

# The SCRIBE

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## Arabs and the Holocaust

The creation of the State of Israel was brought about to a great extent by the post-war feeling of horror and shame at the enormity of the Holocaust. However, the Arabs and their apologists often ask, why should the Palestinians pay for what Hitler did to the Jews?

The fact is that, unlikely as it may seem, the Holocaust was aided and abetted, even engineered, by Arabs in general and Palestinians in particular.

In the thirties, Arab nationalists were greatly attached to Hitler and Nazism and, during the war, Arab sympathies were mainly with Germany. The notorious Mufti of Palestine, Amin Huseini, came to Baghdad in 1941 where he engineered both the Rashid Ali revolt against the British and the Jewish pogrom of June 1941 that followed.

With the collapse of the revolt, Rashid Ali and his entourage, together with the Mufti, fled to Berlin and established themselves there for the duration of the war. They were given official recognition by the German government. In November 1941, the Mufti had a long meeting with Hitler at which Hitler explained that fighting the Jews was his top priority. Up to that time Hitler was thinking in terms of deportation rather than extermination, but the Mufti warned him that letting the Jews leave Europe and probably end up in Palestine would incur the wrath of the Arabs, who wanted to support Hitler. A madman like Hitler needed little persuasion in this regard, and so "the formal decision to annihilate the Jews . . . was taken at the Wannsee interdepartmental conference on January 20, 1942, two months after the Mufti's landing in Berlin." "There is abundant first-hand evidence of the part the Mufti played in making foolproof the ban on emigration." "When the German minister to Bucharest formally objected to an order to allow the emigration of 80,000 Rumanian Jews, he did so in accordance with our agreement with the Mufti."

"The Mufti had repeatedly suggested to Hitler, Ribbentrop and Himmler the extermination of European Jewry. He considered this as a comfortable solution to the Palestine problem."

"The Mufti was one of Eichmann's best friends and constantly incited him to accelerate the extermination measures, and accompanied him incognito on a visit to the gas chamber of Auschwitz." "The Mufti and the Führer" by J. B. Schechtman.

Throughout the war, the Mufti was active in preventing Jews from being allowed to leave Europe, and these Jews inevitably ended up in the gas chambers. The Mufti appears to have been given an important say in the genocide policy, and because the Arabs themselves are Semites (they rank below the Jews in Nazi ideology), that policy was not carried out on racial lines, but rather on political and religious prejudices – both Christian and Moslem.

As was recently pointed out in the Jewish press, the Karaites, who, of course, were racially Jewish, were not subjected to the Nazi genocide policy. That attitude apparently originated from a high authority. The Karaites were spared because they were not Zionists and because neither the Christian Church nor the Moslems had a grudge against them. The Karaites had rejected the Talmud, which was equally denounced by Mohammed as a wilful distortion of Scriptures by the rabbis. Indeed, Karaite and Koran derive from the same verb – "to read" (literally).

The Holocaust fails to be explained as the act solely of the Germans. The Arab factor provides the missing link.

Why have the Palestinians suffered for what Hitler did to the Jews? Those who sow the wind shall reap the whirlwind.

Although the Mufti was violently anti-British, both he and the Foreign Office were united in their desire to frustrate the establishment of the Jewish national home in Palestine. The destruction of European Jewry was an indirect way of achieving that aim.

After the war, in spite of repeated demands in the House of Commons, the Foreign Office, under the anti-semite Ernest Bevin, refused to take any action to bring the Mufti to justice for his war crimes against the Jews, and especially for his direct involvement in the liquidation of the Jews in the Moslem areas of Bosnia.

### Mufti Asks Ban on Jewish Emigration as Gesture to Arabs

Berlin, July 27, 1944

To the Reichsführer SS and Minister of the Interior, H. Himmler, Berlin

Reichsführer:

In my letter to you of June 5, 1944, I referred back to our conversation in which I reported to you on the inclusion of Jews in the exchange plan of some Egyptians living in Germany.

I asked you, Reichsführer, to take all the measures to prevent the Jews from going. These measures would also be in accordance with German policy in general, especially with the Declaration of the German Government on the occasion of the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration on November 2, 1943, which stated "that the destruction of the so-called Jewish national home in Palestine is an immutable part of the policy of the greater German Reich" and that "the National Socialist movement, since its inception, has inscribed on its banner the battle against world Jewry", as you, Reichsführer, said in your telegram on the same occasion.

In the meantime, I have learned that the Jews, nevertheless, did leave on July 2, 1944, and it is to be feared that further Jewish groups may leave Germany and France under the plan for exchanging Palestinian Germans. This exchange of Germans would encourage the Balkan countries to send their Jews to Palestine too. Furthermore, after the Declaration of the German Government, such a step would be incomprehensible to the Arabs and Moslems, and it would create in them a feeling of keen disappointment.

It is for this reason that I ask you, Reichsführer, to do everything necessary to prevent the Jews from emigrating to Palestine, and in this way you would give a new practical example of the policy of the naturally allied and friendly Germany towards the Arab Nation.

Yours, etc.

