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until the  
Absa Jewish  
Achiever  
Awards  
2015.

# South African Jewish Report

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## Joyous celebration as arrival of new Torah is welcomed



The induction of a new Torah is always a joyous occasion, with jubilation and lots of singing, dancing and clapping. Last Sunday was no exception when more than 500 people, including Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein, came out for a day of dedication and celebration as the Unity Torah was inducted by the Shul in Sandton Central community. The final letters were filled in during a formal ceremony at the Waverley home of Meni and Robyn Shani, as the Torah was dedicated to the loving memory of their daughter, Elliot Hodaya, who passed away last year. Traditionally a new Torah is welcomed into a community just as one would welcome a new bride and groom. A party bus, transporting dozens of children and a truck bedecked with a beautifully decorated chuppah, made of hand-woven materials that Elliot had previously selected, formed part of the celebratory procession. An authentic Torah scroll is a mind-boggling masterpiece of labour, love and skill. Containing exactly 304 805 letters, the beautiful 54-portion parchment scroll took months to complete. Pictured in the procession are Oren Shani (far left front) with his mother Robyn behind him and next to her, her husband Meni, holding the Torah scroll. Rabbi Ari Kievman of the shul is in the centre, with Arik Elimelech on the far right.

### Rabbi Cyril Harris: 10-year yarhzeit commemorated

Rabbi Cyril Harris passed away on August 24, 10 years ago, after a short illness. This dignified man, was a larger-than-life figure, affectionately called “my rabbi” by Nelson Mandela. He enhanced Jewish community interests and served on a wide variety of committees.

2

### Gloves come off in Frankel child abuse allegation

After explosive allegations of child molestation in the 1970s and ‘80s, the case against businessman Sidney Frankel, has again shot to prominence, with new developments set to shake the Jewish community.

3

### Jewish Achiever excitement building

It is here! Sunday evening sees the long-awaited Absa Jewish Achiever gala banquet at Vodaworld, where prestigious awards are handed out to outstanding business leaders, humanitarians and other deserving individuals, in nine categories.



4

### Why Hamas and Israel may be secretly negotiating

The Israeli government strenuously denies it, but rumours are rife that Israel, after a decade of failed diplomacy, could be close to signing an agreement with Hamas, that could lift Israel's Gaza blockade in exchange for a cessation of Hamas rocket attacks and tunnelling into Israel.

6

### Fedspeak 8-page pull-out supplement

The SAZF, JNF, IUA-UCF, and the Israel Centre give an exciting overview of their astonishingly wide range of activities in this pull-out supplement. These organisations show their enthusiastic participation in the Jewish and broader communities.

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# Rabbi Cyril Harris: 10 year yahrzeit commemorated

ISAAC REZNIK

This year marks the 10th anniversary since the passing of Emeritus Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris z”tl (pictured).

Rabbi Harris passed away on the 9th of Elul 5765, which corresponds this year to August 24.

Rabbi Harris, who had given devoted service to two large London synagogues and the British rabbinate and who came with a very positive recommendation from the late British Chief Rabbi Lord Jakobovits, was chosen to succeed the late Chief Rabbi Bernard Casper z”tl.

Rabbi Harris’ chief rabbinate proved to be very different from what went before. While other chief rabbis certainly had the ear of the government of the day and had ready access to various government departments, Rabbi Harris projected a much larger than life image on the larger South African scene.

He sat on various committees and participated in government affairs and in inter-faith relationships to a far greater extent than previous incumbents.

Rabbi Harris arrived in South Africa at a very opportune moment in our history. Apartheid was in the process of being dismantled and all the means were being set in motion for transforming the country into a democratic society with a new constitution and a bill of rights exorcising racism from its agenda.



Rabbi Harris positioned himself in a prominent role in this process and was also able to forge a close friendship and relationship with Nelson Mandela, the first president of the new South Africa. Rabbi Harris was an important guest at Mandela’s inauguration and participate in the proceedings.

Together with his wife Ann, the chief rabbi continued to play a major role in helping the needy and less fortunate members of the community through their involvement in Afrika Tikkun, an outreach organisation which serves the needs of the wider community.

He was a great supporter and promoter of the new South Africa and was constantly urging the community not to emigrate but to remain here and contribute to the consolidation of the new South Africa.

A chief rabbi, as the very title indicates, is immersed also in the specific needs of the Jewish community. Rabbi and Ann Harris travelled the length and breadth of the country, visiting every Jewish community in South Africa and even further afield. His broad Scottish brogue and picturesque speaking style, as well as his sense of humour, was known far and wide and greeted with warmth and acclaim.

After 17 years of loyal, devoted and passionate service, Rabbi Harris decided to go into retirement and passed away a few months later after a lengthy illness.

## BDS FASHION 2015

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PUT A PIG’S HEAD IN WOOLWORTHS EDITION

DESTROY ISRAEL BY ANY MEANS POSSIBLE – THE 72 VIRGINS EDITION

KASHRUT ALERT

‘SUPPLEMENTS SA’ NOUGAT IS NOT KOSHER

All nougat sold under the brand name “Supplements SA”, bear an unauthorised Beth Din logo. The kashrut division of the Union of Orthodox Synagogues said in a media release it was busy with an investigation.

Parsha

# Justice is an absolute cosmic value

Parshat Shoftim

Rev Joseph Matzner  
Reverend of  
Our Parents Home

Parshat Shoftim is a good and fitting preparation for Elul and the Days of Judgement, the Yemei Hadin.

The opening sentences of our parsha enjoin us to appoint judges in all our cities, towns and villages “and they shall judge the people with righteousness”.

The Torah gives the clear impression that justice has to be easily accessible at all times and that justice is an absolute value, a universal cosmic value.

From the Torah it becomes clear that justice is Divine and belongs to the world of Kedushah, holiness. Justice has its seat in the Holy Temple and must be seen as a service to G-d.

The Jewish people know in every fibre of their being the unconditional necessity of jus-

tice as one of the pillars upon which the world stands, that they are the people who submits themselves willingly every year to Divine judgement, as they have done for the past 3 500 years.

We ourselves decide and proclaim the Day of Judgement, we even fix the actual date of our judgement. The Beth Din Shel Maala endorses the date and broadcasts this great and awesome event to the highest of heavens.

And even as we invite our national yearly trial, so do we have fixed times for our own daily trial.

These are the three daily prayers. These are the moments when our little siddur invites us to a whole series of trials and introspections and reassessments. Our friend the siddur invites us to a daily mini-trial and leaves us with the wonderful feeling that it is good to be tried by the ultimate standards of truth!

The parsha describes the four sources of authority in Israel namely the Shofet - judge; the King - Melech; the Kohen - priest; and the Navi - prophet. Each has his own specific duties

and none can normally assume the duties of the other.

The judge is trained in Torah law and judges accordingly. Only the great Sanhedrin can sometimes judge according to the universal law (Bnei Noach laws) which continues to exist beneath the Sinai law.

The King is in charge of national security in times of peace and in times of war. “The King assembles the whole nation.” He can at times invoke the more severe Noachide laws in times of emergency.

The Navi is the national sensor. He is able to discern what the people are doing; he is sensitive to any national deviation. He chastises rank and file.

The Kohen has the best defined role. He is bound by the rules of Temple service and all matters of purity and impurity and is in constant touch with the people.

The Great Sanhedrin is the repository of the oral law. It too is permitted to put a halacha in parenthesis for a limited time for tikkun olam - for the benefit of the nation as a whole. The

Sanhedrin never acts arbitrarily. It makes takkanoth for the good of the people for all future generations.

According to Rambam, the laws of the Talmud have the force of Sanhedrin because the great majority of the people accepted those laws and embraced the sages who gave them over.

A final word: The first letters of Melekh, Shofet, Kohen, Navi, form the word Mishcan. May we all be inscribed in the Book of Life.

Shabbat Times		
Parshat Shoftim Aug 21 / 6 Elul Aug 22/ 7 Elul		
Begins	Ends	
17:32	18:22	Johannesburg
18:03	18:55	Cape Town
17:17	18:08	Durban
17:37	18:28	Bloemfontein
17:34	18:26	Port Elizabeth
17:26	18:18	East London

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South African

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# Gloves come off in Frankel child abuse allegation

STEVEN GRUZD

After the explosive allegations that first surfaced in the investigative magazine Noseweek in October 2014 that Johannesburg businessman, philanthropist and socialite Sidney Frankel had molested several young children in the 1970s and 1980s, the case shot to prominence again last week. New developments are sure to shake the close-knit South African Jewish community, including questions about what Frankel’s wife Callie knew.

The lobby organisation Women and Men Against Child Abuse (WMACA) hosted a packed media conference in Johannesburg last week Thursday, with Ian Levitt, the lawyer representing the seven claimants and forensic psychologist Leonard Carr.

Four harrowing, graphic statements from the alleged victims were read out. “The gloves are off, there is nothing subtle about abuse,” said WMACA co-founder Miranda Friedmann. Apparently, a dozen others have come forward but are not ready to join the case.

In South Africa, a criminal case may not be laid more than 20 years after an incidence of child abuse. WMACA is campaigning to change the law, in line with the UK, Canada, Ireland and half the US states. The plaintiffs are therefore pursuing a civil case, each seeking R5 million in damages. In an affidavit, Frankel denied all allegations, claiming this was a conspiracy to extort money.

In what Levitt characterised as an intimidation tactic by Frankel’s defence team, led by Billy Gundelfinger, the three claimants based overseas have each been required to put up security of R144 000 against the defendant’s costs.

The plaintiffs hit back publicly. To bolster their case, Levitt lodged court papers, including two recorded phone calls from August 2013 - between claimant Nicole Diamond and Sidney Frankel, and between Diamond and Callie Frankel (see the Eyewitness News website).

When Diamond asks Sidney Frankel to meet and talk about the alleged abuse, he says he will only do so with his lawyer. Callie Frankel refuses to meet Diamond, saying: “This is not my issue” and: “What I have done about it is my business.”

Levitt asked what Callie knew, when she knew, and what she did about it.

He said that criminal charges would be laid in August. The court would reject them due to the 20-year proscription. They would then take the decision under review, all the way to the Constitutional Court if necessary. “They want this man in jail,” he said.

Leonard Carr explained why abuse victims can take so long to tell their stories. “Once you are violated, this can affect you for life,” he said. The profound shame and mortification of abuse shifts one’s sense of self.

“Children can’t stand up to godlike, omnipotent authority figures,” and are reluctant to disclose abuse, fearing adults’ reactions. People question and blame the victim, and disclosure promotes secondary trauma. Toxic secrets therefore brew for many years. Paedophiles manipulate the child to drop his or her defences and trust the abuser. Later in life this leads to mistrust, or abusive relationships, because the person can suspect any warm, loving actions as a prelude to exploitation.

Carr said if the abuse was difficult to disclose, this should add to the veracity of the claims. Many adults tend not to believe children when they do come forward, as happened with one alleged victim from the Arcadia Children’s Home when he claimed Frankel abused him. Speakers noted that things had changed radically since the 1980s, with allegations taken much more seriously today. WMACA’s Luke Lamprechts said that actions against abuse in the Jewish community had been very encouraging in the last few years, with hard-hitting programmes in Jewish organisations, schools and shuls.

“There is recognition that this is an issue, and must be addressed.” He cited Kidsafe and

Koleinu as prominent initiatives.

Carr asked why cases like this cause some to question the Jewish community as a whole, when race and religion are seldom discussed in other instances.

Friedmann said: “Abuse transcends every

race and religion. It just happens that many of the people involved in this instance are Jewish.” She said this was an isolated case.

In a subsequent media statement, Gundelfinger castigated Levitt for trying this case in the media.

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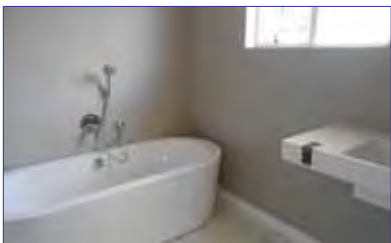
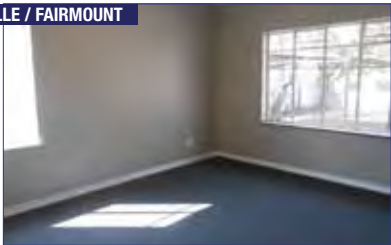
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## Jewish Achievers time again: Excitement reaches fever pitch

The SA Jewish Report's 2015 Absa Jewish Achiever Awards is on Sunday evening at Vodaworld in Midrand and excitement is building. The Jewish Achiever committee received more than 400 nominations this year and the number of categories have grown to nine, including the launch of a Woman in Leadership award.

