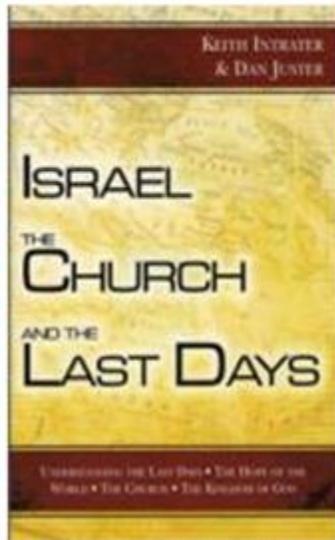


Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update January 2, 2015

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ALIYAH FIGURES AT HIGHEST IN A DECADE; FRANCE LEADS THE WAY: Wednesday marked the last day of 2014, and year-end figures released that day by The Jewish Agency for Israel and Ministry of Immigrant Absorption show it has been a record year for aliyah (immigration). Around 26,500 new immigrants arrived in Israel in 2014 marking a 32% increase over last year and a ten-year high. France led the list of countries of origin for the first time ever, with almost 7,000 new French immigrants, more than double the 3,400 who came last year. The sudden increase comes partially as a response to the skyrocketing of violent anti-Semitism in the country. While France may top the list, Ukraine saw the largest increase in immigrants, with numbers shooting up by 190% compared to last year and reaching 5,840. There too the increase is partially explainable by the ongoing instability and conflict in the country. The year-end statistics revealed that aliyah from Western Europe, driven by the sharp rise from France, rose by 88% to a total of 8,640 immigrants. Aliyah from the former Soviet Union rose by 50%, reaching 11,430 with the notable increase from Ukraine. Likewise, aliyah from the US remained strong reaching 3,470, an 8% increase from last year. (Arutz-7)

PA'S STATEHOOD RESOLUTION DEFEATED AT SECURITY COUNCIL: The UN Security Council failed on Tuesday to adopt a resolution on Palestinian statehood. Only eight countries voted in favor of the resolution, two voted against, and there were five abstentions. The resolution needed nine votes in its favor to have passed. France, China and Russia were among the countries that supported the text setting a 12-month deadline for negotiations on a final peace deal with Israel. Australia and the US voted against. The resolution failed to pass despite earlier claims by the Palestinian Authority (PA) that it had the necessary nine-vote majority to enable it to pass the resolution calling for recognition of a "Palestinian state" as well as an Israeli withdrawal from Judea, Samaria and eastern Jerusalem by the end of 2017. Samantha Power, the American ambassador to the UN, said the resolution was "deeply imbalanced," setting deadlines that did not adequately take account of Israel's security needs and merely sets the stage for more division. (Arutz-7)

NETANYAHU LAUDS US, AUSTRALIA FOR REJECTING PALESTINIAN UN BID: PM Benjamin Netanyahu said Wednesday after the UN Security Council vote on Palestinian statehood, "I want to express appreciation and gratitude to the United States and Australia, as well as special appreciation to the President of Rwanda, my friend Paul Kagame, and to the President of Nigeria, my friend Goodluck Jonathan." After many months and innumerable headlines, the Palestinians' bid to impose terms for statehood upon Israel via the UN ended in embarrassing failure on Tuesday. At the last minute, Nigeria surprisingly abstained, leaving the Palestinians one vote short. PM Netanyahu spoke to the leaders of Rwanda and Nigeria before the vote; Rwanda also abstained, as did Britain, South Korea and Lithuania. (J. Post)

ISRAELI GOVERNMENT MINISTERS SLAM PA PROVOCATION AT UN: Israeli diplomats forcefully responded to the UN Security Council vote Tuesday night that saw the Palestinian Authority's (PA) unilateral bid for recognition as a state and demand for Israeli withdrawals by 2017 defeated. Foreign Minister Avigdor Liberman said the failure at the UN should teach the PA that provocations and attempts to force unilateral processes on Israel won't get them anything. "The contempt of the Palestinians for the most important countries in the international community, and at their head the United States, stems from the tailwind they receive from some European countries," accused Liberman. "Therefore, every country that truly wants to reach an agreement must act responsibly and clarify to the Palestinians that decisions are only reached at the negotiating table." The PA "continues to prove it isn't interested in direct talks, but rather in provocations and acts of delegitimization against Israel," said Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon in response to the UN vote. He continued saying "as it has acted in the last 20 years, since it signed on the Oslo Accords, the PA's path has only been to try to get from Israel and not give anything. We won't agree to this and we won't compromise on the security and future of the state of Israel." (Israel National News)

