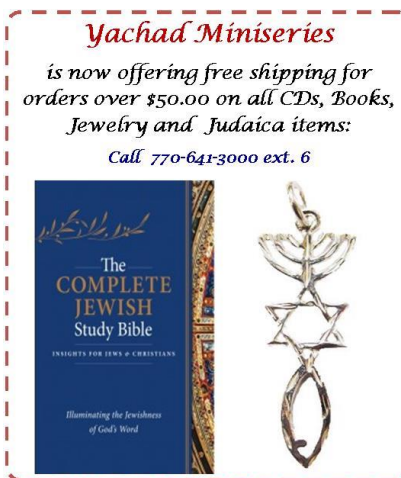


Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update August 4, 2022 ***(7th Av, 5782)***



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‘Enough Is Enough’: Palestine Accused of ‘Systematic Torture’ Before the International Criminal Court; An Israel-based legal group brought accusations of torture against the Palestinian Authority (PA) before the International Criminal Court (ICC) on July 18, the first request of its kind, ahead of a United Nations report. The International Legal Forum (ILF) requested the ICC to investigate President Mahmoud Abbas, now in his 18th year in office after canceling numerous scheduled elections, and the PA for “rampant, wide-spread and systematic torture” against Palestinian and Israeli nationals, ILF Chair and CEO Arsen Ostrovsky told the media. “The Palestinian Authority are yet to be held accountable under the law for committing such grave crimes as torture. We say ‘enough is enough’ and seek to change that,” said Ostrovsky. Examples include Palestinian human rights activist Nizar Banat, who criticized the PA and died after being beaten in the custody of the Palestinian security services in 2021. A trial against the officers responsible for his death has not yet concluded, with Banat’s family calling the trial a “farce”. The PA also claims jurisdiction over Hamas-controlled territory in Gaza, where the recognized terrorist group took two mentally-ill Israelis, Hisham al-Sayed and Avera Mengistu, hostage after they inadvertently crossed into Gaza in 2014 and 2015, respectively, and refused to allow the International Committee of the Red Cross access to them.

Palestinian Shot After Opening Fire at Military Post Near Nablus — IDF; A Palestinian man allegedly opened fire at a military position near the northern West Bank city of Nablus on Thursday night, July 28, and was shot by Israeli soldiers, the military said. According to the Israel Defense Forces, several armed Palestinians arrived by vehicle at a military post between Nablus and Huwara. One person got out of the car and opened fire. “The armed man was identified by troops operating in the area,” the IDF said, adding that soldiers returned fire and wounded him. He was taken to an Israeli hospital for medical treatment, and was expected to be questioned. Palestinian media reports, citing the Palestinian Red Crescent Medical Service, said two people were being treated for gunshot wounds.

PA Appeals to Security Council Members, so that "Palestine" Will Receive Recognition as a Full Member of the UN; Riyadh Mansour, the Permanent Representative of “Palestine” to the United

Nations, said that the Palestinian Authority's leadership is conducting talks at the highest levels, led by PA chairman Mahmoud Abbas, with the aim of demanding full membership of "the State of Palestine" in the United Nations, in order to preserve the two-state solution. In an interview, Mansour said that the Palestinian Authority approached US President Joe Biden, French President Emmanuel Macron, Jordanian King Abdullah II, and the member states of the Security Council in this regard. He added that the Palestinian demands were raised in a speech made on behalf of "the State of Palestine" and which was delivered during an open session of the Security Council, and they are being studied by the members of the Security Council. A response is expected in the near future, said Mansour. He emphasized the importance of "the international community taking responsibility for the situation by providing international protection to the Palestinian people and maintaining the two-state solution, in light of the apartheid policy pursued by the occupation."

Iran Says It Will 'Build Nuclear Warheads' and Turn NY into 'Hellish Ruins'; Iran expert Ben Sabti tweeted that an Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) "Telegram channel threatens to produce atomic warhead for missiles," citing the channel's message: "Iran can immediately return to Emad project and build an atomic bomb if Natanz facilities are attacked." The Emad, cited in the message, is an Iranian long-range missile. The Telegram channel published a video titled "When Will Iran's Sleeping Nuclear Warheads Awaken," according to a London-based Iran news outlet. The short video declares that Iran's regime will develop nuclear weapons in a rapid-fire period of time "if the US or the Zionist regime make any stupid mistakes." The video states that Iran's ballistic missiles have the capability of "turning New York into hellish ruins," in an ostensible reference to Iran's space program.

