

# ***Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update June 18, 2026 (Tamuz 2, 5786)***



**[For the Yachad Report Newsletter For June 2026](#)**

**Donate**



## ***Israel; Trump Wants a New Contractor in the War on Hezbollah. Syria Doesn't Want the Job***

- *Israel in 'stubborn' talks with U.S. to avoid Lebanon withdrawal, official says*
- *IDF raids West Bank town over clan feud, bars Palestinian security forces*
  - *Israel cuts ties with EU foreign policy chief over apartheid comparison*
  - *Iran deal said to include U.S. pledge to end all sanctions on Tehran*
- *Police forcefully disperse Haredi protesters blocking highway over draft arrests*
  - *Foreign Ministry rejects Smotrich's claim he axed key Oslo pact with PA*

**Donate**



***If you are interested in having Yachad Ministries to come your church and share about what is going on in Israel and the Middle East, and how the Bible is unfolding right in front of our eyes.***

***Please contact Jeffery @ Yachad Ministries***

***Phone 770-641-3000 ext. 6***

***E-mail [yachad@mindspring.com](mailto:yachad@mindspring.com)***



## **Standing with Israel!**

***U.S. Military Shoots Down Iranian Attack Drones in Hormuz, CENTCOM Confirms;*** The United States military shot down several Iranian suicide drones over the Strait of Hormuz, U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) confirmed on Saturday, June 13. The drones marked an attempt by the regime in Tehran to target commercial vessels transiting the strategic waterway. CENTCOM affirmed that traffic flow through the Hormuz continues unimpeded and that the critical passage remains open for transit. The interception came amid a wave of Iranian aggression across the region. On Thursday, June 11, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) fired drones at Kuwait's Ali Al Salem Air Base in retaliation for U.S. strikes on Iranian military assets on Tuesday, June 9. Further Iranian strikes were reported in Jordan, where the IRGC claimed to have fired four missiles at the U.S. al-Azraq base, asserting that the site housed F-35 fighter jet hangars and a command-and-control center. The escalation rippled across the Gulf, with alert sirens sounding in Bahrain on Wednesday, June 10. Even as Tehran pressed its campaign of drone and missile launches, American forces held the line over the Hormuz, ensuring that one of the world's most vital maritime corridors stayed open to commercial shipping. (*JPost/VFI News*)

***Iran Mined Entrance to Bombed Nuclear Site to Deter Raid on Enriched Uranium;*** Iran has, in recent weeks, deliberately collapsed tunnels and mined the entrances to its bombed Isfahan nuclear complex in a bid to stop the United States from launching a raid to retrieve the regime's store of highly enriched uranium believed to be buried at the site. The assessment, drawn from five sources familiar with U.S. intelligence, came to light on Saturday, June 13. Retrieving the uranium would now be far more difficult and dangerous for anyone including the Iranians themselves than it was at the start of the war, when U.S. President Donald Trump weighed a ground operation to seize the stockpile. The fate of the enriched material has become one of the central issues in an emerging deal between Iran and the United States to end the conflict. A former senior nuclear official cautioned that Tehran's move also raised the risk that it could later claim to be unable to retrieve some of the material. A U.S. official said on Friday, June 12, that the emerging memorandum of understanding "leads to" Washington obtaining Iran's highly enriched uranium, explaining that under the agreement the material would be destroyed on site and then taken out of the country. (*TOI/VFI News*)

***Senior Iranian Leader Blocks Agreement;*** Iran's decision to launch ballistic missiles at Israel after months of ceasefire was more than a military message it was a demonstration of a new balance of power within Tehran. The driving force behind the strike was Revolutionary Guards commander Ahmad Vahidi, who has emerged in recent months as one of the most influential figures in the Iranian regime. Vahidi prevailed over more moderate voices in Tehran who had opposed the strike out of concern that it could damage contacts with the United States and jeopardize the prospect of an agreement. He persuaded Iran's Supreme National Security Council to support the missile launch, triggering the first exchange of fire between Iran and Israel since the ceasefire in April 2026. In talks with Washington, he has taken a hardline posture, demanding the restoration of Iran's military deterrence, protection for Hezbollah, and the

preservation of Tehran's missile stockpiles and frozen financial assets. Vahidi's influence grew after he replaced Mohammad Pakpour, who was injured in a military strike, and he now commands roughly 200,000 fighters as head of the regime's most powerful armed force. One of the founders of the Revolutionary Guards in 1979, he served as head of its intelligence branch at the age of 23, established the Quds Force, and helped transform Hezbollah into a dominant force in Lebanon. Bypassing President Masoud Pezeshkian and Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, he has set the regime's wartime priorities and become the principal obstacle to reaching an agreement with the United States. (INN/VFI News)

