

**Israel News**

**Faxx**



**Weekend  
Edition**

All the news the big guys missed. ISSN 1074-2255

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March 1, 2010--March 5, 2010 Vol. 18, No. 46W (2010\_03-01-2010\_03-05)

***Welcome to the  
Israel News Faxx  
Weekend Edition (March 1, 2010- March 5, 2010)  
incorporating  
news, features & opinion.***

- O Syria: Israel scattered particles of uranium***
- O Two Israeli missile ships pass through the Suez Canal***
- O Israel's Oscar-nominated film focuses on mixed Arab-Jewish neighborhood***
- O Israeli novel with parallels to Dubai killing is a hit in Germany***
- O Knesset member: Arabic TV in Israel--an enemy within***
- O Poll:60% of Americans say only force can stop Iran***
- O Arab states and Israel back peace talk proposal***
- O Military operation's details are publicized on Facebook***
- O Leftists, Muslims commence 'Israel Apartheid Week'***
- O Jerusalem to hear iPhone prayers***
- O Arutz Sheva opens new website for children***
- O Israel to consider settlement for illegal aliens***
- O Iranian ayatollah: Nukes are a religious obligation***
- O Israel remains unprepared for earthquakes at home***
- O Everyone's googling the Mossad***
- O Israelis are rushing to join the Mossad***
- O Dubai: Israelis with European passports to be blocked from entry***
- O Farrakhan: Obama targeted by U.S. Jewish lobby, Zionists***
- O Iran: Arab resistance is the key to the demise of world powers***
- O Phony website counters Israel's PR campaign***
- O Obama is clueless on the Middle East (satire)***
- O Is Ahmadinejad maneuvering Hizbullah and Israel into war?***
- O Israel and 'one-state solution' dominate congressional race***
- O Israel post office distributes a different type of Purim mask***



Obama Clueless on Middle East: President Barack Obama admitted, in a Purim interview for Arutz Sheva, that he "frankly does not have a clue" regarding the psychology of the Middle East and that "a three year old child with some experience in nursery-school power politics could probably understand the Middle East better than [he does]." Purim is a holiday on which Jews are expected to get tipsy, wear costumes and do silly things - including posting imaginary and false interviews with the President of the United States on news websites that are perfectly serious on all the other days of the year.

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March 1, 2010 Vol. 18, No. 42 (2010\_03\_01) Editor: Don Canaan, The Villages, FL 32159

## Is Ahmadinejad Maneuvering Hizbullah and Israel into War?

By IsraelNationalNews.com & Ha'aretz

As he continued a second day of his meeting with the heads of terror groups in Tehran, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Sunday that Israel's "time had passed," and that "the Zionist regime has lost its raison d'être." The latest threat came just days after Ahmadinejad said that he dreamt of "a world without Zionists."

Ahmadinejad made his remarks at a conference called "National and Islamic Solidarity for the Future of Palestine" where he declared Israel the reason for instability in the Middle East.

The Iranian leader said Israel's presence on even one inch of the region's soil was a cause for crisis and war, adding that the only way to confront Israel is through the resistance of Palestinian youth and other nations in the region.

Ahmadinejad also told the conference that the "Zionist regime" is the origin of all the wars, genocide, terrors and crimes against humanity and that it is a racist group that does not respect human principles.

Ahmadinejad is reportedly angling to start another war between Israel and the Lebanese Hizbullah terrorist group in order to deflect attention away from his own lack of popularity at home. He has faced constant friction from grassroots opposition movements since last June, when lopsided election results re-electing the president raised red flags among suspicious voters, who suspected the government had rigged the polls.

"As Israel is beating the war drums four years after its humiliating military defeat against Hizbullah, many believe that Ahmadinejad might exploit another conflict between Israel and the militant group as a way of resolving his own lack of legitimacy inside Iran," wrote Iran's Green Voice newspaper.

The publication, which represents the "green" anti-government protest movement in Iran, noted that many Hizbullah terrorists were involved in the violent post-presidential election crackdowns on protestors who demonstrated for weeks against the results.

The newspaper identified as one example Hossein Manif Ashmar, a member of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard force that attacked the northern Tehran campaign office of opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi on Election Day, June 12, 2009. The paper said Ashmar, who has been living in the country since the mid-1990s, also works at Hizbullah headquarters in Iran. Two of his brothers died as "shaheeds" (martyrs) - both as members of the Hizbullah terrorist group.

The report also alleged that Hizbullah was the beneficiary of a gift of \$400 million from its Iranian handlers last month during "Iran-Lebanon Friendship Week." The transaction allegedly took place through the Iranian Embassy in Beirut, according to Green Voice, which reported that the cultural event provided the cover for the funds transfer.

