



ISRAEL NEWS

*A collection of the week's news from Israel
From the Bet El Twinning / Israel Action Committee of
Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation*

of a long marathon,
and the finish line is
around the corner.
(JNS Mar 27)

Commentary...

Israel is on the Path to Total Victory By Daniel Rosen

Israel stands on the precipice of a decisive victory over its adversaries. As the military campaign in Gaza resumes, Hamas finds itself with almost no options and even fewer allies. Its infrastructure has been decimated and its argument that the war with Israel was over has been unraveled. Meanwhile, the Houthis are preoccupied with their battles against U.S. forces. Hezbollah finds itself deeply wounded and withdrawn from Southern Lebanon and Syria and unable to help Hamas. Similarly, Iran is in no position to help or support Hamas. Israel, undeterred, continues its operations in Gaza, while Hamas struggles to assert any meaningful control.

This decisive shift is reinforced by a looming geopolitical earthquake: a Saudi-Israel-U.S. normalization deal. The Arab world is realigning, and Hamas—along with Iran and its proxies—can see the writing on the wall. Adding to this in a stunning reversal, Cairo has agreed to allow up to half a million Palestinians to “temporarily” resettle in the Sinai. This is more than just a policy shift; it is an admission that Gaza, as it once was, is no longer viable.

This is no small concession. At the core of this shift is the fact that as long as Hamas refuses to surrender hostages and relinquish control, no meaningful reconstruction in Gaza can take place. Israel has shown no indication that it will cease military operations while Hamas has shown no willingness to disarm, leave Gaza or return all the hostages.

Meanwhile, reports indicate that Somaliland has agreed to take in Palestinian refugees, further eliminating the argument that Gaza cannot be emptied of its terrorist rulers. Slowly but surely, the pieces are falling into place for a long-term solution that neutralizes Hamas once and for all.

With the newly appointed Israel Defense Forces Chief of Staff Eyal Zamir, Israel is poised to complete its mission. Paradoxically, the primary opposition to Israel's march toward victory comes from within the country itself. Elements of the Israeli left, segments of the retired military establishment and certain political factions continue to resist the full realization of Israel's military and strategic objective. However, the return of 198 out of 251 hostages is a testament to the effectiveness of Israel's operations and its willingness to engage in “deals” with its barbaric enemies to secure its people. It's important to recognize that the status quo of partial victories, where reservists are required to return to the same positions every four to six years, is untenable for reservists and Israel at large.

The broader strategic landscape only reinforces this total victory. The Trump administration's unflinching support for Israel—its direct action against the Houthis in Yemen, its maximum pressure campaign on Iran and its willingness to “open the gates of hell” on Hamas—has provided Israel with a perfect window to complete what it started. It is no coincidence that Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz has recently reiterated the same message: if Hamas does not return every last hostage, “The gates of hell will open.”

It is now clearer than ever that Hamas's Oct. 7 attacks were not just acts of terror—they were acts of desperation. Hamas saw normalization between Israel and Saudi Arabia coming and recognized it as the final nail in the coffin of the so-called Arab-Israeli conflict. They understood what that meant for their prospects at realizing their dreams of destroying Israel and their brutal assault was a last-ditch effort akin to a Hail Mary pass (in American football terms) to stop it.

As events continue to unfold, Israel's position continues to reveal itself. The world is witnessing the final unraveling of Hamas, the crumbling of Iran's regional proxies, and the emergence of a new Middle East order. Israel is winning decisively. The only question is whether Israeli society will allow itself to complete the victory or if internal discord will squander this opportunity. Israel is on the last leg

Ronen Bar's Dismissal is Legally Valid, Arguments to the Contrary are Political By Farley Weiss

The decision by the Israeli Cabinet to fire Shin Bet head Ronen Bar is a proper decision as Bar himself admits to a massive error in judgment that led to the disaster of Oct. 7. Bar admits to having received alerts including Hamas changing their cellphone sim cards and other preparations by members of the terror group in the hours before the attack began, yet, he did not notify Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu or Defense Minister Yoav Gallant.