This newest addition is being sponsored by Europcar and was spearheaded by the visionary Dawn Nathan-Jones, also a judge in the selection process.

Three panels of judges interviewed the 64 finalists in all the categories and although the process was deadly serious, great fun was had by

all, as can be seen from the pictures below.

Of the 17 years that the Jewish Achiever Awards have been in existence, 12 of them have been sponsored by Absa Bank and we are most grateful for their support which continues to keep the engines running at the Jewish Report. KIA and Chivas remain major supporters and we also welcome Europcar to this valued stable.

Marketing and branding group, Creative Counsel, is now in its second year of funding our exciting Young Jewish Entrepreneur Award and the first winner, Nadav Ossendryver, will be handing out the Lifetime Achievement Award on the night.



Judges of The Creative Counsel Young Jewish Entrepreneur Award - Gil Oved of Creative Counsel; former Achiever-Listed Company Winner Steven Braudo of Standard Bank; Creative Counsel's Ran Neu-Ner and Myron Pollack.



The Creative Counsel Young Jewish Entrepreneur nominees Genevieve Nathan and Romi Levenstein.



"When political foes meet" - DA Member of Parliament Glynnis Breytenbach and ANC City Councillor Joy Coplan, both nominated for the Europcar Jewish Woman in Leadership Award.



"When media icons meet" - Howard Feldman of the SAJR and ChairFM, nominee Benita Levin of Eyewitness News and nominee Kevin Fine of Jacaranda FM.



Nominees for the Absa Entrepreneur Award - Danny Aaron and Tom Goldgamer.



"Professor of laughter" coach Shareen Richter, nominee for the Europcar Woman in Leadership Award.



"Father and son team" - David and Jonathan Shapiro, nominees for the Absa Entrepreneur Award.



"Dynamic duo" - Warren Schewitz and Ariella Kuper, nominees for the Absa Entrepreneur Award.



Judges of the Europcar Woman in Leadership Award - Johanna Mukoki, Group CEO of Travel with Flair; Taryn Marcus, head of Talent at Imperial Group; Europcar's Dawn Nathan-Jones and Dori Weil.

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# Can a hunger strike be a terrorist weapon?



When does a doctor’s attempt to save a patient’s life become a political rather than a medical act? This question has provoked a fierce debate in Israel, as a Palestinian detainee teetered at the edge of death on Monday after a 62-day hunger strike.

Mohammad Allaan, a lawyer, started his hunger strike to protest being held in administrative detention without charges since last November, because of membership in terrorist group Islamic Jihad. He lost consciousness last Friday, but doctors at Barzilai Medical Centre in Ashkelon, where he was hospitalised and in a coma, stabilised his condition.

But should they force him to accept food or medical treatment?

In recent weeks he has become a focus of protest, particularly because he could be the first person to be force-fed since a new law was passed in the Knesset, permitting it. Palestinians clashed with Jewish protestors in Ashkelon on Sunday evening because of Allaan’s hospitalisation and the prospect of force-feeding him.

Allaan’s action prompted the Knesset to pass legislation in June, allowing a judge to sanction force-feeding or medical treatment if there is a threat to the inmate’s life, even if he refuses.

Palestinians in Israeli jails have held hunger strikes over recent years, many being hospitalised and causing political

protests. The law was promoted by Public Security Minister Gilad Erdan, who said that “security prisoners are interested in turning a hunger strike into a new type of suicide terrorist attack through which they will threaten the State of Israel. We will not allow anyone to threaten us and we will not allow prisoners to die in our prisons.”

But critics say force-feeding is unethical and the law is political, meant to prevent violence sparked by a hunger-striker’s death rather than protect a prisoner’s dignity and well-being. The Israeli Medical Association plans to challenge the new law in the Supreme Court and urged doctors not to comply with it.

Force-feeding constitutes torture, says the IMA, and treating a patient against his will violates medical ethics.

However, this view is challenged by leading Israeli medical ethics expert, Prof Gil Siegal, a member of the National Bioethics Council, head of the Centre for Health Law and Bioethics at Ono Academic College, and law professor at the University of Virginia.

He says doctors should save the lives of hunger-striking prisoners even against their will: “I’m embarrassed by a doctor who’d be willing to see a person die in the name of a political protest.”

Doctors should already have intervened in Allaan’s hunger strike with life-saving treatment, he said, despite the prisoner’s opposition when he was conscious. In an article on the DoctorsOnly website, Siegal said the IMA’s position was an import from other countries, different to Israel’s character and needs. He wrote: “Force-feeding’ is the wrong term. The proper term is ‘saving lives.’”

He told Haaretz: “Israeli ethics has the right to autonomy. We aren’t a colony of the United States or a European colony. [Israeli ethics] is a cultural, societal, legal and ethical creation whose voice is unique and clear.”

Medical ethics worldwide includes four main principles: the patient’s autonomy, refraining from harming the patient, trying to help the patient, and equality between patients. “This is the Anglo-American ethic,” says Siegal, “but it lacks two additional principles. The first is the sanctity of life, and the second is mutual responsibility and solidarity.

“The hunger-striker waves the banner of autonomy, but realising this right conflicts with realising the sanctity of life. Israeli law states explicitly that the sanctity of life take precedence in extreme cases. Anyone who rejects this is abolishing a binding Israeli creation and essentially bowing his head to foreign scholars of medical ethics instead of Israeli ones.”

Administrative detention of people suspected of terrorist activities has been mostly applied to Palestinians. But it has been suggested by Israel’s security services that suspected Jewish terrorists - such as those who recently firebombed the Dawabshah family home in the West Bank, killing their 18-month old baby and critically injuring the others - will be handled the same way. Will there be similar hunger strikes by the Jewish terrorists?

German author Thomas Mann is famous for saying: “Everything is politics.” Medical ethics may try to position itself above politics, but for the Israeli doctors treating Allaan, it is a lot more complex.

## World News in Brief

### IDF officer: Iran behind all recent attacks in Golan Heights

JERUSALEM - All attacks in the Golan Heights region since December 2013 “have been carried out with Iranian direction”, a senior Israel Defence Forces (IDF) Northern Command officer told reporters last Sunday.

According to the officer, who remained anonymous, several hundred Hezbollah terrorist operatives were currently active on the Syrian side of the Israeli border in the Golan Heights. The officer also said Iran had been responsible for the planting of an explosive device on the Israel-Syria border in April.

Terrorist operatives in the border area had received “clear guidance” from Iran to carry out attacks, the officer said. One terrorist cell operating in the area was led by Samir Kuntar, the Lebanese Druze terrorist who was released from Israeli prison in 2008. (JNS.org)

### Switzerland first to lift Iran sanctions after nuclear deal

BERNE - The government of Switzerland has become the first country to officially lift its sanctions against Iran in the wake of last month’s nuclear deal.

The decision, which took effect on August 13, removes a ban on precious metal transitions with Iranian state bodies, as well as requirements to report the trade and transport of Iranian petrochemical products, crude oil, and petroleum.

Switzerland is home to large oil trading companies such as Vitol Group, Glencore, and Trafigura Beheer BV. Ever since the US and Iran broke off diplomatic relations following the 1979 Iranian Revolution, Switzerland has been functioning as a mediator between the two nations.

The lifting of sanctions underscores Switzerland’s “support for the ongoing process to implement the nuclear agreement, and its confidence in the constructive intentions of the negotiating parties,” the Swiss government said. (JNS.org)

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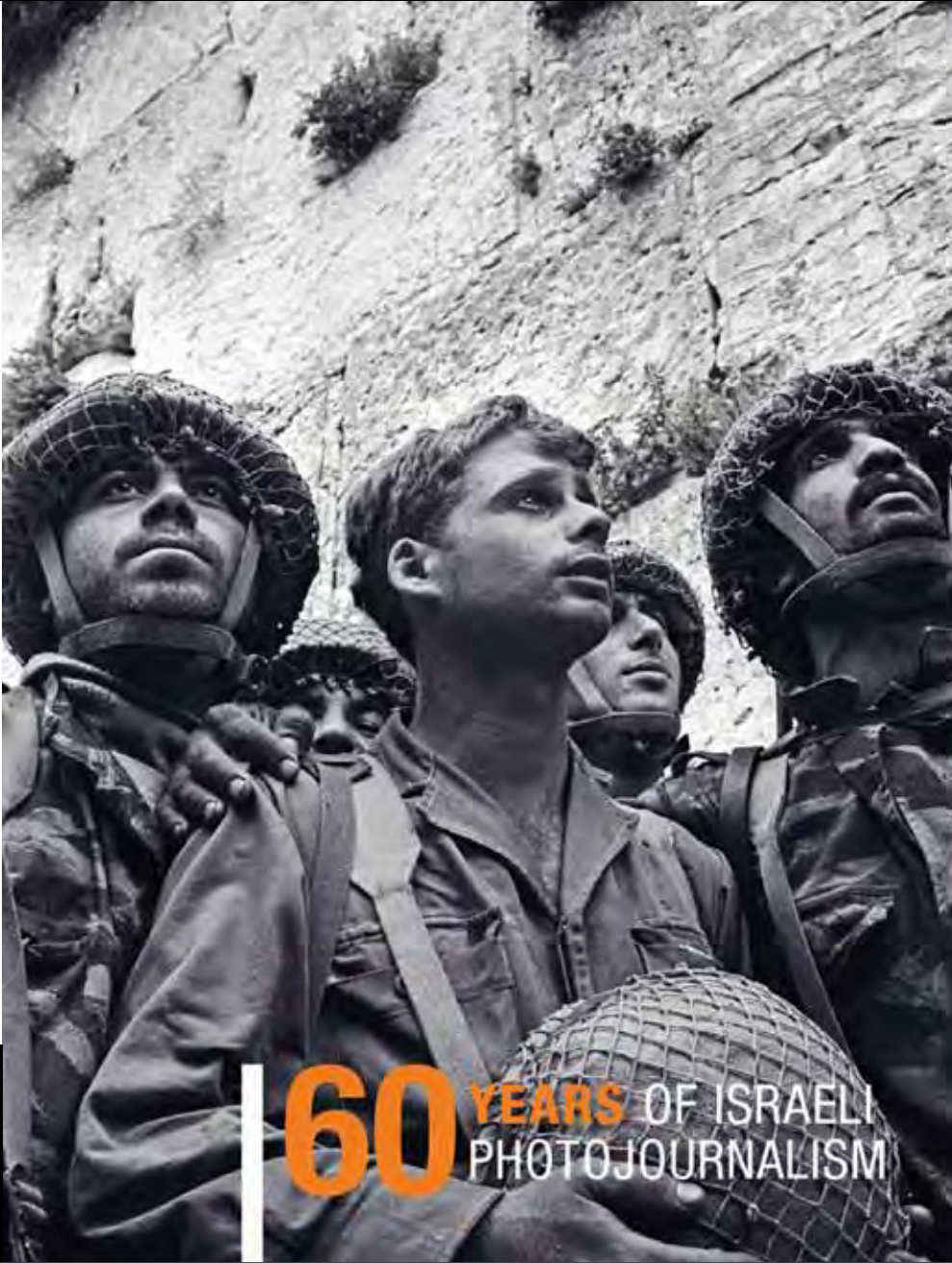
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# BDS T-shirt show finds its audience



Ironically, through this editorial and the slew of media coverage “T-shirt gate” has received, Boycott Divestment and Sanctions-SA (BDS) is getting exactly what it wants – a lot of publicity. The SA Jewish Report usually ignores BDS’ campaigns or it attempts to write about them in an objective way. These have included BDS and its supporters’ vocal call to boycott Woolworths followed by their ongoing plea to US rapper Pharrell Williams not to collaborate with the retailer. There was also their strong objections to a trip to Israel taken recently by youth leaders with strong ties to the ANC and their public complaints after being accused of intimidating the youth leaders upon their return.

