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THE PALESTINE POST

JERUSALEM
SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1948

THE PALESTINE POST

THE SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT
has returned to The Palestine Post
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Jerusalem, Tel. 4233.

STATE OF ISRAEL IS BORN

The first independent Jewish State in 19 centuries was born in Tel Aviv as the British Mandate over Palestine came to an end at midnight on Friday, and it was immediately subjected to the test of fire. As "Medinat Yisrael" (State of Israel) was proclaimed, the battle for Jerusalem raged, with most of the city falling to the Jews. At the

same time, President Truman announced that the United States would accord recognition to the new State. A few hours later, Palestine was invaded by Moslem armies from the south, east and north, and Tel Aviv was raided from the air. On Friday the United Nations Special Assembly adjourned after adopting a resolution to appoint a med-

iator but without taking any action on the Partition Resolution of November 29. Yesterday the battle for the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv road was still under way, and two Arab villages were taken. In the north, Acre town was captured, and the Jewish Army consolidated its positions in Western Galilee.

Most Crowded Hours in Palestine's History

Between Thursday night and this morning Palestine went through what by all standards must be among the most crowded hours in its history.

For the Jewish population there was the anguish over the fate of the few hundred Hagana men and women in the Kfar Etzion bloc of settlements near Hebron. Their surrender to a fully equipped superior foreign force despatched in need of a victory was a fargone conclusion. What could not be known, with no communications since Tuesday morning, was whether and to what extent the Red Cross and the Truce Comsuls would secure civilized conditions for prisoners and wounded, and proper respect for the dead. Doubts on some of these anxious questions have now been relieved.

On Friday afternoon, from Tel Aviv, came the report of a successful evacuation of the Jewish State and its official naming at Herl, "Medinat Yisrael"—State of Israel, with the raising in of the first Council of Government. The proclamation of the State was made at midnight, coinciding with the ending of the British Mandate over Palestine.

Highway forces throughout the country continued mopping up, and Jewish sources claimed most of Western Galilee safe against Arab attacks. In the north, Jewish forces were engaged in the battle for the Kfar Etzion bloc of settlements near Hebron.

The Security Council met yesterday in a special session to consider action on the invasion of Palestine by member states of the U.N. In the afternoon, Jerusalem was subjected to shelling from the north.

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JEWS TAKE OVER SECURITY ZONES

The battle for Jerusalem, which began when the British forces withdrew on Friday morning, continued all day Friday and yesterday. The crackle of small-arms fire and explosion of mortar shells were still being heard in the early hours of this morning as the battle entered its third day.

Repeated attacks on Friday evening and again on Saturday by the U.N. Truce Commission to bring about a "cease fire" were fought to a halt when the Arab representatives failed to agree within the specified first limit.

On Friday morning, Jewish forces entered the Harem Compound and Zone C to reoccupy the buildings requisitioned from Jews last year. This operation was almost bloodless, but beyond the western edge of Zone C, Arabs engaged the Jews in Jaffa Road. The Arabs were forced back and the Banquet Bank area was taken.

In other parts of the city fighting raged up. Jews overran one after another the areas evacuated by the British. By that night, the quarters and the western end of the city were under Jewish control.

Yesterday afternoon eight columns of Jewish forces entered from the Arab village of Beit Shimon, south of the city. The Arab forces were routed and a number of wounded Arab soldiers were taken.

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Egyptian Air Force Spitfires Bomb Tel Aviv; One Shot Down

Kfar Etzion, the Tel Aviv broadcasting station reported a direct attack yesterday afternoon that Tel Aviv had been bombed three times in the previous evening, and another and that one plane had been shot down and its Egyptian pilot taken prisoner.

In the first raid, four planes strafed from a height of 300 feet. Two dropped bombs, while the others strafed the city. Little damage was estimated. In the second attack two hours later, the airport to the north of the city was bombed, and an Air Force plane parked at the airport was destroyed. The third raid was launched shortly before midnight, but the planes were driven off, without causing any damage.

Two sightings in the Negev had also been obtained from the air, the radio report said.

2 Columns Cross Southern Border

By WALTER COLLINS
U.P. Correspondent
NATOLI, Jordan, (AP)—A column of 200 Arab soldiers crossed the Jordanian border yesterday, according to a report from the Jewish Agency. The column was reported to have crossed the border near the village of Beit Shimon.

The fighting was heaviest on Friday on the intervention of a Red Cross representative, accompanied by a Jewish Medical Officer, who went out to the stragglers and supervised the transfer of the Jews from Be'er Sheva and Tel Aviv.

The terms of surrender agreed on by the Jews and Arabs were to be signed by the Jewish Agency and the Arab representatives.

All abandoned weapons are to be turned over to the Jewish Agency, and the Jews are to be allowed to return to their homes.

The battle for Jerusalem, which began when the British forces withdrew on Friday morning, continued all day Friday and yesterday.

U.S. RECOGNIZES JEWISH STATE

WASHINGTON, Saturday.—Ten minutes after the termination of the British Mandate on Friday, the White House released a formal statement by President Truman that the U.S. Government intended to recognize the Provisional Jewish Government as the de facto authority representing the Jewish State.

The U.S. is also considering lifting the arms embargo but it is not known whether to Palestine only or the entire Middle East, and the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Jewish Provisional Government.

The White House press secretary, Mr. Charles Ross, told correspondents today that reaction to the recognition had been overwhelmingly favorable. He said this step had been discussed with Mr. Marshall and Mr. Lovett before action was taken, and it had their complete support.

Mr. Ross said that the President had decided several days ago to grant American recognition to the new Jewish State, but due to proposed regulations he could not announce his policy until a formal letter arrived. "We were able to move very quickly when the messenger brought the news," he said, "because the President had already determined the course of action to be taken."

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Proclamation by Head of Government

The creation of "Medinat Yisrael," the State of Israel, was proclaimed at midnight on Friday by Mr. David Ben Gurion, until then Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive and now head of the State's Provisional Council of Government.

The first act of the Council of Government, as announced by its head, was to abolish all legislation of the 1939 White Paper of the late Mandatory Powers, particularly the Ordinance and Order relating to immigration and land transfer.

In the declaration of independence, Mr. Ben Gurion called on the Arab people of Palestine to restore peace, assuring them full civic rights and full representation in all governmental organs of the State.

Mr. Ben Gurion prefaced the declaration with a review of the historic connection of the Jewish people with the Land of Israel and of their efforts to return, which began throughout the generations of their dispersal, until the Jewish people's return to the land of Israel.