Mehrdad Bazrpash, an adviser to Ahmadinejad, was the agent who carried out the transaction. Prior funds transfers to the terrorist group had apparently been sent through Iran's Saderat bank. According to the report, however, international sanctions have now blocked that channel - hence the personal trip by Bazrpash to the embassy in Lebanon.

## Israel and 'One-State Solution' Dominate Congressional Race

By IsraelNationalNews.com

A Jewish Democrat's support for a "one-state" solution has turned a California Congressional primary into a debate on Israel. In a senatorial race, two GOP candidates charge their opponent, a former Congressman, with being "weak on Israel."

The southern California Congressional seat is held by Jewish incumbent Jane Harman, who has gained the support of powerful colleague Henry Waxman. He has publicly criticized challenger Marcy Winograd for adopting a policy by which "Israel would cease to exist."

## Israel Post Office Distributes a Different Type of Purim Mask

By IsraelNationalNews.com

The Israel Postal Company chose Sunday, the day most of the country celebrated the joyous holiday of Purim as the day on which it began its distribution of gas masks to the nation's residents, ranging from infants to adults.

The program which began with the city of Or Yehuda, will initially last six days, after which it will extend to Kiryat Ono and the surrounding areas.

Individual gas masks were first distributed to Israel's citizens on the eve of the 1990 Gulf War, with routine maintenance having been provided by Home Front Command until 2003. The kits were subsequently collected by the government; however, as demographic changes took place across the country and the kits reached their various expiration dates.

Most of the remaining kits were collected for rehabilitation and refreshing during a 2007-2008 government drive. The redistribution of the kits, which begins this year, is expected to take about three years.

Residents who have not yet returned their old protective kits are asked to please do so during the distribution drive. For further information, call the Home Front Command Information Center at telephone number "1207."

Thousands of needy Israeli children received costumes in advance of the holiday of Purim when the Yad B'Yad charity organization opened its warehouse for those whose families couldn't afford to indulge the traditional custom

"Poor children also need costumes," said Chabad-Lubavitch Rabbi Yaakov Gloiberman, director of Yad B'Yad in the central city of Lod. "It helps bring happiness on Purim"



Ahmadinejad Ready to Defect to Israel

Purim which began this past Saturday evening, recalls the events of the biblical Scroll of Esther. Celebrations are characterized by the wearing of masks and the donning of costumes in remembrance of the Persian queen who hid her identity until the last minute in order to save the Jewish people.

All told, some 10,000 children went home with new costumes donated by various businesses and individuals. Over the course of two weeks, families stopped by the warehouse, as did teachers who knew of students in dire straits.

According to Gloiberman, most of the boys preferred soldier and policeman costumes, while the most popular girl's outfits were princess dresses and queen costumes.



Dubai: Israelis With European Passports to be Blocked: United Arab Emirates authorities have decided that Israeli civilians will be prohibited from entering the country even if they hold a passport other than an Israeli one. This action is in response to the assassination of Hamas terrorist Mahmoud al - Mabhouh that Dubai authorities say was carried out by the Israeli Mossad.

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E-mail: dcanaan(at)israelfaxx(dot)com Visit our free archival web site at www.israelfaxx.com March 2, 2010 Vol. 18, No. 43 (2010\_03\_02) Editor: Don Canaan, The Villages, FL 32159

## Farrakhan: Obama Targeted by U.S. Jewish Lobby, Zionists

By Ha'aretz

President Barack Obama is targeted because of standing up to the Jews who control American politics as well as its economy; the Chicago Sun Times quoted the leader of Nation of Islam Minister Louis Farrakhan as saying on Monday.

Farrakhan, speaking to a crowd of 20,000 followers at Chicago's United Center on Sunday, said that Obama's political problems began when he, according to the Chicago Sun Times report, stood up to the Jewish lobby during a White House meeting. When they left the White House, his problems began," Farrakhan said,

Farrakhan also referred to the U.S. president's chief economical advisors, Timothy Geithner, Henry Paulson and Larry Summers, asking "Who does he have around him? The people from Goldman Sachs." The leader of the Nation of Islam added that "bloodsuckers of the poor" were rewarded with a bailout.

Abraham Foxman, director of the Anti-Defamation League, said in response to Farrakhan's speech that "anybody who thought the old Farrakhan was gone: He never was. It's the same Farrakhan: ugly and anti-Semitic. With age, he doesn't get milder, he gets uglier."

Further on in his address, Farrakhan also reiterated his claims that the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001 was "an inside thing."

Last year, the Anti-Defamation League lashed out at Farrakhan for remarks he made in which he accused "the Israeli lobby" of controlling the government.

