

2016

ANNUAL REPORT



BANKRUPTING TERRORISM – ONE LAWSUIT AT A TIME

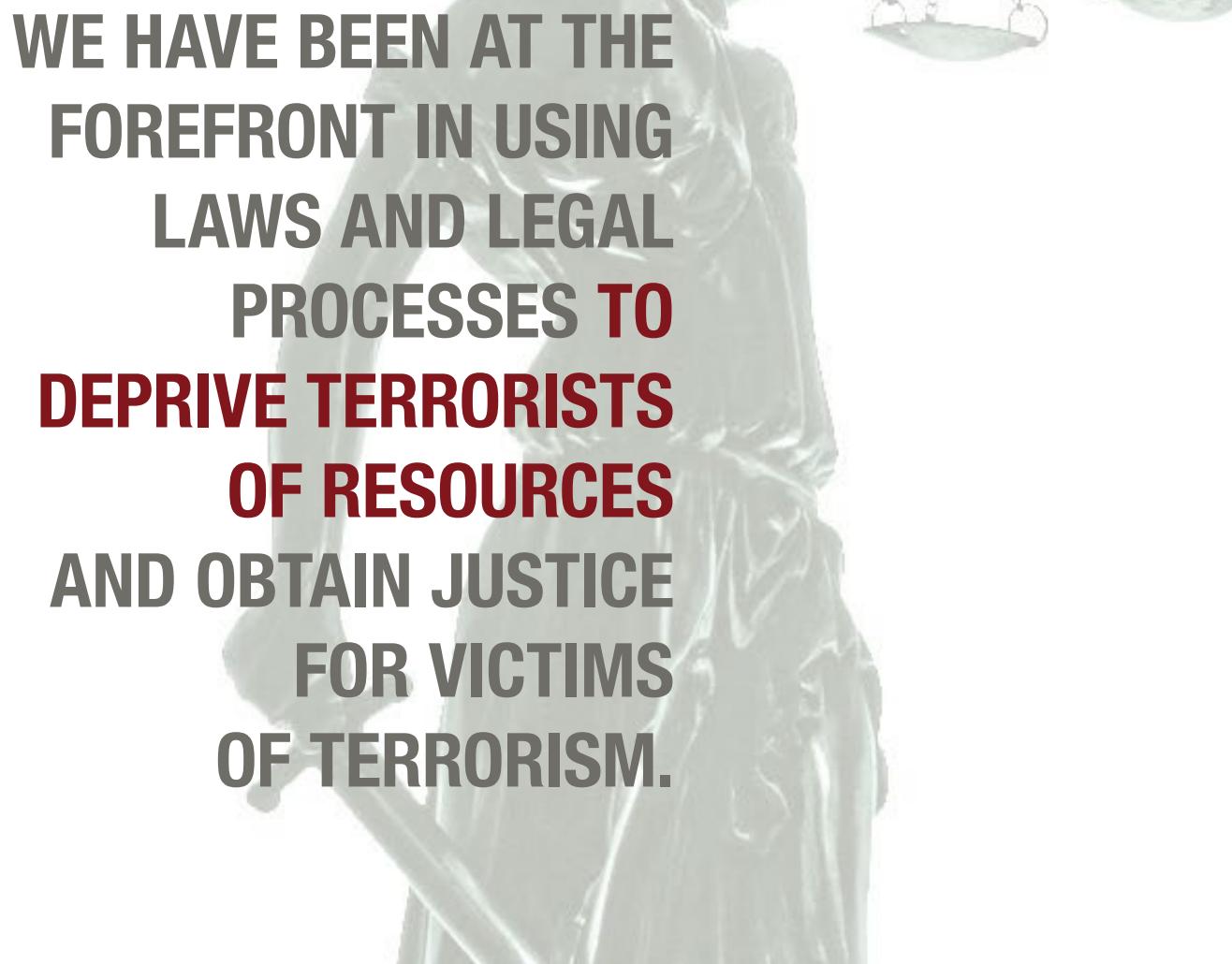


SHURAT HADIN
ISRAEL LAW CENTER



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**WE HAVE BEEN AT THE
FOREFRONT IN USING
LAWS AND LEGAL
PROCESSES TO
DEPRIVE TERRORISTS
OF RESOURCES
AND OBTAIN JUSTICE
FOR VICTIMS
OF TERRORISM.**



A MESSAGE FROM NITSANA DARSHAN-

LEITNER

With the rise of al-Qaida, Islamic State (ISIS) and other jihadist groups that seek to carry out a more global program of terrorism, there is a temptation for Israelis to view these groups' attacks against non-Israeli and non-Jewish targets as somewhat of a break from the terrorism "we" face. However, Israelis must not be deceived into believing that the global variety of terrorism is not our problem as well. We must also be engaged in the global fight against terrorism, even when it may seem that we are not the primary target.

FOR ISRAELIS, TERRORISM IS AN ISSUE THAT HITS CLOSE TO HOME – LITERALLY.

Israelis living in Israel have endured shooting attacks, bus bombings, suicide attacks, rockets, knife attacks and arson, all aimed to kill and terrorize as many citizens in Israel as possible. Terrorism is an ongoing domestic issue that Israel continues to face, perpetrated by local groups such as the PLO, the PFLP, the DFLP, PIJ, Hamas and Hezbollah.

Yet, Israel's struggle with terrorism involves many international aspects as well: some of these same terrorist groups have carried out terrorist attacks against Israeli and Jewish targets abroad; other countries, such as Iran and Syria, have provided safe havens, weapons and funds to terrorist groups targeting Israel; Palestinian terrorist groups and their supporters have sought to use terrorism to draw attention to their claims, and to bring international pressure to bear on Israel; and Israel has worked with other countries and the international community to cut off resources to these terrorist organizations and sanction state sponsors of terrorism.

First, while ISIS and its ilk do not limit their terrorist attacks to Jewish and Israeli targets, they have demonstrated that targeting Jews and Israelis remains among their priorities.

Second, Israelis have much to offer in the global fight against terrorism. We have valuable experience and knowledge about what works and what doesn't work in confronting terrorist threats. We have developed plans, protocols and technologies that can be adapted to the threats faced by other countries. We have devised advanced methods and systems for gathering and analyzing intelligence. And we have been at the forefront in using laws and legal processes to deprive terrorists of resources and obtain justice for victims of terrorism.

Third, it is the right thing to do. Terrorism is the enemy of all of humanity.

As a people who has known what it means to be the victim of terrorism, we must stand up for other victims of terrorism. As a nation that has had to fight and overcome terrorism at home, we must also join with others to fight and overcome terrorism abroad.

