

# THE MOUNT ZION REPORTER

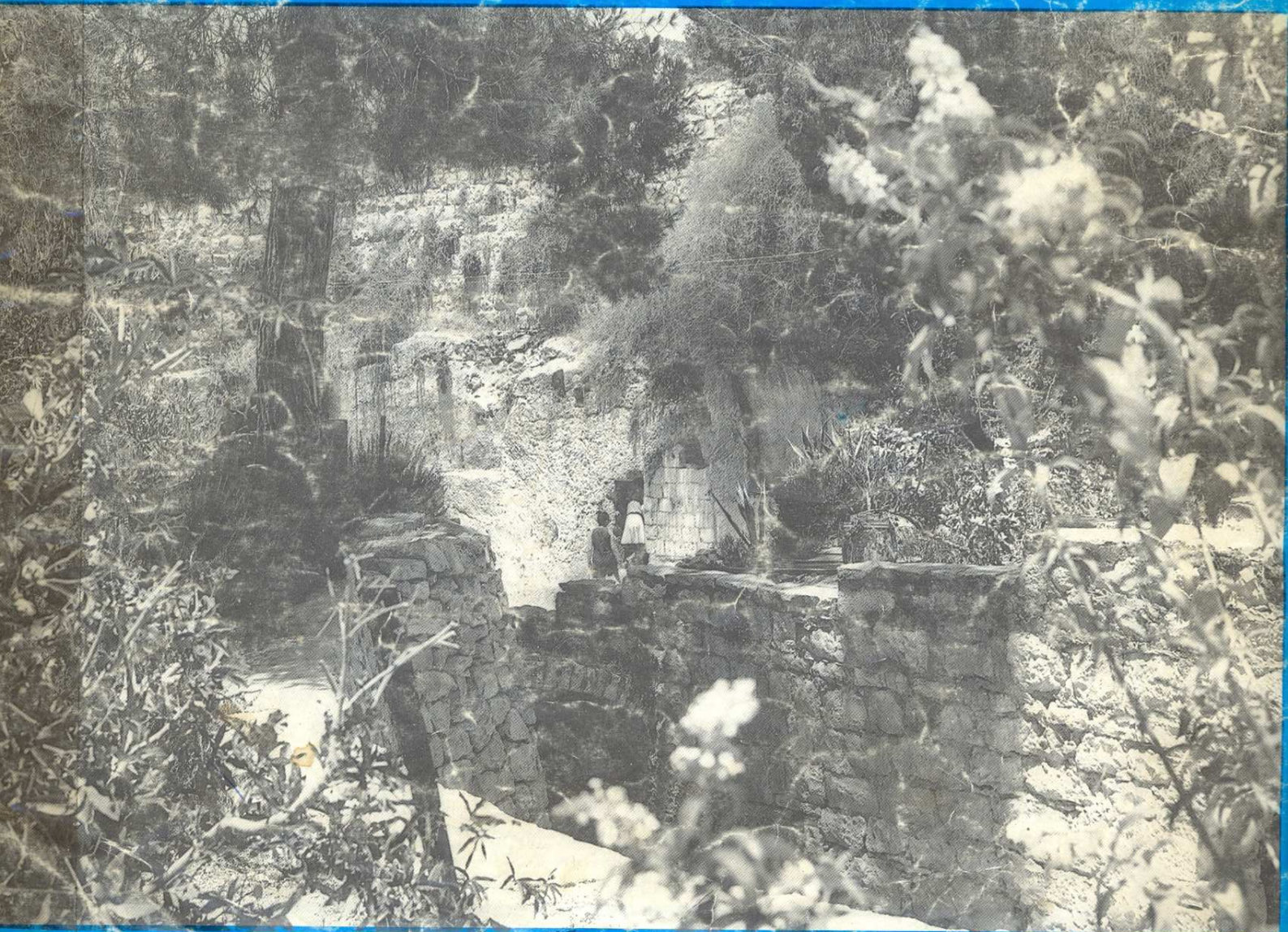
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May/June

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Probes

# Judah '93



**THE MOUNT ZION REPORTER**  
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**President and Editor—Gordon M. Fauth**

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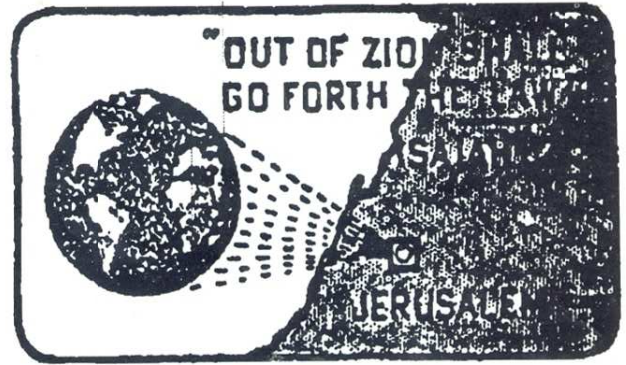
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**The Head and Director: Jesus (Yeshua)**

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**Jerusalem—The Chosen City of God**

"For the Lord hath Chosen Zion: He hath desired it for His habitation" (Psalms 132:23). "The Lord of hosts shall reign in Mount Zion, and in Jerusalem" (Isaiah 24:23). "They shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord" (Jeremiah 3:17). "But I have chosen Jerusalem, that My Name might be there" (2 Chron. 6:6). "The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem" (Joel 3:16).

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*Address correspondence to:*

**The Mount Zion Reporter**  
**P.O.Box 568**  
**Jerusalem, ISRAEL**

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# YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE ISRAELI

by Lynn Poritz

You don't have to be 18 years old and in peak physical condition to serve in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). You don't have to train for combat duty, undergo basic training, pass a desert survival course or fire an Uzi. And, as the 80 Americans attending the 10th reunion of Sar-EI (Volunteers for Israel) in Jerusalem will tell you, you don't even have to be an Israeli citizen.

What is required to join the Sar-EI, three-week army volunteers program, however, is a willingness to work hard, adaptability, and, according to one volunteer, "a good sense of humor." And working on an army base or in an Israeli hospital is not so easy when living in barracks and having to put up with rations, roll call and orders from a commanding officer who may be young enough to be your grandchild.

## Americans Heed the Call

Military volunteering is not new to Israel. During the 1948 War of Independence, many volunteers came to Palestine through "Mahal" (Volunteers From Abroad). The impetus for Sar-EI, however, came from another war—the 1982 action in Lebanon. General Aaron Davidi suggested calling up Americans to help with the kibbutz harvests and some 650 Americans heeded the call. Since then more than 33,000 foreign volunteers from 20 countries have engaged in just about any noncombat task—cleaning weapons, repairing vehicles, cooking, etc. Some 3,280 volunteers, including teachers, professors, mechanics and engineers (aged 18-65), came in 1991 alone. About half came from the US and France and the rest from South Africa, Canada, Holland and Hungary.

Today's volunteers pay their own fare but the barracks, board and uniform are courtesy of the IDF.

Arline Tepper, a computer artist from Los Angeles, says, "The Sar-EI program was wonderful but the work was sometimes tedious. I distributed sleeping bags, did laundry and sorted uniforms by size—anything to relieve a reservist from duty."

For New Yorker Al Goldberg and New Jerseyite Bob Kauffman, who have a friendly feud over who can serve the



most IDF time, the 24 and 23 Sar-EI stints they have done, respectively, speak for their dedication. "If a reservist has to serve only 40 instead of 42 days," says Kauffman, "then I've contributed something." And indeed, notes New Haven-born Michael Ben Lev, who directs the volunteers during his reserve duty, "When Kauffman is on duty, the sergeant major can take leave."

## Boosting Morale

"The volunteers contribute not only physical labor, but a work ethic which they impart to the Israelis," notes General Davidi. "The Americans work efficiently, boost morale and are wonderful in times of crisis. During the Gulf War, they served their time (usually three weeks) and more, and not one left."

Jean Blum, a Philadelphia schoolteacher, served in an army hospital during the Gulf War and was "decorated" for her service. "I picked January 13, 1991 for my arrival and wasn't about to change it. I relieved nurses, did physical therapy and helped care for the staff's children when schools were closed."

Lionel Hadad, from Marseilles, signed up for two Sar-EI stints. So taken was the 23-year-old with the IDF and Israel that he made aliya to realize his dream of teaching physical education in the Holy Land. After only a few months of study at the Wingate Institute, Hadad developed leukemia to which he succumbed just recently. "Despite his

illness," said Rachel Carmi, another IDF volunteer and social worker. He still clung to his dream.

Hungarian-born Katy and Moran Hynel's Sar-EI service also led them and their two teenage daughters to settle in Israel. Arriving just days after the start of the Gulf War, they were visited in a Tel Aviv absorption center by General Davidi and Rachel Carmi. Since then, Sar-EI volunteers have helped Moran, an artist, find work as an illustrator and have become "like family," she says.

The unheated, non air-conditioned barracks with army issue mattresses and army rations, that drove some volunteers to spend lunchtimes sampling every falafel stand from Ashkelon to Kiryat Malachi, attest to the authentic army experience. But army leave allowed volunteers such excursions as ascending Masada (in full uniform), visiting Jerusalem, and spending Shabbat with Israeli families.

While army service focuses on the martial, some volunteers and soldiers also get involved in the marital. 500 such strategic alliances have taken place, 30 of them attended by General Davidi.

And what happens after Sar-EI? "Many former volunteers, 1,500 to date, hang up their fatigues and opt to stay in the country," notes General Davidi. "Others become informal Israel ambassadors to their communities back home."

# SOLDIERS AND SCHOLARS — “THE TEFILLIN AND THE GUN”

by Leah Abramowitz

There is a tendency among secular Israelis to divide their society into two groups: themselves and the religious Jews, who live their spiritual life locked within the four walls of tradition and isolated from reality. Bnai David goes against that grain. Established some four years ago to encourage Jews not only to serve in the Israel Defense Forces, but to serve in elite corps, Bnai David works to ensure that secularization does not automatically follow involvement in regular army service.

Observant youth of army age have two options open to them, deferment and the “Hesder” or “Nahal” programs where religious soldiers serve together to avoid problems of Shabbat and communal prayers. Two concerned Rabbis, Yigal Levinstein and Eli Sadan founded the Bnai David post-high school program, to offer a realistic alternative, combining Yeshiva studies with army training.

