

# JewishTimes

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“We welcome every drop of blood spilled  
in Jerusalem.” -Abbas

فلسطين

# ENOUGH!

What dead body count  
will prove the PA is  
no peace partner?  
Palestinians are terrorists.  
We must end PA funding,  
end peace talks,  
and protect Jewish life.





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# Devarim: Whose Mitzvahs?

Rabbi Israel Chait

Excerpt from *Pirkei Avos* lecture 1983



**T**hese are the matters that Moses spoke to all Israel..." (Deut. 1:1).

Now what is the difference between Devarim (Deuteronomy) and the books of the Torah that preceded it? All were given at Sinai. Chazal make an interesting statement that many people misunderstand. The Torah contains two rebukes. One is located in Bechukosai (sefer Vayikra) and the other is located in Ki Tavo (sefer Devarim). The Gemara says, "The rebukes in Bechukosai we're stated by God, and those in Ki Tavo were stated by Moshe alone." That sounds heretical, as the entire Torah was given by God.

All books preceding Devarim were dictated word by word to Moshe. Afterwards, Moshe began to explain the entire system of halacha, "Moshe began to expound this Torah" (ibid 1:5). Moshe invited anyone with questions to inquire from him. After Moshe explained the Torah, he continued and gave the Jews words of rebuke. These words were Moshe's own formulations and not God's dictations. The same is true regarding Moshe's rebuke in Ki Tavo. Later, God told Moshe to incorporate all his words into sefer Devarim and they should become part of Chamisha Chumshai Torah: the Five Books. Thus, Moshe only initiated the rebuke in Devarim; God then endorsed all his words, including

them in the Sefer Torah.

Ramban says that the words, "And God spoke to Moshe saying" are found nowhere in Devarim; a book which is solely Moshe's rebuke, and solely Moshe's review of mitzvahs given earlier. But if this book is solely

Moshe's words, how do we understand mitzvahs found only in Devarim? As Devarim contains no instance of "And God spoke to Moshe saying," from where did Moshe get these newly mentioned mitzvahs?

Taryag—the 613 commands—is a totality; a corpus of Torah. At Mount Sinai, Moshe received that totality. Regarding certain mitzvahs, God told to Moshe to transmit to the Jews at a certain time. But there were other mitzvahs for which God did not provide this instruction. However, since Moshe knew the corpus of Torah, in sefer Devarim, Moshe completed the Torah and communicated those mitzvahs for which God never instructed Moshe to transmit through a specific command. Why these mitzvahs had no specific directive of transmission to the Jews at a certain time, some explain, that they pertain only to the land of Israel and other reasons. But what we derive is that Moshe's completion of the Torah through giving those remaining mitzvahs in Devarim, indicate a totality of mitzvahs. ■



# In His Own Words

Rabbi Reuven Mann



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**T**his week's parsha initiates the final Book of the Torah, Devarim, a unique and special sefer (book). Until now, Moshe served as the perfect instrument of Divine Revelation. He faithfully recorded the Word of Hashem with no deviations.

Moshe did not offer any original religious ideas, but adhered with absolute exactitude to all that Hashem instructed him. This was true in his mission to Pharaoh, to the Jewish Elders in Egypt, and in all his interactions with the nation subsequent to the Exodus.

Yet, Devarim is an entirely different matter. Hashem did not dictate the words in this Book. Rather, they constitute

the thoughts and expositions of Moshe himself. In his final days, Moshe spoke to the people at length. This was his last opportunity to engage in his most effective vocation, teaching.

He sought to instill in the people who would conquer and settle the land a greater understanding and appreciation of the mitzvot (commandments) and, equally important, the hashkafa (philosophy) of Judaism.

Moshe recognized that only through proper teaching can people be elevated to a higher moral and spiritual level. This should impress on us how important it is, not just to perform the commandments of Judaism, but to strive to understand their meaning and purpose to the best of our abilities. It is not for nothing that the Rabbis famously said, "The study of Torah is equivalent to all the mitzvot."