In light of this, Bar should have resigned. However, he has refused to do so. That led to a unanimous vote of the Israeli Cabinet in favor of his firing in accordance with Section 3(c) of Israeli law, which allows for the dismissal of the head of the Shin Bet, as it says, “The government is authorized to terminate the tenure of the head of the agency before the end of his term.”

The law was drafted and passed with the understanding that the government could decide, for any reason, to end the tenure of the head of the Shin Bet. In this case, the disaster of Oct. 7 is about as strong a reason as one could have for his dismissal.

It is ironic that those who call for Netanyahu to resign because of the catastrophe of Oct. 7 are the same people who have opposed the demands for Bar to resign. This shows that the call for Netanyahu's resignation has nothing to do with Oct. 7 and everything to do with his politics.

There is a logical grouping of people who should resign because of Oct. 7, some of whom have already done so. Among the latter are Israel Defense Forces Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. (res.) Herzi Halevy, who recently admitted that he did not think Hamas was capable of doing 5% of what they did on Oct. 7; IDF Southern Command head Maj. Gen. Yaron Finkelman; and IDF Intelligence Directorate head Maj. Gen. Aharon Haliva.

Shin Bet head Bar, who communicated with Halevy in the hours before the attack, should follow suit and resign, as should those in the IDF who refused to listen, and even scolded, the female IDF soldiers who expressed their concerns that Hamas was preparing for an attack.

Bar is not an elected official, and the law in Israel gives the prime minister and the cabinet the power to replace him. Netanyahu made a mistake when he made Bar a part of the team negotiating for the release of hostages. Just recently, Bar made public a letter he wrote saying that Netanyahu should make more concessions to Hamas to try and obtain the hostages' release. He also credits himself for the negotiations that led to the recent release of hostages.

The fact is that the Biden administration did not credit Bar. Rather, it noted Israel's military successes against Hamas, such as the killing of its leader Yahya Sinwar, its crushing of Hezbollah and its attacks on Iran, as leading to the recent hostage deal. Bar may be furious that he is no longer involved in hostage negotiations, but he has no business disagreeing publicly with the policies of the elected government of Israel while serving the head of the Shin Bet. Bar can privately express his views, but the public expression of his disagreement with the government alone is grounds for his dismissal.

I worked at the Israeli Supreme Court as a volunteer law clerk for Deputy President Justice Menachem Elon in the summer of 1988. At the time, the Israeli Supreme Court was held in extraordinarily high regard by Israeli society, and, back then, it had never held unconstitutional any Knesset decision or Cabinet decision.

Now, however, the Israeli Supreme Court has enjoined the Cabinet's decision to remove Bar despite clear language in the law that gives the Israeli government the power to make that decision. A hearing on the ruling is scheduled for April 8, the same date the Bar's removal is set to go into effect. Former Supreme Court Chief Justice Aharon Barak, the leftist architect of the court who began to invalidate Knesset laws, has publicly said he would block the

government's decision to replace Bar.

The fundamental foundation of a democracy is the rule of law. That foundation is undermined when the government exercises its power to remove someone from their post as allowed under the law, and the attorney general blocks that decision. The Israeli democracy is further eroded by the Israeli Supreme Court's enjoining of the government's decision, which will not allow it to put in a replacement for Bar.

Israel is at war, and the Israeli government needs to have a Shin Bet leader with good judgment, which Bar failed to show on Oct. 7, 2023.

Some cite the fact that the Shin Bet opened an investigation into monies received by two of Netanyahu's aides from representatives of Qatar as proof that Bar should not be dismissed. However, Bar's dismissal will not end that investigation, as it is being done by the attorney general's office. Further, there is no evidence that the prime minister was aware of the payments or even changed any of his policies, which have been highly critical of Qatar throughout the conflict and its relationship with Hamas.