"You cannot deny the pro-Israeli lobby and get re-elected," Farrakhan said. "Ask Cynthia McKinney. Ask David Hilliard. Ask our mayor in Oakland, California. Ask [former Illinois Senator Charles] Percy. Ask Jimmy Carter. You can't criticize; you can't say nothing (sic) because if you do, you're branded as an anti-Semite.

"Why, U.S. Congress, will you not speak? It is because you fear a lobby that has money and influence that will turn you out of your seat? So you're terrorized. That's why you don't act for the American people that sent you to Congress. You are not their representative. You are the representative of the money and interests that have bought your soul."

At one point during his address, Farrakhan implied that the validity of Holocaust records should be open to debate.

"[You] can't even engage in constructive argument over the veracity of the figures of the Holocaust. We know something happened, sure, but you can't talk about [it]. In certain cities in Europe they arrest you and put you in prison for denying such.

"There's not a vote that the pro-Israeli lobby wants that doesn't get bipartisan support," Farrakhan said. "Why? Because the Israeli lobby controls the government of the United States of America."

The remarks were again met with strong condemnation by the ADL's Foxman: "Louis Farrakhan is at it again. After his near-silence on Jews over the last several years, we thought Minister Farrakhan had put his long history of anti-Semitism and racism behind him, or at least had held his views in check.

"Apparently, that was wishful thinking. Once again he is clearly comfortable with putting his bigotry on display, unfettered and unhidden for his supporters and the world to see."

## Iran: Arab Resistance is Key to Demise of World Powers

By IsraelNationalNews.com

Iran's senior nuclear negotiator, Saeed Jalil, says that Palestinian Authority resistance is the key to freedom for Muslims and the demise of western dominance. Jalil also is the Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council.

He told the government-controlled Fars News Agency that world powers should accept their fate. Speaking to an international conference on "National and Islamic Solidarity for the Future of Palestine" in Tehran, he insisted that "the era of supremacy of certain power clubs has ended."

According to Jalil, "Palestine and the resistance are symbols and keys to an understanding of the relations dominating the world. Palestine is the key to resistance, standing and honor which will spread throughout the world day by day." He reasoned that world powers are worried that Arab resistance in Judea, Samaria and Gaza will become a model in international relations.

Jalil also charged that the "power club" fighting terrorism "officially supported and equipped a terrorist group [Israel] and this signals the end of the era belonging to the 'power club.'"

Iranian Intelligence Minister Heydar Moslehi told the Islamic conference that "resistance movements" should launch an all-out media and Internet campaign against Israel. "The social networking sites could provide the ground for exposing the Zionist regime's atrocities; and through these networks they (Palestinian groups) can start a full-scale war against global arrogance and Israel," Moslehi said.

Jalil is reportedly a close friend of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and is considered by some "a chief architect of the clampdown" on protests in Iran over the 2009 election.

## Phony Website Counters Israel's PR Campaign

By YnetNews.com

Israel is fuming over the launching of an anti-Israel website with a name very similar to that of a website recently set up by the Information and Diaspora Ministry. The ministry's website, which has been criticized for reflecting the right-wing side of the political spectrum, is part of a new campaign aimed at improving Israel's image abroad. Foreign journalists have also criticized the Israeli website for the way they are portrayed in it.

The ministry estimates that Palestinian or radical left-wing elements launched the anti-Israel site as a means of countering the Israeli PR campaign. The ministry said it plans to file a police complaint. The ministry's website is msbirmgov.il, while the anti-Israel site is hasbara.co.il.

The new website is replete with anti-Israel content, including footage taken from IDF soldiers' funerals and incidents where Palestinians were killed or injured. The website's operators have yet to be tracked down.

The new site's homepage reads, "This website is not run by the Information Ministry or the Israeli government. It was set up to present a different, more complete picture of the issues that are the focus of Israel's PR campaign. For the original information Ministry website click here, but we would appreciate it if you would take some time to read the alternative content we are offering."

Information Minister Yuli Edelstein said that the launching of the anti-Israel site underscores the need for the original website. "This is exactly why the website was launched - to counter those who slander Israel with the help of modern media, I've asked legal advisors to find out who is behind this identity theft and the illegal use of the website's design, as well as the State's emblem. I believe that in the coming days I found out who is behind the act." "We'll find out who is behind the act."



Israel to Consider Settlement for Illegal Aliens: The Israeli government will consider establishing a settlement for illegal aliens from Africa who infiltrated Israel. Officials said that currently 25,000 such illegal workers are now in Israel, with an additional 700 pouring in every month. Very few of these people were political refugees, the officials said, with the vast majority simply looking for work. The settlement would provide residential and work opportunities for the illegal aliens.