### Jews of Arab lands

In a recent speech to Ta'ali in London, Justice Arthur Goldberg, former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N., said that the new U.S. Administration should compensate Jewish refugees from Arab lands in the amount of one and a half billion dollars, equivalent to the amount paid by UNWRA to the Arab refugees who left Israel in 1948 when the State was established. "Just because Jewish refugees have not engaged in terrorism does not mean that their just claims should be overlooked", he observed. He expressed the hope that a Bill would be presented in the U.S. Congress to this effect and suggested that a similar Bill be introduced in the House of Commons to focus attention on the loss of property experienced by Jews of Arab lands.

P.S.G.

## LETTERS

I enjoyed reading the recent issues of *The Scribe*, finding their contents quite interesting.

I must congratulate you on this fine achievement which will no doubt contribute to strengthening the ties between world Jewry in general and Babylonian Jewry in particular.

I hope that this remarkable journal will continue to be strong, keeping its success and prosperity in the future. ●  
Tel Aviv Saleh S. Basri

I find *The Scribe* most interesting, keeping me informed of the happenings of the Iraqi Jews after their exodus from Baghdad and other cities of Iraq. For years I believe that you foresaw the solution for the Middle East problem: a confederation of the various countries and ethnic minorities who reside in the area. I think this would be the time to expound your idea. ●  
Montreal Yusuf Meer

I have recently seen a copy of your excellent Journal at a friend's house and was much impressed by its contents and what it represents. As a member of the Babylonian Jewish community, I greatly appreciate the initiative and the effort required to publish such a journal, which fills a void that existed and which I have personally felt for a long time. I would very much like to receive your Journal on a regular basis. ●  
Ramat Gan David Birshan

We both enjoy reading *The Scribe* and hope to read it for many years to come. We learn so much from it. ●  
Lexington, MA Bess and Fred Ezekiel

Thanks a lot for what you are doing for our community. ●  
Moshav Talmei Menashe H. E. Dangoor

I was interested to learn from reading *The Scribe* what a vital intellectual community the Babylonian Jews are. It was also heartening to note how fiercely loyal and attached to Israel the British and American branches of the community are. ●  
Savoyon, Israel Sharon Gutman

My parents recently returned from London with a copy of *The Scribe*. I was very impressed with your publication and am interested in receiving future copies. As a mother now, I would like to make sure my children know about their roots and have pride in the fact that they are part of one of the oldest Jewish communities. Your publication enables me to share this information about our past. ●  
New York Susan Masri Lawi

I read the last volume of your newsletter with great pleasure. It's a great cultural contribution to the Iraqi community. My family and I would very much appreciate receiving *The Scribe* on a regular basis. ●  
Los Angeles Ourite Assia

Deepest appreciation for *The Scribe*. I am the grandson of Hakham Yosef Shrem who used to visit Baghdad regularly. Three books have been published on his activities for the past 100 years for the welfare of Jerusalem Jewry. ●  
Tel Aviv Joe Shrem  
Industrial Engineer

I find *The Scribe* very informative and very interesting, and so very well written. You can count me among your enthusiastic readers. ●

Bat-Yam, Israel Judith Dattner

I like your article "Kurdish Genocide" (Jan. 89). Kol Hakavod! Hats off to you! Really. Why should Israel keep silent? Israel should promote a military alliance with the ten million Kurds to stem Arab expansionist policies in the region.

There is and there has always been a sympathetic connection between Israel and the Kurds. The role the Kurds played in the years 1945-1950 in assisting the fleeing Jews in their illegal escape and immigration to Israel can never be forgotten. Israel is indebted to them for this great help, which can only be compared to the good Christian families that offered refuge to the poor European Jews in the Nazi Hitler's period.

More about the Kurds and Kurdistan can be learnt from my book in Hebrew, *My Friends, the Kurds*, published by Yessod Publishers, Tel Aviv and highly recommended by the Ministry of Education and Culture of Israel. ●  
P.O. Box 1779, Tel Aviv Emil Murad

By the same author and obtainable from him: *Babylon in the Underground*; *Deep into the Soul*, Israeli novel in English; *In Search of Light*, English and Hebrew poetry.

Your latest issue of *The Scribe*, No. 30, has given me so much interest; I love everything that has been put in there and for your information I pass the papers to many of the Iraqi Jews of my community.

Your latest publication refers to 180 victims killed in June 1941 at the hands of the followers of the Nazi collaborator Rashid Ali. Among the dead was my young brother as well as some of my father's family. My brother was a young man at the time, a British subject and a citizen of the U.K. No compensation was given by the Foreign Office when our lawyer, David Marshall, wrote to them, just before the war came to the Far East.