“We wanted to give religious soldiers the opportunity to serve in the elite corps of the IDF, where few of the observant can be found today,” said Levinstein, himself an officer in an armored combat division. And in fact 50 graduates have become officers and 35 more are currently in officer courses. “We were convinced that with proper preparation,” continued Levinstein the boys would feel more confident about their approaching army service.”

Bnai David, located in the Shomron, is supported by government, the local council and private donations (in particular from British philanthropist Cyril Stein). Established in 1988, it aimed to ensure that “spiritual decline” or secularization would not automatically follow involvement in regular army service and contact with charismatic secular officers.

The one-year preparatory program was named after King David, Says Rabbi Sadan, 42, who served in the paratroopers for 20 years, “King David was both a man of the sword and the author of Psalms; a warrior with a highly developed moral and

religious orientation. These are the qualities we want to imbue in our students.”

The program combines a heavy dose of religious studies with practical army training and meetings with officers from elite corps. As in other Yeshivas, the day begins at 6:45 a.m. with prayers and several hours of Gemarrah (Talmud). However the students also study basic Jewish philosophy, especially the writings of the Rambam, Rav Kook and the Kuzari. Their lessons on Jewish law often deal with practical questions pertaining to army service: how to “Kasher” a field kitchen, how to use a vehicle on Shabbat in cases of “pikuach nefesh” (the saving of life) and how to recite prayers when time is limited.

Teachers are available to discuss questions of faith and tradition and issues troubling the boys are written anonymously on the Bnai David bulletin board to become the subject for the next “sicha” (discussion). Subjects thus tackled include “The Status of Women in Judaism”, “Relations with the Non-Religious Community,” and “Attitudes Toward the Arabs.”

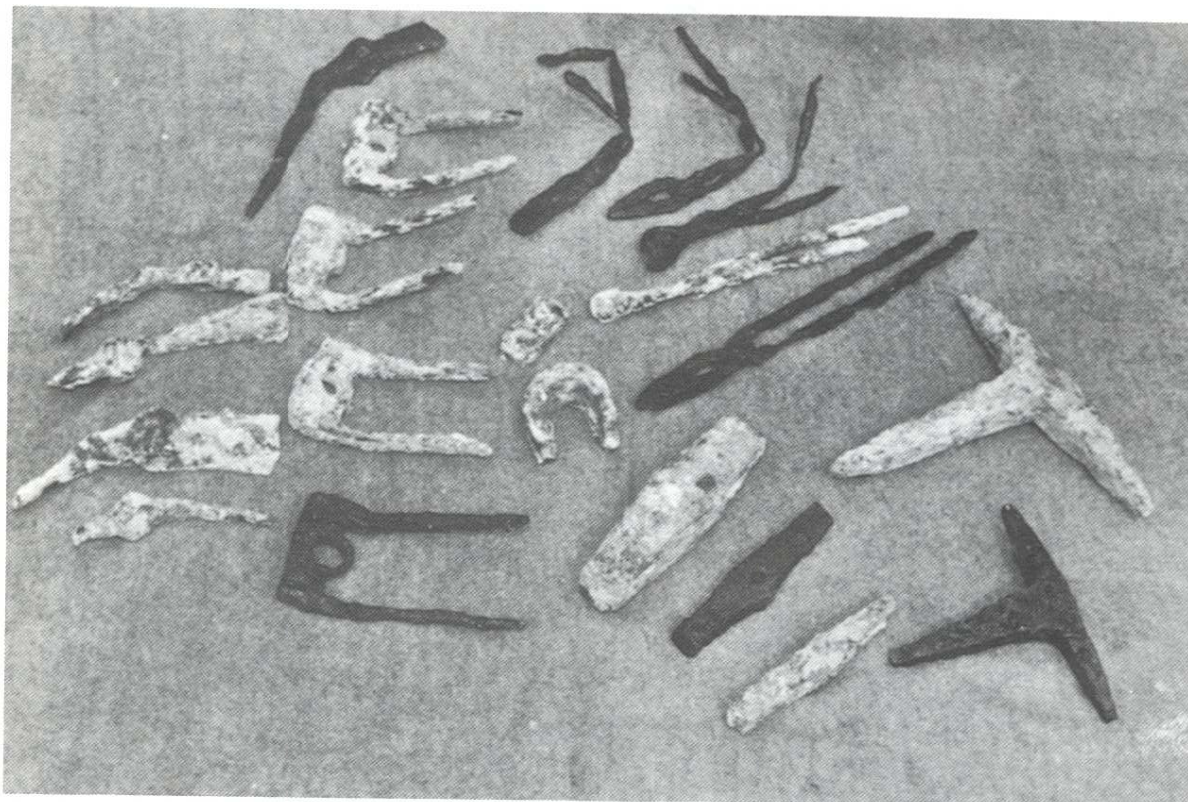
Weekly lectures are given on topics such as medicine, philosophy, sociology, economics, drugs and Islam. “This broadens the students perspective. It’s our Popular University,” smiles Eli Sadan. “Despite the heavy schedule,” says Rabbi Lowenstein, “the pressure of exams, the spartan living conditions, and the fact that the boys are responsible for all the manual jobs

connected with the daily schedule—cleaning, maintenance, dishwashing and gardening. The students genuinely enjoy their studies.” Adds Rabbi Sadan, “It’s not easy for a high school graduate after the heavy load of matriculation to tie himself down for an additional year of study, especially when he has three or maybe four years of army service ahead of him. After all, he gets no diploma, no B.A. and no wings for this additional year.”

“We feel like a family,” says one of the graduates. And indeed, the close ties are evident in the way the boys keep in touch despite being in different army units scattered throughout the country; their visits to the Yeshiva on precious free weekends; their letters to the rabbis and their friends, and their warm endorsement of Bnai David. “The fact that we know we’re here for only one year gives us increased motivation to get the most out of the program,” says one student.

Despite its location, Bnai David’s founders claim no political affiliation and indeed point out that the preparatory instruction stresses the need to follow orders at all costs. When a student once asked if that meant evacuating settlers from the territories if the army so ordered, they were told yes, even if it caused them great distress.

The basic principle is that religious youngsters should view full term army service as a privilege and a mitzva and, according to one graduate, see “The tefillin and the gun as an equal responsibility.”



Tools of a Byzantine Smithy

## Byzantine Smithy Unearthed in Israel

As often happens in the realm of archaeology, it was an accident. While digging a ditch of a water pipeline near a small village in the Galilee, workers came upon strange iron objects. Upon closer inspection, they realized that the objects—identified as having been fashioned in the 6th century A.D. during the Byzantine era—bore a strange similarity to objects used today. In fact, what the workers stumbled upon,

and what was excavated in its entirety by archaeologists of the Israel Antiquities Authority, was a smithy. The workshop was found intact, with a table and two types of tools: the ones the blacksmith used for his work, such as anvils, hammers and tongs, and the ones he fashioned for his clients, among them agricultural implements such as hoes and pickaxes.

— by Lili Eylon

## Daburiya

—by Ava Carmel

According to ancient Christian tradition, these events took place on Mount Tabor. Today, the Church of the Transfiguration was built by the Franciscans on the remains of a 6th century Byzantine church, stands on the summit of this hill.

At the foot of Mount Tabor, on the site of the Biblical town of Dobrath, lies the Arab village of Daburiya. When Joshua cast lots and distributed land to the Israelites, this town was given to the tribe of Zevulun (Joshua 19).

In 1977, the Franciscan Order began excavating a Byzantine church in the village of Daburiya. Due to lack of funding they were not able to continue their dig and the site was covered. Several years ago interest in this church was renewed, when the Daburiya Local Council decided to develop the lot of land, reconstruct the church and create a park around it.

Nissim Najjar, head of archaeology in Israel's Lower Galilee region, is himself a resident of Daburiya.

Due to his example, attitudes about archaeology have changed rapidly in the prosperous village of 5,000. Although the economic basis of the village is still mainly agriculture and construction, Najjar points out, over 30% of the young people go on to study in university.

This year excavations at the Byzantine church in Daburiya recommenced and an ancient winepress was found nearby, complete with mosaic floor. "While we were excavating, the villagers used to come to watch and ask questions," says Najjar. "As a result, we instituted an archaeological program in our schools. We expect to find more winepresses."

When the park in central Daburiya is landscaped and excavations have been completed, the church and winepress will be reconstructed and the site opened as a tourist attraction. Visitors will be welcomed with traditional Moslem hospitality as they explore a Byzantine church built on an ancient Jewish city.

# Restoring the Biblical Town of Lachish



Elaborate stone relief depicts the inhabitants being marched out of Lachish

The laborers digging into the ancient hillside have grown used to seeing ninety-year old Jacob Alkow nimbly climb around the site inspecting their progress. Alkow, who immigrated to Israel from the US in the 1960s, has been devoting all his time and energy to fulfilling his last dream—restoration of the Biblical town of Lachish, in the desert north of Beersheva.

Indeed, as the principal fortress town of Judean King Hezekiah, Lachish was among the Holy Land's important cities during Biblical times. In 701 B.C., King Sennacherib of Assyria conquered Lachish, and completely destroyed it.

Remnants of the Assyrian siege, the walls, and the city gate—the most massive known from the Biblical times—have been unearthed by Tel Aviv University

archeologist Professor David Ussishkin since he commenced excavations in 1973. As the scope of work increased to include reconstruction of the gate, Jacob Alkow undertook to raise money and the project was launched.

Alkow also persuaded the British Museum to copy an elaborate 18-meter-long stone relief in its possession, depicting Sennacherib's victory over Lachish. The reproductions will be housed in a museum planned for Lachish.

"Everything in life is transitory," Alkow said in a recent interview, "but archeology remains forever. . . . I am confident that once Lachish is fully exposed it will be one of the most attractive sites in the world."

## Bread upon the Waters

We are urgently in need of funds for printing tracts, booklets, books, and other materials, both in English and in other languages. There is very great demand, and we are hard put to meet it. The cost of paper, postage, ink, etc. has been going up at a tremendous rate, and our publishing ministry has become very expensive. We need your help, and any amount sent in for this work will be put to good use in doing the Will of the Lord. Pray about it!

## Help Spread God's Word

We have hundreds upon hundreds of requests from almost all parts of the world, for God's perfect plan for man, the Bible. Please help us send a Bible to all these precious souls reaching for the Key to Eternity. The need is great and the message is urgent. Many cannot afford to buy a Bible of their own.



