

Seeds of Peace

PREPARING TOMORROW'S LEADERS / A TRAINING GROUND FOR PEACE



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First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C.

August 2, 1996

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

From Tuesday, September 3 to Friday noon, September 6, the new class of 150 Seeds of Peace youngsters representing seven nations in the Middle East -- Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Kuwait and Qatar -- will be visiting the nation's capital. It would be a great honor and privilege for them to have the opportunity for a photograph with you before they return home. You cannot imagine how meaningful a few words of encouragement are to them. Those words mean we care as a nation about their future. When they return on September 6 to the old animosities and hatreds, they return as young ambassadors of peace.

This group is the fourth annual Seeds of Peace class and will have completed an intensive month-long conflict resolution program that begins at Harvard University and takes them to Maine for two weeks of summer camp and evening facilitation sessions. Most of these Arab youngsters have never met an Israeli nor have the Israelis met an Arab before their experience in Seeds of Peace. In some cases their fathers or brothers were killed by the other side. In four short weeks, however, they bond with each other and forge lasting friendships. More than 400 youngsters have graduated from the program since that first group stood proudly at the historic September 1993 Israeli-Palestinian signing ceremony on the South Lawn of the White House.

I truly hope that you will be able to spare a few minutes to greet this group or, if possible, attend the special U.S. Senate Luncheon in their honor on Tuesday, September 3, in the Caucus Room of the Russell Building. The luncheon is being co-hosted by Sen. Bob Kerrey and Rep. Connie Morella. It would be wonderful if Chelsea (who met several of these kids at Sidwell in April) could join us. Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Wallach

"In this entire assembly, no one is more important than the group of Israeli and Arab children who are seated here with us today."

PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON



For them we must realize the prophecy of Isaiah, that the cry of violence shall no more be heard in your land, nor wrack nor ruin within your borders."

SEPTEMBER 13, 1993

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July 26, 1996

Dear Friends:

We wish you could have been there! Last month 200 Seeds of Peace graduates were welcomed by His Majesty King Hussein at the Royal Palace in Amman. The audience with the King followed the first-ever Seeds of Peace Reunion in Petra. It brought together a majority of the Israeli, Palestinian, Egyptian and Jordanian graduates of our program for several days of fun and coexistence workshops.

The highlight of the visit with His Majesty was his impromptu decision to take off his necktie and replace it with the Seeds of Peace tie. This was, he told us, no ordinary goodwill gesture. The tie he took off was the same one he wore to the ceremony at which he signed a peace treaty with the late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

King Hussein spent more than an hour with our Seeds and personally greeted each of the 200 youngsters, chatting with every one of them long enough for the palace photographer to take their picture.

In just two weeks, when the delegations from the Middle East arrive in Boston, we will be entering our fourth consecutive year of bringing 150 Arab and Israeli teenagers together for our month-long program of coexistence and conflict resolution. This summer we are expecting two new Arab nations to send delegations bringing to eight the number of participating countries.

We want to take this opportunity to invite you to visit us at Camp Androscoggin in Wayne, Maine anytime between Tuesday, August 20 and Sunday, September 1. If you need directions or help with motel reservations, let us know. We are grateful for your support and hope that you will continue to help us realize our dreams of expanding to a summer-long program for hundreds more children. These youngsters have proven again and again that they are willing to take risks for peace. Indeed the friendships they forge and nourish when they return home are the most effective way to combat the terrible scourge of fear, hatred and violence that still plague the region.

Yours truly,

John Wallach
President/Founder

Barbara Gottschalk
Executive Director

"In this entire assembly, no one is more important than the group of Israeli and Arab children who are seated here with us today."

PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON



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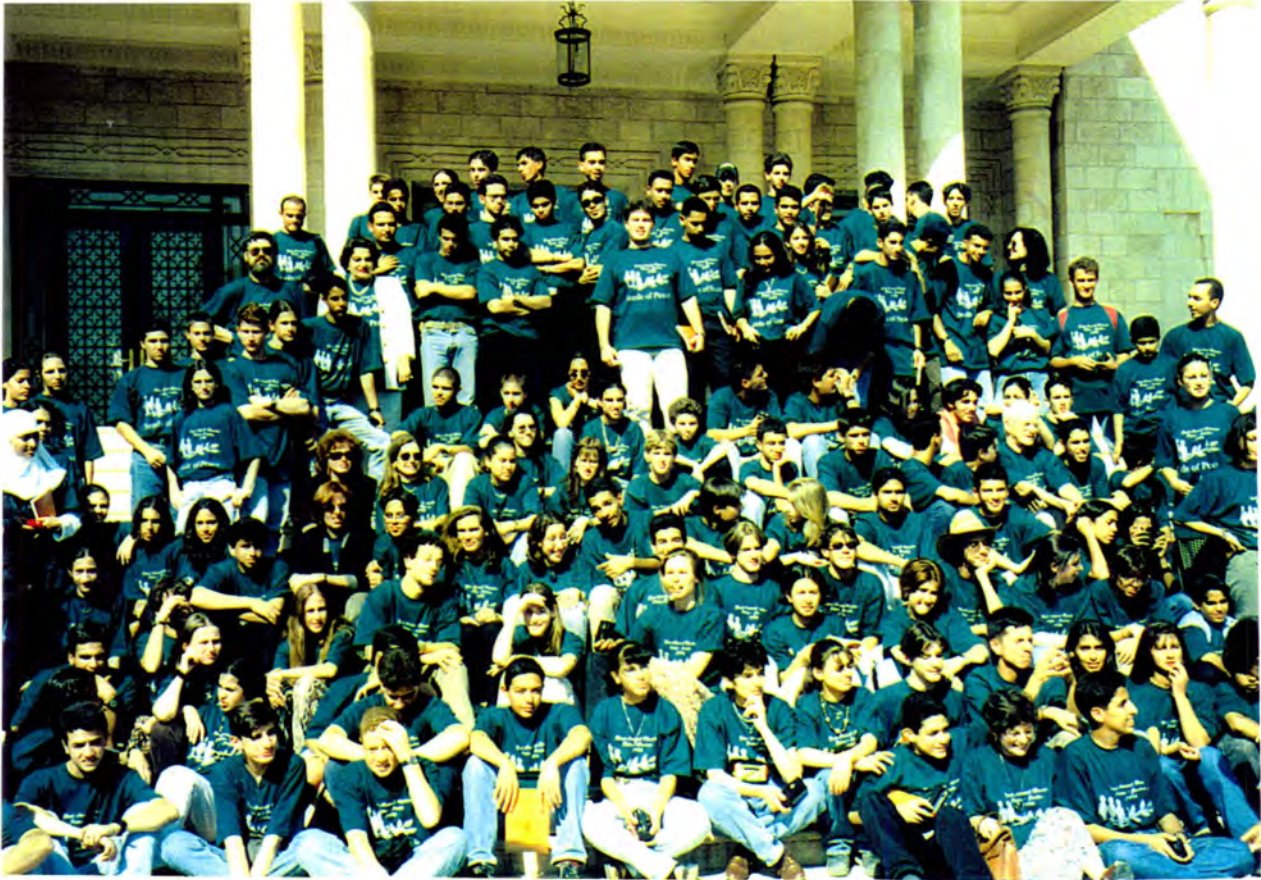
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SEEDS OF PEACE

1996 JORDAN REUNION



Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الرأي»

AMMAN SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1996, SAFAR 13, 1417

Seeds of Peace gathering ends

King calls for facing the challenges of peace

AMMAN (PETRA) — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday said the challenges facing the peace process are not easy, and called for collective work to face and overcome such challenges.

"We all should work with open minds to overcome such challenges, through achieving peace amongst ourselves and removing all obstacles facing peace, the obstacles that have limited our movement and our freedom to work for peace," the King said.

Addressing participants at a conference for the "Seeds of Peace" gathering which concluded in Petra on Wednesday, King Hussein outlined the importance of such an assembly, which works to promote peace and achieve people's aspirations in overcoming the forces of evil and darkness, and establishing peace.

At an audience at the Royal Court, attended by Royal Court Chief Awn Khasawneh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Raad Ben Zeid, Executive Director of Noor Al Hussein Foundation Ibrahim Badran, U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Wesley Egan and the Israeli Chargé d'Affaires Jacob Rosen, King Hussein said, "we are part of the peace process and we hope that this gathering will expand and grow to be able to achieve all its objectives and overcome all the obstacles impeding its advancement and success."

The King praised the efforts of the members of the gathering, saying that their shared ideas and aspirations will achieve the long-sought future.

King Hussein said he hoped that participants will be able to achieve their

objectives in peace-building and assume leadership positions in the future so that they can translate their ideas into action.

Founder of the Seeds of Peace gathering John Walsh, a U.S. citizen, presented King Hussein with a carpet and an embroidered necktie, carrying the words "seeds of peace," in addition to two portraits of King Hussein and the late King Abdullah, drawn by participants in the gathering.

In a gesture of appreciation of the group's contribution to the peace making process, King Hussein removed his necktie and replaced it with the embroidered one, presented by Mr. Walsh on behalf of the group.

Mr. Walsh said the gathering decided to hold its annual meetings in Petra in appreciation of the role of His Majesty King Hussein and

Jordan in the peace making process.

Summing up the objectives of the gathering which was founded in 1993 following the attack on the World Trade Center in New York, Mr. Walsh said the gathering groups almost 300 young people aged 12 to 14 and seeks to sow seeds of peace in the Middle East and elsewhere and to promote awareness among the young generations about the importance of peace as a human and cultural value.

Mr. Walsh said, "We in the gathering share ideas, thoughts and perceptions on peace making, by working together for the interest of humankind."

Taking part in the Seeds of Peace conference were 246 participants from Jordan, Egypt, Palestine, the United States and Israel.

Branching Out



The Seeds of Peace Newsletter

June 15, 1996

Volume III, Number 2

S.O.S.

Most of us don't know what this S.O.S. means. It means everything in our life and at the same time it means nothing. The S.O.S. is a call for help. The ship which sinks sends this call for help from any place and to anyone. It means "Save Our Self." And as I'm a Seeds of Peace member, I send this call to the leaders of all nations. These days brought a very big surprise to us as to what happened from both sides of the problem — the Israelis and the Palestinians. And also what happened in Lebanon.

So if we had a flashback about the explosives that were set off in Israel by Hamas, we saw that the Israelis as human beings must protect their security by all ways that don't harm innocent people, innocent Palestinians. Because they are also human beings who want to protect their security as people, and we have to respect their ambitions to live without problems. To live a peaceful life is what we all dream about.

But the solutions of all problems begin with dreams. Who could dream that after a hard war and competition between Egypt and Israel that they've signed a peace agreement? And then comes the agreement between the Israelis and Palestinians about Gaza and Jericho.

So we go on the right way, but I want somebody to explain to me about what happened in Lebanon.

(see next page)

A Letter from John Wallach, Founder

It's hard to believe that Seeds of Peace is four years old this summer! Since that first group of 46 Seeds stood on the White House lawn witnessing the Israeli-Palestinian signing ceremony, a great deal has happened. Jordan and Israel have signed a peace treaty. You can fly from Tel Aviv to Amman almost as easily as going from New York to Washington. It is no longer strange to see a Jordanian visiting Israel and Israeli tourists are discovering the legendary Jordanian hospitality. Who would have believed in 1993 that almost 200 Arabs and Israelis could get together in Petra?

The Palestinians have also gained much in the last four years. They have held their first free and democratic elections to choose a president and a legislative council. Today, there are ministries of education, health, justice and many others. They are passing laws, issuing passports and collecting taxes. Today the Palestinian police have replaced Israeli troops and are the ones cracking down on those who want to harm the peace process. There is a long road ahead but all of us should be proud that for the first time in history the Palestinians are governing themselves.

Alright, you say, but what about all the horrible things that have happened — the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin; the killing of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon; the murder of Israeli civilians in bus bombings; the closure of the territories that has made it impossible for Palestinians to go to work, to go to school and to live normal lives. Why does it always seem as if it is the innocent who are punished? There is no easy solution for the cycles of suffering that plague the Middle East. The only thing that I know for sure is that the healing process begins with each one of us. *Seeds of Peace is about the discovery that every one of us — Arab or Israeli, Muslim, Jew or Christian — also is an individual human being who is capable of changing his or her ideas and is capable of becoming more tolerant of the other side.*

If we can succeed in building those human bonds, and maintain them in the bad times as well as the good times (and there will be plenty of both to come), then **WE WILL HAVE MADE PEACE** regardless of anything else that happens around us. That is why the world looks to us to set an example. In the last four years, we have shown that peace between people is possible. Now we have a much bigger challenge. We must teach the world that even though governments change, and leaders come and go, their successors have no choice but to continue to pursue peace with all peoples. *That is the message that I hope you will send from the 1996 Petra Youth Summit.*

(from previous page)

It's something horrible that happened there. What were the children that were killed in the Israeli Attack on the village Kaua considered to be? There was a picture that affected me so much: a mother cried on the graves of both of her children. They were between seven and ten years old. I don't think that they're considered as a threat to the Israelis.

I'm quite sure that most of Israel suffered from the feeling that they're surrounded by enemies. It's a horrible feeling but I know also that the Egyptians, Palestinians, Jordanians and all the Arabs suffered too much also from the war and the fighting. So let's work to settle peace in our area, a peace that I believe is like a child who needs protection from everything. And lastly, I send this call that is a bit different. I send it calling all our leaders saying "Save Our Peace...S.O.P."

— **Mohammed Abdel Rahman Saleh**
Cairo, Seeds of Peace
95'

From the Palestinian Delegation to Seeds of Peace

As a human being, I was moved a lot at the scene of an Israeli Rabbi collecting human flesh from the ground and putting it in a plastic bag. The aim of the extreme attackers was to scatter the peace process the same way they scattered the human organs and flesh and made the neighborhoods look like butcher shops.

Not only did it inflict tragedies on the Israelis, but on the Palestinians as well. The first Palestinian presidential and legislative elections proved that the majority of the Palestinians support the peace process between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

The actions imposed by the Israeli authorities, represented by the closure of the West Bank and the closing of some Palestinian universities, injures the majority who

support the peace process, along with the extreme minority who are not that innocent!

I extend my deep condolences to the families and friends of those who were lost by wrongful acts of extreme brutality which effect us all in a very negative way.

— **Laith Arafah**
8 March 1996

The World I Dream Of

In my mind there is a wonderful world that I dream of day and night, and I hope that my dream will become a truth.

In that world no wars exist and no crimes are committed. It is when peace isn't just a word or a sign or a piece of paper. No, it is when this word is a fact that you can notice from everyone's behaviors. In addition to that, all people in this world, no matter what their nation is, are friends, sincere friends who go to help each other if they are in difficulty. And all these people are equal in rights, whether they are rich or poor, black or white or from any religion. So no one has the right to control the other's life and impose a dictator upon them. In this way, each person has the opportunity to improve his society. So let us try our best to make this dream of every young person from every part of the world become a true fact by producing peace and freedom.

I am really looking forward to seeing you all again.

— Bye!!!
With best wishes from
Suha ShiTazani
Palestinian delegation

To the Participants of Seeds of Peace

We would like to present our deepest condolences for the latest string of brutal and ruthless bombings which shook Israel in the last few days. These bombings show us that there are people who are still ignorant about the benefits of peace, and who have selfishly and ignorantly taken the lives of innocent people, in an attempt to impose their radical and unethical ideas. It is these people who hide their ignorance and their fear behind a facade, or mask, using religion or any idea as a tool to use as they see fit. Yet no religion or just cause agrees with random acts of violence.

The bomb attacks, and other acts of violence must not be treated with indifference but must be of the utmost concern to the entire global population. Terror and violence in one country can spill over into neighboring countries. One can not meet violence with violence, nor fire with fire. This would cause a never-ending cycle of demolition and destruction, hate and death. It is a circle from which no one is exempt from the scorching hand of hatred and radicalism. This is a circle of apocalyptic dimensions, from which no winners emerge.

Therefore it is our duty, as members of Seeds of Peace, to stand united in the face of the oncoming threat of violence and hatred, and never allow terrorism to drive a wedge between us. The present days are dark times for the peace process, and so it is us who must light the way for those who are lost in the dark, and for the future generations of Seeds of Peace.

"United we stand. Divided we fall."