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E-mail: dcanaan(at)israelfaxx(dot)com Visit our free archival web site at www.israelfaxx.com March 3, 2010 Vol. 18, No. 44 (2010\_03\_03) Editor: Don Canaan, The Villages, FL 32159

## Iranian Ayatollah: Nukes are a Religious Obligation

By IsraelNationalNews.com

Ayatollah Masbah Yazdi, the spiritual teacher of Iran's dictator Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, says that the acquisition of nuclear weapons is a religious obligation. So reports the Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center, headquartered in Ramat HaSharon.

Yazdi, considered one of the leading religious thinkers in Iran, authored a book in which he wrote that attaining the ability to independently produce "special combat means of a specific type" is not only a military obligation for Iran, but also a religious one.

Just 10 days ago, Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said the opposite. Speaking to army commanders at the launch of a new Iranian naval destroyer, Khamenei said, "Our religious beliefs are against the use of [nuclear] weapons. We in no way believe in an atomic weapon and do not seek one."

Yazdi wrote that the country's leaders need not fear the financial costs of producing atomic weapons, as these would be more than compensated for by the "Divine and Messianic aid" that would result.

ITIC acknowledges that the prevalent approach in official Iran is as Khamenei said, namely, that Islam forbids the development of nuclear weapons. However, no official ruling to this effect is known, nor "is it reasonable to assume that this would prevent the regime from developing" such weapons, ITIC says.

"We must manufacture, here at home, the most advanced weapons," Yazdi wrote, "even if it doesn't please our enemies. There is no reason that they should have the right to manufacture [such] weapons, while other countries are denied this right. We must not break in the face of temporary difficulties and the Muslims must be patient and not be deterred by a material and economic lack - for if so, this is liable to lead to a separation from the religion."

## Israel Remains Unprepared for Earthquakes at Home

By IsraelNationalNews.com

The State of Israel is woefully unprepared for the possibility of being struck by a natural disaster such as a major earthquake, former State Comptroller Micha Lindenstrauss warned Knesset members Tuesday.

Israel is usually one of the first countries to offer assistance to other nations when they are hit with natural disasters - and has been praised repeatedly for the speed and efficiency of its response.

The former Comptroller raised the matter with lawmakers at a special meeting on Tuesday with the Knesset State Control Committee. He noted that the issues raised in a report published by his predecessor, and subsequently by him in 2004, remain valid today.

He added that the issue is becoming increasingly important in the state, not only because both Haiti and Chile were recently hit with devastating tremors, but also due to predictions that an earthquake in Israel could endanger tens of thousands.

Many buildings in the State of Israel, which is located along the Syrian-African fault, were built in the 1960s, at a time when construction codes were not as strict as they are now.

Even then, however, it was noted in the inspection reports that there was a need to protect hospitals against the possibility of earthquakes. However, no funds were allocated for the purpose.

## Everyone's Googling Mossad

By YnetNews.com

The popularity of Israel's secret service agency continues to rise. The January assassination of senior Hamas figure Mahmoud al-Mabhouh in Dubai, which many have linked with the spy agency, has led to an increase in the number of Google searches for the word "Mossad."

According to a Google trend, which follows web searching patterns, the number of Google searches for the Mossad has increased by four between mid-January - when the murder was first reported in the media - and mid-February. Moreover, in comparison with 2009, the agency saw a whopping sevenfold increase in the number of Google web searches.

The United Arab Emirates tops the list of curious countries that have googled the secret service agency in the past 30 days, followed by Israel, Singapore, Indonesia, Ireland and India. Abu Dhabi takes first place among the cities that have looked up the clandestine organization.

## Israelis Rush to Join Mossad

By TimesOnline.com

The Israeli spy agency Mossad may be the target of international reproach since it allegedly killed the Hamas leader Mahmoud al-Mabhouh in a Dubai hotel, but at home emerging details of the operation have generated Mossad mania.

It has never been more popular in Israel, with stores selling out of Mossad memorabilia and its official website reporting a soaring number of visitors interested in applying to become agents. "Mossad has been restored to its glory days," said Ilan Mizrahi, a former deputy director of the agency, which is located in the affluent beach town of Herzliya, north of Tel Aviv.

Israel has neither confirmed nor denied its involvement in al-Mabhouh's death - despite increasingly confident announcements by Dubai police that they have linked Mossad to the killing. Of the 28 suspects named, 11 share identities with Israelis who hold dual citizenship.

Governments across the world are lambasting Israel for what it considers a sloppy job done by agents who were caught on CCTV and may have left behind DNA. In Israel, the operation is being touted as a job well done. Israelis are discussing the killing with a wink, a nod, and pride in the agency, officially known as the Institute for Intelligence and Special Operations.