This week, however, Jewish Report could not help but comment on the fact that BDS-SA national co-ordinator, Muhammed Desai, was thrown out of Virgin Active’s Old Edwardian branch in Johannesburg last Wednesday night for wearing a BDS T-shirt.

The story goes something like this: Desai says he received a call from the gym on Wednesday asking that he not wear T-shirts with pro-Palestinian messaging, or that call for a boycott of Israel. They had received several complaints from members. Desai said he was told he would not be allowed to enter the gym if he wore a BDS T-shirt again.

Later that evening he arrived at the gym in a BDS T-shirt with an image of the late Chris Hani and various slogans for BDS and the Young Communist League on the front and text reading: “From the coast of Cape Town to the coast of Gaza, in solidarity with Palestinians against Israeli apartheid” on the back.

He was asked to leave and he refused, demanding that the gym show him the specific rules he had breached by wearing the T-shirt.

The gym apparently called the police who would not arrest Desai. After being told he was not allowed to enter any Virgin Active gym wearing a BDS, or any other social justice, T-shirt, Desai threatened to lay a complaint with the South African Human Rights Commission as well as to take the matter to the Equality Court.

This sparked further uproar and Virgin soon sent its managing director to Johannesburg to deal with the matter directly. Ultimately Virgin caved in saying that their decision to inform Desai that he could not wear the T-shirt was “wrong”.

The incident raises a host of considerations. The South African Constitution protects freedom of speech and expression. Thus if Muhammed Desai chooses to wear a free Palestine T-shirt to the gym, that is his right in this country despite any offence it may cause. A pro-Israel supporter would have a similar right to wear a T-shirt supporting the Israeli army or the Zionist cause.

However, because Virgin Active is a private members club, it is entitled to set its own policies and while “no legal item of clothing is banned from Virgin Active clubs” at present, perhaps it will change its policies going forward to include banning certain provocative items.

In reflecting on Desai’s decision to wear this T-shirt, we can probably assume it was pure provocation on his part, and specifically his decision to wear the T-shirt to the gym that night when he was asked not to - was a well-crafted, staged, media opportunity.

Apparently e.tv journalist Yusuf Omar just happened to be there at the time and the incident was carried on various media channels. Social media was also alight. Comments appearing on Desai’s Facebook page called for a boycott and protests outside the gyms. Statements like: “Let’s make sure that Woolies and Virgin be removed in our country”, among others, were rife.

For many of our pro-Israel, SA Jewish community, BDS represents an offensive set of beliefs. Some of its members do not even support the right of Israel to exist. BDS is also seen as a gathering post for anti-Semites - we remember when their ranks called out to “shoot the Jew” at an Israel apartheid rally at Wits University in 2013.

Further, Desai has worn T-shirts supporting the ANC Youth League and Amnesty International, but what about T-shirts calling to “Help the millions of Syrian refugees” or “Stop ISIS”. Our community rightly feels that BDS places undue focus on criticising Israel in South Africa and not on other much more tyrannical regimes in the Middle East.

The sad reality is that Desai benefited from the media circus he was looking for through this incident and admittedly, he does have the right to wear this T-shirt. We as Jews also have a right to be sensitive and vigilant.

Perhaps, however, all of us South Africans - with contentious issues such as the Israel Palestine question - should be more respectful and less antagonistic. Even though Virgin backed down on its initial response, there was a worthwhile message in its statement: “We would hope that members would understand the need for both tolerance and respect in this space. We do not believe our clubs should be forums for contentious political activity.”

This would be more in the spirit of the peaceful co-existence with a focus on common ground - that our democratic forefathers fought so hard for. After all - South African Jews, our staunch pro-Israel supporters, Muhammed Desai and his supporters at BDS - are all watching events evolve in the Middle East from the sidelines anyway.

– Vanessa Valkin, Editor

More news on our website [www.sajr.co.za](http://www.sajr.co.za)



Senior Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh arriving at a Liberation Youths summer camp organised by Hamas in the Gaza Strip, on August 1.

# Why Hamas and Israel may be secretly negotiating

BEN SALES  
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After more than a decade of failed diplomacy, Israel could be close to signing a major agreement with the Palestinians. They’re just not the Palestinians you thought.

After years of vowing not to negotiate with Hamas, which rules the Gaza Strip, Israel may be finalising a deal with the terrorist group that reportedly would lift Israel’s blockade of Gaza in exchange for a cessation of Hamas rocket attacks and tunnelling into Israel for at least eight years.

Israeli officials have flatly denied the reports. On Monday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s office released a statement saying that its policy of non-negotiation with Hamas had not changed.

“Israel would like to officially clarify that it is not holding any meetings with Hamas, neither directly, nor via other countries, nor via intermediaries,” the statement said.

But there may be some truth to the reports, which have appeared in the Arabic-language press and have received considerable attention in the Israeli media. A senior official in Turkey, an ally of Hamas, told the Hamas daily al-Resalah that an agreement was near, the Times of Israel reported.

The official, Yasin Aktay, is an adviser to Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu and said Hamas political chief Khaled Meshaal had come to Turkey to brief the Turkish leadership about the agreement.

After three wars in the past six years, Israel and Hamas may have a mutual interest in securing a longer-term truce that will stave off another round of fighting. Hamas would be able to rebuild Gaza - and perhaps restock its arsenal - while the Israelis would get a reprieve from Hamas rockets that is longer than two years.

“It seems to me that Hamas absorbed some [Israeli military] operations, and they’re interested in getting to an arrangement that will allow them to live in Gaza in quiet,” said Ephraim Inbar, the director of Bar-Ilan University’s Begin-Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies. “Israel is also interested in a long-term ceasefire.”

Arabic news sources reported that the agreement could include the construction of a port in the Gaza Strip. Ships en route to Gaza would pass through a port in Cyprus, where they would be examined by either Turkish or Nato authorities.

The agreement also would include permits for thousands of Gazan day labourers to work in Israel, and in exchange Hamas would commit to ceasing all

rocket attacks and tunnelling into Israel, according to the Times of Israel.

The deal reportedly has been approved by the Shura Council, Hamas’ legislative body. Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair is said to be mediating between the sides.

Gershon Baskin, who helped negotiate the 2011 Israel-Hamas prisoner exchange that freed Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit, said he was inclined to believe Netanyahu’s denials and doubted that an agreement was close. Israel had no incentive to sign an agreement that would strengthen Hamas while weakening Palestinian moderates in the West Bank who opposed Hamas, Baskin said.

“It’s insane for Israel to even think about entering into that kind of agreement,” Baskin said. “It’s a victory for Hamas, and the question is: You’re giving Hamas a victory as Hamas continues to build its soldiers and its army. For what? It’s not a plan to demilitarise Gaza.”

If negotiations are taking place, it would be a major reversal for a government that previously considered Israel-Hamas talks anathema - at least officially. Last year, Israel called off peace talks with the Fatah-controlled Palestinian Authority when the Fatah faction and Hamas signed a unity pact.

Israel, however, has negotiated with Hamas indirectly in the past. Mediated talks in 2012 and 2014 ended Israeli military operations in Gaza. At the end of August 2014, an Egyptian-mediated pact ended a Gaza conflict that saw more than 2 000 Palestinians and 70 Israelis killed. The ceasefire also called for restarting indirect talks on easing the blockade of Gaza and disarming the territory.

An Israel-Hamas agreement may be especially opportune now as Israel aims to strengthen ties with neighbouring countries that share its fears about the Iran nuclear agreement. Saudi Arabia reportedly wants to create a broad, Sunni-based alliance that includes Hamas to counter Iran’s regional ambitions. Hamas, however, has received funding and weaponry from Iran.

For Israel, another positive side effect of an accord could be improved relations with Turkey, which supports Hamas. Relations between Turkey and Israel deteriorated in 2010 after nine Turks were killed when Israeli soldiers stormed a Turkish boat, the Mavi Marmara, trying to break Israel’s naval blockade of Gaza.

Since then, Turkey and Israel have negotiated over Israeli compensation for the victims. An Israeli pact with Hamas could make Turkey more amenable to an agreement of its own with Israel. (JTA)



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JNF Solidarity Mission – May 2015  
A report back.

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**IUA-UCF ISRAEL UNITED APPEAL**

Lay leaders of the South African Jewish Community,  
meet with high level decision makers in Israel.

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ISRAEL AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION

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The South African Zionist Federation is proud to present for one night only, The King David String Ensemble as its headline act for the upcoming “Chords for a Cause” concert. These maestros are all Jewish musicians who hail from the former Soviet Union and are set to take the South African community by storm with their renditions of masterpieces of both Jewish and classical music.

Described as a “tour de force” by the Jerusalem Post, these instrumentalists have travelled all over the world including shows in Japan, Spain, Denmark, Sweden, France, Belgium, Thailand, Korea, the Philippines, Singapore, Myanmar, and the United States where they unleashed a repertoire that ranges from the baroque to the contemporary periods. Music has the ability to bring us together, ignite the soul and spread messages. In this instance the messages are truth, peace and togetherness.

This once-in-a-lifetime event will take place on the 6th of September 2015 at the Auto and General Theatre on the Square at 17:00. Tickets are on sale for R180 per person. All proceeds from the show will go to combating those who continue to wage war daily against Israel in the court of public opinion by spreading falsehoods and rhetoric against the Jewish State.

For tickets and further information please contact the South African Zionist Federation on (011) 645-2531. Tickets are selling fast, book now to avoid disappointment.

### Jewish – Hindu leadership dinner

A most successful dinner between the South African Jewish Leadership and the South African Hindu Maha Saba Leadership was held in Durban recently. It was an extremely congenial event during which hosts and guests interacted with and warmed to one other.

SAZF Chairman Ben Swartz addressed the group, as did Prof Antony Arkin who, when he introduced the evening, reminded all that his doctoral thesis had been on the subject of the Indian community and their contribution.

John Moshal, president of the Durban Jewish community, also addressed the gathering, as did Ashwin Trikamjee, representing the Hindu leadership.



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## What's on?

### EXCITING EVENTS AHEAD FROM THE SAZF FOR THE COMMUNITY, STARTING WITH THE ISRAELI FILM FESTIVAL WHICH WILL BE SCREENED BETWEEN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER.

**Sunday 11 October @ Beyachad @ 15:30: STEAL A PENCIL FOR ME**

Compelling documentary about the power of love and the ability of humankind to rise above unimaginable suffering. 1943: Holland is under total Nazi occupation.

**Sunday 18 October @ Beyachad @ 15:30: KIPPUR**

This movie takes place in 1973 during the Yom Kippur War in which Egypt and Syria launched attacks in Sinai and the Golan Heights. The story is told from the perspective of Israeli soldiers.

**Sunday 25 October @ Beyachad @ 15:30: NICKY'S FAMILY**

A gripping documentary about Sir Nicholas Winton (recently deceased) who saved

the lives of 669 Czechoslovakian children from the lethal threat of the Nazis.

**Wednesday 4 November @ Beyachad @ 19:30: WHEN I SAW YOU**  
Jordan, 1967. The world is alive with change: brimming with reawakened energy, new styles, music and an infectious sense of hope. In Jordan, a different kind of change is underway as tens of thousands of refugees pour across the border from Palestine.

**Wednesday 11 November @ Beyachad @ 19:30: A SERIOUS MAN**  
1967. The story of an ordinary man's search for clarity in a universe where Jefferson Airplane is on the radio and F-Troop is on TV. Can anyone help him cope with his afflictions and enable him to become a righteous person - a mensch - a serious man?

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## The SAZF Public Speaking and Israel Advocacy Programme: July 2015



### 60 SECONDS WITH... TLOTLISO MPHUTHI

**Q. What is your connection to the Jewish community and Israel?**

**A.** My connection with this community and Israel is through an organisation called DEISI Int. I am the project manager. We are an organisation that defends, embraces, supports and invests in Israel. We believe that the truth concerning Israel should be spread rather than the lies you see in the media.

**Q. Have you yourself been to Israel and if so, how did you experience it?**

**A.** Yes, I have been in Israel. I was there in November 2014. My experience was that there is no apartheid. Instead I saw Arab teachers educating Jewish children. I saw Bedouins in good relations with the Jewish community. I witnessed African people in the Israeli Defence Forces, and I saw Israel as being a truly democratic country. We saw the build-up to the elections, as well as female and Arab politicians.