— **Amgad Naguib**
and **Tamer Nagy**
on behalf of the Egyptian
delegation

Searching About Peace

Rivers of tears.
Rivers of blood.
Crying fills the earth,
Tears fill the ground.
Everybody is shouting,
We want peace,
Just peace,
And nothing else
We want a smile on faces.
We want love in hearts.
We want to stop crying.
We want to start building.
Just give us a chance.
To be with our enemies, friends.
My dear friends
Who are seeds —
I don't want peace for me,
But for you, for her
And for each other —
So let's grow trees
Which are the peace.
Let's draw a smile on each face.
For every child for every orphan,
In every place
For you ... for her
For me and others ...
And then you'll be a real seeds of
peace
My dear friends...

— **Leen Ishaq El Wahi**
Palestinian delegation

Are We Being Tested?

The last four terror attacks were a shocking experience. The last few months we were almost sure that finally we have found the "peace and quiet" we have looked for since the creation of Israel. We have made peace with Jordan, the peace with Egypt seemed safer than ever and we even had the feeling that the Intifada and all that "came with it" is over.

Last Sunday, at 7:25 am, it was all shattered!!!

At first, we thought it was a single terror attack; 20 minutes later we found out that another explosion occurred in Ashkelon. The next day, a car, driven by an



While people were celebrating the Le'ad Al-Feter feast, this Palestinian policeman was looking for the child's parents (see story, page 6). Photo by Ibrahim Khader, Palestinian delegation.

American Arab drove into a bus stop — killing one person and injuring more than 20 people. We prayed it was "only" a car accident, but the police found out it was a planned terror attack.

The last two explosions, in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, broke the beliefs I never thought can be broken!

I believe in the peace process and in both Oslo agreements. Prior to last week, I had proofs to my beliefs. Right now, all I have is my opinion!

Laith called almost every day last week. His first sentence, in every conversation, is, "I just want to tell you my condolences." One in a while, someone from his family asks him to talk to me and express his sorrow for the last events. I feel that by talking to me, not only are they sincere about their feelings about the latest tragic events, but it helps them to lower their feelings of guilt.

On Sunday, I spoke with Laith, telling him that what makes me the most angry is that no Palestinian cares enough to get up and protest against Hamas. Today, in the morning, Laith called to say that tomorrow there is a big demonstration in Ramalla against violence. I know that the numbers are minor. I know that it is not against Hamas. I know that it won't prevent anything. But I do know that this is the kind of thing that helps to assure my hopes.

This time in Israel is a test for us. In the streets, people are calling for revenge. Other people call on Peres to resign. We should fight those voices!!!

The situation arouses one major question: Can we win the war for peace with so few weapons?

— **Yehoyada Mande'el**
Israeli delegation

Why Should Somebody Be A Victim?

When I was watching TV on Sunday morning, a few minutes after the first suicide bomb attack in Jerusalem, I got a call from my father. He asked not to worry about him. I didn't know what he was talking about because I knew he didn't leave Ashkelon. He told me there was a terrorist attack in Ashkelon too. I was at a loss. I couldn't stand hearing the politicians who were trying to use those attacks for their political interests right after it happened. Only one day later I heard about the killing of fifteen people. It wasn't clear if it was an accident or another terrorist attack. It might sound ironic, but I really hoped it was an accident. But it wasn't. After that attack there were two more. One in Jerusalem and the other in Tel Aviv. Both of them were on Purim. It's supposed to be the happiest holiday of the year, but this time it was the saddest one.

I keep thinking about those latest events. I'm part of Seeds of Peace, but just last week the Prime Minister declared war on terrorism. It doesn't contradict the idea of peace. It proves that we really want peace, but not at the expense of people's lives. We don't want to have "victims of the peace process." Why should somebody be a victim, even those Arab boys who committed suicide? Those who sent them to their death didn't send their own children.

A day after the attack in Tel Aviv, our friends from Seeds of Peace came to visit us in Ashkelon. We met them at the Central Bus Station. There were only a few soldiers and some cops in there. There was a lot of tension in the air and it is still up there — we're just trying to ignore it. I don't want to think that the only thing we can do is to express our condolences to the 60 families of those who died. We are not the members of parliament, we are only members of the youth organization.

But maybe one day some of us will become members of parliaments. And I hope we'll be able to understand each other better, if we learn how to do it now.

— **Karen Kahlon**
Israeli delegation

Subject: Shalom 3/7/96

Dear friends in Israel,

Shalom. How are you all! I just returned from a very short and spontaneous visit to Israel that started the day after the Hamas attack in Jerusalem and ended today, the 6th of March. I crossed over the border to meet with Lital Cohen and Dror Shemesh with whom I am practicing some musical pieces. I also must say Yoyo, who proved to be an excellent guide, telling me about Jerusalem. Together with Bobbie, Dror and Yoyo, we went to Mount Herzl, the Wailing Wall, and Old Jerusalem. I also want to express my gratitude to Lital Cohen and her great family who showed me Tel Aviv, Jafa and Kfar Saba, and who kindly hosted me. I apologize to all of my friends whom I did not contact during my stay because of the lack of time. Time was racing us most of the time.

First of all, allow me to tell you how beautiful your country is. It really is great. I had an excellent trip that was only disturbed by the hideous attack on central Tel Aviv that happened on the afternoon of the first day. In Jordan, many people felt deeply with the sadness of the Israeli people, but living the experience with you in your country was so different. It was a chance for me to really see how much it troubles you. It is really difficult for me to understand this absurd situation: for now that peace is so advanced on its way, some ignorant, selfish and brutal people just blow up some bombs killing innocent people.

And especially during Purim. It was so delightful to see the children in their colorful costumes, and it was so painful to believe that they were killed and injured. For all of those innocent souls during the last wave of terrorism, I express my deepest condolences to all of you. I would have wanted to express my feelings about it using words, but the feeling is so deep that it keeps me from thinking properly.

My strongest feelings were when Bobbie, Dror, Lital and I joined two young children of Kfar Saba lighting candles sitting in a corner. Do not forget the victims of ignorance and brutality. Keep their memory in your hearts as you work for a better future. And know that the sun and the moon are both just enormous candles burning for all of those people who lost their lives to evil. I bid you to keep hoping that the time when all of this ends will be soon and you do not need to face such grief — for you do not deserve it at all. And always remember that you are in our hearts.

— **Shalom chaver**
Lots of love,
Your Rayd
Jordanian delegation



Elections in Israel

On May 29th, the Israeli public will be headed towards the polls to elect for four years its country's leaders: the Knesset members. For the first time, the Israeli public will directly elect its Prime Minister.

A couple of months ago, it seemed like the election could be won easily by Shimon Peres. The assassination of Prime Minister Rabin made a big part of the population support the Labour party and its leader, Peres, but the series of bombings in Ashkelon, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem changed this situation completely. Now the "race" is in its final months and whether Peres or the Likud candidate, Benjamin Netanyahu, will be the next Prime Minister.

The political situation in Israel isn't easy to explain, surely not to a stranger. Therefore, what we'll try to do is give you all the information about four of the biggest parties and their platforms. What may be more important is the elected Prime Minister. Probably immigrants' parties, religious parties and the "third way" will try to get in a coalition, no matter if it's with Netanyahu or Peres. This is why today both candidates run and try to receive as many votes as they can from the religious sections.

Operation "Grapes of Wrath" is now a good test of Peres's image in society. If he does achieve a truce over the northern border of Israel, the public will see it in a good way. If he doesn't, Netanyahu may be the one to gain from the operation.

Name: *The Third Way*

Headed by: Knesset Member, Avigdor Kahalani

P.M. Candidate: None

Platform: Headed by A. Kahalani and Emanuel Zisman, both members of the Labour Party, the Third Way call the public to vote for a party that is the compromise of Likud and Labour. It wants to achieve an agreement with Syria, without losing parts of the country which may endanger the safety of Israel. Also, it is interested in continuing the negotiations with the Palestinians, stop controlling the Palestinian people, together with keeping the settlements under the authority of Israel.

Slogan: "There is a Third Way."

Name: *The Israeli Labour Party*

Headed by: Shimon Peres

P.M. Candidate: Shimon Peres

Platform: The Labour Party is the biggest party represented in the Knesset. Prime Minister Shimon Peres is their candidate for these elections, too. While Yitzhak Rabin was Prime Minister and Peres was Foreign Minister, peace agreements were signed with Jordan and the PLO. Israel developed political relationships with other countries such as Oman, Qatar, Morocco and Tunisia. Peres proudly spoke about his "New Middle East" vision, which was partly revised by the fighting in Lebanon and the terrorist bombings in Israel. The Labour party is now emphasizing the importance of safety because of the public's doubts in Peres's ability to control, together with Arafat, the Hamas attacks on Israel. About peace, there is no formal limit for the amount of land to be returned in the Golan in exchange for peace with Syria. An agreement with the Palestinians will be settled according to the Oslo and Taba agreements. Jerusalem will not be divided, ever. New settlements will not be built in the occupied territories except maybe for a religious reason. New roads will be built in order to reach a full separation between Israelis and Palestinians.

Slogans: "Israel is strong with Peres" and "Netanyahu Can't."

Name: The Likud

Headed by: Benjamin Netanyahu

Candidate: Benjamin Netanyahu

Platform: Since 1992, the Likud party has changed a lot of its image, some say, because it's the only way for them to challenge Peres and the Labour Party.

During its time as a coalition party with Shamir as PM, Likud prohibited people from meeting with PLO members but also sent a delegation to the "Madrid Conference" in October, 1991. Nowadays, Netanyahu is willing to meet Arafat, "but only if it seems needed," to help the safety of Israel. The territories of the Palestinian Authority won't be taken back under Israeli rule, but he also mentions that progress towards arrangements will be made, depending on the P.A. and its ability to fight terror. More settlements, he states, will be built. About Syria, "Israel will sit on the Hermon Mountain and the Golan Heights," even during times of peace. An immediate agreement is not feasible.

Slogans: "No security, no peace, no reason to vote for Peres" and "Netanyahu, making peace safely."

Name: Meretz - Democratic Israel

Headed by: Yossi Sarid

P. M. Candidate: Shimon Peres

Platform: Meretz, according to its sayings, is a party that must be in the next Knesset, represented with as many members as possible. The party is devoting most of its time to protect civil rights, even if it happens that they end up fighting the religious parties about topics such as Sabbath violation or equality between the sexes. Meretz is the only party stating that the only possible separation between Israel and the P.A. is by dividing the land into two countries.

Slogan: "One ballot, Peres, One ballot Meretz."

— Uri Neiman
Israeli delegation

Dear Seeds of Peace,

Peace ... Peace ... Peace ...

Now the Palestinians are living under the authority of the PNA in my city, Nablus.

When the Palestinian Authority came to Nablus, all the citizens came out of their houses and went to the place where the soldiers came. That is the place at the prison of the past, and everyone went to where he was taken during the Intifada.

I went there when it was about 10 p.m. on Tuesday night and started walking in the prison, with happiness in my heart — that area in which no one liked to be during the Intifada. Now all of us entered it.

On Wednesday all the scouts marched in the city with their musical instruments for about five hours from 6:30 a.m. till about 12:30 p.m. without feeling tired from walking. And right there was a celebration from 6 p.m. till 1 or 2 a.m. and all the people were in the streets celebrating — boys, girls, men, women and old women. With smiles on their faces, people were dancing and the streets were full of people.

On Thursday, the same thing happened. But on Friday, a special day in Nablus, Chairman Arafat came to Nablus at 10 a.m. to the east of the city at the prison in his helicopter, and gave a speech for about a half-hour. Then he prayed in the prison, the Friday praying. Then he left and went to another city, Jericho, to meet Mr. Christopher.

During those four days, there wasn't school, so the students wouldn't have homework to do and they could celebrate those historical days. At every department, on every street, everyone was raising our Palestinian flag.

There are three great things that the PNA has done:

- 1) It took all the spies during the Intifada.
- 2) It placed two or three policemen in front of every school for girls

so no one can do any bad thing in front of their schools.

- 3) It took all the guns from the civilians.

The Palestinians feel sorry for the killing of Mr. Yitzhak Rabin.

Now we feel safe and secure, not threatened. But still we can't feel free, as we have to get permission to go to Jerusalem or Gaza Strip. There are check points to stop the cars in the roads out of the cities. We hope this will be over.

I've applied for the Palestinian passport. The next time I travel, I'll be using it and not the Jordanian or Israeli document. Thank God I'm raising my Palestinian nationality all over the world.

— **Ibrahim Khader**
Palestinian delegation

My Condolences and Congratulations

Lately, we have been watching TV about the consecutive bombing incidents in the Region — bombings which are aimed at obstructing the Peace Process. I resent such devious attempts and I'm sure that such irrational conduct will never succeed in destroying the solid foundation of Peace. Together, hand in hand, we should stand side by side and continue laying the bricks of a new eternal monument of Peace. I wish to convey my condolences to the families of the victims who suffer.

But every cloud has a silver lining. Although the target of the enemies of Peace was to destroy the process, on the contrary, it led to a successful historical gathering for all the Presidents nationwide.

They expressed their anger and opinions. Finally, it was concluded by fruitful results in benefit of the Peace Process. It was indeed a fuel refill to keep the Peace train moving.

Needless to say, I'm talking about the Sharm El Sheikh Summit for Peacemakers. Congratulations!

— **Rami Abdoul Naga**
Egyptian delegation

Les bons tuyaux

FAITES VOUS DES COPAINS ...

La vie n'est pas la jungle! Il y a plein de gens qui débarquent et ne connaissent personne. Ouvrez les yeux, un petit sourire à votre voisin ou voisine de l'amphi et il ou elle deviendra peut-être un super copain. Il suffit de fuir le premier pas et d'aller vers les autres. Vous verrez, c'est tout simple!

RÉUSSISSEZ VOS EXAMS

Il n'y a pas de mystère, il faut bosser régulièrement. Travailler ses cours tous les soirs, ses TD sérieusement pour éviter les impasses fatales. Les nuits blanches une semaine avant les exams ne servent pas à grand-chose!

— **Votre ami du Caire, Rami**
A bientôt!

The Mirror of Pain

by Toyen Notz

Your hate is boiling up inside;
It has no place to run and hide.
Your heart is breaking clean in two;
There's nothing anyone can do.
Your soul becomes a lake of fire.
To hurt someone is your desire.
You want someone to feel the pain,
That's almost driving you insane.
You then look up so silently
Into the eyes of your enemy.
And instead of ugly, mocking glares
You see your pain reflected there.

— Sent in by **Sara Abbabneh**
Jordanian delegation



"A TERRORIST IN HELL"

AMGAD
93-95

Hello, Seeds! I miss you all.

At this time and in this article, I want to talk about the situation the Palestinians in Israel live in. From my experience though the Seeds of Peace program, and to my surprise, I found just a few of the guys I met who know that there are Arabs in Israel.

The Palestinians in Israel make up over 19% of the Israeli people. They live basically in three areas: Al-Jaleel (Galilee) at the north of the country, Al-Mothalath (where I live) at the center, and Al-Naqab (where mostly the traditional Arabs live) at the south of the country.

They are called by many names, like Israeli Arabs/Palestinians or Arabs of Israel or '48 Arabs/Palestinians... because in 1948 these Palestinians were separated from their brothers

('67 Palestinians) and were joined to the state of Israel.

The Arabs in Israel are suffering from non-equality between the Arab sector and the Jewish one. It may be on purpose or not. For example, the teenagers in the Arab sector don't enjoy the same care and education or entertainment institutions that the Jewish teenagers do. I choose to talk about the teenagers because I am one of the members of this sector and suffering directly. And to all who do not believe me, you are welcome to come to my house and my town to compare.

So this is the situation. Unequal, confusing and suffering.

But thanks to God, the previous government with Mr. Rabin started to make the differences smaller than before. I hope it will work Inshallah. Miss you all ...

— Salih Samara
Palestinian delegation

Enough Violence ... Enough Bloodshed

A few weeks ago I saw a picture in the newspapers of a little Lebanese girl about eight years old. Her head is visible from a broken window of an ambulance, and the blood is everywhere on her head and the car ... she was killed by a bomb dropped on the ambulance by the Israeli army.

That picture greatly affected me, and I asked myself, "What was this innocent girl guilty of to meet this horrible fate?" For weeks the Israeli army kept bombarding South Lebanon, and lots of massacres occurred there ... while at the opposite side Hizbullah was responsible for rocketing North Israel as a response to Israeli actions.

