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Middle East Update



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HEADLINES

IDF CHIEF - Lifting the Iranian Sanctions: The head of the Israeli army said the implementation of the nuclear deal between Iran and world powers constitutes a "strategic turning point," requires special attention to Tehran's activities, including efforts to influence Hamas in Gaza and Arab citizens in Israel.

Kerry declares US, Mideast allies 'safer' with Iran deal / Rouhani: Everyone but 'Zionists' and 'extremists' happy with deal

Iran general scoffs: US sailors cried when we captured them ...
Revolutionary Guards officer says servicemen briefly held this week were only released after 'Americans humbly admitted our might and power'

Some Christians are still anti-Semitic to the Core! The United Methodist Church on Tuesday placed five of Israel's largest banks on a blacklist of companies it will not invest in, citing "human rights reasons." The UMC is one of the largest Protestant denominations in the US and numbers at more than seven million members.



Quote of the Week

There used to be a saying in the Soviet Union: "If there is no water in a tap, it must be Jews who have drunk it all" in a word, that means, blame Jews for everything!



Only in a Muslim Society!

- ❖ Only in a radical Muslim society, such as that of the Palestinians, can you find public expressions of glee over the brutal murder of a mother of six.
- ❖ Name a civilized country where the father of a 16-year-old boy who invaded the home of a woman and stabbed her to death in front of her children tells the media he is proud of his son.
- ❖ Sadly, every man, woman and child with the most scant access to the news knows the answer to this painful question. The father of the minor Murad Badr Abdullah Adeis who was plucked out of his bed by Israeli security forces Monday night on suspicion of murdering Dafna Meir, 38 and the mother of six, in her home while her children watched, told Palestinian media that he supports his son.
- ❖ "I am proud of him," he said. He then complained that the IDF insisted on interrogating the family and even threatened to demolish their home, which is one of the measures Israel uses as retribution and to discourage future acts of terrorism.
- ❖ Following a manhunt that took more than a day, IDF and Shin Bet (Israel's Security Agency) forces arrested Adeis on suspicion of committing the murder in Otniel. (southern Judean Mountains, south of Hebron)
- ❖ He was captured by the "Duvdevan" (Heb: cherry) unit in his bed in Beit 'Amra village, about two miles from Otniel, and is now being interrogated by the Shin Bet.



Hating America - Saudi Policy

Jihadi hate for non-Muslims is not limited to the Islamic State, which U.S. leadership dismisses as neither a real state nor representative of Islam. Rather, **it's the official position of, among others, Saudi Arabia** – a very real state, birthplace of Islam, and, of course, "friend and ally" of America.

Saudi Arabia's Permanent Committee for Islamic Research and Issuing Fatwas – which issues religious decrees that become law – issued a [fatwa](#), or decree, titled, "Duty to Hate Jews, Polytheists, and Other Infidels." Written by Sheikh Abd al-Aziz ibn Baz, former grand mufti and highest religious authority in the government, it still appears on the website.

According to this governmentally-supported fatwa, Muslims – that is, the entire Saudi citizenry – must "oppose and hate whomever Allah commands us to oppose and hate, including the Jews, the Christians, and other [non-Muslims], until they believe in Allah alone and abide by his laws, which he sent down to his Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings upon him."



Persecution of Christians

- ❖ Christians are suffering from Islamic terror all over the world, including in the Palestinian-ruled areas of Judea and Samaria. In Israel, they live free of religious persecution.
- ❖ On Christmas Day in the West Bank [Judea and Samaria], two Muslims were arrested for setting a Christmas tree on fire in a Christian-majority village near Jenin. On the same day in Bethlehem, Muslim rioters greeted the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem with a hail of stones. Authorities subsequently arrested 16 "Salafi radicals" who were planning to carry out terror attacks against tourists celebrating Christmas.
- ❖ If this was Christmas in Bethlehem - Christ's birthplace and scene of the Nativity - Christmas in other parts of the world experienced similar abuse.
- ❖ The governments of three countries - Somalia, Tajikistan, and Brunei - formally banned Christmas (celebrating its Gospel message, putting up trees, dressing like Santa Claus, and giving gifts). Transgressors can face up to five years in prison. Some Islamic clerics in Brunei stated: "Using religious symbols such as crosses, lighting candles, putting up Christmas trees, singing religious songs, sending Christmas greetings...are against the Islamic faith."



Saeed Free!

- ❖ On 28 July 2012, during a visit to Tehran to visit family and to finalize the board members for an orphanage he was building in Iran, the Iranian Revolutionary Guard detained Saeed, asserting that he must face criminal charges for his Christian faith. After intense interrogations, Saeed was placed under house arrest and told to wait for a court summons. On 26 September 2012, instead of receiving a summons telling him where to appear, five members of the Revolutionary Guard raided Saeed's parents' home in Tehran, confiscated many of Saeed's belongings, and took him to an unknown location. After four days the Revolutionary Guard informed the family that Saeed was in solitary confinement in the notorious Evin Prison.
- ❖ For a more thorough report go to <https://beheardproject.com/saeed>





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