

# ***Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update June 17, 2021*** ***(7<sup>th</sup> Tamuz, 5781)***



## ***For the Yachad Report Newsletter For June 2021***

***US-Funded Palestinian NGOs Introduced Children to Convicted Terrorists;*** USAID-funded Palestinian NGOs introduced children to released convicted terrorists, according to an NGO watchdog report released Thursday. The NGOs presented the terrorists as role models while publicly demonstrating “support for terrorists and US-designated terrorist organizations,” whether via social media, statements, events, or protests, the report said. The terrorists were imprisoned for various acts, including shooting attacks, stabbings, arms-smuggling, funding terror organizations, kidnapping and murdering Israeli citizens, a minister, IDF soldiers, and tourists. NGO Monitor worked off public information that was readily available to USAID while it vetted secondary-grantees to implement the US-funded projects in the Palestinian territories.

***UNRWA Finds Tunnel Under One of its Gaza Schools;*** A tunnel used by Palestinian militants in Gaza was discovered under one of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency schools last month. UNRWA said that the tunnel was not connected to the school. There is no “indication of the existence of any entry or exit points for the tunnel within the premises,” it added. The UNRWA Zaitoun Preparatory Boys’ School “A” and Elementary Boys’ School “A” was one of two of the organization’s facilities damaged during the 11-day Gaza war that ended on May 21. At the end of May, UNRWA found what “appears to be a cavity and a possible tunnel, at the location of the missile strike,” the organization reported over the weekend. “The depth of the cavity is approximately 7.5 meters below the surface of the school. UNRWA discovered the existence of a possible tunnel in the context of the investigation of the fired missile,” it explained in a statement to the media.

***Boko Haram Leader is Dead, Rival Jihadists Confirm;*** Boko Haram’s leader Abubakar Shekau killed himself in a fight against rival jihadist fighters from the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) according to audio AFP obtained from the group Sunday, two weeks after reports emerged that he had died. “Shekau preferred to be humiliated in the hereafter to getting humiliated on Earth. He killed himself instantly by detonating an explosive,” a voice speaking in the Kanuri language resembling that of ISWAP leader Abu Musab Al-Barnawi said. Boko Haram has not yet officially commented on the death of their leader, who waged a more than decade-long insurgency in northeast Nigeria, while the Nigerian army said it was investigating the claim.

***Iranian Cleric Who Founded Hezbollah Dies;*** An Iranian cleric who helped found Hezbollah as Iran's ambassador to Syria has died at 74. Ali Akbar Mohtashamipour died of the coronavirus, reported the Associated Press. Mohtashamipour was reportedly a close confidant of Iran's late Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. In the 1970s, he made inroads with terrorist groups across the Middle East. After Iran's Islamic Revolution, Mohtashamipour was one of the founders of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps. Later, as ambassador to Syria, he brought in the Revolutionary Guard to help with the formation of Hezbollah.

***N. Korea Accuses Israel of Genocide, 'Massacring Children';*** North Korea accused Israel of genocide, crimes against humanity, and targeting children during Operation Guardian of the Walls last month. Israel has an "extreme misanthropic spirit and ambition for territorial expansion," and is engaged in "state-sponsored terrorism and [the] act of obliterating other nations," the Foreign Ministry in Pyongyang said in a statement released on Friday. "It is no exaggeration to say that the whole Gaza Strip has turned into a huge human slaughterhouse and a place of massacring children," the statement reads. North Korea said Israel's alleged actions are a crime against humanity that challenges the future of humankind.

***Israel Becomes First Country to Ban Sale of Fur to Fashion Industry;*** Israel has banned the sale of fur to the fashion industry on Wednesday, becoming the first country in the world to do so. "The fur industry causes the deaths of hundreds of millions of animals worldwide, and inflicts indescribable cruelty and suffering," Environmental Protection Minister Gila Gamliel said in a statement after signing the amendment, which goes into effect in six months. "Using the skin and fur of wildlife for the fashion industry is immoral and is certainly unnecessary. Animal fur coats cannot cover the brutal murder industry that makes them. Signing these regulations will make the Israeli fashion market more environmentally friendly and far kinder to animals." The decision was welcomed by the animal rights NGO Animals Now, who praised it as a "historic milestone" that will "save countless animals from the hell of the fur industry."

