

**HGE - MIDDLE EAST UPDATE - WEEK OF MAY 25, 2018**

**KIFR**



**YOUNG LIONS CLUB**



# HGE PRESENTS

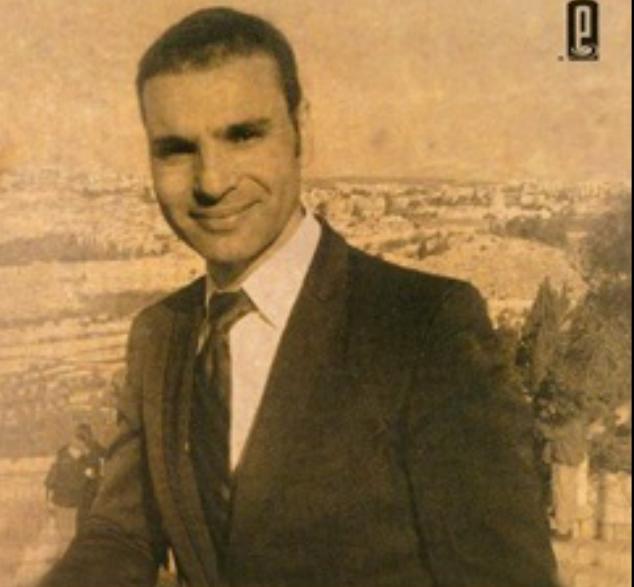
HOLY GROUND EXPLORATIONS presents

MIDDLE-EAST UPDATE

Guest Speaker:

# Amir Tsarfati

Tuesday, September 25  
KROC Center - Couer d'Alene



# UPCOMING TOURS

NEW FALL OFFERINGS

OFF THE BEATEN PATH - OCT 14-24

REVEALING ISRAEL - OCT 25-NOV 3



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UPCOMING HGE TOURS



NEED A HAND?

# WEEKLY HEADLINES

Paraguay made history on Monday when it moved its embassy to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv, just days after the US and Guatemala made the same move.

The Trump administration plans to roll out its much-hyped but long-delayed Middle East peace plan next month, American officials said this week.

Suffering chest pains, Abbas taken to hospital for the third time in a week. Sources say PA leader had trouble walking, has fever and may have pneumonia;

POST ABBAS? Palestinian intellectuals believe that failure to create an agreed-upon political solution for the post-Abbas era will create a power vacuum and place whatever is left of the Palestinian unity in unprecedented danger. In their view, chaos will produce internal bloodshed and prompt terrorism against Israel, which will have no choice but to intervene and eliminate the remnants of that unity.



# SYRIA AIR STRIKE



Arab media reported late Thursday night that a military air base in western Syria had been bombed, sparking large explosions in the area. No casualties were reported.

Syrian state television blamed Israel for the strike. The Israeli military did not respond and the report has not been corroborated by any Israeli source.

The strike reportedly targeted Hezbollah munitions depots in the Dabaa air base, more commonly known as the al-Qusayr air base, south of the city of Homs. The area is a known stronghold for Hezbollah and other Iranian-backed militias.



# AMERICANS NOW TARGETS?

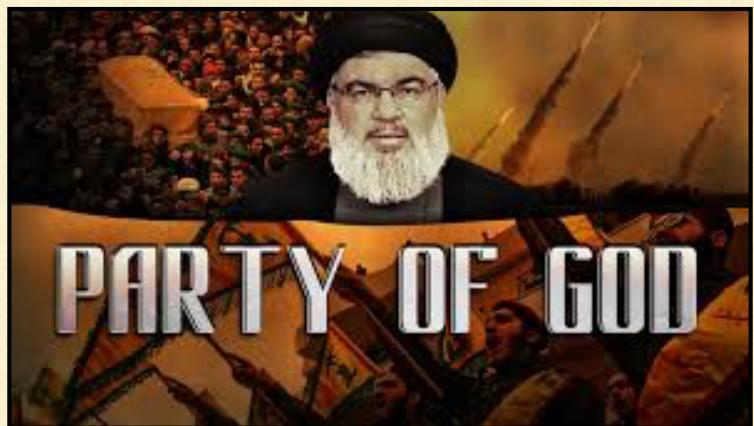


## Americans Now Legitimate Targets

Ultimately, it is all about money. The Palestinian Authority is desperate for US financial aid; without it the Palestinian leadership would not be able to survive. So the Palestinians are hoping to extort protection money from the Americans. It is like saying, "You see what will happen to you if you stop funding me? It could always get worse for you. I suggest that you restore my accountability-free funding, and perhaps I will see to it that you do not get hurt."