REPORT: PA TO JOIN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT: Palestinian Authority president Mahmoud Abbas applied immediately to join the International Criminal Court after the UN Security Council rejected a resolution to recognize the PA as a "Palestinian state." The PA had warned that if the resolution failed, they would seek to join international organizations including the International Criminal Court, and seek to sue Israel. Such a move is a direct violation of previous agreements signed with Israel. The decision to turn to the ICC could backfire, however. By joining the Rome Statute the Palestinian Authority - and particularly Hamas - will also be exposed to potential Israeli lawsuits for war crimes including the deliberate targeting of Israeli civilians and use of Palestinian civilians as human shields. In a recent interview, the PA's envoy to the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) admitted the PA has no hope of pressing charges against Israel in international courts - because Palestinian terrorist groups are far worse violators of international law themselves. (Israel National News)

NETANYAHU: THE PALESTINIANS HAVE MORE TO FEAR FROM THE ICC THAN ISRAEL: Responding to the Palestinian decision to join the International Criminal Court and file complaints against Israel, PM Netanyahu said the PA, which is in a unity government with Hamas, should be more concerned about the ICC than Israel. Calling the soldiers of the IDF "the most moral soldiers in the world," Netanyahu said Hamas was an avowed terrorist organization that - like Islamic State - commits war crimes. "We will rebuff this additional effort to impose a diktat on us," he said. Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman said the Palestinians are responsible for the "indiscriminate murder of men, women, children and babies for the last 100 years," and that "the only ones committing war crimes in this conflict are the Palestinians themselves." Meanwhile, ICC prosecutors have made clear they will investigate all allegations of misdeeds in a dispute, not just those of one side. That means Palestinians could be called to answer for Hamas' rocket attacks on Israeli population centers and the group's use of civilians as human shields. (Jerusalem Post)

PALESTINIAN ICC MOVE FOLLOWS INTENSE CAMPAIGN BY EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT FUNDED GROUPS: The decision by the PA to sign the Rome Statute, a step towards joining the International Criminal Court (ICC), follows more than a decade of intense lobbying and propaganda campaigns by NGOs that promote legal warfare against Israel. "Attempting to litigate the highly charged Arab-Israeli conflict in the ICC could spell the end of the court, and the NGOs and their European funders will be responsible," said Anne Herzberg, NGO Monitor legal advisor. (NGO Monitor)

LEADING PUBLISHING HOUSE WIPES ISRAEL OFF ITS MAP: HarperCollins' subsidiary Collins Bartholomew, which specializes in maps, have been selling "Collins Middle East Atlases" to English-speaking schools in the Gulf States which depict Jordan and Syria extending all the way to the Mediterranean Sea. Collins Bartholomew told media sources the reason they wiped Israel off their maps was that including the Jewish state would be "unacceptable" to their customers in the Gulf States. They added that the change to remove Israel was meant to incorporate "local preferences" - apparently the local preference that Israel not exist. But HarperCollins was harshly condemned for the move by The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, with Bishop Declan Lang of the Conference's Department of International Affairs stating that "the publication of this atlas will confirm Israel's belief that there exists a hostility towards their country from the Arab world." On Thursday, HarperCollins issued a public apology: "HarperCollins regrets the omission of the name Israel from their Collins Middle East Atlas," read the statement. "This product has now been removed from sale in all territories and all remaining stock will be pulped." It is not clear how the company will seek to cater the new version to "local preferences." (Arutz-7)

THREE ISRAELI WHITE RHINOS ESCAPE FOR A RAMBLE ON NEW YEAR'S DAY: Three female white rhinoceros escaped a safari in central Israel Thursday morning after a distracted guard failed to notice they had exited the artificial nature reserve from a side door. The incident took place at 6 am Thursday morning, when the director of the safari opened the gate to the compound. "By 6:15 am I had received a call from local police saying that a couple of rhinos had escaped," Yehuda Bar, the safari's director told reporters. The safari is adjacent to the Ramat Gan National Park, where Bar soon found the rhinos. "I found two of older female rhinos playing around with a third younger one in the parking lot and in less than a minute or a minute and a half later they were back in the safari." According to the safari's spokesperson, the rhinos were actually attempting to return to the safari, but failed to find the entrance. "They ran into some people jogging in the park and were frightened. Yehuda (the manager) began clapping to get their attention and they found their way back through the gate." The Ramat Gan Safari houses the largest collection of wild animals in the Middle East, and its white rhinos are part of its most prized positions, together with hippos, lions, and African and Asian elephants. (Ynet)