At Shurat HaDin, we will continue to fight to ensure that terrorism is not tolerated in any forum, and that terrorists are deprived of support in any form.

Yours,

Nitsana Darshan-Leitner

SHURAT HADIN'S MISSION

BY BLOCKING
THE FLOW OF
MONEY,
WE CAN CUT OFF
THE LIFE-LINE
THAT KEEPS
TERRORIST
ORGANIZATIONS
ALIVE.

Shurat HaDin is at the forefront of fighting terrorism and safeguarding Jewish rights worldwide. We are dedicated to taking action to protect the State of Israel and its citizens. By putting terrorists and their supporters on trial to compensate victims and block funding of terror, by fighting to end the use of social media for inciting violence and promoting terror, by defending Israel, its leaders, and soldiers against claims of war crimes, and by battling lawfare, BDS and other efforts to delegitimize the Jewish State, Shurat HaDin is using court systems around the world to go on the legal offensive against Israel's enemies.



FIGHTING TERROR FUNDING

Israel and the Jewish community worldwide have repeatedly been targeted with devastating waves of terrorism, and the present is no exception. Shurat HaDin began as one of the pioneers of directing legal action and civil lawsuits against terrorists and their sponsors, and it has become a world leader in the fight to compensate victims and stop terror funding. Shurat HaDin works with western intelligence agencies and a network of lawyers around the world to file legal actions on behalf of victims of terrorism. Today, we represent hundreds of terror victims in legal actions against Hamas, Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah, North Korea, the Palestinian Authority, Iran and Syria. These cases seek not just to obtain compensation for injury and loss, but to present evidence of these crimes to the world, and obtain a measure of justice for innocent victims and families.

Moreover, for terrorists to operate, they need money — for equipment, training, weapons, personnel and more. Without money, terrorists cannot function effectively. To reach terrorists, money must flow from donors and outlaw regimes to places like Gaza, the West Bank, and southern Lebanon. By blocking the flow of money, we can cut off the life-line that keeps terrorist organizations alive. While government efforts to obstruct terror financing are vital, those efforts alone are not enough. Accordingly, Shurat HaDin's legal actions serve a unique and crucial role in blocking terror funding and thus eliminating terrorists' ability to carry out their attacks. For example, Shurat HaDin has brought claims against banks that have served terrorists, such as UBS, the Lebanese-Canadian Bank, American Express Bank, and the Bank of China, and it also serves as a watchdog to warn and block other entities and organizations that may consider providing money or resources to benefit terrorist groups.



FIGHTING JIHAD ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Just as social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and others have become popular and valuable tools for communication, networking, marketing, and more for individuals and entities around the world, radical Islamic jihadists and other terror groups have also adopted social media to recruit followers, incite violence, and carry out their terrorist activities. Unfortunately, social media providers have largely turned a blind eye to the use of their services by terrorists, refusing to actively identify

and delete known terrorist accounts. Shurat HaDin has initiated a public campaign and legal strategy to challenge these companies for their complicity in the terrorism that their services are used to facilitate and promote. Shurat HaDin recently filed lawsuits against social media giant Facebook for providing material support to Hamas and other designated terrorist organizations, and similar suits involving other social media platforms and terror groups are soon to follow.



DEFENDING AGAINST WAR CRIMES ALLEGATIONS

In their attempt to delegitimize Israel, advance their cause internationally, and pressure Israel to make concessions in the "peace process," the Palestinians have stepped up their efforts to bring condemnation upon Israel in national and international tribunals. The Palestinian Authority has ostensibly acceded to membership in the International Criminal Court (ICC) at The Hague, and has lodged complaints at the ICC claiming that Israel, its leaders, and soldiers should be prosecuted for various "war crimes" arising out of Israel's 2014 Gaza operation to halt missile attacks aimed at Israeli civilians, and for "settlement" activity in Judea and Samaria. The State of Israel is not a member of the ICC, which complicates its ability to formally respond to these complaints. As a non-governmental organization, Shurat HaDin can thus play an important role in countering the Palestinians' actions.

Among other things, Shurat HaDin has convened a series of major conferences with academic and legal experts on the current state of the "laws of war," to promote public awareness and debate on the standards that should be applied to evaluate Israeli military actions. In addition, Shurat HaDin has also submitted several complaints to the ICC documenting international crimes committed by the Palestinian Authority and Palestinian leaders.



COMBATING LAWFARE AND BDS

Israel and Jewish communities around the world also continue to be confronted by an international campaign to delegitimize the Jewish State and challenge its right to exist via the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement and various "lawfare" tactics to attack Israel and Israelis with baseless legal actions. Shurat HaDin has taken a lead in combatting these efforts, working to support legislation to prohibit and penalize racist and anti-Semitic boycotts, exposing organizations that fund BDS activities, filing legal challenges to unions and academic societies that seek to support and implement BDS policies, and using legal procedures to foil attempts to weaken Israel's security, such as the Gaza Flotilla that sought to breach Israel's legitimate coastal blockade of the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip.

SHURAT HADIN'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2016



1. FILED A LIEN AGAINST BOEING FOR SELLING AIRPLANES TO IRAN:

In June 2016, Shurat HaDin warned US airspace giant, The Boeing Company, that Shurat HaDin will assert liens on any airplanes slated for sale to Iran if Boeing goes through with an announced deal to supply aircraft to the Tehran based IRANAIR Company. Shurat HaDin stated that Iran must pay off billions of dollars in unsatisfied U.S. court judgments to victims of Iranian-sponsored terrorism before it can purchase Boeing's planes. In December 2016, Shurat HaDin followed through with its warning and served The Boeing Company with an Illinois Citation to Discover Assets, restraining Iran's interest in a just finalized \$16.6 billion contract for Boeing's sale of 80 airplanes to IRANAIR.



2. LITIGATING THE FRAENKEL CASE:

In 2015, Shurat HaDin filed a lawsuit in U.S. federal court against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Iranian Ministry of Information and Security, and the Syrian Arab Republic under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, on behalf of the estate and family of Naftali Fraenkel, one of three teenagers kidnapped and murdered by Hamas operatives in June 2014. After the defendants failed to answer the lawsuit, the court entered default judgments against them and scheduled a trial on liability and damages.

On December 6-7, 2016, Shurat HaDin presented exhibits and expert testimony proving that the defendants' material support of Hamas was directly responsible for the attack carried out by Hamas, as well as testimony from the family and other evidence of the pain and suffering the attack has caused to the plaintiffs. An award and judgment are expected in 2017.



