

Tefilla Notebook

13 Cheshvan • Lech Lecha

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Dear Members and Friends,

In the midst of navigating an overwhelming sea of information, as I attempt to comprehend the world in a state of total upheaval, this week I stumbled upon a tweet so deeply unsettling that it defied all explanation.

At first, I questioned its authenticity, convinced that the tweeter must have fallen victim to a hack. I returned to it

repeatedly, hoping it would vanish, but it was still there every time. As I write these words, the tweet is still visible on X, formerly Twitter, with well over a million views.

Referring to the current hostage crisis in Gaza, the tweeter began with this stunning statement: "I'm pleased to say that Qatar is becoming an essential party and stakeholder in the facilitation of humanitarian solutions." This jaw-dropper was followed immediately by the claim that "Qatar's diplomatic efforts are crucial at this time."

My eyes widened in disbelief. Was he kidding? Was this some kind of sick satire? Qatar is the world's most prominent patron of terror. How could anyone offer praise for Qatar's evil regime? The irony was staggering.

But what left me truly astounded was that the author of this tweet was none other than Tzachi Hanegbi, National Security Advisor to Prime Minister Netanyahu and a seasoned Knesset member with over three decades of service, including 13 years as a minister in Israel's government.

Hanegbi's mother was Geula Cohen, the Lehi legend and firebrand opponent of the 1978 Camp David Accords with Egypt, who famously told the Washington Post how she felt about the Land of Israel: "It's not geographical, it's biographical." Her son's praise for Qatar was in such stark contrast to his mother's passionate views and his own political history, that I could not and cannot reconcile myself to what he tweeted.

In fact, as the implications of Hanegbi's tweet crystallized in my head, I found myself grappling with a cascade of questions. How could a seasoned politician, one so deeply rooted in the Israeli political landscape, endorse a nation with such a tarnished reputation?

Qatar's involvement in funding and supporting terror groups has been a matter of international concern for years. The nation's actions have sown chaos in the Middle East and beyond, directly contradicting the core principles one would expect Hanegbi to champion. In particular, vis-à-vis Israel, Qatar's role has been to prop up Hamas, and Qatari money has enabled Hamas to remain in power. And yes, Qatari money led directly to the heinous outrage that was the October 7th massacre.

Let me put it more bluntly: the 1,400 innocent lives lost in Southern Israel and the heart-wrenching abduction of 220 hostages into Gaza by brutal Hamas monsters, and indeed the suffering endured by ordinary Palestinians in Gaza as a result of Israel's inevitable response to the October 7th massacre — all of these tragedies can be traced back to the opulent, marble-paved palaces in Doha.

There, shadowy Qatari billionaires, largely unknown to the world, manipulate an array of Western allies and acolytes through their vast wealth, all the while funneling hard cash to terrorists in Gaza and elsewhere. This cash is the oxygen that enables the murder and mayhem perpetrated by these agents of evil, whose Qatari puppet masters are now being praised by a leading Israeli politician as an "essential party and stakeholder[s] in the facilitation of humanitarian solutions." The Orwellian

irony here is so extreme that it borders on the absurd."

A couple of weeks ago, I made a startling discovery: one of Beverly Hills' fanciest hotels, The Maybourne, just over a mile from where we live, is co-owned by two individuals—Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani (HBK), the former Emir of Qatar and father of the current Emir, and his cousin, Hamad bin Jassim bin Jaber Al Thani (HBJ), the former prime minister of Qatar.

In addition to The Maybourne, they also own four luxury hotels in London, UK: Claridges, The Connaught, The Berkeley, and The Emory, set to open this winter. There is also a Maybourne Hotel in the South of France.

Perhaps even more shockingly, it was under the leadership of these two men that Hamas was invited to establish their headquarters in Doha. Notably, HBJ is on record for making not just anti-Israel but vile antisemitic remarks—a distinction without a difference in my view. The evidence is unequivocal: both HBK and HBJ have ties to Hamas.

And while there may have been a degree of tolerance for such associations before October 7th, with even Israel seemingly accepting the arrangement, the events of that fateful day have surely changed everything. Any affiliation with or support for Hamas must now be met with consequences.