**Q. Are you currently working on any projects that show Israel in a positive light?**

**A.** In the coming months we will be building on community projects, one of which is in Vosloorus. We are spreading the word of what Israel and the Jewish community can do to uplift their communities and how they can benefit from interaction with Jews and Israelis.



### 60 SECONDS WITH... MIGHTIE JAMIE

**Q. What is your connection with the Jewish community and Israel?**

**A.** In 2013 I got involved when I saw the BDS protesting against the Israeli pianist who was at Wits. I and people from all different walks of life, including Jewish people, got together to form an equal and democratic think tank on how to combat this behaviour in the future. This later led to the establishment of Project W.

**Q. Have you yourself been to Israel and if so, how did you experience it?**

**A.** I have been to Israel and just like South Africa, Israeli citizens have regular problems just like us. They are no different from us. They are, however, living in a contested space. The problem is nobody wants to talk about how to deal with Jerusalem.

**Q. Are you currently working on any projects that show Israel in a positive light?**

**A.** I want to do more with Jews in South Africa. Projects involving education. I would like to organise debates between South Africans and Israeli Universities to bring our people together.

The recent SAZF Public Speaking and Israel Advocacy Programme was facilitated by Mightie Jamie, an accomplished and decorated national debater. Jamie, an intelligent and thoughtful advocate for Israel, led the seminar which was attended by both Jews and non-Jews. He stressed that debates do in fact matter; and the only way to win is to know what you are talking about, to know how to design your argument, and to be aware of how to refute false claims.

The seminar was a resounding success in the valuable lessons it taught; and the cheese and wine event after the seminar gave people from all different walks of life the chance to interact with and learn from each other.

The South African Zionist Federation will be organising additional Israel Advocacy forums to ensure that community members become effective and informed advocates for Israel.

## EDITORIALS from ISRAELI newspapers



**JERUSALEM POST:** "A cult of death, a racist hatred of Jews, Hindus, Christians and "unbelievers" and the desire to restore a long-vanished, despotic empire ruled by a mediaeval Muslim jurisprudence are the common features of the groups that carry out these attacks. The West has no option other than to stand and fight for its values, wherever these attacks occur, but in our region, a unified front against extremism, comprised of Israel and the moderate Arab states, is the only way to keep this side of the world safe and minimise the chances of another war in Gaza or another terrorist atrocity abroad."

**HAARETZ:** "The working assumption of Israel's government over the past eight years has been that only a military solution can calm the Gaza Strip. It is ironic, therefore that it is the IDF and not the politicians, that has initiated a new, rational and practical strategy, which assumes that a military solution alone is no guarantee of quiet along the borders. Senior IDF officers have recently formulated a number of recommendations, including the opening of border crossings between Israel and the Gaza Strip, granting permits to thousands of Palestinians to work in Israel, allowing Palestinians to travel from Gaza to Jordan via the Allenby Bridge and increasing the volume of goods entering and leaving the Strip. The practical effect of the proposals would be the almost complete lifting of the blockade on the Strip. It is a welcome approach, which should be adopted and implemented immediately."



**YISRAEL HAYOM:** "The United States, the strongest power in world history, is lowering its flag and surrendering without a fight to a brutal and vicious Iranian regime. The decline of the West is turning into a fait accompli. Western civilisation has chosen to eat, drink and reach dubious deals, no matter what the consequences. It is a given that those who avoid the fight against terrorism will eventually surrender to it. When will the world realise that Islamic terrorism is not just Israel's problem and that a nuclear Iran would not just endanger the Jews?"



REMARKABLE ISRAEL

★ For the first time ever, Hareidi religious boys are learning cyber defence in a four-year Beit Midrash programme, whilst preparing for IDF service. After the first year at Beit Midrash Derech Chaim, 80% of the boys passed the cyber test in which 35% is considered a high achievement.

★ Israeli nonprofit Red Button has produced the world's first app that lets anyone, especially kids, easily report negative web behaviour. Click the red button to send web and IP address, site ownership and more to volunteers at the Interdisciplinary Centre Herzliya (IDC), who collate the information and file complaints with the appropriate sites and/or authorities.

★ A brand new recycling plant has begun collecting the garbage of some 1 million residents of the Jerusalem region. The NIS 100 million plant uses state-of-the-art technology to transform waste into energy without human intervention.

★ Some 150 Muslim, Christian and Jewish students, most with cerebral palsy, attend the ONN School for Special Education in Tel Aviv. The school provides academic, social and life skills for the

students, who range from 6 to 21 years of age.

★ Dr Yuval Tabach of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem has developed an Internet tool that will allow any investigator, physician or patient to analyse a gene according to its evolutionary profile. It will help identify genes associated with genetic diseases and cancer.

★ Israel is one of the top 5 happiest countries, according to a new Better Life Index report by the OECD. Israel came after Denmark, Iceland, Switzerland and Finland on 22 variables - including income, education, housing, health, life expectancy, life satisfaction and community.

★ Deafness did not prevent US Jews from visiting the Jewish State this summer on Taglit and Birthright trips. One group specifically catered for those with hearing impediments. And the highlight was a whole day's sessions at the Institute for the Advancement of Deaf People in Israel.

★ Israel's PlayBuzz has raised \$16 million to expand its quiz games, lists and poll website internationally. Founded by Shaul Omert (son of

ex-Israeli PM Ehud Olmert), Playbuzz has grown to more than 80 million unique users, with more than half of its traffic coming from Facebook

★ Israeli start-up DeepOptics has developed electronic multifocal lenses. Using sensors, they detect what the eye is focusing on as well as the viewing distance - adjusting the power of your spectacles to ensure that whatever is being looked at comes into focus, whether near or far.

★ Great praise from US Congressman Chaka Fattah - the man in charge of appropriating federal money for science and medical research and development programmes. Fattah, was a keynote speaker at BrainTech 2015 event in Tel Aviv. Per capita, Israel leads the world in neuroscience; and has the brains to solve almost any brain problem.

★ Israeli biotech Evogene is using its PointHit platform to analyse molecules in weeds and identify key plant macro-molecules responsible for essential biological processes in weeds. By targeting those processes, herbicides can be developed that will be more effective in killing weeds.

# HEADLINE NEWS

☛ Saudi multi-millionaire media tycoon, Prince Talal Bin Waleed, has urged all Arab nations to give up their acrimonious stance toward the Jewish nation. He intends to visit Israel and open a direct dialogue on behalf of Saudi Arabia's King Salman.

☛ The Saudi-Arabian think tank Centre for World University Rankings ranked three Israeli universities within the top 100. Hebrew University took the lead for Israel in the rankings, ranked 23rd, the Weizmann Institute was ranked 39th and Tel Aviv University 86th. The Centre for World University Rankings is based in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.



☛ Canada will keep its sanctions in place - at least for now - despite the nuclear agreement Iran has reached with major world powers. Foreign Affairs Minister Rob Nicholson issued a statement saying that Canada "will continue to judge Iran by its actions not its words," and that the government in Ottawa will examine the agreement carefully before making any policy changes.

☛ More than 2 000 Jewish athletes participated in the 14th European Maccabi Games that opened in July. The competition was the first Jewish-organised sporting event to take place in Germany, at the Olympiastadion, the same Olympic

stadium built and used for the Summer Olympics, 1936 during the Nazi era, when Jews were discouraged from participating. Participants this year came from 36 countries and competed in 19 disciplines.

☛ Three state senators from New Hampshire recently visited Israel to learn about the country's approach to public healthcare, border security, economic development, environmental policy and a host of other issues.

☛ Israeli exports to India totalled \$370 million in Q1/15, double the exports in Q1/14, according to figures from the Israel Export and International Co-operation Institute. Israeli exports to India had risen in all sectors, including telecommunications equipment, measuring and control equipment, industrial equipment and more.



☛ Israel is the fifth-priciest country in the world when it comes to how much consumers pay for unleaded petrol. Israelis are paying \$1.53 per litre (\$5.79 per gallon), despite the fact that world oil prices have dropped to \$66 per barrel since April 2012. The price of unleaded petrol is highest in Norway, followed by Turkey, Hong Kong, and the Netherlands. Italy is tied with Israel for fifth place.

☛ With increasing areas of the Middle East falling prey to the Islamic State (IS), Israel remains a safe haven for all religions, faiths and ethnicities in the region. However, recently residents in an East Jerusalem suburb were shocked to receive pamphlets allegedly printed by an IS branch in Jerusalem. Written in menacing Arabic and bearing the black IS flag, the pamphlets threatened Christian Arabs with death unless they fled the Jewish capital by the end of Ramadan. No news yet as to whether they kept to their threat.

☛ Yotam Goren of Israel has been appointed as deputy chairman of the Administrative and Budgetary Committee to the United Nations General Assembly. The committee functions as the UN's "Finance Ministry," responsible for a budget of more than \$11 billion.



☛ Russia's military this year alone will receive over 40 new intercontinental ballistic missiles capable of piercing any missile defences, President Vladimir Putin said in a blunt reminder of the nation's nuclear might amid tensions with the West over Ukraine. Putin vowed to continue a big arms modernisation programme despite the nation's economic downturn. He specifically mentioned Armata tanks and other new armoured vehicles, which were

first shown to the public during a recent Red Square military parade.

☛ A rare inscription from the time of King David was discovered at Khirbet Qeiyafain. A ceramic jar c. 3 000 years old that was broken into numerous shards was discovered in 2012 in excavations. Intensive restoration work, during which hundreds of pottery shards were glued together to form a whole jar, solved the riddle - the jar bears the inscription: Eshba'al Ben Bada'. "This is the first time the name Eshba'al has appeared on an ancient inscription in the country. Eshba'al Ben Shaul, who ruled over Israel at the same time as David, is known from the Bible."



☛ The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) has designated the ancient Jewish town of Beit She'arim in the Western Galilee as a World Heritage Site. The well-preserved town, which includes ancient tombs and sarcophagi as well as "a treasury of artworks and inscriptions in Greek, Aramaic and Hebrew," is the ninth Israeli site to be so designated. "Beit She'arim bears unique testimony to ancient Judaism under the leadership of Rabbi Judah the Patriarch, who is credited with Jewish renewal after 135 CE," said the Unesco committee.



# Words from ...

"Could you trust the Iranians if you get a deal with them, because their history isn't, let us say, spotless in that regard...? A good deal has a few things it must have within it. One of them, it has to be verifiable. That is, we have to be able to know that the Iranians are taking the steps that the agreement calls for to not get a nuclear weapon. We can't do that based on trust... Just like back in the old days of the Cold War when we had arms control with the Soviet Union, we didn't trust the Soviet Union either. And we wanted to make sure that all the agreements are verifiable. So that's a critical thing. And if it's not verifiable, we're not going to agree to it."

**(US Secretary of Defence Ash Carter, US Department of Defence, July 10, 2015)**

"Israel is India's most trusted ally in West Asia and one dare say among the three or four closest friends India has anywhere in the world." Indian columnist Ashok Malik, in light of a recent announcement that Prime Minister Narendra Modi would become the first Indian premier to visit the Jewish state. Malik suggested that the Israel trip be considered a "standalone," saying it would be "clumsy and discourteous to link a Modi visit to Israel to one to Muslim/Arab countries as well... The India-Israel relationship is important enough, even sacred enough, to merit that respect."

**(Algemeiner, June 16, 2015)**

"A deal that allows Iran to keep a uranium enrichment programme will not prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. Instead, it will make an Iranian bomb more likely. It also increases the risk of a nuclear arms race in the region. Then there is the matter of setting a dangerous precedent: It will be impossible for Washington to argue that it trusts Iran with sensitive nuclear facilities but not its friends and allies. To make matters even worse, in the wake of a deal, all of this will happen with the international

community's stamp of approval. Seventy years of successful US-led nonproliferation policy will have been trashed. Unless the negotiators return to insisting on zero enrichment, their efforts deserve zero support."

**(Matthew Kroenig, Tablet, June 15, 2015)**

"I regret deeply this controversy, and I want to make totally clear that Orange as a company has never supported and will never support any kind of boycott against Israel... Israel is a fantastic place to be in the digital industry, and, of course, our will is to strengthen and to keep on investing here." Stéphane Richard, the chairman of the French company Orange. Richard made a personal pilgrimage to Israel to apologise to Prime Minister Netanyahu, after the executive's recent declaration that he wanted to disentangle from an Israeli mobile provider prompted a diplomatic uproar.