Another article mentioned the death of Mr. Anthony Meyer, a grandson of the late Sir Manasseh Meyer of Singapore, a good friend of my father at the time, well advanced in textile business. I was at the funeral of the late Manasseh Meyer in Singapore and a special Rabbi from Israel conducted the burial service. A special family plot of ground was reserved for the Manasseh family, following the tradition of our ancestors. Personally, I met Mr. Manasseh during his lifetime in Singapore, being the head of the Jewish community since the first World War; he was appointed by the British government to be responsible and guarantee that all was well with the Iraqi community. ●  
Dianella, W. Australia K. S. Reuben

I find *The Scribe* makes for relaxed reading, both the informative editorials and various tidbits of local news. If it is not asking too much, I would like to receive the previous 23 issues, as well as to be put on your mailing list of future issues. As a matter of information, the Iraqi community of Fort Lauderdale, which numbers a score or so on a year-round basis, swells to several hundreds during the winter months with people coming from New York, Canada, Great Britain, etc. As you stroll on the beach you constantly hear the clatter of tawli and Arabic. ●  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida J. Sion

## Jordan in Palestine

In your January issue, a short note by P.S.G. asserted that King Abdullah dropped the name "Palestine" from the title of his newly established kingdom (the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan), because the Foreign Office prevailed upon him to do so. This comment was meant to contradict a previous assertion made by myself that the name Palestine was dropped because of Israeli pressure.

British intervention, strong as it may have been, does not exclude the fact that Israeli leaders used their direct contact with King Abdullah to achieve the same result. It is a known fact that Moshe Dayan, in one of his secret meetings with the King, "pleaded most vehemently not to use the name Palestine in the new title." (This was confirmed by Mr. Ezra Danin who accompanied Dayan.)

In a hand-written note to 'Arif al-'Arif (a most prominent Palestinian historian) detailing the content of that particular meeting, King Abdullah was convinced that "the Israelis are so serious about the name, that to go against them would jeopardise the entire plan." It was on the suggestion of the said 'Arif al-'Arif that the name Jordan came into existence. There is enough evidence to show that King Abdullah was far more concerned with Israel's opposition than with British negative advice.

Had the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan been called the Hashemite Kingdom of Palestine as King Abdullah wanted it to be called, the present day problem of the Palestinians' aspiration for a homeland would have been perceived by the outside world as an internal issue concerning the nature of the régime within an existing Palestine (i.e. today's Jordan), rather than a problem questioning the nature and legitimacy of Israel.

My forthcoming book *My Talks with 'Arif al-'Arif* will be published soon. ●  
University of Professor Rony Gabbay  
Western Australia

P.S.G. writes: Jordan was regarded as part and parcel of the historic Palestine as envisaged in the League of Nations mandate and reaffirmed on various occasions by the present King Hussein. "The Jordanian Option" formulated by the Eshkol government in Israel after the 1967 war takes account of this fact. It is also inherent in the basic policy guidelines of Israel's present Likud-Labour government issued in Jerusalem on 22 December 1988.



# Christians and Jews

The 1988 Lambeth Conference of the Anglican Church unanimously passed a Resolution whereby it commends the document: **Jews, Christians and Muslims: The Way of Dialogue** for study, and encourages the churches to engage in dialogue with Jews and Muslims on the basis of understanding, affirmation and sharing.

The document recognises that, whilst dialogue with all faiths is highly desirable, Christianity, Judaism and Islam have a common relationship to Abraham, the father of the faithful, the friend of God, and have a particular responsibility to work for the well-being of the human family, and the peace of the world.

So far, so good.

The document, however, goes on to stress an even closer relationship between Christians and Jews. It strangely refers to the Common Era as "the era common to Jews and Christians"; and adds: "Some Jews have become very aware of Jesus as part of their own history." "... there would seem to be no reason why a new understanding should not develop, based on a reconsideration of what originally drove Christianity and Judaism apart."

"There are those Christians whose prayer is that Jews, without giving up their Jewishness, will find their fulfilment in Jesus the Messiah. Indeed some regard it as their particular vocation and responsibility to share their faith with Jews."

The above approaches are most alarming. If the Council of Christians and Jews endorses these sentiments then the result will be not more understanding but renewed friction between Christians and Jews. It appears that Christians cannot get away from their intention to convert the Jews.

The purpose of dialogue is not to bridge the religious gap between various faiths, but to respect each other's religion. In the words of the Koran: "We have our religion, and you have yours!"

We tell Christian leaders, "Leave us alone; keep at arm's length; we don't want your bear hug, your tight embrace."

As long as the Church of England has an organisation called "The Church's Ministry among the Jews" (CMJ), there can be no dialogue, especially as the Archbishop of Canterbury has refused to step down as its president. As Canon Jim Richardson, national Executive Director of the Council of Christians and Jews remarked, "CMJ's proselytising policy is, to say the least, insensitive. You cannot have a dialogue within a relationship of trust AND missionary activity."

To the points raised in the "document" we reply as follows:

- 1) Jesus grew up as a Jew. His name ceased to be connected with Judaism when he was made posthumously the Christian God.
- 2) Christianity is not the religion of Jesus but a religion about Jesus.
- 3) Judaism and Christianity parted ways when the new movement was taken over by Gentile Christians and was completely transformed by the addi-

tion of pagan tenets and unacceptable dogmas.

