



Jerusalem 6:56
Toronto 8:22

ISRAEL NEWS

A collection of the week's news from Israel
From the Bet El Twinning / Israel Action Committee of
Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation

food directly to the people of Gaza. And they needed that food."

But instead of support, the foundation has been met with hostility from the very organizations that profess to care about Gazans.

"The United Nations has been a participant in a series of propaganda and disinformation campaigns that, in effect, made them a press secretary for Hamas," he said. "It's basically put them on the Hamas side of the negotiating table."

He then called out the United Nations for its hypocrisy.

"How can you have 1,000 trucks of food sitting inside the Gaza Strip that you refuse to deliver, while simultaneously using every available means—communications, P.R., political allies—to promote the claim that there isn't enough food?"

He recounted that he'd written an op-ed in The Wall Street Journal with a proposition: "If the United Nations wasn't going to deliver the food into the Gaza Strip, then we would just do it for them. I actually asked one of the State Department officials to have a lawyer study that."

He continued: "We've got a lot of people who say that they're humanitarians, sitting in suits and ties in Geneva and New York City. But they're not humanitarians at all. They're politicians serving a different agenda."

Asked whether his mission was too big for the GHF to handle, Moore replied, "From the very beginning, we were clear that we couldn't do this alone; we needed to work with other organizations. We do not exist to replace the aid system in the Gaza Strip."

But he scoffed at the suggestion that the GHF has failed.

"Of course [not]! How could you say that delivering 100 million meals of food directly to the people of Gaza—thousands of truckloads, not a single one intercepted or diverted—is a failure?"

He pointed out that "90% of the World Food Programme's convoys didn't make it to their final destination. None of our food has been diverted by Hamas. We have served at least 800,000 people in Gaza. That's a conservative number—it may be closer to a million."

He added, "We have, in just a few short weeks, over the course of two wars, provided life-saving food to half of the people in the Gaza Strip." And that's while "operating in an active war zone in the most complex environment in the world."

He proceeded to blast the United Nations for deliberate obstruction.

"The leaders of the United Nations used all their political power around the world to make sure it was impossible for us to expand," he said, stressing that "it wasn't Israel preventing our growth; it was the intentional policy of the United Nations."

He also underscored the disingenuousness of the world body, which shouts about the suffering of the Palestinians, yet blocks those who can actually help them.

"It's corruption," he stated unequivocally.

Summing up the core difference between GHF and the rest of the so-called aid community, he said: "These existing agencies—they don't even try to solve the problem. What we've proven is that it's possible to deliver millions and millions of meals of food without it being diverted. 'Diverted' is a fancy legal term; it just means 'stolen'. Hamas steals the aid and uses it for nefarious purposes."

While he declined to comment on Israeli policy, he didn't hold back on the bigger picture. "We've shined a very, very bright light on a very, very broken humanitarian system," he said.

He was right.

But he only scratched the surface of the underlying illness at the root of the slanderous stories in which Israel is the ultimate villain. It's the world's oldest hatred that's enjoying a horrifying revival. (JNS Jul 29)

Quote of the Week...

Pierre Poilievre on Carney's Declaration on Palestinian State Recognition

The decision of the Carney Liberals to recognize a Palestinian state now—without peace talks or a rejection of terror—rewards violence, not peace. It legitimizes Hamas, a brutal terrorist group that raped, murdered, and took hostages on October 7—and still holds them today, while they rule Gaza with fear, oppression, and brutality. (X.com)

Commentary...

Hungry to Revive the World's Oldest Hatred By Ruthie Blum

Let's not kid ourselves. Israel's heightened efforts to guarantee that humanitarian aid reaches the residents of Gaza without falling into the hands of Hamas aren't going to put a dent in the "purposeful starvation" propaganda campaign.

We don't have to look far for evidence that this is the case. Take Israel's exposing of the false depiction of certain children in the Strip with congenital diseases as victims of the "Israel-imposed famine," for instance.

Revealing the truth behind the viral photos and front-page fabrications hasn't stopped mainstream media outlets, including Israeli ones, from perpetuating the lie. Nor has it prevented European leaders from finger-wagging at Israel.

On the contrary, the more that Israel presents the facts, the louder the cacophony grows. The same goes for the higher the number of compromises it makes with Hamas—in order to secure the release of at least some of the hostages—and the greater the amount of aid it provides to Gazans. Indeed, the blood libels lobbed at the Jewish state since Hamas's Oct. 7 massacre nearly two years ago only increase with each passing Israeli concession.

The timing of the current Hamas-spurred media blitz isn't accidental. It coincided with the ceasefire/hostage-release talks in Qatar. To be more precise, it began when the American and Israeli delegations had reached the end of their rope—with the terrorist group's constant upping of its ante in the negotiations—and returned home.

Hamas's intransigence was given a boost by the likes of The New York Times, the United Nations, and, of course, French President Emmanuel Macron, who announced his country's unilateral recognition of a Palestinian state as a reward for Hamas atrocities.