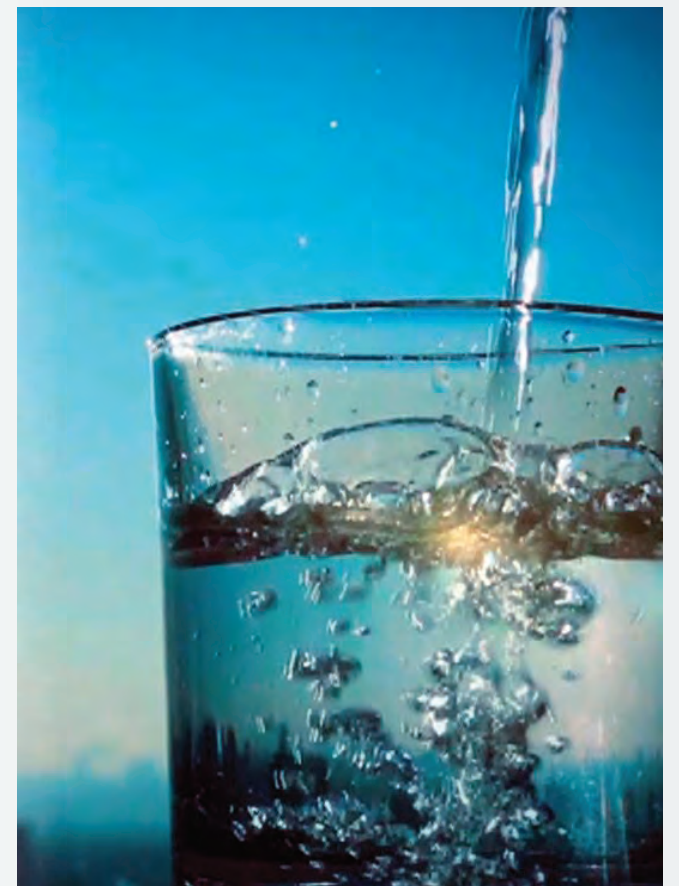
**(New York Times, June 12, 2015)**

"Iranians aren't the only ones captured by their own illusions and fear of violence. Leaving aside his fascination with transformative capitalism, President Obama's entire approach in the nuclear negotiations can be boiled down to one factor: fear of American military action against the Islamic Republic. The clerical regime will retain a substantial nuclear-weapons infrastructure under any deal Obama concludes because the president fears that Khamenei will walk if he insists on greater curbs. As Johns Hopkins University's Michael Mandelbaum put it in an unflattering comparison between Soviet-American arms-control talks and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, "Surely the main reason [Obama has conceded so much] is that, while there is a vast disparity in power between the two parties, the United States is not willing to use the ultimate form of power, and the Iranian leaders know this."

**(Reuel Marc Gerecht, Weekly Standard, June 8, 2015)**

## Free Wi-Fi on South African buses thanks to RADWIN's wireless mobility solution

The city of Tshwane in South Africa is using RADWIN's FiberinMotion wireless mobility solution to provide free Wi-Fi on board city buses – up to 100 Mbps throughput per bus. Since the project was launched in December 2014, over 200 000 unique users have used the Tshwane Free WiFi service on board buses, with total data usage of 30 terabytes. Project Isizwe – a nonprofit organisation which brings Internet to low income communities across South Africa – spearheaded the project. In the first phase of project deployment, RADWIN's FiberinMotion base stations were deployed along the A Re Yeng line from Pretoria Central to Hatfield and over 30 buses were equipped with FiberinMotion Vehicular Mobile Units (VMUs).



## Israel blesses the world ....

Israel and the World Bank Group's Water Global Practice teamed up this week on a new initiative to provide water-technology knowledge and expertise for use in the developing world. Under the plan Israeli experts in desalination, water filtration and sanitation, drip irrigation and more will travel to various countries around the world to present their knowledge and experience to local officials while experts will also visit Israel to observe first-hand how the Jewish State has built a world-class agricultural sector despite its arid climate.

## Israel establishes Technology and Innovation Authority

The Israeli government has approved the establishment of a National Authority for Technology and Innovation (NATI). The authority will function as the executive arm of the Office of the Chief Scientist at the Israeli Ministry of Economy. Minister of the Economy Deri, who was one of the proposers of the authority along with Minister of Finance Kahlon, said. The government's innovation policy aims at achieving broad national goals in the coming decade, including: encouraging growth of industrial companies, injecting technological innovation into traditional fields which are not traditionally R&D dependent, strengthening research infrastructure as well as capital and labour, harnessing innovation for the improvement of the public sector and increasing the participation of sectors currently underrepresented in the hi-tech work force.



## Telfed Tidings

Since 1948, Telfed, the South African Zionist Federation (Israel), has been dedicated to improving the quality of life and opportunities available to approximately 25 000 former Southern Africans living in Israel. The organisation's core mission is to ensure smooth 'Aliyah' (immigration) and successful 'Klita' (absorption), while providing valuable support for the SA community in Israel.

Making aliya can be a difficult process for some, and Telfed is here to lend a helping hand. The ideological motivation that brings many Jews to Israel does not counteract the practical concerns and challenges that all new olim have to contend with: learning a new language, settling down in a new community, finding work, connecting to new friends and so on. Last month, Telfed hosted a "Cheese and Wine" party for new olim to get together and share their experiences of "coming home". The evening was entertaining indeed, with many sharing "only in Israel" anecdotes!



For Dr Teria Shantall, who started the first training school in Logotherapy at the University of South Africa and served as President of the Viktor Frankl Institute of Logotherapy, making aliya 'became a story I was obsessed with', she confesses. "And to Abram God said: 'Go for yourself, out of your country, from your birthplace and from the house of your father, to the land which I shall show you. I will make of you a great nation and I will bless you'". (Lekh Lekha, the Hirsch Chumash). With Frankl's words resounding in the back of her mind ("the heart remains restless until it has found and realised meaning") Teria and her family moved to Israel, and are "fully happy at last!"

In addition to tending to the welfare and wellbeing of SA community members, (particularly the elderly, unemployed, families at risk or with special needs, those afflicted by physical or mental illnesses, lone soldiers and single parents), Telfed also provides study bursaries, subsidised rental housing apartments for new/established 'olim' (immigrants), counselling, employment guidance, information services and volunteering opportunities, geared to promoting integration and strengthening the State of Israel.

Contact details: Toll free from South Africa: 0800-997-495  
Email: [info@telfed.org.il](mailto:info@telfed.org.il) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/telfed](http://www.facebook.com/telfed)



## Israeli health breakthrough awarded Gates Foundation grant

Haifa's Technion, the Israel Institute of Technology, has been awarded a grant as part of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Grand Challenges Exploration programme. The Technion grant will go to Professor Hossam Haick of the Chemical Engineering Department and Russell Berrie Nanotechnology Institute, who is developing cutting edge biomedical technology, including a self-administered electronic patch for the detection of tuberculosis via skin. More than 2 billion people around the world are estimated to have tuberculosis, and 10% of them will experience active symptoms in their lifetimes. Some 95% of tuberculosis sufferers live in developing countries where inhabitants subsist on incomes of \$1 per day. The goal of Haick's project is to develop a self-administered diagnostic method based on the adhesive patch. The diagnosis, which uses a skin sample, would take up to five minutes, and it would be less expensive and more accessible than the current diagnostic tools.



## Jerusalem becoming more attractive to visitors

A recent poll taken among readers of Travel and Leisure magazine gave Jerusalem 10th place in the category of best cities in the world to visit. "Christians, Jews, and Muslims converge to worship in this 4 000-year-old holy city, and their respective churches, synagogues and mosques surround the historic Old City," the magazine said. In related news, Israel's Transportation Ministry has announced plans to construct a 150-km. network of cycling routes around the Gush Dan region. The project will, it is hoped, "serve thousands of cyclists a day, reduce road congestion and pollution and improve the safety of pedestrians and riders alike."

## Easyjet puts its trust in Israel

British low-cost airline easyJet gave another vote of confidence in Israel this week by adding yet another route between Tel Aviv and Amsterdam, taking advantage of the "open skies" agreement between Israel and the EU to solidify its position as the second largest operator out of Ben-Gurion International Airport. "We will increase the number of routes to Israel and constantly look into new destinations," EasyJet CEO Carolyn McCall recently told Israeli media outlets.



## Israel takes steps to increase natural gas flow

Israel's security Cabinet reached a decision on Thursday to move ahead with development of the offshore natural gas fields as a matter of national security, irrespective of court rulings about the monopolistic nature of the economic arrangements or the competing demands and concerns of various forces in Israel's civil discourse. Opposition lawmakers immediately condemned the decision and demanded that the question be addressed by the entire Knesset. However, Prime Minister Netanyahu said: "We are promoting a realistic solution that will bring natural gas to the Israeli market and not a populist solution that will keep the gas deep underground. After years of discussions, after years of arguments, I'm sure that this is the wise solution, the right solution and the solution required for all citizens of the country."

## Tel Aviv's Norman Hotel is voted world's best boutique hotel

Luxury American tourism magazine Jetsetter has just named the world's best boutique hotel – the stunning Norman Tel Aviv. "The term 'boutique hotel' can be applied to everything from major chains' brand extensions to indie sleeps one step removed from B&B status, but Tel Aviv's smart, stylish Norman is the real deal," Jetsetter explained of its vote, which was based on reviews by 200 international journalists. Overall, the magazine examined 23 hotel categories, such as business hotels and all-inclusive beach resorts.

## Israeli facility will turn plastic waste into fuel

The Environmental Services Company, Ltd, a government body established in 1990 to handle hazardous waste in Israel, will soon begin operating a unique facility designed to recycle plastic and turn it into fuel. According to the company's assessments, the facility will be able to derive 600 kilograms (1 320 pounds) of an oil-like substance from every ton of plastic waste they treat. This facility will be the first of its kind in the country.

Every day, Israelis dispose of some 1 500 metric tons of plastic waste. Most of it, 75.7%, is buried in landfills. Most of the plastic waste comes from homes (plastic bags, packaging, bottles, toys, furniture), agriculture (irrigation hoses, packaging, plastic sheeting) and industry. In addition, the Environmental Services Company receives about 3 000 metric tons of plastic waste from packaging

per year. The recycling process involves melting and depolymerising the plastic until a fuel resembling oil is derived. The facility has cost 10 million shekels (\$2.7 million).

## Double-decker buses to return to Israel's roads

After a very long absence, double-decker buses are set to make a comeback on Israel's roads this year. The National Public Transport Authority in the Ministry of Transport is to carry out a pilot study in which about five double-decker buses will be bought for a trial on Egged and Dan urban routes.

Over a decade ago, Egged was using double-decker buses from Neoplan on inter-city routes, but because of recurring operational problems they were abandoned. The new trial will be of more advanced buses currently designed for urban use only, and among other things the option is being examined of buses with hybrid power systems. If the trial succeeds, these buses could represent a good solution to the problems of public transport at peak traffic times, with a near-double passenger capacity, the same area on the road, and about half the air pollution, of the single-decker buses currently in use.

## Kosher kitchen feeds Muslim refugees in Italy

In the cavernous expanse below Milan's central station, there is great activity going on. The area - containing hidden rail loading stations designed for cargo and mail - was where thousands of Jews were deported to Auschwitz by German and Italian forces, most never to return. Now, retrofitted as a Holocaust memorial and museum, the place has recently become the temporary home of Eritrian, Ethiopian, Sudanese and Syrian refugees - most of them Muslim - fleeing to the safety they hope to find in Northern Europe. Upon arrival, the refugees are given towels and toiletries, and shown to a shower area that was built just for them. But first, they enjoy a nourishing hot meal, prepared and delivered by the volunteers of the Chabad-affiliated Beteavon ("Good Appetite") soup kitchen. Most had not eaten properly for days. Since it was recently Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting during daylight hours, the freshly prepared meal was the first food many of them had had since the night before. They so appreciated the kosher meals, knowing that it conformed to their religious standards as well. Rabbi Yigal Hazan, who oversees the kitchen, says the Jewish community's involvement with the refugees is based on the biblical commandment to "love the stranger, for you, too, were a stranger in the land of Egypt."