***Pro-Palestinian Vandals Damage Israeli Light Rail Cars in Spain;*** Masked vandals damaged a fleet of light rail cars stored in Spain before their planned shipment to Israel. The incident took place in early June in the Navarra region of northern Spain, where the cars were being held ahead of being sent to Israel for use in the Tel Aviv metropolitan area's light rail network. The assailants smeared red paint across the front of the cars and smashed windows in what they described as a protest for "freedom, equality and justice for Palestine." On some of the cars, they spray-painted the Basque phrase "Israel suntsitu," which translates to "destroy Israel." Footage from the scene shows the suspects in hoodies that concealed their faces, entering through a breach cut into a fence and singling out the cars bearing Hebrew lettering. The cars are manufactured in the Basque Country in northern Spain and were intended for the Purple Line, which will reach Yehud-Monosson and is expected to open ahead of other segments of the network. The vandalism could delay their shipment to Israel. The broader Purple Line, planned to run from the Ono Valley to Tel Aviv, is expected to include 46 stations linking Tel Aviv, Ramat Gan, Kiryat Ono, Givat Shmuel, Or Yehuda, and Yehud-Monosson. (YNN/VFI News)

***Steep Decline in Number of Job Seekers as 216,000 Israelis Return to Work;*** With Israel's economy returning to full activity following Operation Roaring Lion, approximately 216,000 workers have rejoined the workforce over the past two months, the Employment Service announced on the morning of Sunday, June 14. As a result, the number of job seekers stood at only about 180,000 at the end of May. The decline was evident across every city with a population exceeding 40,000 residents, with an average decrease of roughly 43%, though smaller declines were recorded in Arab and peripheral communities. The cities of Rahat and Umm al-Fahm again topped the list of municipalities with the highest rates of job seekers, while Bnei Brak posted an especially low rate of 2.3%, on par with economically strong cities such as Kfar Saba, Ra'anana, and Ramat Hasharon. The most significant declines were recorded among women, young adults, and the haredi community, alongside notable decreases in occupations involving public gatherings, outdoor work, institutional activities, commerce, and local services; professions that can be performed remotely, including high-tech roles, saw only minimal change. Employment Service Director-General Inbal Mashash said, "The Israeli labor market is proving once again that it knows how to recover from crises. The return to routine is not the finish line, it's the starting point." (INN/VFI News)

***Chana Koenig's Boutique Chocolate Journey from New York to Israel;*** Here is something nearly everyone can agree on: chocolate is delicious. But for those who are lactose intolerant, the pleasure can come at a price a problem Chana Koenig set out to solve when she realized her lactose-intolerant nephew deserved to enjoy the rich taste of milk chocolate just like everyone else. In 2023, she founded Cacao HaGalil, a gourmet chocolate boutique at the entrance to Kibbutz Evron, crafting treats made from goat's milk, which is often easier to digest for people with dairy sensitivities. Raised in Woodmere, New York, Koenig trained at the Institute of Culinary Education and earned certification as a pastry chef, then spent four years at Jacques Torres Chocolate, one of New York City's premier chocolate destinations, before making Aliyah in 2019 at the age of 29. Her shop, a short drive from the Nahariya train station, now turns out everything from dark chocolate with sea salt to pareve and vegan Belgian creations, all made on site and certified kosher. It is a family affair her mother manages the business, and her father helps with

packaging supported by a close-knit community of English speakers in Nahariya who once rallied fifteen to twenty volunteers to help her complete a single order of 20,000 chocolate bars. (JPost/VFI News)



*Robert I. Solomon: Messianic Rabbi*

*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](#).*

()