Those on the left who claim that Israel's democracy is being threatened by Bar's removal are the ones who are undermining the democratic rule of law. Their opposition has nothing to do with the law and democracy, and everything to do with keeping Bar and his left-wing views in a position of power. A democracy needs to function according to the law, and if the Israeli Supreme Court fails to allow the government of Israel to replace Bar, then it is the court that will be undermining Israeli democracy. (JNS Mar 26)

The New Sheriff in Town won't Tolerate Discrimination against Jews By Leonard Grunstein

A hearing has been scheduled for March 31 before U.S. District Judge Mark C. Scarsi in the pending case of Yitzchok Frankel, et al. v University of California Board of Regents, et al., by the Department of Justice and the U.S. Attorney regarding the government's interest in opposing the University of California, Los Angeles' motion to dismiss a lawsuit.

This is the same case in which Scarsi issued a preliminary injunction against UCLA, on Aug. 13, 2024. In his ruling, the judge noted:

In the year 2024, in the United States of America, in the State of California, in the City of Los Angeles, Jewish students were excluded from portions of the UCLA campus because they refused to denounce their faith. This fact is so unimaginable and so abhorrent to our constitutional guarantee of religious freedom that it bears repeating, Jewish students were excluded from portions of the UCLA campus because they refused to denounce their faith. UCLA does not dispute this. Instead, UCLA claims that it has no responsibility to protect the religious freedom of its Jewish students because the exclusion was engineered by third-party protesters. But under constitutional principles, UCLA may not allow services to some students when UCLA knows that other students are excluded on religious grounds, regardless of who engineered the exclusion.

Among other things, the court enjoined UCLA against knowingly allowing or facilitating the exclusion of Jewish students (including based on religious beliefs concerning the Jewish State of Israel) from ordinarily available portions of UCLA's programs, activities and campus areas. Shockingly, instead of settling the matter by agreeing to a plan of action to prevent a reoccurrence of the offensive conduct, UCLA callously appealed the decision.

The Statement of Interest (SOI) filed by the United States in the case references that injunction and, among other things, notes that the United States opposes the defendants' motion to dismiss because, "(1) Plaintiffs are permitted to bring claims under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) against Individual Defendants in their official capacities, and (2) Plaintiffs sufficiently allege the intent element of an Equal Protection Clause claim against the Defendants."

Title VI protects the right not to be discriminated against in schools, colleges or universities receiving federal assistance based on the person's race, color or national origin. This prohibition encompasses discrimination, including harassment, based on a student's actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics,

as well as their citizenship or residency in a country with a dominant religion or distinct religious identity.

The Department of Education provides that a school, college or university violates Title VI when:

1. harassing conduct on the basis of race, color or national origin is sufficiently serious as to limit or deny a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the educational program, i.e., creates a hostile environment;
2. a responsible employee of the school knew, or should have known, about the harassment; and,
3. the school failed to take prompt and effective steps reasonably calculated to end the harassment, eliminate the hostile environment, prevent the harassment from recurring, and, as appropriate, remedy its effects.

On Dec. 11, 2019, during his first term in office President Donald Trump signed Executive Order 13899 on combating antisemitism, which reaffirmed that Article VI protects Jews from antisemitic harassment or other discrimination based on their race, color, or national origin, including shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics.

Trump earlier this year also signed an executive order on "additional measures to combat antisemitism." The government's SOI referenced this order and recounted that it states in the order, "It is the policy of the United States to combat antisemitism vigorously, using all available and appropriate legal tools to prosecute, remove or otherwise hold to account the perpetrators of unlawful antisemitic harassment and violence."

The SOI also states, "The United States, therefore, has a strong interest in ensuring the proper application of Title VI, particularly when the Court has already found that in 2024 on UCLA's campus 'Jewish students were excluded from portions of the UCLA campus because they refused to denounce their faith' ... The Court is correct; this fact is 'so unimaginable and so abhorrent ...'"