# Jewish National Fund

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## JNF Solidarity Mission – May 2015

### JNF we know Israel!

**J**erusalem, Zichron Yakov, Tiberius, Sderot, Ashkelon, Netavim, Be'er Sheva – the list goes on and on. Known for arranging outstanding tours of Israel, the JNF-KKL exceeded its, and the participants', expectations in May 2015. About 500 people from across the world, including an excited and thrilled South African contingent of 12, were treated to an 8-day trip across Israel, visiting some of that tiny country's most notable and fascinating sites.

It was a magical time for everyone, with sightseeing, lectures, boat rides, museums, schools, parks, a cornucopia of different kinds of entertainment, and of course the varied and exciting cuisine for which Israel has gained international recognition.

The tour offered the perfect mix of historical sights, innovation, museums, ground-breaking projects, guest speakers, spiritual upliftment, shows, international co-operation and a superb guide to thread it all together.

Historical sights included the ever evolving "Kotel Tunnels" tour which no matter how many times you visit there is always a new discovery and more information to gain. We toured Nachlaot and passed the sage Reb Aryeh Levin's very modest home. We enjoyed the bustle of Machane Yehuda, revelled in the Old City with its alleys and treasures, enjoyed the city of Jaffa and travelled along the famous Burma Road. We also had a moving ceremony at the SA memorial to fallen soldiers in the Lavi Forest where an impressive sculpture brings solemnity to this important sight. The JNF honour books were also seen for the first time by many participants, who found family entries in them.

We saw the remarkable innovation of a totally bomb-proof high school, we secretly spied on the lifesaving Iron Dome, saw Ashkelon's hugely impressive desalination plant which has alleviated the water crisis in Israel in no small way. Sights like Lotem in the Menashe Biosphere Park and Aley Negev have the most remarkable and innovative facilities for Israel's disabled, mentally challenged and vulnerable citizens. These visits were moving, heart-warming and amazing to see.

We visited the Israel Museum, Bible Lands Museum, the unforgettable Yad Va'Shem, Herzl Museum, Independence Hall, Jaffa's Information Centre. Sderot police station was a destination where an exhibition of mortars and missiles that have fallen on the town is housed and the effect of these events were eloquently elaborated upon by the security chief. After that tense experience we enjoyed a relaxed boat ride on the Kineret.

We heard top speakers that had us riveted, like ex-chief of staff to the IDF Benny Gantz,



South African group outside the bomb shelter donated by JNF SA to the Scouts of Be'er Sheva



Desalination plant in Ashkelon

Jerusalem's Mayor Nir Barkat, Be'er Sheva's Mayor Rubik Danilovich, and military correspondent to Channel 10, Alon Ben David.

Friday night we had a warm Shabbat supper together and then spent free time going to the Great Synagogue where the Chief Sefardi Rabbi spoke in honour of Yom Yerushalayim.

The "Light Spectacular" enthralled us at the Tower of David with its brief history of Jerusalem and we enjoyed a pulsating concert at the opening of the Be'er Sheva River Park amphitheatre, featuring the talented Avraham Tal.

Some truly great meals were enjoyed at Tishbi Winery in picturesque Zichron Yaakov, the Indian Cochin community, "The peoples Humus" in Sderot and delicacies from the Carmel and Yehuda markets as well as an ice-cream bar in Jaffa owned by a South African!

Special international events were held where the global complement of participants came together, firstly visiting the air force base in Tel Nof, meeting pilots and seeing their planes, secondly the transformation of the Be'er Sheva River Park and lastly in Jerusalem's David Citadel Hotel. The camaraderie, solidarity and energy was electric.



Machane Yehuda



Synagogue at the Cochin Indian community



# Breaking News

Lay leaders of the South African Jewish community, meet with high level decision-makers in Israel.

In July 2015, a delegation of communal leaders from South Africa, headed by Zev Krenzel, president of the SAJBD, including Naomi Hadar, Executive Director of the IUA-UCF Gauteng and who organised the mission, Jeff Katz, chairman of the SAJBD, Ben Swartz, Chairman of the SAZF travelled to Israel to meet with Ministers, MKs and Israeli dignitaries. Fran Blumenthal joined some of the meetings.

The goal of the mission was to continue building and maintaining good relationships with all levels of Israeli society and we are pleased to report that this was achieved through various meetings.

The group met with Zionist Union leaders, Tzipi Livni and Isaac Herzog, Minister of Public Security, Strategic Affairs and Minister of Public Diplomacy, Gilad Erdan, Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely and Dr Itzhak Greenberg, Director of Southern Africa in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. They met with Tzachi Hanegbi, Head of the Coalition and Head of the most important Knesset Committee, Security and Foreign Affairs.

They also met with MK Hilik Bar, Deputy Speaker of the Knesset and General Secretary of the Zionist Union.

From the Bureau of Public Diplomacy, the delegation met with Deputy Bureau Director-General, Ambassador Yuval Rotman, Yaakov Finkelstein, Senior Co-ordinator and MK Yoav Kisch, Head of the Friends of the Parliament of South Africa.

They also had the opportunity to

engage with Akiva Tor, Head of the Bureau of World Jewish Affairs and World Religions.

It was an opportunity to discuss issues affecting the South African Jewish community such as the BDS movement and rising anti-Semitism and to exchange ideas and strategies. The BDS movement was discussed at length and the delegation expressed its concern about the situation and its willingness to assist Israel in any way possible to tackle these issues.

Ideas of how to improve the diplomatic relationship between Israel and South Africa were explored and the commitment of our community to Israel was reiterated.

All the dignitaries that the group encountered commended the South African Jewish community for its commitment towards Israel and they unanimously undertook to strengthen ties and assist our local community. They assured the delegation that they would consider the needs of our community when making decisions that could have an impact on the community.

Invitations were extended to some of the ministers and members of Knesset to visit the South African Jewish community and hopefully, they will be hosted here in the near future for the benefit of our community.

Old friendships were cemented and new contacts were established giving our communal leaders increased access to high ranking Israeli politicians, lawmakers and decision-makers.



Ben Swartz, Zev Krenzel, MK Tzachi Hanegbi, Naomi Hadar, Jeff Katz



with Minister Gilad Erdan



with Former Minister Tzipi Livni and Fran Blumenthal



with Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely

## The delegation visits the Knesset

The visit of the South African delegation was very much appreciated.

The group was seated in the VIP section and given a resounding applause by the ministers and members of the Knesset while they were observing the proceedings.

## Living in Dignity

Sheltered Housing for the Elderly and Holocaust Survivors

The IUA together with KH provide immediate housing solutions to a large number of elderly immigrants who go to Israel and have no viable housing options. Without our assistance these new immigrants simply would not have an appropriate place to live.

There are 57 sheltered homes throughout Israel, serving more than 7,500 senior citizens. Residents are able to enjoy indepen-

dent living in their own apartment while being part of a small, tight-knit community. Each sheltered housing facility has professional staff including a social worker and house director.

In addition to meeting the physical needs of this special population, provided is a wide variety of social and cultural services that enhance the quality of life of the residents.

Activities include crafts, home economics, exercise classes, Hebrew, gardening and volunteer activities. Many of the activities are carried out in conjunction with community centres, schools, soldiers, and local volunteers, bringing the residents into the community fold.

*"Do not forsake me in my old age; be my help even when my strength is gone" Psalms 71:9*





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Full payment to be made by 30 September 2015

C O N N E C T   I N S P I R E   E X P L O R E   E M P O W E R



# TA Boys’ High wins under-15 Independent Schools’ Soccer League

**RABBI YOSSI CHAIKIN**  
**PRINCIPAL, TORAH ACADEMY BOYS’ HIGH SCHOOL**

Torah Academy Boys’ High School won the under-15 Independent Schools’ Soccer League recently, defeating Summit College 5 - 3 on August 5.

Soon into the first half TA conceded a goal; not long after that came a second... Nonetheless, the team kept its hopes high. Starting the second half with two goals down, Torah Academy knew they had to step up their game. They rose to the occasion.

Midway into the second half, Yehuda Goldberg got the ball to the back of the net. Minutes before the whistle was blown for full time, Yehuda launched a beautiful kick over the Summit keeper’s

head.

The pressure was now on as the game went into extra time, with Torah Academy’s entire student body and many parents watching and cheering from the stands. TA was soon awarded a penalty and Yehuda slotted it in for his hat-trick, giving his team the lead.

It was now Mendy Ash’s turn to work up some magic with the ball to score two fantastic goals. One of those was later pronounced the best of the season by the League’s organisers.

The cup was now in Torah Academy’s reach. In a last-ditch effort Summit pushed for and achieved one more goal. The final whistle went as all of TA’s players and supporters joined in celebration and Yehuda triumphantly lifted the cup!



## At Sydenham Pre-Primary Sports Day, everyone a winner



**Aryeh Herring; Gabriel Starkowitz; and Gabriel Kadish.**

**SUE BENJAMIN**

A wave of anticipation and excitement filled the air as the children from Sydenham Pre-Primary School marched into the garden, dressed in the respective colours of their groups.

Sports Day activities were multi-skill-based but the main focus was on fun and participation. Kids from all years - from ages two to six - took part. Every child was an achiever; there were no distressed losers or triumphant winners! Each participant received a medal, a certificate and an ice-cream.

The older children were asked to rate the day on a scale of 1 to 5 (5 being the best). One of the girls innocently replied, “I had a ‘6’ day



## Caron Levy heads Rosabelle Klein

**LATASHA SLAVIN**

Caron Levy has taken over as the new principal of the Rosabelle Klein Hebrew Nursery School (Waverley).

Levy is highly qualified and comes to the school with exceptional recommendations and a reputation that precedes her. She has a BA (speech and hearing therapy), a B Ed honours (Wits) and a diploma in business management from Unisa. She was the principal of a special needs school for over 10 years and has spent many years as an educator and lecturer.

Says Levy: “I feel very honoured and privileged to be given the opportunity to lead Rosabelle Klein Hebrew Nursery School and look forward to working with you and your children in making our school the very best that it can be.”

The school adds in a release: “We feel very privileged to have someone of this calibre as our new leader. We wish Caron lots of luck and success in this new venture and welcome her to the Rosabelle Klein family. We are sure that she will take our school to new heights.”

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**Disclaimer**  
The letters page is intended to provide an opportunity for a range of views on any given topic to be expressed. Opinions articulated in the letters are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, staff or directors of the Jewish Report.  
*The Editor, PO Box 84650, Greenside, 2034 email: sharon@sajewishreport.co.za*

A MUSLIM PROFESSOR WHO SPEAKS WITH A FORKED TONGUE

I refer to Geoff Sifrin’s column, Taking Issue, where he comments on Professor Adam Habib’s lecture at Limmud.

Habib (Wits’ vice-chancellor) wanted to severely criticise Israel; he has been anti-Israel, even during his tenure at the University of Johannesburg when he was among those on their senate to break contact with Ben-Gurion University. Until that time the institutes were co-operating in research on conservation and use of water.

In his lecture Habib reiterated that he was not a believer in an ethnically or religiously cosmopolitan defined system, thus is critical of Saudi Arabia, Syria and Iran.

I have never heard him state such sentiments or criticisms.

Habib also criticised Israel for using “overwhelming force” and says there have been huge civilian casualties. Is he referring to the 2014 Gaza incident? He must supply accurate proof of civilians who were casualties and how many military ones.

He also says he is critical of Syria, and Iran. Where has he publicly made or published such sentiments?

War is war! An army fighting an enemy does what it is required to do. What would have been his comment if those rockets had killed scores of Israelis? Jubilation?

The Allies in the Second World War flattened Dresden in Germany, killing thousands of civilians. Should Britain and America have apologised for that? Or the US to Japan, for Hiroshima and Nagasaki?

What was the intent of the tunnels from Gaza into Israel? For the Hamas terrorists to emerge

in Israel to shake the hands of Israelis in friendship?

Habib remarked about wearing two hats at Wits and that the campus is an open space for debate. Really? When anti-Israel groups disrupted Israeli events like classical concerts, it becomes a semi-battlefield!

I think Habib is trying to preserve his office and position by ensuring previous bequests and future donations from the Jewish sector are kept coming.

