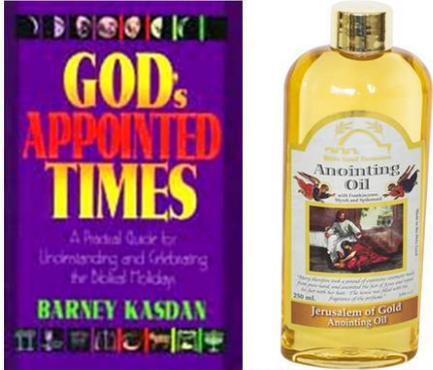


# ***Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update November 14, 2019 (16<sup>th</sup> Cheshvan, 5780)***

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The image shows two items: on the left, a book with a purple cover titled "GOD'S APPOINTED TIMES" by Barney Kasdan, described as "A Practical Guide for Understanding and Celebrating the Biblical Holidays"; on the right, a glass bottle of "Anointing Oil" with a label that includes "Jerusalem of Gold Anointing Oil".

## ***For the Yachad Report Newsletter For November 2019***

**ISRAEL IN THE MIDST OF MILITARY CRISIS:** Dear JNN readers, Israel is in the midst of a military crisis as of Tues. 12 Nov. 2019. We are alerting you for your prayers on the nation's behalf. The facts and the dangerous military situations are covered in the news briefs below with a list of prayer points at the end of this emergency update. Thank you for your intercession and support.

**ISRAEL SHUTS DOWN: SCHOOLS CLOSED, TRAINS AT A HALT AMID GAZA ESCALATIONS:** Israel came under heavy rocket fire Tues. morning 12 Nov. 2019 after the Air Force bombed a building in the Gaza Strip in a targeted strike which killed Palestinian Islamic Jihad Leader Bahaa Abu Al-Ata. Schools were closed in the South and the central Gush Dan region due to the sensitive security situation. Three Israelis were reported injured as a result of the rocket attacks, including two suffering from shock, and a third injured while running to a bomb shelter. A home in southern Israel was struck by a rocket, which scored a direct hit on the building. Sirens were heard as far north as Tel Aviv, where Iron Dome interceptor missiles were spotted overhead. This is the first time since Operation Protective Edge in 2014 that the country is on such high alert. Officials have announced special security advisories for southern and central Israel. All non-essential work has been canceled.

The Health Ministry opened an emergency situation room and is working with emergency services, including the Home Front Command, the IDF and Magen David Adom. Additionally, the ministry announced that all health institutions are prepared for a potential influx of patients. The Home Front Command released directives for the communities surrounding the Gaza Strip and the Dan and Shfela region of central Israel. Train service between Ashkelon and Beersheba and at the Sderot, Netivot and Ofakim stations has been shut down, and all public events in the South were ordered canceled. Israel's Ben-Gurion International Airport, however, said that despite the ongoing rocket attacks, the airport will be "working as usual with no changes to the flight schedule." The military says that it expects a strong response from the PIJ following the strike, including rocket fire towards central Israel, and has urged residents of southern Israel to stay close to bomb shelters. The Prime Minister's Office confirmed that Israel was responsible for the airstrike which killed al-

Ata, who is described as a “senior Islamic Jihad commander” who master-minded “numerous terrorist attacks and rocket attacks against the State of Israel in recent months and who intended to immediately carry out further attacks.”