Yet the question persists, wasn't Moshe's role to exclusively communicate the message of Hashem? What gave him license to create his original formulations and present them to the people?

The final addresses of Moshe were incorporated into the five Books because they found favor with Hashem and He told him to do so. The specific words were not dictated by Hashem, but the themes and ideas were a perfectly accurate representation of the Divine Revelation.

Moshe was our teacher, but he was also the student of Hashem who was his Rebbe.

The role of the student is not to be a passive receptacle of the instructor's words. At the outset, most of his energy, of necessity, must be directed to absorbing and memorizing the content of his lessons.

However, slowly but surely, a student must proceed to understand and internalize the message. He needs to become critical, analyze, raise probing questions, and strive to resolve them. Unchallenging acceptance of what one is "taught" cannot lead to wisdom.

The student's goal is to reach the point where he can think for himself and formulate the ideas he has received in his own individual manner. The exceptional student not only seeks to learn the wisdom of his teacher, but even more important, to perceive his way of thinking and method of analysis.

Then he can expand on his teacher's concepts and apply them to new and different areas. Indeed, he may reach the level where he develops new theories and insights of his own.

Moshe Rabbeinu set the example for this. He was the student of the Creator Himself. But he was a thinking and creative disciple. Forty years after receiving the Torah at Sinai, he had fully internalized its teachings and expounded them in his own special manner.

He did not just repeat, verbatim, what Hashem had told him. Moshe elucidated the commandments in accordance with his creative understanding. He "reviewed" mitzvot that had

previously been revealed and showed how they were associated with the fundamental principles of Jewish faith and philosophy.

This is very relevant to our times. I sense that a religious culture of uncritical acceptance of the ideas and positions of scholarly "authorities" has developed. Today, quite capable and learned people are afraid to think originally on matters of great contemporary significance. Our illustrious teachers, such as Rav Feinstein and Rav Soloveitchik, descended from the greatest Talmudic scholars, but did not hesitate to use their own independent understanding to deal with some of the most pressing religious issues of their time.

Every generation has its own unique challenges and questions that require fresh answers. We cannot always depend on past teachers to show us the way. We need creative and original thinkers who, while faithful to the fundamental principles of the Torah they have received from illustrious teachers, are able to apply them to the new problems that are constantly emerging.

We must strive to present the Torah in a manner that is relevant and inspiring to every new generation of Jews. May Hashem grant us the clarity and ingenuity to succeed in this vital endeavor.

Shabbat shalom. ■



**SOME WILL ASK, "WHAT IS TORAH'S  
CONNECTION TO PALESTINIAN TERROR,  
THAT IT'S INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE?"**

**THE ANSWER: IF WE STUDY TORAH  
PROPERLY AND LEARN HOW TO THINK  
FOR OURSELVES, CLEARLY AND  
OBJECTIVELY, AND ACT WITH WISDOM,  
THEN, WITH GOD'S HELP,  
WE WILL PREVAIL.**

**TORAH IS  
OUR GUIDE.**

**RABBI REUVEN MANN**



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# The PA and Reality

Caroline Glick



**T**he Solomon family was massacred Friday night as they celebrated Shabbat and the birth of their newest grandson in their home. They were massacred by a 19 year old jihadist who posted an explanation of his imminent act of barbarous murder against his Jewish neighbors on Facebook less than two hours before he stormed their home in Neve Tzuf.

The murderer used the same language as his "moderate" "pro-peace" "legitimate" leader, PLO chief Mahmoud Abbas who said that Jews pollute the Temple Mount with our "filthy feet."

Ironically and appallingly, just last week the US State Department published a report blaming Israel for Palestinian terrorism and claiming that the

PLO-led, and US-funded Palestinian Authority doesn't incite terrorism and violence and hatred.