The declaration of independence, confirmed by the League of Nations, had given explicit international recognition to the Jewish people's right to reconstitute the National Home in Palestine.

"On November 29, 1947," continued the declaration, "The United Nations decided on the establishment of a Jewish State and an Arab State in Palestine and called upon the inhabitants of the country to take all steps necessary for the establishment of the two States."

The battle for Jerusalem, which began when the British forces withdrew on Friday morning, continued all day Friday and yesterday.

Special Assembly Adjourns

FLUSHING MEADOWS, Saturday.—The Special U.N. Assembly, called for yesterday to discuss the Jewish Trustee-ship for Palestine, adjourned yesterday night after several days of sessions.

The Assembly adjourned after a special mediator to go to Palestine and cooperate with the Provisional Government.

A few minutes before five (local Palestine time), Mr. Elhanan Elhanan, of the Jewish Agency's Washington office, handed a letter to the White House, requesting the U.S. to recognize the new Jewish State.

The Assembly adjourned after a special mediator to go to Palestine and cooperate with the Provisional Government.

The battle for Jerusalem, which began when the British forces withdrew on Friday morning, continued all day Friday and yesterday.

2 Villages Taken In Road Battle

In the battle for the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem road, the Hagana and Arab forces fought a road battle between Lod and Ramat Hashikma in engagements elsewhere along the main road.

The Hagana forces captured two villages, Lod and Ramat Hashikma, and the Arab forces were routed.

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ראש הממשלה
PRIME MINISTER

July 26, 2018

Dear Friends,

I send warm greetings from Jerusalem to the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research as you celebrate your 30th anniversary.

Over the years, CIJR has played an important role in conducting research and providing thoughtful analysis on a variety of issues relating to the State of Israel, the Middle East and antisemitism. Your daily briefings and publications offer an accessible forum for people to stay informed and your innovative work with university students ensures that the next generation is equipped to speak up for the truth.

As we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the State of Israel, I take this opportunity to thank you for your tireless efforts defending the Jewish State and to wish you many more years of success.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Netanyahu

Editorial

Celebrating Israel's 70th (And CIJR's 30th): "Good Arms" [IDF] and "Good Laws" [Diplomacy] Ensure Survival, and Flourishing, of Jewish State

Frederick Krantz

CIJR's two *Galas*, celebrating its 30th and Israel's 70th, anniversaries, span modern Israel's development. One, in Montreal on October 14th, celebrates the role of the Israel Defense Forces in ensuring the survival and security of the new Jewish state. The other, in Toronto on October 21st, underlines the increasing diplomatic recognition of democratic Israel, and of Jerusalem, within the world community.

The much-misunderstood 16th c. Florentine republican thinker and diplomat, Niccolò Machiavelli, said in his great *Discourses on Livy* that "good arms" and "good laws", resting on and supported by *il popolo*, the people, guaranteed the stability and liberty of *lo stato*, the polity, or republic. (This why, remarkably for its time, Machiavelli made a Jew, Moses, a hero: our *Moshe rabbenu* was the greatest legislator of all history, beyond even the Athenians, Solon and Draco, because by giving God's laws to the Jews, he created the first sovereign republic in the ancient world).

Remarkably, republican, democratic Jewish Israel has survived multiple Arab attempts to destroy the tiny country, and absorbed, despite initial difficulties, repeated waves of aliyah, fulfilling its destiny as a land of refuge for the Jewish People. In the process, the Israel Defense Forces have made Israel the Middle East's regional hegemon, and one of the world's leading military powers.

Beyond this, Israel as a modern state has become concretely what it and its capital Jerusalem have always been religiously, the center of the Jewish People. The millennial religious yearning for return from enforced exile to freedom in its own Land, which underlay and gave strength to the Zionist movement founded by Theodor Herzl, is reflected today in Israel's vigorous, Hebrew-inflected Jewish life, religious and secular.

Modern Israel, a major economic and technological power leading the West in advanced "start-up" technologies, is about to place a space satellite on the moon. And demographically it has already displaced the U.S. as the world's largest Jewish population center.

Diplomatically, Israel enjoys formal peace treaties with two former Arab enemies, Egypt and Jordan, and *de facto* recognition with a growing list of Sunni states like Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and United Arab Emirates. Civil war and internal discord have paralyzed former enemies like Syria and Iraq, and forthright American support under President Donald Trump has led to the recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, and the weakening of genocidal Iran by the U.S.'s setting aside of the JCPOA treaty. Diplomatically and politically, Israel's security position today is in many ways the most stable since its founding 70 years ago.

The Middle East remains, of course, volatile, and history's ability to spring surprises and unintended consequences should never be underestimated. Nevertheless, and despite worrying signs of an up-tick in antisemitism (on the left and on campuses in the U.S., in Europe, and with Corbyn in Great Britain), we can nevertheless, and while remaining ever-watchful, celebrate the approaching New Year with guarded optimism and a real sense of accomplishment.

Militarily, the IDF has made Israel's survival and stability possible, just as the remarkable economic and technological ingenuity and creativity of the Jewish people has enabled diplomacy to secure its regional and international legitimacy. For its part, independent CIJR—its academic Fellows, lay Board members, and wonderful students—is proud to have played a creative and steady role in defending the Jewish state and Jewish people, and in ensuring Jewish continuity, over the last thirty years.

(NB: Here, a personal note: our wonderful Research Chairman, Baruch Cohen, turning 99 this month, is not feeling well. All of us who know and love him and his wonderful wife, Sonia, and have worked with him from the beginning, join with Lenore and me in wishing Baruch as speedy a recovery as possible. CIJR would not be what it is today without his many key contributions. His superb recent autobiographical memoir, "No One Bears Witness for the Witness", is noted on p.11.)

(Frederick Krantz, Director, CIJR, and Editor, ISRAFAX)

Rosh Hashanah 5779 – 2018: Sounding The Shofar

From the Pen of Baruch Cohen

In loving memory of Malka ז"ל

The *shofar* blast, ushering in the New Year, is a symbol of peace, renewal, and of unending hope for a better world for all.

It calls to mind our proud Israel Defense Forces, guarantor of Israel's security through their many acts of heroism in Israel's wars. It also reminds us of the just values of Israel's mighty and proud people: their heroism is matched by their desire for peace and hope for the final in-gathering of *all* peoples.

The period between the New Year, *Rosh Hashanah*, and the Day of Atonement (*Yom Kippur*) is one of repentance, celebration, renewal, and hopes for a new beginning. The call of the *shofar*, for each individual and for all *Am Israel*, the Jewish People, is a plea for peace.

