

KFIR

MIDDLE EAST UPDATE

Week of September 1, 2017



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Holy Ground Explorations



holygroundexplorations.com

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

Israel, has recently put the international community on notice, warning that a failure to stop the Iranian push into Syria will result in Israeli military action.

Iran has denied a US request for more vigilant enforcement of the Iran nuclear deal. Will Trump exit from the pact?

In a major shakeup of political alliances, **Hamas announced major funding from Iran,** amid renewed relations between two, **while Turkish President Recep Erdogan visited Ramallah to strengthen ties with the Palestinian Authority.**

Saudi Arabia is **sponsoring 500 families of Palestinian "martyrs"** to make their pilgrimage to Mecca.

Trump team, Netanyahu renew talks on US embassy move to Jerusalem



JUDEA & SAMARIA

Addressing a crowd of several thousand, Netanyahu vowed that Judea and Samaria, the biblical heartland of the Jewish People that was liberated during the Six Day War, will forever belong to the State of Israel.

Israel will never withdraw from any Jewish settlement in Judea and Samaria, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Monday night at a ceremony marking 50 years of Jewish settlement in Samaria.

"This is the land of our fathers, this is our land. "We are here to stay, forever," Netanyahu said at an event in the settlement of Barkan, commemorating the 50th anniversary of Israeli settlements in the West Bank. **"There will be no more uprooting of settlements in the land of Israel. It has been proven that it does not help peace. We've uprooted settlements. What did we get? We received missiles. It will not happen anymore... We will deepen our roots, build, strengthen and settle."**



TIKKUN OLAM

Israel was one of the first countries to send a team of disaster management experts, mental health experts, and engineers to Houston after hurricane Harvey hit last week. This team, sent by IsraAID, is working together with local authorities and is seeking to provide emergency assistance to those in need and to help rebuild the community of Houston, TX.

Even though just the size of New Jersey, Israel has achieved acclaim all over the world with its humanitarian aid efforts. With the advent of the modern Jewish state in 1948, Israel set its course to embrace its biblical history of charity, "repairing the world," known in the Hebrew language as "Tikkun Olam." Isaiah 1:16-17 sums it up: "Devote yourself to justice, aid the wronged, uphold the rights of the orphan, defend the cause of the widow." This value permeates Israeli society which transports Tikkun Olam to nations in need.



NORTH KOREA

PARIS – France’s foreign minister warned Friday that North Korea could have the capacity to deliver a nuclear strike on the United States and even Europe “within months.”

Jean-Yves Le Drian called the situation following a string of missile tests by Pyongyang “extremely serious” and urged the reclusive state to turn to dialogue to ease spiraling tensions.

“We see a North Korea whose objective is to have missiles capable of transporting a nuclear weapon tomorrow,” Le Drian told RTL radio.

“In a few months, that will be a reality. At that moment, when it has the capability to hit the US, even Europe and at the very least Japan and China, with a nuclear weapon, the situation will be explosive.”



UNIFIL - HEZBOLLAH

Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations Danny Danon on Wednesday welcomed the adoption of a new Security Council resolution regarding UNIFIL's mandate.

According to the decision made upon the annual renewal of this mandate, **UNIFIL, the UN's peacekeeping mission, is now required to expand its reports to the Security Council and take deliberate action against Hezbollah's violations.**

UNIFIL's presence on the ground will increase significantly, and troops will be required to tour the Hezbollah-controlled areas of southern Lebanon.

UNIFIL must also report all instances of Hezbollah's violations and attempts to deny access immediately.

"This is a significant diplomatic achievement that could change the situation in southern Lebanon and expose the terror infrastructure that Hezbollah set up on the border with Israel," Danon stated. "The resolution requires UNIFIL to open its eyes, and forces it to act against Hezbollah's terror buildup in the area. We will continue the fight against Hezbollah and ensure that UNIFIL fulfills its duties on the ground."



HASSAN NASRALLAH

Hezbollah arch-terrorist Hassan Nasrallah has called on Lebanon to oust Israel from territory in the Golan Heights.

“We call on the state to devise a plan and take a sovereign decision to liberate the Shebaa Farms and the Kfarshouba Hills,” Nasrallah said in a televised speech on Thursday, the Lebanese news site *Naharnet* reported.

Nasrallah’s statements come after the terror group declared a victory in its battle against the Islamic State in the border region between Lebanon and Syria. Around 600 Islamic State fighters were forced to leave from the border area and transferred into Islamic State-held territory in eastern Syria.