- 4) Christians want to convert the Jews to prove the validity of their religion.
- 5) "God the father of Jesus"? Neither we, nor the Moslems for that matter, could swallow that in a million years!
- 6) The death of Jesus at the hands of the Romans is only one instance of the crucifixion of the Jewish people by the forces of evil for the sake of the Kingdom of God.
- 7) Before there can be anything like ecumenism, Christians will have to shed quite a bit of their creed, including attempts to convert Jews.
- 8) Since 325, when Christianity was adopted by the Roman Empire, many Jews have been converted by persecution, by force and by torture. What validity can such conversions have?
- 9) Just as Communist attempts to convert other nations by force and plans for world revolution are condemned as aggression and unacceptable, the Christian attitude to the Jews is likewise aggressive and contrary to basic human liberties.
- 10) In 1944, at the height of the Holocaust, a papal *nuncio* is reported to have said, "All Jewish blood is guilty. You have to die. This is the punishment that has been awaiting you because of deicide." The Christian Church uses the false accusation of deicide as a rod to beat us with so that we agree to convert. Otherwise, if we were guilty of deicide, why should they bother to convert us?
- 11) In the main, Christian attitudes have not changed. There has been no repentance of the Holocaust. Antisemitism now masquerades as anti-Zionism or anti-Israel.
- 12) The road to the Kingdom of God is not through religious bigotry but through religious toleration. A Persian king once declared, "It is fitting that a great empire should contain many kinds of opinions and ways of living" ● N.E.D.

## "Tolerance . . . is Reverence"

The words of Dr. Robert Runcie.

On racial and religious bigotry I will never be prepared to compromise.

Bigotry is a disease which is no respecter of religions. Whether in India or the Middle East or in Ireland or in England.

Let it never be thought that religious and racial tolerance is some sort of woolly, feeble-minded notion. We are not tolerant because we have little regard for our own opinions or because we think other opinions are as good as our own. Tolerance is the expression of reverence for others, a reverence only held secure in our reverence for God.

We cannot create tolerance merely by telling people to be tolerant. It needs submission to divine law and divine love ●

(Extracts from *The Archbishop of Canterbury's Speech at the Fund Raising Dinner of the Council of Christians and Jews at Lambeth Palace*)

## Kristallnacht Memorial Meeting

Extracts from the address by the

Archbishop of Canterbury

I recognise that we did *not* go to war to close down the concentration camps. Indeed we, and most other nations, had closed our frontiers to all but a small number of those seeking asylum. The desperate search for visas led, literally, to a dead end.

The Munich agreement was but one sign of a great conspiracy of silence and complicity which leaves its legacy of shame.

Without centuries of Christian anti-semitism, Hitler's passionate hatred would never have been so fervently echoed.

Nazi barbarism resulted in the construction of the death camps in which six million Jews perished.

The travesty of Kristallnacht and all that followed is that so much was perpetrated in Christ's name. Neither inside nor outside Germany did the churches recognise this. And even today there are many Christians who fail to see it as self-evident. Without the poisoning of Christian minds through centuries, the Holocaust is unthinkable.

The Jewish people form part of God's plan for His world, and it is our responsibility not merely to ensure their survival – God has done that – but that they are honoured and respected and loved.

The Jewish people are the people of God, those who bestowed on us the Hebrew scriptures, who gave the Christian world so much of its heritage of faith. Jewish wisdom and Jewish prophecy have been a light to us and will continue to be a light to the nations.

Many Jews know that it was Christians who pushed them into the gas chambers. It is no good saying they were not *real* Christians, any more than we should say that those who did not go regularly to synagogue were not *real* Jews. In the light of all that, how can we in our generation go to the Jewish people and say, without shame, "we have the truth, listen to us." We cannot pretend that recent history has not happened.

The planned destruction of the Jewish people did not succeed. Out of suffering, God brought a new-found liberty. He has brought new-found liberty for Jews in Israel.

Our love goes out to the ancient and young nation of Israel, to the people of the Holy Land, Jews, Moslems and Christians alike.

The Lord our God is One, to be loved with all our mind and heart and soul, and our neighbour as ourself ●

## The Scribe comments:

These are noble words from Dr. Robert Runcie, but there has been no true repentance by those who made the Holocaust possible.

According to Newton's Law, for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. In the case of the Jews, the Holocaust was followed by the establishment of the State of Israel. What will the future hold for Europe and Christendom, perpetrators of the Holocaust?

# Who is a Jew – What is a Jew?

by N.E.D.

A rational analysis can solve the problem.

In the modern world a person has three main identities – nationality, religion and citizenship, in that order.

A person can also have other loyalties – family, friends, political party, trade union. On the accusation that Jews have dual loyalties, Churchill once remarked: "What, only two loyalties? A person can have any number of loyalties without harm." I heard Lord Goodman once state that he owes allegiance both to Britain and to Israel; and, if a conflict arose between them, he would side with Israel as she would need him more than Britain.

In ancient times, however, a person's three main identities were usually rolled into one. The term "Egyptian", "Babylonian", or "Persian" gave a full description of a person's nationality, religion and citizenship, which he retained for life. The confusion over "who is a Jew" arises from the fact that this term still applies both to nationality and religion. It is time to have a separate word for each component – "Jewish" for religion and "Hebrew" for nationality.

