging from conventional warfare to terrorism, the State of Israel has continuously displayed courageous inventiveness in its ability to defend itself against overwhelming odds. It is precisely this distinctive pluckiness that has transformed Israel from a country that was facing military-supply shortages during its early years, into a world-class military superpower.



Yaakov Katz and Amir Bohbot's *The Weapon Wizards: How Israel Became a High-Tech Superpower* tells a fascinating tale of how Israel has developed some of the world's most impressive military technologies, Katz and Bohbot highlight how, from the Jewish State's very inception, "chutzpah" (Hebrew and Yiddish word describing a kind of bold temerity) is a major characteristic of Israeli society's ability to find solutions to obstacles using creativity and resilience.

Despite its small size, Israel invests about 4.5 percent of its GDP in Research and Development. This is more than any other country, enabling Israel continually to top lists as the world's most innovative country. And 30 percent of that budget goes into military projects.

The book itself is primarily divided into seven categories of Israeli military innovation: unmanned aerial vehicles, tanks, satellites, missile defense, military intelligence, cyber warfare, and arms diplomacy. Israel's development of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) came shortly after the Six Day War, when Israel needed to monitor Egyptian military movements alongside the Suez Canal. But Soviet-supplied Egyptian surface-to-air missiles forced Israeli aircraft to fly at high altitudes, rendering reconnaissance pictures of little to no value.

It was at this point that Shabtai Brill, a major in IDF Military Intelligence Directorate, had the idea to use toy airplanes with cameras attached to their bellies. A delegation was then sent to a Manhattan toy store, purchased the equipment and sent it back to Israel. Since then, Israel has become a world leader and major exporter in drone technology, revolutionizing modern warfare by allowing militaries to put fewer boots on the ground and gather more accurate intelligence. The necessity for Israel to achieve self-sufficiency is a major theme throughout the book, with Israel's development of the Merkava tank and its distinctive adaptive armor being a prime example. To this day, the Merkava is classified as one of Israel's top-secret projects. It emerged out of the late 1960s, when the British cancelled their agreement to produce Chieftains for the Israeli military. This cancellation highlighted the need for Israel to build their own tanks, with the first Merkava

being put to use in 1979. A similar situation would arise with Israel's development of their own satellites, when it was realized that they could not continuously rely on the CIA for information.

Israel is in a unique position, in that being under constant threat of danger has spurred military innovation. Designed to intercept short-range rockets which make up the arsenals of Hamas and Hezbollah, the Iron Dome has achieved stunning success rates. During Operation Protective Edge in 2014, this uniquely Israeli missile defense system achieved a 90 percent success rate. Israeli intelligence, behind carefully-targeted killings of terrorist leaders, has also saved countless Israeli (and Arab) lives, while cyber viruses such as Stuxnet have caused extensive damage to Iran's nuclear program.

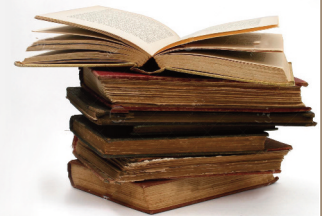
The vast majority of arms produced by Israel are made for export to foreign countries. The need, in military production, of economies of scale, highlights the importance of what Katz and Bohbot termed as Israel's "arms diplomacy", with China, India and Singapore listed as primary examples. Katz and Bohbot's book is a superb outline of how Israel went from a nation fighting for survival to a dominant global power in weapons technologies. They cover a wide range of topics pertaining to how this came to be, making it necessary reading for anyone either wanting a better understanding of the entrepreneurial spirit that drives Israeli society, or seeking to do business in Israel.