If you would like to send funds for a Bible, or have an extra Bible you would like to send, please send to:

**Mt. Zion Reporter - P.O. Box 10184 - Jerusalem, Israel**

# Walking in the Spirit

MARJORIE HIDLEY

Our service to the great King differs immensely from that given to any earthly creature. Our love and devotion to the Creator is revealed by our obedience to Him and the works we show Him. It is imperative that these works, not surpassed by any other, be accompanied by the Spirit of God. For if we worship God, "We must worship Him in Spirit and in truth." John 4:24. "If we live in the Spirit." Gal. 5-25.

A walk in the Spirit is to walk in Christ. We are clothed with His presence. The Father's life is over us, in us, and around us. The world is shut out, and we are hid in God. We become one with Him, even as He prayed to the Father in John 17:23, 21, "I in them, and Thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one." "That they all may be one as Thou Father art in me, and I in Thee, that they all may be one in us."

To walk in the Spirit is to walk fulfilling His desires and His commands. No longer do our lives belong to us. We are not our own. "We must through much tribulation enter into the Kingdom of God: Acts 14:22. God permits His children to be processed; and at any cost, they are being prepared to sit with Him in His glory.

**BEFORE WE LIVE, WE MUST DIE.** "If ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live." Rom. 8:13. Again if corn is dropped into the ground, it must die to bring forth much fruit. John 12:24. "He that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal." John 12:25. There must be death to your own desires. Death to your own will.

Death even to your own spirit. "He that loseth his life for my sake shall find it."

**SURRENDER TO GOD'S WILL, AND OBEY HIS LEADING.** If our own desires are gone, then we are ready to let the Father work His will through us. The more yielding we are to His will, the easier it is for Him to work through us. Listen for the voice of the Lord. The words of the Lord are precious, and should be valued as a great treasure. He will speak to you. If you walk humbly before Him, you will hear His voice.

**PRAY.** How much prayer does it take? The Scripture says: "Watch and pray." Mark 13:33. "Pray always." "Pray without ceasing." 1 Thess. 5:17. Must prayer always be audible? No. Real prayer is from the heart. Sometimes you speak prayer. Sometimes you think prayer. Sometimes you feel prayer. Many times those who are walking in the Spirit experience burdens of prayer. This is great agony of soul and spirit, in which "The Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." Rom. 8:26.

**HOLD COMMUNION WITH GOD.** A walk in the Spirit is never one sided. We do not have to do all the talking. There are many manifestations of God's Spirit that He desire to give us when we are ready to receive them. There is wonderful fellowship to be found with the Almighty. He has promised to manifest Himself to us. His word never fails. Every small effort we put forth toward God brings us nearer to Him. There is a close relationship which exists as one waits before the Creator of Heaven and

earth. There is a quietness, a peace of soul that nothing can destroy. There is joy unspeakable that will never pass away; for we have drunk from the living fountain, and have found so true this Scripture: "Out of His belly shall flow rivers of living water." John 7:38.

We can be completely covered (hidden) in the Lord, for we are told: "Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ." Life from God is imparted to us, living strength from the throne of God. Life from God Himself is given to us. The closer we walk, the more of that life we can have. His presence will be within us. We will be enshrouded with Him.

Jesus died that we might enter into this walk. He died that we might have His holiness, His purity, and His life. He died that we might be made one with Him and with His Father, for He desires our fellowship with Him throughout the eternal ages. Angels have desired this place. God in His great mercy has privileged us to be able to know it and not only know it, but possess it. But we must labour to enter into this walk with Him. What are we doing about it today?

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## The Promise of His Love

He gave his son,  
Who died for us  
To whom we love and trust.  
Only by him our sins may go.  
Only by love has he bestowed  
The touch of life unto all.  
But only through His blood.

# WHERE CAN I FIND MY TREES?

by Michelle Chabin

**It began as a dream—the dream of returning the Jewish people to their ancient homeland and rendering that land fit for settlement after centuries of neglect. But in the 90 years since its establishment, the Jewish National Fund has succeeded more than anyone's wildest dreams.**

A favorite Israeli story recounts how a boy visiting Israel for his bar mitzvah took a trip to a forest and started to examine some nearby trees. Not finding what he was looking for, he marched up to a forest ranger and said, "I'm from New York, and I've been sending money for trees in Israel ever since I started going to Hebrew school. Where can I find my trees?"

The ranger, suppressing a smile, explained that the Jewish National Fund plants thousands of trees every year thanks to such generous donations. "But we don't put nameplates on individual trees," he continued, "because every tree in Israel belongs to the entire Jewish people."

The dream of reclaiming and developing the Land of Israel has been the "raison d'atre" of the Jewish National Fund (JNF) since its inception at the Fifth Zionist Congress in 1901.

Now celebrating 90 years, the JNF is planning a May mission to Israel, to coincide with the 25th anniversary celebrations of the reunification of Jerusalem. On the drawing boards for the next decade are the rejuvenation of aging forests, further development of the arid south where JNF's work has won international acclaim, dealing with soil salinization, and a second "redemption" of the former marshlands of the Hula Valley. The Fund is involved in all aspects of development, not just afforestation, and, says Moshe Rivlin, who has chaired the organization since 1977, "with its face to the '90s, JNF is still meeting new challenges."

## Establishment

More than 50 years before the dream of a Jewish State became a reality, a mathematics professor named Zvi Hermann Schapira proposed the establishment of a national fund to purchase land in Palestine. Though the idea was enthusiastically received by members of the First Zionist Congress in 1896, the decision to create the fund was

deferred during the second, third and fourth congresses. In the meantime, Schapira died of pneumonia.

Upon hearing that the proposal had been deferred again at the fifth congress, Theodor Herzl reportedly rushed to the congress hall and demanded a revote on the issue: "After striving for so many years to set up the fund, we do not want to disperse again without having done anything. You can, if you wish, delay its establishment for another two years, or even until the coming of the Messiah..." Having succeeded in swaying the crowd, he put the motion to a vote, and the congress resolved to establish a fund that "shall be the property of the Jewish people as a whole."

## Goals Unchanged

Though 90 years have passed since its inception, the JNF's goals have changed surprisingly little. There is still a need to purchase land, plant forests, reclaim land for agriculture, build roads, prevent forest fires, preserve and restore archaeological sites, prepare sites for housing and industry, construct reservoirs and educate youth. But while its goals remain the same, the scope of JNF's activities has been greatly expanded in recent years.

Says JNF's Director of Information, Benny Mushkin, "Since 1908, when the JNF began planting its first forests at Ben Shemen, more than 190 million trees have been planted throughout Israel, covering almost 270,000 acres. Some 6,000 acres of land are reclaimed each year, and over 5,000 acres of trees are planted annually. During the past 15 years, 110 recreation sites and 23 forest parks have been built and each year some 20,000 Jewish youngsters, from Israel and abroad, register hundreds of thousands of work hours in forest woodlands."

## Immigrant Housing

Mushkin presently sees to water conservation and land prepara-

tion—especially for new immigrant housing—as two of the JNF's most urgent tasks. "The need for reservoirs, dams and water enrichment projects is just as vital as the need for new immigrant housing, and grows more acute daily," says Mushkin. "To prepare temporary housing as quickly as possible, we use heavy equipment to level the land for mobile homes and prepare it for water, sewage, and electrical lines."

In Ma'agalim, a trailer park situated in the northern Negev, 900 Ethiopian Jews (600 of them children), are starting a new life in Israel. All were air lifted from Addis Ababa during "Operation Solomon," Israel's daring rescue of 14,500 Ethiopian Jews in May 1991.

The barren-looking trailer park, consisting of almost 200 small mobile homes, is flanked by the green fields of a neighboring moshav. Though there is no grass in the park itself, the JNF has provided each family with a symbolic sapling and here and there a flower garden fights to survive the harsh climate.

On a particularly cold winter's day, a group of visiting tourists join the trailer park residents and veteran Israeli teenagers to watch a performance by a group of Ethiopian children. The girls, dressed in bright red-and-white costumes, sing songs in Amharic and their newly learned Hebrew. As they dance a traditional Ethiopian dance, their parents, many dressed in white robes, sway and clap to the familiar beat.

After the performance, the foreign visitors, the Ethiopians and the veteran Israelis all walk to a large patch of land, where the JNF has provided saplings for planting. With a combination of basic Hebrew and body language, the three groups somehow manage to communicate as they kneel together in the dirt, turning the desert green.





Typical Egged bus and bus stop in Jerusalem

## Keeping Israel on the Move

by Simon Griver

There is more to the Egged Transportation Cooperative Society than meets the eye, Israel's principal transport organization, with a fleet of 4,000 buses, is the world's third largest bus company, after Greyhound in the United States and London Transport in Great Britain.

It is also one of Israel's major institutions. Founded in 1933, Egged's service to remote agricultural settlements played a vital role in Israel's struggle for independence. Moreover, Egged has shared its successful experience of building a national bus company with transportation experts from dozens of countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Amnon Bar-On, chairman of MATI, the Egged subsidiary that advises overseas bus companies in cooperation with Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, relates that courses are offered in Israel while at the same time experts are dispatched overseas to deal with a diverse array of subjects ranging from vehicle maintenance and route planning to general

management.

Bar-On recounts that Israel has at some time helped virtually every country in Latin America with its bus services. He himself recently traveled to Sierra Leone where Israel aided that African government to set up a new national bus company.

Egged is a workers' cooperative with 4,400 shareholders/staff out of a total work force of 8,000. All the corporate divisions, which include a tourist bus company, a travel agency and a real estate enterprise, are managed by the cooperative's members, who share equal rights and obligations.

In addition to its bus lines, Egged owns 57 gas stations and 34 garages to service its buses. Over 60,000 spare parts are stored in its 37 warehouses. The company also operates 27 central bus stations, including the new Tel Aviv Central Bus Station, an ultra-modern facility designed to serve half a million people daily. Scheduled to open next year, it will be one of the largest bus stations in the world.