The *shofar's* tone rings out, commanding: *Tsedek, tzedek, tirdorf*: justice, justice shall you pursue!

We wish a happy and fulfilling New Year to all CIJR's family, friends, and supporters—a year of peace and peace not only for Israel and the Middle East, but for the entire world!

Shana Tova U'Metuka: may we all have a good and sweet, and healthy, New Year!

(Baruch Cohen, 99 this October, has served as CIJR's outstanding Research Chairman since the Institute was founded 30 years ago.)

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ISRAFAX is the research publication of the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research, an independent and non-partisan non-profit educational foundation devoted to the study of Israel, the Middle East and the Jewish world. It provides CIJR members with key data and a digest of international analysis and opinion on relevant issues.

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

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WEEKLY QUOTES

“The reimposition of the sanctions, we think, is already having a significant effect on Iran’s economy and on, really, popular opinion inside Iran...But Iranian activity in the region has continued to be belligerent: what they are doing in Iraq, what they are doing in Syria, what they are doing with Hezbollah in Lebanon, what they are doing in Yemen, what they have threatened to do in the Strait of Hormuz.” — National Security Adviser John Bolton. (*Jerusalem Post*, Aug. 22, 2018)

“(Merkel) and her advisers should be aware that the nuclear deal and Iran’s missile program are two separate issues and are not related...Europeans and other signatories of the deal have been trying to save the deal ... but the process has been slow...It should be accelerated.” — Bahram Qassemi — of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, referring to German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who has called for talks with Iran on the ballistic missile issue. Qassemi also urged European powers to speed up efforts to salvage the nuclear deal. (*Algemeiner*, Aug. 20, 2018)

“We will not allow the separation of Gaza (from the West Bank). Either we are in power... in Gaza and the West Bank: one country, one system, one army. Or they (Hamas) are in power.” — PA President Abbas. Abbas spoke out against Egypt’s possible proposal for a long-term ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, stressing that it would not allow a separate Palestinian state in the Gaza Strip and that all aid for Gaza must pass through the PA. Abbas said reconciliation with Hamas **“does not mean truce, ceasefire or humanitarian aid. Reconciliation means that unity must be reinstalled.”** (*National Post*, Aug. 13, 2018)

“The true enemies of the people – and democracy – are those who try to suffocate truth by vilifying and demonizing the messenger.” — *Des Moines Register*. U.S. newspapers pushed back against Trump’s attacks on “fake news” with a coordinated series of editorials in defense of a free press last week. The campaign was set in motion by an editor at the *Boston Globe*, which argued in an editorial that Trump’s label of the media as the enemy of the people **“is as un-American as it is dangerous to the civic compact we have shared for more than two centuries.”** (*Globe & Mail*, Aug. 16, 2018)

“THE FAKE NEWS MEDIA IS THE OPPOSITION PARTY. It is very bad for our Great Country...BUT WE ARE WINNING!...There is nothing that I would want more for our Country than true FREEDOM OF THE PRESS...The fact is that the Press is FREE to write and say anything it wants, but much of what it says is FAKE NEWS, pushing a political agenda or just plain trying to hurt people. HONESTY WINS!” — President Trump, lashing out against hundreds of US newspapers that published editorials defending press freedom and denouncing his constant attacks on the media. More than 350 newspapers across America, large and small, responded to Trump’s attacks on the mainstream media. (*Guardian*, Aug. 16, 2018)

SHORT TAKES

ONE IN FOUR UK VOTERS THINK CORBYN IS ANTISEMITIC (London) — Around one in four British voters believe Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn is antisemitic, according to a poll. This finding came as reports emerged that in 2012, Corbyn, then a parliamentary backbencher, attended a conference in Qatar at which Hamas leader Khaled Mashaal was also a guest — marking the latest in a number of recent revelations exposing ties between Corbyn and Palestinian terror groups. It was also reported that Corbyn met with Hamas officials during a 2010 visit to the West Bank. (*Algemeiner*, Aug. 20, 2018)

PHOTO SHOOT AT HOLOCAUST MONUMENT CONDEMNED AS UNACCEPTABLE (Ottawa) — A fashion photo shoot that took place at the National Holocaust Monument in Ottawa has been deemed inappropriate and an insult to the site. Ottawa Rabbi

Reuven Bulka called last week’s photo shoot a “desecration of a sacred site.” The star-shaped monument has plaques chronicling the history of the Holocaust as well as photos of Holocaust sites. An Instagram post by Montreal designer Michèle Beaudoin showed a woman standing at the monument wearing a revealing dress. (*Algemeiner*, Aug. 16, 2018)

PEPSICO TO BUY SODASTREAM (Tel Aviv) — PepsiCo Inc., the US-based drinks, food, and snacks giant, is acquiring Israel’s SodaStream for \$3.2 billion in cash. PepsiCo said it had acquired all of the outstanding shares of SodaStream for \$144 per share in cash. SodaStream, founded in 1991, makes and sells seltzer machines for home use. In

2014, SodaStream announced it would close its West Bank factory and move to Israel, ostensibly in the face of international pressure from the BDS movement. Some 500 Palestinian employees lost their jobs at that time. (*Times of Israel*, Aug. 20, 2018)

ISRAELI GYMNAST WINS GOLD AND SETS NEW WORLD RECORD (Minsk) — Israeli gymnast Linoy Ashram set a new world record in the club competition in rhythmic gymnastics at a competition in Belarus. The 19-year-old scored a 20.650, the highest mark awarded since the rules were changed two years ago. Ashram also won a gold medal in the all-around category. At the last European gymnastics championship, Ashram finished in fourth place, and is hoping to be in peak form at the world championship in artistic gymnastics to be held in Sofia, Bulgaria in September. (*Ha’aretz*, Aug. 19, 2018)

BRONZE COINS DATED TO JEWISH REVOLT AGAINST ROME DISCOVERED (Jerusalem) — An archaeologist from Jerusalem’s Hebrew University has discovered dozens of bronze coins dating back to the Jewish revolt against the Roman Empire (66-70 C.E.). The coins were left behind by Jewish residents who hid from the Romans during the siege of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Second Temple. The great majority of the coins date from the final year of the Jewish revolt, known as “year four.” The coins were decorated with Hebrew inscriptions and Jewish symbols, such as the four biblical plant species: palm, myrtle, citron and willow. (*Jerusalem Online*, June 25, 2018)



Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif (right) and European Union foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini in Tehran, April, 2016.