The State Department also opposes the Taylor Force bill which if passed -- along the lines passed in the House of Representatives, (the Senate bill is an insult to our intelligence), would end US taxpayer subsidization of Palestinian terrorism to the tune of more than half a billion dollars a year.

The State Department -- Tillerson included, apparently, doesn't see anything wrong with the fact that the PA uses more than \$300 million every year to pay people like the murderer who butchered the Solomons and their families.

Having murdered the Solomons in their home, this terrorist is guaranteed a lifetime

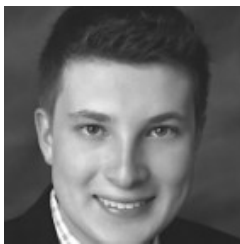
salary and pension for his family that ensure them all an upper middle class economic status -- courtesy of US taxpayers via the "moderate" PA, PLO, Abbas, terror machine.

I just gave my final speech in Australia and will be heading on to the US for a month from here.

It is my intention to use my time in the US to convince the Washington types that this appalling, anti-Israel and anti-Jewish policy of supporting people committed to our annihilation in the name of fake peace must end.

Enough is enough. This simply cannot continue. Jewish life is sacred, not worthless. It is time for the US to accept and base its policy on this basic, self-evident fact. ■





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# The World Must See This

Eli Rubenstein

**T**he picture at right is the scene of Friday night's terror attack in Neve Tzuf, a small Israeli town in the Judean Hills. What started as a family Shabbat dinner left a father, son, and daughter dead and a mother in critical condition after a teenage Palestinian terrorist entered the home and began stabbing the family members while children hid in a closet. Were it not for the miracle of an IDF soldier nearby who neutralized the terrorist, the incident would have been much more horrific than it already is.

The world must see this picture; a picture which, in another reality at the same time and place could have shown a family enjoying their Shabbat dinner. Instead, you see blood from terror victims covering the kitchen floor.

The world must see how this terrorist will be venerated in Palestinian society. When word broke of the attack in Gaza, celebrations took place in the street. Soon, his family will start receiving payments from the Palestinian Authority, which in 2016 paid \$170 million to terrorists and their families. Maybe, years from now, he will have a square named after him, like Khaled Nazzal, who killed 26 Israelis after taking schoolchildren and their teachers hostage in the Ma'alot Massacre, or Dalal Mughrabi, who killed 38 civilians after hijacking two buses and throwing grenades at cars passing by.

The world must realize how the terrorist, a young person who at one point must have had hopes and dreams like everyone else, could lead himself to murder an Israeli

family in cold blood. The reason he did this is not because of "occupation" or metal detectors at the Temple Mount. The reason this attack occurred is because the Palestinian leadership injects hatred into its citizens from the day they are born. It is because the Palestinian leadership knows that such a corrupt regime as itself can only survive by placing blame for their problems on the Jews and perpetuating a cycle of violence. Palestinian children learn in textbooks that they must grow up to be martyrs in order to create a Palestinian state free of Jews. When they go home, they watch shows like *Pioneers of Tomorrow*, where the hosts like Nahoul the Bee and Assud the Rabbit die because of Israel. In Assud's debut show, his brother Nahoul died because he was sick and was unable to get medical treatment. Assud and the child host pledge to "liberate al-Aqsa from the filth of those Zionists," while Assud tells a young caller that he will eat Jews. In a later episode, Assud dies from an Israeli airstrike, but not before being sentenced by viewers to have his hand cut off for stealing.

The world must understand that Palestinian leaders have fostered a culture of death. They have brainwashed their people to believe that the source of their problems is the Jews, rather than their own failed leadership. Instead of building a country, they have kept their people living in a state of perpetual victimhood, encouraging their youth to launch rockets and martyr themselves instead of building infrastructure and creating jobs for their people.