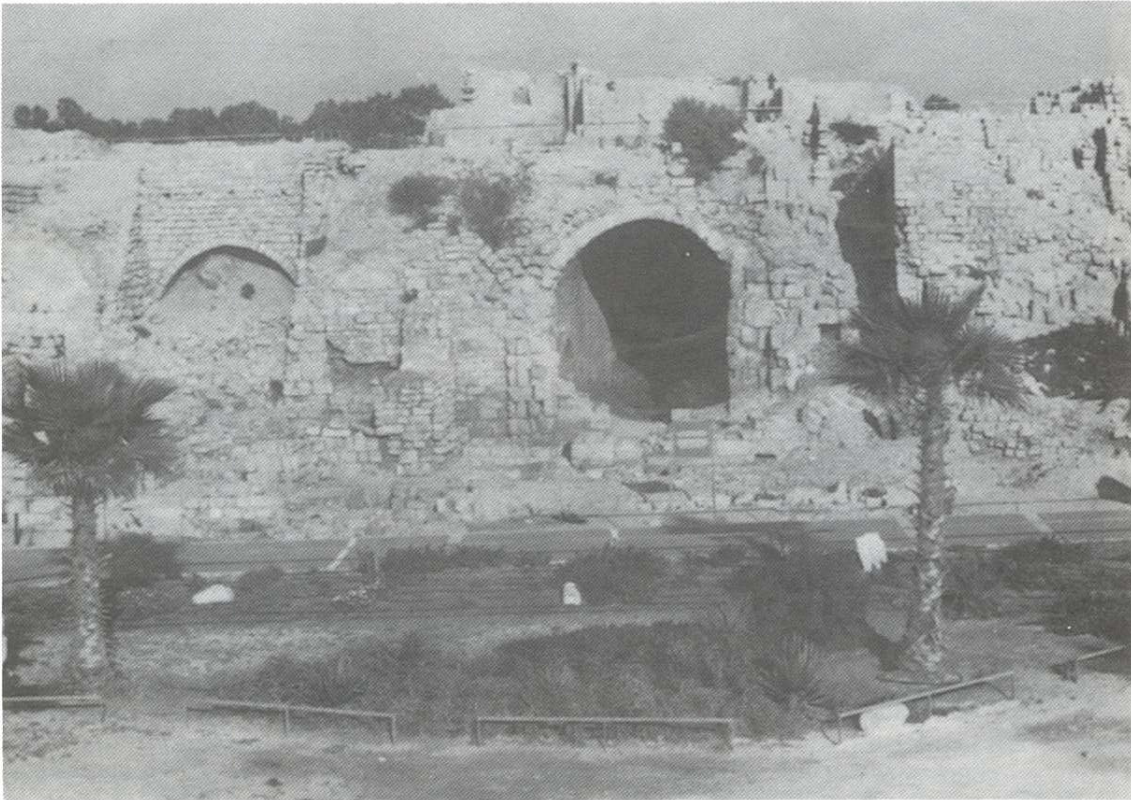
### Help Spread God's Word

We are sending a steady flow of Bibles, Testaments, Gospel tracts and literature of all kinds to almost every part of the world. This ministry is important for these last days we are living in, and it is bearing good fruit for the Lord. Many precious people are being shown the way to salvation and life eternal. "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." — Matthew 24:14.

Not everyone can go to the far corners of the world as a missionary for Christ, but everyone can have a part in this same work by supporting with their prayers, tithes and offerings the ministry being carried on from Jerusalem. Your help is needed, and whether your donations are large or small they will be gratefully received, and will be put to good use in the work of the heavenly Father, here, in your place. Please pray about it. You can help us save souls! Take this opportunity to share in His work; the Lord will bless you for it.

Write To: The Mt. Zion Reporter  
P.O. Box 10184, Jerusalem, Israel

(Photo: Courtesy of Combined Caesarea Expeditions)



Western facade of Herod's Temple Platform in Caesarea Maritima

# An Underwater Archeological Park

by Ava Carmel

Exploring an archeological site in Israel involves a lot of walking, as well as climbing hills and descending into subterranean rooms. Visitors to Caesarea Maritima may now add scuba diving. In order to tour the world's first underwater archeological park, they must don diver's masks and air tanks.

In 22 B.C., Herod the Great began construction of a city on the site of the Phoenician port of Strato's Tower, naming it Caesarea in honor of Augustus Caesar. Building one of the largest ports of the Roman world was part of his plan to gain control of the trade of luxury goods from the East to Rome.

It was a grand city, built on a grid plan, with granite imported from Egypt and marble from Italy. It boasted two aqueducts and a modern sewage system, as well as a theater seating 4,000, a hippodrome

for horse racing, and an amphitheater. According to historian Josephus Flavius, the dominant structure, visible far out to sea, was a huge temple.

Excavations at Caesarea began in 1945 and various groups have continued work on it since that time. Remains of the Phoenician port, a Hellenistic city, the Roman city, and later Byzantine and Crusader ruins have been uncovered.

Although Josephus gave a most detailed account of the layout of the city's harbor in his book, there are no signs of Sebastos along the Mediterranean coast. How could such a massive harbor have disappeared?

Two geological fault lines have been discovered offshore, indicating that the harbor may have been slowly rocked by local tectonic movement or destroyed by an earthquake. Alternatively, it may simply

have fallen into disrepair after the death of Herod and building material salvaged by the Crusaders to construct a tower, a sea wall, and a pier.

Sebastos was identified only in 1960, when a diving expedition explored the site and found remains of the walls' foundations at a depth of nine meters underwater. The Combined Caesarea Expedition, headed by Professor Kenneth Holm of the University of Maryland and Dr. Avner Raban of the Center for Maritime Studies of the University of Haifa has just wound up its third year of excavations at the site.

On the shore, a team of over 100 students from universities in the U.S., Canada, and Israel exposed the great temple, which was built by Herod to the goddess of Rome in order to show his loyalty to Caesar. Archaeologists say that Herod in-

tended this pagan temple in Caesarea to parallel the Jewish Temple he built in Jerusalem during the same period.

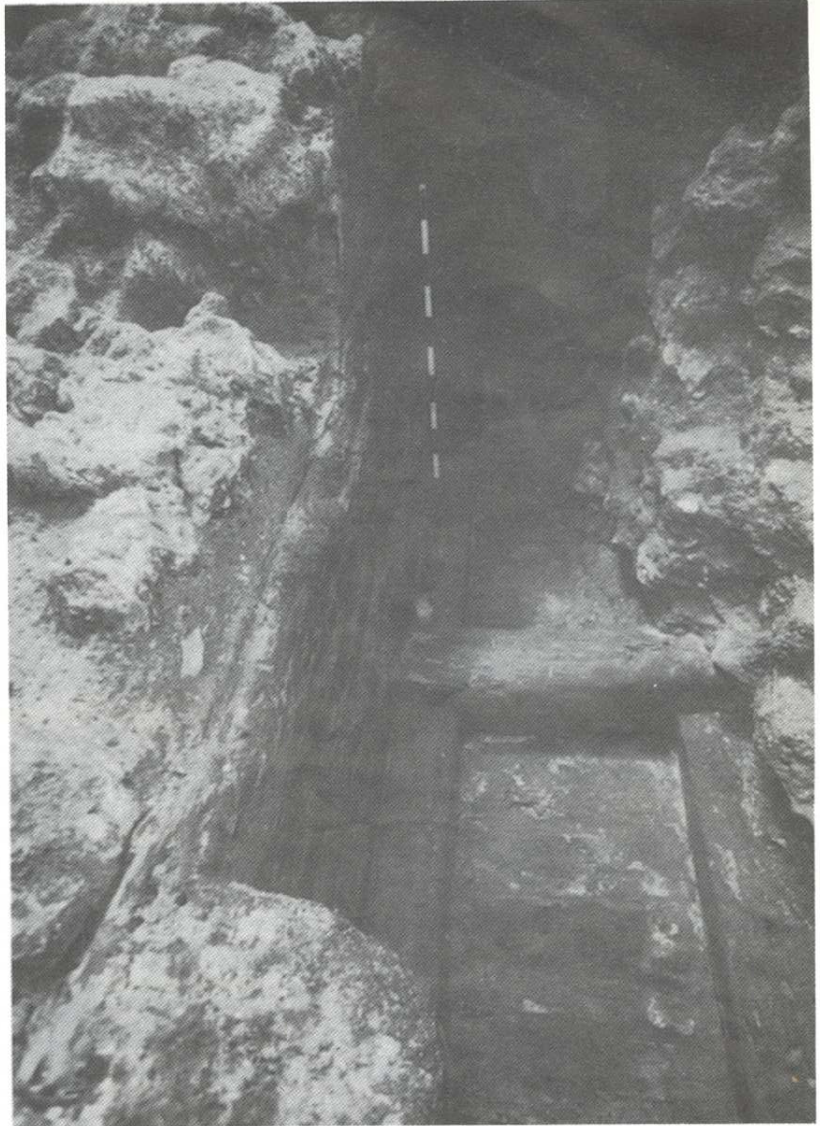
Meanwhile, offshore another team of archaeologists in diving suits excavated the foundations of the lighthouse, using an airlift to suck off sand and debris. Dr. Raban is amazed by the engineering genius involved in building the harbor.

He explains that the base of the lighthouse consisted of huge concrete blocks. Rectangular wooden forms fifteen meters by twenty meters were partially filled with stones, volcanic ash, and plaster. These were towed out to sea, sunk in place, and filled with hydraulic concrete,

A similar method of laying 50-ton concrete blocks was used to form the base of the breakwaters. The port had an area of about 200,000 square meters, providing anchorage for up to 100 ships

The marine archeological park skirts the foundations of the breakwater and has a numbered route with guide cables. Although the first three points can be seen with mask and snorkel, it takes two or three dives with tanks to examine the entire park. Divers must be licensed, and equipment can be rented at a diving club adjacent to the site.

— Jerusalem Dateline



Part of a wooden form into which hydraulic cement had been poured, at the base of the Herodian lighthouse.

## Fragment Citing Canaanite King found on Tel Hazor

A cuneiform tablet fragment mentioning the name of Jabin, the dynastic name of the Canaanite king of Hazor who led the confederation of kings against the invading Israelites, has been found in excavations being conducted on Tel Hazor, according to Hebrew University archaeologists.

The tablet, written in Old Babylonian, dates from the 18th-17th centuries BCE and thus probably predates the Jabin mentioned in the Bible by some six centuries.

Prof. Amnon Ben-Tor of Hebrew University said in an interview yesterday that the find strengthened his conviction that the royal archives of the Canaanite kings of Hazor would be uncovered in coming excavation seasons. Hazor is the largest archaeological site in the coun-

If its archive is indeed found, it would rank among the foremost archaeological

discoveries ever made in this country, which while rich in history is notoriously slim in written records from antiquity.

