



**KAFIR**

**YOUNG LIONS CLUB**

**MIDDLE  
EAST  
UPDATE**

**Week of  
NOVEMBER 30, 2018**

**DAN STOLEBARGER**

<http://holygroundexplorations.com>



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# LET'S HIKE ISRAEL

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- This is an “limited” exclusive Tour led by Dan Stolebarger from HGE.
  - We will be hiking the Snake Path at Masada, all the way to the top of En Gedi, down to the ancient synagogue at Gamla as well as a three and one half trek from Nazareth to Capernahum along the Jesus Trail.
  - The dates are from Feb 16-26. For pricing and more information email dan right away at [dan@hgexplorations.com](mailto:dan@hgexplorations.com)
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# REVEALING ISRAEL



HGE ISRAEL TOUR - FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 9, 2019



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**ISRAEL**  
the Bible &  
**JESUS**

**HOLYGROUNDEXPLORATIONS.COM**

## 2019 ISRAEL TOURS

### REVEALING ISRAEL

Visit Tel Aviv, the Galilee, Golan Heights, Dead Sea and Jerusalem. Experience the Israel of the Bible and the Israel of Today. Walk where HE walked!

[www.HolyGroundExplorations.com/  
israel-tours/revealing-israel-2019/](http://www.HolyGroundExplorations.com/israel-tours/revealing-israel-2019/)

**FEB 28 - MARCH 09, 2019**

### ISSACHAR TOUR

Issachar's main focus is the ISRAEL OF TODAY but by no means lessens the ISRAEL OF THE BIBLE. Glean strategic perspectives from Israeli speakers and visit sites not included on traditional tours.

Details upcoming at:

[www.HolyGroundExplorations.com/  
israel-tours/](http://www.HolyGroundExplorations.com/israel-tours/)

**SEPTEMBER 15-24, 2019**

## KFIR

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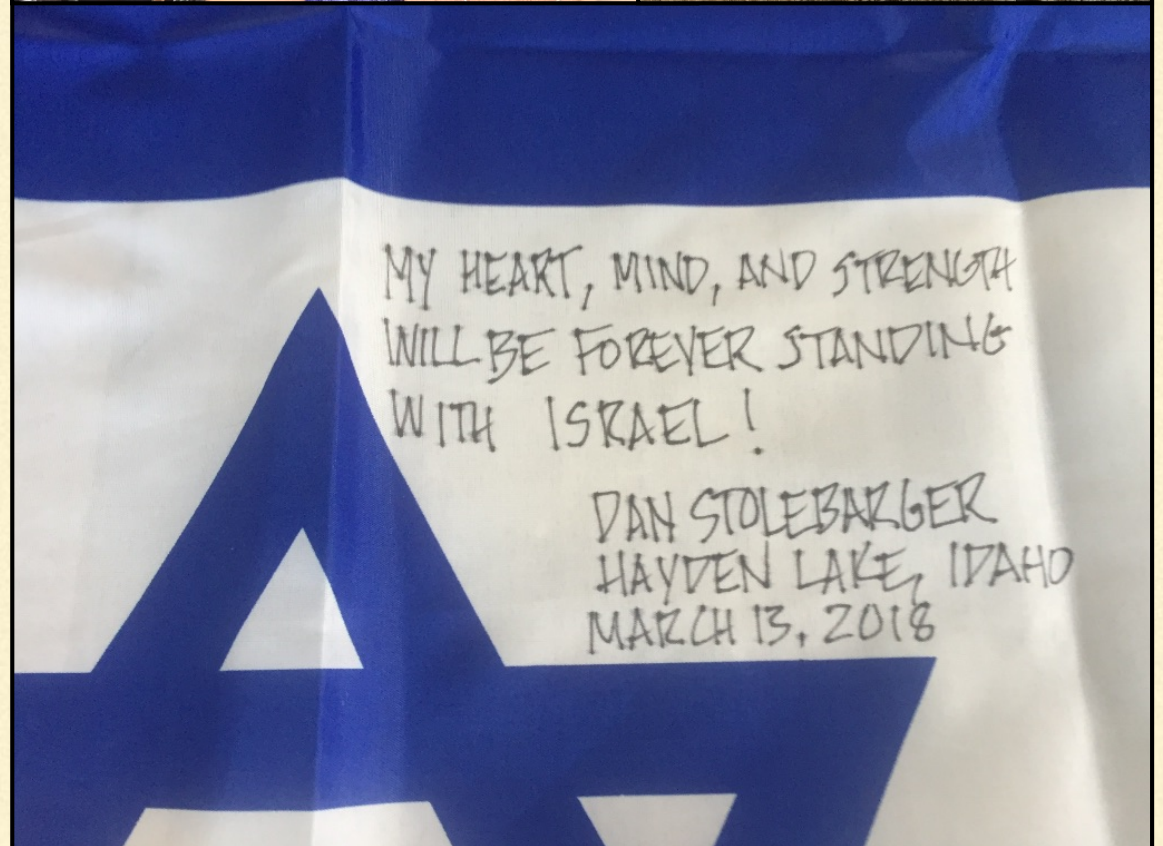
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# NEWS BITES