The history and seriousness of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and its expansion over time under federal and local laws and regulations to cover so many types of discrimination seeks to provide for a society where everyone truly enjoys equal protection under the law and freedom from unlawful discrimination and harassment is inspirational. Yet, it is mind-boggling to appreciate that there is still one type of discrimination and harassment that survives and is even gaslighted, to wit—when it is directed against Jews.

There are forces hard at work discriminating against and harassing Jews on college campuses, as detailed in a number of lawsuits filed against offending colleges and universities. Congressional hearings on the subject have also focused light on the wrongdoing. The problem is pervasive and there does not appear to be an end in sight. Indeed, the groups leading the Jew-hatred efforts have merely redoubled their efforts and renewed their offensive conduct in 2025.

This new proactive approach of the Department of Justice and the Trump administration should be applied to all the colleges and universities that have experienced similar problems. There are also many cases pending, and the DOJ should consider intervening in those as well, in support of the Jewish students.

The federal government has so many powerful tools to address the problem. Scarsi relied on the equal protection clause of the Constitution. However, there is also Title VI, as noted above. Why not suspend federal assistance until a satisfactory plan is implemented to prevent the offensive conduct, as was done in the case of Columbia University? The plan must perforce include security arrangements barring wrongdoers from campus and assuring all students, including Jewish ones, can freely and safely attend classes and use all of the university facilities.

It is also suggested that, given the reports of foreign involvement, actions pursuant to Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) (22 USC 611 et seq) and the Anti-Terrorism Laws (18 USC 2339) should be considered to deal with the root causes of the problem. The Hamasniks are not just Jew-haters, they are also anti-American.

The situation of invidious discrimination against Jews and harassment on campus is illegal, immoral and intolerable, and must not be countenanced. May antisemitism be ended and peace on college and university campuses be restored, enabling all students to learn and be successful, without fear of discrimination or harassment,

in a safe and secure environment. (JNS Mar 26)

Fake Peace is Dangerous for the Free World By Shmuel Katz

Unfortunately, the history books are filled with stories addressing failed peace agreements which resulted in major setbacks to the involved nations.

The classic example is the “Munich Agreement” between Nazi Germany and British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, who showed off the document and said he was bringing “Peace for our times.” Rather than stop Adolf Hitler and the Nazis, it encouraged Hitler to advance his expansionist dreams, which resulted in World War II.

The failure of the Oslo Accords is another important example of a failed attempt to reach a peace agreement. One of the most important reasons for the failure of the accords was the lack of education for peace and reconciliation in the Arab schools and in the media.

This serious problem was enacted by design. When PLO leader Yasser Arafat, was asked by his people why he agreed to proceed with a track toward a peace agreement with the State of Israel in 1993, he responded by referring to the deceptive actions of the Prophet Muhammad as they were related to his presumed peace agreement with the tribe of the Quraysh in Mecca, called the “Treaty of al-Hudaybiya.” Once Muhammad felt strong enough, the treaty was violated, he killed the Jews in the city of Khaybar and expanded his control over multiple tribes in the region.

As Israel is dealing with the terrorist organizations of Hamas in the Gaza Strip and Hezbollah in Lebanon, it is clear these terrorist organizations have no intention of advancing the situation toward a peaceful resolution of the conflict. This is in line with their hope to implement an imposed world domination by which they will be able to force their religious ideology on everyone across the globe.

The fact that Hamas, part of the Sunni Muslim Brotherhood, and Hezbollah, part of the axis of evil led by Shi’ite Iran, do not fight each other at this time is related to the fact that they are fighting a common enemy composed of the State of Israel and Western society led by the United States.

The fact that Iran, the head of this terror snake, is behind much of the unrest in the Middle East and elsewhere is a major part of the ongoing problems, including Hamas’s refusal to release the Israeli hostages, despite the international pressure on them to do so. Hamas is hoping to hold on to the hostages as a safety net to ensure its survival and rebuild its forces. Hamas has stated repeatedly that it would try to challenge Israel again and again, until its successful annihilation of the State of Israel. Just before the recent renewal of Israeli military escalation in Gaza, there were intelligence reports that Hamas intended to attack Israel again, to get even more hostages.