ISRAEL'S POPULATION AT 8.3 MILLION AT CLOSE OF 2014: Some 6.2 million of that population are Jewish and 1.7 million are Arabs as 2014 comes to a close, Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics reported Monday. The population's percentage breakdown is 74.9% Jewish, 20.7% Arab and 4.3% others, including Christians and people who do not identify with any religion or nationality. Israel's population grew by 2% in 2014. Some 176,600 babies were born during the year and some 23,000 new immigrants arrived. (Ynet)

ISRAEL MAKES LARGEST PER-CAPITA CONTRIBUTION AGAINST EBOLA: Israel has made the world's largest per-capita contribution to halt the spread of Ebola in West Africa, according to UNICEF in New York. In addition to a financial contribution of \$8.75 million, Israel has sent fully equipped medical clinics to West Africa, along with medical specialists to operate them and train local health workers. (Ha'aretz)

THE STARTUPS OF NAZERETH: An increasing number of Israel's Arabs are finding work in the country's burgeoning tech economy. Arabs are represented at Israel's top universities in numbers commensurate with their percentage of the population. The 10% of Israel's Arabs who are Christian actually perform better academically than any other Israeli demographic and are comparatively prevalent among the country's Arab software engineers and entrepreneurs. (Business Week)

JESUS THE PALESTINIAN: Just as he does every December, PA President Mahmoud Abbas made the Christmas-time claim that Jesus was a Palestinian. "Jesus' message resonates in our prayers for our people in our capital Jerusalem, who continue to resist the Israeli attempts to turn the city into an exclusive Jewish place," Abbas stressed. "The mosques and the churches of Jerusalem will continue to remind the world of the Palestinian, Arab, and Christian and Muslim identity of the city. Justice means ending the Israeli occupation of East Jerusalem, an integral part of the State of Palestine on the basis of the 1967 border." PA security spokesperson Adnan Al-Damiri referred to Jesus as "the first Palestinian martyr." Mahmoud Al-Habbash, the Supreme Shari'ah Judge and Abbas' Adviser on Religious and Islamic Affairs joined the conversation, expressing the close ties between Palestine and the birth of Jesus Christ. "Christmas is also a Palestinian holiday, because Jesus, peace be upon him, was Palestinian. He was born in Palestine; lived and was sent as a prophet to Palestine," Al-Habbash said. "Therefore, Christmas has a special Palestinian flavor." Yet the New Testament defines Jesus as a Jewish resident of Judea. The Roman Empire changed the name of "Judea" to "Palestine" 100 years after Jesus' death. (Jerusalem Post)

'JERUSALEM IS THE WILD WEST': Housing and Construction Minister Uri Ariel toured with Jerusalem Municipality Dov Kalmanovitz and Yael Entebi in Jerusalem's Shuafat neighborhood Tuesday, where they exposed the illegal Arab construction in the neighborhood for news cameras. Both Ariel and the Council members noted that Shuafat has been known for its weapons caches, loudest Muslim muezzin (prayer tower) calls, and shooting attacks on Jewish residents of Jerusalem. They reported complaints of residents who fear the security situation and the minimal involvement of the Israel Police at the site. According to Entebi, "people can sit on their porch and suddenly feel a bullet graze them. The Wild West is here, and it has spread throughout the Jerusalem municipality." Housing Minister Ariel said, "It turns out that there are parts of Jerusalem that Israel is not sovereign over and does not control - and it's happening right here in Jerusalem, the capital of Israel. Solving this requires a special effort of us all, and I will work with other members to exercise their sovereignty in this area." (Jerusalem Post)

YOU TUBE VIDEO SHOWS STABBING METHODS: A video showing how to stab a victim correctly has been shared on Palestinian social media networks. It began circulating on Saturday. The video shows two masked men wearing black-and-white checkered keffiyahs demonstrating the different stab positions. The video demonstrates how to turn the knife after stabbing and how to stab someone quickly and walk away. It ends with the statement, “What are you waiting for? Rise up and stab.” On Friday, two Israel Police officers were stabbed near the Lion’s Gate in Jerusalem’s Old City. (JTA)