The cuneiform fragment, measuring two centimeters by two centimeters, was found last week in a dig led by Ben-Tor. The excavations, presently in their third season are being carried out jointly with a team from Complutense University of Madrid, headed by Dr. Maria-Teresa Rubiato.

According to Prof. Aaron Shaffer, an Assyriologist from Hebrew University, the clay document is addressed to Ibni (Addu) Jabin, king of Hatsor. The writer was Irpa (Addu), an appointee of the king. The message concerns an unnamed woman who has been transferred from one place to another.

Several stray cuneiform tablets have been found on the site in the past but never in situ. The current find, like a

similar find of a single cuneiform tablet made last year, was unearthed in an Israelite layer dating several hundred years after the tablet was written.

"It was apparently found by someone digging in the area to find material with which to make bricks," said Ben-Tor.

The tablet found last year listed persons to whom payment in silver had been made. This year's find constitutes only half of the original tablet but is of a higher quality in style and script than last year's find, say the archaeologists. "It can be identified as a royal document," said a statement issued by the archaeological team.

Jabin of Hazor is mentioned in the Bible as leader of the confederation of kingdoms that did battle with the Israelites at Merom. Joshua routed the Canaanite army and burnt its chariots.

This season's six-week dig at Hazor concludes this week.— The Jerusalem Post

# Immigrants from Chernobyl Region Tested in Israel

Tests conducted at Israel's Ben-Gurion University of the Negev on immigrants from the Chernobyl region who came to Israel during 1991 indicate the doses of radiation they had absorbed from radioactive caesium released into the atmosphere as a result of the 1986 nuclear reactor accident are unlikely to constitute a health hazard.

Responding to the hundreds of requests for testing received from immigrants concerned about the long-term effects of exposure to this radiation, Professor Michael Quastel, of BGU's Faculty of Health Sciences and head of the Nuclear Medicine Institute at Soroka Hospital in Beersheva, decided to undertake a wide-scale testing project. He approached Ca-

nadian colleagues Dr. E. Letourneau and Dr. G. H. Kramer of the Bureau of Radiation and Medical Devices of the Canadian Department of National Health and Welfare, which has carried out similar tests for many years on the native population of Canada's north.

The Canadian government agreed to loan a portable whole-body counter for the project. The Beersheva research team consisted mainly of Russian immigrant physicians and students, and a Russian-speaking social worker, together with internationally-known epidemiologist Professor John Goldsmith of BGU's Health Sciences Faculty.

Over 1,000 immigrants, including entire families, responded to advertise-

ments in Israel's Russian-language press. In three weeks of intensive measurements of recent arrivals from the Ukraine, Byelorussia, and Russia, more than 1,200 men, women, and children were examined.

Although the results have not yet been fully analyzed, preliminary estimates indicate that radiocaesium levels in the immigrants are lower than had been suspected earlier and are unlikely to result in any health hazard. Professor Quastel cautions, however, that the total radiation doses received at an early stage from short-lived radioisotopes, as well as those due to longer-lived emitters persisting in the environment, are not fully known and hence further studies will be necessary.

## Running Long Distances Is Fast Stride to Absorption of Ethiopians in Israel

—by Burt Halpern

An innovative new program for the absorption of Ethiopian Jews in Israel may at the same time help launch Israel into the big leagues of athletic competition.

A group of selected Ethiopian men between the ages of 22 and 29 are now intensively training, principally in long distance running, to achieve world standards and to represent Israel in international competitions.

Supported by the North American Conference for Ethiopian Jewry, and conducted with the cooperation of Israel's Ministry of Defense, the program is intended to be the pioneering start of a continuing venue for absorbing potential Ethiopian sportsmen. And, in return, Ethiopian youth will advance Israel into the competitive stage of world and Olympic competitions.

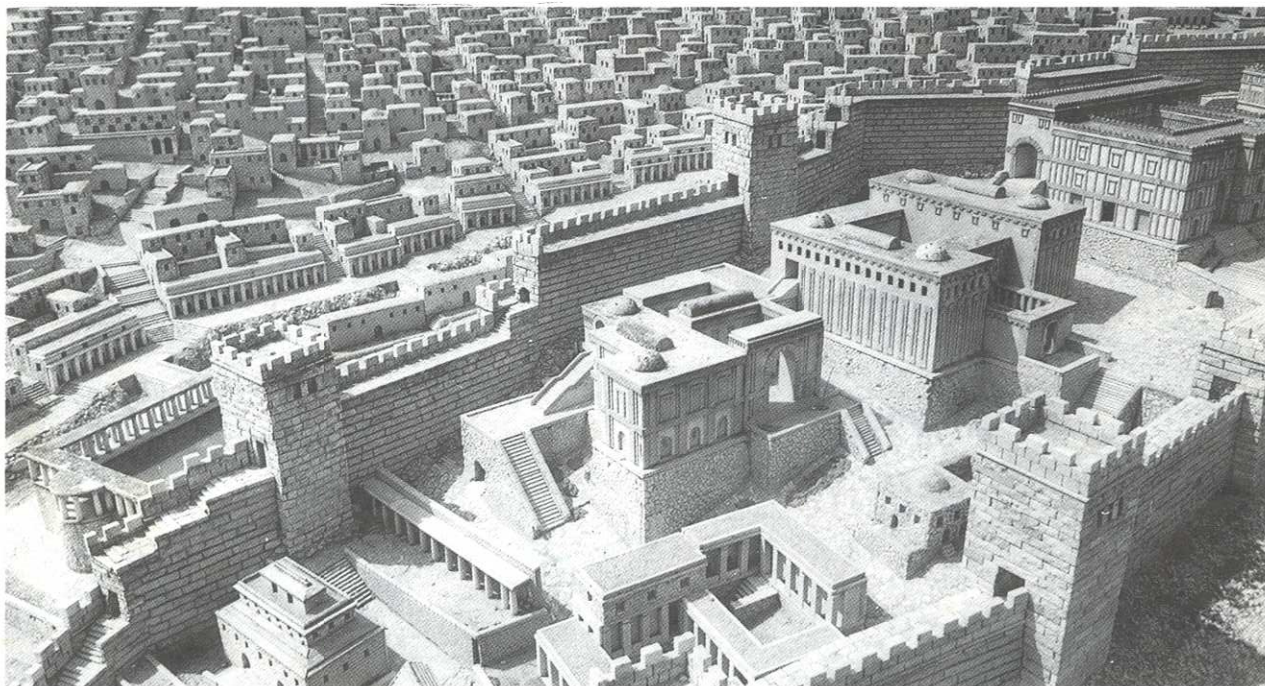
The program offers more than athletic training for the young immigrants, most of whom have been in Israel for about ten years. Education is an accompanying goal of the program, by which the participants are prepared for highschool matriculation examinations and university entry-level standards. In addition to normal classes, volunteers can be seen helping the Ethiopian athletes in one-on-one tutoring sessions, in such subjects as mathematics, English and Hebrew grammar.

The group trains three times a week in a Tel Aviv stadium, works out every morning before classes in warm-up runs, and follows daily individual work-out programs. Half of the participants are said to be



Talented Ethiopian immigrants in Israel participate in sports training program sponsored by the North American Conference of Ethiopian Jewry

already among the top Israeli athletes in running all distances from 800 meters to the marathon. This is one absorption effort which will not only bring Ethiopian young people, and their families successfully into the mainstream of Israeli life, but will also raise the level of sports in the entire country.



# TISHA B'AV LITURGY - FINDING A PLACE FOR THE HOLOCAUST

by Lisa Samin

Throughout history, calamity and disaster have befallen the Jewish people on Tisha b'Av, including the destruction of the First and Second Temple. The most grotesque tragedy of them all, the murder of six million Jews in the Holocaust, is now finding a place in the Tisha b'Av liturgy of Israel's Orthodox, Conservative and Reform movements.

## No Consensus on Holocaust Liturgy

Since there is no formal consensus on how to commemorate this, and other, modern-day events in a religious context, each movement has sought an appropriate official addition to the moving *kinot*, or poems of lamentation, written mostly in the Middle Ages, and read on Tisha b'Av.

"The Chief Rabbinate of Israel, the authoritative body on state religious issues, has made no formal decision on memorialization of the Holocaust," says Aryeh Goldberg, secretary of the Religious Council. However, he says, a few years ago a Holocaust survivor of Polish descent approached the Rabbinate and requested that *kinot* be added to the prayer book for Tisha b'Av. Israel's Chief Rabbi decided to publish Holocaust *kinot* separately and distribute them to synagogues throughout the country.

"In no way is reading these *kinot* obligatory in the traditional observance," says Goldberg. "Each Rabbi can decide

what to do in his service according to the make-up of his congregation."

Likewise, Israel's Conservative Movement has left commemoration to local creative discretion," says Dr. Pesach Schindler, director of the Center for Conservative Judaism in Israel. "At the Center we read a special eulogy in memory of the Holocaust, written some 15 years ago in the style of Tisha b'Av "piutim" - liturgical poetry.

"Since Israel has an official Holocaust Day for the whole country to commemorate this unfathomable tragedy," Schindler adds, "its significance on Tisha b'Av is more emotional than fundamental."

Says Orthodox Rabbi David Rosen, Director of Interfaith Relations for the Anti Defamation league in Jerusalem, "It will take longer than Israel's 44 years to reach a consensus on where this fits into our religious consciousness. It's still too early to tell."

## The Reform Service

Conversely, the Movement for Progressive Judaism (Reform) in Israel fully integrated the Holocaust into its Tisha b'Av liturgy ten years ago. Identical prayers on both Tisha b'Av and Holocaust Memorial Day start with a list of tragedies which befell the Jewish people on Tisha b'Av throughout the ages: the destruction of the First Temple in 586 B.C.E.; the

destruction of the Second Temple in 70 C.E.; the expulsion of the Jews of England, France, Spain and Austria; the beginning of World War I; the forced ghettoization of Poland's Jews and the destruction of the Warsaw Ghetto.

The service then explains, "The martyrdom of European Jewry under the Nazis has given a renewed impetus to the commemoration of Israel's suffering generally, and of this, the culminating tragedy in particular... Tisha b'Av, as the traditional anniversary of the destruction of both Temples, has for many centuries been a day of fasting and lamentation." In the "Seasons of Our Joy, A New-Age Guide to the Jewish Holidays," American Jewish author Arthur Waskow writes, "For many congregations, however, there is a major problem in connecting the Holocaust with Tisha b'Av. The traditional Jewish outlook has been that the Temple was destroyed for our sins. Few Jews feel that this is true about the Holocaust ... the relationship of Tisha b'Av to the Holocaust is not yet settled."