Opticians have reported a rise in sales of the horn-rimmed glasses in the style worn by 14 of the 26 suspects. T-shirts with Mossad logos are selling out at stores and the agency has experienced a flood of applicants.

Although no new jobs have been posted for half a year, a new statement on the Mossad website reads: "You have an opportunity to create a new reality where you can play the leading role. If you possess intelligence and sophistication, you can make a difference and fulfill a national mission. If you can engage, charm and influence people - you may have the qualities we are looking for."

Elad, 21, had been dreaming of joining Mossad for years, but recently filed an application, the news site Ynet reported. "I ran to a computer and applied for a job," Elad told Ynet. "I've always had a dream to work for the Mossad. It's obvious why - it's exciting, dangerous and special. Nobody really knows what people do there, and now I suddenly understand how it works. It's cool. I hope they accept me. I think I have all the required skills."

The Mossad website says that candidates must hold an academic degree and good command of at least two languages. Preference is given to people with experience abroad and an ability to begin work immediately.



**Knesset Member: Arabic TV in Israel - an Enemy Within:** Yoel Hasson (Kadima) says that Israel's public Arabic-language TV channel is a mouthpiece for Muslim and anti-Israel propaganda. In a letter to IBA Chief Moti Shklar, Hasson warned that Islamic extremist elements are taking over the Voice of Israel in Arabic and using it to broadcast anti-Israeli messages. Hasson says that the station's promotion of pro-Palestinian content is effected largely by Arabs residents of eastern Jerusalem who are not Israelis and who occupy influential positions in the Arabic station.

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## Sixty Percent of Americans: Only Force Can Stop Iran

By YnetNews.com

A majority of Americans believes it would be a disaster were Iran to attain nuclear weapons, and that military force should be used to prevent this from happening, according to a survey published in the US on Wednesday. However, American security experts called on the Obama administration to oppose an attack on Iran, even as a "last option."

The survey, commissioned by Fox News, shows that 60% of US citizens believe military force is required to prevent Iran from attaining nuclear weapons. And most of those in favor of an attack are Republicans: Some 51% of Democrats and 51% of independents are in favor, while 75% of Republicans support the military option.

The poll also shows that 56% of Americans believe it would be a disaster if Iran were to become capable of manufacturing atomic bombs, while 37% think it would be possible to cope with this eventuality. Only 3% believe that it would not be a problem at all.

A narrow majority of respondents gave President Barak Obama a low grade for his handling of the Iran issue. Some 41% said they were satisfied with his performance, while 42% said they were not and 17% were undecided.

In contrast to public opinion, American experts warn against an attack on Iran nuclear facilities. The British newspaper Financial Times published an article with the headline, "Do not even think about bombing Iran."

"The strike option... lacks credibility," the article's authors Michael O'Hanlon and Bruce Riedel claim "America is engaged in two massive and unpopular military campaigns in the region. Given Iran's ability to retaliate against the US in Iraq and Afghanistan, it is simply not credible that we would use force in the foreseeable future. Tehran, Moscow and Beijing know this."

Riedel served for many years in the CIA and was even Middle East advisor to former presidents Bill Clinton and George Bush. Riedel and O'Hanlon warn that even a massive attack will not slow Iran's nuclear project. "We cannot be sure we know where all existing Iranian facilities to enrich uranium are located," adding "Even if we did strike most or all existing facilities, Iran can rebuild fairly fast".

The authors also warn that while top political echelons in the US have reached the conclusion that the military option will not solve the problem they still talk about an attack as a last resort. "There are dangers to such an approach," they point out. "Mr. Obama may some day come under pressure to employ it when all else has failed - and we think this would be a mistake."

The two advocate firms sanctions to stop Iran's development of nuclear weapons, while offering a "nuclear umbrella over Israel and other threatened states. It is not a great option," they conclude, "but it is much better than war."

## Arab States & Israel Back Peace Talk Proposal

By VOA News & IsraelNationalNews.com

Arab foreign ministers meeting in Cairo have agreed to support a U.S. proposal for indirect peace talks between Palestinians and Israelis.

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat told reporters Wednesday that members of the Arab League would back the talks for a period of four

months. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, who is attending the Cairo meeting, has said he would also abide by the Arab League's decision. Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu also welcomed the decision.

The announcement follows a U.S. offer to mediate discussions between the two sides in an effort to revive the stalled peace process.

On Tuesday, a U.S. State Department spokesman, P.J. Crowley, said Washington believes Israel and the Palestinians are "getting closer" to starting a dialogue. Talks broke down over a year ago. One of the biggest disputes is Israel's continued settlement activity in territory that Palestinians claim for a future state.

Israel welcomed the decision by the Arab League. According to Israeli government spokesman Mark Regev, "I hope we see the resumption of talks. I think it's in everyone's interest."