Israel says Hizbullah started it ... the Lebanese Foreign Minister says

(see next page)

(from previous page)

Israel started it ... lots of arguments ... lots of massacres ... and in the end a cease fire agreement is made after more than two weeks of bloodshed.

When we look at the whole situation from an upper view, we find out that the result of that period is that hundreds of innocent people were killed in Lebanon. More than half a million Lebanese left their homes, as they had been destroyed. Also, a number of Israelis were injured and killed ... that's the real conclusion.

I said it before and I'm saying it again: "Violence produces more violence." And terrorism can't be faced with more bloodshed. . .

What happened in Lebanon wasn't fair. Killing hundreds of innocent men, women and children in their homes, in the U.N. camp, and even in the ambulance was a savage action that I don't think anyone can approve of. And I don't think that's a way to keep Israel's security and peaceful relations with its neighbors. Occupation and violence have never been the way to achieve peace. And even if Hizbullah was responsible for rocketing North Israel, that's because they want to get back their own occupied territories in South Lebanon. I don't think the way to respond to that is by killing hundreds of civilians who don't represent any threat to the state of Israel.

It's our duty now to not let such actions and obstacles stand in our way of peace. We want to achieve the real and fair peace in the Middle East. Enough violence ... enough bloodshed.

— **Tamer Nagy**
Egyptian delegation

Jerusalem, My Home

— A response to Badawi's article —

A political conflict is presently taking place, between the Israeli and Palestinian leaders, regarding the final agreement about the political status

of Jerusalem. I pray and hope that the leaders, in their wisdom, will find a peaceful solution to the conflict.

The following is a summary of some historical facts about the origin of the importance of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem: The capital city of Israel and the holy city of the Jewish people, its religious and secular capital, the spiritual and political center of the nation. The city of eternity, which hides in itself more than 4000 years of history. The sacredness of Jerusalem has been the source of its holiness to Christianity and Islam.

In the year 1010 B.C., David Ben-Ishay, King of Israel, declared Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. David built an altar to God on the mountain of Moria near Jerusalem, and since that day Jerusalem has been the one and only capital of the Jewish people. Jerusalem has never been a capital for any other nation or country. In the religion of Islam, Jerusalem ranks in importance as a holy city only after Mecca and Medina, both in Saudi Arabia.

King Solomon built a glorious temple in Jerusalem. After the temple was built, Jerusalem became stronger and even more sacred as the religious capital of the Jewish people, as well as the political capital. Three times a year the Jewish people used to go on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and the temple.

The sacredness of Jerusalem to the Jewish people from the time of King David hasn't faded to the present day. From the people of Israel, the belief in Jerusalem's sacredness also passed to the Christians and the Muslims, a long time before the first Muslim or Christian walked in the streets of Jerusalem.

The Israeli nation lost its political sovereignty and left for a long exile, but during the 2000 years of exile the Jews continued to see Jerusalem as their capital and holy city. They never stopped hoping to return to Jerusalem, and Jerusalem remained an

important part of the Jewish religion and culture.

During all this time, every year Jews continued to pray for "next year in Jerusalem."

The first presence of Christianity in Jerusalem was in 326 BC, when Helena, mother of Constantine the Great, visited Jerusalem. The first presence of Islam was in 637 AD when it was taken by the Caliph Umar I.

Umar built a mosque on mount Moria — where Solomon's temple used to stand until the Romans destroyed it.

Jerusalem under Islamic rulers: At the time of Sulliman the Second, the city of Rammala became the capital, and Jerusalem became a small field town. For many years, Jerusalem was important only as a destination for Jewish and Christian pilgrims who traveled to the holy city to pray.

The Seljuqs and Muslims prevented the pilgrims from coming to Jerusalem, which led the Christians to start the crusade to the Holy Land. In 1187 Jerusalem returned to Muslim rule, after Saladin won the war against the crusaders.

One of Saladin's heirs gave Jerusalem as a gift to the German Caesar in 1229. That act obviously shows how "important" Jerusalem was for the Muslims at that time.

Modern Jerusalem: General Allenby conquered Jerusalem from the Turkish empire on September 9th, 1917, and this was the beginning of the modern period in Jerusalem's history. The city was transformed from the neglected, poverty stricken, provincial town of Turkish times to a colonial capital city. The infrastructure changed radically. New roads, sanitation improvements and water systems were introduced.

Construction laws were carefully written, and stipulated that all buildings must be faced with local stone. This regulation remains in effect to this day, granting Jerusalem a unique character.

(see next page)

(from previous page)

In May 1948, immediately following Israel's Declaration of Independence, six Arab states launched war against her. Jerusalem was besieged and attacked by the Jordanian Arab legion and Israel suffered devastating loss of life in the bitter fighting.

The Jewish quarter of the old city of Jerusalem was systematically destroyed by the Arabs. All the Jewish inhabitants of the quarter were forcibly taken to prison in Jordan. Access to the Western Wall between 1948 and 1967 was denied to Jews, despite agreements guaranteeing them access to the holy sites. Other Jewish holy sites, including the Mount of Olives cemetery, were violated and badly damaged.

Between 1948 and 1967, the development in the Jewish and Arab sectors of Jerusalem was unequal. The Jordanians gave first priority to the development of Amman, Jordan's capital. In the Jewish-controlled Western sector of Jerusalem, many public buildings and new homes were built.

In June 1967, Egypt and Syria generated the Six Day War and Jordan entered the fighting by attacking Jerusalem. Two days later, after heavy fighting, the Israeli army managed to drive back the Arab forces and to reunite the city.

Israel's return to the old city was an emotionally charged event. The 2000-year-old Jewish prayer to return to the City of David had finally been fulfilled.

Israel gave priority to the development of Jerusalem as the capital of the state, and as the holy city for the Jews, Muslims and Christians.

In the old city, which didn't have a modern infrastructure, new water and sewage pipes and communication systems were installed.

Understanding the sensitivity of the development of Jerusalem in general and the old city in particular, the government established an

international committee of known planners to supervise the planning and implementation process. The building code that was established by the British, in order to help preserve the nature and spirit of ancient Jerusalem, was reinforced by the new guideline for buildings in Jerusalem.

Billions of dollars have been invested during the last 29 years in Jerusalem. The city is prospering as never before. The new parks and buildings were carefully preserved to maintain the ancient city's beauty.

Jerusalem is becoming more and more beautiful with every day that passes. The city developed and it is more successful today, from every aspect, than it was under any other government in the past.

I have lived all of my life in Jerusalem. I can go and visit different sites in my city, and move as by magic from one period to another. I love my city, and pray that it will continue to be not only a holy city, but also a city of peace.

I am not sure where Badawi got his facts, but just so you know that I didn't invent these historical facts, the following is a list of books and other sources of information from which I collected the facts:

Microsoft ENCART 95' Encyclopedia.
Jerusalem 3000, GLYPH multimedia.
Compton's Encyclopedia.
The Book of Jerusalem,
Ed. Professor M. Avi-Yona
Jerusalem in the 19th Century,
Professor Y. Ben-Ariua

In conclusion: Badawi wrote in his article that "some people who are ignorant" argue about who has the right to lead Jerusalem. I am not sure about the definition of "ignorant," but from reading history books regarding Jerusalem, I found many world-renowned

professors and historians who argue about it. If they are ignorant, I need to check my English lexicon.

Jerusalem belongs to no one. Jerusalem was witness to events that we can't imagine and it will be witness to

events we will never be able to imagine. If Jerusalem is owned by someone or something, it is by the belief in its holiness. No one can own Jerusalem, but someone has to lead it. By the facts I mentioned above, I hope I proved, without a shadow of a doubt, that Israel has the combination of commitment, wisdom and generosity to lead Jerusalem toward a better, glorious future for all of its citizens and believers.

—Daniel Shinar
Israeli delegation





Mr. Essmat Abdel Mejjid, Secretary-General of the Arab League,
with the Egyptian delegations (winter, 1995)

Dear Friends:

After eight months of peace, I woke up to find that many Israelis were killed in explosions in Jerusalem and Ashkelon. I sat in front of the TV. I couldn't understand anything (It was all in Hebrew), but I could see terrible pictures. Pieces of flesh spread all over the place. People were crying and trying to help the injured.

After just one week, two more bombs exploded in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The bombing in Tel Aviv was exploded in a center where many people go to celebrate their feast. Many children were killed and injured in this bombing.

When I heard about the bombings, I was worried about all my Israeli friends. I asked myself, "What if one of them was killed by a bomb?" I wanted to call my friend Etti on the same day of the bombing in Tel Aviv. I wasn't sure that she would like it if I called her on the same day, so I called her the next day. We talked about the bombings and I think she understood how sorry I was.

Then I began to think about the cause of this tragedy which was not only for the Israelis, but for the Palestinians. I realized that it was because of Yehia Ayash's assassination in Gaza by the "Shabah." After he was killed, Palestinians felt angry and insecure. After seven months of peace, the Masad killed him in Gaza which is under the control of the Palestinian Authority. In these seven months, Palestinians who were against the peace process began to understand that it's time for peace. But suddenly all these thoughts disappeared and they began to talk about revenge. And now, after all these explosions, the Israeli government imposed a closure not only preventing us from going to Jerusalem, but also preventing us from going to other parts of the West Bank. People couldn't go to work, school and even hospitals. Many children died while they were at the check points waiting for permission to go to the hospital. There wasn't enough medicine and food for people. Then the Israeli government decided to end the closure between the West Bank areas, but now there's a closure in Jerusalem, even after demonstrations against these bombings which were organized by Palestinians in Beith Lehem, Ramallah and even Gaza Strip. Many students can't get to their schools for more than 50 days (and I'm one of

them) because their schools are in Jerusalem.

I know that whatever I say won't give the Israelis their loss back. But I'd like to tell them that most of the Palestinians were sorry about the deaths of many Israelis in these bombings. Palestinians do believe in real peace. So we mustn't let those people destroy the peace process from either the Israeli or the Palestinian side. The only solution for this killing, bombing and collective punishment is real and just peace.

—**Ruba Musleh**
Palestinian delegation

Did you see what happened in Israel? A few crazy people who called themselves defenders against the Israelis killed many, many Israelis in five days. What kind of people are they?? I think the Palestinians themselves don't like what happened. I know that they've said they want revenge. Can anybody say to me what revenge they want to have??? It's a silly idea to say so. But the silliest thing is to punish all the Palestinians. I know that it is the Israeli's right to do so for security. But what about the Palestinians who want peace? I think they're the majority. If I were an Israeli I would say that: "I don't feel safe so I want my government to secure me and my family." But there are other families (I mean Palestinian ones) that suffer from this. And I think ... No, I believe that these people from Hamas are some ordinary thieves that steal our dreams of a peaceful era. But, it's not impossible to destroy the power of evil in the world.

I was so happy that my friends asked me about my friends in Israel. It made me feel that I've succeeded in making it clear to everyone that the Israelis are just a normal people. They are not all terrorists; they have peacemakers and terrorists, just like any other nation.

—**Mohamed A.R.**
Egyptian delegation

— The Wizard's Dictionary —

Hi, everyone! I'm sending my regards to all the members of Seeds of Peace and especially the group of 1994 who I really miss a lot and I hope that we'll all meet again at our first reunion this summer to share with each other our new ideas and thoughts about the peace process around the world.

For the second edition of the Seeds of Peace newsletter, I wanted to share with you my new idea of making a very small dictionary for the pronunciation of the most popular sentences in the Arabic language and I called it *The Wizard's Dictionary* because I remembered how anxious we were in learning new words from each other. I know that most of them were mainly bad words, but I'll do my best and try to avoid them!!!

First I will show you The Scheme of Translation to help you in the pronunciation of words:

— THE SCHEME OF TRANSLATION —

CONSONANTS:

B as in BAG	M as in MOTHER	SH as in SHIP
L as in LET	Z as in ZEST	Al as "I" in NIGHT
F as in FAT	N as in NIGHT	D as "TH" in THIS
K as in KETTLE	S as in SET	KH as "CH" in MUNICH

VOWELS:

A as in ALCOHOL	AA (long) as "A" in ART	I as "I" in SIN
EE (long) as "EA" in BEAST	U as "OO" in FOOT	OO as in FOOD

Here are the first Arabic sentences:

GREETINGS

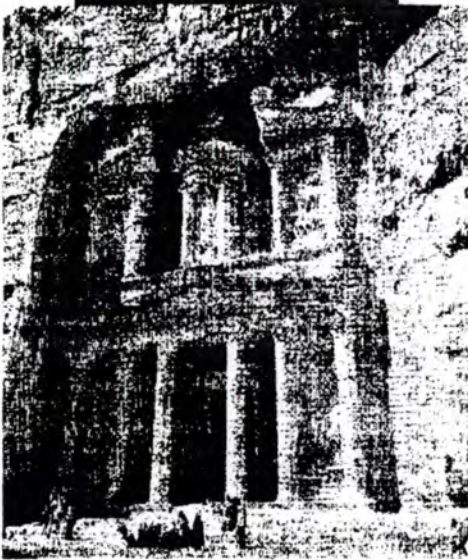
THE SENTENCE IN ENGLISH	THE SENTENCE IN ARABIC	THE SENTENCE IN ARABIC WRITTEN IN ENGLISH
Good morning	صباح الخير	sabaahilkheer
Good evening	مساء الخير	masaailkheer
Good day	نهـارك سعيد	nahaarak saeed
Good night	ليلة سعيدة	leela saeedaa
Good Bye	مع السلامة	maassalaamaa
See you later	الـي الـقاء	ilalliqaa
Welcome	اهـلا وسهـلا	ahlan wa sahlam
How are you ?	كـيف حـالك ؟	keef haalak
Very well	بخـير	bikheer
Pleased to see you	سعيد	saeed lirooyaak
Happy birthday	عيد ميلاد سعيد	eedmeelaad saeed
Congratulations	تهنـيـاتي	tahniyatee
Happy new year	عام جديد سعيد	aam jadeed saeed
Happy journey	رحلة سعيدة	rihlaa saeedaa

I believe this is enough for the first time, and I'll be waiting for your comments about *The Wizard's Dictionary*.

— **Maged S. El-Gantiry**
Egyptian delegation

The Lighter Side . . .

PETRA



The most famous attraction in Jordan is the Nabataean city of Petra, some 262 Km or 160 miles south of Amman. More than 2000 years ago, Petra was used as a temporary refuge by nomadic Nabataean Arabs — Bedouins who came north out of Arabia. From a few caves in a rocky outcrop, easy to defend, the Nabataean created Petra as a fortress city.

To reach the city, the visitor travels on foot, on horseback or by horse-drawn carriage through the awesome "siq," an immense crack in the Nubian sandstone — a winding, one Km-long fissure between overhanging cliffs that seems to meet more than 300 feet overhead.

After one last turn after the end of the siq Petra's most impressive sight appears — El Khazneh, the Treasury. It is carved out of the solid rock from the side of the mountain. It is nearly 140 feet high and 90 feet wide.

After that the visitor can find a Roman Theatre (seating 3000), large and small houses, burial chambers, banquet halls, water channels and reservoirs, monumental staircases, baths, markets and paved streets.

But Petra is not only about the Nabataeans. Within a 15-minute drive of Petra the visitor can walk throughout 8000-year-old excavated Stone Age villages at Beidha and Basta, wander among the ruins of settlements of the Biblical Edomites, or explore the sprawling remains of the Roman legionary fortress, Atudruh.

Finally, I hope that every member in Seeds of Peace has gained some information about the place where the reunion will be held. With love:

— **Karim Ashraf**
Egyptian delegation '94

Dear Everyone,

How are you all doing? Life here in America is going great! This winter has been spectacular. We have received sooo much snow. The skiing is fabulous. Do any of your ski at all? School is pretty good although it is tough just like your schools are, but that is something you might expect. Speaking of school, I am the goalie for our ice hockey team. We have won two in a row, and are now about to play the hardest game of the year. Is hockey played at all the in Middle East, or is there even skating?

What types of sports are most commonly played by you guys? For you basketball fans, have you been keeping an eye on the Bulls? People are saying they are the best basketball team anywhere. On the other hand, my hometown Boston Celtics have not done quite as well.

If anyone ever comes back to America traveling on their own, my house is open to you. Consider it your home-away-from-home. I hope to see or hear from you all soon.

— **Matt Slovik**
American delegation

Why?

