

# ***Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update July 18, 2019*** ***(15<sup>th</sup> Tamuz, 5779)***

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The image shows two items: on the left, the cover of a book titled 'THE HEAVENS OF HIS GARMENT' with the subtitle 'TOUCHING THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD'. The cover features a blue and white striped pattern. On the right, there is a white prayer shawl (kittel) with blue and gold stripes at the top and bottom edges.

## **[For the Yachad Report Newsletter For July 2019](#)**

**OFFICIALS: GAZA STRIP POWDER KEG NEARING ERUPTION:** Two rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip toward Israel last weekend after thousands of Palestinians rioted along the security fence as part of an initiative dubbed “No Negotiation, No Conciliation, No Recognition of the [Israeli] Entity.” The renewed tensions – which prompted Israel to deploy additional Iron Dome anti-missile defense batteries to the South – comes despite a loosely defined cease-fire forged earlier this year between Israel and Hamas that prevented a fourth full-blown conflict over the past decade. It also comes on the backdrop of a major flare-up in May 2019 when Gaza-based groups launched some 700 projectiles at Israeli towns and cities, to which the Israel Defense Forces responded by striking hundreds of targets in the coastal enclave, the army’s largest operation since the 50-day war against the Hamas terrorist group and others in the Gaza Strip in 2014. The latest rocket fire was apparent retaliation for the IDF’s killing of a Hamas member during border protests last week, an act the military apologized for and called a “misunderstanding” as the targeted individual was reportedly trying to prevent youths from penetrating into Israeli territory. Meanwhile, Egypt dispatched a delegation to Gaza in a bid to restore calm, even as Hamas was threatening to escalate the situation while blaming Jerusalem for failing to abide by the terms of the truce agreement. Whereas Hamas is demanding a total end to the blockade on Gaza, Israel has reportedly offered to ease restrictions on the flow of goods into the enclave – including tens of millions of dollars in Qatari cash – and green-lighted additional development projects there.

**PA DOUBLES PAY-FOR-SLAY SALARY TO MURDERER OF 3 ISRAELI TEENAGERS:** The Palestinian Authority has doubled the monthly payment being made to the terrorist mastermind behind the 2014 kidnapping and murder of Gilad Shaar, Eyal Yifrach and Naftali Frenkel, according to Palestinian Media Watch. Beginning 11 July 2019 five years after the 11 July 2014 arrest of Husam Al-Qawasmi, he will be receiving NIS 4,000 instead of NIS 2,000 a month, according to the PA’s standard pay scale. A prisoner’s monthly salary increases with prison time served. “The PA pays millions of shekels to terrorists every day.

For the PA it doesn't matter whether you belong to Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad or Fatah; whether you murdered children, women or the elderly. What is important is that you were involved in terrorism against Israel and Israelis." The PA has long had a "Pay-for-Slay" policy, by which it pays monthly salaries to terrorist prisoners and the families of terrorists who were killed in the act or upon arrest. In Feb. 2019 Israel implemented the "Pay-for-Slay" Law that instructs the state to deduct and freeze the amount of money the PA pays in salaries to imprisoned terrorists and families of "martyrs" from the tax money it collects for the authority. The law was passed last July and was approved for implementation by Israel's security cabinet this year. In 2019, the cabinet is withholding approximately \$138 million. Nonetheless, the PA has continued to pay these prisoners. The PA also pays monthly allowances to the families of two dead terrorists, Marwan Al-Qawasmī and Amer Abu Aisheh, who were likewise involved in the kidnapping and murder of the three boys. They were killed in an exchange of fire with Israeli security forces when they resisted arrest.

**WHY DO DONORS TOLERATE THIS?** USA special envoy to the Middle East Jason Greenblatt slammed the PA's increase in funding to terrorists from 2018 to 2019 in a thread of tweets last week. "Again & again & again the PA ignores the countries that graciously donate assistance for the Palestinians by INCREASING its funding of its DESPICABLE 'Pay to Slay' program BY OVER 11% in the first months of 2019," Greenblatt tweeted. "Why do the donor countries tolerate this?" Sharing a document of the PA's spending for 2019, he asked: "Will donor countries continue to ignore the PA using their budget support to continue their REPREHENSIBLE 'Pay to Slay' incentive to MURDERERS?" Greenblatt decried the amount of money being spent on this. "What government prioritizes terrorists over police?" he asked. "The PA increased pay to murderers by over 11% at the same time as they slash pay to their government workers and police. More harm to Palestinians & to peace! While the PA increased its payment to convicted terrorists, the authority stopped payments to medical care for cancer patients", Greenblatt said.