In addition, there have been serious terror attacks recently by the new Sunni leaders in Syria on the Shi’ite Alawites and Christian citizens in western Syria, where there were reports of more than 20,000 dead victims. At the same time, there is serious unrest in Turkey against its president, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, and his supporters after Erdoğan had the country’s main opposition leader jailed. Turkey seems to have nefarious intentions to expand its control and influence over the neighboring countries and peoples, including the Kurds, Syria and Israel.

At the same time, Egypt is building its military in the Sinai Peninsula, establishing a major force that goes way beyond the terms of the 1979 peace agreement with Israel. This is a very troubling situation, because, despite its peace agreement with Israel, Egypt did not change its educational system to teach peace and reconciliation with Israel even as it plays an important role in the peace negotiations between Hamas and Israel.

This lack of proper education for peace is true also in the Kingdom of Jordan.

Therefore, it is imperative that the State of Israel and responsible leaders of the free world insist upon the following:

1. Hamas must release immediately all the hostages from Gaza.
2. Hamas must be disarmed and removed from controlling Gaza as this will lower the chances of Hamas trying to rebuild its forces, kidnap more Israelis and initiate terror activities in Israel and across the globe.
3. Gaza must be demilitarized giving locals a chance to rebuild their lives in a peaceful environment, where peace is promoted in the

schools and the media.

4. Serious effort must be made to educate—from young to old—about the need for peace and reconciliation across the entire Middle East.
5. International pressure must be placed on Iran to stop its race toward building atomic bombs and its support for terror organizations worldwide.
6. A serious pressure must be placed on Erdoğan in Turkey to stop his moves toward dictatorship and regional domination, which threaten the advancement of peace in the region.
7. Egypt and Jordan must be encouraged to start educating their populations on peaceful coexistence with Israel and to reduce their military buildup in the Sinai Peninsula and along the eastern bank of the Jordan River to reduce the chances of military confrontation with Israel.
8. If the people in the region move toward better neighborly relations, Russia and China will hopefully dial down their level of involvement in the region, which will benefit everyone.
9. Once the instigators of the terrorist activities from Iran and from elsewhere are under control, the Houthis may decide that it is no longer in their interest to interrupt the international navigation in the Red Sea and the Suez Canal, especially as they must deal with severe military actions by the United States and other allies.

Hopefully, wisdom will prevail, and we will be able to build a better future for everyone. (IsraelNationalNews.com Mar 26)

Terrorist Talking Points and the Israeli Protest Movement

By Ruthie Blum

There’s nothing new about the terrorist ghouls in Gaza plagiarizing the Israeli protest movement’s mantras. Slogans from the “Kaplan crowd” are the source of hostage-video scripts, practically verbatim.

That this doesn’t put a dent in the messages conveyed at anti-government demonstrations—a biggie being the threat posed to the country by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu—is not only shameful. It’s counter-productive where securing the freedom of the captives is concerned.

As recently released hostage Omer Shem Tov recounted on Tuesday to Israeli President Isaac Herzog, “The times we were shown television in captivity, [our captors pointed to] the division among the [Israeli] people. ... They speak about how Israel will be destroyed from within, and that’s what gives them strength.”

By now it’s widely acknowledged that though the Oct. 7 massacre had been planned well in advance, Hamas took advantage of the apparent “civil war” in Israel—over the government’s intention to reform the judicial system—to strike when it did. Terrorists who participated in the atrocities said as much to their Israeli interrogators.

Not that this awareness has caused the protest movement to lower the temperature. On the contrary, it has expanded the focus of its hysteria and operations.