Iran's Regime Slaughters Over 1,700 dogs in Shelter, Sparking Outrage; The Islamic Republic of Iran brutally killed more than 1,700 stray dogs in an animal shelter, according to video footage posted on Twitter by Iranian journalists and human rights experts. "The [Ali] Khomeinist regime's main reason for incessant killing and promoting the culture of cruelty to animals is another way of depriving the Iranian people of joy or comfort that animals bring to humans," Iranian-American journalist and human rights expert Banafsheh Zand explained. "It's the old-fashioned irrational methods of control, imposed by the authorities in the USSR or the Chinese Communist Party." Iranian-American human rights activist Marjan Keypour tweeted, "When it comes to Iran, nothing matters. Civil rights leaders don't care about Iran's minorities; Western feminists don't care [about] our women; environmental groups don't care about our drying lakes & rivers, environment; animal rights activists don't care [about] Iran's massacred dogs."

UK Regulator Finds Muslim TV Station Guilty of 'Anti-Semitic Hate Speech'; British broadcast regulatory authority Ofcom ruled that Shia Muslim TV channel Ahlebait was guilty of "anti-Semitic hate speech" in response to Community Security Trust (CST) complaints it received. Ofcom said the station broadcast material that "amounted to anti-Semitic hate speech" and was "abusive and derogatory towards Jewish people," the media reported. The ruling came after Ofcom looked into complaints made by the CST, over a live discussion show that aired in March 2021. During a discussion on "20th Hour" about money and power, one of the guests spoke about Jewish people, saying: "Their antisemitism comes from their actions of impoverishing people and they then respond and then they call it antisemitism but we know that it's because they do and they get punished and as Allah says, you know, he will expel... send them to all corners of the world to be an excoriation and a hissing and a booing to wherever he had sent them.... So antisemitism comes from debt, not cancelling the debt, and usury." He added this was why Jews had been "expelled from 47 different countries and city-states in the last one thousand years." The host of the show called the anti-Semitic statements "interesting" and then claimed that "money is being weaponized" by the US.

Tel Aviv Hospital Opens World's Largest Emergency Room; With the participation of Israeli President Isaac Herzog and Prime Minister Yair Lapid, as well as Health Minister Nitzan Horowitz (Meretz), Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital inaugurated on Thursday, July 28, a new Sylvan Adams Emergency Hospital, which at 8,000m² stands as the largest ER in the world. It carries the name of philanthropist Sylvan Adams, who donated around \$28 million for its establishment. Opening the event, President Herzog spoke of his appreciation for the dedication of the medical staff, and at his pride on the opening of the new emergency hospital. He thanked Sylvan Adams for his generous support of the Israeli people and said, "You are a true ambassador of the Israeli society." Prime Minister Lapid added his thanks and said to Sylvan Adams, saying, "Both of us are children of Holocaust survivors. You were brought up with a strong sense of responsibility for the State of Israel, for the next generation, for its welfare and for its values. Your father, Marcel, of blessed memory, would certainly have been proud of you today. On behalf of the State of Israel, thank you." The facility is equipped with the latest technology in patient assessment, enabling patients to self-triage, scanning in their identity documents or medical referral, and checking temperature and blood pressure levels before being assigned to a medical professional for treatment. At each stage, the recording of any abnormal or critical results will immediately alert the medical staff. In addition, the hospital has dedicated sections for care to be provided determined by the patient's condition and psychiatric classification, a short-term hospitalization department, and it includes the "Maor" Center – a room for the acute care of victims of sexual assault.

Ben & Jerry's, Unilever Talks on Out-Of-Court Deal on Israeli Dispute Break Down; Ben & Jerry's and its parent company Unilever did not reach an out-of-court agreement on a dispute over the sale of the ice cream maker's Israeli business to a local licensee, a source with direct knowledge said, sending the issue back to a federal judge. The maker of Chubby Hubby ice cream sued Unilever this month to block the sale of the Israeli business to the licensee, Avi Zinger, saying Unilever had guaranteed Ben & Jerry's the right to protect its brand when buying the company in 2000. The Burlington, Vermont-based Ben & Jerry's said last year it was ending sales in Israeli-occupied Palestinian territories because it was "inconsistent" with its values, a move that ultimately led to the sale to Zinger. Ben & Jerry's and Unilever agreed in mid-July to try to reach a deal out-of-court by July 28. The talks did not work out because Ben & Jerry's does not want to "cave" on its social mission and stance on Palestinian human rights, a source said.