3. HIGH COURT PETITION AGAINST TURKEY RECONCILIATION DEAL

and demanding that Turkey extradite Hamas mastermind Saleh al-Arouri: During the first week of July, Shurat HaDin filed a petition in Jerusalem's High Court of Justice against the Government's deal to pay compensation to Turkey for the Gaza Flotilla incident. The petition, which was submitted on behalf of bereaved families of terror victims, asserted that the agreement with Ankara must be conditioned upon expelling Hamas leaders from Turkey and ceasing Turkish financial support to the terrorist organization. Shurat HaDin argued that by accepting the current agreement, the Government is implicitly allowing Turkey to maintain the false pretense that Hamas's headquarters in Turkey will only be used for political, and not terror-related, activity. In August, Shurat HaDin took additional action against Hamas's operations in Turkey. We sent a letter to U.S. Vice President Joseph Biden, U.S. Secretary

of State John Kerry, and U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch, urging the U.S. to compel Turkey to extradite Hamas mastermind Saleh al-Arouri for the murders of U.S. citizens Naftali Fraenkel and Rabbi Eitam Henkin. The letter noted that the U.S. named al-Arouri as a co-conspirator in a 2003 indictment against Hamas operatives and listed him as a "Specially Designated Global Terrorist" in September 2015. The letter also implored the U.S. not to "allow the perpetrators of terror against United States citizens to remain at large when there exists a viable legal avenue to bring them to justice."



4. LETTER TO U.S. CONGRESSMEN AGAINST TRANSFER OF \$1.7 BILLION TO IRAN:

TO IRAN: Shurat HaDin sent a letter to U.S. Congressmen to protest the transfer of \$1.7 billion in foreign hard currency to Iran as part of the recent nuclear deal. U.S. law forbids the transfer of such funds prior to the deduction of compensation payments to families of American citizens wounded in Iranian-sponsored terrorist attacks. The secrecy surrounding the massive money transfer was part of the White House's effort to conceal the erasing of the Islamic Republic's debts for compensation money intended for those who have been hurt by its terrorism. On September 6, 2016, Sen. Marco Rubio and Rep. Ed Royce introduced bills that would curb such payments

5. HIGH COURT PETITION TO BLOCK DEFENSE OF ISRAELI BANKS WITH TIES TO PALESTINIANS BANKS:

In December 2016, Shurat HaDin petitioned Israel's High Court to block Finance Minister Moshe Kahlon from defending Israeli banks with links to Palestinians banks, which may implicate them in terror financing. We asserted that Minister Kahlon ignores proof, presented by Shurat HaDin, of terror finance links to Palestinian banks and affirmed that it is illegal for him to do so. As a result of our petition, Bank Hapoalim and Bank Discount each concluded that they may be exposed to litigation for their connections to Palestinian banks, and will likely decide to cut their ties.



6. WARNING WORLD VISION OVER FUNDING GAZA TERRORISM:

For the past four years, Shurat HaDin has warned that funds provided to Gaza by Christian mega-charity World Vision were being utilized for terrorism. World Vision's chief executive, Tim Costello, repeatedly denied the charges and claimed that World Vision had no interest in supporting terrorism.

However, in August, Shurat HaDin's warnings about World Vision were proven true. Israel's internal security services arrested senior employees of World Vision who stand accused of transferring millions of dollars to Palestinian terror organization Hamas.



7. WARNING THE ROCKEFELLER BROTHERS FUND TO TERMINATE ITS SUPPORT OF UNLAWFUL BDS GROUPS:

At the end of March, Shurat HaDin sent a letter to the President of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (RBF) in New York, informing him of the inherently anti-Semitic and extremist agenda of BDS groups that the RBF supports with financial grants. We highlighted that the BDS movement's discriminatory practices are illegal under numerous International, federal and state statutes, including New York law. We warned the RBF that by funding groups engaged in promoting BDS, RBF could be considered as an accomplice in these groups' illegal activities, and we urged the RBF to re-consider its continued funding of organizations who advocate and promote the racist BDS movement.



8. FIGHT AGAINST TERROR INCITEMENT IN PALESTINIAN MEDIA:

In March, we launched a campaign to file a war crimes complaint against the heads of the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation (PBC) at the International Criminal Court, for propagation of incitement to murder Jews. As many as 19,000 individuals from around the globe signed their names on to the complaint. In addition to the petition against the PBC, Shurat HaDin addressed a letter to Prime Minister and Communication Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and demanded that the Israeli government immediately stop allocating radio and television frequencies to the Palestinian Authority. In the letter, Shurat HaDin threatened to take this dangerous matter to the High Court if the Government does not terminate the Palestinians' ability to incite to terrorism against Jews on these Israeli administered media frequencies.



9. SEIZING \$9.4 MILLION IN IRANIAN FUNDS:

In February 2016, a US appeals court in California judged that the Iranian government must pay \$9.4 million in damages to victims of a triple suicide bombing in Jerusalem that took place on September 4, 1997. The award stemmed from years of interest and fees on top of a

\$2.8 million base judgment. Iran appealed that decision claiming sovereign immunity, but Shurat HaDin was able to beat their defense. Iran is now appealing to the US Supreme Court. The message to the extremists in Tehran should be clear — the Nuclear Agreement has not cancelled any court judgments against them, and we will continue to pursue the Islamic Republic in legal forums all over the world on behalf of victims of terror.



10. SOKOLOW V. PLO – THE BATTLE CONTINUES:

One-and-a-half years after a U.S. jury unanimously found the PA and PLO liable for \$655.5 million in damages suffered by American victims of terror in Israel, a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit vacated the judgment based on technicality — claiming a lack of personal jurisdiction over the defendants — and ordered that the case be dismissed.



The victims are not backing down. They have filed a petition for the entire Second Circuit Court of Appeals to review the ruling, and if the judgment is not reinstated, they will file an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. Simultaneously, the victims sent a letter to U.S. Representatives and Senators requesting their assistance to ensure that the PA and the PLO pay the full, unchallenged amount of compensation awarded by the jury.

11. NITSANA DARSHAN-LEITNER

was listed by Israeli Forbes Magazine as one of the 50 most influential Israeli women of 2016, and by The Jerusalem Post as one of the most influential Jews in the world.

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JERUSALEM POST 50 MOST INFLUENTIAL JEWS: NUMBER 31 - NITSANA DARSHAN-LEITNER

BY YONAH JEREMY BOB / 29 SEPTEMBER 2016 15:51 | [COMMENT](#)

Her Shurat Hadin Law Center is doing its part to bankrupt terror.