While religious factions can be left to argue among themselves on points of *Halacha*, and recognise or not recognise one another, the Law of Return should be based not on religious criteria but only on nationality. The right to return to Israel should be conferred on all "Hebrews".

For a law based on Orthodox religion would exclude all Hebrews who are not "Jewish" according to the *Shulhan Aruch*. What right have we got to exclude from the in-gathering the lost Ten Tribes who would not pass the Orthodox test? They and others like them must be let in, and then the Orthodox can work on them.

What about converts? Just as Islam is regarded as the liberation movement of the Arab nation, Judaism is the liberation movement of the Hebrew nation. A Jew is anyone who identifies with the Jewish people by accepting their culture, which is embodied in Judaism – *any form of it*. In fact, the Talmud defines a Jew as anyone who renounces idolatry! In this connection, it is time that we welcomed our Christian and Muslim brethren with open arms, and recognised their religions as versions of Judaism.

The confusion over what is a Jew has surfaced in Hungary, where every Jew is now required to define his or her status. A Jew will be regarded as either a Magyar of the Jewish faith, or as a Hungarian citizen of Jewish nationality. Orthodox Jews will define

themselves as Jews by religion, while the majority, secular Jews, will be formally recognised as Jews by nationality. This problem would not arise if there were separate words to describe Jewish religion and Jewish nationality.

## The Law of Return

The Knesset passed the Law of Return in 1950; it was the first law passed by the State of Israel. This laid down that every Jew has the right to immigrate to Israel. In 1970 the Law was amended by defining for the first time a Jew as "A person who was born to a Jewish mother or who has converted to Judaism and does not subscribe to any other religion." The Orthodox, however, require a stricter definition as conversion "according to the *Halacha*" or even "according to the *Shulhan Aruch*". Some religious factions ask for the Religious Sects Ordinance (Conversion) of 1927 to be tightened; others require a legal definition of "Who is a Rabbi". These ideas are ill-conceived. A democratic State must not be involved in sectarian religious matters; likewise the Law of Return must not be defined on religious criteria.

During our visit to Israel in November, we were distressed to note that while the Arabs were making international political headway, a strong government could not be formed because of disagreement on the definition of who is a Jew. Because of strong and determined pressure by the Diaspora, a lame-duck coalition government had to be formed which may not be able to follow a strong policy regarding the problem of the Palestinian Arabs.

While the State of Israel must remain founded on Judaism as the embodiment of our culture, there should otherwise be a complete separation between State and religion.

## Abuse of language

16 years ago, Marcus Shloimovitz failed in the High Court to stop the publisher of three Oxford English dictionaries using "derogatory, defamatory and wholly deplorable" definitions of the word Jew. The judge held that he had no maintainable action, as the matter complained of did not refer to him personally. The judge added, "There are many very fine persons who are Jewish by birth or creed, persons of the utmost integrity, honesty, reputation, skill and ability. If there be Jews who do not in fact measure up to that standard, there are many people not Jews who are just as bad or worse." "I am pleased to have this opportunity of paying a public tribute to the Jewish race and creed."

The dictionaries named, with their de-

finitions, were:

The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Current English: "Jew – Unscrupulous usurer";

The Shorter English Dictionary: "Jew – a person of Hebrew race, an Israelite, applied to a grasping or extortionate usurer, or a trader who drives hard bargains and deals craftily.";

The Oxford English Dictionary: "Jew – to cheat or overreach in the way attributed to Jewish traders or usurers. Hence Jewing."

Mr. Shloimovitz stated, "These definitions were obsolete, archaic and past usage. Dictionaries should not perpetuate prejudice but should educate the ignorant."

Although publishers of other dictionaries had no difficulty in finding a compromise formula to satisfy all parties concerned, the defendant publisher refused to amend his definitions, hiding behind the letter of the Law. We recently consulted these dictionaries and found that the offensive definitions remain the same. We have looked up the Oxford Dictionary and find that the apt phrase to describe the writer of these definitions is "dirty dog" – "a despicable person".

What is morally wrong should not be legally right. But then, the Law is an ass, allowing many wrong deeds to be committed under the cloak of justice.

## The Timbrel of Miriam

by Percy S. Gourgey

The prophetess, Miriam, was known as one of the three *parnassim tobim* with her two brothers, Moses and Aaron. It was she who has set an example to all the women of Israel when at the miracle of the crossing of the Red Sea, in which the fleeing Hebrew slaves were saved from their pursuing Egyptian oppressors, she picked up a timbrel and led the women in song and prayer to the Almighty for their salvation. Rabbinic commentators have said that one of the reasons for freedom from slavery after two centuries in Egypt, lay in the virtue of the Hebrew womenfolk.

But this whole episode stresses both the privilege and responsibility of Jewish women in educating and rearing their children and maintaining a good Jewish home. Of the four main influences in the life of a child, the school, the club, the synagogue and the home, the most important is that of the home. When Pharaoh's daughter picked up the baby Moses from the bulrushes, Miriam, his sister, approached the princess, suggesting that she should get a Hebrew woman to help rear him. The princess agreed and Miriam brought Moses' mother who taught him Jewish values. What fruit this bore subsequently.