He remarked about racism in South Africa, implying the Jewish community is not condemnatory here. Somehow one never hears racial criticism coming from our Jewish community.

He mentioned the recent killing of a Palestinian baby by some Israelis. Has he forgotten the murder of a family in Israel a couple of years back when police found their baby’s throat slit, and does he recall the Ma’alot killing of kibbutz children by terrorists some years ago?

Michael Freeman, Israel’s deputy ambassador, asked Habib whether he believed Israel had the right to exist. Habib replied in the affirmative - but as a democratic multicultural state and said that should apply to all the Middle Eastern states too. His model is the US. But what about Iran, Iraq, Algeria, Libya, etc. who expelled their Jews not so many decades ago? Would they allow Christianity and Judaism again, without restrictions/restraints and other religions? I don’t think so. This Muslim professor is speaking with a forked tongue!

**Maurice Skikne  
Johannesburg**

**Guidelines for letters**  
Letters of up to 400 words get preference. Provide your full name, place of residence, and daytime phone number. We do not publish letters under noms de plume. Letters should preferably be e-mailed. Letters may be edited or shortened.

LAY LEADERS PAID THEIR OWN WAY ON TRIP TO ISRAEL

Sonny Meyerson wrote a letter in the Jewish Report of July 31, headlined “SA Jewish delegation to Israel, a gravy train trip”, wanting the SAJBD, the SAZF and the IUA/UCF “to explain to the Jewish community”, why it had been necessary for “all of them to go to Israel at the same time” and then he added: “This trip must have cost a fortune. Will the relevant organisations please tell us who went, why it was necessary for them to go and what this whole affair cost.”

We would like to place the following on record: This important mission was for the benefit of the entire South African Jewish community.

The lay leaders paid for their own flights, accommodation and all travelling expenses at their own cost and time. They should be saluted and praised for their unswerving dedication to this community.

**Naomi Hadar  
Executive Director, IUA-UCF, Gauteng**

BDS’ CONCERN OVER THE PALESTINIANS DOESN’T PASS MUSTER

Winning his second term, US President Barack Obama’s first visit abroad was to Israel where he stated: “Centuries of suffering and exile, prejudice, pogroms and even genocide” warning that those who denied Israel’s right to exist, “might as well reject the earth beneath them and the sky above, because Israel is not going anywhere”. Sending his message to the entire world including those thick-skinned BDS supporters, (it seems) was a message lost in translation.

Yes, BDS will bask in minor victories such as that cheap caper at a local gym last week when Virgin Active personnel asked BDS’ Muhammed Desai not to wear a T-shirt emblazoned with BDS philosophy. The gym later retracted the “ban” and said it had been imposed in error.

It was more the stupidity of those who took offence and fell for his provocation that handed him his shallow victory and few moments of notoriety.

And watch this space: next BDS cohorts will rock up at the Norwood Hyper or other stores that Jews frequent, armed with T-shirts and a bevy of press photographers. His even cheaper vendetta against

Woolworths has got him perplexed to the point where he is now hopping mad that Pharrell Williams, the American rap singer, has ignored BDS’ call to cut ties with the retailer as well as his concert in Israel, as have the likes of The Rolling Stones, Rihanna, Paula Abdul, Maria Carey, Alicia Keys, Scarlet Johansson, Beyonce, Justin Timberlake, Madonna – and the list is endless, ignoring BDS’ call for them not to perform in Israel.

And how red faced are BDS at the mention of Google, Motorola, Oracle, IBM, Intel, Apple, Facebook, HP and another 300 foreign companies establishing major facilities in Israel.

In every endeavour of this malicious organisation, their hypocrisy is exposed: There is no call for a peaceful engagement between Palestinians and Israel, no call for a two-state solution, no concern for the plight of Palestinians being slaughtered in Syria and their abysmal treatment in other Arab countries.

It’s not about the Palestinians!

**Allan Wolman  
Rosebank,  
Johannesburg**

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Midrash Shmuel Students and Alumni Reconnect



A number of Midrash Shmuel’s South African students and alumni recently gathered at the home of Rabbi Menachem Kaplyn for an evening of inspiration and chizuk.

The get-together began with a dvar Torah given by Rabbi Eliyahu Sussman, principle of the Bais Yaakov School in Johannesburg. Rabbi Sussman also shared stories of his long standing friendship with the Rosh Yeshiva, Rabbi Binyomin Moskovits, and of the Yeshiva in its earlier years.

Participants were also honoured to welcome Rabbi Yoel Smith, a renowned Torah disseminator. Rabbi Smith spoke warmly about his relationship with the Rosh Yeshiva and about the importance of always remaining connected to your Yeshiva and chaveirim.

Rabbi Dani Soffer having just returned from a visit to Eretz Yisroel, spoke about the most recent news in Yeshiva and about its latest growth and development.

The reunion was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

For more information about Midrash Shmuel or to make an application please contact Rabbi Menachem Kaplyn on 082-407-0146 or email [rabbibengoodman@gmail.com](mailto:rabbibengoodman@gmail.com).



A column of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies

# Honouring our Jewish leaders and achievers



Above Board  
Mary Kluk  
National Chairman

We are looking forward to this coming Sunday evening’s annual SAJR Jewish Achievers function. In keeping with the theme of Jewish contributions to South Africa, a special publication has been put together for the occasion, to which SAJBD staff members have

contributed a number of items. Last Sunday, at the meeting of the Board’s National Executive Committee, the subject of awards to worthy recipients in our community was also discussed, in connection with the forthcoming SAJBD National Conference on November 22. In 1999, the Board introduced its biennial Human Rights Award, to be presented at its national conference. The first recipient of the award was the late Judge Arthur Chaskalson. Subsequent recipients have included Albie Sachs, Helen Suzman, Sidney Kentridge QC, Professor Philip Tobias and Benjamin Pogrund.

All were honoured for their role in combating apartheid and furthering the cause of democracy in South Africa. In 2003, a second award was instituted, to honour community members who have rendered outstanding service in the Jewish communal field. It was named the Eric Samson Mendel Kaplan Communal Service Award, after two of our community’s foremost philanthropists and leaders. The practice has been to present two awards, one to a lay leader and the other to a professional. Recipients have included Isaac Joffe, Colin Datnow, Isla Feldman and Prof Michael Katz.

Who will be the recipients of the above awards is still being finalised, and will be announced in due course in the lead-up to our conference.

**Bridge-building with other communities**  
Along with upholding the civil rights of South African Jewry, fostering harmonious

relations between the community and the broader society is one of the core functions of the SAJBD. Over the past week, staff and lay leaders have been involved in a number of activities towards that end. On Saturday evening, Chaya Singer represented us at a special evening hosted by the Portuguese community to celebrate the community’s heritage and what its members have contributed to our country. Chaya, with Charisse Zeifert, next met with representatives of the Baha’i community to share perspectives on their respective cultures and the role they see for

themselves in the broader society. In Cape Town, Gina Flash represented us at the SA Faith and Families Institute’s inaugural Theological Advisory Committee, which brings together top faith leaders in the city to support initiatives aimed at addressing gender-based violence in faith communities. For my own part, along with National Director Wendy Kahn, I met with the newly-appointed ambassador of Germany, Walter Lindner. Over the years, the Board has had much fruitful collaboration with the German Embassy, including co-hosting a range

of exhibitions on themes relating to the Holocaust and Jews who came from Germany to South Africa. Mr Lindner, who recently spent nine months on behalf of his government in helping address the Ebola crisis, was very warm and engaging, and we look forward to working with him on future projects. • Listen to Charisse Zeifert on Jewish Board Talk, 101.9 ChaiFM every Friday 12:00 - 13:00.

This column is paid for by the SA Jewish Board of Deputies

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# HOME & LIFESTYLE EXPO

## WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

25-30 AUG

**Sat 29 Aug: Stream 1**  
Cooking in CNA Court

10am	Cooking demonstration by Mrs O Foods , African food and sauces
11am	Cooking demonstration by Chef Jade Sullaphen, executive Chef at the Southern Sun Montecasino Punchinello’s restaurant
12pm	Cooking demonstration by Chef Khumalo, celebrity chef
1pm	Cooking demonstration by Woolworths
2pm	Quick & healthy snacks by Kauai
3pm	DIY Sushi by Ocean Basket

**Sat 29 Aug: Stream 2**  
Workshops in store 119

10am – 10:30am	Zoumba by Virgin Active
11am	Decorating small spaces by Susan Hughes
11:45am	DIY basics: tips, tricks, and which tool for what by Killarney Hardware
12:30pm	Hydro Zone your garden and Water Wise plants and lawns by Water Wise
1:15pm	Meal planning by Toni Brien
2pm	Interior design basics by Buzwe in Décor
2:45pm	Ultimate nutrition: Breaking diet myths by Tony Brien

**Sun 30 Aug: Stream 1**  
Workshops in store 119

10am – 10:30am	Pilates basics by Virgin Active
11am	What the City of Joburg has planned for you (Northern Suburbs) by Trish Lethuli, Pam Golding Properties
11:45am	The Northern Suburbs Property Outlook: current property climate by Jonathan Davies, Pam Golding Property
12:30pm	Renovating and painting techniques by Promac
1:15pm	Building Management: Killarney sectional title information and guidance by Audun Stenersen, Stenersen & Tulleken Administration
2pm	A brief history of Killarney & Riviera by Paul Denham, Pam Golding Properties
2:45pm	Coffee appreciation by Peter Primach, author of Coffee Culture

**Sun 30 Aug : Stream 2**  
Cooking in CNA Court

10am	Cooking demonstration by Chef Sizo Henna, celebrity chef
11am	Cooking demonstration by Carol Melamed, author of “A pinch of...”
12pm	Cooking demonstration by Chef Anton Vermeulen
1pm	Cooking demonstration by Chef Khumalo, celebrity chef
2pm	Cooking demonstration by Pizza Del Forno
3pm	Cooking demonstration by SWAD, located on the lower level

6pm	<b>Tuesday</b> Spirit tasting, Belvedere and Lanique by RGBC & Lanique	6pm	<b>Wednesday</b> Champagne tasting, Veuve Clicquot by RGBC	6pm	<b>Thursday</b> Cognac tasting, Hennessy by RGBC	6pm	<b>Friday</b> Whiskey tasting, Jack Daniels & Southern Comfort by RGBC	5:30pm	<b>Saturday</b> Wine tasting by Orange River Cellars
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Please note that booking is essential for the liquor tastings. Register on [www.killarneymall.co.za](http://www.killarneymall.co.za)



# JWBS Rosh Hashanah Appeal: fragrance of giving lingers



**ELAINE BOBROFF AND SHARON MEYER  
CONVENERS OF THE ROSH HASHANAH  
APPEAL**

As Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur approach, even the most secular among us start to think about our own mortality and of the accounting we may have to give for the life we have lived. No wealth, jewels or any material goods accompany us on whatever journey we may have to face, and it is the intangibles which ironically are our treasures of real and everlasting value. But there is hope and there is a prescription for another year of life. It is the act of giving charity, doing good deeds and sincere repentance for those sins both known and unknown to us.

In truth we have no other prescription to follow and as the Days of Awe approach, the Jewish Women’s Benevolent Society provides members of the community with an oppor-

tunity of doing the good which we are told balances and offsets the sins which we all so easily commit.

The JWBS supports almost a 1 000 Jewish families, providing food, shelter, companionship and support but without your support, it cannot continue to fulfil its noble task, faced with ever-increasing costs and cries for help.

By making as generous a donation as you can afford, you will in the very real sense be benefiting yourself, as the double benefit of tzedakah is that both the giver and the recipient benefit.

Our sages tell us that the fragrance of giving lingers on the hands of the giver long after the good deed has been done, and the JWBS sincerely appeals to you to give, and to give generously, so that those less fortunate members of our community should also have a sweet year, and something to look forward to.

# Rosh Hashanah: It’s our duty to aid the needy

**JUDY WAINER  
CHAIRMAN, JWBS ROSH HASHANAH  
APPEAL**



As we enter the Rosh Hashanah season, we must not only begin to repair our inner selves, we must also take care of those who need our help. Mitzvot will be recognised. This is the perfect time to take note of intentional kindness and thoughtfulness.

Rosh Hashanah is full of food-related traditions and customs. Apples and honey signify our wish for a sweet year.