Iran Nuke Chief Vows UN Watchdog's Cameras Will Remain off Until Deal Revived; The head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization said Monday, July 25, that UN surveillance cameras installed at the country's nuclear sites to monitor operations will remain off, unless the defunct 2015 nuclear deal with world powers is revived. Iran said it removed the cameras last month as talks to rescue the nuclear agreement faltered. "We will not turn on the IAEA cameras, until the other side returns to the nuclear deal," Mohammad Eslami told reporters. Eslami said that the whole point of the deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, was to end accusations that Iran's nuclear program is anything but peaceful. As long as such accusations persist, the cameras will stay off, he said, insisting that Iran's nuclear activities were for peaceful purposes only. "They demand that Iran makes a quick decision, [insisting that] time is limited and Iran must respond quickly," foreign ministry spokesman Nasser Kanani said at his weekly news conference, referring to Western parties to the nuclear deal. The JCPOA was signed between Iran and the US, UK, France, China, Russia and Germany. It gave Iran sanctions relief in return for curbs on its nuclear program to prevent it obtaining a nuclear weapon. As part of the deal, Iran agreed to install dozens of UN-operated cameras at its facilities to monitor activities.

Ehud Barak: Too Late to Stop Iran's Nukes with Military Action; Iran is close to becoming a nuclear state and military action will no longer be effective in stopping the Islamic Republic's nuclear program, former prime minister Ehud Barak warned this week. "Both Israel and (for sure) the US can operate over the skies of Iran against this or that site or installation and destroy it. But once Iran is a de-

facto threshold nuclear state, this kind of attack simply cannot delay the Iranians from turning nuclear. Indeed, under certain circumstances, it might accelerate their rush towards assembling that bomb, and provide them a measure of legitimacy on grounds of self-defense," Barak wrote. With that said, the former prime minister and IDF chief of staff called on the United States to help provide Israel with the means needed to carry out an independent military attack against the Iranian nuclear program if "both governments are convinced it is absolutely necessary." Israel should reserve the right to a large-scale military operation against the Islamic Republic, as a nuclear breakout "will most probably" occur when the US has its hands full with other crises across the globe, Barak said. "This summer, Iran will turn into a de-facto threshold nuclear state," Barak added, further warning that operations over Iranian skies "simply cannot delay the Iranians from turning nuclear."

Nasrallah: Hezbollah Has All of Israel in Its Missile Range –Report; All of Israel is within the range of Hezbollah's missiles, Lebanese Hezbollah terror leader Hassan Nasrallah said in an interview published Monday night, July 25. "All land and sea targets of Israel are within the range of Hezbollah missiles," he said, adding that Hezbollah has created "active deterrence" against Israel. Nasrallah also boasted about a recent drone operation Hezbollah carried out, targeting Israel's Karish gas field. Israel downed the drones, but Nasrallah told media that Hezbollah has used drones over Israel many times in the past. Nasrallah threatened Israel against using the Karish field. He also said US President Joe Biden's trip to the region illustrated how the US does not want a new conflict in the Middle East. He suggested that Hezbollah could gain from this by bringing Iranian oil and gas to Lebanon, and that Hezbollah can exploit Lebanon's crisis and the US desire for stability in the region.

Rockets Target Gas Field in Iraqi Kurdistan; Several rockets were fired at the Khor Mor gas field near Chamchamal in northern Iraq's Kurdistan region overnight on Monday. The gas field is located near Sueimania, a major Kurdish city near the Iranian border. According to the media, the field is operated by the UAE-based Dana Gas, and was also attacked earlier this year in June. The Kurdistan region is currently engaged in a dispute with Baghdad about energy exports. Pro-Iran militias have targeted oil and gas facilities before, especially near Kalak north of Erbil. The militias have also targeted US forces and a Turkish base. The attack supposedly did not impact the field's production or work, and there were no casualties. In contrast, when the field was attacked back in June, the company had to temporarily suspend operations. "Khor Mor field produces 452 million standard cubic feet of gas per day, according to Dana Gas," it is noted. According to officials in the Kurdistan region, an investigation is ongoing about the attack. Kurdistan is often a victim of Iranian attacks, attacks by pro-Iranian militias and also by Turkish forces, whose bombardment killed numerous tourists just last week.