CHILD SOLDIERS WHO ESCAPED ISIS TELL OF LESSONS IN BEHEADING: Jomah, a 17-year-old Syrian who joined Islamic State last year, sat in a circle of trainees for a lesson in beheading, a course taught to boys as young as 8. Teachers brought in three frightened Syrian soldiers, who were forced to their knees. A teacher asked for volunteers and said, “Those who behead the infidels will receive gifts from God,” recalled Jomah. Afterward, the teachers ordered the students to pass around the severed heads. The enrollment of hundreds of boys in such terrorist training camps could trouble the Middle East for years to come. A British-based Syrian monitoring organization said Sunday that the IS group has killed 1,878 people in Syria during the past six months, the majority of them civilians. Islamic State also killed 120 of its own members, most of them foreign fighters trying to return home, in the last two months, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. (Jerusalem Post/WSJ)

WIESENTHAL CENTER: WORST GLOBAL ANTISEMITIC/ANTI-ISRAEL INCIDENTS OF 2014: The Simon Wiesenthal Center has ranked the 10 worst outbreaks of anti-Semitism and anti-Israelism in 2014. Rabbi Abraham Cooper, the center’s associate dean, said that Europe dominated the list of incidents of Israel hatred and anti-Semitic violence, with six mentions. The No. 1 slot went to a doctor in Belgium who refused to provide medical care to a 90-year-old Jewish woman with a fractured rib. He told her son, who had requested the care: “Send her to Gaza for a few hours, then she will get rid of the pain. I’m not coming,” and hung up. Parts of Jordan’s government and the Palestinian Fatah party in Israel’s disputed territories garnered the second spot. After Palestinian terrorists murdered four rabbis in the Kehilat Bnai Torah synagogue in west Jerusalem, Jordanian MPs organized a moment of silence for the terrorists and read Koran verses aloud, stating their purpose was to “glorify their pure souls and the souls of all the martyrs in the Arab and Muslim nations.” The brutal assault on a Jewish couple, including the rape of a woman, in an apartment on the outskirts of Paris, resulted in ranking No. 3. Assailants tied up the couple and demanded, “Tell us where you hide the money. You Jews always have money.” MPs from the radical anti-Israel wing of Germany’s Left Party secured the No. 4 spot. According to the center, “On November 10, the Left Party invited notorious Israel-bashers in the party’s meeting room in the Bundestag, the day after commemoration of the anniversary of Kristallnacht – the 1938 pogrom when the Nazis burned Jewish synagogues across Germany. The fifth ranking went to Turkish columnist Faruk Köse, who wrote that Turkish Jews should pay a special

tax for damages during Operation Protective Edge this past summer. The spread of right-wing anti-Semitism by Björn Söder, a Sweden Democrats Party politician, resulted in a sixth-place ranking. The Wiesenthal Center blasted Sweden's government for failing to combat Jew hatred, saying, "Swedish Jews have been targets of hate crimes from Muslim extremists, but authorities have rarely, if ever, taken action against the perpetrators." In several countries, up to a third of Jewish residents are mulling emigration, according to a 2013 study by the EU's Agency for Fundamental Rights. (Jerusalem Post)

STATE DEPARTMENT: PA RESOLUTION NOT CONSTRUCTIVE: The United States reiterated on Monday that it does not support the unilateral draft resolution that the Palestinian Authority (PA) is promoting at the UN Security Council. State Department spokesman Jeff Rathke said Washington believes the resolution, which demands an Israeli withdrawal from Judea and Samaria by 2017, would not advance the goal of peace or address Israel's security needs. "We don't think this resolution is constructive," Rathke told reporters. "We think it sets arbitrary deadlines for reaching a peace agreement and for Israel's withdrawal from Judea & Samaria and those are more likely to curtail useful negotiations than to bring them to a successful conclusion." He continued, "Further, we think that the resolution fails to account for Israel's legitimate security needs, and the satisfaction of those needs, of course, integral to a sustainable settlement." On Tuesday, the UK joined the US in saying the draft submitted Monday to 'end occupation' does not help or address Israel's concerns, flatly rejecting current formulation. Over the weekend, the language of the Palestinian resolution was toughened so that Jerusalem is mentioned only as the Palestinian capital. This text has no chance of being approved, yet Abbas appears to insist on failing. Some diplomats suspect Abbas wants his maximalist resolution to be voted down to obtain a pretext to move on to his next pointless initiative - seeking Palestinian membership in the International Criminal Court. Accession to the court wouldn't bring Palestinians any closer to statehood, and it might expose the Hamas movement to war crimes prosecution. It could also cause Congress to cut off the US aid that now sustains the Palestinian Authority. (Arutz-7/Ynet/Washington Post)

