

HGE - MIDDLE EAST UPDATE - WEEK OF JULY 13, 2018

KAFIR



YOUNG LIONS CLUB



HGE PRESENTS

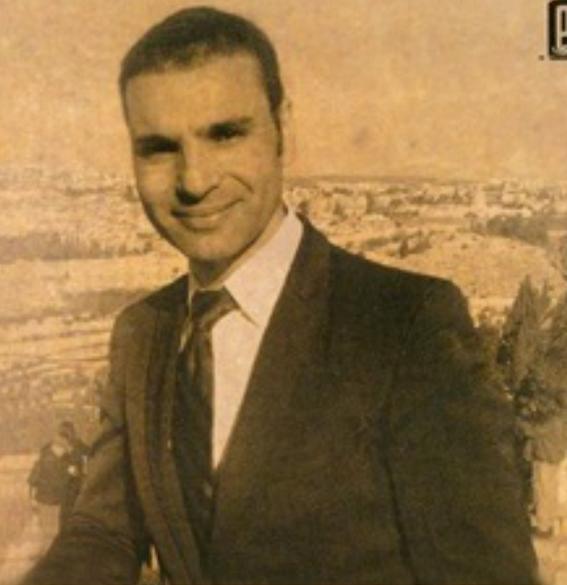
HOLY GROUND EXPLORATIONS presents

MIDDLE - EAST UPDATE

Guest Speaker:

Amir Tsarfati

Tuesday, September 25
KROC Center - Couer d'Alene



UPCOMING TOURS

FALL OFFERINGS

OFF THE BEATEN PATH - OCT 14-24, 2018

SPRING OFFERINGS

REVEALING ISRAEL - FEB 28 - MAR 9, 2019



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WEEKLY HEADLINES

While touring the Israeli Golan Heights, Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman ramped up threats to use armed force should regime forces encroach on the border. "Any Syrian soldier who will be in the buffer zone risks his life."

The Israeli Air Force carried out airstrikes in southern Syria shortly after midnight on Wednesday, targeting three regime positions in the Quneitra region near the border, hours after a Syrian drone was shot down by the military after it entered Israeli airspace.

Church in Full Anti-Semitic Colours - The Presbyterian Church (USA) Assembly passed eight resolutions against Israel and called it an "apartheid state." In contrast, only one resolution against the ongoing carnage in Syria and another on Iran were adopted.



GOLAN DRONE



The Israel Defense Forces shot down a Syrian drone that penetrated several miles into Israeli territory from Syria on Wednesday, apparently sending fragments of the aircraft crashing into the Sea of Galilee, the military said.

“Using a Patriot battery, the IDF intercepted an unmanned aerial vehicle that infiltrated from Syria into Israeli territory,” the IDF said in a statement. The IDF said the Syrian drone was flown into Israel through Jordan.



The army is ordered all boats to clear out of the Sea of Galilee so forces can collect fragments of a drone that entered Israeli airspace from Syria.



GAZA FIRST



Moderate Arab leaders of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates have said that given Abbas' position, they see no other choice but to go over his head and have decided to back Washington's decision to present the peace plan to the Palestinian people directly.



According to Arab diplomats familiar with the details of the plan, the American scheme includes a long-term cease-fire agreement between Israel and the Gaza-based terrorist groups.

Once the cease-fire agreement proves lasting, a series of economic programs will be implemented to improve the situation in Gaza, where unemployment nears 50%. These projects, as well as a series of infrastructural rehabilitation plans - including the construction of a special Palestinian port in Cyprus - will be sponsored by the international community.



REALITY



- Mahmoud Abbas and his West Bank-based government seek to prolong the suffering of the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. They want the international community to continue to believe that Israel is responsible for the ongoing, intense suffering of the Palestinians. They are hoping to use the crisis there to pursue their campaign to delegitimize Israel.



