

Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update June 22, 2026 (Tamuz 6, 5786)



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Israel; Iran Huckabee: Iran Will Be Unable to Support Proxies, U.S.- Israel Bond 'Unbreakable'

- *Netanyahu says Iran war shifted Israel to a 'kill them first' security doctrine*
- *Israel lifts wartime restrictions in north as Lebanon withdrawal talks set for this week*
 - *Five Israeli soldiers killed in southern Lebanon laid to rest*
 - *IDF names three soldiers killed in separate southern Lebanon incidents*
- *Police urge Netanyahu's neighbors to push top court to limit anti-government protests*
 - *Second suspected Ebola patient quarantined, Israeli health officials say*

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Standing with Israel!

Trump Says Iran Will Keep Some Missiles Under Coming Peace Deal; US President Donald Trump signaled that the emerging peace agreement with Iran will likely permit Tehran to retain a portion of its conventional ballistic missiles, a notable departure from long-standing American policy. Speaking before reporters at the G7 summit in France on Wednesday, June 17, Trump argued that a total ban on the regime's missiles is unrealistic. "They got to have some," he said, adding, "What am I going to do? Am I going to let Saudi Arabia have missiles, but they can't have them?" Pressed by a reporter who noted that one of the stated aims of the military campaign, Operation Epic Fury, had been to eliminate Iran's ballistic missiles, Trump played down the concern. "Missiles aren't the problem. They hurt a little location, but they don't blow up the planet," he said. He maintained that Iran now holds fewer missiles than other nations and that much of its remaining arsenal is buried out of reach. "What are they keeping? They have less than other nations now. The rest of them are underground. They can't even get them out," Trump said, asserting that roughly 85 percent of Iran's missiles had already been destroyed. Trump indicated he might attend the signing of the memorandum, scheduled for Friday, June 19, though he suggested it "might not be the kind of document" he should personally sign. He went on to muse, half in jest, that responsibility for the outcome could fall to his vice president. "This way, if it works out, I'm going to take the credit. If it doesn't work out, I'm blaming JD," he said. (DM/VFI News)

Nikki Haley Slams US-Iran Pact: 'A Huge Mistake to Pay to Rebuild the Threat'; Former US Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley sharply condemned the emerging US-Iran agreement on Wednesday, June 17, warning that it amounts to financing the very threat American forces had just dismantled. While she affirmed the wisdom of striking Iran's nuclear and missile sites, she cautioned that rewarding Tehran with sanctions relief and reconstruction funds would only refuel its ambitions. "Hitting Iran's nuclear and missile sites was the right move. This regime chants death to America, murders our troops, and attempts to assassinate Americans on US soil," Haley wrote. She argued that the plan to unlock billions of dollars and lift sanctions would inevitably backfire. "They will use that money the way they always do — to further their nuclear ambitions and on terrorist proxies against us. It's a huge mistake to pay to rebuild the threat we just destroyed," she added. Her remarks followed the public release of the full document of principles between Washington and Tehran, which sets a 60-day window for drafting a final arrangement. Under its terms, the United States commits to lifting the naval blockade, pulling its forces back from the region, canceling sanctions imposed by the UN, the International Atomic Energy Agency, and the US itself, and advancing a reconstruction package worth at least \$300 billion. In return, Iran has pledged only that it will not develop nuclear weapons, while agreeing to allow safe passage for commercial vessels for a 60-day period. (INN/VFI News)

Ted Cruz Slams Iran Deal: 'Not a Good Idea to Give Millions to Lunatics'; Texas Republican Senator Ted Cruz issued a blistering warning on Wednesday, June 17, over what he described as sweeping American concessions embedded in the US-Iran memorandum of understanding. Cruz charged that

President Donald Trump is being steered by deeply flawed advice as the framework takes shape. “History teaches that giving billions of dollars to theocratic lunatics who want to murder us is not a good idea. I think the president is receiving some very poor advice on this deal,” Cruz said. His objections sharpened after the White House released the full text of the provisional framework, which clears the way for lifting restrictions on Iranian petroleum exports and grants Tehran access to a \$300 billion post-war reconstruction fund. Cruz was far from the only Republican to launch a fierce broadside against the administration’s diplomatic maneuvers. Senator Bill Cassidy of Louisiana branded the proposed treaty the “worst foreign policy blunder in decades,” warning that the agreement leaves Tehran emboldened rather than constrained. Taking to social media to lambast the framework, Cassidy wrote, “Reagan is rolling over in his grave. Iran’s nuclear ambitions were not curbed, and they have learned that threatening the Strait of Hormuz works and will undoubtedly leverage it in the future. Now, Iran gets to build brand-new infrastructure under this deal.” (*INN/VFI News*)