PA INCITEMENT



The Palestinian Education Ministry has granted any student who was arrested for throwing stones and/or Molotov cocktails at Israeli vehicles a passing grade.

Awarding passing grades to students who commit violent attacks against Israeli motorists is one of many methods of incitement to terror practiced by the Palestinian Authority (PA), the *Jewish Press* reported. "One time we stopped a terrorist who threw a Molotov cocktail and took him for interrogation, where we found out that he had decided to carry out the attack because that morning he had a matriculation exam, and it turns out that for them it is customary that someone who is arrested for carrying out an attack on the day of an exam to receive a passing grade automatically."



FRIENDS OF ZION

The Jerusalem Prayer Team, one of Facebook's largest prayer pages, has just passed a landmark 28 million members. One of the largest social media efforts in fighting anti-Semitism, the Christian-run page is dedicated to praying for the sake of the Jewish people and the peace of Jerusalem.

The page was founded by Mike Evans, a Middle East analyst and award-winning journalist, as part of his multi-pronged defense of Israel. The group organizes regular prayers for the sake of Israel based on the imperative stated in Psalms.

Pray for the well-being of *Yerushalayim*; May those who love you be at peace. Psalms 122:6

This need was reinforced in the recent white supremacist attack in Charlottesville, which Evans decried as being heavily anti-Semitic.



US ISLAMIC INDOCTRINATION

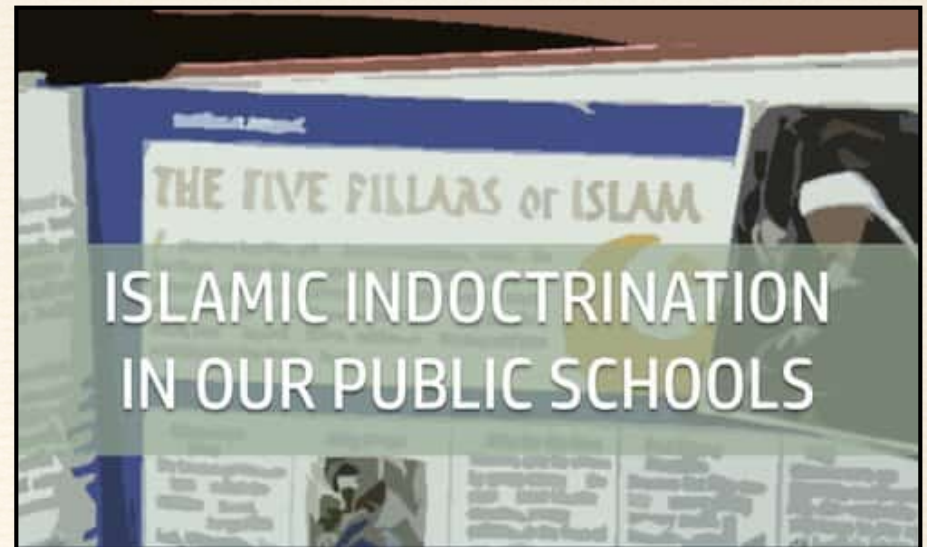
Parents across the U.S. have objected to a Department of Education program called "Access Islam." The federally-funded program is directed at children from grades 5-12 and is also featured on various websites, including PBS Learning Media.

The Smithsonian also promotes the course as does the Indiana Department of Education and the United Nations.

Parents charge that the course amounts to nothing less than proselytizing about Islam in public schools. In addition, they note that the Department of Education provides no comparable study or promotion of any other religion.

A video from the course prominently features a Christian convert to Islam, who declares emotionally how he has found the true religion without any "intermediaries."

In addition to videos, students are given worksheets to learn the Five Pillars of Islam and how to pray. Children are also expected to memorize verses from the Quran and know the meaning of those verses.