To illustrate this shift in perspective, consider the case of Russian oligarchs associated with Vladimir Putin. Until Putin's invasion of Ukraine last year, these oligarchs were tolerated in Western business circles and, in some cases, embraced.

However, once Putin's forces invaded Ukraine, committing acts of murder and torture against Ukrainian citizens, his oligarch allies faced penalties. Their assets were frozen and confiscated, and they were treated as accomplices in Putin's war crimes.

In light of these actions, why should Qataris receive different treatment? HBK, HBJ, and other members of the Qatari ruling elite who own significant assets in the West are undeniably linked to the heinous acts of Hamas, including the atrocities of October 7th. Their financial support has enabled and continues to fuel Hamas' barbarity. Consequently, they bear guilt by association, if not a more direct culpability.

Indeed, the ongoing conflict with Hamas persists largely due to the Qatari funds that have supported and continue to sustain this terrorist organization. I, for one, certainly don't want a Qatari, Hamas-sympathizer-owned hotel in my neighborhood.

As for Tzachi Hanegbi's startling tweet, it brings to mind a troubling historical analogy: Kastner and Eichmann. Rudolf Kastner, a Jewish activist in Budapest, negotiated the rescue of 1,600 Hungarian Jews in 1944 with Adolf Eichmann, one of the architects of the Holocaust. This negotiation occurred even as Eichmann oversaw the deportation of 500,000 Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz for extermination.

Qatar's leaders, just like Eichmann and his Nazi associates, have their hands elbow-deep in the wanton slaughter of Jews, and, ironically, in the suffering of Palestinians in Gaza. No one should be praising them for helping to secure the release of hostages whose cruel kidnapping was facilitated by them in the first place. It really is as simple as that.

Wishing you a Shabbat Shalom,

Rabbi Pini Dunner

FRIDAY, OCT 27TH

5:47 PM CANDLELIGHTING
5:50 PM KABBALAT SHABBAT

SATURDAY, OCT 28TH

8:30 AM GEMARA SHIUR
9:15 AM SHACHARIT
5:50PM MINCHA
6:40 PM MAARIV
6:43 PM SHABBAT ENDS

WEEKDAY DAVENING

Sun 8:00am 5:50pm
Mon-Thu 7:00am 5:50pm
Fri 7:00am 5:45pm



עם
ישראל
חי

Let's Talk Sisterhood

with Gina Raphael & Maryjo Schnitzer

In these challenging times, we would like to encourage everyone to not only support the Sisterhood but to continue supporting any organization you are comfortable with, for our brothers and sisters in Israel. Am Yisrael Chai!



Additionally, the Sisterhood is initiating a daily Tehillim text message. We welcome your participation.

More Sisterhood programming is in the works. Shabbat Shalom!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AMANDA GROMIS

ARIELLA MORROW

WILLIAM LEVIN

VAHID JAVAHERIAN

JESSICA LOVI

Yahrtzeits

Lillian Weiner

Leah bat Shmuel a"h
Mother of

Michael Weiner

Yahrtzeit - 17 Cheshvan

Pamela Spencer

Pessah Rochel bat Feivel
Hacohen a"h

Mother of

Antony Spencer

Yahrtzeit - 18 Cheshvan

Oscar Marder

Yehezkel ben Yehuda z"l
Father of

Faye Kellerman

Yahrtzeit - 18 Cheshvan

Show your support for Israel with an Israeli Flag

Big 3 x 5 flags - \$8.00/flag
Small for car - \$3/piece

T-shirts with Flag Of Israel - \$6.00

Special order T-shirts

S-XL \$5, 2XL & 3 XL is \$7

send logo & design

5 days turn around time for custom items

Yossi Behal - 818-968-9660

Offprice2015@yahoo.com



Mazel Tov to
Nethanel Ness on Your
Bar Mitzvah last week.
Mazel Tov to parents
Jon & Alexis
Waterman.

Paul Feder z"l Gemara Shiur

לע"נ פנחס אליהו בן שמשון הלוי

Join Rabbi Dunner for
his Gemara Shiur on
Shabbat

45 minutes before
Shacharit

MAZEL TOV

Mazel Tov to **Weston & Denise Richter** on the birth of a new grandson, **Drake Robert Richter, Yisrael Chazak**, born to **Evan & Rebecca Richter**.
Mazel Tov to grandparents **Joe & Sandy Rheardon.**



If you would like to join the

Mincha/Maariv
WhatsApp Group,
please send a message
to the Rabbi on
WhatsApp at
310-499-3407

Cards & Letters for Israeli Soldiers



Our shipment of letters and cards have been sent to Israel to, **Never Alone לעולם לא לבד**, to distribute to Israeli soldiers on active duty.