In order to teach, women (and men) must first learn; "*lilmod ve-lelamed* (lishmor ve-laasoth)" in the words of the prayer preceding the Shema. In many synagogues and at many religious occasions, they regrettably do not participate. Thus, they do not equip themselves with the wherewithal to transmit Jewish values to their children. Assimilation and intermarriage can best be combatted through education.

Who will pick up the timbrel of Miriam and lead the Jewish women in prayer, song and study of Torah?

## COOKERY CORNER

by Alice Shashou

### Iraqi Helawa

#### Ingredients:

About 5 tablespoons mazola oil  
1 cup flour  
3 cups water  
2 cups sugar  
2 tablespoons rose water  
cardamom in powder

Dissolve sugar in water without heating.

Warm the mazola oil in a small frying pan. Take out of the fire. Add the flour and mix constantly on low fire till dark beige. It takes about 15-20 minutes. Watch the colour. Let it cool completely.

Now pour the cold syrup over the cold flour mixture stirring all the time. Continue stirring over a low fire till thickness desired. It should have no lumps. Take away from fire and add the cardamom to your taste and 2 tablespoons of rose water and mix well.

Pour in a serving bowl.

Decorate with halves of blanched almonds.

It is usually served with pitta bread. The Helawa is most attractive when it is the right colour. Not too dark and not too pale●

### Moussaka Paulista

This is a recipe without meat and is good as a party dish.

#### Ingredients:

3lbs aubergines (egg plants) peeled in strips, cut in slices 1/4" thick, then left in a sieve or colander in layers, sprinkling each layer with salt. This will remove the bitterness from them. Leave for about one hour.

Take out and dry on kitchen towel and fry in mazola oil till golden. Drain on absorbent paper and use to line pyrex or oven-proof dish about 13" to 9".

#### The Filling:

7oz each of grated cheddar cheese, grated mozzarella cheese and cream cheese.  
2 large eggs, beaten  
Plenty of black pepper to taste  
Salt to taste  
2 level tablespoons chopped parsley  
Mix altogether

#### The Topping:

2 large eggs, slightly beaten  
2 cups grated cheddar cheese

Now arrange layers in your pyrex. One layer aubergines, one layer cheese mix, one layer aubergines, one layer cheese mix.

Put in preheated oven 400°F or 200°C for about twenty minutes, then take out of oven.

Pour over the beaten eggs and sprinkle with the grated cheddar cheese.

Put back in oven for another 10 minutes, but no more●



*Ex-King Zahir Shah of Afghanistan, who claims descent from the Israelitish tribe of Benjamin, is expected to play a leading part in establishing a stable government in Afghanistan, after the departure of the Soviet invaders.*

*He is seen above, before he was deposed, cordially welcoming Mr. Mordechai Avgar, Israeli Ambassador to Nepal.*

### Tips

- To bring out the flavour of any vegetable add a lump of sugar whilst cooking.
- Prevent jacket potatoes from bursting by slitting the skin before baking.
- No tears! When peeling onions, chill well before slicing.
- When cooking green vegetables, add a pinch of bicarbonate of soda to maintain a good colour.
- Add one tablespoon oil to water when boiling pasta to prevent water boiling over.
- Do not over-bake a cheesecake. If the centre does not quite set, remember it becomes solid as the cake cools.
- To keep watercress fresh, keep it wrapped in damp newspaper and keep in fridge.
- To take the peel off frozen broadbeans, defrost first. The peel will come off easily.
- Soaking lentils is not necessary; but it reduces their cooking time.
- When making salad, tear lettuce with your hands. Never cut with a knife.
- Wine must be cooked. Wine is added to a stew at the beginning of the cooking.
- If you peel potatoes when raw, put them immediately into a bowl of cold water to keep them from changing colour.
- To melt chocolate, grate it or cut it into small pieces. When it starts to melt, stir it. This will keep it glossy when it dries.
- Cooked food taken from the fridge should either be served cold or thoroughly reheated, not just warmed through, but brought to the boil.
- Fish smell: cold water, instead of hot, must be used when cleaning pans and frying pans in which fish has been cooked. The smell will linger in the pan if it is washed with hot water●

## Salmonella Egg Scare

(Mrs. Edwina Currie, a Jewess who married out, had to resign as junior Health Minister because of her remarks that most British eggs production is contaminated with salmonella.)

### Iraqi Eggs

Sir,

To those who are bored with hard-boiled eggs, I recommend Tbeet or Hamin eggs. In Iraq, these were left to cook overnight for Shabbat breakfast.

They can be duplicated by boiling eggs for two hours in a pressure cooker. Cover with water and add a few onion skins to enhance the colour. The result is a healthy, tasty and safe egg●

(Jewish Chronicle)

N. E. Dangoor

### Egg gauntlet

Sir,

At the risk of offending my friends among the Iraqi community, I must disagree with Mr. N. Dangoor when he advises us to eat eggs cooked in the Iraqi Hamin way as if it was a revelation.

I had the good fortune to be raised on the Moroccan *dafina* which has no comparison on earth.