NATION-STATE LAW OFFICIALLY ENSHRINES ISRAEL'S JEWISH AND DEMOCRATIC CHARACTER

The Scorpion in the Jewish World's Fire

Barbara Kay

In my reading of the *Raj Quartet*, Paul Scott's magisterial series of novels chronicling the last days of empire in India, one incident continues to haunt me, due to its (unintended) Jewish symbolism. At one point in the series, some Indian boys have isolated a scorpion and set fire to a gasoline-soaked perimeter around it. As the heat intensifies, the scorpion's tail involuntarily arches, to the point where it ends up stinging itself. The question arises: did the heat kill the scorpion, or was it the effect from its own venom?

When I consider the scourge of anti-Semitism in its present anti-Israel form, I often remember that scorpion. Israel is small but powerful and rightly feared for its sting when attacked. It is ringed by external enemies, but it is also threatened by the venom produced within its own body.

The Knesset passed its so-called nation-state law on July 19, officially declaring Israel both a Jewish and a democratic state with the right to self-determination. The law is an important milestone, as it carries constitutional weight.

...Diaspora Jews have not been shy about voicing their concerns over sections of the law that touch on language rights, relations between Israel and the Diaspora, the status of the Druze and nettlesome wording regarding settlements...As is its wont, J Street fecklessly marched over the line in responding to the new law. Upon its passage, the liberal advocacy group tweeted that the bill "was born in sin" and that "its only purpose is to send a message to the Arab community, the LGBT community and other minorities in Israel, that they are not and never will be equal citizens."

The latter assertion is simply untrue. The legislation's provisions

mirror those of a number of other democratic countries. According to Prof. Eugene Kontorovich...at least seven EU countries' constitutions are similarly formatted, with the difference being that Israel's declaration ensures complete social and political rights "to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex."

...Bradley Martin...eloquently responded to J Street's pernicious accusations with the contempt they deserved. Martin pointed out that Israeli Arabs are the freest in the region, enjoying the ability to worship at over 400 mosques (a fivefold increase since 1988) with 300 imams and muezzins funded by the Israeli government. Christians, who have been almost completely cleansed from Arab lands, flourish in Israel. And far from being marginalized, LGBT rights in Israel compare favourably with those of almost every other democratic country. Martin notes that Israel grants permanent residency to hundreds of gay Palestinians fleeing persecution at home.

The Jews that make up J Street are not "self-hating." Rather, they are hostile to those who put them in the awkward position of having to choose between progressivism and their own people. Fierce anti-Zionism is a litmus test for "social justice" status and J Street is desperate to maintain that status at all costs.

Its assertions meet Natan Sharansky's criteria for what crosses the line from criticism of Israel to anti-Semitism: delegitimization, demonization and double standards. Taken together, J Street's Israel-bashing comments, reflecting what Martin rightly terms "anti-Israel derangement syndrome," amount to hateful speech. I'm against censorship, but Jews in positions of authority should call this pernicious organization out for what it is: a political cabal of people who exploit their nominal status as Jews to blacken Israel's reputation...

(Barbara Kay is a CIJR Academic Fellow. Canadian Jewish News, Aug. 14, 2018)

A CHRISTIAN ZIONIST PERSPECTIVE ON THE NEW "NATION-STATE" LEGISLATION

By Paul Merkley.

On July 19, the Knesset of Israel engrossed as part of "the Basic Law" of Israel language defining Israel as a "nation-state."

From Israel's beginnings, friends of the State have been twisting themselves into semantic knots trying to explain to the world how Israel can be, now and forever, (in the words of Israel's Declaration of Independence of 1948) "both a Jewish and a democratic state."

The founders of Israel never intended that demographic realities in the surrounding world should ever rob Israel of its "Jewish" character. But none of them foresaw the present world in which millions of Muslim people are fleeing every day from the incompetence of Muslim governance and demanding admission without question to the non-Muslim world – which contains post-Christian Europe, America and (closest to home) Israel.

The new "constitutional" language establishes Israel as "the national home of the Jewish people" for the first time, and says further that "the right to exercise national self-determination in the State of Israel is unique to the Jewish people." It has sparked widespread criticism at home and abroad. Leaders of the Druze community of Israel are throwing a tizzy-fit over this new law, using epithets such as "evil and racist" — some crossing a dangerous polemical line with talk

about Israel turning into an "apartheid state." The Druze leaders are perfectly aware that this new language, no less than the existing set of legal arrangements, makes them secure as no non-Arab community is secure anywhere in the Middle East. Secure, and prosperous! But they have a well-worn and calculating habit of screaming "unfair" at every turn of Israel's public life, so that their Arab neighbours should not turn on them as enemies of mankind.

This new constitutional language conforms even better than the language of 1948 with Christian Zionist understanding of life's realities — namely, that hashem, the God of Israel, is the Lord of History. Implicitly, it clarifies both the political and the theological significance of the Twentieth Century Restoration of the Jews to the Land of Israel.

Sadly, there has never been room in the official publications of the historic churches in the West for affirmation of Israel along the lines described by this new declaration. In fact, since the 1970s, Christian Zionism has been explicitly defined as a "heresy" by the World Council of Churches – a body which otherwise has shown no interest in discussion of heresy or, for that matter, orthodoxy, or any other matters of theology. The WCC has its eyes on the target of commanding world opinion – not on theology.

In light of this reality, it has fallen to voluntary, para-church bodies like International Christian Embassy Jerusalem to give voice to the pro-Israel disposition of the vast majority of Christians in our part of the world.

(Paul Merkley is a retired Professor of History from Carleton University and a CIJR Academic Fellow)

CIJR CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

Hillel Neuer

(Director, UN WATCH, Geneva, Switzerland)

Congratulations and best wishes on the 30th anniversary of CIJR. I applaud the supporters of CIJR for their commitment to this vital organization.

As a Liberal Arts College (Concordia U.) university student in the late 1980's, CIJR was my second home—I know the work of CIJR since its early days and from up close. The Institute was visionary in numerous endeavours, though none more consequential, I believe, than its resolve to cultivate, train and inspire a cadre of young Montreal student activists to stand up for Israel under hostile circumstances.