The special round challah loaf generally dipped in honey, signifies the cycle of time or continuity of Creation.

The reason given for blessing and eating a pomegranate, is that we wish that our good deeds and mitzvot in the ensuing year will be as plentiful as the seeds of the pomegranate.

To this end, we make it our covenant to make sure that every Jewish family is able to have a sweet and plentiful chag, by giving a monetary gift to every client of the Jewish Care Services.

We appeal to you at this special time of the year, to remember our eternal covenant as a united people and hope that you will assist us.

L’Shana Tova U’Metukah.

# Sefer Torah from SA part of a moving ceremony in Israel

**SUZANNE BELLING**

Thousands from all over the world gathered at the Western Wall Plaza in Jerusalem in the presence of Israel President Reuven Rivlin, Defence Minister Moshe Yaalon, IDF Chief of Staff Gadi Eizenkot and Israeli Sephardi Chief Rabbi Yitzchak Yosef at a Hachnasat Sifrei Torah on Wednesday last week.

Park community and to have participated in this monumental outpouring of soul expressing the faith, commitment, love and unity of our people,” he said.

Rabbi Moshe Silberhaft, CEO and spiritual leader of the AJC, said the Torah scroll had been in need of repair and local donors had contributed towards this.

“Besides being a delight and an honour, the atmosphere was very powerful, with tears of both sadness and joy,” Rabbi Silberhaft said.

“I have never experienced anything of this magnitude and proof of the unity of the Jewish people and the centrality of Israel to our lives. This wonderful effort to remember Israel’s fallen is a tribute of the highest order.”

The other participating countries were Brazil, Canada (Montreal and Toronto), Chile, Egypt, France (Paris), Israel, Mexico, Morocco, Romania, Spain, and the US (California and Florida).

Many of the Sifrei Torah came from survivors of the Holocaust in Romania.

The event was sponsored by the Israeli NGO Lema’an Bitachon Israel (Libi) - For the Security of Israel - and the international Young Israel Movement (Israel branch) was invited to be a partner at the ceremony because of its previous success in donating over 215 Sifrei Torah to army, navy and air force units throughout Israel.

The 75 Sifrei Torah will be sent to each of the eight IDF brigades, synagogues, prisons and institutions throughout Israel.

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<b>WEEK 4</b> ROSH YESHIVAH, RABBI DAVID GOLDFEIN		



**Rabbi Moshe Silberhaft, CEO and spiritual leader of the African Jewish Congress; his son Yossi Silberhaft; and Rabbi Dovid Hazdan, spiritual leader of the Great Park Synagogue, with the Sefer Torah they brought from South Africa for the Hachnasat Sifrei Torah at the Kotel last week.**



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## Around the Jewish World

**JANNER IN COURT DESPITE DEMENTIA**  
WESTMINSTER - Lord Janner has appeared in court to be charged with 22 allegations of historical child sex abuse. The 87-year-old, who suffers from severe dementia, was brought into Court One at Westminster Magistrates Court in central London. Following his departure, the court clerk read the details of the 22 charges he faces. They relate to a series of historical sexual offences, the majority against young boys under the age of 16 in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. He is accused of 15 counts of indecent assault and seven counts of a separate sexual offence, against a total of nine complainants. Lord Janner was released on unconditional bail and the case was sent to Southwark Crown Court where it is next due to be heard on September 1. His lawyer Paul Ozin QC argued that the peer's severe dementia made him "vulnerable" and called for the court to accommodate his needs. - Jewish Chronicle

**\$75 MILLION AUTISM CENTRE FOR JERUSALEM**  
JERUSALEM - As cases of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) continue to increase around the world, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Hadassah Medical Centre plan to establish the first interdisciplinary university-based autism centre in the Middle East. The \$75 million Autism Centre is envisioned as a collaborative and interdisciplinary effort anchored in the Hebrew University's faculty of medicine. There is no word yet on when it is expected to open. "Our goal in establishing the Autism Centre is to lead Israel and the Middle East in research, training, clinical services and community engagement for the benefit of individuals with autism spectrum disorder and their families," said the faculty of medicine dean, Prof David Lichtstein. The centre is intended to bring cutting-edge research, clinical services, state-of-the-art training and education for professionals and parents under one roof. This is a rare comprehensive model; some universities in the Middle East have autism research programmes, while others have associations with clinical services. - Israel 21c

**SUMMER RECESS KILLS BILL AGAINST SELLING SHOAH ARTEFACTS**  
TORONTO - A federal bill that would have criminalised hate-motivated purchase or sale of some Holocaust-era artefacts within Canada, died when the House of Commons adjourned for the summer. Bill C-678 was introduced by York Centre Conservative MP Mark Adler in May. It sought to make it illegal to buy or sell "personal property that was owned by, or in the possession of, a victim or survivor of the Holocaust for the purpose of wilfully promoting hatred against any identifiable group". The private member's bill aimed to amend section 319 of the Criminal Code, which deals with hate crimes. It envisioned punishment of a maximum two-year prison term and forfeiture of the property. "This is an issue that is very close to my heart and is certainly important to my constituents," Adler told the House. - The Canadian Jewish News

**TRIAL OF MISSOURI WHITE SUPREMACIST TO START THIS WEEK**  
KANSAS - The trial was due to begin this week of a Missouri white supremacist charged with murdering three people in a shooting spree outside two Jewish centres in a Kansas City suburb in April last year. Frazier Glenn Cross, 74, a former senior member of the Ku Klux Klan who has made derogatory remarks about Jews in preliminary court hearings, chose to represent himself at his state trial in Olathe, Kansas. Cross, also known as Glenn Miller, could be sentenced to death if convicted. About 200 people are on the witness list for the trial and its penalty phase. Jury selection was expected to take all week, court officials said. Cross is charged with killing Reat Underwood, 14, and his grandfather, William Corporon, 69, outside the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Kansas City, as well as Terri LaManno, 53, outside a retirement home in Overland Park, Kansas. He is also charged with attempted murder for allegedly shooting at three other people outside the facilities. He has pleaded not guilty. - Jerusalem Post

## What's On

### Today, Friday (August 21)

- UZLC hosts international TV journalist Paula Slier on "The Latest From the Middle East". Venue: Our Parents Home. Time: 12:45 - 14:00. Contact: Gloria 072-127-9421 or (011) 485-4851.

### Sunday (August 23)

- Johannesburg Light Music Society has its monthly meeting at the Roosevelt Park Recreational Centre at 14:00. Two audio presentations and a musical feature film. Refreshments will be served prior to the film at R15 per head. Information: David (011) 678-9725 or cell. 076-574-1446.
- RCHCC is screening "Cat Sings Judy! - Over the Rainbow with Cat Simoni & Judy Garland". Venue: Clive M Beck Auditorium. Time: 19:30. Booking: Hazel or René (011) 728-8088/8378, a/h (011) 728-8378 or e-mail: rchcc@telkomsa.net or rene.s@telkomsa.net or www.greatpark.co.za
- Bikkur Cholim AGM. Venue: Athol House, 128 Athol Street, Highlands North. Time: 09:30. RSVP: Joy (011) 440-3606 (mornings).
- Sydenham Shul's "Working Moms' Breakfast" with Carte Blanche's Devi Govender as guest speaker, at 09:00. Cost: R220 pp. Bookings online at www.sydshul.co.za or with Tali Frankel on 072-492-0664.

### Monday (August 24)

- RCHCC is screening the "Keeping Score Series" - the compelling stories behind and intertwined with classical music. Created by Michael Tilson Thomas with the San Francisco Symphony. "Beethoven's Eroica". Venue: Clive M Beck Auditorium. Time: 14:00. Booking: Hazel or René (011) 728-8088/8378, a/h (011) 728-8378 or e-mail: rchcc@telkomsa.net or rene.s@telkomsa.net or www.greatpark.co.za
- UJW Adult Education Division hosts Dr Richard Cock, freelance choral trainer, orchestral conductor and Classic FM presenter, on "Conduct Unbecoming". Venue: 1 Oak Street, Houghton. Time: 09:30. Donation: R35. Contact: UJW Office (011) 648-1053.

### Tuesday (August 25)

- Jewish Genealogical Society of SA hosts Eli Rabinowitz from Perth on "Journeys of Research and Discovery - A Tragic Romance and its Consequences". Venue: HOD. Time: 19:00. Cost: R20 (incl tea and refreshments). RSVP: hannahkarpes@telkomsa.net or (011) 485-2188.

- WIZO Women Inspired hosts clinical psychologist Serenne Kaplan who will discuss "My Mother-in-Law". Time 09:30 for 10:00. Cost: R80 (incl tea and refreshments). Contact for booking and venue details: Joceline 082-441-4375, Lorraine 083-268-8016, Maureen 082-445-1515, Leslie 083-456-3911, or Merlene 082-410-4976.

### Wednesday (August 26)

- UJW Adult Education Division hosts Dr Lorraine Chaskalson, former lecturer in the dept of English at Wits, on "The Prodigal Summer" - a novel by Barbara Kingsolver. Venue: 1 Oak Street, Houghton. Time: 09:30. Donation: R35. Contact: UJW Office (011) 648-1053.

### Thursday (August 27)

- New live Jewish band LEV is launching at Norwood Mall in a pre-Rosh Hashanah event. Live music; food on sale; competition/ prizes for kids; Time: 18:00 - 19:00. Venue: Pick n Pay, entrance II. Information: (011) 440-5995.

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# Kaplan lays bare the Maccabi Games

JACK MILNER

I don't know too much about well-known US sportswriter Ron Kaplan other than that he has a blog called "Kaplan's Korner". It deals mainly with baseball, American football and ice hockey but last month Kaplan released a book on the Maccabi Games - "The Jewish Olympics: The History of the Maccabiah Games".

It is in times like these that it is fortunate to have family in the US as they let me know as soon as a book like this is available and, as in this case, have sent me a copy. As it deals with various issues, including politics, I rushed to see how much detail Kaplan had about South Africa and the apartheid years.

He does cover the political issues quite well but there is the odd mistake when it comes to South Africa. For example, when he spoke of the 1981 Maccabiah he points out that "several countries, including the United States, Israel, Canada, South Africa, Argentina and others boycotted the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow."

South Africa may very well have boycotted the Moscow Olympics - if we had been invited in the first place!

In the early 1970s, when the subject of South Africa and Rhodesia sporting participation started to become a hot potato, the general feeling of the Maccabi organisers was that this was a Jewish event and that they should not be bound by International Olympic

Committee (IOC) rules.

Kaplan quotes Arthur Goldman, chairman of Maccabi SA at the time, calling for the Maccabiah to be withdrawn from the IOC.

"It is high time the entire present concept of the Maccabiah be altered to minimise the effect and possibility of the present - and let me warn future - from the outside world of sport."

Kaplan points out that the coverage of the Maccabiah by the international press has not been particularly impressive, despite the fact that there is a group of 25 individuals who have won medals at both the Olympic and Maccabi Games.

"The Maccabi Games were incredibly... underreported," said Kaplan. "I don't know if they were reported more at the time and that information is just not available anymore, or if they just didn't think this was a big enough deal to record it back in the 1930s and even in the '50s."

"Finding the information was difficult, and the accuracy of the information, depending on the source... you might have somebody's name



Basketball player Tal Brody (left) and swimmer Mark Spitz at the 1965 Maccabi Games.

have been held.

In 2001 I covered the Maccabiah and the SA v Israel Davis Cup tie at Ramat Hasharon. Amos Mansdorf, captain of the Israeli team, made an interesting comment at the time: "The Maccabiah is not a sporting event, it is a political event."

Kaplan agrees in the sense that at some point the Games were hijacked by politicians who were more interested in aliyah than sport.

I had to laugh in one part of the book where the editor of the Jerusalem Post questioned the sustainability of the Games. "The Games have shown up Israel's lamentably low standards in so many sports. The root of the trouble is in the schools where there is an indifferent and even apathetic attitude to games."

"The dearth of adequate sports facilities accounts for this in part and the result is that 20 per cent of our 18-year-olds joining the army, are overweight."

That is one thing that has changed markedly in Israel and a lot of that had to do with the arrival of the Russians in the later decades. They have had a huge impact on a wide variety of sports in general in Israel, such as ice-hockey, in arid little Israel!

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