12. FACEBOOK CASE: In July, we filed Force v. Facebook, a \$1 billion lawsuit on behalf of five victims of terror and their families, against Facebook for knowingly providing material support to designated foreign terrorist organization Hamas in violation of U.S. anti-terrorism law. The complaint demonstrates how Facebook has aided and abetted Hamas for years by providing valuable and essential services to the terror group, which used Facebook to commit its terrorist activities. This lawsuit followed our lawsuit filed against Facebook in October 2015 seeking an order compelling Facebook to monitor its platform and deny services to terrorists. Both cases are now pending before the same federal judge in New York.



Facebook's primary defense is that it should be immune from liability under a 1996 federal law enacted to shield providers of interactive services on the internet from claims that would attribute third-party content to the service provider, such as defamation. However, liability under U.S. antiterrorism laws does not depend upon attributing Hamas's Facebook posts to the company. Rather, liability in our case is based upon Facebook's violation of the material support statutes, for which Facebook can be required to pay damages for injuries that result from its provision of such support.

**NOBODY CAN
KILL JEWS
AND GO
WITHOUT
PAYING.**

– Nitsana Darshan-Leitner

ANNUAL PROGRAMS



 JUNE 2016

TOWARDS A NEW LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE

In 2016 Shurat HaDin launched its second annual "Towards a New Law of War" Conference. The "Law of War" series of conferences was born of Shurat HaDin's concern that democratic states, like Israel, can no longer effectively act to defend their civilian populations from terrorists without being accused of war crimes and that Western militaries are being unnecessarily restrained in their fight against radical Islamic terrorist groups.

Recent conflicts demonstrate that terrorists are intent on exploiting the restrictions, constraints and inequalities placed upon law abiding armed forces when they are required to go to war against those who target their civilian populations while the terrorists operate and seek sanctuary amongst civilian centers on the other side. The goal of the "Law of War" Conferences is to influence the direction of legal discourse concerning issues critical to Israel and its ability to defend itself.

The 2016 Towards A Law of War Conference featured a dynamic line-up of academics, policy makers, and military leaders who exchanged ideas and addressed the

numerous legal challenges facing Israel today. Highlights from the Conference included Shurat HaDin's first annual "Magen Israel" award ceremony for citizens who fought against terror, and keynote speeches by luminaries including Minister Naftali Bennett, MK Tzipi Livni and Former US Ambassador to the UN John Bolton.

The Conferences have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from all who have participated and attended.

Hosted second annual "Towards a New Law of War" Conference: Shurat HaDin hosted its second annual "Towards a New Law of War" Conference in June. The event was a resounding success, and featured a dynamic line-up of speakers and panellists who addressed the numerous legal challenges facing Israel today. Highlights from the Conference included lively panel discussions, the first annual "Magen Israel" award ceremony for citizens who fought back against terror, and keynote speeches by prominent leaders, including MK Yair Lapid, Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat, Minister Naftali Bennett, MK Tzipi Livni and Former US Ambassador to the UN, John Bolton.



 **MAY 8-15, 2017**

THE Ultimate Mission to Israel

"A Military, Humanitarian, Historical, Judicial, Religious, and Political Reality Check"

For the past several years, Shurat HaDin has been hosting professionals from all backgrounds on its highly acclaimed Ultimate Mission to Israel. The Ultimate Mission allows participants to experience a dynamic and intensive week of exploration of Israel's struggle for survival and security in the Middle East today. In addition to delving into the challenges to Israel's survival, attendees receive insider access to some of the Jewish State's most influential policy makers.

During the exploration, participants receive briefings by the senior commanders of the Shin Bet security service, Mossad officials, and by present and past officers in the IDF Intelligence and Operations branches. Attendees also get to observe a trial of Hamas terrorists in an IDF military court and receive first hand tours of the Lebanese and Syrian front-line military positions and the Gaza border check-points. Additional activities include ATV rides in the Golan Heights, a moonlight boat cruise on the Sea of

Galilee, a traditional Shabbat dinner in the Old City and meetings with senior Cabinet Ministers and other key policymakers.

Participants receive 5-star accommodations at the Leonardo Plaza Hotel Jerusalem and at the Galei Kinneret Hotel in Tiberias, three lavish meals a day, luxury bus transportation and access to knowledgeable tour guides.

TESTIMONIALS FROM PAST PARTICIPANTS:

"I have visited Israel about 15 times (since 1968). I have joined Shurat HaDin on three missions. Before my first mission, I checked references. One of the references happened to be a friend who has traveled to Israel 25 times. She told me it was the best trip she ever had, and she was repeating it also. The trip promises many interesting experiences, and delivers in spades. I would recommend this to anyone, especially someone who has visited Israel before. Outstanding program, I guarantee you won't be disappointed!"

— **Howard Feldman, San Diego CA**

"I now understand why the Mission is called "The Ultimate Mission". It is indeed the ultimate mission, the name is not just marketing. The Mission has exceeded ALL my expectations in every possible area. The speakers were amazing and, even though they are very busy people, they actually showed that they found it important to be with us. The sites we saw were impressive, what an excellent choice!"

— **Geraldo Lima Filho, Sao Paulo, Brazil**



 **JUNE 26 - JULY 1, 2017**

Shurat HaDin's
**ACTIVIST LAWYERS
 SEMINAR**

In the summer of 2015, Shurat HaDin launched its first ever "Activist Lawyer's Training Seminar," with 70 lawyers from around the globe in attendance (including ten attorneys and law professors from Singapore). Following the tremendous success of the initial program, we continued the tradition in 2016 and turned the Seminar into an annual event.

2nd Annual Activist Lawyers Training Seminar: In March, forty-five lawyers from all over the world came to Jerusalem for our second annual Activist Lawyer's Training Seminar. The participants were provided with cutting-edge tools that will enable them to be innovative legal strategists and to use their legal skills to act on behalf of Israel.

The Seminar was initiated in response to the increasing need to involve motivated lawyers from around the world in Shurat HaDin's decade long legal battle to defend Israel against frightening and dangerous lawfare trends. These include, the escalating campaign for "Boycotts, Divestment and Sanctions," and the demonization and deligitimization of Israel in many international forums, including at the UN, ICC and in academia. Recognizing that many lawyers who would like to join the fight are lacking the basic legal tools and Israel advocacy experience that Shurat HaDin has developed over many years, the law

center created this training seminar for them and now offers the Seminar on an annual basis.

The week-long course, which takes place at the Dan Hotel in Jerusalem, provides participants with intensive training on how to be effective activists, Israel advocates and confront anti-Semitic issues in their local communities. Participants receive cutting-edge lectures and take part in hands-on workshops taught by accomplished jurists, legal scholars and activists.