- * If drinking and driving is illegal, why do bars have parking lots?
- * Why does sour cream have an expiration date?
- * How do you know when you're out of invisible ink?
- * Why isn't phonetic spelled the way it sounds?
- * Why are there interstate highways in Hawaii?
- * Why are there flotation devices under plane seats instead of parachutes?
- * Do you need a silencer to shoot a mime?
- * Have you ever imagined a world with no hypothetical situations?
- * If you tied buttered toast to the back of a cat and dropped it from a height, what would happen?
- * If you're in a vehicle going the speed of light, what happens when you turn on the headlights?
- * You know how most packages say, "Open Here." What is the protocol if the package says, "Open Somewhere Else?"
- * Why do we drive on parkways and park on driveways?
- * Why is it that when you transport something by car, it's called a shipment, but when you transport something by ship, it's called cargo?
- * You know that little indestructible black box that is used on planes, why can't they make the whole plane out of the same substance?

— *Compiled anonymously,*
sent in by **Matt Slovik**, American delegation

AMGAD MAGUIB
93-95.



✧ ♀ ♀ * Horoscopes * ♀ ♀ ✧

LIBRA (24 Sept. to 23 Oct.)

Number: 5 **Colour:** Gold **Day:** Wednesday
Now you have to prepare letters for your friends.

SCORPIO (24. Oct. to 22 Nov.)

Number: 2 **Colour:** White **Day:** Sunday
You have a good memory and that will help you in work.

SAGITTARIUS (23 Nov. to 22 Dec.)

Number: 9 **Colour:** Turquoise **Day:** Tuesday
Stop panicking or you'll lose your mind.

CAPRICORN (23 Dec. to 20 Jan.)

Number: 6 **Colour:** Navy Blue **Day:** Friday
Now you lost your trip. Oh!!

AQUARIUS (21 Jan. to 19 Feb.)

Number: 3 **Colour:** Silver **Day:** Monday
People that have light in their way don't have darkness in their way.

PISCES (20 Feb. to 20 March)

Number: 7 **Colour:** Purple **Day:** Saturday
Conversations at your side are good to you.

ARIES (21 March to 20 April)

Number: 1 **Colour:** Violet **Day:** Thursday
On your way there are a lot of sacrifices.

TAURUS (21 April to 21 May)

Number: 12 **Colour:** Gray **Day:** Friday
If you want to make an adventure, make it.

GEMINI (22 May to 21 June)

Number: 5 **Colour:** Orange **Day:** Saturday
Romance situations are coming. You have to be patient!!

CANCER (22 June to 23 July)

Number: 8 **Colour:** Black **Day:** Sunday
A good surprise for you and your family. WaO!!

LEO (24 July to 23 August)

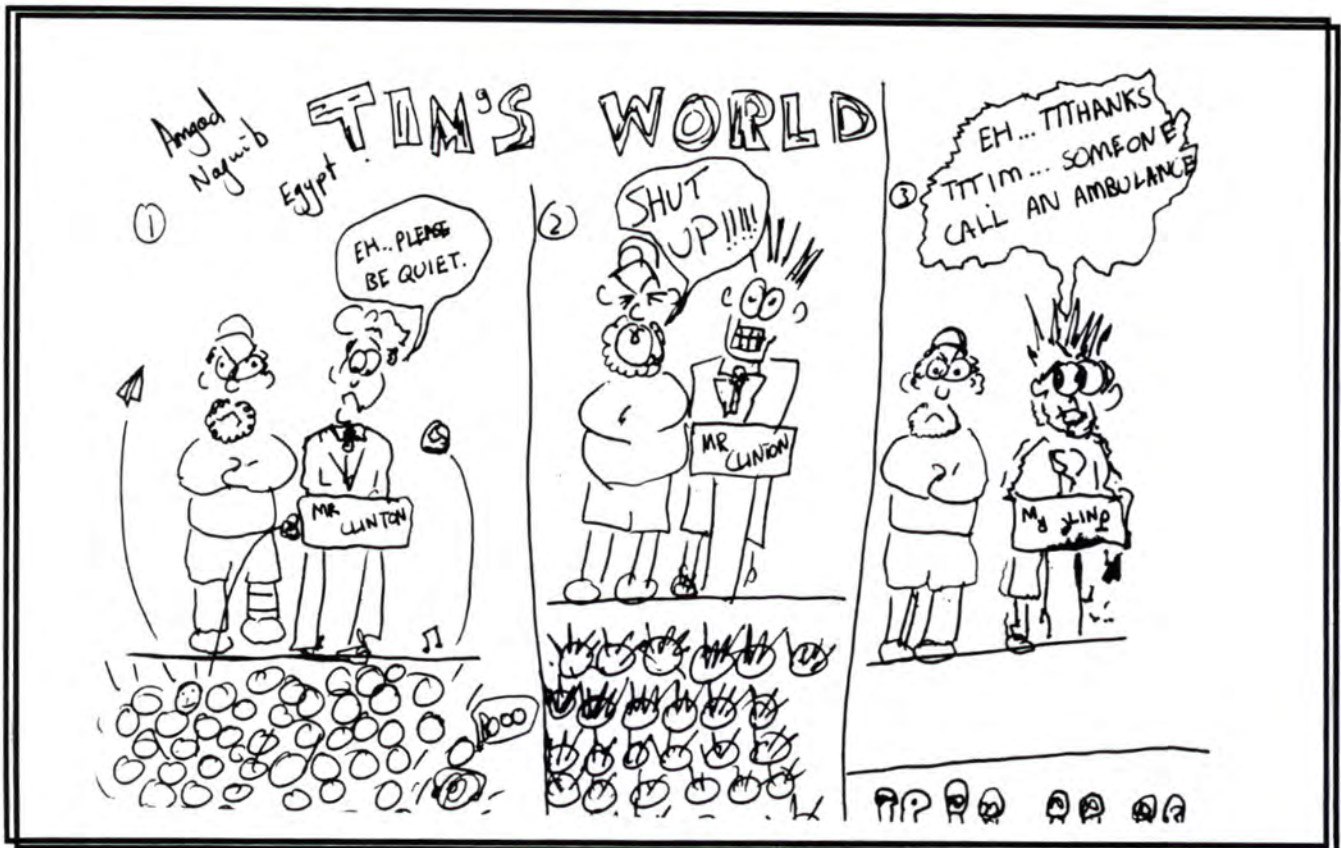
Number: 16 **Colour:** Sea green **Day:** Friday
Your situation is going to be fine.

VIRGO (24 Aug. to 23 Sept.)

Number: 14 **Colour:** Yellow **Day:** Thursday
It is time for a party.

For all the friends of Seeds of Peace!

— Sara El Naggar
Egyptian delegation



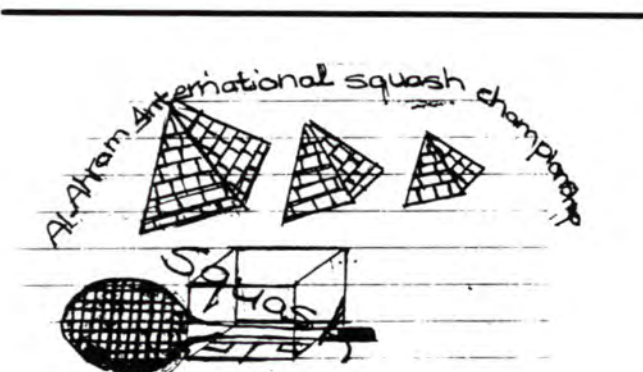


The most expensive city ... WaWa!

In a recent survey carried out by employment conditions abroad, Ltd, Tokyo was reported as the most expensive city. Moscow and Paris are the second and third most costly cities as the survey explained that the daily expenses in Tokyo may reach \$49,385.

In Europe, Geneva and Copenhagen are the least expensive cities, while Hong Kong is the most expensive one in Asia. The survey mentioned Lagos and Nairobi as the most expensive cities in Africa.

Take care when you go to Tokyo!



Al-Ahram International Squash Championship

Under Khufu's eye ...

In a showcase competition, 56 squash players representing 13 countries competed against each other in the first Al-Ahram International Squash Championship from the 15th to the 22nd of May, under the blazing Giza sun. Flanked by the shadows of the three great pyramids of Khufu, Khafre and Menkaure, and surrounded by the walls of the glass court, they compete for the \$100,000 pot. The world's highest-seeded players, including Pakistan's world champion, Jansher Khan, are taking part. Players' performances in this competition will go towards their future world rankings.

— Reported by **Nahed El-Hefnawy**
Egyptian delegation

How Did the United Nations Get Started?

The first work in planning the United Nations was done at the United States Department of State during World War II. At the Moscow Conference of Foreign Ministers in 1943, Secretary of State Cordell Hull was able to get the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the Republic of China to agree to the establishment of an international organization for keeping international peace and security to be open to all peace-loving nations.

The following year, at the Dumbarton Oaks conference in Washington, DC, representatives from the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, the Republic of China and the United States agreed upon the outlines of a plan. But there was still a long way to go.

At Yalta, USSR, in 1945, the United States, the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union agreed that a conference would be held in San Francisco to make plans for the new organization. The conference would be attended by all nations allied in World War II against the major Axis Powers. A charter for the proposed organization would be drafted then.

The United Nations conference on International Organization met in San Francisco between April 25 and June 26, 1945, with 46 and later 50 nations taking part. It was there that the charter of the United Nations was drawn up.

The United Nations is not merely an organization for keeping the peace. It has other jobs, such as bringing about cooperation in economic and social problems, furthering respect for human rights and helping territories develop economically and politically.

— **Fady Samir**
Egyptian Delegation



When Was the Great Sphinx Built?

One of the greatest wonders that still survives from an ancient civilization is the great Sphinx at Giza, Egypt. A Sphinx is a mythical animal that has the head of a human and the body of a lion. The Sphinx became part of Egyptian religion and many Sphinxes were made. This Sphinx was built in the 26th century BC. The face had the features of the king at that time, King Khafre, so that his people could worship him in this special form.

It is carved from a natural bluff of rock that lies in the center of a large quarry. The body and the head are carved right from the rock, while the outstretched paws are added in masonry. The figure was originally covered with painted plaster, and there are still some traces of this.

While we can still see and admire the Great Sphinx, it is quite different now than it was originally because of all the damage it has suffered. Drifting sand has caused a great deal of erosion and created a kind of ripple effect on the body.

It has also been injured by humans. In 1380, a ruler of Egypt did great damage to the face. At one time, the monument was used as a target for guns.

The Great Sphinx is 20 meters high. Its length is 73 meters. The nose is 170 Cms and the mouth is 231 Cms in length. The face is 417 Cms wide.

Who Were the First People to Make Mummies?

The ancient Egyptians believed in life after death. They thought of the soul as a bird with a human face that could fly around by day but must return to the tomb at night for fear of evil spirits. The body was therefore preserved so that the soul could recognize it and know which tomb to enter. This is where the word *Mummy* comes from. It is

Arabic and means a body preserved by wax or tar.

Most mummies were not made using wax or tar. The body was treated with salts. Salts, put inside the body, together with the dryness of the desert air, took out the moisture. When the body had been dried out, it was bathed, rubbed with resin from pine trees, and wrapped in hundreds of meters of linen.

Before about 3000 BC, the Egyptians buried their dead in a curled-up position in the hot sand of the desert. The sand preserved the bodies. Later, important persons were buried in tombs cut from rocks and in magnificent pyramids. The pyramids and the rock tombs were not as dry as the desert sand. This made it necessary to develop the art of mummification.

About 1500 BC, mummies were covered with a plaster covering, shaped like a human body and elaborately painted. Soon the coffins took the same shape and were decorated. Beards were added to some of the mummy cases. The beard in ancient Egypt was the sign of a god or king. Adding a beard showed that the dead man expected to live in very high company in the afterworld.

The Egyptians also believed that certain animals were sacred. These animals were also mummified and buried in animal cemeteries.

— **Ayman Wafai Yousef**
Egyptian delegation '93

Ego Booster!

Create a New, Self-Confident you!

* **Communication**

Your thoughts and feelings are important, communicating them is vital. You're more likely to get what you want if you can ask in a direct, open way. Even if you don't get your way, you'll feel stronger in yourself as a result. Increase your communication

skills by writing down your views and desires. Say them to yourself in a mirror or record them on cassette. By practicing like this you'll feel less nervous when you really do have to speak up. Learn to voice your feelings — no one else will do it for you.

* **Think positive!**

Sufferers of low self-esteem tend to have negative thoughts about themselves: "I am a failure, I am boring ..." and so on. If you don't respect yourself, how can you expect others to respect you? So concentrate on your positive traits and write them down. They may not be earth-shattering ... maybe you're a sympathetic listener, or a caring person. Ask a close friend or relative to list your plusses. The two lists could reveal bonuses you never knew you had.

* **Wining targets**

The winners in life set themselves targets they know for sure they can reach. Losers set themselves impossible goals and thus their low self-esteem is confirmed when they inevitably fail. So set yourself realistic goals. For example, if you feel the need to diet, don't aim to lose ten kilos in two weeks. Instead, try for an attainable loss — say one kilo in a week. Winners recognize that each step towards a goal is a success in itself. And there's nothing like success for boosting the ego.

After I read this article, I wanted all the Seeds of Peace members to join me in viewing the idea of Michael Vice, the author, in creating a new self-confident person. I hope that you will enjoy reading it.

— **Maged S. El-Gantiry**
Egyptian delegation '94

The Israeli Olympic Team

The Olympic games are about to be opened and the pressure on the sportsmen and sportswomen is getting harder and stronger.

The Olympic games in Barcelona 1992 were historic for Israel when Yael Arad was the first Israeli judo player that took a medal (silver) ever. It was such a surprise to see, one day after her success, a young judo player, Oren Smadja, winning a second medal for Israel — this time, a bronze medal. He showed the world he can defeat the "high society" of the judo players. The Israeli delegation came back to Israel with a lot of pride and joy.

Four years have now passed, and the Israeli delegation to the Olympic games are getting ready in Atlanta. The Israeli delegation includes 26 people who will do their best to present Israel at the maximum way they can.

To the Israeli delegation, every time they join the Olympic games, they have another delegation to present — the late 14 Israeli athletes who were killed by terrorists in Munich, 1972. Since then, the Israeli delegation is more than a team. It includes the souls of those who died.

Even if the Israeli sportsmen and sportswomen aren't able to achieve a medal, it won't be so bad. Just to see the Israeli flag waving on the screen and our people doing the best they can — we will be proud of them.

Good luck!

— **Ran Balbus**
Israeli delegation

The Athletes:

Roger Nahum
Konstantin Matosvic
Danny Crasnov
Konostantin Smiyonov
Lidya Hatval
Litash Preslei
Ayelet Ohayon
Ira Startskaya
Yoav Bruk
Vadim Alexayev
Eitan Orbah
Dan Katler
Gal Fridman
Nir Shantal
Man Shantal
Shoni Kadmi
Anat Febrikant
Yael Arad
Oren Smakja
Boris Polak
Guy Strick
Alex Tripolsky
Vachislev Neiman
Vachislev Ivanovski
Gucha Ciciashuily
Lior Karmi



*Dror, Rayd & Yoyo in Jerusalem, March, 1995.
(See story page 4)*



The Last Word

Many people wonder what happens to the participants of Seeds of Peace after they return to their homes in the Middle East. Anyone reading this newsletter can see that the Seeds of Peace effort does not get left behind in the United States, even though the experiences often seem like dreams. In fact, these experiences are not dreams. They are just a different kind of reality. What happens during Seeds of Peace is the proof that peaceful coexistence is possible.

You, the Seeds, hold those memories of the possibility of peace close to your hearts. Your knowledge of peace gives you a unique perspective at home. It can make your life more complicated and can bring you sadness as well as joy. But, they are part of you, forever.

As we grow in numbers, year after year, it becomes more and more difficult to keep up with everyone. Yet, when I visit you and hear from you, I can see that everyone is using their experiences to improve the chances for peace and cooperation in the Middle East, even if it is only in the form of one or two on-going friendships between delegations. Many of you are doing much more than that, even in times of great danger and sadness. We wish we could bring everyone back to camp each year, but that would be impossible. Our hope is that this long-awaited three-year reunion will re-ignite the memories of Seeds of Peace in your hearts and will inspire you to continue to work for peace.

—**Bobbie Gottschalk**
Executive Vice President

Our Deepest Appreciation ...