**ABBAS ADVISER PRAISES NAZI COLLABORATOR AS 'ROLE MODEL':** Known Nazi collaborator, the former Grand Mufti of Jerusalem Haj Amin Al-Husseini, was openly honored by Abbas' Advisor on Religious Affairs, Mahmoud Al-Habbash. During World War II Al-Husseini moved to Berlin, where he was an associate of Hitler and gave active support to the Nazi war effort. Al-Husseini was on Yugoslavia's list of wanted war criminals and was responsible for a Muslim SS division that murdered thousands of Serbs and Croats. When the Nazis offered to free some Jewish children, Al-Husseini fought against their release, and as a result, 5000 children were sent to the gas chambers. On the anniversary of his death, Abbas' advisor posted Al-Husseini's photo and praised him as a "role model". But Al-Habbash's praise is not an isolated example. The PA has named at least one school after the Nazi collaborator - the Amin Al-Husseini Elementary School in El-Bireh. The current PA Mufti has honored his predecessor by laying a wreath on his grave, and PA security forces have highlighted Al-Husseini on Facebook.

**JORDAN BUCKLING UNDER PRESSURE OF GROWING REFUGEE CRISIS:** "Jordan is in the middle of three wars: Syria, Iraq, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the refugee crisis has made Jordan very crowded," Burhan Arab, a Middle East historian who lives in central Amman, told media sources. "Jordan is very strategically important for the USA in the Middle East and this demographic explosion is a major problem for Jordan and the entire region." An overwhelming majority of these refugees, 81.4% are concentrated in urban centers such as Amman. Jordan has the second-highest refugee population in the world relative to its native population, with 89 refugees per 1,000 inhabitants and nearly 30% of Jordan's total population is foreign-born. There are currently 753,376 registered refugees in Jordan, with over 662,569 Syrians, or nearly 10% of Jordan's population, who fled from Assad's indiscriminate repression. The government estimates the number is much higher at close to 2 million.

**FIRST THE SATURDAY, THEN THE SUNDAY PEOPLE, THIRD THE SECULARIZED WEST:** "On Saturday we kill the Jews, on Sunday we kill the Christians", or with greater tact, "first the Saturday people, then the Sunday people", is not just a slogan. It deals with a precise program of religious

cleansing, pronounced by Islamist leaders and promulgated by Jihadists. Today, almost all the “people of Saturday” have disappeared from the countries that were their home for centuries, even millennia. And now the Christians - the Sunday people - are paying a terrible price for their faith. Their millennial history has become an immense requiem. Last week Marcelle Haroun, mother of the current president of Cairo’s Jewish community Magda Haroun, died at the age of 93. Her death leaves five Jews known to be living in the Egyptian capital. Say it again: 5. There are hundreds of abandoned Jewish sites in Morocco (460), Iraq (352), Algeria (320), Yemen (301), Tunisia (231) and Syria (63). When these Jews left for Israel, the West didn't care. When the Christians left for the West, the West didn't care, again.

“In February 2014, I met the head of the Jewish community in Egypt, Magda Haroun”, Samuel Tadros wrote in the New York Times. “Today, she told me, there are 15 Jews left in the country, out of a population that once stood at nearly 100,000. Haroun said she was afraid the Copts would soon follow. I had left the country myself in 2009 - and so have hundreds of thousands of Copts. She was right! And here comes the third part of the slogan: “First the Saturday people, second the Sunday people, third the secularized West”. Hitting the Copts is also a signal for Europe: what happens in Egypt is what will also happen to the West”. And here comes the fourth part of the slogan: “First the Saturday people, second the Sunday people, third the secularized West but it doesn't care”. The same evil ideology which purged the Middle East of its Jews and Christians is now at work in Europe. Salafists, Muslim Brotherhood, foreign Islamist regimes are working hard to Islamize the Old Continent. And if the situation does not change, they will succeed.

**MOSSAD LED IAEA TO RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL AT IRAN SITE, PROVING IT BROKE DEAL – REPORT:** The IAEA has found signs of radioactive material which would violate the 2015 nuclear deal at an Iranian nuclear site identified to the agency by Israeli intelligence. Israeli sources revealed that the IAEA is sitting on the information and has avoided making it public to date. In April 2019 Reuters disclosed that the IAEA had finally visited the secret Iranian nuclear site at Turqzabad revealed in a September 2018 UN speech by PM Benjamin Netanyahu. Since then, all parties to the USA-Iran nuclear standoff have been waiting for the IAEA’s June 2019 announcement of its findings. During that visit, the IAEA took samples from the site and it had been expected to announce the results of the samples last month, but then did not mention the issue. Rather, the IAEA and other parties more recently have been distracted by Iran's open violations of uranium enrichment limits. Some expectations had been that the IAEA had waited so long to review the site noted by Netanyahu that, by the time it came, Iran had likely already “cleaned” the site of any evidence of nuclear activity which would violate the 2015 nuclear deal. But there have been instances in the past where the Islamic republic’s cleaning crew was not careful enough and left behind traces which inspectors picked up on. When the IAEA found evidence of a violation, some believed the whole game could change, with the USA gaining a huge advantage to get global pressure for Iran to make more concessions on the nuclear issue. However, in the current environment of escalations by both sides and open violations from Iran, it is unclear whether the IAEA will reveal the results of its visit and what impact those results would even have under the dynamic circumstances. Netanyahu revealed the Turqzabad site following a prior revelation in April 2018 of a Mossad operation which appropriated massive amounts of Iran's secret nuclear file from a site at Shirobad.