For all its sadness, however, Tisha b'Av also signifies eternal hope. The destruction of the Second Temple led to the birth of the Talmud and a prolific period of rabbinic Jewish thought. The destruction of European Jewry led to the establishment of the State of Israel and the return of the Jewish people to their homeland.



Members of the World Assembly of Choirs sing near David's Citadel in Jerusalem

(Photo: Vera Etzion)

## 40th Anniversary of the World Assembly of Choirs Held in Jerusalem

by Lili Eylon and Sandra Cohen

It was a veritable invasion, 1,500 strong, from 20 countries and all armed with song. While others flexed their muscles and competed for medals in Barcelona, they were exercising their vocal chords in Jerusalem, creating joy.

"They" were amateur singers—men and women, young and old, even children—speaking many languages—and they had all come together to participate in the 16th Zimriya World Assembly of Choirs in Israel. And for eleven days the capital resounded with their music from the heights of Mount Scopus to the Jerusalem Theater where they performed every evening.

At the festive opening concert, the audience—led by Willi Gohl of Switzerland, vice-president of the International Federation of Choral Music—enthusiastically joined the choirs in the singing of "Jerusalem of Gold" in honor of the 25th anniversary of the city's reunification. Highlighting the evening was the presentation, from their chairs in the audience, of typical country songs by choirs from each of the five continents.

From folk songs and spirituals to motets, canon, and modern composi-

tions, from Bach to Penderecki, for eleven days and nights the choirs harmonized in an atmosphere of warmth, conviviality, comradeship, and mutual admiration. In the packed Jerusalem Theater there were evenings of "choir to choir" in which, as Zimriya Director Esther Herlitz explained, the choirs "showed their calling cards." Each group sang in its own style and manner. Especially colorful were the U.P. Singing Ambassadors from the Philippines, dressed in the native costumes of the eight ethnic groups they represented, and the two black South African choirs, distinguished by their powerful voices and their inimitable rhythm, which turned each song into a simultaneous dance. Among the new participants in the Assembly were choirs from Bulgaria and the former East Berlin; a choir from Russia attended for the first time since 1967. One of the regular choirs, from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, boasted three generations of singers.

It was, however, the seven children's choirs—mostly from Israel—which won the greatest admiration. Their conductors, all woman, drew beautiful, mature singing from the youngsters to resound-

ing applause.

In ten workshops, whose themes ranged from Monteverdi madrigals to Polish Renaissance and contemporary music, singers from the various choral groups were molded into ad hoc choirs with guest conductors, each bringing the results of their work onto the Jerusalem Theater stage during the last two evenings.

The comparison between the Olympics and the Zimriya is not a new one. Forty years ago, in 1952, when the late Aron Propes first organized the Zimriya, he likened it to an Olympiad of voices and patterned it on choral gatherings in his native Lithuania; indeed, the singers then performed in the open Ramat Gan Stadium. The difference is that in the choral "Olympics" everyone is a winner.

Before leaving the country, the 1,500 choir members took part in the planting of 41 trees, the one additional tree symbolizing the next Zimriya to be held in three years' time. "It represents a meaningful link to the country," said producer and promoter Vered Kollek. "They felt it was important to leave something in Israel for the future."

—Jerusalem Dateline

# NEWS DIRECT FROM ISRAEL

All Items from *The Jerusalem Post*

## Israeli Beetles to Help Save Californian Crops

Some tiny but voracious Israeli beetles have a new assignment: keeping California-grown fruit and vegetables safe from the dreaded silverleaf whitefly, the scourge of crops in the Sunshine State's Imperial Valley.

The Israeli export is the lady bird beetle, which has scored remarkable successes in gobbling up the citrus whitefly, which threatened Israel's fruit crop.

California scientists hope that the beetles will be just as effective in destroying the related silverleaf whitefly, blamed for \$200 million worth of damage to fruit and vegetable crops.

Crop damage across the southern US caused by the silverleaf whitefly is put at \$750 million, the Los Angeles Times reported, and pesticides have proven useless against its predations.

## Haredi Rabbis Denounce VCRs as 'Destructive Tools'

Video cassette recorders are "destructive tools" that should be banished from Jewish households, six leading Haredi rabbis declared in a proclamation that appeared in the Haredi daily *Yated Ne'eman*.

"We are full of sorrow at the generation's deterioration in terms of modesty and purity caused by videos which, regretfully, are a curse that has penetrated into the houses of Israelies. We want to express our opinion, the Tora's opinion, not to have a video in Jewish homes, and not to use it at weddings, conferences, or the like."

Among those who signed the proclamation were Rabbis Eliezer Schach, Ger Rebbe Pinhas Menahem Alter, and leading Jerusalem halachic authorities Shlomo Zalman Auerbach and Shalom Yosef Eliashiv.

The proclamation called upon parents and educators to "stand guard so that their descendants and students will not falter and, God forbid, watch the destructive tool."

One source close to Schach said that the pronouncement follows an increase in the purchase, here and abroad, of videos and monitors by haredim. The source said that parents believe that a video without a television, but only a monitor, is harmless since they will be able to pick and choose exactly what their children watch. The rabbis, however, fear the movies and programs without Tora content are sure to penetrate the home if the VCRs are already there.

Another source close to Schach said the timing of the pronouncement was linked to Habad's recent "Welcome King Messiah" campaign. In recent months Habad has distributed video cassettes of Lubavitcher Rebbe Menahem Mendel Schneerson to let his followers know that he is alive and well.

The use of video to serve as a link between the rebbe and his hassidim is enough to merit the wrath of Schach, a vehement opponent of Habad, the source said.

Many haredi homes do not have televisions because of

"impure" programming, and in recent months there has been a move in Mea She'arim to bar radios for the same reason.

## More Egyptians at Peace with Having Made Peace

It appears that normalization of relations with Israel is more popular than many people think, though less than what others hoped it would be.

A senior Egyptian editor who spoke on condition of anonymity said that there is a tacit, continuing acquiescence by the man in the street to the peace agreement.

He said that people have gotten used to it, and there are fewer and fewer opponents.

The Egyptian press shows more openness than in the past on subjects concerning Israel, although criticism of certain policies is sometimes venomous.

Israeli position papers on the peace negotiations have found their way into the Egyptian press more than once and been published almost verbatim. Observers have noticed that Egyptian caricature now show Israel as a less demonic creature, than previously.

Egyptian newspapers occasionally include in their crossword puzzles clues such as "former Israeli premier [Levi Eshkol]; Israel Labor Party [Labor]; well-known Israeli writer [Oz]."

Last November, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres personally witnessed the breaking of another taboo relating to Israel. In a meeting with Egyptian intellectuals which he initiated, there were people well known for their opposition to peace with Israel. They had previously avoided any meeting with Israel.

But at the meeting with Peres, Mourad Ghaleb, who resigned as ambassador to Yugoslavia to protest Anwar Sadat's coming to Jerusalem, and Mohammed Sayed Ahmed, a leading Marxist writer, were present.

The Egyptians argued at length with Peres, and they reached no consensus. But opponents of peace with Israel agreed to hear this country's positions.

The interest in Israel was reflected in the 25th Book Fair held recently in Cairo. The titles included many on Israeli subjects, such as biographies and memoirs by Golda Meir, Moshe Dayan, Arik Sharon and Rafael Eitan. There were also books on Israeli society, immigration and the IDF: many such titles appeared in the Palestinian pavilion.

Privately owned satellite dishes have made available to many Egyptians a new source of information. Many say they tune in to the Israel TV Arabic news. They ask how Palestinians are permitted to speak so freely, while at the same time they are oppressed by the Israeli "occupation."

## Iran May be Producing Biological Weapons

US central Intelligence Agency director R. James Woolsey said the Middle East remains an area "of special concern" in the world wide effort to curb the spread of

nuclear weapons.

Addressing the Senate governmental affairs committee, Woolsey said nearly half the countries in the region "have or are developing" weapons of mass destruction. "Iran's military building, despite severe economic crisis, underscores its desire to dominate its own neighborhood and reach far beyond," he said. "Iran is already trying to export violence and to destabilized regimes in the Middle East."

The CIA director said that Iraq's biological weapons capability "is perhaps of greatest immediate concern" to the international community, and added that Iran may already be producing biological weapons.

Woolsey cautioned the West to continue monitoring the transfer of such weapons to the region by North Korea, China, and Russia.

#### ➔ Report: Iran to Receive North Korean Missiles that can Reach Israel

Iran is about to receive a new North Korean missile that, with a range of 1,300 km., threatens Israel, Egypt, and other countries, according to the Italian newspaper *Corriere Della Sera*.

The report, attributed to defense sources in the United Arab Emirates, says Iran will soon have the New North Korean "No-Dong 1," whose development is being financed by Iran and Libya. The missile can carry an 800-kg. chemical warhead, the newspaper said.

*Corriere Della Sera* said that a secret agreement, signed in November 1992 in Teheran by several Iranian and North Korean generals, states Iran will help North Korea complete the missile's development by providing more than the \$50 million already invested in the project.

In return, the newspaper said, North Korea will give Iran the first 10 missiles by April. After the first shipment, Iran agreed to pay an additional \$70 million to receive the technology needed for building an Iranian missile factory in Isfahan or Hasmanan.

Senior North Korean army officials have requested that Iran allow them to experiment with the missile in the Shaharud region of Iran. They reportedly told Iran that if the experiment is not approved, they will stage the experiment in Libya.

Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, who helped finance the project, is reportedly very interested in the missile.

The Italian newspaper also said that Iran is currently unable to pay its share of the cost of manufacturing the new missile, leading the North Koreans to tighten relations with Libya.

According to the report, Libya encountered great difficulties in developing its long-range missile, the Al-Fatah, forcing it to seek help from North Korean and German engineers, who are now busy building a missile that will be able to reach central and southern Italy.

These experts have been working for some time in Libya. "Experts we met lately in the armament exhibition in Abu Dhabi told us that Tripoli would rather buy No-Dong 1 missiles than manufacture its own missile," the newspaper said.

#### Inseparable Twins Cleaved by Terrorist

The terrorist bullets that killed 32-year-old First Sergeant Daniel Hazut also shattered an extraordinary relationship between the policeman and his identical twin brother, Gadi.