... to Their Majesties King Hussein Bin Talal and Queen Noor Al Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for so graciously making it possible for us to hold the first-ever Seeds of Peace reunion in Petra from June 25 to 28 — and to the Jordanian delegations for being our hosts for the occasion. We especially thank Alia Fada and His Excellency Adnan Talhouni for their kind assistance.

As this newsletter goes to press, we are expecting as many as 200 of our Egyptian, Israeli, Jordanian, Moroccan and Palestinian alumni to join us at the Taybet Zaman Hotel in Petra. While we're there, we expect everyone to feel like they're back at camp — swimming, playing sports, having a Color Competition, and discussing what's in our hearts and minds at the Coexistence Workshops. There will also be a screening of the newly completed *Seeds of Peace* documentary (taped last summer), a dinner in Little Petra, and a meeting at the American embassy with the Egyptian, Israeli, Palestinian, Moroccan and United States ambassadors.

Seeds of Peace

PREPARING TOMORROW'S LEADERS / A TRAINING GROUND FOR PEACE

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Washington, DC 20036-3392

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Seeds of Peace : Building Peace in the
Middle East - One Friend at a Time
Fifth Anniversary Year [3 copies]



*Fifth Anniversary
Year*

Seeds of Peace

BUILDING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST — ONE FRIEND AT A TIME

Friends Beyond Borders

*Etti (Israeli), Yanal (Jordanian), Laith (Palestinian),
Tamer (Egyptian) and Inas (Palestinian),
front center.*



"Only now can I really understand how important Seeds of Peace is. It was strong enough to change me, to create a new, better part inside me, to give me hope when most people have already begun to lose it." —Daniel, Israeli

"Making peace is harder than making war. It takes time. It takes care. It takes patience."
—Laith, Palestinian

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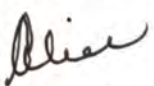
THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MAY 27, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

CC: MELANNE VERVEER

FROM: ALICE 

SUBJECT: STATEMENT AT THE SEEDS OF PEACE EVENT

Following is a tally of the e-mail and letter mail received in our office between May 7 and May 21, 1998 that makes reference to your statement at the Seeds of Peace Event. During that time period, you received a total of 1354 e-mail messages on this subject. 1163 of the messages supported your statement and 191 disagreed.

You received a total of 676 letters on the subject. 463 writers agreed with you and 213 disagreed.

Presidential Correspondence has received a total of 21 letters on this subject. 8 agreed with your statement and 13 disagreed.

There are no letters from major organizations representing special interests on either side of this issue. There are letters from smaller organizations and I am including them with this memo. Interestingly, a far greater number than usual of the writers who e-mailed you on this subject declined to include their name and address in the e-mail. The majority of these were supportive.

Today you received a letter from Fred Howard who recounts meeting you in New York some years ago. The letter supports your statement and includes the statistics from a poll conducted by the Los Angeles Times and Yediot Aharonot. I have included the letter with this report as I thought it might be of interest to you.

I have also included the Comment Line Summary for the week of May 18-22. The question of a Palestinian State is included on the summary although it makes no reference to your statement.

HOWARD INTERNATIONAL CORP.
475 TENTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10018-1199
212 • 736 • 2300
FAX: 212 • 564 • 3395

May 19, 1998

Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

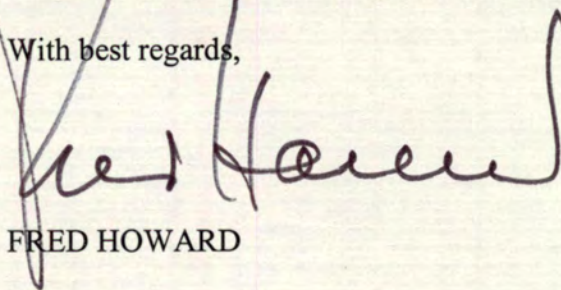
Dear Mrs. Clinton:

It seems so long ago when Bob Schiffer introduced us, welcoming you and your husband to a New York Leadership Conference breakfast where you met like-minded New York Democrats. I believe it was your first political visit to the city and I remember the timeliness of your remarks.

This letter is in support of your recent comments about a Palestinian state, a statement fully supported by the attached article in the Los Angeles Times of April 19, 1998 and the SILENT MAJORITY of American Jews.

Unfortunately the opposition is well financed, extremely targeted and angry. Their agenda could not be more clear. They hold the total Jewish community hostage to their unforgiving dark vision in a desperate effort to influence the path of history. We cannot stand by silently and let this happen. The extremists - the haters, the killers on both sides of the dispute - cannot be permitted to dominate the agenda. Trust me, you and the good guys will prevail.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Fred Howard", with a large, stylized loop at the end of the last name.

FRED HOWARD

FH/dl
enc.

cc: Vice President Al Gore
Mr. Bob Schiffer, U.S.I.A.



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TO: IPF Board and Supporters

FROM: Jonathan Jacoby
Tom Smerling

DATE: May 1, 1998

As part of the extensive coverage of Israel during the 50th anniversary celebrations, the *Los Angeles Times* and *Yediot Aharonot* conducted a major poll of Israelis and American Jews last month.

We are pleased to send you the *Times*' article summarizing the survey results. As you can see, many of the conclusions are quite fascinating. Among the most notable:

- More American Jews than Israelis approve of an "independent Palestinian state" (68% of American Jews approve compared with 44% of Israelis), even though both communities believe by over 3-to-1 that a Palestinian state is "likely" to emerge in the future.
- More Israelis than not believe that Arafat sincerely wants to continue the peace process (49% sincere compared with 45% insincere) while more U.S. Jews believe he is insincere (50% insincere compared with 37% sincere).
- 79% of Israelis believe that American Jewish opinions should be considered in Israeli politics while only 48% of American Jews feel this way.

Best wishes at this momentous time in Israel's history -- and hopes for a year of peace and progress ahead.

Washington Office: 1225 15th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005 / Tel: 202.462.0800 / Fax: 202.462.3892

Los Angeles Office: 17057 Chatsworth Street, Granada Hills, CA 91344 / Tel: 818.831.2000 / Fax: 818.831.1411

Israel Office: 43 Emek Refaim Street, Suite 10, Jerusalem 93141 / Tel: 972.2.561.7258 / Fax: 972.2.561.7437

Los Angeles Times

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 1998

THE TIMES POLL

Jews of U.S., Israel Split on Palestinian State

■ **Judaism:** Parallel surveys reveal agreements, disagreements on many issues, as well as potential support among Israelis for liberal, American-style faith.

By ALAN ABRAHAMSON
and LARRY STAMMER
TIMES STAFF WRITERS

Jews in the United States and Israel sharply disagree over the creation of an independent Palestinian state, with American Jews heavily in favor of the idea and Israelis much more deeply divided, according to new polls conducted by the Los Angeles Times and Israel's Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper.

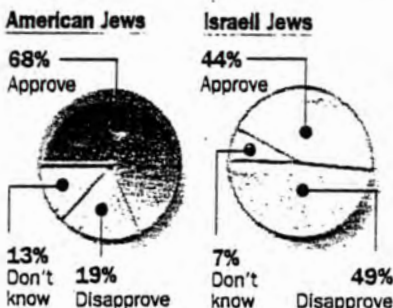
American Jews approve of an independent Palestinian state, 68%-19%. Israelis, by contrast, split, with 44% approving and 49% disapproving, including 34% who strongly oppose the idea. In both countries, more than two-thirds of those polled believe that a Palestinian state is likely to be created whether they like it or not.

The American Jewish support for a Palestinian state comes despite increasing skepticism about the chance for a lasting peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

About 4 in 10 American Jews say they are less optimistic about the chances of a lasting peace than they were a year ago. Only 9% are more optimistic. The numbers are similar in Israel—46% less optimistic, 12% more so. And in both countries, a majority said they did not think that even a "true peace with the Palestinians" would put an end to the overall conflict with the Arabs.

Views on a Palestinian State

■ Do you approve or disapprove of there being an independent Palestinian state in the Middle East?



Source: L.A. Times / Yedioth Ahronoth Poll

The polls also reveal a surprising amount of potential support in Israel for liberal, American-style Judaism.

Orthodox Jews have long enjoyed a monopoly on religious affairs in Israel, and even the majority of Israeli Jews, who consider themselves secular, generally associate religion with Orthodoxy.

But, the poll shows, 58% of Israelis approve of allowing rabbis from the more liberal streams of Judaism—the Reform and Conservative movements—to perform marriages and religious conversions in Israel. That issue has been the subject of intense controversy in Israel for the last year, with Orthodox leaders bitterly opposing it.

In addition, 48% of Israeli Jews say women should have the right to be rabbis despite the fact that female rabbis are

virtually unheard of in the country. Only 38% of Israeli Jews say women should be barred from the pulpit—the position taken by the Orthodox—while 13% are unsure.

American Jews overwhelmingly support both female rabbis and equal status for Conservative and Reform rabbis in Israel.

Israelis and Americans do disagree sharply over whether Jews should support Israel publicly even when they disagree in private—as they have with frequency in recent months over conversion and other issues.

By 65%-28%, Israelis say Jews should support Israel in public even when they disagree privately. Among Americans, 40% take that position and 50% do not.

But although Israelis dislike public criticism from American Jews, a 78%-18% majority believe that the views of American Jews should be taken into account in Israel's policies.

The majority of Jews in each country are, on the whole, at least mildly upbeat about relationships between the two groups—74% of Americans and 80% of Israelis describe the current relationship as fair or good, and another 8% in each country say relations are excellent.

"There's a sharing of a sense of the same fate and destiny, a deep, deep feeling of belonging to the same people . . . the same moral values, knowing that in one's heart one cannot be without the other," said Eliahu Ben-Elissar, Israel's ambassador to the United States.

"At the same time, [we're] having a lot of problems, a lot of problems which, may I say, are very Jewish."

The polls, undertaken in conjunction with Israel's 50th anniversary, asked a similar set of questions of Israeli and American Jews to compare their attitudes.

Please see POLL, A34

POLL: Jews in Israel, U.S. Split on Palestinian State

Continued from A1

The Los Angeles Times Poll, supervised by Times Poll Director Susan Pinkus, was conducted nationwide among 848 American Jews by telephone from March 8 through April 1. The poll by Yedioth Ahronoth—the largest daily in Israel—was conducted by the Dahaf Research Group; it surveyed 1,011 Israeli Jews by telephone from March 12 through March 23. The margin of sampling error on the American poll is plus or minus four percentage points; on the Israeli poll, it is plus or minus three percentage points.

Among the many things on which Israeli and American Jews agree is that things in Israel are headed in the wrong direction.

Only 40% of Israelis believe that their country is "generally going in the right direction." Virtually the same number, 42%, say it is "seriously off on the wrong track."

The perspective from America is more critical, with 49% saying that Israel is on the wrong track and only 26% saying that it is headed in the right direction.

That assessment could reflect disquiet about the course of peace negotiations between Israel and the Arabs.

In both Israel and America, support is strong for the 1993 Oslo peace accord—though support is stronger in Israel, 77%, compared to 66% in the United States. Respondents in both countries were read a description of the pact.

Forty percent of Israelis strongly approve of the peace agreement; only 29% of American Jews register strong support.

Under the accord, secretly hammered out in Oslo and nearby locations while official negotiations were carried out in Washington, Israel agreed to return part of the West Bank and Gaza Strip captured in the 1967 Six-Day War to

THE TIMES POLL

the Palestinians in exchange for peace and official recognition of Israel's statehood.

Five years later, the scope and timing of Israeli pullbacks from the occupied territories have proven an obstacle to full implementation of the accord.

In both America and Israel, large majorities favor returning some of the occupied land—69% of Americans, 71% of Israelis.

Only 18% of American Jews, but 30% of Israelis, favor returning "all or most" of the occupied land, while 16% of Americans and 17% of Israelis oppose returning any.

But only 18% of Americans believe that the on-again, off-again peace process has made Israel more secure; 28% of Israelis do. By comparison, 35% of Americans and 33% of Israelis believe that the peace process has made Israel less secure.

And the day is apparently far off when Israelis would be willing to call Palestinians not just neighbors but friends. Two-thirds of Israelis say they hold an unfavorable impression of Palestinians; 35% say it is "very unfavorable."

Removed from the tensions of the scene, only 39% of American Jews hold an unfavorable impression of the Palestinian people.

Perhaps surprisingly, though, Americans hold a more negative view of Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat's intentions than do Israelis.

By 50%-37%, American Jews believe that Arafat is not sincere in wanting to push the peace process along. Among Israelis, he gets the benefit of the doubt: 49% say that he is sincere, while 45% say he is not.

Though essentially half of Israelis believe that Arafat sincerely wants peace, they nevertheless don't like him, with 83% holding an unfavorable impression and just 11% a favorable one. Among American Jews, the negative view prevails, 73%-15%.

Both American and Israeli Jews believe that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is sincere about moving the peace process forward: 60% in the United States, 63% in Israel.

But opinion over Netanyahu is divided.

A 36% plurality of each group believes that Netanyahu's government has made things between the United States and Israel worse. Only 19% of Americans and 20% of Israelis believe that his government has made things better.

Though it might be considered something of a novelty for any group of Americans to be intensely knowledgeable about the affairs of a foreign country, let alone express an opinion about whether another nation is on the right or wrong track, the relationship between United States and Israeli Jews is unique.

U.S. Jewish charities and fundraising agencies contribute millions of dollars annually to Israel. And for generations, Jews worldwide have prayed to be able to return to Israel; even Jews born and reared in the United States frequently develop an emotional kinship with Israel.

As a consequence, 86% of American Jews think that what happens in Israel is important to them personally.

Indeed, 41% of American Jews polled say they have visited Israel at least once, and 42% say they have friends or relatives there. Among Israeli Jews, 37% have visited the United States and 73% have friends or relatives in this country.

Despite the Zionist ideal of Jews reuniting in a Jewish state, only 7% of American Jews say they could see themselves ever moving to Israel, while 16% of Israelis say they could see themselves moving

to America. Despite the Zionist ideal of Jews reuniting in a Jewish state, only 7% of American Jews say they could see themselves ever moving to Israel, while 16% of Israelis say they could see themselves moving to America.

The most public difference between American Jews and Israelis in the last year has involved issues of religious pluralism.

At the heart of the dispute are daunting theological differences, including whether Jewish religious law always applies in the contemporary world—as the Orthodox insist—or, for instance, whether a child born of a Jewish father and a non-Jewish mother is just as Jewish as a child born to a Jewish mother, as the Reform movement holds.

These and other differences have come to be focused on the issue of conversion. Currently, only conversions made under the auspices of Orthodox rabbis are considered valid in Israel. The same goes for religious marriages, divorces and funerals.

Over the last year, the Reform and Conservative movements have pressed for recognition of their legitimacy to undertake conversions in Israel.

What the polls make clear, however, is that although the Orthodox have long enjoyed a monopoly on religious affairs in Israel, support for that monopoly is potentially soft.

Among Israelis who describe themselves as secular, many say they would like to be more Jewish than they are now and may be open to new ideas about religion because they are not attracted to Orthodoxy. There is also considerable support in Israel for pluralism, so that even many Israelis who would not turn to a Reform rabbi to marry them feel that those rabbis should have the right to perform marriages.

Those views are reflected in the poll data. Similarly, the poll suggests that many Israeli Jews engage in religious practices that are not all that different from Reform and Conservative Jews in America.

A majority of Israelis, 54%, identify themselves as "secular" Jews. But 88% of Israelis say they always or usually attend a Passover Seder; 83% light Hanukkah candles; 72% fast on Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement; and 63% light Sabbath candles at least some of the time.

In America, by comparison, 84% of Conservative Jews and 75% of Reform Jews attend a Seder; 79% of Conservative Jews and 74% of Reform Jews light Hanukkah candles.

On the sensitive issue of defining who is a Jew, Americans and Israelis were asked to choose the person they considered "more" Jewish: someone with a Jewish mother who doesn't practice the religion, or a person whose mother is not Jewish but who attends synagogue regularly.

Israelis, by 43%-13%, still side with the Orthodox interpretation—choosing the person whose mother is Jewish. Americans, however, chose the person who goes to synagogue, 50%-27%. But Israelis were twice as likely as Americans, 32%-16%, to say that both people in the hypothetical question were Jewish.

More American Jews (52%) than Israelis (39%) view Jews as a group defined by ethnicity or culture. A 42% plurality of Israelis view Jews as primarily a group defined by religion—a view shared by 32% of American Jews.