***1,000-Year-Old Chicken Egg, One of the Oldest Ever, Found in Israel;*** A complete chicken egg dating back 1,000 years has been unearthed in Yavne, a town in central Israel, the Antiquities Authority announced on Wednesday. "This is a very rare find, in Israel and the world," said Dr. Lee Perry Gal of the IAA, a leading expert on poultry in the ancient world. "Eggshell fragments are always interesting to find in excavations, but they are relatively common. A complete egg is really unique." Eggshell fragments from earlier periods were found in the City of David in Jerusalem and at Caesarea and Apollonia. The complete egg was unearthed in a vast industrial complex dating to the Byzantine period (4th-7th centuries CE). Within the site, the archaeologists found a cesspit from the Islamic period, and to their surprise, they spotted the unusual object inside.

***Swearing-In of Bennett-Lapid Gov't to Replace Netanyahu Set for Sunday;*** Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu looks set to end his 12 consecutive years in power in five days, as Knesset Speaker Yariv Levin announced Tuesday that a vote would be held on swearing in the new "change government" during a special parliamentary session on Sunday, a day before the deadline set by law. The eight-party "change government" alliance, headed by Prime Minister-designate Naftali Bennett and Yesh Atid leader Yair Lapid, anticipates winning a 61-59 majority vote after wavering Yamina MK Nir Orbach said he would back the new coalition. The timing of the vote means that all coalition agreements must be formally handed to the Knesset and made public by Friday. Therefore, the pro-Netanyahu bloc will have 48 hours — not the 24 hours required by the law, since the Sabbath day of rest isn't counted — to scrutinize the agreements and pressure right-wing MKs to jump ship before the vote of confidence.

***Blinken: Iran Not Close to Returning to 2015 Nuke Compliance;*** WASHINGTON — US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Monday that Iran has not given indications that it's willing to return to

compliance with the 2015 nuclear agreement. In a wide-ranging hearing at the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Blinken said that the sides are “not even at the stage of returning to compliance for compliance” with the 2015 nuclear agreement. “We don’t know if that’s actually going to happen,” Blinken emphasized. “We’ve been engaged in indirect conversations for the last couple of months and it remains unclear whether Iran is willing and prepared to do what it needs to do to come back into compliance.” “What we do know, unfortunately, is that meanwhile, [Iran’s nuclear] program is galloping forward,” he said. “It has lifted restraints imposed on it by the agreement including the amount of enriched material that it has; material that’s now, in some cases, enriched up to 20% and even a small amount to 60%. It has started to deploy some more advanced centrifuges.”

***IAEA Chief: Deeply Concerned Iran Hiding Nuclear Material;*** International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director-General Rafael Grossi on Monday told the organization’s Board of Governors that he is “deeply concerned” that Iran is hiding nuclear material, given its refusal to clarify open issues over an extended period. “After many months, Iran has not provided the necessary explanation for the presence of the nuclear material particles at any of the three locations where the Agency has conducted complementary accesses,” he said. Grossi stated: “In the absence of such an explanation from Iran, I am deeply concerned that nuclear material has been present at the three undeclared locations in Iran and that the current locations of this nuclear material are not known by the Agency.”

***Iran Hopes Russia and China Oppose US Role in Mideast, Central Asia;*** An article in Iranian media looked to a Russian political analyst to understand how Russia might aid Iran in its own ambitions in the region. “The main goal of the United States in the Middle East and Central Asia at the moment is to create problems for strong political and economic partnerships,” the article notes. Iran’s media frequently have long interviews when they try to project their own beliefs through the interviewed expert. This interview should be seen in that light. The goal of the interview was to shed light on how the US was seeking partners in Central Asia, and what Russia, China, and Iran might do about it. The US is leaving Afghanistan so America’s adversaries sense this is the time to unite. “Russia has supported the construction of the Uzbek-Afghanistan-Pakistan railway (Mazar-e-Sharif-Kabul-Peshawar), which is seen as a competitor and alternative to the North-South international transport corridor, in which Iran and Russia also participate,” the article notes.