**‘WE’LL HIT THE ZIONIST ENEMY UNTIL THEY BEG FOR MERCY’:** The Islamic Jihad terror group has threatened to expand the range of rockets fired at Israel to include Jerusalem, according to Israeli media sources. The terror group said it would increase the number of rockets fired towards Tel Aviv, and include Jerusalem in the list of targets. Abu Al Ata was eliminated by IDF and Shabak (Israel Security Agency) forces at 4:00 a.m. Tues. 12 Nov. 2019. He was a key terrorist. A senior Islamic Jihad source said that "messages were sent from Cairo to the organization's Director-General Ziad Nakhla regarding an immediate ceasefire on the basis of 'quiet for quiet.' These messages were rejected. We do not take orders from Cairo. We are ready for a long and painful battle. We will hit the Zionist enemy until they beg for a ceasefire. The gates to hell have been opened." According to the source, all senior Islamic Jihad officials in Gaza, Syria, and other countries have received orders to enter their underground hiding places due to concerns of targeted eliminations. Islamic Jihad spokesperson Daoud Shihaab said "It is too early to discuss negotiations since the blood of the martyrs is not yet dry and we cannot return to our daily routines. The factions will not allow Netanyahu to use this crime to serve his political purposes." Hamas, the terror group which governs Gaza and a rival of the Islamic Jihad terror group, also threatened to join the fire. "The Zionist enemy carries all responsibility for what happens and for all the results of the escalation," a Hamas spokesperson said. "The jihad and opposition process will continue and escalate, and the crime of elimination will not remain unpunished."

**KOCHAVI: IDF IS READY ON THE GROUND, IN THE AIR AND AT SEA:** Israel will target anyone who tries to attack the State of Israel, PM Benjamin Netanyahu threatened on Tues. 12 Nov. 2019, hours after the IDF assassinated a top Islamic Jihad commander Baha Abu Al-Ata in the Gaza Strip and as dozens of rockets were being fired across the country. Netanyahu was joined at the press conference by IDF Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Aviv Kochavi and Shin Bet (Israel Security Agency) chief Nadav Argaman. "Terrorists think they can hit civilians and hide behind civilians," the prime minister said. "We showed that we can hit the terrorist with minimal damage to civilians. Anyone who thinks they can hit our civilians and get away with it is wrong. If you hit us we will hit you." Kochavi said that Al-Ata was the person who tried to undermine Israel's efforts to reach a ceasefire with Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

**EU: GAZA ROCKET ATTACKS ARE ‘TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE’:** The European Union ambassador to Israel, Emanuele Giaufret, condemned the barrage of rocket fire on Israel from the Gaza Strip on Tues. 12 Nov. 2019 and called for a rapid “de-escalation” between Israel and the Hamas-ruled coastal enclave. “Extremely concerned about evolving security situation, with multiple rockets launched this morning. A rapid de-escalation is needed, indiscriminate rocket fire is unacceptable. Need to protect all civilians,” tweeted Giaufret. The EU later released a statement condemning the rocket attacks, and calling for an end to the continuing cycles of violence. “This morning, Israel conducted an operation inside Gaza targeting a senior leader of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad. In response, rockets were fired from Gaza on southern and central Israel. The firing of rockets on civilian populations is totally unacceptable and must immediately stop. A rapid and complete de-escalation is now necessary to safeguard the lives and security of Palestinian and Israeli civilians. The European Union fully supports the efforts of Egypt in this regard. As the EU has consistently reiterated, only a political solution can put an end to these continuing cycles of violence." Meanwhile, the USA Embassy in Israel on Tuesday said that it is "asking American citizens to stay vigilant and take all measures needed to increase security awareness"

**IDF TANKS ATTACK ISLAMIC JIHAD TARGETS IN GAZA:** Israeli tanks attacked three Islamic Jihad military posts in the Gaza Strip Tues. afternoon 12 Nov. 2019. The Israeli Air Force has also bombed numerous Islamic Jihad targets in Gaza in response to the firing of dozens of rockets by the terrorist

organization. "IDF fighter jets and aircraft recently struck a number of PIJ terror targets in the Gaza Strip. Among the sites struck were a training compound and underground weapons manufacturing and storage sites," the IDF announced Tuesday in a statement. "The IDF views the continued rocket fire from the Gaza Strip at Israel and its civilians severely and is prepared to continue defending Israeli civilians, and to operate as necessary." The IDF has called up hundreds of reservists in light of the security situation in the south. Earlier, the IDF claimed that two terrorists linked to the launching of rockets at Israel had been eliminated in a strike. Arab media outlets claimed Israeli forces also struck other terror targets inside Gaza, including Hamas' internal security headquarters in Gaza City. IDF spokesman late Tues. afternoon said that IDF warplanes attacked several Islamic Jihad terrorist targets in the Gaza Strip. Among the terror targets hit were training complexes including for Islamic Jihad's naval force, a terror tunnel in the northern Gaza Strip and an excavation site for a terror tunnel in the central Gaza Strip.