The program includes practical training in confronting and advocating on hot button issues ranging from terror victim litigation to the anti-Israel BDS movement and campus speech dilemmas. In addition, seminar attendees participate in field trips to Israeli agencies and installations that are inaccessible to the general public. Lecturers at the Seminar have included prominent attorneys such as Harvard Law Professor Alan Dershowitz, Canadian MP Irwin Cotler, Northwestern University Law Professor Eugene Kontronvitch and Arnold & Porter partner Kent Yalowitz, among others. Participating attorneys are also

entitled to earn continuing legal education (CLE) credits for the course. It is anticipated that a third annual Seminar will be held in 2017.

"Amazing and emotional" is a good description of the seminar. Until that week I didn't know so many lawyers shared my desire to participate in Shurat HaDin legal initiatives. I felt like I had discovered a group of close relatives.

— **Joel M., Herndon, VA**

Overall, it was a very successful conference for the following reasons:

1. You arranged top notch speakers to deliver to attendees scholarly and expert information concerning the State of Israel and the role of the rule of law as it applies to acts of terrorism.
2. You convened 75 lawyers from various countries of the world to collectively discuss and debate these topics.
3. You used field excursions to illustrate the 'life on the ground' for both Israeli professionals and citizens.

— **Steven B., Toronto, Canada**



 **SEPTEMBER 18-19, 2016**



Insights into the Legal War on Terrorism

As technology has advanced, so have the capabilities and tactics used by terror organizations and state sponsors of terror to further their illicit operations. In 2016, Shurat HaDin hosted its inaugural Eyes Only Conference, at the Yale Club in New York City, to address this evolving technological threat.

The Conference brought together leading experts in the fields of intelligence, counter-terrorism, law enforcement, cyber security and international finance to provide fascinating professional insights into the legal war on terrorism. Eyes Only panelists shared insights and exchange ideas regarding cutting edge techniques utilized to combat terrorism in the digital age.

Some of the topics on the conference agenda included the "lone wolf" terrorism phenomena, terror financing, the use of social media by terror organizations, and the threat of cyber-terrorism.

The conference featured a dynamic line-up of speakers and panelists including former US Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales, former Director of the CIA Robert James Woolsey Jr., former U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and former Deputy Head of the Mossad Ram Ben Barak.

"Eyes Only" Counter-Terrorism Conference in New York: In mid-September, Shurat HaDin hosted its first annual "Eyes Only" Counter-Terrorism Conference in New York City at The Yale Club. The conference was a spectacular success, and brought together leading experts in the fields of intelligence, counter-terrorism and law enforcement to provide insights into the legal war on terrorism. The conference addressed cutting edge topics such as "lone wolf" terrorism, the use of social media by terror organizations, and ISIS. A dynamic line-up of speakers addressed the conference, including former U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, former U.S. Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales, and former Director of the CIA Robert James Woolsey Jr.



SUMMER 2017

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Shurat HaDin's Arnold Silverman Summer Law Student Internship and Winter Internship programs provide outstanding law students from top law schools with an intensive and hands-on learning experience at the Law Center's offices in Tel Aviv. Closely supervised by Shurat HaDin's staff, they do legal research and writing and other litigation work on Shurat HaDin anti-terror, human rights and antidiscrimination cases. The students also hear lectures by internationally renowned attorneys, participate in workshops and take field trips to Israeli military and legal installations not generally open to the public. Through the internship program, Shurat HaDin deeply develops the law students' understanding of the legal and political challenges that Israel faces, while steeping them in our proven advocacy strategies. The students can then apply what they've learned in their home countries and communities and become full-fledged advocates for Israel and the global Jewish community, in the courtroom and in everyday life.

TESTIMONIAL FROM 2016 INTERNS:

"Backing down was never an option for Shurat HaDin. The fighting spirit in this office, led by Nitsana Darshan-Leitner, is driven to success through a uniquely offensive strategy. Instead of simply defending Israel from attacks, Shurat HaDin goes on the offensive and takes the fight to the courts."

- Sophia Lazarus, McGill University Faculty of Law

"I have learned many things through this internship, but my most important takeaway has been learning the ways in which International Law can both work against and in favor of Israel's interests."

- Steven Evans, Georgetown University

"One thing I have learned throughout this internship is just how far the law currently lags behind the stark reality of terrorism. Although the Anti-terrorism Act has made significant strides in the right direction by widely defining 'material support' to terrorist organizations as 'any service,' it is very often an uphill battle to win on these grounds and more-so to collect damages for the victims. However, although difficult, I have also learned that it is not impossible and not without merit to bring these claims and fight them as Shurat Hadin does."

- Aviv Lazar, Harvard Law School

-2016 Arnold Silverman Summer Internship Program: Shurat HaDin launched its 2016 Summer Internship Program in late June. This year's internship program hosted top American, Canadian and Chinese law students from schools including Harvard, Columbia, McGill, Cornell and Georgetown. In addition to working on actual legal cases that assist victims of terror, interns also volunteered at our 2nd annual "Towards a New Law of War" conference, participated in an educational field trip to the IDF Military Courts, and heard lectures from law professors on cutting-edge legal issues relevant to Israeli and world Jewish community security. This year's dynamic young interns all demonstrated particular interest in Israeli activist issues, international law and human rights.