Regev said Israel has been ready to resume peace talks all along. "And unfortunately that's been held up until now because the Palestinian side, unfortunately, has piled on preconditions."

The United States has also pressured Israel for a freeze on construction in the settlements, on grounds that they are an obstacle to peace. But the U.S. has not made a settlement freeze a precondition for peace talks. To bridge the gaps, the U.S. proposed indirect talks, which will probably involve shuttle diplomacy by an American mediator between the Israeli government in Jerusalem and the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank town of Ramallah. The U.S. will look for points of agreement that will enable the resumption of direct negotiations.

Expectations are low for a breakthrough in the four-month period designated by the Arab League for the talks. But a starting point is seen as an important step toward breaking the deadlock.

## Military Operation's Details are Publicized on Facebook

By IsraelNationalNews.com

An IDF soldier has been removed from combat duty after divulging details of an upcoming military operation on his Facebook site. The operation was called off as a result.

Some two weeks ago, the soldier wrote, "On Wednesday, we'll be cleaning up in Katnaa [an Arab village near Ramallah], and on Thursday, please G-d, we're going home." He also noted the name of his unit, as well as the time of the planned round of terrorist arrests.

The soldier's comrades noticed the posting and alerted their commander, who immediately took steps to repair the damage caused by the compromising of classified information. He sent the case to the IDF's Information Security Department, at whose recommendation he then called off the planned Katnaa operation, placed the soldier on trial, and demoted him from his unit and from combat duty.

Col. (res.) Ram Dor, former Director of the Information Security Department, told Army Radio that though information is often leaked via the internet, this case exceeded the boundaries of the ordinary.

"It would be impossible to comb the entire internet and find all the tremendous amounts of classified information there," Dor said, "but we have to at least find what we can and take care of it. Some of the treatment has to do with awareness, as we saw in this case: One soldier messed up, but we see that the other soldiers were acutely aware of the security issues and they reported him."

"We have often found information on Facebook," Ramsaid, "with photos of soldiers engaged in military activity or in a war-room with secret maps and charts with codewords in the background. We were able to reach some of these soldiers, and they were disciplined appropriately."

Asked if it is feared that PA intelligence can find these Facebook sites, Dor said, "I wouldn't misjudge them in this area... They probably also use Facebook, and they can get to the secret information even by accident. Their intelligence gathering skills are not to be sneezed at. I am including the Syrians, Iranians, and Hizbullah; they are intertwined in terms of intelligence gathering."

## Leftists, Muslims Commence 'Israel Apartheid Week' Events

By YnetNews.com

Events marking "Israel Apartheid Week" have commenced on campuses all over the world, including in Canada, and to a lesser extent in the United States. During the course of the week organizers will be distributing material depicting Israel as an apartheid state and call on the international community to impose sanctions against it.

Most of the activity in the US is taking place in New England, including at Boston University, Brown University and The University of California, Berkeley. The keynote speaker at the Boston University gathering was Jewish intellectual and political activist Noam Chomsky (82), who called on US citizens to confront Israel over its treatment of the Palestinians.

"Over time, the apparatus of Israeli control has become more sophisticated and effective in affecting Palestinian life," said Chomsky, a controversial author and MIT professor emeritus. Israel has finally begun to adopt the South African policy of what they call 'indigenization of repression.'

Addressing the comparison between Israel and South Africa, Chomsky said, "It's not exactly like the South African apartheid. In some respects it's not as bad, but in some respects it's worse. For decades, Israel has been killing and kidnapping civilians in Lebanon...bringing them to Israel, imprisoning them, keeping them as hostages...but two Israel soldiers are captured at the border (and it) justifies a US invasion," he said. "It's a comment of us and what we go along with."

Chomsky criticized US foreign policy toward Israel but stressed it could also use its power abroad to lessen the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. "The world works like the mafia," he said. "There is the don, or us (the United States), and when the don says not do something, you don't do it."

Chomsky told Ynet on Wednesday, "What I expect the US and Israel to do is to end their extreme rejectionism and join the overwhelming international consensus on a two-state settlement, along the lines that have been discussed in great detail, in Israel too - e.g., the Geneva proposals.

"Note that I say 'US and Israel,' because, despite pretenses, in the real world they act in tandem. Israel can go as far as the US permits, no farther, and relies on constant and decisive US support and participation," he said.

"As for a 'Jewish state,' that's a separate matter. In principle, I don't like the idea of Christian, white, Islamic, Jewish, etc. states. I think states should be the states of their citizens, and do not agree with the Israeli High Court that Israel should be 'the State of the Jewish people,' in Israel and the Diaspora - that is my state, but not the state of its Palestinian citizens.