**IRAN ANNOUNCES LATEST BREACH OF NUCLEAR DEAL:** Iran on Mon. 4 Nov. 2019 announced that it is doubling the number of advanced centrifuges it operates, calling the decision a direct result of President Donald Trump's withdrawal from the nuclear agreement. Tehran's nuclear chief says its domestically made centrifuge is 50 times faster than those allowed under the 2015 accord. Tehran has gone from producing some 450 grams (1 pound) of low-enriched uranium a day to 5 kilograms (11 pounds), said Ali Akbar Salehi, the head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran. The disclosures came as demonstrators across the country marked the 40th anniversary of the 1979 USA Embassy takeover that started a 444-day hostage crisis. Demonstrators at rallies across Iran cried: "Death to America!" and "Death to Israel!" Lawmakers in parliament echoed those cries after approving the outline of a bill that would include anti-American teachings in school textbooks. Others at protests burned USA flag replicas and waved signs mocking Trump and America. Iranian President Hassan Rouhani will announce further steps away from the accord sometime soon, government spokesman Ali Rabiei separately said Monday, suggesting Salehi's comments could be followed by additional violations of the nuclear deal.

**WHAT AWAITS ISRAEL IN THE COMING WAR WITH IRAN?** On Sunday 3 Nov. 2019 the Israeli Security Cabinet convened for the third time in one month to discuss Israel's increasingly complicated security situation. Prior to the meeting of the Security Cabinet, PM Netanyahu warned that Israel is "in a very sensitive and volatile security period on several fronts – north, east and south." After the meeting media sources reported that the ministers were in consensus that the Israeli military should concentrate on the threat coming from the north but would not ignore attacks coming from Gaza. The most dangerous foe Israel is facing is Iran concluded the security cabinet and Israel should prepare for a multi-front conflict with Iran and its various proxies in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Yemen, and Gaza. In a recent article for The Atlantic, former Israeli ambassador to the United States, Michael Oren said that the Israeli military in the north has been "placed on war footing" as a result of the increasing Iranian threat, something which is, in particular, visible in the skies above northern Israel where IAF warplanes are constantly holding drills for more than one month now. "Israel is girding for the worst and acting on the assumption that fighting could break out at any time," according to Michael Oren. The former Israeli diplomat then painted a very chilling picture of what Israel could expect when the long-anticipated war with Iran becomes a fact.

The Israeli military would have to cope with 4,000 incoming missiles and rockets daily during such a conflict and all of Israel would come under fire. Many of these missiles would be aimed at vital military and civil infrastructure such as the Kiryah, the IDF's headquarters in central Tel Aviv, Ben Gurion International Airport, Israel's ports, electrical grids and possibly the Dimona nuclear reactor as Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah has indicated. Hundreds of thousands of Israeli citizens could be evacuated from the north to other parts of Israel and the tourist industry would effectively be shut down during the war as well as many companies. Long-range ballistic missiles with large payloads would be launched at Israel from Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon while Hamas would lob their rocket arsenal on southern Israel. The whole scenario is not far-fetched according to Oren who says that the members of the Security Cabinet have been contemplating

precisely this scenario repeatedly. The ministers reportedly prefer to confront Iran now “than in five years, after Iran has completed its Middle East conquests encircled Israel, and acquired nuclear bombs,” according to Oren. Another factor that may influence the decision making in the Security Cabinet is the fact that Israel is currently working with most pro-Israel USA Administration ever and the USA is expected to help Israel with its air defenses. The Americans have already stationed the state-of-the-art X-band radar system in Israel and recently deployed the THAAD anti-missile system temporarily in Israel.

**FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER, LIBERMAN, SAYS ISRAEL IS IN AN EMERGENCY SECURITY SITUATION:** Israel has been campaigning to prevent Iran and its proxies like the Lebanon-based Hezbollah terrorist organization from obtaining advanced weapons to use against the Jewish state and from embedding itself in Syria. IDF Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Aviv Kochavi and PM Netanyahu have warned in recent days of the increased threat posed by the Islamic Republic which they say is getting bolder and more willing to respond to Israeli attacks on Iranian and Iranian-backed terrorists and infrastructure. The threat is being addressed as critical and a series of adjustments have been made to IAF air defense systems in light of the fear that Iran might try to carry out an attack using cruise missiles or suicide drones similar to the Oct. 2019 attack against Saudi Arabia. Former defense minister and Yisrael Beiteinu chairman Avigdor Liberman, days ago, warned that Israel is in an emergency situation amid heightened tensions and a general threat of attack by Iran. “When IAF Commander Maj.-Gen. Amikam Norkin warns that the challenge of aerial defense is becoming more complex and the threat of missiles and rockets is now being joined by drones and cruise missiles and when the IDF is deploying David's Sling and Arrow defense systems, it means we are in an emergency situation,” he wrote on his Facebook page. “The challenge of air defense has become more complicated. Even as we speak, Arrow, Patriot, David’s Sling and Iron Dome batteries are on alert.”

**WOLF, CORBYN, TELLS UK JEWISH LAMBS, “THEY HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM ME”:** Labour UK chairman Jeremy Corbyn took control of the Labour Party in 2015. He has faced ongoing accusations of anti-Semitism, both over his history of hostility towards Israel and support for anti-Israel terrorist groups, as well as the rise in anti-Jewish rhetoric within the party. Critics, including the Labour Party’s Jewish Labour Movement, have accused Corbyn of suppressing investigations into Labour members accused of anti-Semitism. A 2018 poll found that nearly 86% of British Jews believe the Labour leader is anti-Semitic, compared to just 8.3% who believe he is not. In spite of all the evidence to the contrary Corbyn tried to reassure Jewish voters in Britain earlier this week that they have nothing to fear from a possible Labour government. He said British Jews have no reason to fear his possible election as Prime Minister in next month’s general election. “Anti-Semitism and racism is an evil within our society,” said Corbyn. “We want this country to be safe for all people. An attack on a synagogue, an attack on a mosque, an attack on a church – an attack on a person walking down the street because they’re perceived to be different from the rest of us – we simply can’t tolerate it.” The hypocrisy of Corbyn’s words is deafening. Two weeks ago, a Survation poll conducted for The Jewish Chronicle found that merely 7% of British Jews would even consider voting for Labour in this December’s general election. Even worse, British Jews will leave the UK en masse if Jeremy Corbyn is elected Prime Minister next month, a senior Conservative Party member warned last weekend. James Cleverly, chairman of the Conservative Party’s delegation in Parliament, said that many British Jews would flee the country if Corbyn “got anywhere near the levers of power.”

**ANTI-SEMITIC HATE CRIMES IN SWEDEN RISE BY 53% TO ALL-TIME HIGH:** The number of anti-Semitic hate crimes recorded in Sweden rose to a record high last year, jumping 53% over the 2016 figures, government statistics show. The 2018 report, which the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention published last week, listed 280 anti-Semitic hate crimes that year compared to 182 in 2016. The latest numbers are the highest on record since at least 2006 when the Council began collecting aggregated data. Overall, the number of hate crimes with a racist motive rose by 69% over 2016 in Sweden to 4,865 cases last year, the report stated. The council decided not to publish hate crime figures for 2017 without explaining the decision. In one attack from 2017, the Jewish assembly synagogue in Gothenburg was firebombed by

approximately 10 men protesting Israel's policies. Anti-Semitic motives represented the largest increase from 2016 in hate crimes and were the largest hike in anti-Semitic crimes on record, the report said. Anti-Semitic attacks accounted for 4% of all hate crimes in 2018. The Jewish population of 20,000 comprises approximately 0.2% of Sweden's population.



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