Finally, both groups said that defining themselves as Jewish is important, 57% of Israelis, 54% of Americans. But 27% of Israelis say it is the single most important part of their identities; only 13% of Americans feel that way.

Times staff writer Marjorie Miller in Jerusalem contributed to this story.

How the Poll Was Conducted

■ The Times Poll, in conjunction with Israeli newspaper Yedioth Ahronoth, contacted 848 American Jews nationwide and 1,011 Israeli Jews nationwide by telephone. The Times Poll conducted the survey in the United States March 8 through April 1; Yedioth Ahronoth conducted its survey in Israel March 12 through 23. For the U.S. survey, telephone numbers were chosen from a list of all exchanges in the nation so that listed and non-listed numbers could be contacted. Seventy-three percent of the Jewish population lives within the top 10 metropolitan statistical areas in the nation, according to the 1997 Jewish American Yearbook. The sample was drawn in proportion to the Jewish population in these regions, plus the rest of the nation.

■ For the Israeli survey, telephone numbers were randomly drawn from a computer list that included all telephone exchanges in the nation. The population was divided into the following: Jews who are immigrants from the former Soviet Union (about 12%), kibbutz members (3%), settlers (2%) and longtime residents (83%) who are not kibbutz members or settlers. These groups were then stratified by type of settlement and geographical area. Because ultra-Orthodox Jews are reluctant to be interviewed, an oversample of Haredic Jews was drawn for the survey. The poll was conducted for Yedioth by the Dahaf Research Institute under the direction of Dr. Mina Zemach.

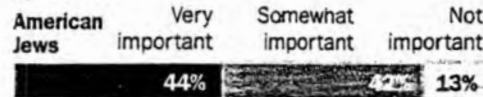
■ The margin of sampling error for the U.S. survey is plus or minus 4 percentage points; for Israel, it is 3 points. For certain subgroups, the error margin may be somewhat higher. Poll results can also be affected by other factors, such as question wording, the order in which questions are presented and response rate.

A Comparison of Opinions

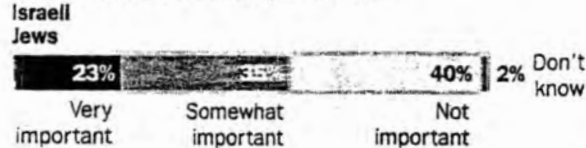
The Times and Israel's Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper posed parallel questions to Israeli Jews and a nationwide sample of American Jews. The results show a generally close relationship between the two groups, but disagreement on some specific issues.

■ How important to you personally is what happens ...

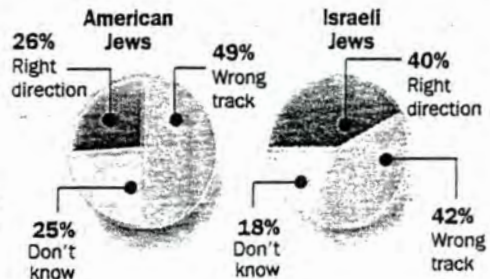
... in Israel?



... in the Jewish community in the U.S?

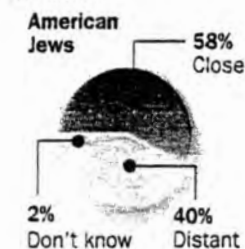


■ Are things in Israel generally going in the right direction or are they seriously off on the wrong track?

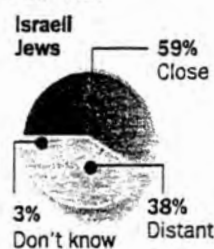


■ How close do you feel to ...

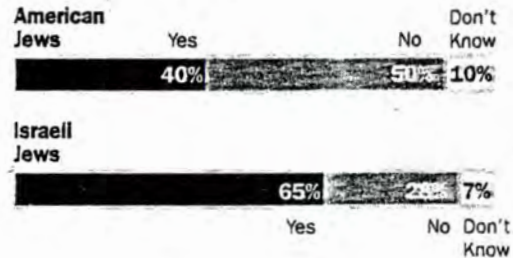
... Israel?



... the U.S?



■ Should Jews support Israel in public even when they disagree in private?



■ What is your impression of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu?

	American Jews	Israeli Jews
Favorable	45%	46%
Unfavorable	34	47
Haven't heard enough/Don't know	21	7

■ Which statement comes closer to your opinion: "In the long run, I believe that it is in the best interest of Judaism to have a significant Jewish population in the United States," or "I believe that it would be better for Judaism if as many Jews as possible lived in Israel"?

	American Jews	Israeli Jews
Jewish population in U.S.	66%	42%
As many Jews as possible in Israel	15	47
Don't know	19	11

■ How is the current relationship between American Jews and Israeli Jews?

	American Jews	Israeli Jews
Excellent/Good	49%	53%
Fair/Poor	39	39
Don't know	12	8

■ Looking ahead three to five years, do you see Jews in Israel and in the United States becoming closer, drifting apart, or do you think things will remain about the same?

	American Jews	Israeli Jews
Become closer	17%	25%
Drift apart	12	14
Remain the same	62	47
Don't know	9	14

■ Are relations between Israel and the U.S. better than they have been in the past, worse or about the same?

	American Jews	Israeli Jews
Better	17%	13%
Worse	23	43
Same	54	39
Don't know	6	5

■ In the Oslo peace agreement Israel agreed to return part of the West Bank and Gaza Strip to the Palestinians in exchange for peace and official recognition of Israel by the Palestinians. Do you ...

	American Jews	Israeli Jews
Approve	66%	77%
Disapprove	22	19
Don't know	12	4

■ Should Israel continue to expand Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, or not?

	American Jews	Israeli Jews
Yes	32%	30%
No	53	59
Don't know	15	11

■ "True peace with the Palestinians will also put an end to conflicts with other Arab nations." Agree or disagree?

	American Jews	Israeli Jews
Agree	37%	36%
Disagree	57	58
Don't know	6	6

■ Are disturbances by Palestinians in the occupied territories acts of civil disobedience or are they acts of war against the government of Israel?

	American Jews	Israeli Jews
Civil disobedience	34%	36%
Acts of war	49	48
Don't know	17	16

Source: L.A. Times/Yedioth Ahronoth Poll Times Poll results are also available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.latimes.com/HOME/NEWS/POLLS/>

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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THE
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PURPOSE

Albert Einstein once said that the most complicated issues facing any society should be discussed by its citizens on the common ground. The New York Leadership Conference (NYLC) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization which seeks that common ground on which to address timely public issues.

The NYLC sponsors periodic breakfast meetings to provoke discussion that will stimulate further awareness and understanding. Speakers who are the leaders and experts in their fields address each meeting.

BACKGROUND

The NYLC was started nearly a decade ago as an informal discussion group of concerned New Yorkers, motivated by their interest in social and political issues.

Today, the breakfasts have evolved into a more structured format and participation has grown. Yet, the interactions between the speakers and the audience retain their original intimacy and spontaneity.

EXCHANGE OF IDEAS

The NYLC facilitates an open dialogue, incorporating a variety of viewpoints. One example of this exchange of ideas were early 1992 meetings examining the positions of the Democratic Presidential candidates during the primary campaign. Speakers included Governor Bill Clinton, U.S. Senators Tom Harkin and Bob Kerrey and Former U.S. Senator Paul Tsongas.

The NYLC hosts speakers who are advocates for crucial but often disregarded social questions. Senator Albert Gore is such a leader, having long guided the effort to change the way Americans think about the environment. At the NYLC, he recently gave a multi-media presentation which highlighted the gravity of environmental issues.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful



ISLAMIC CENTER OF LONG ISLAND

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Westbury, New York 11590

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First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20050 - Fax: 202-456-2883

May 8, 1998

American Muslims Appreciate

Your Sincere and Courageous Remarks on Palestinian Statehood

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

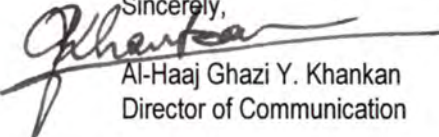
We, along with 464 signatories of the attached 53 pages of letters, would like to congratulate you for your courageous statement in a satellite interview on World Net concerning the problem of Palestine. You have demonstrated a clear vision of the core of the problem. In the root of the Middle East 50-year-old conflict is the fact that Palestinians have been deprived of their homeland and that they do not strive for anything else but to regain it. How many human lives could have been saved if this simple fact was understood and respected in time! Definitely, no lasting peace can be reached in that area if the Palestinian State is not reestablished "on the same footing as the other states", as wisely remarked by you.

The struggle of Palestinians for dignity, freedom and independence is natural as it is for any other people and could only be obtained when they regain their own independent state. Avoiding this simple truth can only be explained as political blindness. Your eye-opening statements touch the essence of the problem and point the way to a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

The way you see the solution to the problem is only being fair, in accordance with United Nations resolutions and it does not mean taking the Palestinians' side. United States must change its approach to the issue and pay attention to the central just Palestinian grievance

of having been deprived of their ancestral lands, if any lasting peace is to be found. Together with this is the important fact that the Israeli Government did not respect any of the numerous United Nations resolutions.

Dear Mrs. Clinton, we realize that you are being subjected to an overwhelming criticism by many political leaders and newspaper and television editors for your fair statement on the necessity of a Palestinian State. We hope that you are also aware that throughout history all those who speak up for the downtrodden have been treated the same way at first. We pray that you are not discouraged by all this criticism and vicious attacks, and continue to have the courage to speak and stand for truth and fairness.

Sincerely,

Al-Haaj Ghazi Y. Khankan
Director of Communication

GYK:mt

Atts.

Copies to: --Nazir A. Mir

--Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) - Fax: 202-659-2254

--Islamic Association for Palestine (IAP) - Fax: 708-974-3389

--American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) - Fax: 202-244-3196

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Israeli Civil Rights and Peace

קרן החינוך
לזכויות האזרח ולשלום

May 8, 1998

Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

We commend you on your remarks concerning support for a Palestinian state made yesterday to the Palestinian and Israeli youngsters participating in the "Seeds of Peace" program. We hope this will soon be the position and policy of the United States for the humane and sensible reasons you gave.

It is important that you and President Clinton know that there are a substantial number of American Jews and American Jewish organizations which believe that only a sovereign Palestinian state, negotiated and agreed upon by both parties, can offer any hope of a genuine and lasting peace between the Jewish State, the Palestinians, and the other Arab states.

Further, we believe that the stability of the Middle East is at serious risk today, and with it, the lives of uncounted Israelis and Palestinians. For humanitarian reasons, and for reasons of America's national interest and security, we believe it is imperative that our government be unremitting in exercising the responsibilities it assumed at the invitation of both parties to be the facilitator of the Oslo Peace Process.

Sincerely,

Israel S. Dresner
(Rabbi) Israel S. Dresner
President

Stefi L. Kirschner
Stefi L. Kirschner
Chair

Charney V. Bromberg
Charney V. Bromberg
Executive Director

cc: President William J. Clinton

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14 WEST 26 STREET

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pno

Rabbi Steven B. Jacobs

May 7, 1998

Ms. Hillary Clinton
The White House

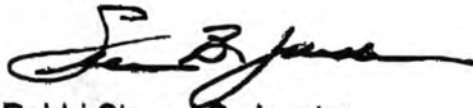
Via Fax: (202) 456-2461

Dear Ms. Clinton:

I want to thank you for your personal statement regarding the Palestinian people. You were forthright and I want you to know there are numbers of us who share your beliefs about the Mideast.

You are always courageous and I applaud your statement.

Shalom,



Rabbi Steven B. Jacobs

SBJ:jm

cc: Rabbi David Saperstein
Religious Action Center, Washington, DC

Kol Tikvah

20400 Ventura Blvd., Woodland Hills, CA 91364 • (818) 348-0670 • FAX (818) 348-1584

PPA Lm

From wilwhite@erols.com Wed May 13 23:22:04 1998
Date: Wed, 13 May 1998 23:20:20 -0400 (EDT)
From: "Willis H. White" <wilwhite@erols.com>
Subject: Peace and Justice in the Middle East
X-Sender: wilwhite@pop.erols.com (Unverified)
To: First Lady Hillary Clinton <first.lady@WhiteHouse.GOV>
Message-id: <199805140320.XAA00789@smtp1.erols.com>

Dear Hillary:

I realize that this is an improper title for you, but I do feel akin to you and to your courage, both in facing the attempt by some to discredit you and President Clinton and in standing up for peace and justice in the Middle East.

I can't tell you how proud I was of you recently when I heard you say that you felt the way to a fair and just peace in the Middle East meant that the Palestinians should have their own independent state. I know that this took a lot of courage because I am sure that you will receive much hate mail for your stand. I want to congratulate you and let you know that we Methodist Women of the Arlington District support you and cheer you on. I write both as an individual concerned with Peace and Justice in the Middle East and as the Social Action Chairman of the Arlington District United Methodist Women.

So, thanks for taking such a brave and courageous stand on this issue. The Palestinians have suffered greatly in so many ways through these last 50 years. The Christian Peacemaker team in Hebron (6 Americans who monitor Palestinian home demolitions) are a wonderful group that perhaps you would like to visit or talk with. They are such loving people and so committed to having a non-violent presence in this troubled area. I urge you to get acquainted with their work!

Thanks again for your courageous support for a Palestinian State.

Sincerely,

Maurla K. White
United Methodist Women
Social Action, Chairman
Arlington District, VA

Palestine Pro HB



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MISSISSIPPI AREA
POST OFFICE BOX 931
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205-0931

MARSHALL L. MEADORS, JR.
RESIDENT BISHOP

(601) 948-4561
FAX (601) 948-5981

May 13, 1998

via facsimile 202-456-2461

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

Thank you for your statement of support of the establishment of a
Palestinean state.

God bless you.

Grace and peace,

Marshall L. Meadors, Jr.

Marshall L. Meadors, Jr.

MLM/kmt

*Agree
S. rudney**FIRST LADY CORRESP.*

Virgin Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church

77 HIGH STREET
YONKERS, NEW YORK 10703

V. REV. GEORGE MAKHLOUF
Pastor

RECTORY PHONE
914-476-1072

May 8, 1998

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady of the United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear First Lady:

I would like to seize the opportunity of Mothers' Day to wish a Very Happy Mothers' Day; not only as the mother of Shellsey, but also as the best mother of the best nation.

Your personal view on the Palestinian question, expressed via satellite with Arab and Israeli teen-agers holding a meeting in Villars, Switzerland (Seeds for Peace), proves your prophetic vision and wise judgment. Very few are those who dare to speak up. You are one of them who are not afraid to say openly what is right. May the Lord God give you the power to continue your role as instrument of peace.

We admire your courage and wisdom.

We are very proud of our First Lady.

We thank you very much.

We love you.

We congratulate you.

And wish our beloved president, our First Lady, and their dear daughter all the best.

God bless America.

Yours,

V. Rev. George Makhlouf

V. Rev. George Makhlouf
Pastor of Virgin Mary Church
Yonkers, New York

Her Excellency , Mrs. Hillary Clinton
The First Lady..
The White House
Washington .
Fax:001-202-456-6244
Date : May 08 ,1998 .

cc: Melann

Your Excellency.

I am writing to express my admiration for your distinguished personality , and courageous comments supporting the creation of a Palestinian state

I am proud , and thrilled those comments came from The First Lady known for her free mind and spirit . You have proved to be braver than any living world leader . Those leaders who do not dare speak their minds , or say what they believe in because they fear the unethical and immoral practices of the Jewish lobbies in their countries .

This so called Israel, was created on the stolen lands of the Palestinians who were driven out of their homes , converted into refugees , and replaced by Jewish immigrants from all over the world . All this has taken place under the eyes , and with the help of the democratic world nations.

Your Excellency .

You have only spoken the truth , that should have been spoken long time ago . It is time that somebody has taken that initiative , and we are so glad that you are that somebody .

I want you to know that you and your husband President Clinton have all our respect, and support in your encounters with the ungrateful groups in your country and out side

Please , keep up the high spirit . We have been praying that God gives you the power and strength to serve justice as best as you can .

On behalf of all Palestinians I like to extend my invitation to you to come and visit the areas under Palestinian control , part of the future state of Palestine .

Sincerely

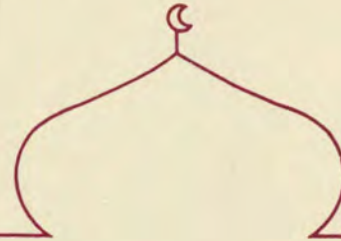
Omaima Nashashibi
Wife of the Palestinian Minister Of Finance
Gaza , Palestine ..
Fax. 009-727-825-255.