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\* Israel reveals: Hamas exploits sick Palestinians for terrorism

In new tactic, Hamas leaders in Gaza take advantage of Israeli gesture of allowing Palestinians into Israel for medical treatment to stage attacks in Israel, Shin Bet security agency says.

\* Netanyahu: The world backs us when we're strong 'Israel enjoying unprecedented diplomatic flourishing, including in the Arab and Muslim world,' PM tells lawmakers after visit by Chad's president

\* US President Donald Trump indicated in an interview published Wednesday that, although he could remove troops from the Middle East, citing cheaper oil as an explanation, one reason not to do so is concern for Israel's security. "Now, are we going to stay in that part of the world? One reason to is Israel," Trump told the Washington Post.

\*ULTIMATE DEAL WATCH – U.S. could unveil peace plan at start of 2019:



# CBS NEWS



*Why did CBS News initially report that Palestinians fired hundreds of rockets at the Israeli military, instead of truth, that the rockets were launched at civilians?*

After Palestinian terror groups in Gaza launched hundreds of rockets at Israeli civilians (541), killing one bystander, injuring scores, and traumatizing hundreds of thousands of other, CBS News broadcast that attacks were launched at the Israeli military.



Luckily, a watchdog group called the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America (CAMERA) caught it and forced CBS to make a correction.

One can't help wonder why CBS News chose to air report on the attacks in this manner, when the facts were sitting right in front of them.



# IDF PREPARES



Israel holds major drill to practice fighting Hamas and Hezbollah simultaneously. Ongoing 10-day exercise by Commando Brigade tackles battling Hamas in Gaza, Hezbollah in north at the same time, a prospect military fears is liable to occur.



However, the IDF does not see Hamas as a serious military threat. Rather, the terror group is effectively allowed to remain in power as the Israeli government fears an even more extremist organization could take its place were it to be defeated. The Iran-backed, Lebanon-based Hezbollah terrorist army, however, is considered by the military to be a significant strategic threat. With over 100,000 rockets and missiles in its arsenal, Hezbollah is seen by some defense analysts as more powerful than some Western militaries.





# THE GAZA PROBLEM



'Gaza problem won't go away until we destroy Hamas' terror network' "The current reality, in which Hamas and Islamic Jihad decide when to provoke another round of violence, is unacceptable," says Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee head Avi Dichter.



Bayit Yehudi leader and cabinet member Naftali Bennett said on Monday that Israel should respond to ongoing attacks from Gaza more aggressively and kill any terrorist who infiltrates into Israel. "The game of cat and mouse with Hamas is not working, terrorist come every day, dismantle part of the border fence, infiltrate into Israel, plant explosives and return to Gaza in peace. This HAS to STOP!"



# CZECH SUPPORT



*Czech President Miloš Zeman addressed the Knesset on Monday, calling for Europe to stand with Israel and referencing an impending Czech embassy move to Jerusalem.*

During a speech in a special session held in his honor at the Knesset on Monday, Czech President Miloš Zeman referred to his nation as Israel's closest ally in Europe, and referred to himself as "Israel's best friend" in the Czech Republic.



In his speech, Zeman focused on "solidarity with Israel and the Jewish people" and the battle against "Islamic terrorism." Zeman also reiterated his support for moving the Czech Republic's official embassy in Israel to Jerusalem.