1



2



3

Charles Bybelezer

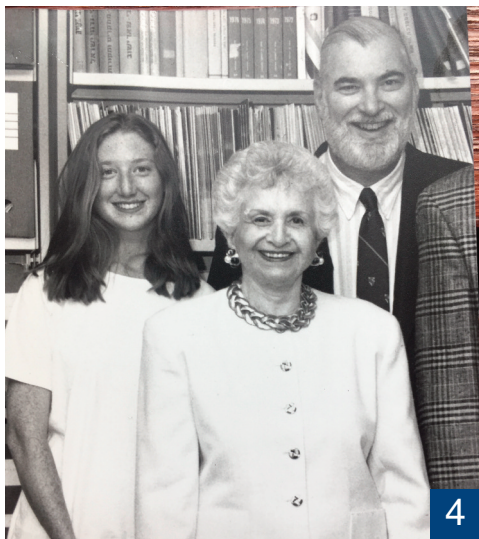
(Journalist/Author, Associate of the Medialine, TV and print organization, Jerusalem, Israel)

CIJR is at the forefront of the Jewish People's most important modern-day mission—defending its one and only place of refuge, the State of Israel. Led for thirty years by Professor Frederick Krantz, one of the greatest Zionist thinkers of our era, and Baruch Cohen, a Holocaust survivor and unrelenting defender of global Jewry and its homeland, the Institute has played an instrumental and internationally-recognized role in training hundreds of young, pro-Israel advocates, both Jewish and non-Jewish alike.

Many of them, like myself, have ended up making aliya, living and breathing the Zionist dream every moment of every day. To paraphrase Theodor Herzl, Prof. Krantz and Mr. Cohen instilled within me the will—and, importantly, the skill set—to bring this reality into being. For this, I am forever grateful to them.

- 1: CIJR goes to Washington, D.C. (ca.1991) left to right: Leonard Wolman, Baruch Cohen, Frederick and Lenore Krantz, Sonia Cohen, Irwin Beutel (former CIJR Chairman).
- 2: Herbert Feifer (CIJR President) and CIJR Chairman Jack Kincler
- 3: Karen Lazar, Frederick Krantz and Baruch Cohen
- 4: left to right Alyssa Quint, Clara Balinsky and Frederick Krantz
- 5: Aaron Remer, Frederick Krantz and Baruch Cohen
- 6: Steven Emerson and Frederick Krantz
- 7: Evelyn Schachter
- 8: Machla Abramovitz and Barbara Kay

OF PRO-ISRAEL ADVOCACY



Dr. Catherine Chatterley

(Director, Canadian Institute for the Study of Antisemitism, U. of Manitoba)

The Canadian Institute for Jewish Research is a unique and wonderful accomplishment. At a time of resurgent antisemitism and increasing hostility toward the Jewish state, Professor Krantz and CIJR deserve credit for their crucial dedication to research and education, to accuracy and astute analysis. I wish CIJR another successful 30 years.



The United Nations Shares the Blame For Hamas’ Bloodshed

Rabbi Abraham Cooper

The specter of war hangs large over the Israel-Gaza border, after communities in southern Israel this week suffered a barrage of 200 Hamas missiles...Iranian money, weapons and tactics may be fueling Hamas’ attacks, but there are other unindicted co-conspirators at work, and it is time to call one out: the United Nations.

Nikki Haley, the straight-talking undiplomatic US ambassador to the United Nations, has tried and failed to get the Security Council and General Assembly to denounce Hamas’ serial use of civilians to violently breach the Israel-Gaza dividing line...Indeed, cynical maneuvers at the UN have made Hamas bulletproof to even the slightest diplomatic slap. The terror group knows the world body will never condemn it for murdering Jews or putting Gaza’s civilians in harm’s way. It knows the UN will always blame the Jewish state.

Just days after 62 Palestinians were killed during a Hamas-led attempt to breach Israel’s security fence, the UN Human Rights Council voted to investigate the deaths, no doubt with an eye toward ultimately blaming Israel. This, despite a declaration by a Hamas official that 53 of the dead were members of Hamas or affiliated with another terrorist group, Islamic Jihad — an admission that this was no “peaceful protest” by innocent Gazan civilians.

UN human rights chief Zeid Ra’ad al-Hussein accused the Jewish state of keeping Gazans “caged in a toxic slum.” He failed to explain why Hamas diverts — i.e., steals — shipments of building materials meant for civilian housing repairs so it can expand its terror tunnels

into Israeli territory. The next day, Haley announced the US was quitting the council over its unending hostility toward Israel.

...(T)he UN’s special rapporteur for human rights, Michael Lynk, suggested suspending a UN member state for violating international law. North Korea? Iran? Syria? No, Israel — a country facing 200,000 rockets from Hezbollah in the north and deadly attacks by Hamas in the south. All this diplomatic cover from the United Nations reassures Hamas that it won’t face consequences from the international community, essentially giving it a green light to launch more attacks.

UN agencies on the ground in Gaza are also part of the problem. The United Nations Relief and Welfare Agency employs over 11,000 people there, including medical personnel, teachers and school administrators...But far from serving as a voice of reason and reconciliation, UNRWA feeds the beast of victimhood...On the days in May that Hamas was planning its deadly border riots, UNRWA school teachers and administrators announced, out of the blue, that schools and offices would be closed. Clearly, their aim was to encourage youngsters to become cannon fodder for Hamas. I doubt there is a more powerful exhibition of mass child abuse in our time.

No, the UN might not directly and openly steer weapons and money to Hamas for attacks on Israel. But its diplomatic protection of the group, endless rhetorical bashing of the Jewish state and pervasive promotion of anti-Israel propaganda encourages Hamas’ outrageous behavior. Moreover, any aid or services it provides relieves Hamas of funding those needs, freeing it to divert money to terrorist activities...

(New York Post, Aug. 11, 2018)

Canada’s Postal Workers Jump on the Israel-Bashing Bandwagon

Robert Fulford

The Irish senate recently passed a bill forbidding the purchase of goods produced in the West Bank of Israel. Readers with a fairly sophisticated sense of the Middle East were baffled by seeing Israel’s and Ireland’s politics linked in the same sentence but they shouldn’t have been. Just about everyone from everywhere now feels entitled to throw rhetorical rocks at Israel, even if they have never seen the place, learned its history or listened to a few of its arguments. Readers who know a little about Israel are nevertheless aware that it has many enemies. Anti-Israel and anti-Semitic opinions (sometimes they are identical) appear regularly in a deafening barrage of criticism focused on the Jewish state.

...Last week the three largest Jewish newspapers in England united to run the same front-page editorial, heralding what they call a clear and present danger to Jewish life — the leader of the Labour Party, and possibly the next prime minister of Britain, Jeremy Corbyn, “a man who has a problem seeing that hateful rhetoric aimed at Israel can easily step into anti-Semitism.”...

It’s impossible to be neutral about Israel. When foreigners make innocent, apparently non-political donations to the Palestinians, they may find themselves caught up in a tragic propaganda war. Belgium, in its foreign aid, funded a public school for Palestinians. The Palestinian Authority later decided it should be named

Martyr Dalal Mughrabi Elementary School, to honour the woman who allegedly led the 1978 bus hijacking that killed 37 Israelis, 12 of them children...Palestinian Media Watch, which studies the area from outside, reports 31 Palestinian Authority schools are now named after terrorists.