Throughout their lives, the two were inseparable. Danny and Gadi were born on Kibbutz Masuot Yitzhak. Their parents divorced three months after they were born and their father, Yitzhak, took custody, of the babies. Yitzhak later moved to Kiryat Shmona, married Rivka Hazut, and had 10 more children.

The brothers attended the Kadoorie Agricultural School, joined a Nahal unit, and later transferred together to the Armored Corps; despite initial opposition from the army, whose standing regulations bar close relatives from serving in the same unit.

"We always served together and slept in the same room, even when we served an extra year in the professional army," said Gadi.

In 1984, the twins decided to join the police force; but at the last minute, the Kadoorie school offered Gadi a teaching job.

"We thought about it a lot," said Gadi. "We had never been apart and I didn't know how I could do anything without my brother by my side."

The separation was difficult. Danny was posted to the Ben-Gurion International Airport police station, but he missed Gadi. After a week, the police transferred him to Afula.

"He served in the traffic division and visited me every day," said Gadi. "In my spare time, I joined him on patrol. I was worried because he went unarmed into Arab villages. But he wasn't afraid; he had many Arab friends."

Even after Gadi moved to Petah Tikva and married, the brothers remained close. Danny even left his common-law wife and baby and moved to Petah Tikva, but returned to Afula after a few days.

While they often found themselves thinking the same thoughts, Gadi had no premonition of Danny's death. The night of the shooting, he returned home from a difficult stint of reserve duty to take his wife and new-born son from the hospital. Gadi fell asleep exhausted at 2 a.m., around the time Danny was killed. Now, Gadi's baby will bear Danny's name.

#### Jordan Foils Plot to Attack US Tourists

Border police last month arrested two men who allegedly were trying to smuggle weapons into Jordan for an attack on American tourists, a senior security official disclosed.

The official said the plot, foiled on February 2, was the reason the US State Department warned Americans earlier this month of possible terrorist attacks in Jordan.

The official said the two men came from Syria in a car bearing Lebanese license plates. Customs officials at the Ramtha border point, 100 kms northwest of Amman, found automatic rifles and explosives concealed in the car's spare tire.

The official refused to disclose the identities of the



suspects, who he said belong to the clandestine Hizbullah-Palestine, a pro-Iranian Palestinian fundamentalist group based in Damascus with ties to the Lebanon's Hizbullah.

They told their interrogators they had been sent to Jordan to mount an attack against Americans on organized tours to Petra, in southern Jordan, on February 19 or thereabouts, the official said.

The assault was to coincide with the recent visit to the kingdom by US Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

"The attack apparently was aimed at embarrassing Jordan and undermining our security record at a time when international media attention was focused on Mr. Christopher's visit," the official said.

He said the US embassy was notified of the development as a "routine procedure" after three weeks of interrogating the suspects. Diplomatic sources said the embassy in turn informed the State Department, and the travel advisory was issued a few days later.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher warned on March 1 of possible terrorist attacks targeting the 3,000-strong American community in Jordan as well as travelers to the kingdom "Particularly Americans traveling by tour buses."

The Jordanian security official, said that in their confessions, the men identified their leader and the mastermind of the abortive plot as Ahmed Muhanna, a Palestinian from the Gaza District.

Muhanna split from the Amman-based Islamic Jihad-Beit al-Maqdis in 1990 and moved to Syria. In Damascus, officials of the group also confirmed that Muhanna had broken away three years ago and said they did not know his present whereabouts.

Like most Middle East fundamentalists, including Jordan's own Moslem Brotherhood and its affiliates, Muhanna is a staunch opponent of the peace talks. Muhanna's followers are a small number of Palestinians expelled by Israel in recent years, who have taken refuge in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa valley with the Hizbullah.

#### **'Israel May Have 200 Nukes'**

A top US Senate arms-control advocate distributed a Russian intelligence report which concludes Israel may have stockpiled 100 to 200 nuclear weapons.

The declassified Russian Foreign Intelligence Service report holds that Israel could have produced 20 nuclear weapons between 1970 and 1978 — and by this time, from 100 to 200.

#### **Germans Propose Survivors Pay Levy to Regain Property Lost to Nazis**

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government said Holocaust survivors and their heirs must pay a hefty levy if they want to remain ownership of property they lost to the Nazis.

The proposal is contained in a draft law approved by Kohl's cabinet, and it now goes to Parliament.

The idea was promptly denounced by the New York-based Jewish Claims Conference, which has been negotiating with Germany on property claims filed by Nazi victims.

Conference president Israel Miller said in a statement

"the Levy is immoral" and contended it "contravenes commitments" made by Kohl to the United States, Britain and France as a part of the German unification process.

The issue is also considered a sensitive one in Washington. According to American Jewish leaders, it was raised by Congressional leaders during Kohl's visit.

The levy proposal is part of a draft law intended to help Germany cope with about a million and a half claims on property in former East Germany.

The draft proposes a fund that would be used to pay people who want monetary compensation rather than return of their lost property.

People who choose compensation over restitution would receive 1.3 times the taxable value of their property in 1935.

Those who want their property back would have to make a payment of one-third of their 1990 taxable value of their old real estate holdings. That money would go into the compensation fund.

However, Nazi victims or their relatives would have to pay one-quarter of the property value, said Dieter Vogel, Kohl's chief spokesman.

#### **An Eye for an Eye**

A 50-year-old man enraged at police who detained him during a furniture-smashing rampage at his home plucked out his glass eye and hurled it at them, Israeli police said.

They said the man threw the eye so hard that officers rushed off to find it. They gave it back only when he was released a day later after calming down in a cell.

#### **Blind Sheikh Calls for Ouster of Mubarak**

(by Samia Nakhoul)

Exile militant leader Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, whose followers are implicated in the World Trade Center blast, said his "meeting with God is nearing" and called for the overthrow of the Egyptian government.

"I feel that my meeting with God is nearing and there must be a will," Abdel-Rahman, 54, said in leaflets that were signed by him and handed to thousands of worshipers praying to mark the end of the Moslem Holy month of Ramadan in southern Egypt.

"To you, the most beloved people, to my relatives and fellow men, I say these words mixed with tears and I wish my blood will carve out these words: *say no to injustice.*"

"You strugglers of Egypt, say no . . . . Do not weaken, do not submit, do not rest and do not calm down . . . . Punish them [rulers] the same way you have been punished and be aware that God is on your side."

"Shake the platforms of the judiciary, destroy the executioners in the squares of torture, be optimistic about their pharaonic threats — they are the last signs of despair and the first signs of salvation. Be firm in the face of barbaric trials," Abdel-Rahman said.

"Say no to dictatorship, to the one party rule," he added. "It is about time for the legitimacy of God to prevail . . . . Say no to 12 years of emergency law and terrorism . . . . Say no to void military trials, arbitrary and unjust arrests."

"We are not the silent majority but the revolutionary majority, God willing. We shall be present from now on..."

the silence of the dead has gone for ever," he said.

The leaflets handed out to thousands of worshipers came after the Egyptian government canceled a not-guilty verdict against him for inciting anti-government violence in 1989 and decided to put him back on trial.

They were the most daring leaflets by the blind preacher of the militant movement el-Gama'a el-Islamiya (Islamic Group) who since 1991 has been directing an uprising against the government through recorded messages from exile in the United States.

"I say with you . . . No to you, Mubarak, and your regime, to your stakes and nooses and your steel and fire," the leaflet said, referring to President Hosni Mubarak. "Your tyrant regime will only last an hour but the Islamic state will last until Judgment Day."

Preachers at the prayer meetings mourned militants killed in the government's bloodiest crack-down in a decade. They heaped contempt on Mubarak and defended attacks on foreigners that have wrecked Egypt's tourist industry.

About 2,500 militants, mostly bearded young men in white robes with some women in Iranian-style black chadors, prayed at a football field in the university city of Assiut, 325 kilometers south of Cairo.

A further 3,000 rallied in the nearby town of Manfalut. Police armed with automatic weapons kept watch on both prayer meetings and worshipers looked grim and subdued. There was no violence.

### **New Jerusalem Zoo Opens its Gates for the First Time**

(by Liat Collins)

The snow leopards caught stage fright and had to be removed from public view, but otherwise the opening of the Tisch Family Biblical Zoo in Jerusalem seemed to be a more emotional event for the keepers and visitors than for the residents.

Hundreds of people poured into the complex, which nonetheless remained pleasantly uncrowded. Among the first-day visitors was five-year-old Shmuel Koppel, who, together with his brother Shlomo, three, wrote to the zoo authorities asking them what was happening to the animals since the Romema site had closed.

Shmuel, Shlomo and their baby sister Rahel got to see for themselves, Rahel dozed her way past lions, monkeys, deer, bears and various other animals she has so far only seen in picture books, and Shlomo seemed more taken with playing with the water fountains than watching the wild animal life. But Shmuel who said he has really missed the zoo animals announced he was "happy to see that they have a much nicer home than they used to have."

Many of the visitors, who paid NIS9 per adult and NIS6 per child, said they came to show the children the animals.

The Nasrawis from the Old city, like the Koppels from Katamon, were pleased to find the open enclosures and lake the old zoo lacked.

"It's great to see that the zoo has tried to capture the animals' natural habitat," said Ellen Nasrawi.

The major — mutual — attraction seemed to be the chimpanzees' pen, where the animal kept racing up to stare

at the homo sapiens who were avidly watching their antics. Gremlin, a four-year-old chimp, watched in fascination as a human mother scolded a child in physical terms the young chimp could easily relate to.

Some of the humans complained there was not enough shelter from the sun and a much larger area to cover on foot than the previous zoo site. The animals, on the other hand, don't have much to complain about — except the invasion of privacy.

### **Michael Jackson Invited to Dead Sea to Cure Skin Problem**

Israel's Tourism Commissioner for North America has invited pop superstar Michael Jackson to visit the Dead Sea for treatment of the skin disease from which he reportedly suffers.

During a TV interview with Oprah Winfrey on February 10, seen around the world, Jackson revealed that he suffers from vitiligo, a disease that causes parts or all of the skin to lose pigmentation.

Commissioner Raphael Farber noted in his invitation that hundreds of thousands of people have been cured of their skin diseases or seen improvement at Dead Sea facilities specializing in the treatment of such disorders. "Israel is a land of miracles," Farber noted. "And if Jackson chooses to bypass the hot Dead Sea region, he is welcome to try the power of prayer at any of the many holy and religious places throughout Israel."