MONEY IS THE
OXYGEN
OF TERRORISM.
IF YOU BLOCK
THE FUNDING,
YOU BLOCK THE
TERRORISM

LOOKING FORWARD IN 2017



- Continuing our litigation of more than 40 cases against the Palestinian Authority, Iran, North Korea, Syria, Lebanese banks, the Central Bank of Iran, Hamas, PLO, Islamic Jihad, and Hezbollah.
- Working to enforce the victims' judgments against terror assets around the world, and obstructing terror financing, including in Germany, Italy and Canada.
- Continuing the legal struggle against terrorism on Social Media with our ongoing lawsuits against Facebook and upcoming lawsuit against Twitter.
- Continuing the battle to reinstate the landmark \$655.5 million terror judgement against the Palestinian Authority and PLO.
- Enhancing our successful Student Internship Programs where the students conduct hands-on research and writing involving the litigation activities of Shurat HaDin. In addition, our interns will visit IDF military courts and border crossings, attend lectures on relevant legal issues, participate in discussions with governmental legal advisors and judges and participate in meetings with members of parliament (Knesset), military and police officials, as well as other senior officials.
- Promoting education and spreading the message through Missions and Public Speaking events in communities and campuses worldwide. Participants of these now famous Ultimate Missions travel around the Jewish State, have the privilege of hearing lectures by high ranking Israeli government officials, intelligence agents and IDF officers, observe IDF military court proceedings and tour along Israel's strategic borders on dynamic field trips. The Missions are life-changing experiences for the participants. Moreover, we regularly travel and speak around the world in a highly successful effort to inform the public.
- Increasing media exposure: Shurat HaDin has received greatly increased media exposure over the past year, with many news stories making headlines on numerous local and international networks and wire agencies. Our Hebrew language and English language Facebook pages are rapidly growing. In addition, those on our mailing lists continue to be updated via our electronic newsletters. Our enhanced media presence has resulted in more and more people worldwide, as well as government officials and organizational leaders learning of the Law Center's work, seeking our assistance and asking to be involved with our activities.
- Intelligence Desk: Shurat HaDin intends to establish an Intelligence, Research, and Analysis Desk to enable it to more quickly identify developing threats to Israel and better formulate strategies to respond to them. The Intelligence Desk will be comprised of a team of former intelligence agents, researchers and attorneys working to identify extreme dangers to Israel and formulate practical actions to be taken in response. Using open sources, contacts, professional skills and more, the team will enable Shurat HaDin to get ahead of the news cycle and initiate actions to block or minimize new and developing threats. Initial issues the desk will focus upon include: war crime accusations, the BDS movement, repercussions of the Iran Deal, incitement against Israel and Jews on social media, and Iranian funding of Hezbollah through Lebanese banks.
- Hold international bodies accountable: True courts are neutral bodies of adjudication, settling disputes according to fair standards. Shurat HaDin leads the fight against the PLO's cynical effort to make the International Criminal Court an anti-Israel farce. The PLO smugly expects the ICC to condemn Israel while ignoring the war crimes of PA-backed terror groups like Fatah as well as the Palestinian Authority's abuse of its own people. Shurat HaDin was the first to file credible complaints with the ICC against key

officials of the PA and of Hamas, reporting both war crimes against Israel and abuses against ordinary Palestinians. We will continue to investigate and report the crimes of Palestinian officials in order to give the ICC Prosecutor a choice: either enforce international law fairly, or be exposed as a kangaroo court.

- Continuing the fight against social media: Shurat HaDin will continue its campaign to block the provision of material resources and support to terrorists, including their access to social media platforms and communication services. Shurat HaDin is preparing a groundbreaking lawsuit against Twitter on behalf of victims of ISIS terror attacks in Paris and Brussels to be filed in January 2017. The lawsuit will document the key role Twitter has played in the growth and expansion of ISIS to become the most feared terrorist group in the world, as well as Twitter's essential role before, during, and after the Paris and Brussels attacks.

SHURAT HADIN'S ROLE IS TO FIGHT TERRORISM, TO PREVENT THE NEXT ATTACK AND WE DO IT WITH ONE SIMPLE THING – USING LAW

– Nitsana Darshan-Leitner



Facebook Struggles to Put Out Online Fires in Israeli-Palestinian Conflict



Nitsana Darshan-Leitner, the founder of the Shurat HaDin Israel Law Center, filed a \$1 billion lawsuit against Facebook in federal court in New York this fall, claiming that it provides material aid to Hamas. Nicole Bengiveno/The New York Times

By PETER BAKER
DEC. 7, 2016

JERUSALEM — When fires raged across Israel last month, Anas Abudaabes began to type on his laptop. What came out would land him behind bars and ignite a debate over whether he had tried to fan the flames of hatred, in this case literally.

On his Facebook page, Mr. Abudaabes wrote that “we should call our thugs to do what is necessary,” noting that “dry grass is faster to burn.” Arabs should pray for lightning and strong winds, he wrote, while those in Jerusalem and Haifa, where blazes were most intense, should “pour gas” on what was being called the “fire intifada.”

Mr. Abudaabes, 29, a businessman, insisted it was satire and was released after nearly four days. But he was hardly the first arrested in Israel for seeming to encourage mayhem on Facebook, nor will he be the last. Facebook has become the battleground in a global struggle between free speech and incitement, and in few places is that more pronounced than in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza.

Facebook and other social media companies announced this week that they would team up to better track and reduce online terrorist propaganda. But European leaders were unsatisfied, arguing that the companies have been slow to review and take down hateful posts, and they pressed for more action.

In this part of the world, the debate is not just theoretical. Terrorism is an everyday reality, and the role that Facebook and other social media sites may play in inspiring it generates deep emotion. Israel has pushed to combat online provocation that it links to bloodshed. Palestinians consider a crackdown on Facebook posts just another tool of repression by an occupying power.

“We have similar conversations around the world about the problem of online hate speech,” said Simon Milner, Facebook’s policy director for Britain, the Middle East and Africa. “But we do absolutely see in Israel and the Palestinian territory that this is one of the central issues in society even more in this region than elsewhere.”

For Facebook, the dominant social media platform in this region, the issue has taken on more urgency in the 14 months since the beginning of a wave of stabbings

and vehicular assaults by Palestinians against Israelis. A company proficient at technology finds itself whipsawed by forces of history that have defied political, diplomatic and religious leaders since long before Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook’s chief executive, was born.

No matter what it does, Facebook invariably seems to offend one side or the other. Israel complains about incitement? Facebook takes down posts. Palestinian journalists complain about being muzzled? Facebook lifts the suspension of their accounts.

“We realize we’ve got a lot to learn,” Mr. Milner said, “and we’ve learned a lot in the last few years.”

It is not hard to find provocative posts that straddle or even cross the line into advocacy of violence.

One post shortly after the latest violence began showed an injured Israeli soldier and a militant holding a knife that displayed an Arabic message: “All means are permissible in jihad as long as they bring victory for religion. Sword; or explosion; or bullet; and for them to challenge the knife.”

Another posted the same day by a leader of Hamas, the Palestinian group designated a terrorist organization by Israel and the United States, glorified knife attacks.

“Stab – there is no place in your land for an outsider”

“Stab – and be strong and not submissive”

“Stab – and lift your head like a palm tree”

“Stab – in Jerusalem and in Hebron”

Still another showed a video of a bearded man looking mournfully at a picture of another man, presumably killed in the struggle against Israel, as a song plays: “My blood boils in anger and melds with your blood.” Then, in a dramatization, the man builds a bomb, puts it in a bag, records himself making a statement on video, boards a bus and blows it up along with its passengers.

“Facebook has to take responsibility,” said Nitsana Darshan-Leitner, the founder of the Shurat HaDin Israel Law Center, who collected those examples and others. “They cannot sit in their ivory tower in Palo Alto and let the blood spill here in the streets of Jerusalem.”