The world must realize that they too are



responsible for this. The Arab countries have kept Palestinians in refugee camps and denied them equal rights, while the United Nations has done nothing but perpetuate this problem by making them the only group of refugees in the world that passes down their refugee status to the next generation. This helps them continue promoting the issue of a 'Right of Return' and provides fuel to the anti-Israel cause. The Western World has largely turned a blind eye to Palestinian extremism, instead preferring to chastise Israel for building homes and demand Israel allow the creation of a terror state within its borders.

The world must see this picture, the blood of a dead family covering the floor of their kitchen, because it speaks volumes about the current situation. It is time to stop pretending that Israel has a partner for peace, because it does not. While this was done under the guise of protesting metal detectors at the Temple Mount, it is much more than that – it is the culmination of years of incitement by Palestinian leaders and years of the world turning a blind eye.

The world must see this, because the world must see the truth. ■







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 **HonestReporting**  
Defending Israel From Media Bias

# Temple Mount and Media Bias

Daniel Pomerantz



It's been a complicated and emotional week in Israel. Last Thursday Israeli Arabs ran out of the Al Aqsa Mosque firing machine guns and managed to kill two Israeli police officers before they were shot, while still firing.

Israel then set up metal detectors outside the Mosque area, and Palestinians responded by refusing to pass through the metal detectors.

I don't quite understand the logic in refusing to pass through a metal detector, it's like saying, "Well if I can't bring my machine gun into the Mosque, then there's no point in praying at all."

The argument from the Muslim world was that Israel had changed the status quo at the Al Aqsa area by setting up metal detectors. But the status quo actually changed the day before: when guns were smuggled onto the Temple Mount area. The metal detectors are an attempt to restore the previous status quo: a situation in which the Al Aqsa Mosque was a place of worship, rather than an armory.

I don't mean to generalize: Some Palestinians did pass through the metal detectors and prayed at the mosque peacefully. But the headlines didn't mention this, which is unfair to Israelis and Palestinians.

The media said that the Palestinians who remained outside the metal detectors were protesting but they were not. They were actually shouting death threats: saying that they intended to murder Israeli men and mass rape Israeli women as Muhammad did at the Khaibar Massacre in the year 628.

HonestReporting was present at one of these so-called "protests" and heard the death threats in person. But even though translators were readily available to the press, here's what the media said about the death threats: nothing.

The next day a Palestinian threw firebombs and burning tires at Israelis. Three were killed in the act at least one of them when his own Molotov Cocktail exploded in his hands. So far we haven't found this in any mainstream press.

Finally, a 20 year old Palestinian snuck into the Saloman home in the town of Neve Tzuf during and stabbed the grandfather and his two children to death while they were eating Shabbat dinner. The attacker, who was injured in his attack, is now being nursed back to health by Israelis in an Israeli hospital. The victims, Yosef, his daughter, Chaya, and his son, Elad, are dead.

Here's what some of the headlines had to say:

Six dead, six dead, six dead, 3 Palestinians and 3 Israelis killed.

Think about this for a minute: the Salomon family is attacked in their home during shabbat dinner, and the media treats them exactly the same rioters who are killed while throwing firebombs and screaming for the mass murder and mass rape of the entire Jewish people.

Not all Palestinians were a part of this week's attacks, some went peacefully to prayers, some stayed home.

But some Palestinians think they can get away with murder, they think that no whatever they do, no matter how gruesome, the media will always have their back.

Let's hope they aren't right. ■





# State Dept. Blames Israel, Praises PA

David Rosenberg

**I**llinois congressman, Zionist organization slam State Department report blaming Israel for terrorism, whitewashing PA incitement.

A new report published by the US State Department criticizing Israel and largely ignoring the Palestinian Authority's financial support for terrorists sparked a bitter backlash, with some characterizing the document as "anti-Semitic".

The State Department's annual Country Reports on Terrorism for 2016, published last Wednesday, laid the blame for violence against Israelis at the feet of the Jewish state, while praising the Palestinian Authority for rarely making "explicit calls for violence against Israelis". In the report, the department claimed that terrorism against Israel was fueled not by anti-Semitic incitement in the Arab sector, but Jewish construction in Judea and Samaria and "a lack of hope" among Palestinian Authority residents.