# NIKKI'S FAREWELL



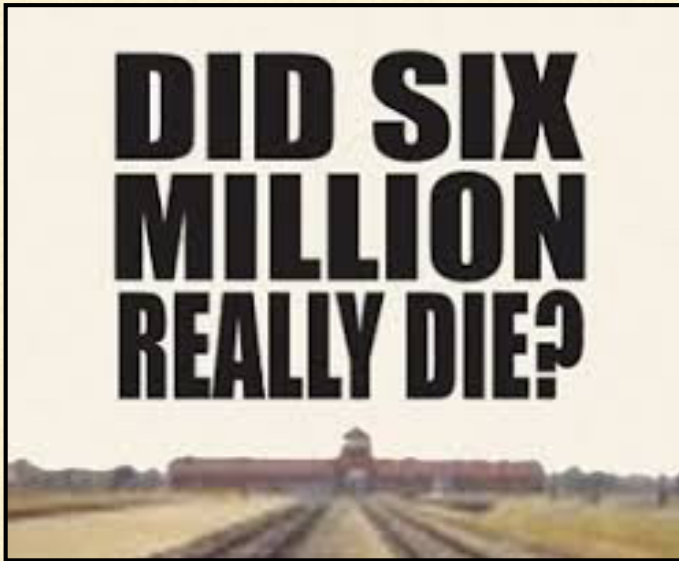
America's U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley, together with Israeli diplomats, has been working to build support for a U.S.-draft resolution at the world body condemning the Hamas terrorist organization. In a U.N. first, the resolution will condemn all of Hamas's terror activities, of which there is a very long list, including rocket attacks, fire kites and balloons, turning civilian resources to terrorist uses, incitement to violence, and terror tunnels.



The proposal is due to be voted on this weekend or at the start of next week. It will demand that Hamas cease all terror, including its riots at the border the launching of incendiary kites and balloons. Haley's team is going all-out to win support for the resolution, which doesn't require a special majority to pass in the General Assembly.



# POLL ANTI-SEMITISM



CNN poll reveals depth of anti-Semitism in Europe

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"More than a quarter of Europeans polled believe Jews have too much influence in business and finance.

Nearly one in four said Jews have too much influence in conflict and wars across the world...

Meanwhile, a third of Europeans in the poll said they knew just a little or nothing at all about the Holocaust."

Survey finds only 54% say Israel has right to exist as Jewish state



# UNITY GOVERNMENT



According to the Lebanese news outlet, Hamas has now agreed to implement a 2017 reconciliation agreement, which replaced a previous agreement struck in 2011, under which the Palestinian Authority's rule would be restored in Gaza.

However, Hamas conditioned the move on the establishment of a unity government including both Fatah and Hamas within 45 days. This time, Hamas' key stipulation, which could scupper the entire deal, is that the PA agree to hold general elections within six months in Gaza and the West Bank.



The PA may reject this condition for fear that Hamas will win the election and essentially take over the West Bank, in addition to remaining in power in Gaza.



# FIRST TEMPLE BEKA



An extremely rare, minuscule biblical stone weight inscribed in ancient Hebrew script with the word “beka” was discovered in rubble taken from excavations at the foundations of the Western Wall.

Only a handful of similar stone beka weights have been unearthed in Jerusalem, said archaeologist Eli Shukron.

The “beka,” a First Temple-period weight measure used by pilgrims paying their half-shekel tax before ascending to the Temple Mount, was recently discovered by a volunteer in the City of David’s wet sifting project in Jerusalem’s Emek Tzurim National Park. “When the half-shekel tax was brought to the Temple during the First Temple period, there were no coins, so they used silver ingots. In order to calculate the weight of these silver pieces they would put them on one side of the scales and on the other side they placed the Beka weight.



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# QUOTES

“Anti-Semitism is one of the oldest diseases – racism being another such disease – for which there is no vaccine,” Jewish Agency Chairman **Isaac Herzog** said in statement. “This disease must be fought before it spreads, and becomes a pandemic. History teaches that if anti-Semitism isn’t dealt with at an early stage, it will threaten people’s lives, as we saw in Pittsburgh.”

“I’m concerned because I think anti-Semitism is an ancient disease that rears its ugly head. It first attacks the Jews, but it never stops with them. It then sweeps entire societies.” **Benjamin Netanyahu**

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