**PHOTOCOPY
HRC HANDWRITING**

Palestine
Coar

The American Muslim Forum

1667 Langport Drive Tel (408) 736-3555
Sunnyvale, CA 94087 Fax (408) 746-3998



Ms. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Office of the First Lady
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

May 13, 1998

Dear Ms. Clinton,

I am following up on my telephone message of this date to commend you for the overwhelming support that you recently gave for the establishment of the State of Palestine on Palestinian soil. I mention "on Palestinian soil" since most Jews who agree that the Palestinian people should have their own State will maintain, in their hearts, that such a State should be in neighboring Jordan and not in Palestine.

Contrary to the opinion of my Muslim colleagues, it did not take courage alone for you to render your commendable opinion regarding a Palestinian State. The caring for a suffering people who have been deprived of a homeland for fifty years, empathy for those who were brutally slaughtered, tortured, and imprisoned for years without charge, genuine regard for those whose homes were destroyed by Israelis and made homeless because they did not have proper permits that are rarely if ever granted or because a family member was merely "suspected" of throwing a stone. All these had to have been in your thoughts when you made such a laudatory assessment of what it will take to create a lasting peace in that region.

I was born in this wonderful country in 1939. My parents immigrated from Lebanon. My parents loved America with an ineffable passion and adoration because America represented justice, freedom, and opportunity for its citizens and guests, and its citizens believed that such benefits should be extended to all peoples in all the world.

My father, may he rest in peace, once asked me what I learned in school on that day. I replied that I was taught that there are many different races in this world and that I should defend my country right or wrong.

My father, an unlettered man who struggled throughout his life to support our family, was a bit troubled. He reflected for a few moments and told me that there is only one human race and that all the various ethnic peoples, though different, are equally beautiful flowers in the Garden of Allah. He also asked if I might not consider the following: Defend my country if it is right, but if it is wrong, do my part to make it right to protect its good image in the world. In the Holy Quran, God tells us that humankind was created into different tribes and nations so that we would come to know one another (and not despise or harm each other), and that the best among us are *the most righteous*.

This letter serves as another opportunity for me encourage making right a terrible and shameful injustice that my country's government in Washington, D.C. has allowed the Israelis to perpetuate against the Palestinian and Lebanese people for the sake of receiving enormous Jewish financial donations and votes in order to stay in office. We clearly recall the current president proclaiming during his first campaign that if he were elected the White House kitchen would become a Kosher kitchen, and we have seen him on television repeatedly wearing a Jewish yarmulke but never daring to don an Arab kafiya. We do not believe that this is the stuff that America should be made of. The Inequity Wall is America's barricade against justice.

I remember seeing several bumper stickers on cars that have had a powerful impact on my view of Washington: "Support your Government- Buy a Congressman"; "I love my country but fear my government"; and "If you think education is expensive, try ignorance".

Mrs. Clinton, you are despised by those Jewish and Christian zionists who believe that the U.S. must support Israel *right or wrong*, but you are most beloved and held in the highest esteem, respect, and regard among the Muslims in this country who, according to Ted Koppel on last year's *Nightline* program on the Haj, now outnumber Jews in America.

In our hearts you are among *the most righteous*, and I know that I have the full support of the Muslim communities nationwide when I urge you to run for the office of the President of the United States in the next presidential election. If you decide to do so, and I am emphatic in my encouragement, we will do all that we can to raise funds and, most importantly, to walk our districts all around the U.S. to muster support for you and to get Americans to vote for you.

You've seen the Million Man March. Perhaps you will see the Million Muslim March in Washington to support your election. If you are elected, and in sha Allah you will, then shall the world renew its respect for America and its commitment to justice and self-determination; then might the world see a cessation of "America the Bully" and the birth of "America the Compassionate"; then might the sale of weapons be replaced with the sale of bulldozers, tractors, and other farming equipment to feed the hungry, medicine and medical training to heal the infirmed, cement and construction equipment to house the homeless, and books and teaching skills to educate the uneducated. The funds for such programs will be those that are currently being wasted on foreign aid and gifts of military equipment.

I have always felt that a mother should be our president since she birthed a child or children and experienced the agony and heartache of their childhood illnesses, nurtured them with a diet of healthy foods, drink, good moral conduct, and the education that they received through her would determine the level of human kindness reflected in that child's maturity. In addition to your own compassionate opinion regarding the Palestinian people, Chelsea is the next best evidence that we Muslims have of her mother's transference of kindness and compassion towards all humankind.

However, when I looked around for a woman that I could support for president I saw only Madeleine Albright, who told Leslie Stahl of *60 Minutes*

that it is worth the death of a half million Iraqi children by imposing sanctions to "teach Saddam Hussein a lesson", and Janet Reno, who authorized the brutal deaths in Waco, or Jeanne Kirkpatrick, who might as well be an agent for the Israeli Mossad. You, by contrast, are a God-sent gift to humankind. As president of this wonderful nation you will be able to right so many wrongs that were committed by your predecessors as long as you maintain the strength to guard against manipulation from *all* ethnic or religious groups.

In closing I wish to make three comments and a request.

Comment One: The U.S. coined the expression "self-determination" but applies it only when political gain can be achieved.

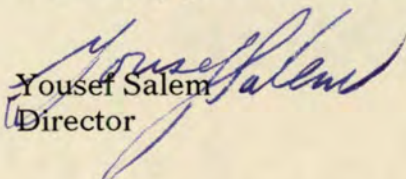
Comment Two: United Nations Resolution 181 that partitioned Palestine to create two homelands has never been rescinded. It is still a valid resolution, for it had it been rescinded the State of Israel would cease to exist. Therefore, the fact that the Palestinians refused to accept the partitioning of its land is irrelevant. Resolution 181 is still on the books and therefore the State of Palestine in fact exists within the borders of the original 1948 partition of Palestine.

Comment Three: Israel is the only "country" that has never declared its borders, which is essential to be recognized as a legitimate State, and it is my understanding that Israel is the only "country" that was never ratified by the United Nations.

Request: In order for you to have a wider understanding of the history of that region from an honest and historical perspective, this would be an excellent opportunity for you to meet with myself and other Arabs, Jews, and Christians in the U.S., such as Professor Khalil Barhoum at Stanford University; Dr. Naseer Aruri, Chancellor Professor of Political Science at University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth; Dr. Noam Chomsky (Jewish) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. Joel Beinin (Jewish), Professor of History at Stanford University; Dr. Dwight Simpson, Professor of International Relations at San Francisco State University and Dr. Marshall Windmiller, Professor Emeritus also at SFSU (Christians); Mr. Mark Bruzonski (Jewish), Director of Committee on the Middle East (formerly the Jewish Committee on the Middle East, and Mr. Richard Curtiss (Christian), Executive Editor of *The Washington Report on Middle East Affairs*.

Please forgive my lack of brevity. I hope that this letter actually gets to you and is not "lost", "misplaced", or conveniently filed in some remote container for disposal by a staff member who may not want you to read and/or act on its contents. In that regard, I would appreciate a personal acknowledgment from you that you have received and read my letter, and I also would greatly appreciate knowing your response. May God bless you and protect you and your gracious and beautiful daughter Chelsea from all harm, and may President Bill Clinton see the need to act justly on the issue of Palestine while he is still in office.

With every good wish and kindest regards,


Yousef Salem
Director

Business card included.

The American
Muslim Forum



Yousef Salem
Director

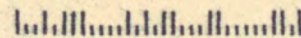
1667 Langport Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Tel (408) 736-3555
Fax (408) 746-3998

The American Muslim Forum
1667 Langport Drive Sunnyvale, CA 94087



Ms. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Office of the First Lady
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500





بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الاتحاد الإسلامي في أمريكا الشمالية

THE ISLAMIC SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

May 13, 1998

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Office of the First Lady
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

On behalf of myself and on behalf of the Islamic Society of North America (the largest Islamic organization in US and Canada), I would like to express our deep appreciation for your very courageous moral stance on the issue of Palestine. You said what many politicians say in secret, but they are afraid to say it in public. The people of Palestine are human too and their rights must be recognized. Our country must be just and fair to all human beings. Your position is very encouraging and inspiring.

We thank you and wish you all the best. May God bless you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Muzammil H. Siddiqi
President ISNA



THE ISLAMIC SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA
Post Office Box 38
Plainfield, Indiana 46168



Mrs. Hillary Clinton
Office of the First Lady
1600 Penn. Ave.
NW Washington, DC 20500





In the name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful.

THE ISLAMIC CENTER OF GREATER TOLEDO

25877 Scheider Road

• Perrysburg, Ohio 43551 U.S.A. •

Phone: (419) 874-3509

FAX: 419-874-9123



May 13, 1998

The Office of the First Lady
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

On behalf of the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo and Toledo Muslim community, I would like to thank you very much for your recent statement regarding the Palestinian people.

Your attitude and concern of the oppressed people in Palestine is greatly appreciated. We pray to God to guide us all to follow the road of peace based upon justice for all parties.

Sincerely,

Imam A.M. Khattab,
Director



May 8, 1998

VIA FAX: 456-6244

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

On behalf of the National Association of Arab Americans (NAAA), I am writing to express the appreciation of our community to your sensitive and thoughtful comments concerning the formation of a Palestinian state. We agree that it is in the long-term interests of the Middle East for Palestine to be a state.

We are aware that the views you stated on May 6 are not the policy of the Administration. There can be no doubt, however, that if a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East is to be achieved, the Palestinian people must ultimately be able to exercise their legitimate right to independent statehood. We hope, therefore, that the U.S. government will eventually express support for such a state.

Your commitment, and that of your husband, to the right of all parties in the region to live in peace and security is unquestioned. We are grateful that as an important figure in the United States you have made public your views in support of a peace that will benefit all the peoples of the region.

Sincerely,



Khalil E. Jahshan
President

1212 New York Avenue, NW • Suite 230 • Washington, DC 20005 • (202) 842-1840 • Fax (202) 842-1614

*Palestine
Pro
AB*



May 13, 1998

Mrs. Hillary Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

I applaud and appreciate your thoughtful remarks concerning the right of the Palestinian People to a state responsible for its own people. Such a step should be endorsed in our country as it is endorsed in Europe and most of the rest of the world. This will ensure a just and lasting peace in the region. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Suad Cano, Chairman Of The Board
144 So. Robertson Blvd.
L.A., CA 90048

Society of Inash el -Usra

جمعية إنعاش الأسرة

AL-Bireh-Palestine

اليرة - فلسطين

No: 3/8/7647

Date: 16th, May, 1998**Dear Mrs. Clinton,**

Palestinian women have been following closely and with high hopes your latest statements regarding the establishment of a Palestinian State.

Your status as first lady of one of the most powerful nations in modern times, has certainly given us courage and offered us a glimmer of light at the end of the dark tunnel, especially that the government of the USA has been a traditional and unflinching ally of Israel even as it continued to dispossess the Palestinians of their lands and freedom and to violate their human rights.

Mrs. Clinton,

You are naturally aware of the development of the Palestinian tragedy which started close to a century ago with the Balfour Declaration promising a homeland to the Jews on Palestinian land without their consent or knowledge.

This was aggravated by the 1947 UN partition scheme which allotted 56% of Palestine to the Jewish State when the Jews, at the time, owned only 6% of Palestine. The Palestinians and their Arab brethren, feeling gravely wronged, rejected this scheme, as a result of which war broke out, Israel conquered 76% of Palestine and 750000 Palestinians became refugees who were never allowed to return home despite several consequent UN resolutions to that effect. Instead, the newly recognized state rushed to demolish 456 Palestinian villages and to build settlements in their place in an attempt to make it impossible for the refugees to return to their homes and property.

All along the Palestinian people were placing their trust in the UN which was emerging as a haven organization for all oppressed peoples of the world. Unfortunately, the 1967 war dissipated all Palestinian hope when Israel occupied the remaining part of Palestine and other Arab territory and perpetrated its policy of establishing facts on the ground which continued the saga of Palestinian dispossession.

Recognizing the grave consequences of continued occupation, oppression and injustice, the Palestinian leadership launched their Peace Initiative in 1988 in the aftermath of the renowned Intifada which expressed the determination of the Palestinians to achieve their national rights and freedom no matter what the consequences. This initiative was based on UN resolutions calling for the establishment of two states, Palestine and Israel. Unfortunately, Israel scoffed at this initiative and raced to accelerate its policy of fait accompli.

The latest peace process, which your government is sponsoring, continues to be held hostage to the constant Israeli policy which is based on coveting all Palestinian land and resources under the

تلفون: ٩٩٥٦٨٧٦ - ٩٩٥٤١٢٣ تلفاكس: ٩٩٥٦٥٤٤ ص. ب. ٣٥٤٩ بريد الكتروني: usra@palnet.com اليرة - فلسطين

Tel . 9956876 - 9954123 Fax 995644 P.O.Box 3549 E.mail : usra@palnet.com Al-Bireh -Palestine

Society of Inash el -Usra

جمعية إنعاش الأسرة

AL-Bireh-Palestine

اليرة - فلسطين

pretext of security. It is indeed very disarming to realize that all we hear about is Israeli security. No body seems to be concerned about Palestinian security which is totally lacking as a defenseless people is daily facing the arsenal of a highly sophisticated army. Peace, for us Palestinians, is vital. But peace, to be lasting, must be based on justice, equality and the restoration of rights. It cannot be imposed by the but of a gun on a defenseless people.

Israel can not expect to dictate its peace terms on the Palestinians as long as it continues its policy of establishing facts on the ground by sheer force and intimidation. The Palestinian people can never accept peace which deprives them of Jerusalem, their territorial integrity and their right of return and the establishment of their independent State.

We trust, Mrs. Clinton, that you will continue to be an impartial voice that will advance peace and justice in the world and that President Clinton will go down in history as the one who saved the Holyland and not the one who perpetrated its desecration.

Yours sincerely

President of the Palestinian Women
President of the Society of Inash El - Usra
Sameeha S. Khaleel
Sameeha S. Khaleel

تلفون: ٩١٥٦٨٧٦ - ٩١٥٤١٢٣ تلفاكس: ٩١٥٦٥٤٤، ص. ب. ٣٥٤٩ بريد الكتروني: usra@palnet.com اليرة - فلسطين

Tel . 9956876 - 9954123 Fax 995644 P.O.Box 3549 E.mail : usra@palnet.com Al-Bireh -Palestine

*Pal. Pro
marsh*

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BROOKLYN, N. Y. 11223

FAX NUMBER: (718) 382-9028FAX MESSAGETO: First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton,
The White House, WashingtonDATE5/17/98FROM: A. AREESSUBJECT: Your Comments Re Palestinian Statehood

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

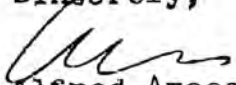
We Arab-Americans owe you a huge thank you and much gratitude for your straightforward, common-sense remarks about the value that Palestinian Statehood would bring to a lasting peace in the Middle East.

Those who cannot abide the thought will now know that a very important voice-- a courageous and honest voice-- has been heard at last in the Statehood issue.

A Palestinian State was very much a part of the original blueprint creating the State of Israel. We have waited fifty long years for the Statehood question to get resolved. Our hopes have been much boosted by what you had to say, a position we know is shared by most Americans and many Israelis.

We applaud you, we thank you. We send you best wishes.

Sincerely,


Alfred Arees,
Member, Arab-American
Leadership Council

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



The Honorable Lady Hillary Clinton

***The White House
Washington D.C.
U.S.A***

The Jerusalem Forum in Amman, Jordan representing the citizens of Jerusalem at home and in dispersal, have the honor and pleasure to convey to you their most sincere and profound esteem, and their deep appreciation for your principled and courageous support for the redemption of the Palestinian people and the establishment of a Palestinian State on Palestinian soil occupied in the 1967 war.

The Jerusalemites have been following with concern and disgust the tendencious campaign of vilification pursued against president Clinton and your goodself by the very same forces which have been undermining the Peace process, to distract the white House from pursuing the national goals of the American people in their pursuit of a just and lasting Peace in the Middle East, for the good of all peoples in this area which is the craddle of civilization.

You can rest assured lady Clinton, that our hearts and minds are with you and with your valiant husband in these trying days.