Having tried Ashkenazi *cholent*, and Middle Eastern *hamin*, it is undeniable that the Moroccan *dafina* is vastly superior in every respect, including the eggs. What a Shabbat lunch it makes!

I challenge Mr. Dangoor to a culinary contest on Shabbat diet, hopefully to be judged by Mrs. Edwina Currie. It will also help her to see what she has missed all these years●

(Jewish Chronicle)

Sydney Assor

I gladly take up the challenge and accept the good choice of referee. In accordance with established rules, I have the choice of venue and weapon, which I hope will not be necessary in this case. The contest between Iraqi *tbeet* and Moroccan *dafina* will be arranged in aid of a charitable cause.

In the past I had the opportunity on several occasions on foreign travel to sample out of curiosity such things as *couscous* and *merguez*, although I have not come across *dafina*. I am convinced that Moroccan cuisine is no match for the civilised and varied cuisine of Iraqi Jewry●

N.E.D.

Dear N.E.,

Last week politics and this week cooking!! Wow!! That's just great. Keep it up●  
Tel Aviv

Murray Bomzer

### The ultimate weapon?



*The minaret of Mosul, in the shape of a missile, as depicted on an Iraqi postage stamp.*

# Leadership

One of the main things which we have to beseech God to grant us in His mercy is a good leader.

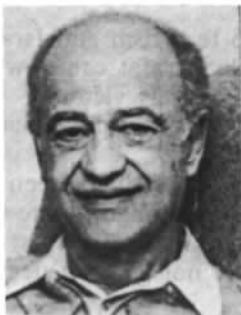
Gideon was to his generation in leadership what Moses was to his; Samson was to his generation what Aaron was to his. However lightly you may think of someone – once he has been chosen to leadership, he is equal to the greatest.

Moses begged God to let him live to enter the Promised Land. God told him the time had come for Joshua to assume the leadership, so Moses agreed to take a subordinate position to Joshua. After Joshua had his first audience with God in the Tent of the Presence, Moses asked him what God had told him. Joshua replied: "When God spoke to you did you report the details to me?!" At this, Moses cried out to God: "Let me die a hundred times rather than be jealous once!"

And when Joshua was teaching the assembly, expounding Moses' teachings and adding his own explications, Moses found himself unable to follow his former disciple. So he said to God: "I have been pleading for my life; now take it and do what You will with it."

Earlier, Moses had said to God: "*Ribbono shel Olam* Master of the Universe, when I go and You are choosing a new leader for the Jews, appoint someone who will be tolerant of their differences of opinion."●

# Ezekiel Moses



Ezekiel Moses, or Sunny to his friends, is giving new hope to children in India.

The Noranda man is an Action Aid sponsor. His generosity has provided education for several underprivileged children living in India.

He is sponsoring a 10-year-old boy called Billal Hossain, who lives with his mother and two older brothers. Thanks to Sunny, Billal is now attending primary school.

Several years ago, Sunny sponsored a young Indian girl called Isabella D'Souza and was responsible for giving her an education and helping her realise her dream of becoming a doctor.

Sunny came to Perth from England in 1981.

Sunny was an active supporter of Action Aid in the United Kingdom and has continued this by becoming the group's representative in Perth.

His efforts will be centred around the promotion of Action Aid to involve West Australians in the programme●

# BRIDGE

## The Deadly Squeeze

by bridge builder

An extra trick can be made by declarer:

- by finessing;
- by establishing a 4th card;
- by ruffing a loser;
- by endplay; or
- by means of a squeeze.

In cases where it is too risky to try to finesse, as in a grand slam; or, you know it won't work;

Where you can't establish a 4th card because you know from the bidding that the suit doesn't break even with opponents (3-3);

Where you are unable to ruff a loser, as in no trumps;

Where you can't endplay, as in a grand slam;

You may still be able to plan a squeeze.

Consider this hand:

♠ 8 5 4		♠ Q 7 3	
♥ K Q J 8		♥ A 6	
♦ 7 2		♦ K J 3	
♣ Q J 8 3		♣ A 10 7 5 4	

♠ J 10 9 2			
♥ 9 5 4 3			
♦ 8 6 5			
♣ 9 2			

♠ A K 6			
♥ 10 7 2			
♦ A Q 10 9 4			
♣ K 6			

N	E
W	S

You, as South, are in a contract of six no trumps and West leads the heart king. You have 11 tricks on top, and a squeeze is the only hope for the twelfth. To achieve this, you must let your opponents win the one trick to which they are entitled, *early*. If you allow West to win the first trick, you then cash one heart trick, three spades, the

club king and four diamonds to leave this 3-card position.

♠ —		♠ —
♥ —		♥ J 9
♦ —		♦ —
♣ Q J		♣ 9

N	E
W	S

♠ —	
♥ 10	
♦ A	
♣ 6	

You, as declarer in South, have reached the "squeeze" position. When you play the diamond ace, the squeeze card, West cannot withstand the pressure, and must either discard his heart knave, setting up your ten, or a club, which allows you to score two tricks in the suit. The squeeze is operable because at the moment when the squeeze card is played, West has nothing but menacing cards and he is obliged to discard one of his menacing cards, a potential winner.