Union members, in Canada and elsewhere, must pay attention lest they, too, are swept into Israeli politics — and on the wrong side. The 50,000-member Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) has acknowledged that it’s joined with the Palestinian Postal Service Workers Union to “build greater solidarity between our two unions.” When told about this arrangement, Alon Katzevich, an Israeli-Canadian member of CUPW who lives in Winnipeg, said he was “shocked and concerned.” The Palestinian union supports the total annihilation of the Jewish State, rather than a two-state solution.

But in the army of Israel opponents, the most reliable, the smuggest and the most pestilential are university students. North American students pour out endless bulletins declaring that Israel must be Boycotted, Divested, and Sanctioned (BDS). They sponsor the insulting Israel Apartheid Week every year, they invite on-the-road Palestinian press agents to exchange praise with them, and they create anti-Semitic environments that affect at least a few students attending university. There’s no evidence that all this activity rattles Israel’s economy or its status in the world, but for the organizing students it must be satisfying and at least gives them an international credit to put on their CVs...

(National Post, Aug. 3, 2018)

Mr. Corbyn, Pay Homage to Israel's Munich Victims

Giulio Meotti

In Munich, in 1972, Palestinian Liberation Organization terrorists killed Moshe Weinberg, who had the joy of life on his face. They killed Amitzur Shapira, the father of four beautiful children and a teacher in Herzliya. They killed Yossef Romano, a Jew of Libyan origin and a father of three. They killed Mark Slavin, who kissed the ground of Israel upon his arrival from the Soviet Union.

They killed Zeev Friedman, born in Siberia and whose father was deported to a labor camp on the Vistula. He spoke a wonderful mixture of Yiddish and Russian. His mother lost all her relatives in Treblinka, the extermination camp. They killed Kehat Shorr, who had come from Romania where he had fought against the Nazi troops in the Carpathians. They killed Yaacov Springer, one of the few survivors of the Warsaw ghetto uprising.

They killed Andrej Spitzer, married to a woman converted to Judaism, living in a suburb of Tel Aviv. They killed Eliezer Halfin, the son of Lithuanian Jews who lost everyone in the Holocaust. And they also killed Yossef Gutfreund, he too had left Romania after spending several months in prison on charges of "Zionist propaganda".

So, let me understand this better. How come Jeremy Corbyn, the leader of the UK Labour party, paid homage to the grave not of these 11 Israeli heroes, but of a Palestinian terrorist who had taken their beautiful lives? The West is sick with anti-Semitism again.

Probably the British Labour party is lost in this avalanche of Judeophobia. Too many statements against "the Zionists", too much malice against the Jews, too many attacks on Israel, too many meetings with Hamas and Hezbollah... Probably things are rotten in Corbyn's party. But since he might win the next British general elections, considering the bad state of the Tories, it might be helpful suggesting a reparation measure Mr. Corbyn should take after this new affair. The British opposition leader should immediately get on a flight for Tel Aviv and pay a humble visit to the graves of the Israeli victims of that assault in Munich.

The day after the massacre of the athletes, all the Israelis present in Germany wore a kippah to mourn the dead. The ignoble, satanic decision not to stop everything was one proving the bankruptcy of any moral sense, the green signal light for future massacres...

No Arab delegate offered his condolences to Israel. Nobody. The day of the arrival of the bodies at the airport of Lod there was no fanfare to welcome their bodies. Only silence and a proud pain. After reciting the Hebrew kaddish at the tombs, the People of the Book returned home. The day after that was the Hebrew New Year, but there was no place for joy. That new year opened with the collective thought addressed to the children of the 11 victims: Those children were, they are, the why of Israel. After visiting the graves, Mr. Corbyn should offer his condolences to these children. Otherwise, he should expect the worst possible reaction from those who care about Israel, truth and decency.

(Arutz Sheva, Aug. 15, 2018)

Hungary: Not "Submitting to Islam"

Daniel Pipes

No European head of government talks remotely like Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orbán. For example, he recently spoke of building in Hungary a "constitutional order based on national and Christian foundations," thereby avoiding a future in which "the whole of Europe has ... submitted to Islam."

That, in brief, is the disruption caused by Orbán, 55, and his Fidesz party. He outlines explicitly conservative (or in his terminology, "illiberal") goals that defend "the ways of life springing from Christian culture" and reject Muslim influence. By doing so, Orbán has undermined a continent-wide consensus and encouraged voters in Poland, Austria, Italy, and Germany to resist further uncontrolled migration.

Of course, Western media respond to this presumption with relentless criticism. Some is deserved, such as the government's take-over of nearly all media, its pressure on hostile NGOs, its encroachments on judicial independence, its corruption, and its pro-Putin policies. One interlocutor during my recent visit to Hungary alarmingly compared Fidesz' deep reach into society with that of the Communist party during the Soviet era (1944-89).

But other criticisms against the government are exaggerated or unfair. Yes, local Jews complain of increased hostility, but antisemitic incidents have declined and Hungary is the safest place in Europe in public for observant Jews. Orbán sensibly argues that allowing in large numbers of antisemitic Muslim migrants is the real threat to Jews. His intense attacks on George Soros, an anti-Zionist and questionable

Jew, are no more antisemitic than those of, say, David Horowitz or Black Cube. Hungary has Europe's best relations with Israel...

Nor is the government anti-Muslim. Yes, Orbán has blasted illegal migrants as "not refugees but a Muslim invasion force" and opined that "large numbers of Muslims inevitably create parallel societies, because Christian and Muslim communities will never unite." Muslims who follow the rules, however, are welcome. Muslim tourists visit Hungary in substantial numbers, as a stroll along the Danube River in Budapest quickly makes evident. Longer visas are also available. For four years, 2013-17, the Fidesz government offered "Settlement Bonds" for sale for about €350,000 (\$400,000), in return for which anyone, including many Muslims, received Hungarian passports. A scholarship program called Stipendium Hungaricum has welcomed some 20,000 students, especially Muslims from Turkey, Lebanon, the Emirates, and Indonesia...

In an October 2016 referendum, 98.4 percent of Hungarians voted against accepting migrants allotted to their country by the European Union. Admittedly, a government campaign for a no-vote along with an opposition boycott artificially inflated this number; but it does point to a majority rejecting unvetted migrants. As one prominent Orbán ally told me, "We like Muslims, but over there, not here..."