# POMPEO ON IRAN



## Pompeo: US will 'crush' Iranian and Hezbollah operatives

Pompeo says the US and its allies will work to "deter Iranian aggression," thwarting Iranian cyberattacks and efforts to interfere with crucial waterways.

"We will track down Iranian operatives and their Hezbollah allies around the world and we will crush them," he says.

"If they restart their nuclear program it will mean bigger problems. Bigger problems than they've ever had before," adds Pompeo.

He also says the US will continue to condemn Iran's treatment of its citizens, noting the recent protests in the country.



# IRAN AND HAMAS



*"The mask has been pulled off!" an IDF spokesman said of the shocking revelation. "Hamas is Iran, Iran is Hamas. The terror along the security fence is an Iranian mission."*

Hamas' leader in Gaza Yahya Sinwar openly admitted that the terror organization maintains close contacts with global terror leader Iran, and its proxy Hezbollah.

Speaking with the Lebanese Al-Mayadeen TV channel Sinwar said that with the help of Iran, Hamas has significantly developed its terror capabilities.

To that end, Iran provided Hamas' Izz Al-Din Al-Qassam Brigades with "a lot of money, equipment and expertise," while Hamas' relations with Iran are "strong and warm."



# CHRISTIAN SUPPORT



**As David Friedman hails their 'fervor and devotion' in NY Times interview, his counterpart Ron Dermer calls devout Christians the 'backbone' of US support for Israel**

Israel's Ambassador to the United States Ron Dermer, United States Ambassador to Israel David Friedman and Pastor John Hagee, May 11, 2018. (CUFI)

The US Ambassador to Israel said evangelical Christians are more passionate supporters of Israel than many Jews.

Speaking to the New York Times about the prominent involvement of Christian supporters of Israel at the Monday inauguration of the US Embassy in Jerusalem, over which he presided, Friedman said evangelical Christians "support Israel with much greater fervor and devotion than many in the Jewish community."



# THE BIBLICAL BLOC



AVI LIPKIN  
AUTHOR & LECTURER  
MIDDLE EAST EXPERT

## BIBLE BLOC

Gush Hatanakhi

Avi Lipkin, a well-known lecturer, announced that he has formed the first joint Jewish-Christian party and intends to lead it in the next Knesset elections. The acceptance of Lipkin's Gush Hatanachi (Biblical Bloc) party application was announced on Wednesday. The party's founding document reads: "The Biblical bloc protects everyone who believes in the Bible and opposes the ethnic cleansing of Jews and Christians from the Land of Israel. The Biblical bloc represents parties all over the world who espouse Judeo-Christian, democratic Western culture."



# THE GOLAN



Minister: US may soon recognize Israel's hold on Golan  
Endorsement of Israeli sovereignty in Golan Heights is "topping the agenda" in bilateral diplomatic talks with Washington, Intelligence Minister Yisrael Katz says

Move could even prompt the Palestinians to revive the stalled peace talks, he says. Israel is pressing the Trump administration to recognize its sovereignty over the Golan Heights, an Israeli cabinet minister said on Wednesday, predicting U.S. assent could come within months.



# DAVID FRIEDMAN



US Ambassador to Israel David Friedman was caught off guard on Tuesday when he was presented with a poster-sized photo of Jerusalem during a visit to the haredi (ultra-Orthodox) city of Bnei Brak. The seemingly authentic photo of the capital had been edited to depict a rebuilt third temple on the Temple Mount, the site where the Dome of the Rock currently stands. The US Embassy subsequently demanded an apology from the NGO and clarified that "US policy [supports] the status quo on the Haram Al-Sharif/ Temple Mount."



# WEEKLY QUOTE

**The highest reward for man's toil is not what he gets for it, but what he becomes by it.**

John Ruskin