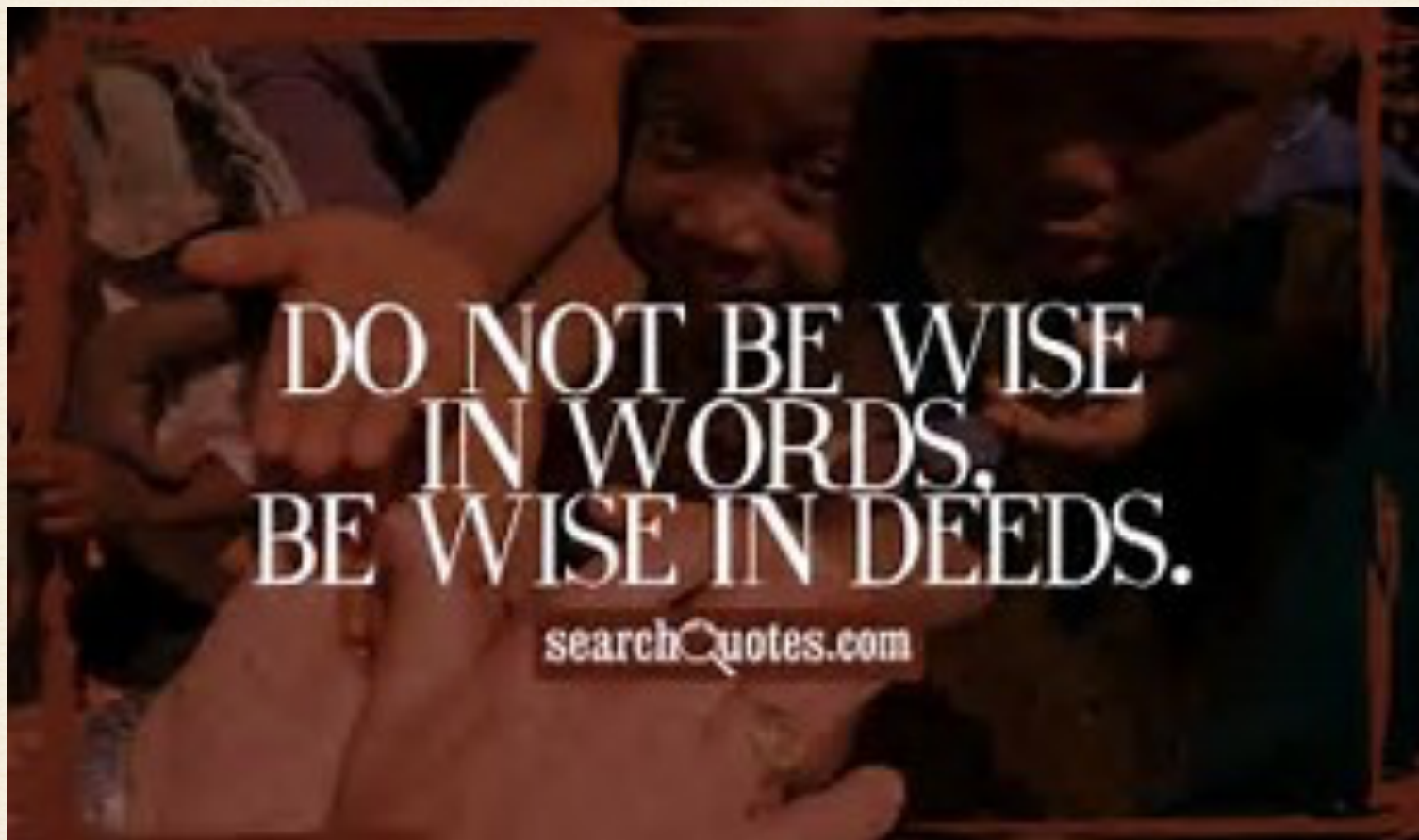
ISLAM & CHINA

Over 300 loudspeakers were removed from mosques in China, ignoring that it has angered Muslims in the area who have branded the locals as intolerant. Environmental protection inspectors allegedly received complaints about noise pollution from local mosques. Residents close to the places of worship have complained that Islamic calls to prayer wake them up early in the morning and they claim in some cases have aggravated heart conditions of some patients.

(Why can't Israel do the same? Reduce noise pollution and improve quality of life!)



QUOTE OF THE WEEK



HGE UPCOMING TOURS

HOLY GROUND EXPLORATIONS ISRAEL TOURS

'OFF THE BEATEN PATH' TOUR

HIGHLIGHTS: Jeep Tours - Judean Desert and the Golan Border

Pre Tour - PETRA*

***Nov 9-12 / Beaten Path -Nov 12-20, 2017**

2018 ISRAEL TOURS

'EXPERIENCE ISRAEL' - APR 22-MAY 1

'JOURNEY THRU ISRAEL' - MAY 2-10

**For more information go to our website
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