The Palestinians of the Gaza Strip, who are desperate for jobs and a better life, do not really care about Trump's upcoming peace plan. They also do not really care about a settlement or a checkpoint in the West Bank.



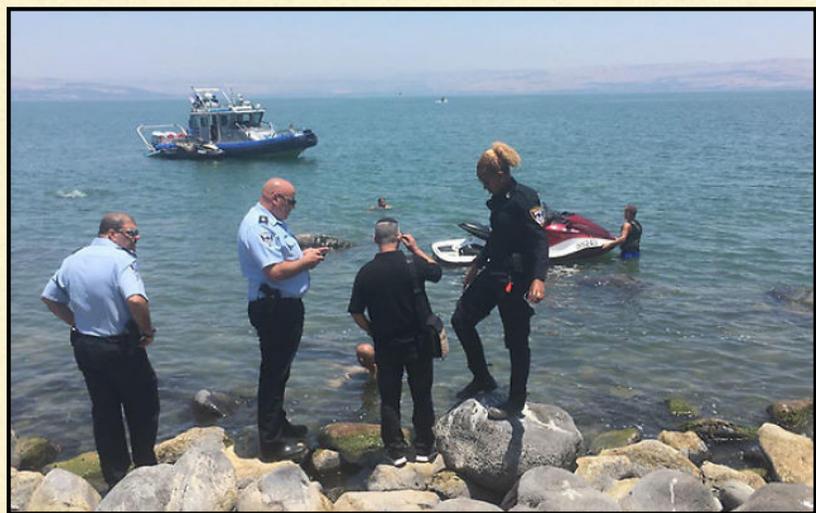
MARCH OF RETURN



The vast majority of the Palestinians believe that the so-called March of Return, the violent Hamas-led riots on Israel's border with Gaza, achieved nothing. Only 21 percent of the Palestinians believe the March of Return achieved most of its goals, while 74 percent believe it has not achieved its goals or achieved little, according to a poll conducted by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research at the end of last month. The March of Return was supposedly an attempt to break the "Israeli blockade." After three and a half months of terrorism, nothing has changed.



IRANIAN THREATS



An “international Islamic army” has formed on Israel’s border with Syria and is awaiting orders to attack the Jewish State, according to a speech given recently by the deputy commander of Iran’s Revolutionary Guards (IRGC).

“Today an international Islamic army has been formed in Syria, and the voices of the Muslims are heard near the Golan,” he said. “Orders are awaited, so that... the eradication of the evil regime [Israel] will land and the life of this regime will be ended for good. The life of the Zionist regime was never in danger as it is now.”

The deputy commander, Hossein Salami, said that “the problems of the Islamic world stem from the existence of the false, counterfeit, rootless and identity-less regime named Israel.” Salami added that the Tehran-backed Hezbollah terror group had 100,000 missiles aimed at Israel.



NEW POLL



A Pew survey of American support for Israel in January noted a great and growing gap in partisan support for the Jewish state. 79 percent of Republicans support Israel against the Palestinians. Only 27 percent of Democrats do.

The latest warning came this week. Ambassador Dennis Ross, the former U.S. mediator for the peace talks between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), told the *Jerusalem Post* that Israel needs to watch out. "Given the strong opposition by Democrats to Trump," Ross warned, "Israel risks getting caught up in that conflict," he told the *Post*.



BETHSAIDA



As the 2018 season of the Bethsaida Excavations Project comes to a close in Israel's Galilee region, archaeologists announced a unique discovery dating back to the 10th century BCE. The find consists of a city gate that may have served as the entry point for the Bible's King David, when he arrived to the city of Tzer to collect a bride named Maachah.

Maachah was David's wife and bore the king Absalom.

According to excavation director Prof. Rami Arav, the 3-meter tall gate "is the largest and the best preserved city gate" in Israel, reported *Times of Israel*.



SELAH

To avoid criticism,
do nothing,
say nothing, be nothing.
- Elbert Hubbard