***Iran: Three Mysterious Explosions Devastate Country’s Infrastructure;*** Another series of suspicious explosions and accidents in Iran have the Islamist regime scratching their heads and asking if they are the victims of their own incompetence, Israeli ingenuity inspired by a Semitic drive for self-preservation, or perhaps the wrath of the God of Israel. On Saturday evening, a large fire broke out in a steel mill in Zarand, Kerman Province leading to a large explosion. A large explosion resulted and though several people were injured, no deaths were reported. This follows a large blaze that broke out in Tehran’s Tondgooyan Refinery on Wednesday. Two liquefied petroleum gas tanks burned for over a day until they were extinguished.

***Abbas Pays \$40,000 to Family of Terrorist Who Murdered Two Israelis;*** The Palestinian Authority on Sunday handed the family of a Palestinian terrorist who murdered two Israelis 30,000 Jordanian dinars (\$42,000). According to Wafa, the PA’s official news agency, the money was provided by PA President Mahmoud Abbas to “complete the payment of the price” of the family’s house that was demolished by the IDF. The PA governor of Ramallah and El-Bireh, Laila Ghannam, handed over the money to the family of Muhannad al-Halabi during a meeting on Sunday. On October 3, 2015, Halabi, 19, attacked the Benita family near Lion’s Gate in Jerusalem’s Old City as they were on their way to the Western Wall to pray. Halabi fatally stabbed Aaron Benita, the father of the family, and wounded the mother, Adele, and their two-year-old son, Matan. Nehemia Lavi, a resident who heard screams and came to help, was also murdered. His gun was taken by the terrorist, who was shot dead by police officers.

***Nasrallah: Any Attack on Jerusalem Means Regional War;*** Hezbollah Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah warned that the terrorist organization is working to reach a new equation in which any attack on Jerusalem will lead to a regional war, during his second speech in two weeks on Tuesday. Nasrallah stated that Hezbollah is in contact with “anyone who is willing to be part of this regional equation,” adding that Yemen was the first result of these efforts after the Houthi terrorist group announced that they would act for “the protection of Jerusalem.” The Hezbollah leader warned on Tuesday that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu may resort to “reckless options,” such as actions in Jerusalem or going after Iran’s nuclear program, due to the formation of the anti-Netanyahu unity government in Israel, adding that “this matter must be followed.”

***Runners Race to the Top of Mt. Hermon in Annual Challenge;*** The annual Hermon Challenge took off on Friday, with 450 runners participating in a race to the top of Mount Hermon. The run boasts of "physical challenge, spectacular scenery, and challenging technical running," wrote Marathon Israel, which led the initiative along with the Hermon Site and the Golan Regional Council. "The vision to hold a race at the Hermon site was born out of a desire to preserve the icons of the State of Israel, which are an integral part of our heritage here in the country," Ofer Padan, the CEO of Marathon Israel explained the race's inspiration. "We decided to make a sports event that appeals to all sports lovers and to connect our values with the values of the place in a respectful and meaningful way for future generations as well," she said.



*Robert I. Solomon: Messianic Rabbi, [rabbisolomon@yachad.com](mailto:rabbisolomon@yachad.com)*

*Jeffery Blalock: Ministries Coordinator, [jeffery@yachad.com](mailto:jeffery@yachad.com)*

*Yachad Ministries, 950 Pine Grove Road, Roswell, Georgia 30075*

*E-mail: [info@yachad.com](mailto:info@yachad.com), Web Page: <https://www.yachad.com/>*

*Phone: 770-641-3000 (ext. 6)*

***Sharing Yeshua in unity with both Jew and Gentile***

*To unsubscribe [click here](#).*