SYNAGOGUE WHERE YESHUA PREACHED UNCOVERED: A synagogue where Yeshua likely preached has been uncovered on the western shores of the Sea of Galilee. The 1st century Jewish house of prayer was discovered amidst the ruins of the ancient town of Magdala, home to the most well-known female disciple of Yeshua, Mary Magdalene. "This is the first synagogue ever excavated where Yeshua walked and preached," said Father Eamon Kelly of the Catholic organization developing the property. "This is hugely important for both Jews and Christians," he added. The synagogue is one of only seven dating back to the time of Yeshua uncovered anywhere in the world. Before Tiberius was built, Magdala was the only town on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee. Matthew 15:39 tells us Yeshua landed here as he "he took a boat, and came to the coast of Magdala." According to the New Testament, Yeshua traveled extensively through this area teaching and preaching in local synagogues. (Israel Today)

THE MOST EXCITING ISRAELI START-UPS: Some of the most exciting up-and-coming Israeli start-ups were at a conference in December organized by OurCrowd, the Jerusalem-based crowd-investing platform. VocalZoom has a technology that filters out background noise so that when you talk on your cellphone in a loud public place, the call will sound crystal clear. Cimage allows shoppers to place a 3D picture of a piece of furniture from any website into an "augmented reality" version of their own living room to show how it would look. Beacons are little plastic devices that broadcast where they are so you can track your luggage, phone, keys or kids. Pixie adds "distance" and "direction" to beacons - you won't just know your car is nearby, but by using the accompanying cellphone software, you'll be directed right to it. Up-n-Ride is a wheelchair that rises up into a vertical position so the disabled person can participate more normally in everyday activities. Consumer Physics is a molecular scanner that fits in the palm of your hand. Aim it at the pasta on your plate, and it can tell you the ingredients and number of calories. It can be used to sense anything other than metals. (Jerusalem Post)

CRITICALLY WOUNDED 11-YEAR-OLD FIREBOMB VICTIM STABILIZES: The condition of 11-year-old Ayala Shapira, who was seriously wounded in a firebomb attack last Thursday night in Samaria, has stabilized after undergoing a successful initial surgery on Friday. A senior doctor at the children's ward of the Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer where Shapira is receiving treatment, said "the girl underwent the first in a series of expected surgeries, to treat her burns and to ensure her airways remain functioning. The surgery was successful, and at the moment her condition is stable," continued Dr. Pesah. The public is asked to continue praying for the full recovery of Ayala. On Friday, Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon told Shapira's mother that the terrorist responsible for the heinous attack had been apprehended as the result of a focused effort to hunt down the terrorists, in which 12 Arab residents of the village of Kfar Azoun were arrested. (Arutz-7)

PALESTINIANS ENCOURAGING IRAN TO ESCALATE ANTI-ISRAEL TERROR, NETANYAHU CHARGES: The Palestinian Authority is inviting greater Iranian involvement in anti-Israel terrorism in Judea & Samaria while the United Nations remains silent, PM Benjamin Netanyahu told the weekly cabinet session on Sunday. Netanyahu quoted Ramallah's ambassador to Tehran, who said, "The Zionist regime is an aggressive, cancerous growth that must be eliminated sooner or later." Netanyahu continued by saying that, "In recent weeks, we are seeing a more vigorous Iranian effort to deepen terrorist activity in Judea & Samaria. I'd like to emphasize that it wasn't a Hamas official who said that, but the ambassador of the Palestinian Authority in Tehran. What does the UN do in response?" the premier said. "Instead of dealing with this incitement, it is giving it a place of honor. This is the same incitement that eventually leads to terrorist acts that we have witnessed of late." (Jerusalem Post)

IRANIAN SOLDIERS PHOTOGRAPHED ON LEBANON-ISRAEL BORDER: The Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI) has published a report documenting photographs of Iranian Revolutionary Guard soldiers "killing time" at the Lebanon-Israel border. Preliminary information suggests the pictures were taken in October, but were released only recently, along with verbal threats against Israel. Several photographs published contain the caption: "We have arrived to the cursed Israel." The Twitter account linked to the Revolutionary Guards uploaded a number of the pictures on Thursday, with the headline, "The Islamic Republic soldiers are on the border of occupied Palestine." The Iranian military's websites showcased photos of soldiers taken in the Bekaa Valley and Baalbek in south Lebanon. "We have come close to the motherland of corruption - the cursed Israel. With Allah's help, we will trample over their bodies" the website writes. (INN)

