

Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update May 14, 2020 (20th Lyar, 5780)

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The image shows two items side-by-side. On the left is a book with a purple cover titled 'GOD'S APPOINTED TIMES' by Barney Kasdan. The cover also mentions 'A Practical Guide for Understanding and Celebrating the Biblical Holidays'. On the right is a glass bottle of 'Anointing Oil' with a white label that includes the text 'Jerusalem of Gold Anointing Oil'.

[For the Yachad Report Newsletter For May 2020](#)

Israelis Joyfully Visit Malls and Markets; Newspaper headlines across Israel on Thur. morning 7 May 2020 portrayed what looked like the grand opening of an array of festivals. Malls, outdoor markets, and gyms reopened that morning after six weeks of closure, as Israel's numbers of daily new cases of the novel coronavirus remained in the low dozens. In Jerusalem, patrons lined up early outside Jerusalem's landmark Mahane Yehuda market, where guards checked their temperature before allowing them to enter and made sure the market was not overcrowded. "This is a day of celebration for Mahane Yehuda," said Tali Friedman, a union representative for the shop owners. "The market is open and we hope it remains open." Pini Tzidkiyahu, who runs a fruit store in the market, told Army Radio: "We will protect the public's health. The fruit is only in boxes, everyone is wearing gloves and everyone who needs a mask gets one."

In Tel Aviv, the Carmel and Levinsky markets also reopened Thur. morning, along with several other open-air markets in Haifa and Beersheba. Malls and outdoor markets have been shut since mid-March 2020 as part of a series of sweeping measures put in place by Israel to attempt to contain the virus, though they came at the expense of hundreds of thousands of jobs. Shopping malls and markets will face various restrictions, including limiting the number of shoppers allowed to enter shops to one person for every 20 square meters and working to ensure a distance of two meters between customers. They will also be required to put up signs listing the maximum number of people allowed on the premises.

Israelis do Well Combating Disasters: They've Had Practice; This year, the Jewish nation has mourned the loss of every life snuffed out by coronavirus, but compared to other Western democracies with advanced economies and health systems, Israel has a lot to be thankful for regarding the number of deaths. One reason involves the mentality of Israelis and the unique culture that exists in this country: Israelis are people used to states of emergency, unlike any other Western democracy. Tell Israelis to enter bomb shelters, they know how to. Tell them to stop their car on the side of the road when an air raid siren goes off and to duck into a ditch, they can do it. Tell them to keep their eyes open on buses, to report suspicious bags on street corners, or to just be hyper-vigilant, Israelis come through.

Israeli Masks with Anti-Pathogen Fabric Enter USA Market; The Israeli startup Sonovia which sped up efforts to manufacture masks using its anti-pathogen fabric at the start of the coronavirus crisis in Israel, has now become a commercial business ready to launch sales. Israeli masks designed with unique anti-pathogen fabric have now entered the USA market. The company's technology is based on a lab-scale sonochemical process that was developed at Bar-Ilan University. Sonovia started manufacturing its product in March 2020 at a plant near Nahariya when Israel had only 200 patients and has sold 30,000 masks. Sonovia uses lower-cost, metal-oxide nanoparticles, to impart antibacterial protection. The research found the one-step process to be effective. Ultrasonic irradiation causes the formation of antimicrobial metal-oxide nanoparticles and actively impregnates them into textile fibers. Moreover, those fabrics impregnated with the zinc and copper oxides were shown to retain significant antibacterial activity even after 100 wash cycles at 75°C.

Trump: a Virus Worse Than Pearl Harbor Attack; USA President Donald Trump, along with other world leaders, continues to ponder and take stock of the damage being done on a global scale as a result of the carelessness of small groups of mankind. For example, who or what circumstances can be blamed for novel coronavirus? Is it those people eating bats, and pangolins from local Chinese wet markets known for their unsanitary conditions, or a disease that spread as a result of an accident in a Chinese badly-tended weapon's laboratory? And this is not the first time a virus has been loosed upon the world from China. The Asian Flu 1956 killed between one and four million people worldwide. In 2002 Sars infected 8,098 and killed 774 in seventeen counties. H7N9 emerged ten years later to strike at least 1,223 people and kill four out of every ten of them. Now, the milder, yet more infectious COVID-19 has sickened some 3.7 million people resulting in thousands of deaths. The assessment from members of the exclusive intelligence-sharing group seems to undermine forceful claims by Trump and Pompeo in recent days, as they have doubled down on the assertion that the outbreak originated from a laboratory in Wuhan, China, rather than a wet market in the same region. Trump has said of the pandemic that it is a worse "attack" on the United States than either Pearl Harbor or 9/11, aiming once again at China, which he says should have stopped the disease in its tracks. "It should have never happened," Trump says of the disease that emerged in the Chinese city of Wuhan last year. "Could have been stopped at the source. This is really the worst attack we've ever had," Trump tells reporters. "This is worse than Pearl Harbor. This is worse than the World Trade Center." The Japanese assault on the Pearl Harbor naval base in Hawaii drew the United States into World War II. The 11 September 2001 jihadist attacks killed about 3,000 people and triggered two decades of war. So far, more than 73,000 Americans have died of COVID-19, and Tom Frieden, former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has predicted the USA toll could top 100,000 by the end of May 2020.

Israel's Danon Calls on UN to Condemn Iran; The USA said two weeks ago that it assessed that Iran had successfully launched a military satellite into orbit for the first time. A year ago, Iran attempted to launch a satellite into space but failed when the satellite failed to reach orbit. It made a similar attempt in Feb. 2020 but was again unsuccessful. USA officials say that Iran's satellite launches defy UN Security Council Resolution 2231. Resolution 2231 cemented Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States and calls on Iran to refrain for eight years from work on ballistic missiles designed to deliver nuclear weapons. Following Iran's launch of its "Noor" satellite last month and continued attempts to transfer advanced weapons across the Middle East, Israeli Ambassador to the UN, Danny Danon, on Friday 8 May 2020 sent a request to the Security Council to discuss and condemn the Iranian actions. Danon noted that Iran's actions violate Security Council Resolution 2231, which was passed as part of the 2015 Iran nuclear deal. "The involvement of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps - a terrorist organization - in Iran's space program exposes the true objective behind it, despite the regime's claims of its 'peaceful' nature," Danon wrote to the council members. According to the Israeli ambassador, "these actions constitute a violation of the arms embargo and a ban on Iranian ballistic activity as determined by the Security Council" and "is additional proof of the Iranian regime's ambitions for regional influence." Danon added that the Iranian regime continues to divert its national resources from dealing with the coronavirus in favor of its terror ambitions and calls on the Security Council to discuss the violations described in its letter and condemn them.

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