And many, many thanks again.

May 13, 1998

*Sincerely
Dr. Hazem Nusseibeh
Chairman.
H. Nusseibeh
Jerusalem Forum
Amman, Jordan*

P. O Box: 941014 - Amman 1119 - Jordan Telfax: 5675905

ص. ب. ٩٤١٠١٤ - عمان - ١١١٩ - الأردن / تليفاكس: ٥٦٧٥٩٠٥

Pro Palestine

202

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



Organisation Islamique
pour l'Education, les Sciences et la Culture
(ISESCO)

Directeur Général

Islamic Educational Scientific
and Cultural Organization
(ISESCO)

Director General

المدير العام

O/Ref. : D/Cab/6/ 0 3 2 4 3

Rabat, 15 MAI 1998

Mrs. Hillary Clinton
The White House
Washington
USA

Madam,

I have the honour to convey to you my profound appreciation for the noble stance you have taken, in one of your recent declarations, in respect of the right of the Palestinian people to set up its independent State on its national territories.

As I avail myself of this opportunity to hail your lofty initiative, in my name and on behalf of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) which represents the conscience of the Muslim world, I would like to emphasize that the reaction of the hard-line Zionists and unyielding enemies of freedom and peace must not prevent you from unveiling the truth and standing by the weak wherever they may be. I sincerely beseech you to make another generous humanitarian initiative to save Palestinian children, youth and women, indeed the entire Palestinian people, from all forms of aggression, persecution, repression and denial of its human rights. I will be obliged for any steps you will take in order to enforce the related international resolutions, and finally enable this people to enjoy its inalienable rights, including the right to self-determination.

The whole world is awaiting your initiative which, I am convinced, you are able to take.

I am certain that such a humanitarian initiative will win you recognition in history and praise from the entire mankind.

Please accept, dear Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri

Director General

AI/AM/aa



100



EE 000768141 MA

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

Room 100

Old Executive Office Bldg

Washington, D.C. 20500

U.S.A.



ITEM

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مركز "وثام" الفلسطيني
Palestinian Conflict
Resolution Center
WCAM

11 May, 1998

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

On behalf of Christians and Muslims seeking a just peace in our region, we would like to voice our support for your public statement in favor of a Palestinian state.

Your position is a real encouragement to all of us working for grassroots nonviolent conflict resolution in the territories occupied by Israel-- but we expect that you will also receive a lot of discouraging opposition as a result of your courageous statement.

Please don't be deterred. Palestinian recognition and national dignity will be part of any just, lasting peace in this region. The world still greatly underestimates the kind of persecution that the Palestinian peoples have experienced since the 1948 creation of the modern nation-state of Israel, and with its further expansion into our homelands in 1967.

We cannot encourage you enough in any role you play in bringing a justice-based stability to the Middle East, in spite of the difficulty you will inevitably face in this. Please accept our thanks.

In Peace,

Zoughbi Zoughbi
Director

عمارة مبارك - مقابل مستشفى جبل داود
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Mubaraq Building opposite to Mount David Hospital
Bethlehem P.O.Box: 326 Tel & Fax: 02-6470513

37

support
palestine

WOMEN & MOTHERS FOR PEACE

**Batya Aviram
36, Zamenhoff St.
Tel Aviv 64353
Israel
Tel/Fax: 5280637**

**Mrs. Hillary Clinton
The White House
Washington D.C.
USA**

10/5/98

Bravo Hillary!

We, Mothers and Women for Peace, an activist organization working for the continuation of the Middle East peace process, support your (latest) declaration in favor of a Palestinian state with all our hearts, and deeply appreciate your genuine concern that there be peace on earth and in our region.

After the Six Day War, only 2% of Israel's population supported the concept of a Palestinian state, compared to some 50% today, while 70% are in favor of the continuation of the Oslo process.

You are not alone, we stand by your side and admire your courage. If only there were more people like you who would stand up and state the truth as it really is. It is clear to us living here that a Palestinian State does in fact already exist, to all intents and purposes, so that rather than proposing a radical new concept, you are in fact but describing reality.

Indeed, the possibility of living in peace in the Middle East without a Palestinian state is practically non-existent. We see the deadlock in the peace process as disastrous!

We do not want to raise our children without hope, yet that is what we have been doing since Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. We have never felt so helpless and distressed, and see no hope for the continuation of the peace process without the urgent intervention of your husband the President, and his cabinet.

In light of the existing situation, we urge you not to abandon us to the threat of a new wave of bloodshed. The voices in the U.S. criticizing your statement do not belong to those who will pay the price of war. We are those who will suffer, because it is our husbands, sons and brothers who will be sacrificing their lives. Under the cloud of this bleak prospect, we see you and the President as our last chance.

We are behind you all the way, and will do whatever we can to prevent further bloodshed and bring peace. Continue in your fruitful endeavors to bring peace, and be strong for us! With your help, we shall not give up the battle for peace.

With admiration and praise,

God bless you,

Batya Aviram

Alan Kochly

Palestine from

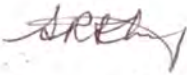
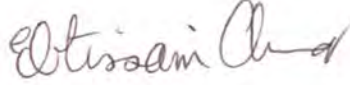
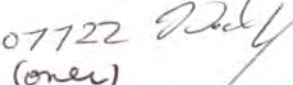
*The Princeton Middle East Society
Post Office Box 7342
Princeton, New Jersey 08548-7342*

17 May 1998

Mrs. Hillary Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20015

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

As American voters with a deep interest in and personal experience of the Middle East, we wish to commend your statement that the long term peace of the Middle East depends upon the Palestinian achievement of normal, democratic statehood. Until the rest of the Arab world senses that justice has been accorded to the Palestinian people, there can never be lasting peace in the area.

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
ISA QASIM	15 MADISON AVE HASBROUCK HTS N.J. 07604	
Samer Mourey	201 OTTAWA AVE. HASBROUCK HEIGHTS NJ 07604	
Ebtissam Ammar	139 Parker Road S. PLAINSBORO NJ 08536	
Bashar A. Assadi	3132 Cypress Ct., Monmouth Jct, NJ	
Edward & Maryellen Fandy	37 Wiggins St Princeton NJ 08540	
Salah El-Shekkh	66 Deer Path, Princeton N.J. 08540	
Zubaida Saadik	1 Walnut Grove, Calt Neck N.J. 07722	

ROSEMARY O'BRIEN

AMINTA MARKS

MARY McTigue

Ula Winder

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LAUREN L. SVIER

LOUISE DUNKHAM

Rima Q. Taha

Mel G Melconian

CHARLES W. UFFORD, JR.

LETITIA W. UFFORD

1 Constitution Hill PRINCETON NJ Rosemary O'Brien

107 Moore St.

3301 Lawrenceville Rd Princeton NJ 08540

96 Castle Howard Princeton, N.J.

108 Dogwood Hill, Princeton, NJ 08540 Jim

348 Cherry Valley Rd. Princeton, NJ

16 Jamine St, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

108 Dogwood Hill - Princeton, NJ 08540

12 Nelson Ridge Princeton NJ

150 Mercer Street

Princeton, N.J. 08540

150 Mercer St. Princeton

Charles Kufner

Letitia W. Ufford

The Princeton Middle East Society
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
P.O. Box 08543-7342



Mrs. Hillary Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500



*Palestine
Coor*

School of
Architecture and
Planning

Massachusetts
Institute
of Technology

Department
of
Architecture

77 Massachusetts
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HISTORY, THEORY & CRITICISM SECTION

First Lady Hillary Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

I have always admired your principled work on national issues of social justice and your determination to seek an understanding of the problems and the peoples of the world in order to make informed opinions about them. These are the true marks of a committed intellectual.

But this time, by endorsing the creation of a Palestinian state, you have proved to be more than just that. You have shown a rare quality, courage, that is so sorely lacking in our contemporary political environment. By voicing your support for self-determination for the Palestinian people, you have enlivened the hearts of millions of people, both the long-oppressed and dispossessed Palestinians and those of us who still believe that all peoples of the earth have a fundamental right for self-determination.

I salute you and thank you for your conscious and courageous stance.

Respectfully



Nasser Rabbat
Associate Professor
Department of Architecture
MIT

Massachusetts
Institute
of Technology

Cambridge
Massachusetts
02139-4307

School of
Architecture and
Planning

Department
of
Architecture

N. Rabbat, 10-303D
77 Massachusetts
Avenue
Room 7-337



First Lady Hillary Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

20500-0003



HASSAN M.A. SHAWAF
708 NORTH BEVERLY DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210
TELEPHONE (310) 273-9428
FACSIMILE (310) 859-1615

May 8, 1998

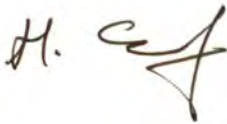
Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

Your "personal" remarks in support of Palestinian statehood are a stroke of political genius. You have given the peace camp in the Arab world and in Israel support greatly needed at this time, and you have given America a voice of even handedness . . . missed sometimes.

Your principled courage is admirable, Mrs. Clinton.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'H. Shawaf' with a stylized flourish at the end.

HMAS/cas

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

708 NORTH BEVERLY DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

PALESTINE PMO

Casey Kasem

May 8, 1998

Hillary Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Hillary:

Thank you for your courage in expressing the need for a Palestinian state in order to
bring about real peace in that troubled region.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Casey Kasem', with a stylized, cursive script.

Casey Kasem

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Hillary Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

20500-0003



138 North Mapleton Drive Los Angeles, California 90077

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From DavidJCoop@aol.com Fri May 8 12:34:27 1998
Date: Fri, 08 May 1998 12:31:54 -0400 (EDT)
From: DavidJCoop <DavidJCoop@aol.com>
Subject: First Lady E-Mail
To: first.lady@WhiteHouse.GOV
Message-id: <9c18d258.3553337b@aol.com>

Field 1 = E-Mail Sent to the First Lady via AOL

Field 2 = David Jonathan Cooper

Field 3 = 1908 California St. #5

Field 4 = Berkeley

Field 5 = CA

Field 6 = 94703

Field 7 = Dear Mrs. Clinton:

I am a leader in my Jewish community and an owner of one of Northern California's leading Jewish bookstores, and I just wanted to tell you how much I appreciated your honest support for a Palestinian state. I too believe it is an absolutely necessary item on the agenda to Middle East peace. I wish your approach was also officially shared by the President's administration.

Sincerely yours,

David Jonathan Cooper

From nobody@www1.whitehouse.gov Fri May 8 11:24:43 1998
Date: Fri, 08 May 1998 11:20:29 -0400
From: Martin Stein <mmm@angel.net>
Subject: Inbound-White_House_WWW_MAIL => FIRST_LADY
Apparently-to: first.lady@WhiteHouse.GOV
To: first.lady@WhiteHouse.GOV
Errors-to: The Postmaster <postmaster@www1.whitehouse.gov>
Reply-to: Martin Stein <mmm@angel.net>
Message-id: <199805081520.LAA00244@www1.whitehouse.gov>

Comments: This message scanned by SCAN version 0.1 jms/960226

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: p26.ts1.angel.net[204.141.49.26]
BROWSER: Mozilla/2.0 (Macintosh; I; 68K)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_First_Lady.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Martin Stein
EMAIL-ADDRESS: mmm@angel.net
ORGANIZATION:
RELATIONSHIP:
STREET-ADDRESS: 222 Varet St., #3A
CITY: Brooklyn
STATE-PROVINCE: NY
ZIP-CODE: 11206
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Register agreement with a position
TOPIC: Foreign Issues
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Palenstian statehood

[Message]

I support your position on Palestian statehood, and I'm jewish.

Isr/Pal - Loo

SARAH-RACHEL WALTERS
62 University Place
Stzten Island, New York 10301

May 10, 1998

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

Your remarks made last week concerning the Palestinian people is very welcomed. For too long, the American people have been fed an inaccurate view of the Mideast situation. Israel is not a weak little country sitting in the midst of Arab terrorists and hotheads. It has nuclear power far exceeding what this country probably isn't even aware of.

I come from a Jewish background and the disenfranchisement of the Palestinian people is a disgrace. This realization has caused many Israeli Jews to come to the same conclusion.

Bravo, Mrs. Clinton. I totally support you on this issue.

Very truly yours,


Sarah-Rachel Walters

Sarah-Rachel Walters
62 University Place
Staten Island, New York 10301



Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

20500-0003



pro/pro

Lisa Fabietti

Nutritionist, Bookkeeper
3887 N. Wilson
Fresno, Ca. 93704

Telephone (209) 229-2241
Fax (209) 229-2241

May 13, 1998

To the Honorable
Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Re: Middle East

Dear Madam,

Although I am partially of jewish descent, I agree totally, totally with your point of view. I am glad you expressed your feelings, which, probably, the President also shares, but is not allowed to voice.

The United States has favored Israel for the past 50 years, making it a prosperous and strong country. Israel does not need our support anymore. The time has now come to do justice to Palestine and its people, who have suffered for the past 50 years.

Please do not let politics interfere with justice, and, consequently, peace.

Sincerely,

Lisa Fabietti

Cesare & Lisa Fabietti
3887 N. Wilson Ave.
Fresno, CA 93704



1

(continued)



of ^{PRO} Jewish background,
married to a Palestinian
writer, and have lived
in Vienna for many years.
We feel that statehood
would be a real key to
peace in the Middle
East - and there are
many who agree, in
Europe and Israel, too (not
to mention Gaza and the
West Bank, of course!)

Warmest congratulations!
Paula Abrams-Hourani

Dear Mr. Clinton,

I have never
written to the White
House before but I
felt I must express
my great appreciation
of your statement
of Palestine. It
demonstrated great
courage and insight.
I am an American



Henri Matisse (1869-1954) ★ France ★ Francia ★ Frankreich ★ Still Life of Fruit and a Bronze Statue ★ Nature morte de fruits et statue de bronze ★ Naturaleza muerta de frutas y una estatua de bronce ★ Stilleben mit Früchten und einer Bronzestatue ★ Courtesy of Pushkin Museum, Moscow/The Bridgeman Art Library, London/©1998 ProLitteris, Zürich et Les Héritiers Matisse, Paris ★ 0639-Y ★

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 Por el bienestar de los niños del mundo ★ На благо всех детей мира ★ 造福世界儿童
 ★ Für das Wohlergehen der Kinder dieser Welt ★ لخير ورعاية أطفال العالم



United Nations Children's Fund
 Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance

PRINTED IN SWITZERLAND

Although vaccinations have reduced polio cases by 75 per cent since 1981, the virus still strikes more than 100,000 children every year. UNICEF is supporting programmes to eradicate the disease by the year 2000.

Bien que la vaccination ait réduit de 75 pour cent, depuis 1981, les cas de polio, le virus frappe encore plus de 100 000 enfants chaque année. L'UNICEF soutient des programmes visant à éliminer la maladie d'ici l'an 2000.

Aunque la vacunación ha reducido el número de casos de poliomielitis en 75 por ciento desde 1981, el virus todavía ataca a más de 100.000 niños todos los años. UNICEF apoya los programas a fin de erradicar esta enfermedad para el año 2000.



Mrs. HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON,
D.C.



862 012 300

20300/0003

USA



PAULA ABRAMS- HOURANI
KIRCHENGASSE 24/19
1090 VIENNA
AUSTRIA

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THE WHITE HOUSE COMMENT LINE

Weekly Report from 5/18 through 5/22 of 1998

THE WHITE HOUSE COMMENT LINE		
<i>Issues</i>	<i>Support</i>	<i>Oppose</i>
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100 White House Comment Line Operators received 4816 calls.
 If you have any questions about this report, please call Patrick Briggs at x65445

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organization etc.



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May 7, 1998

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

You and the President have been long-time friends and supporters of the State of Israel. Just last week, we were in Washington to join the Administration in rejoicing in Israel's historic fiftieth anniversary.

Recognizing and appreciating your friendship for Israel, and cognizant of the current fragile state of the peace process, we were surprised to learn of your comment supporting the establishment of a Palestinian state.

United States policy has wisely recognized that it is Israel and the Palestinians who will negotiate this, and other difficult issues, in the context of the final status negotiations.

Unfortunately, your comments may have given the impression of a change in official policy or of US interference in the negotiating process.

Given your demonstrated commitment to Israel and the pursuit of a lasting and secure Israeli-Palestinian peace, we would hope that you would find the opportunity to clarify your comment.

Sincerely,

Howard P. Berkowitz
National Chairman

Abraham H. Foxman
National Director