Incitement in the Palestinian Authority was only indirectly alluded to, with a passing reference to what the report calls "the perception" that Israel

is seeking to alter the status quo on the Temple Mount.

"Continued drivers of violence included a lack of hope in achieving Palestinian statehood, Israeli settlement construction in the West Bank, settler violence against Palestinians in the West Bank, the perception that the Israeli government was changing the status quo on the Haram Al Sharif/Temple Mount, and IDF tactics that the Palestinians considered overly aggressive," the report claims.

Immediately after this paragraph, the report praises the PA for having "taken significant steps during President Abbas' tenure (2005 to date) to ensure that official institutions in the West Bank under its control do not create or disseminate content that incites violence."

The report acknowledges that "some PA leaders have made provocative and inflammatory comments," but claims that the "PA has made progress in reducing official rhetoric that could be considered incitement to violence."

Evidence of the PA's improved behavior, the report claims, is the

alleged rarity of open calls for violence against Jews and explicit denials of Israel's right to exist.

"Explicit calls for violence against Israelis, direct exhortations against Jews, and categorical denials by the PA of the possibility of peace with Israel are rare and the leadership does not generally tolerate it."

No mention is made in the report of funding by the PA and the ruling Fatah party of terrorists and their families, who receive generous stipends if relatives are killed during or jailed after terror attacks against Israeli Jews.

The State Department also attempted to compare the relative handful of Jewish "extremist" actions – mostly vandalism and graffiti – to Arab terrorism, dedicating more space to documenting acts by "extremist Israelis" than "extremist Palestinians".

To hide the lopsided ratio of acts, the report discusses even minor acts of vandalism by Jews, while ignoring the thousands of stone-throwing incidents,





firebombings, and other attacks by Arabs to only list fatal terror attacks.

While the report was based in part on work done during the Obama administration, according to the Conservative Review, much of the anti-Israel rhetoric found in the report was not present in similar Obama-era reports produced by the State Department, suggesting it was added by department officials after Secretary of State Rex Tillerson was sworn in.

Illinois Congressman Pete Roskam (Republican) slammed the report last Thursday, calling upon the State Department to retract the report.

The report, Roskam wrote, undermines “the prospect for Israeli-Palestinian peace and wrongly blame[s] Israel for Palestinian terrorism against Israeli civilians.”

“At the highest level,” Roskam noted, “the Palestinian Authority leadership directly incites, rewards, and in some cases, carries out terrorist attacks against innocent Israelis.” Roskam added that the root cause of terrorism in the area was not Israel, but the PA leadership.

“The State Department report includes multiple findings that are both inaccurate and harmful to combating Palestinian terrorism. This report wrongly insinuates Israeli security measures on the Temple Mount and a stalled peace process as key forces behind terrorism. Most egregiously, it portrays the PA as innocent peacemakers far removed [from] being the source

of terrorist activity.”

Congressman Roskam went on to note the full extent of Arab terrorism since September 2015, which included 1818 stabbing attacks, 159 shooting attacks, “60 vehicular ramming attacks,” which combined “killed over 50 Israelis and injured nearly 1,000. President Abbas, who deemed this terror wave a ‘peaceful uprising,’ was a key supporter of these heinous attacks.”

On Monday, the Zionist Organization of America issued its own response to the State Department report, calling the document “bigoted, biased, anti-Semitic, Israel-hating,” and “error-ridden”.

The ZOA lambasted Secretary Tillerson over the report, and demanded his resignation.

“This Tillerson State Department Report blames Israel for Palestinian Arab terrorist attacks on innocent Jews and Americans, ignores and whitewashes the Palestinian Authority’s (PA) ‘pay to slay’ payments to Arabs to murder Jews, and among other travesties – contradicts both President Trump’s insightful Riyadh speech, and Ambassador Haley’s outstanding work at the United Nations.” ■