It’s even gone so far as to shift attention from the plight of the hostages to Netanyahu’s firing of Israel Security Agency (Shin Bet) director Ronen Bar and moves to oust Attorney General Gali Baharav-Miara. The sole reason that both are being hailed, rather than disgraced, is that each has been openly at odds with Netanyahu.

The sudden explosion of sympathy for Bar would be comical if it weren’t so tragic. After all, he was the figure most responsible for failing to interpret and prevent Hamas’s movements in the hours leading up to the invasion. He didn’t even wake up Netanyahu or then-Defense Minister Yoav Gallant to inform them that something major was afoot.

Arrogance dictated that he knew better than they how to stave off an “escalation of tensions” with the jihadis along the border. You know, the terrorists whom he believed were “deterred.” And the Gazans he was certain were assuaged by Israeli work permits.

Hamas couldn’t believe its good fortune on that fateful day, owed in large measure to Bar. Nor is the genocidal organization done with exploiting the soon-to-be-ex-Shin Bet honcho.

As if to pay homage to the disgruntled security chief and his newfound champions in the streets of Jerusalem and Tel Avi, Hamas

cited the letter Bar sent on Thursday to the ministers in Netanyahu's Cabinet.

In the lengthy missive, Bar argued that the grounds for his dismissal are insufficient and lack concrete "examples." Never mind that Netanyahu has no legal obligation to provide evidence to support his decision to sack a subordinate such as Bar. The former is the boss; the latter an appointed underling, no matter how big his britches.

Hamas might not give a hoot about Israeli hierarchy. But it was extremely interested in Bar's written complaints, especially those in the following passage:

"The decision proposal [to end my tenure] ... suggests, incorrectly, that the alleged lack of trust between the prime minister and me stems from our handling of the hostage crisis. Without delving too deeply into this matter, I will note that the recent hostage-release deal was the result of a unique operation personally led by me, with the prime minister's full knowledge. The deal was reached according to the objectives set by the prime minister, was brought by him for government approval and was endorsed with his support. In light of this, the claim of an alleged lack of trust has no basis—unless the real intent, which I apparently failed to grasp, was to conduct negotiations without actually reaching a deal."

Hamas quickly came to Bar's aid, presenting its own version of his words. "Bar's statements expose the deliberate game played by the criminal Netanyahu regarding the negotiations, his efforts to sabotage any agreement and his attempts to undermine it after it was reached—all for his personal political goals," the terrorist organization declared. "These statements, coming from within the leadership of the occupation, emphasize that Netanyahu has been and remains the real obstacle to any prisoner-exchange deal."

In addition, Hamas claimed, "Netanyahu's attempts to remove influential security officials from the negotiations reflect his internal crisis and the growing distrust between him and the security establishment, revealing his lack of seriousness in reaching a genuine agreement."

Finally, it called on Washington to "stop blaming Hamas for the failure of the agreements and instead hold Netanyahu directly responsible for the continued suffering of the prisoners [hostages] and their families."

To be fair, the anti-Netanyahu choir isn't at fault for Hamas brutality. But it is to blame for weakening the war effort and encouraging enemy intransigence.

Mass tantrums will not topple the government, especially with the passage of the state budget. All they accomplish is societal malaise—precisely what Hamas is counting on to bolster its bargaining position. (March 26, 2025 / JNS)

Pro-Palestine American Jews, You've Been Had

By Brett Kaufman

Among those who forcibly occupied Trump Tower recently to protest the deportation of a violent antisemite, were members of the Jewish Voice for Peace, who, along with other far-left groups like IfNotNow, have been parading support for Hamas since its Oct. 7 attack. The scene was a chilling reminder of the giant rift splitting American Jewry.

On one side of this rift are American Jews of all denominations, including secular ones, who love Israel as our ancestral homeland and the United States as the greatest country on earth.

On the other side are Jews who have embraced the globalist concept of tikkun olam, "making the world a better place," as the central or only tenet of their Judaism.

Over the decades, the tikkun olam Jews spoke out for those less fortunate. After all, American Jews have been at the forefront of fighting for labor, for women's rights, for other minorities and civil rights, and, in the past, for other Jews.