"If that were merely symbolic, it wouldn't matter much. But it's far from that as every Israeli should know. However, that's not an international issue. It's an internal problem for Israelis, much like the failure in the US to implement the 14th amendment after almost 150 years."

Israeli Consul-General in Boston Nadav Tamir said Muslim groups and extreme leftist organizations in the US. "This is a coalition of organizations, some Muslim and some anarchist who have targeted Israel. But I do not believe they have significant influence over American students who are part of the mainstream."

Tamir said Israel's response to "Apartheid Week" is relatively mild "because our polls show that most American decision-makers are graduates of law and business schools." Our strategy is to act in places that have an influence and not respond to every provocation."

## Jerusalem to Hear iPhone Prayers

By YnetNews.com

The Jerusalemcomtourist website has launched an iPhone application that enables people from around the world and of any religion to record a 45 second prayer which would be sounded on loudspeaker opposite Jerusalem's walls at a time and day of the person's choice.

"This option is for people who want to maintain a spiritual connection with the city but are unable to visit it," explained Michael Weiss, one of the website's administrators. "The idea is to provide a meaningful experience beyond an image of the city. We allow any person in the world to be heard in the city of God.

"Israelis' accessibility to the holy sites is elementary but is not within the reach of millions of people. Many of them will not be able to come here even once in their lives. Using this technology one can provide people far away with something of the holy city's DNA," Weiss said.

He also added that the loudspeaker will be installed in the Yemin Moshe neighborhood and will operate on medium volume. According to Weiss, after a prayer has been sounded the person who sent the recording will receive a message saying "God heard your prayer in Jerusalem"

Thus far prayers have been received from 72 countries and Weiss said that Jews are "the strongest audience" but that there are many prayers from Christians and Muslims. We see a connection between the nature of the prayers and everyday life. The economic crisis has brought about many prayers pertaining to work from around the world. The number of prayers rises substantially towards the holidays. We are expecting masses of prayers ahead of Passover."

## Arutz Sheva's New Website for Children

By IsraelNationalNews.com

Good news for children and their parents: Israel National News (Arutz Sheva) has inaugurated a new website for children. So far, the site boasts online games for different age groups, clean jokes submitted by children, kids' radio, drawings that young surfers upload, and pictures that can be downloaded for coloring.

KidsKorner (<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/kids/>) allows surfers to upload content. Besides the jokes and drawings sent in by kids (or by their parents, if they need help, or by the children if the parents need help), the site allows the younger generation to comment and rate what they see. Comments in the game section enable the budding surfers to request help from their fellow gamers, discuss strategies or relate their great successes or failures (oops!).

Although the internet is not lacking sites with games, jokes and what-have-you aimed at kids, these sites often include immodest, lewd or generally negative content, and often endanger one's computer with spyware and the like.

## Dry Bones GENERATIONS



Courtesy of Yaakov Kirschen

www.drybonesblog.com



**Syria: Israel Scattered Particles of Uranium:** The Syrian government claims that Israel scattered uranium particles found in a suspected Syrian reactor bombed by Israel two years ago. Representative of Iran's nuclear agency, Ali Asghar Soltanieh, said that the international community should scrutinize Israel and not Syria. "The Zionist regime committed an act of aggression. The whole affair was inflated by the United States and its allies."

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## Two Israeli Missile Ships Pass Through the Suez Canal

By IsraelNationalNews.com & UPI

Two missile ships belonging to the Israeli navy passed through the Suez Canal sometime during the last few weeks, according to reports on several internet sites. In the past, the passage of Israeli warships southward through the canal, from the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea, has been interpreted as preparation for a possible attack against Iran.

The IDF spokesman said in response to INN's inquiry regarding the reports that the IDF does not usually comment on military movements.

The supreme leader of Iran marked the occasion of the birthday of the Islam Prophet Mohammad to lash out Thursday at Iran's sworn enemy Israel. Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei addressed a crowd of dignitaries in Tehran, lauding Muslim unity in the face of the "tireless efforts" by the U.S. and British governments, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

Khamenei went on to describe Israel as a "dangerous cancer tumor," stressing "the only way (for Muslims) to defend against this severe cancer and its supporters is to return to Islam."

The leading cleric said bullying tactics from its enemies was distracting Iran from the larger issue of the plight of the Palestinians. "This is the reason that they resort to any possible means to flare the flame of ethnic, religious and geographic conflict among the hearts and minds of the Shiite and Sunni, as well as the followers of other Islamic sects," he said. Tehran blamed its Western adversaries for backing opposition protesters challenging the cleric regime in the wake of disputed June presidential elections.