"Although Orbán governs a small country, the movement he represents is of global importance," notes the Bulgarian analyst Ivan Krastev. A survey of countries may rank its power just #73 out of 80 but Hungary is gaining an unprecedented centrality in Europe, with Orbán becoming the continent's most important leader.

*(Daniel Pipes is a CIJR Academic Fellow.
Washington Times, Aug. 14, 2018)*

Antisemitism on the Rise Across the Western World

Baruch Cohen, CIJR Research Chairman

Today's manifestations of rising anti-Semitism, and calls of hatred against minorities, are not unknown phenomena. The latest incident in Sachsenhausen, Germany, where a Holocaust memorial was burned down and gutted by neo-Nazis, is a disgusting occurrence. Meanwhile, in Braunschweig, Lower Saxony, authorities have uncovered large quantities of arms in an investigation of a neo-Nazi organization, the German magazine Bild reported...

The spread of anti-Semitism is global: France, Holland, Italy, Hungary, Canada and the U.S. Daily press dispatches from around the globe tell of incidents of vandalism, desecration of Jewish cemeteries and Holocaust denials.

Nazi war criminals' trails are not followed, or forgotten under heavy bureaucratic indifference, or their pursuit is delayed no end by "free speech" democratic judges. Bigotry, prejudice and anti-Semitism are spread by "intellectual giants" such as David Irving (England), Jean-Marie LePen (France), Ernst Zundel and Jim Keegstra (Canada), and David Duke, Patrick Buchanan and Louis Farrakhan (U.S.).

Anti-Semitic publications are popping up like mushrooms after a summer rain, in Hungary, Romania, Germany, Poland and elsewhere. One of the most cruel and vitriolic daily newspapers, *Romania Mare* (Greater Romania), has a circulation of more than 500,000 copies daily. In Romania the former dictator, Marshal Antonescu, is praised as a national hero. Last year the Romanian parliament stood up and kept one moment of respect in memory of their "national savior"... So much for denial of a Romanian Jewry Holocaust...

In Poland, a country where there remain at most 5,000 to 8,000 Jews out of a population of 40 million, we see such grotesque absurdities as the rumours against the then-prime minister Tadeusz



Baruch Cohen in his office at CIJR in 2012.

Mazowicki, a Catholic accused of being a "crypto-Jew." Poland is perhaps the most spectacular example of the fact that anti-Semitism can flourish without the presence of Jews.

In October 1991, Romania's chief rabbi, Moses Rosen, sent the following letter to the Minister of Interior: "...we strongly protest against the obvious fact that the authorities are tolerating in downtown Bucharest, in front of the Intercontinental Hotel, University Plaza and other main streets in the capital, graffiti and pictures. These images and inscriptions are calling for the elimination of the Jews from public life and the expulsion of the Jews from Romania." Today's Romanian Jews number 15,000 out of a population of 28 million...

It would be a grave error to ignore the "old-new" threat. Today's anti-Semitism is spreading and becomes popular due mainly to the economic-social malaise... We must not repeat the errors of the past and ignore this epidemic. Only by exposing the dangers of this ugly plague will we help to avoid a global catastrophe.

(The Suburban, Oct. 21, 1992)

Israeli Soldiers Can't Be Classed As "Murderers"

Frederick Krantz

Allow me to comment on your [*Montreal Gazette*] July 2 editorial, "Deadly abuses by Israeli' soldiers." What is objectionable in your rush to judgment (and that of the recent Middle East Watch report on which it relies) is the utter absence of balance – expressed both in the MEW report's loaded title; "A License to Kill." and in your failure to convey any sense of the violent "intifada" context within which the alleged incidents you note occur.

The thrust of the editorial is summed up in its last sentence, which concludes that "killing Palestinian activists instead of arresting them... is simple murder. There is no excuse for it." No one can or should "explain" let alone condone or excuse, murder.

MEW's claims of a number of summary executions and indefensible shooting of children – which Israeli authorities vehemently deny – should be thoroughly investigated. What is at stake, however; is your loose use of the term "murder".

Real miscarriages of justice should, of course, be punished. While Israel has punished officera and soldiers for exceeding the strict rules of engagement, we have yet to hear of the PLO, which has claimed jurisdiction over many territories executions" disciplining a killer. Israeli security forces, charged under international law with maintaining order in territories occupied after Arab aggression in 1967, are responding to attacks. No more than the Los Angeles po-

lice who, under attack, killed armed rioters, are they simple "murderers."

Yet real murders have indeed occurred and on a massive scale: of the more than 2,000 people who have died as a result of the violent attacks which commenced in December 1987, some 100 Jews and more than 900 Palestinians have been brutally and individually murdered by Arab killers... Further, by terming these killers "activists," an odd euphemism indeed, you reserve the term "murder" for Israeli soldiers acting in self-defence. [And] you transform a policy of restraint into a "carte blanche to kill them (the attackers)".

If Israeli forces really had such "carte blanche" do you really think the total of claimed "murders" across a year of rising violence comprising literally thousands of confrontations would total 20?

(Montreal Gazette, Aug. 3, 1993)

Sharon Hart-Green. *Come Back for Me*. Toronto: New Jewish Press, 2017

Bradley Martin

Rarely does a historical novel capture the raw emotions and major heartbreak that was experienced by people who lived during the horrors of the Second World War. Merging different worlds, experiences and narratives into one overarching world makes Sharon Hart-Green's *Come Back for Me* an extremely well-written novel and excellent debut.

Arthur Mandelkorn is a young Hungarian Holocaust survivor, whose journey to find his sister Manya that was separated from him by German soldiers. Both Arthur and Manya are separated when Manya is put on a train with women and Arthur with men. As Manya is pushed into the train, Arthur hears her scream: "come back for me." Arthur's journey to find his sister takes him to the newly-reborn State of Israel.

Suzy Kohn is an assimilated Toronto teenager who struggles to come to grips with the sudden death of her uncle (himself a Holocaust survivor) and subsequent family turmoil. Both of their paths merge together in Israel following the Six-Day War, where the two feel compelled to share their stories. Arthur then continues the search for his sister with Suzy. Love and understanding become the threads that bind the two narratives together in a very satisfying crescendo.

Sharon Hart-Green's novel seamlessly combines several disparate periods of history together: Hungary during the Holocaust, Israel after the Holocaust and Canada during the 1960s. The author brings these different historical periods together in such a way as to make questions of Jewish identity and the horrors of the Holocaust more relatable to a younger generation. As time goes on and the memory of the Holocaust grows dimmer while survivors pass away, this highlights the importance of Canadian Jewish literature like *Come Back for Me*.