But some of these Jews have warped the ideal of tikkun olam beyond all recognition. They see Israel's conflict with the Palestinians as a Jewish sin. They believe that if Israel was a little bit nicer, a little more tolerant to the Palestinians and gave them just a little more land, then, one day, the jihadists would see how great the Jews and Israelis are and lay down their weapons. Palestinians would accept Western liberal values, and we would all live in a utopic one-state fantasyland

without any borders.

These Jews continue to nurse this vision despite repeated Palestinian rejections of any kind of peace treaty. In 2005, the right-wing Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon even pulled every single Jew from Gaza. Instead of peace, the response has been rockets and rape.

They falsely claim that in the aftermath of the Oct. 7 Hamas attacks on Israel, that the Jewish state is committing a genocide against the Palestinians in Gaza and starving the population. This, despite the fact that Israel has helped administer half-a-million polio vaccines to children in Gaza and Hamas members have been caught stealing the food deliveries.

To tikkun olam Jews, though, it's all Israel's fault. How could this be?

Baby boomer Jews tended to grow up in two different kinds of households. One had parents who were Zionists. They saw the foundation of the State of Israel, after 2,000 years of exile and the murder of Six Million of their brothers and sisters in the Holocaust, as a miracle they were lucky enough to behold with their own eyes.

The other households were made up of Communist Jews, who, to beef up their Marxist credentials, shed their religion and their American patriotism. Tikkun olam fit very nicely in this worldview and let them hold on to nominal Jewishness. Abandoning their Jewish ethnicity and belief helped them conform to the greater global cause of anti-capitalist revolution.

The tikkun Olam Jews' disconnect from liturgy has led to a near-total ignorance of canonical Judaism, despite their claim that "we know our history." They do not, which explains their comfort in claiming that Jews have no connection to Israel and that we are just "settler colonists" in the Jewish homeland. Yet, the longing to return to Zion has been integral to Judaism since the Babylonian exile of 586 B.C. (see Psalm 137, for example), more than 1,100 years before the birth of Islam.

My grandfather was a pioneer in the development of lecithin, an innovation that led to the production of dried food like powdered eggs, which helped feed American troops as they battled the Nazis during World War II. Even so, my grandfather told me that with a last name like "Goldenberg," he could not get work as a chemist.

Until 1948.

That's when Americans witnessed Jewish strength for the first time as bedraggled Zionist underdogs fought off seven Arab armies to win Israeli independence. The average American started to respect Jews, and Jews entered the mainstream of American society. Jews also started to be thought of as white.

The United States would soon develop a military alliance with Israel that field-tested American military hardware against the Soviet-armed Arabs.

In 1956, 1967, 1973 and 1982, Israel hammered Arab armies and provided the United States with invaluable lessons and even Soviet hardware like an intact MiG-21.

Soviet propaganda spun against Israel, and once the Soviet Union collapsed, the annihilationist ideology of radical Islam took its place as the threat to the free world. Israel and the United States, both incompatible with Sharia law, continued to find themselves on the same side of the fight.

Zionist and tikkun olam Jews had an uneasy relationship, invisible from mainstream America for decades. Since Oct. 7, however, this fault line has ruptured into full view. Tikkun olam Jews are so committed to sacrificing themselves on the misplaced altar of white guilt that they see all Palestinians as victims, no matter their words or actions. They blame Israel for the sins of Islamist terrorists. They blame America. They blame themselves.

Ironically, socialist Jews are now the useful idiots of jihadists.

I walk around campus these days through a gauntlet of faculty and students proclaiming their wish to rid the world of Jews and destroy Israel. I go online and see colleagues and people I consider friends wishing for the same. Professors take over the faculty senate to share

their dreams of destroying Israel and then complain that they have no free speech. It's become daily life on campus. I now understand the Jewish concept of L'dor v'dor, "From generation to generation." (JNS Mar 25)