Two Israeli warships passed through the Suez Canal on July 14 last year in what was seen as an unusual show of cooperation between Egypt and Israel. The Hanit and the Eilat, both Sa'ar-5 class Navy torpedo boats, traveled from the Mediterranean to the Red Sea, allegedly to beef up Israel's military presence there.

One week earlier, an Israel Navy Dolphin-class submarine also traveled through the Suez Canal from the Mediterranean to the Red Sea and back, escorted by Egyptian navy vessels. It was the first such drill for the German-made secret vessel, defense sources said.

Israeli navy vessels usually travel around the Horn of Africa in order to reach the Red Sea. The voyages in July were seen as a message from Israel and Egypt to Iran, which continues its nuclear program and threats against Israel in spite of United Nations sanctions.

## Israel's Oscar-Nominated Film Looks at Irreconcilable Divide in Mixed Arab, Jewish Neighborhood

By Luis Ramirez (VOA-Jaffa)

This year, the films nominated for a foreign language Oscar include Ajami, an Israeli movie that features non-professional Israeli actors -- both Arab and Jew. The film is set in Ajami, a neighborhood of Jaffa, south of Tel Aviv. See <http://tinyurl.com/yd8ahsg>

The Jaffa community is a mix of Jews and Arabs and is known for violent crime and drug-dealing. The movie never mentions the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but the divide between Jews and Arabs is an ever-present theme.

From a distance, Jaffa is a beautiful seaside community. It blends Arab and Jewish cultures. But although they live side by side, Jews and Arabs never mix and occasionally they collide. Real life in

Jaffa's Ajami neighborhood is much like it appears in Ajami, the film. Crime is a part of daily life, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a never-disappearing backdrop.

Yaron Shani, an Israeli Jew who co-directed the film with an Israeli Arab, says Ajami sought to expose human nature, specifically why people hurt one another. "We wanted to show what it is to be a human being in conflict with another human being. It's not a story about good side and bad side or evil side and just side. It's a story about human beings who are understanding reality in a totally different way," he said.

It took the directors and a cast of non-professional actors eight years to make the film. In it, a series of disconnected subplots dealing with desperation and conflict occur within the same community.

One of the stories involves Malek, a young Palestinian who sneaks into Israel from the West Bank to work so he can pay for a lifesaving operation for his mother. Ibrahim Frege plays Malek. "If we look into every individual person in the film, their stories and we live their life, we could really feel and understand society. It is not just our society, but every society," Malek said.

Jaffa native Amal Abu Ramadan plays Malek's mother. Like the others, she volunteered to act in the film without pay for the chance to perform a project she believed in. "It really reflects reality," she said. "This is why I really liked the film. Because of that I wanted to participate in the film and support it."

Frege says his role is really his life story. Since he was 12, he has worked as a gardener and a farmhand to support his family. He hopes the film will promote understanding. "I want this movie to send a message to both sides, that Jewish society should not look at the Arab as a killer or as a drug dealer, or as an evil human being. At the same time, the Arab should not look at Jews as killers who seek to do harm," he said.

This could be the first time an Israeli film wins an Oscar. Ajami's filmmakers say winning would be nice, but showing the reality behind the stories is what matters most.

## Israeli Novel with Parallels to Dubai Killing is a Hit in Germany

By Ha'aretz

The translation of an Israeli novel about a fictional Shin Bet agent is getting exceptional attention in Germany, where critics are commenting about the plot's "astonishing" similarities to the Dubai assassination of Mahmoud al-Mabhouh. The killing is receiving extensive coverage in Germany, as authorities begin investigating the use of German passports in the affair.

The latest issue of the prominent weekly Der Spiegel says Yishai Sarid's literary thriller "Limassol" shows astonishing parallels to the assassination of the Hamas leader in Dubai, which abroad is widely credited to the Mossad, and went so far as to wonder: "Is it merely a coincidence?"

Similar comments were made in an article in Sueddeutsche Zeitung, which said that "some of the plot is reminiscent of the operation in which Israeli intelligence agents tortured and murdered al-Mabhouh."

"The book was written several years ago, obviously without any connection to the Mabhouh affair," Sarid told Ha'aretz. Sarid, a 44-year-old lawyer, served as an officer in Military Intelligence. His thriller's protagonist is a Shin Bet agent bent on a sting operation: He needs to make contact with a Tel Aviv novelist and peace activist and use her to get to a terminally ill Palestinian friend due to arrive to Israel for treatment. The goal is to arrange a meeting with a Hamas terrorist in preparation for the latter's assassination in a Limassol hotel.

The author says there are "some interesting similarities" with the killing of Mabhouh. The targeted terrorist in the novel is a Hamas activist organizing terrorist activity from abroad, moving between Iran, Sudan, Syria and elsewhere. His assassination is supposed to be carried out in a hotel teeming with people and surveillance devices.