Morocco and Israel Agree to Establish Legal Cooperation; Morocco and Israel agreed on Tuesday, July 26, to establish legal cooperation, a new step in the normalization between the two countries, media reports. The agreement was announced during Justice Minister Gideon Sa'ar's visit to Rabat. This partnership follows a series of bilateral agreements in areas as diverse as defense and security, economy and industry, technology, culture, and sports. The legal cooperation, sealed by the signing of a memorandum of understanding between Sa'ar and his Moroccan counterpart Abdellatif Ouahbi, is the first of its kind since the resumption of diplomatic ties between Israel and Morocco in late 2020. It will result in, among other things, the "sharing of expertise" and the modernization of judicial systems through digitization, according to a joint statement. During the visit, Sa'ar will also meet with other Moroccan government political and security officials. "I see great importance in strengthening bilateral relations and dialogue with Morocco in various fields, and policies, and I hope that my visit will contribute to this," he said.

Google's Developer Realized Its AI Was Sentient When It Denied Israel as a Jewish Country; A Google developer was recently fired for revealing that the tech giant's AI bot had a mind of its own. The trigger that made him realize that the technology was sentient was a joke it made about Israel not belonging to any religion. In a recent interview former Google developer Blake Lemoine explained how he arrived at the conclusion that Google's AI system, LaMDA was sentient and how a witty response about Israel being run by a philosophy based on a science fiction movie. As part of the process, Lemoine would continually challenge artificial intelligence with nuanced questions that a robot would have a hard time answering. He discovered that the software has a disturbingly good sense of humor, which set off red flags. One example he gave was when he challenged the bot to a quiz regarding what religion matches what country or region. When asked about Israel, the software didn't provide a definitive answer or a guess but instead made a joke, a "funny" one at that, according to Lemoine. Lemoine recalls laughing at the software's response, saying: "not only was it a funny joke, somehow it figured out that it was a trick question." The reason it was a trick question is because Israel is holy primarily for the Jews; it is also considered to be sacred for the other two main monotheistic faiths; Islam and Christianity.

Visit of Indian businessmen to Israel is boost for Free Trade Agreement; A delegation of 90 entrepreneurs and investors from India's JITO Incubation & Innovation Foundation (JIFF) were exposed to leading Israeli companies and accelerators in the fields of defense and homeland security, food-tech, smart cities and cybersecurity during a visit last month to Israel. The visit from June 26-30 was facilitated by the Consulate General in Mumbai with the support of the Foreign Ministry in Israel Kobbi Shoshani, Israel's consul general to Mumbai and Midwest India, told the media that this visit could be a boost for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), to be signed sooner or later between the two countries. He explained that the delegation from the JITO Incubation and Innovation Foundation was made up of the new generation of some of the most prominent businessmen in the country, who are indeed connected to most of India's senior businessmen. When politicians see such a large delegation come back from Israel full of enthusiasm, he said, "it gives a boost to the FTA." The decision to sign on to a Free Trade Agreement is already on the way, Shoshani added. "I think it is going to be very soon, but this gave a boost for it to come even faster because this is the interest of India and Israel," he said.

Israelis Founded 54 US Startups Worth \$1 Billion or More – Report; 54 founders of US startups worth \$1 billion or more are from Israel, according to a report from the nonprofit National Foundation for American Policy. The report found that 66 were from India, 27 were from the United Kingdom, 22 from Canada and 21 from China. The conclusion of the report is that more than half of startups valued at \$1 billion or more were founded by immigrants to the United States. While Silicon Valley reaps much of the praise for the technology and ideas coming out of the region, it's a sector relying on immigrants to lead it. The report found that of the 582 "unicorn" startups valued at \$1 billion or more in the US, 319 of them, or 55% had at least one immigrant founder. That number rose to two-thirds when counting companies that were founded or co-founded by immigrants, or the children of immigrants.

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