Somaliland President Visits Israel for First Time Since Recognition; Somaliland President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi arrived in Israel this week for his first official visit since the Jewish state formally recognized his country’s independence, a milestone in a fast-deepening partnership. Recalling how he had written to the leaders of all 193 United Nations member states on May 17, 2025, asking them to recognize Somaliland, Abdullahi said only one answered. “It was Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. We then reached the conclusion that Israel would recognize Somaliland,” he said. A self-governing territory of roughly six million people in the Horn of Africa, Somaliland declared independence from Somalia in 1991 after the collapse of Somalia’s central government. For more than three decades it has maintained its own government, security forces, elections, and state institutions, yet it has remained unrecognized by most of the international community. That changed on December 26, 2025, when Netanyahu announced that Israel would formally recognize Somaliland, making the Jewish state the first UN member to do so. Abdullahi, who had quietly visited Israel in October 2025 to advance behind-the-scenes contacts with Netanyahu and Foreign Minister Gideon Sa’ar, is now seeking to broaden cooperation across a wide range of fields, including economic development, natural resources, agriculture, water management, and security. Israeli officials say practical collaboration is already underway, particularly in water management, with engineers from Somaliland training in Israel. The president voiced confidence that more nations will follow Israel’s lead, and that ties between the two countries will continue to flourish. (*JPost/VFI News*)

Israel Welcomes First Immigrants from India’s Bnei Menashe Community; Israel has begun welcoming the first members of India’s Bnei Menashe community under a sweeping plan to bring the entire population home. At a ceremony on Thursday, June 11, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pledged that the nation would “bring the entire community to Israel over the next four years.” Roughly 600 Bnei Menashe immigrants from northeastern India have already settled in Israel since the start of the year, with another 600 expected to arrive by the end of 2026. The government has approved a proposal from the Aliyah and Integration Minister to bring the whole 6,000-person community, which currently lives in the Indian states of Manipur and Mizoram, to Israel over about five years. “I am thrilled to see the Bnei Menashe returning home,” Netanyahu told the new arrivals. “You are an inseparable part of the Jewish People, and Israel is your home. I wish you a successful absorption and great success in the Galilee and in Nof Hagalil. Welcome back home to the State of Israel.” Aliyah and Integration Minister Ofir Sofer called it “deeply moving” to witness immigrants realizing a long-held dream, and announced the opening of the Tavor absorption center, which will help newcomers learn Hebrew, enter the education system and job market, and build homes in cooperation with the Jewish Agency and the city of Nof Hagalil. Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich described the moment as “clear evidence of the fulfillment of the prophetic vision of the Return to Zion in our generation,” assuring the community that Israel would continue to stand by their side. (*JPost/VFI News*)

Anti-Semitism Hits All-Time High in Germany with 8,725 Incidents in 2025; Anti-Semitic hostility in Germany surged to an unprecedented level in 2025, with 8,725 incidents logged over the course of the year. The figures, released on Wednesday, June 17, by the Berlin-based Federal Association of Departments for Research and Information on Antisemitism (RIAS), mark the highest annual total ever recorded in the country. The wave of anti-Jewish activity has remained relentless since the October 7, 2023, attacks in Israel, with 68 percent of all incidents classified as “Israel-related antisemitism.” The 2025 tally represents an increase of 98 incidents over the previous year and includes 257 overt threats and 178 physical assaults a dramatic climb from the 2,480 cases recorded as recently as 2022. The findings documented disturbing episodes across the country. In the western town of Kehl, near Strasbourg, four Jewish residents were verbally abused and spat upon outside a prayer venue, while in the state of Hesse a rabbi was shoved inside a grocery store and had his phone stolen in front of his children as his attackers berated him over Israel. Researchers also identified four separate flashpoints of “extreme violence,” among them a terrorist assault at Berlin’s Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe. Josef Schuster, who heads the Central Council of Jews in Germany, stressed the gravity of the data by noting that it averages roughly 24 anti-Jewish acts every single day. He cautioned that antisemitism in the country is hardening at record levels rather than easing, calling the figures not statistical outliers but a grim daily reality for German Jews. (INN/VFI News)

Rare 1,700-Year-Old Roman Statues Unearthed near Binyamina; Archaeologists have uncovered two remarkably well-preserved marble statues, roughly 1,700 years old, hidden inside the wine-collection pit of a Roman-Byzantine winepress near the coastal town of Binyamina. Announced on Monday, June 15, the find emerged during an Israel Antiquities Authority excavation carried out ahead of a national project to expand the Coastal Railway. The figures depict prominent personalities from the Greco-Roman world, and one of them bears a Greek inscription preserving the name “Lycurgus.” Researchers are still working to determine whom the inscription honors possibly Lycurgus, the legendary founder of Sparta, or Lycurgus of Athens, a celebrated statesman and orator of the fourth century BCE. Excavation directors Eliran Oren and Avishag Reiss noted that the statues were not found where they once stood. “They were discovered carefully placed face down inside a wine collection pit belonging to a Roman-Byzantine winepress,” they said, adding that the reason for their burial remains unclear, though they may have been concealed for safekeeping. Archaeologist Michael Sorotzkin recalled the moment workers spotted something unusual jutting from the soil. “Suddenly we realized it wasn’t pottery it was marble. Then, little by little, the two statues emerged. I still struggle to find the words. It’s simply incredible,” he said. Such portrait sculptures, experts note, once adorned public buildings and the homes of the elite, and may have decorated a luxurious villa nearby. The statues were set to be unveiled to the public for the first time at an archaeological conference on June 18, at the Eretz Israel Museum, before going on summer display. (INN/VFI News)

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