

Jerusalem summit

Newsletter June-July 2007

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The Myth of Israeli Apartheid: Contending with the Consequences

It is it regrettably common to encounter galling and unfounded accusations from Israel's many detractors, branding the country as an "apartheid state". However, equally regrettable – and no less common – is the flaccid, unassertive manner in which Israeli officialdom contends with these accusations. Instead of robust rebuttal the response is – all too often – all too hesitant, faltering and apologetic.

This laxness is beginning to have tangible consequences for Israel, its allies and its benefactors. By inadequately repudiating the false allegations that it is guilty of apartheid-like practices – and hence by implication, deserving of embargoes similar to those imposed on the former South African regime – Israel has allowed a situation to arise in which Israeli institutions and organizations are not alone in being subjected to censure and sanction (such as the recent boycott initiatives of UK academics and journalists). Indeed, of late, individual supporters of Israel have also been targeted for their alleged aiding and abetting of "Israeli apartheid".

One of the most disconcerting cases occurred recently in Canada, when Gerry Schwarz and Heather Reisman, who established the HESEG foundation that provides "lone soldiers" with generous funding for their studies following their IDF service, were threatened with a boycott of their businesses by pro-Palestinian activists for their so-called role in helping maintain "Israeli Apartheid". See for example

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3400055,00.html>

The **Jerusalem Summit** recognizes the damage being caused by the inadequate response on the part of the official organs of the State of Israel and is endeavoring to provide, with the meager means at its disposal, a more

assertive rebuttal of these malicious incriminations by the country's adversaries. In this regard we refer you to the following two documents:

(a) **The Myth of Israeli Apartheid** which was compiled at the request of pro-Israeli groups in South Africa to help them repudiate spurious accusations of hostile anti-Zionist elements in that country

http://www.jerusalemsummit.org/eng/pdf/zionism_and_racism.pdf

(b) A proposal for a **strategic diplomatic offensive** for confronting radical Islamism and protecting Judeo-Christian values. This initiative underscores the fact that the real source of apartheid today is in the Islamic societies of the world where the most severe forms of discrimination and persecution are practiced against women (**gender apartheid**) and against followers of non-Muslims faiths, particularly Christians (**creed apartheid**)

http://jerusalemsummit.org/eng/diplomatic_strategy_short.php

For a more detailed version see

http://jerusalemsummit.org/eng/diplomatic_strategy_full.php

Should you feel that these documents are of value/merit/interest, we urge you to circulate them to as wide an audience as possible via any mailing lists that might be at your disposal or any other means. Note both HTM and PDF print versions are available

Baroness Caroline Cox hosted by the Jerusalem Summit:

The **Jerusalem Summit** recently hosted [Baroness Caroline Cox](#), a senior member of the British House of Lords where until recently she was deputy-speaker, a post she held for 20 years. Baroness Cox, who is also a member of the **Jerusalem Summit** presidium, is a firm supporter of Israel and is deeply concerned about the impact of radical Islam in Africa and Europe. Her views are reflected in an interviews she gave to YNetnews and The Jerusalem Post. These can be accessed via:

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3407073,00.html> ;

and

http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?apage=1&cid=1180867541922&page_name=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FShowFull

Baroness Cox was a keynote speaker at a recent seminar held jointly by Jerusalem Summit and BESA Center for Strategic Studies, at Bar Ilan University entitled: “Contending with Radical Islam: Challenges and Responses”

Israel's Strategic Vulnerability: A Picture Worth a Thousand Words

It is often forgotten – or ignored – that the Sharon government’s “Disengagement” involved not only the unilateral evacuation of Gaza but also of large tracts of land in Northern Samaria, immediately adjacent to vital strategic installations and major population centers in the coastal plain.

The accompanying photograph was taken with an ordinary camera from the site of Homesh, a Jewish settlement in Northern Samaria destroyed during the 2005 “Disengagement” of the Sharon government. It shows clearly – indeed dramatically – the Hadera power station (one of the biggest in the country, situated midway between Tel Aviv and Haifa), together with nearby residential areas, lying exposed and vulnerable on the Mediterranean coast immediately below. In light of the recent Lebanon War-II, it requires little imagination to visualize the consequences for Israel if “militants” (to use BBC phraseology) were to take control of these commanding heights.

Similar circumstances prevail along almost all the coastal plain from the southern approaches of Haifa in the North to the northern approaches of Ashdod in the South (see accompanying illustration). The entire width of the most populated area of pre-1967 Israel – right up to the shores of the Mediterranean Sea – is topographically dominated by the highlands of the “West Bank”.

This is not ideological bias, it’s just geographical fact and topographical realities.

However, what is ideological bias is to disregard this fact and these realities.

Jerusalem Summit – Strategic Emphases

The **Jerusalem Summit** is a small think tank endeavoring to maximize its impact by focusing its efforts primarily on three major strategic avenues:

(a) Reframing the paradigm for the resolution of the Palestinian Issue in humanitarian rather than political terms.

For a synopsis of this proposal, see:

http://www.jerusalemsummit.org/eng/hs_short_eng.htm

(English including responses to FAQs)

http://www.jerusalemsummit.org/eng/hs_short.htm

(Hebrew responses to FAQs available shortly)

(b) Formulating a Strategic Diplomatic Initiative to confront the advance of global Islamism, primarily by exposing and underscoring the heinous aspects of Gender and Creed Apartheid which characterize this radical theocratic doctrine.

(c) Cultivating awareness of fact that the Evangelical Christian community is both a strategic ally and a strategic asset for Israel.

This is a community which has not only demonstrated its staunch and unflinching support for the State of Israel and the People of Israel, but is also the only segment of humanity which has (a) the **spiritual energy**, the (b) the **numerical mass** and (c) the **moral resolve** to effectively confront the phenomenon of global Islamism.

If you feel these are efforts that merit support and should be sustained, we would greatly appreciate any contribution that you feel appropriate. Such contributions (tax free in the US) can be made to:

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Sincerely yours,

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