Yet this novel is by no means a work of young adult fiction and does not sugarcoat the Holocaust. The reader can expect to be taken on an emotional journey by the author through all of the characters. For a work of fiction to effectively convey such emotion to a contemporary readership, while paying proper respect to the historical material it's based on, is quite an accomplishment.

The main strength in *Come Back for Me* comes from its presentation of compelling themes of trauma, healing and love that transcend different generations. Through the experiences and interactions of Arthur and Suzy, the reader learns how these two characters from different contexts cope with trauma in different and unique ways. Yet at the same time, before and after their stories finally intersect in Israel, both characters share a rich Jewish familial and cultural history. They reveal aspects of the Jewish experience in need of dialogue and understanding. Both timelines

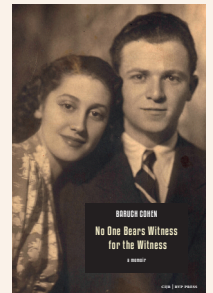


are equally compelling and captivating.

Come Back for Me is a beautiful and exceptional first novel that leaves readers wanting to know more about the characters who make up Sharon Hart-Green's exquisitely-created world. The sad fact that many members of the younger Jewish generation have no personal link to the Holocaust makes this book not only a literary triumph, but also an important public service. Given the compelling nature of these characters, perhaps the author would even consider writing a sequel?

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

Baruch Cohen's moving memoir, *No One Bears Witness for the Witness*, published by CIJR and RVP Press, is available by emailing cijr@isranet.org



Recent Books

Bartov, Omer. *Anatomy of a Genocide: The Life and Death of a Town Called Buczacz*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2018

Bensoussan, David. *Le Livre D'Isaïe – Lecture Commentée*. Montreal: Les Éditions du Marais, 2014

Cohen, Baruch. *No One Bears Witness for the Witness: a Memoir*. Ed. Joyce Rappaport. New York: CIJR/RVP Press, 2018

Frampton, Martyn. *The Muslim Brotherhood and the West: A History of Enmity and Engagement*. Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2018

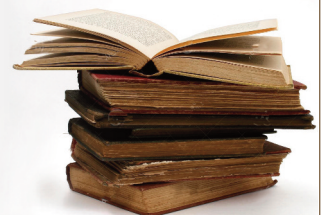
Hirschprung, Rabbi Pinchas. *The Vale of Tears*. Montreal: The Azrieli Foundation, 2016

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Manent, Pierre. *Beyond Radical Secularism. How France and the Christian West Should Respond to the Islamic Challenge*, transl. Ralph C. Hancock. South Bend, Indiana: St. Augustine's Press, 2016

Pfeffer, Anshel. *Bibi: The Turbulent Life and Times of Benjamin Netanyahu*. New York: Penguin Random House Canada, 2018

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



HONOUR ROLL

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER
 (1950-2018)

EXTRA! EXTRA!

From the Board Chairman

Jack Kincler

Reflections about Baruch Cohen, CIJR's Research Director

At CIJR we are all working hard these days on preparations for our special 30th, and Israel's 70th. Anniversary Galas, set for Oct. 14, 2018 in Montreal and Oct. 21 in Toronto.

Our excitement is tempered by the fact that, for the first time in CIJR's history, our beloved Research Director, Baruch Cohen, won't be able to participate, due to ill health. Baruch, a Romanian Holocaust survivor, has been at CIJR with our Founder-Director, Prof. Frederick Krantz, from the beginning.

After retiring in 1988, winter or summer, Baruch was at CIJR, volunteering his time, experience and intellectual acumen in the noble cause of defending Israel and the Jewish people through education, Holocaust remembrance and poetry.

Celebrating his 99th birthday on 15 Oct., the day after our *Gala*, Baruch has been an inspiration to all who have had the privilege of working and interacting with him, at CIJR and the Montreal Holocaust center.

After surviving the Holocaust in Romania, Baruch with his beloved wife Sonia and their baby daughter Monica (Malka) and Sonia's parents made Aliyah to Israel, and in 1959, moved to a new life in Canada. In 2000 tragedy struck when Monica, their beloved Malka, passed away.

Through all these trials and tribulations, Baruch was sustained by Sonia (of whom he wrote that "The universe is like a continuous song of praise for you..."), and continued to teach and recount his Holocaust experience, and to express his love for Monica/Malka, for Sonia, Israel and Jerusalem ("O Jerusalem, shining and bright. Embraced forever with your people's love...").

CIJR alumni who interned or worked with Baruch and Prof. Krantz, learned to affirm Zionist values and to tell the uplifting story of Israel and the Jewish people. (Baruch's fine autobiographical *No One Bears Witness for the Witness*, edited by Joyce Rappaport, is available for purchase at the CIJR office).

Our best wishes for *Refuah Shlema* to Baruch and good health and strength to Sonia, and our thanks to all our fine Montreal and Toronto staff and Board members, and best personal wishes for a happy and peaceful New Year to CIJR's friends and supporters.

Greetings from Toronto!

Since our last *Israfax* update, exciting things have been happening here that we are just thrilled to share with you!

To begin, on March 22, Nick Maes (Ph.D.) held his Beth David audience spellbound as he outlined the many challenges before the Jewish people posed by modernity, and whether or not we shall be able to resist the forces of assimilation in the immediate future.

Then in May, Consul General of Israel in Toronto Galit Baram addressed "Zionism in 21st C - Israel and Diaspora Relations". A full Beth David audience put pointed and far-ranging questions to Israel's representative in Toronto, and C.G. Baram responded with proud and inspiring answers.

Then, in an unprecedented first for Toronto, Ann Samson, founder of Congregation BINA (a community of Jews from India) and a proud spokesperson for the Indian Jewish Community, delivered a four-part set of talks about the Jews of India at the Lodzer *shul*. Over the month of June, Toronto audiences learned the history, the customs, and the rituals of the Jews of India, connecting their experiences to Israel and the Canadian Jewish community.

As well, this past summer, Toronto co-chair Doris Epstein was instrumental in helping to organize two successful public rallies – the first to bring attention to the ruthless murder of Israeli soldier Aviv Levi by a Gaza sniper, and the second to continue focusing world attention and pressure on the plight of the Yazidi people.

Stay tuned for exciting new programming with Beth David as a fresh new season descends upon us, and for a groundbreaking *CIJR 30th Anniversary Toronto Gala* (October 21, 2018) celebrating Israel's 70th and its (and Jerusalem's!) increasing diplomatic recognition.

(Alan Herman and Doris Epstein are Co-Chairs of CIJR's Toronto Chapter)

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