If you would still like to drop off letters, please either drop them in our mailbox, or come during office hours, 9-5 Monday thru Friday.

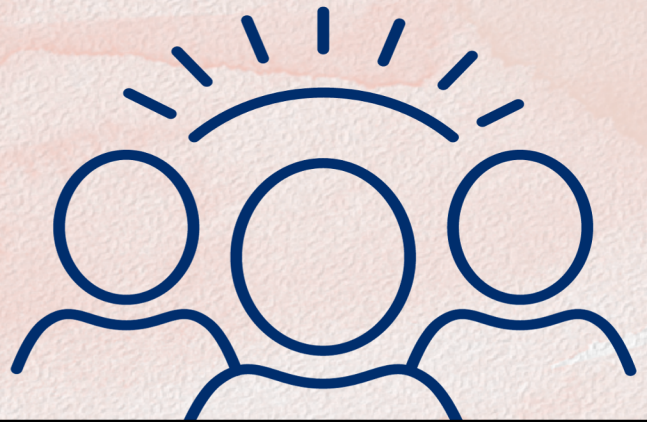
Thank you to the schools who have already sent us letters written by their students:

Yeshivah Ohr Eliyahu, Temple Israel of Hollywood Religious School, Chabad of Bel Air Religious School, and Bais Yaakov. And thank you to the many individuals who have written cards and dropped them off at the shul. Your kindness and personal support for the IDF soldiers means so much to them.

9261 Alden Drive, Beverly Hills, 90210

HACHNASAT ORCHIM

In an effort to continue to make our shul a warm and welcoming environment, we ask that all our congregants introduce themselves to at least one new person this shabbat.



HADRANALACH

A beautiful community initiative

Please join the Los Angeles-Pico-Beverly Hills community in completing Tanach and Gemara Seder Moed.

May the collective learning serve as a zechus and protection for everyone in Eretz Yisrael, a zechus for the soldiers on the front line and the captives in Gaza.

The goal is to complete our learning as a community by Motzei Shabbos Parshas Chayei Sarah, November 11th.

**Please see the links below to sign up to commit to learn dafim of Gemara or Perakim of Tanach*



Gemara



Tanach

Nailing Victories with Style and Grace Support our Heroes!



Hi, I'm Tamar, a manicurist and the wife of an Israeli soldier. During these difficult times, women who visit me often describe their nail treatments as not just therapeutic, but a vital source of sanity.

That's why I'm thrilled to offer special discounted rates to female soldiers, women from the southern regions who are temporarily residing in Efrat and Gush Etzion, and the wives of soldiers in need of a pampering boost.

Please take a moment to make a difference. Partner with me and donate a well-deserved discounted gel manicure for only \$30 or a gel pedicure for \$35. Your support will provide comfort and encouragement to these unsung heroes!

Bank transfer to:

Account number: 2223437761
Routing number: 124003116

Or through Zelle:

Eli.pessin@gmail.com



For more info contact Tamar: (972)55-6664651
Tamarkatz123@gmail.com

SUPPORT ISRAEL

As soon as the news hit over Shemini Atzeret about the Hamas massacre in Southern Israel, our community swung into action and has donated countless hours and resources to ensuring that IDF soldiers and displaced communities are taken care of, and all their needs addressed. We have already raised significant funds of money to be distributed in Israel and we urge you to continue supporting our fundraising efforts.

Please use the link below to make a donation to help Israel at this difficult time. Please be generous with your support. Every dollar raised will be used to fund the critical needs of the communities that were decimated by Hamas terrorists during the massacre. Each recipient will be personally vetted by Rabbi Dunner to ensure that every dollar gets to where it is most needed.



DONATE NOW

WWW.YINBH.ORG/ISRAEL

You can also mail checks to
9261 Alden Drive, Beverly Hills, 90210

📞 310-276-7650

✉ office@yinbh.org

🌐 www.yinbh.org