Ms. Darshan-Leitner filed a \$1 billion lawsuit against Facebook in federal court in New York this fall, claiming that it provides material aid to Hamas. The suit combined a previous claim on behalf of 20,000 Israelis blaming incitement on Facebook for the recent violence with another claim by relatives of several Americans killed in terrorist attacks in Israel.

ook says it bars Hamas and other designated terrorist groups. Last month, it asked the court to dismiss the lawsuit, citing a 1996 federal law insulating internet companies from liability for speech by users of their services. Moreover, it argued that Ms. Darshan-Leitner could not show that the offending posts had directly caused specific acts of violence.

“Facebook has zero tolerance for terrorism,” the company said in a brief. “It condemns terrorist actions, prohibits terrorist content on Facebook and swiftly removes any reported terrorist content.”

Israel has pressed Facebook to be more proactive. When the stabbings began in October 2015, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said, “It has been Osama bin Laden meets Mark Zuckerberg.”

After Israel threatened legislation, Facebook sent senior officials, including Joel Kaplan, a former aide to President George W. Bush, to meet with Israeli officials in September, and they agreed to coordinate better.

Israeli security agencies monitor Facebook and send the company posts they consider incitement. Facebook has

responded by removing most of them. Ayelet Shaked, Israel’s justice minister, said the company had become more cooperative in recent months, although she added that she wanted it to take the initiative rather than wait for complaints.

“I personally really believe in freedom of speech,” Ms. Shaked said in an interview. “But when you’re calling to kill someone or when you’re calling for terrorist attacks, it’s violence. I’m not going to try to remove the words ‘Free Palestine.’ But if they’re showing how to stab Jews, that should be removed.”

Within weeks of meeting with Israeli officials, Facebook suspended the accounts of seven journalists from two Palestinian news agencies said to have extremist ties. The journalists said they had been suppressed for criticizing Israel, which occupies the West Bank, builds settlements on land Palestinians consider theirs and demolishes homes of those tied to terrorists.

Palestinian journalists started an online protest with the hashtag #FBcensorsPalestine. The company reversed course and restored the journalists’ accounts.

“Surprisingly, we heard back immediately from Facebook officials, who apologized for our accounts being put on hold and said that it was a technical error on their end,” said Hussam al-Zaygh, the managing editor of the Shehab News Agency. “The hold on our pages was removed and we haven’t experienced any negative reactions from Facebook since this last incident.”

Mr. Milner, the Facebook policy director, conceded error: “Sometimes we make mistakes, and it’s unfortunate that in recent weeks that did involve some accounts of Palestinian journalists. We apologized to the individuals involved.”

Ayelet Shaked, Israel’s justice minister, says that Facebook has become more cooperative with the government in recent months, although she added that she wanted it to take the initiative rather than wait for complaints. Credit Uriel Sinai for The New York Times

Another Facebook official traveled to the West Bank last week to assure Palestinian journalists of the company’s

commitment to free expression.

“We are saying we want free space to talk about our issues here in Palestine and we should have freedom like all over the world,” said Iyad al-Refaie, the editorial manager of Al Quds News Network. “Every user of Facebook around the world, he has freedom about what he publishes or not.”

Israel does not rely solely on Facebook to crack down on incitement. The authorities have increasingly arrested users who post inflammatory items, and Arab news outlets estimate that hundreds have been charged.

Mr. Abudaabes said in an interview that he was surprised to become one of them. The owner of a small photography school and marketing business in Rahat, a largely Bedouin city in the Negev Desert, he said he had used Facebook for nine years without trouble.

When the recent fires erupted, some Palestinians celebrated on social media, calling them divine retribution against Israel. Mr. Abudaabes said that he thought it was wrong to rejoice at others’ suffering and that he had set out to mock such sentiments with his Facebook post.

“When I posted that, it was totally against people who celebrate fires, who think that these fires are better for us,” he said. “When I post something like that, I didn’t think for a minute that it will get me problems with the Israeli government.”

But within an hour, he said, the police arrived at his home. “My comment was: ‘You know, it’s funny you don’t understand my post. It’s the opposite,’ ” he recalled. “They didn’t want to understand.”

He was released on nearly \$4,000 bail. The authorities kept his cellphone and laptop, and ordered him to remain home for five days and stay off Facebook for 15 days.

Prosecutors announced Sunday that they would not file charges “because of lack of guilt.” For Mr. Abudaabes, posting on Facebook came close to playing with fire.

SHURAT HADIN IN THE NEWS

ISRAEL HAYOM
This is where we stand

US court orders Iran, Syria to pay \$178M to family of terror victim

Family of baby girl killed in 2014 ramming attack in Jerusalem wins prolonged legal battle against terrorism-sponsoring states • Lawyer: Ruling sends a clear message that a heavy price will be imposed on those who finance terrorism.

N

OPINION

TEL AVIV DIARY: SOCIAL MEDIA BLAMED FOR TERRORISM

Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and Google will face fines if they do not remove posts meant to incite terror.

Bloomberg



Facebook and its Lawyers Slammed by Judge in Terrorism Suits

A federal judge slammed Facebook Inc., saying the social media giant might not be doing enough to deter terrorists from using its platform.

U.S. District Judge Nicholas Garaufis in Brooklyn, New York, also accused Facebook's lawyers -- by sending a first-year associate to a hearing -- of not taking seriously lawsuits with implications of international terrorism and the murder of innocent people.

NBC NEWS
NEWS JUL 18 2016 3:01 AM ET

Facebook Sued After Richard Lakin Killed by Hamas Terrorists



A video player icon is overlaid on the image.

The Telegraph

Families of Americans killed by Palestinians sue Facebook for \$1 billion



Facebook is accused of knowingly providing material support to Hamas

metro
Thursday, February 16, 2017

Tech giants forge alliance to combat online terrorist content

GARY KANE

Facebook, Microsoft, Twitter and Google-owned YouTube agree to share a database of terrorist content.



Facebook is forming an alliance with Microsoft, Twitter and Google-owned YouTube to combat the proliferation of terrorist content online, the company said in a news release.

The online corporate giants are creating a shared database of "hashes," unique digital fingerprints, for terrorist images and recruitment videos, including those that have been removed from their sites, according to Facebook.

THE JERUSALEM POST

Shurat Hadin: We've been warning about World Vision for years

The Tel Aviv based civil rights center Shurat Hadin notified the Australian government about the issue in 2012.

ynet
news.com

Bereaved Israeli mother to testify in US: 'Iran and Syria murdered my boy'

Rachel Frenkel, whose son Naftali was kidnapped and murdered along with two of his friends in 2014, is suing Syria and Iran through the US court for allegedly supplying money to the terrorists who carried out the attack; she is seeking damages in the amount of \$340 million; the three boys' murders ignited a widespread search and retaliation from Israeli security forces, which eventually morphed in Operation Protective Edge.