To summarise, the elements of a squeeze are:

- 1) you need one extra trick;
- 2) the threat is from one opponent;
- 3) you let your opponents win their tricks early;
- 4) lines of communications between your hand and dummy must remain open;
- 5) you clear the 2 suits not threatened by opponents;
- 6) when you play the last card of these 2 suits, the opponent is squeezed. He has to discard one of his menacing cards.

The success of the squeeze arises from the fact that declarer and dummy hold between them twice the number of cards held by the menacing opponent, which gives you the possibility of manoeuvring for that extra trick.

This is the "simple automatic squeeze". There are also – the double, the progressive, the ruffing, the suicide, the jettison and other varieties of squeezes●



The largest single mission ever undertaken brought 700 JIA supporters to Israel to launch the 1989 Campaign.

During that extraordinary 2-day visit the group was given royal treatment, visiting places of interest and having dinners with the President and the Prime Minister.

The above picture shows Haya Pesker (centre) who was the life and soul of coach No. 10 with, from left, Ann Haruni, Matt Haruni, Sonia Phillips, Salim Soffair, Marcelle Soffair, Haya Pesker, Ronnie Musry, Violet Musry, Renée Dangoor, Naim Dangoor.



## Outlook for Israel 1989

Extracts from Lord Weidenfeld's  
Address to the Board of Deputies

In 1989, our challenge will be to fight against the danger of an independent Palestinian State and for the return of Jordan into the arena.

It is one thing being courageous with a clear plan. It is another to protest and procrastinate without a vision. We need a bigger package setting the fate of the whole geographic Palestine on both sides of the Jordan and not a "little Palestine solution".

It must be the task of Israel's friends to convert the new American administration to a larger plan and to nip in the bud the Third State solution.

Mrs. Thatcher's "Europe of Nations" that allows its leading states to pursue a largely independent foreign policy, is much more in Israel's interest than one in which there is a majority vote in regard to world problems, regional conflicts and notably the Middle East ●

## Arab conquests

"The Arab invaders from the desert brought with them no tradition of learning, no heritage of culture to the lands they conquered . . . When we speak of 'Arab medicine' or 'Arab philosophy' or 'Arab mathematics', we mean that body of knowledge enshrined in books written in the Arabic language by men who flourished chiefly through the caliphate and were themselves Persians, Egyptians or Arabians – Jewish, Christian or Moslem. Indeed, even what we call 'Arabic literature' was no more Arabian than the Latin literature of the Middle Ages was Italian . . ." ●  
from "History of the Arabs" by Professor Philip Hitti.

A solemn service was held on 25 January at Bevis Marks Synagogue to commemorate the brutal hanging in Baghdad of 9 innocent Jews 20 years ago.

The service was conducted by Rabbi Dr Abraham Levy, Dayan Dr Pinhas Tolodano and Rabbi Abraham Gubbay, and was organised by Percy Gourgey.

The picture shows the candles lit in memory of the victims with, from the left, Davis and Morris Zilkha, Eric Moonman (senior vice-president of the Board of Deputies), Naim Dangoor, Dr Lionel Kopelowitz, (president of the Board of Deputies), Meer Basri, Rabbi Levy, and relatives of the victims.

## Terrorism vs Democracy

In the twenty-year confrontation between Arab terrorism and Israeli democracy, terrorism appears to have won. That is why Arafat can now afford to pretend moderation, in order to collect the fruits of his victory – namely, a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza, joined by a corridor. That would be the first step on the road of Israel's ruin.

Since the Six-Day War, successive Israeli governments have been paralysed into inaction, for fear that annexation of the West Bank might dilute the Jewish character of the State. It was said that Israel cannot annex the West Bank and remain a democracy. If that is the case, then why not give up democracy, if necessary?

Since 1967, various abortive plans have been put forward – the Allon plan, the Roger plan, the Camp David plan, the Reagan plan. Now the new coalition government is putting forward the Shamir plan, which likewise has no chance of being adopted. If by June no progress is made on the future of the occupied territories, then the honourable thing for the government to do would be to step down, and let others with better ideas take over.

In the present circumstances, democratic rights for the Arabs is a luxury Israel can no longer afford. We would annex the West Bank and Gaza and deny the Arabs any voting rights, until an overall Middle East settlement is reached with Jordan and the other neighbouring countries – a settlement that will ensure equal rights for the Kurds and other minorities and remove Arab monopoly of the Middle East.

The Middle East conflict in its complexity can be regarded as a quadratic equation. As such, it has two possible solutions: one is the easy, obvious, but negative and useless answer, namely, give in to pressure, make concessions and end up with an emaciated and vulnerable Israel; the other is the less obvious, but positive answer of turning the tables on the adversary and asking for more, not less.

The wicked bombing of the Pan Am jet demonstrates that Arab terrorism will continue to flourish regardless of what Arafat says. When will the free world realise that terrorism is not just a criminal act but that it is an act of war? It can only be dealt with by waging war relentlessly on all terrorist organisations ●