IRAN DEPLOYS 'SUICIDE DRONE' FOR FIRST TIME: Iran's army has deployed a suicide drone for the first time in massive ongoing military drills near the strategic Strait of Hormuz at the entrance to the Persian Gulf. Gen. Ahmad Reza Pourdastan, the army's chief commander of ground forces, was quoted by Iranian state media Saturday as calling the unmanned aircraft "a mobile bomb." The drone has been designed to plunge into aerial and ground targets, as well as ships. The six-day military exercise is being carried out over 527,000 square miles in the northern part of the Indian Ocean, Sea of Oman and the eastern part of the Persian Gulf, through which one-fifth of the world's oil supply passes. (CBS)

EGYPT BANS THE MOVIE 'EXODUS': Egyptian censors have banned a Hollywood movie - "Exodus: Gods and Kings" which is based on the book of Exodus, due to what they term "historical inaccuracies". One of the "inaccuracies, the Egyptians claim, is that it was an earthquake, and not a miracle by G-d through Moses which split the Red Sea. Morocco has also reportedly banned the film, which has so far grossed \$107 million in two weeks in worldwide release. Likewise, over the weekend, the United Arab Emirates decided to bar the release of Ridley Scott's "Exodus: Gods and Kings" due to "mistakes" in the adaptation of the biblical account. (Jerusalem Post)

THE RELIGIOUS CLEANSING OF MIDDLE EAST CHRISTIANS: Religious freedom experts captured the dire situation of Middle Eastern Christians in comments on Friday to Israel's Jerusalem Post newspaper: "Persecution no longer adequately describes the treatment of Christians in a growing number of Muslim areas. Religious cleansing, a type of cultural genocide, which is a crime against humanity, is the more accurate description. This is now occurring in Iraq, Syria, parts of Nigeria, Egypt, Sudan, Somalia and Pakistan. A goal of Islamic extremists is total Islamization and this has nearly been achieved in Iraq, which a decade ago was home to one of the four most robust Christian communities in the Arab world," said Nina Shea, director of the Hudson Institute's Center for Religious Freedom. "Now, the overwhelming majority of Iraq's Christian community, formerly numbering 1.4 million, are immigrants in the West, refugees in the

region, or internally displaced persons in Iraqi Kurdistan. Iraq is for the first time in history becoming entirely Islamic.” According to Open Doors USA, an organization that seeks to prevent Christian persecution, Iran, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen are in the top 10 violators of Christianity. Open Doors noted 322 Christians are murdered each month for simply being Christian, 214 Christian properties are destroyed and violence affects 772. Islamic State presents the most immediate danger to Christians in Iraq and Syria because of its ideology to rapidly eliminate Christianity. Dexter Van Zile, a Christian Media Analyst, said “we need to devote the resources necessary to defeat ISIS and make it perfectly clear that the people responsible for murdering Christians will face justice. We simply cannot let them get away with it. The efforts to help the Christians in the Middle East will look a lot like the choices the West was faced with when the Jews were being murdered in Europe. We’ll have to get serious about providing permanent refuge to Christians from the region in our own countries, which ominously enough, did not happen with the Jews.” said Van Zile. “Melancholy, frustration, outrage, deep pessimism, shock and exasperation seem to be the dominant themes when experts discuss the plight of Christians in the Middle East. Western policy makers and politicians have failed to mobilize the raw energy of their capitalist economies to stop jihadi attempts to wipe out Christians. I’m not very hopeful that things will get much better. We will continue to see things that shock us in the year ahead. Next year may even be worse than 2014,” concluded Van Zile. (J. Post)

“FIRST THE SATURDAY PEOPLE, THEN THE SUNDAY PEOPLE”: Dr. Richard Landes, director of the Center for Millennial Studies at Boston University said last week, “in the old days when the Muslims rioted and massacred Jews, they’d say, ‘first the Saturday people, then the Sunday people.’ Now that the Jews have a state and can defend themselves, they’ve moved on to the Sunday people, and the only place Christians are safe is where the Saturday people have sovereignty.” He added, “The really sick part of this picture is that the Christians in the West not only won’t come to the defense of the Sunday people in the Muslim world, but rather, seem fixated on not letting the Saturday people defend either themselves or the Sunday people who live among them. With their Western enemies behaving so self-destructively, it’s a good time to be a jihadi.” (Jerusalem Post)

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