Tamar Eichner | Published: 05.12.16 , 14:46

Two and a half years after the kidnapping and murder of three Israeli teenage boys, their case is set to appear before a federal judge in Washington. Naftali's mother, Rachel Frenkel, is suing Syria and Iran for damages and details for the court the demands leading up to her son's murder, in addition to the demands of his two friends, Eyal Yifrach, Gilad Ad Shaer, Israel's response to the kidnapping and murders and its subsequent firing at Gaza eventually became Operation Protective Edge.

Follow Ynetnews on Facebook and Twitter

Frenkel will appear in court as part of a lawsuit filed through the US justice system against Iran and Syria, which accuses both countries of supporting acts of terrorism carried out by Hamas operatives. The plaintiffs are asking the court to order Syria and Iran to pay \$340 million in damages.



Rachel Frenkel (Photo: Haga' Adarion, Matat)

Jerusalem ONLINE
Your link to Israel

Shurat HaDin: Twitter played key role in assisting ISIS terror attacks in Paris and Brussels

Shurat HaDin is suing Twitter due to the fact that they have taken almost no action against ISIS utilizing their services for terrorist purposes. As US Congressman Tim Poe declared in 2015, "Terrorists should not have access to an American controlled social media platform so that they can kill, rape, pillage and burn. Allowing terrorists to continue using Twitter has helped to radicalize hundreds of foreign fighters and raised millions of dollars for them."

Jan 10, 2017, 3:09 PM | Rachel Avraham

THE TOWER



Legal Watchdog Seeks to Block Boeing Sale to Iran, Recover Damages for Terror Victims

THE JERUSALEM POST

Israeli NGO to US: Get Turkey to extradite Hamas mastermind amid Gulen debate

The Tel Aviv based civil rights center Shurat Hadin notified the Australian government about the issue in 2012.



TECHNOLOGY NEWS | Mon Jul 11, 2016 | 7:27pm BST

Relatives of Palestinian attack victims sue Facebook for \$1 billion in U.S.

A group of Israelis and Americans filed a lawsuit on Monday seeking \$1 billion in damages from Facebook Inc. (FB.O) for allegedly facilitating deadly Palestinian militant attacks on their loved ones.

ARUTZ SHEVA 7

Shurat Hadin: International Criminal Court is useless

Shurat Hadin slams International Criminal Court as 'dangerous and useless' after Palestinians file complaints against Gaza blockade.



Nitsana Darshan-Laity (self)
Shurat Hadin president Nitsana Darshan-Laity, who is active in defending Israel from international charges of war crimes and has taken the initiative in successfully suing Arab sponsors of terror that affected US citizens., responded to the Palestinian complaint to the Hague International Criminal Court (ICC) regarding the Gaza blockade.

The ICC accepted the Palestinian Authority, calling it "Palestine" although its members are supposed to be independent countries. Israel and six others are members of the court, including the founding treaty of the court, but Israel responded that if the so-called country of "Palestine" could sue Israel now that it is an ICC member, Israel could sue the PA for human rights violations as well.

"HOW WILL WE LIVE WITHOUT ABBA?"
7 CHILDREN ARE SITTING SHIVA NOW
THEY NEED YOUR HELP

"יוציאוב מרווחים מילוניים
מסרטוני הסטה"

מיכא ליקין אבוי, בתוכניות הבוקר של קשת,
19.2.2017

כל מי ששם כספו ביוציאוב
צריך להתביש היום!

In panel called 'What Is ISIS and How Can It Be Defeated,' retired Army Col. Brynt 'Guy' Parmeter, who served in areas now in 'the caliphate,' says there is only one way — from within

BY CATHRYN J. PRINCE | September 27, 2016, 12:27 am |

THE TIMES OF ISRAEL

'People get all tangled up in their britches trying to decide if it's a lone wolf or directly connected. These are all mindless debates'

As bombs, knife attacks strike US, terror conference in NY looks for answers

In panel called 'What Is ISIS and How Can It Be Defeated,' retired Army Col. Brynt 'Guy' Parmeter, who served in areas now in 'the caliphate,' says there is only one way — from within

Chicago Tribune

Israeli group asks U.S. court to block Boeing deal with Iran



In this June 2003 file photo, a Boeing 747 of Iran's national airline is seen at Mehrabad International Airport in Tehran. (AP Photo/Saeed Qaqashian, File)

By Tribune news services • Contact Reporter

DECEMBER 16, 2016, 9:31 AM | JERUSALEM

An Israeli advocacy group on Thursday asked a U.S. federal court to block aerospace giant Boeing Co.'s planned \$16.6 billion deal with Iran Air, saying the Tehran government must first pay off billions of dollars in damages to families of people killed or wounded by Iranian-backed militant groups.

FORTUNE | Tech



A house outside of Tel Aviv damaged by a rocket fired from Gaza. Photo by Gil Cohen Magen—AFP/Getty Images

\$1 Billion Lawsuit Accuses Facebook of Enabling Palestinian Attacks

The New York Times

MIDDLE EAST

Facebook Struggles to Put Out Online Fires in Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

By PETER BAKER DEC. 7, 2016



Israeli firefighters trying to extinguish a blaze last month in Nataf, near Jerusalem. When recent fire erupted, some Palestinians celebrated on social media. (Abir Sultan/European Pressphoto Agency)

THE JERUSALEM POST

Shurat Hadin to PM: Have Turkey expel Hamas completely

NGO threatens to petition High Court over accord.

IP4



Iran, Syria to pay parents of baby murdered in Jerusalem attack \$178 million

By I24news

PUBLISHED: 07/12/2017 - 02:28pm, updated: 02:45pm

Categories: COURTESY/NET

Three-month-old victim of Jerusalem terror attack on Oct. 22, 2014. (Royi Yizhak/Breitbart)

ARUTZ SHEVA 7

Shvat 20, 5777, 2/16/2017

Major legal victory against terror

US court rules that terror sponsors Iran and Syria must pay 178 m. dollars to family whose infant daughter was murdered in a terror attack.

NBC NEWS

Facebook Sued After Richard Lakin Killed by Hamas Terrorists

NEWS > WORLD

TEL AVIV, Israel — Micah Lakin Avni believes Facebook shares responsibility for his dad's death at the hands of Palestinian militants and so is suing the social media behemoth for \$1 billion.

Avni's father, 76-year-old retired Connecticut school principal Richard Lakin, died two weeks after being stabbed and shot on a Jerusalem bus on October 13.

"While [dad] was unconscious in hospital I was wondering how did this happen, why is there so much terror going on in the world and how is it that a 20-year-old shoots an old man in the head," Avni told NBC News.

BE A PARTNER – JOIN OUR FIGHT!

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Brooklyn, NY 11201, USA

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