### **New Stamp Honors Begin**

An 80-agora stamp commemorating the late premier Menachem Begin went on sale. The stamp, showing a younger Begin in horn-rimmed glasses, comes with a first-day cancellation showing the Hebrew and English signature he used on the peace treaty with Egypt. The first-day cover envelope has a quote from his 1978 Nobel-Peace-Prize address.

Other new issues from the Philatelic Services are a series of stamps showing nature reserves, song birds, and the Bahai World Center in Haifa.

### **Boundaries of Islamic Militancy**

Ayatollah Mohammed Yezdi, Iran's equivalent of a justice minister, declared that his country considered itself to be "bound only partially" by the International Declaration of Human Rights.

His comments followed a UN report condemning the Teheran regime for flagrant violations of human rights, a report Yezdi described as part of a worldwide campaign against Iran by the new American administration.

Speaking in his weekly sermon at the University of Teheran, Yezdi said that the Declaration of Human Rights "contains principles which are contrary to the tenets of the Islamic shari'a [religious law]."

Yezdi did not elaborate, but his opinion does not represent all Islamic thought on the subject: indeed, diametrically opposed views can be found in numerous pronouncements by Moslem clerics.

This underscores the fact that "Islam" is not a monolithic factor, and one of the most interesting features of contem-

porary Islam is the differing — even opposing — ways of interpreting its meaning among its many adherents.

Not too many years ago, Egyptian authorities and Egyptian religious leaders charged that the Marxist Left was atheistic.

A quick reply came from Abd-ul-Rahman al-Sharqawi, editor of the Egyptian weekly *Rose el-Youssef*: "Had Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels had the opportunity to study the tenets of Islam methodically, they would have converted to the Islamic faith and become pious Moslems — and their vision of the social order would have been based on those tenets."

Another leading spokesman of the Egyptian Left, Lutfi al-Khuli, even argued that "the Left is the true heir of the religion of Mohammed . . . and the religion of Jesus."

A whole controversy erupted, during which the *Rose el-Youssef* editor was forced to resign after the supreme imam of Al-Azhar Mosque declared that "Moslems . . . believe in the existence of God, His messengers and His Book, the Koran, while the prophet of the Communists is Karl Marx, and their book *Das Kapital*."

While that controversy was still raging, someone unearthed a 27 year-old fatwa (religious ruling) by one Sheikh Hassanein Makhluaf asserting that Islam and Communism could never coexist. The ruling declared that Communism was "destructive" and aimed at opposing not only Islam, but all religions.

The discovery of this old ruling was of immense political importance, signifying that the Egyptian Left was no longer acceptable to the regime of Anwar Sadat. But it's interesting that no one discovered the religious ruling from 1952 through 1970 when Sadat's predecessor, Gamal Abdel Nasser, was in power.

During Nasser's time, however, such rulings were unacceptable because the regime then wanted to show the affinities between Islam and socialism.

The flexibility of the religious teachers in Egypt and elsewhere and their willingness to find or produce rulings in order to stay within the graces of the current secular government may attest to the fact that "Islamic fundamentalism" may not be as overwhelming a factor across the region as some observers maintain.

It is difficult to see Islamic militancy triumphing where local government forces seriously oppose it.

Even in Iran, where the Islamic revolution did succeed, the ascent of Islam was due partly to outside support from other discontented segments of Iranian society that were more anti-shah than pro-Khomeini.

And even in Sudan, another country that has established an Islamic regime, Islamic edicts have not been easily enacted. Ja'far Numeiry, the Sudanese strongman through the 1970s and much of the 1980s, failed dismally to introduce some Islamic legal measures such as cutting off the hands of convicted thieves.

But Moslem activists themselves opposed this draconian measure in impoverished Sudan, arguing that it was unfair to punish severely when the surrounding social order was so corrupt as to allow widespread poverty and famine.

How, the Moslems asked, could one cut off the hand of someone stealing a loaf of bread?

The implications of this line of argument are far-reaching: in order to establish an Islamic state on pristine Islamic principles, one may first have to change the social order so radically as to invite constant revolution.

This becomes still clearer in foreign affairs where a truly Islamic state, in order to be faithful to its principles, may have to be in a state of constant Jihad (holy war) against every other non-Moslem entity in the world until and unless they adopt Islam or agree to pay *jizya* (the Islamic poll tax demanded of non-Moslems) to their Moslem masters.

Even Ayatollah Khomeini and his successors eventually pulled back from such a vision.

### Panel: Teachers With Guns Should Carry Them in School

(by Haim Shapiro)

The committee appointed by the Education Ministry to investigate the stabbing at the ORT-Kennedy School, in which six pupils and the principal were injured, has recommended that teachers licensed to carry weapons should bring them to school.

The committee, headed by retired police commander Albert Musafia, was appointed by Deputy Education Minister Micha Goldman, who is responsible for school security. Musafia said that although the guard at ORT-Kennedy was unarmed when the attack took place, both he and the principal had acted properly in subduing the attacker. Musafia singled out the principal, Zevulun Sari, for his bravery.

Musafia also noted that within the last six months, the ministry has trained some 2,700 school guards. He expressed satisfaction with the training, but added the high rate of turnover among the guards was still a problem. He recommended the time needed for the guards to secure a license to bear a weapon be considerably shortened.

He also recommended that school fences at Jerusalem schools be reinforced and school gates be kept locked. The report also called for an intercom between the guard and the school office.

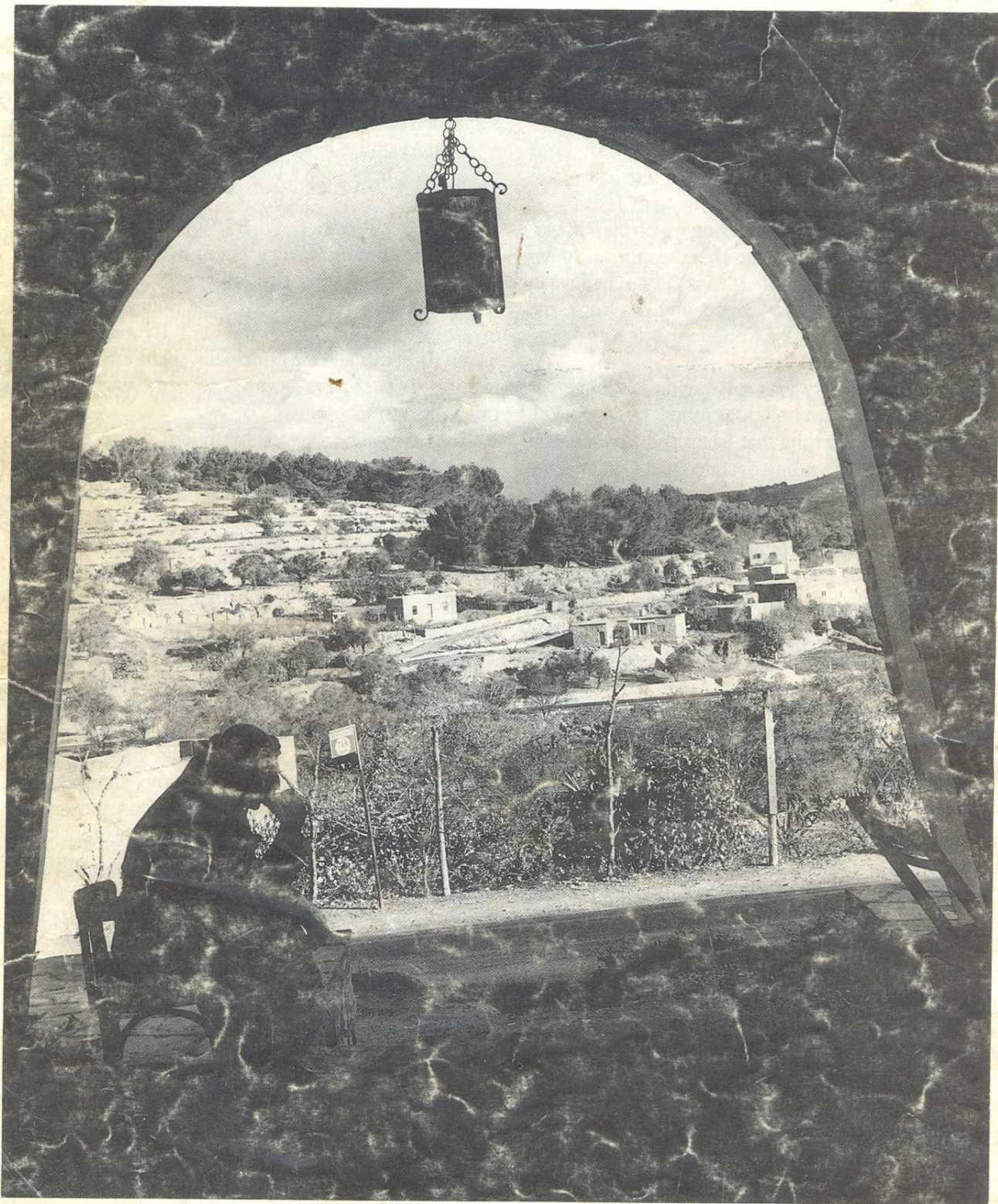
Musafia also made a number of recommendations to improve security at kindergartens and nursery schools, but for security reasons, he preferred not to disclose them. There has been considerable public concern over the fact that most kindergartens do not have guards.

### Sturgeon Invade Dan Nature Reserve

Caviar consumption of an unusual kind is worrying Nature Reserve Authority workers in the north. NRA scientists this week found sturgeon, the source of caviar, in the Dan Reserve. The fish appear to have reached the reserve from the breeding pools of Kibbutz Dan.

The NRA is worried that the sturgeon could harm the delicate ecological balance by consuming vast quantities of invertebrates and native fish. NRA spokeswoman Dina Weinstein said the authority is considering suing the Dan fish breeders for ecological pollution.

*"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning,  
If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of  
my mouth; if I prefer not JERUSALEM above my chief joy."  
(Psalms 137:5,6)*



Abu Gosh (Kiriath-jearim) — where the Ark of the covenant was kept for twenty years: "And they sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kirjath-jearim, saying, The Philistines have brought again the ark of the LORD; come ye down, [and] fetch it up to you. And the men of Kirjath-jearim came, and fetched up the ark of the LORD, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the LORD. And it came to pass, while the ark abode in Kirjath-jearim, that the time was long; for it was twenty years: and all the house of Israel lamented after the LORD." (I Samuel 6:21, 7:1-2)