**IRANIAN ARMED BOATS TRY TO SEIZE BRITISH TANKER:** Five armed Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps boats failed in an attempt to capture a British oil tanker in the Persian Gulf on Wed. 10 July 2019. The British tanker was crossing into the Strait of Hormuz when the Iranian boats approached. The Iranian ships told the British Heritage tanker that it should change its course and stop in Iranian territorial waters. A USA aircraft overheard and recorded the incident. The UK's Royal Navy frigate HMS Montrose had been escorting the tanker. When given orders by the Iranian ships, the Navy frigate pointed its guns on the Iranians and warned them to back away. The Iranian ships backed away in response to the verbal warning. Britain seized an Iranian oil tanker off Gibraltar last week over accusations it was

breaking sanctions by taking oil to Syria. Iran's armed forces chief of staff, Major General Mohammad Bagheri said the aggression would not go “unanswered.” (J. Post)

**NUCLEAR MONITOR CONFIRMS IRAN EXCEEDING URANIUM ENRICHMENT CAP:** The international agency that monitors Iran’s compliance with the Obama-era nuclear deal confirmed Mon. 8 July 2019 that Tehran has exceeded the agreement’s uranium enrichment level. “Director General Yukiya Amano has informed the IAEA Board of Governors that Agency inspectors on 8 July verified that Iran is enriching uranium above 3.67% U-235,” the International Atomic Energy Agency said in a statement. Earlier Monday, the spokesman for Iran’s atomic energy agency told the semi-official ISNA news agency his country has “surpassed the 4.5%” enrichment level. The confirmation also follows Iran’s announcement the previous day that it was moving forward with increasing its uranium enrichment, as it had threatened to do. The move is Tehran’s second major breach within recent weeks of the 2015 nuclear agreement, which placed limits on Iran’s nuclear program in exchange for sanctions relief. The EU on Tues. 9 July 2019 urged Iran to reverse its scaled-up uranium enrichment.

**ARCHAEOLOGISTS FIND TOWN WHERE FUTURE KING DAVID TOOK REFUGE FROM SAUL:** In a finding sure to inflame the debate about the historicity of the biblical King David, an international team of archaeologists claims to have identified the lost city of Ziklag. Based on artifacts and carbon 14 dating results of excavations since 2015, scholars proposed this week that the archaeological site of Khirbet a-Ra’i in the Judaeen foothills is the site of the elusive Philistine town. According to a joint press release from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the Israel Antiquities Authority, archaeologists discovered remains of a Philistine settlement from the 12-11th centuries BC that was followed by a rural settlement dating to the early 10th century BC, which is in keeping with the biblical account. Carbon 14 dating supports the archaeologists’ timeline and identification, according to the press release.

**SCHOLARS SAY PHILISTINE GENES HELP SOLVE BIBLICAL MYSTERY:** Goliath the Greek? Human remains from an ancient cemetery in southern Israel have yielded precious bits of DNA that a new study says help prove the European origin of the Philistines — the enigmatic nemeses of the biblical Israelites. The Philistines mostly resided in five cities along the southern coast of what is today Israel and the Gaza Strip during the early Iron Age, around 3,000 years ago. In the Bible, David fought and killed the Philistine giant Goliath, and Samson slew a thousand of their warriors with the jawbone of an ass. Many archaeologists have proposed they migrated to the coast of the ancient Near East during a period of upheaval at the end of the Late Bronze Age, around 1200 BC.

**JERUSALEM PLEASED WITH GREECE’S CHOICE OF NEW PRIME MINISTER:** Satisfaction was evident in Jerusalem this week when results of the Greek election became known. The candidate considered a long-time friend of Israel has emerged victorious in the country's elections, winning almost 40% of the vote. The New Democracy party and its leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis expect to receive some 158 seats in the 300-member parliament, a comfortable governing majority. The prime minister-elect recently visited Jerusalem, meeting with PM Netanyahu and speaking publicly about his commitment to strengthening relations between the countries. The extremist right-wing Golden Dawn, Greece's third largest party during the height of a financial crisis, failed to make the 3% threshold to enter parliament. Mitsotakis is the son of Konstantinos Mitsotakis who led the Greek government in the early 1990s and is credited with upgrading Greek Israeli relations. Greece was the last European country to establish full diplomatic ties with Israel but its commitment to the Arab cause, which was a major part of its Middle East policy, has now changed. Mitsotakis will assume office in place of his far-left predecessor Alexis Tsipras who proved to be a valuable ally to Israel as well.

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