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

**Recent Books**

- Avnon, Dan & Feuchtwanger, David M. *Jewish-Israeli Political Thought* [Hebrew]. Jerusalem: The Hebrew University Magnes Press, 2016
- Glick, Caroline B. *The Israeli Solution: A One-State Plan for Peace in the Middle East*. New York: Crown Forum, 2014
- Grabowski, Jan. *Hunt for the Jews: Betrayal and Murder in German-Occupied Poland*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2013
- Halbertal, Moshe & Holmes, Stephen. *The Beginning of Politics: Power in the Biblical Book of Samuel*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2017
- Sebastian, Mihail. *Journal 1935-1944: The Fascist Years*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc, 2012
- Waller, Harold M. and Brent E. Sasley. *Politics in Israel: Governing a Complex Society*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016

**CIJR invites all readers to consult its Research Library and extensive Israel DataBank in person and online.**



## HONOUR ROLL

**PROF. SALLY & LLOYD  
ZERKER**  
(CIJR TORONTO)

# EXTRA! EXTRA!

## From the Chairman

Jack Kincler (National Board Chairman, CIJR)

Dear friends and supporters,

I am in Berkeley, Calif, for the birth of our expanding family's latest addition, our granddaughter, Kiren Faye. Good news in our world is wonderful, especially when it affects your own family.

Yesterday, I took a stroll around the magnificent University of California at Berkeley campus, a beautiful sort of earthly paradise, yet always connected to radical activism—the so-called antifa hooligans, the alt-right extremists and all other radicals—when in the news. Only two weeks before I got here, in the aftermath of the Charlottesville events, there were major confrontations right here, in this pastoral landscape, on the “Left Coast of the U.S.”.

On this “peaceful” campus, I reflect on all the vicious anti-Israel and antisemitic activism from both the left and the right. Charlottesville was a wake up call in many ways for supporters of Israel and Jewish causes. We are reminded time and again, that our historic struggle to survive as a nation among other nations is a never-ending battle, and that at CIJR we have our work cut out for us, confronting the haters and the misinformation.

**Your help and generosity are vital in enabling us counter the viciousness of all these extreme left “progressive” and extreme right “Nazi” movements.** The passion of hate that drives our enemies, must be matched by the passion of belief in our cause and love of our ancestral homeland. Most importantly, we have to be pro-active and not wait for the other side to execute their incessant assaults and curtail our right to freedom of expression and speech.

In the Montreal office and the Toronto chapter great work is being done in putting together interesting events and speakers for the coming year, and we have been getting impressive audiences. The latest conference, on “The Jews of India” turned out to be a great success. Next year is a big year for CIJR, celebrating the **30th anniversary** of its founding. CIJR's team of professionals, volunteers and students is gearing up for the occasion, and any ideas on planning the Gala or other events for 2018 are welcome.

Our beloved Research Chair, Baruch Cohen, in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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## CIJR Toronto Report

Alan Herman

CIJR-Toronto presented the Canadian film premier of *Beyond Paranoia; Anti-Semitism Unmasked* in May. Using richly layered interviews with writers, academics, journalists and community figures, acclaimed Australian filmmaker Monique Schwarz explored the history of antisemitism worldwide, exposing the politically incorrect and sinister new variations of the oldest hatred, coming above all from Islamic sources. She also spoke about her film in person.

Also in May, Geoffrey Clarfield spoke on “Jordan as Palestine: the Original Two-State Solution?”, a topic that provoked heated discussion and questions.

“Free Speech and the Anti-Israel Mob” took place in August. Keynote speaker was Hen Mazzig, former commander in the IDF and pro-Israeli activist who speaks across North America, especially on university campuses. The talk was hosted by outspoken journalist Sue-Ann Levy. Special guests were Ben Dichter, former Conservative MP candidate and founder of LGBT Tories, and student Israeli activist, Aedan O'Connor.

On August fourth, CIJR was actively involved in a rally to commemorate the third Anniversary of the ISIS genocide against the Yazidi people. It was held on University Ave. across the road from the US Consulate. CIJR Toronto Co-Chairs Doris Epstein and Alan Herman joined many other passionate and inspiring speakers in alerting the world to the plight of the Yazidis.

Recently, CIJR was part of a “Balfour 100” delegation that to the Consulate of India. They were warmly received by the Consul General, Dinesh Bhatia, who delivered a crash course on the history of India. In turn, the delegation enlightened them about Israel, especially about the 1917 Balfour Declaration, which led to the law declaring Palestine to be the homeland of the Jewish people, valid in international law to this day.

Our next event is “The Jews of India”, presented by visiting Indian scholar, Dr. Kranti Farias. This will be followed with an exciting program of additional events for the upcoming New Year, 2017-2018 season. Stay tuned—we look forward to seeing you all soon!