It's not surprising that none of those professing grave concern for the plight of hungry Palestinians bothers to mention the massive amounts of aid stolen by Hamas or the truckloads of food decaying at the border, due to the refusal by the United Nations to distribute it.

What these bleeding hearts do instead is criticize, rather than praise, the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation. Naturally.

After all, the reason that GHF aid is reaching the non-combatants is that, together with the Israel Defense Forces, it has managed to separate them from the terrorists trying to sabotage the endeavor and kill anyone who gets in their way.

GHF chairman Johnnie Moore articulated the above in an interview on Monday evening with Channel 14's Maggie Tabibi.

"There is profound hunger in Gaza; that's why we're there," he began. "We've delivered—soon surpassing—100 million meals of

I'm a War Scholar. There Is No Genocide in Gaza

By John Spencer

In his New York Times op-ed titled “I’m a Genocide Scholar. I Know It When I See It,” Omer Bartov accused Israel of committing genocide in Gaza. As a professor of genocide studies, he should know better. Genocide is not defined by a few comments taken out of context, by estimates of casualties or destruction, or by how war looks in headlines or on social media. It is defined by specific intent to destroy a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group in whole or in part. That is a high legal bar. Bartov did not meet it. He did not even try.

I am not a lawyer or a political activist. I am a war expert. I have led soldiers in combat. I have trained military units in urban warfare for decades and studied and taught military history, strategy, and the laws of war for years. Since October 7, I have been to Gaza four times embedded with the Israel Defense Forces. I have interviewed the Prime Minister of Israel, the Defense Minister, the IDF Chief of Staff, Southern Command leadership, and dozens of commanders and soldiers on the front lines. I have reviewed their orders, watched their targeting process, and seen soldiers take real risks to avoid harming civilians. Nothing I have seen or studied resembles genocide or genocidal intent.

Bartov claims that five statements by Israeli leaders prove genocidal intent. He begins with Prime Minister Netanyahu’s comment on October 7 that Hamas would “pay a huge price.” That is not a call for genocide. It is what any leader would say after the worst terrorist attack in the nation’s history. He also cites Netanyahu’s statements that Hamas would be destroyed and that civilians should evacuate combat zones. That is not evidence of a desire to destroy a people. It is what professional militaries do when fighting an enemy that hides among civilians.

Bartov presents Netanyahu’s reference to “remember Amalek” as a smoking gun. But this is a phrase from Jewish history and tradition. It is engraved at Israel’s Holocaust memorial, Yad Vashem, and also appears on the Holocaust memorial in The Hague. In both places, it serves as a warning to remain vigilant against threats, not as a call for mass killing.

He also highlights Defense Minister Gallant’s use of the term “human animals” to describe Hamas fighters. That is not a war crime. After the slaughter, rape, and kidnapping of civilians on October 7, many would understand or even share that reaction.

Unable to find intent among those actually directing the war, Bartov turns to far-right politicians like Bezalel Smotrich and Nissim Vaturi. These individuals do not command troops, issue orders, or shape battlefield decisions. I have studied the actual orders. They focus on destroying Hamas, rescuing hostages, and protecting civilians whenever possible. Their rhetoric is irrelevant to the legal case.

Israel has taken extraordinary steps to limit civilian harm. It warns before attacks using text messages, phone calls, leaflets, and broadcasts. It opens safe corridors and pauses operations so civilians can leave combat areas. It tracks civilian presence down to the building level. I have seen missions delayed or canceled because children were nearby. I have seen Israeli troops come under fire and still be ordered not to shoot back because civilians might be harmed.

Israel has delivered more humanitarian aid to Gaza than any military in history has provided to an enemy population during wartime. More than 94,000 trucks carrying over 1.8 million tons of aid have entered the territory. Israel has supported hospitals, repaired water pipelines, increased access to clean water, and enabled over 36,000 patients to leave Gaza for treatment abroad.

The IDF has coordinated millions of vaccine doses, supplied fuel for hospitals and infrastructure, and facilitated the flow of food and medicine through the UN, aid groups, and private partners. The U.S.–Israeli Gaza Humanitarian Foundation alone has delivered more than 82 million meals—one to two million a day—while weakening Hamas’s control over aid. This is not genocide. It is responsible and historic mid-war humanitarian policy.

Bartov cites death tolls from Hamas health authorities without question. He says 58,000 have been killed, including 17,000 children. But these numbers come from a terrorist organization. They mix

civilians and fighters and count anyone under 18 as a child, even though Hamas uses teenagers and younger children as combatants. The figures are not independently verified and have been shown to contain false details, including names, ages, and sex. Civilian deaths are tragic, but in Gaza, they are also part of Hamas’s strategy.

No military operation is judged solely by body counts or destruction figures. If we used Bartov’s logic, every major war would be called genocide. Two million civilians died in the Korean War, an average of 54,000 per month. The Iraq and Afghanistan wars killed hundreds of thousands. The fight against ISIS leveled multiple cities and killed tens of thousands. None of those wars were considered genocidal. Gaza is not either. War is evaluated based on the actions of commanders, the goals set by leaders, and how well the military follows the laws of war, not by statistics taken out of context.

War is hell. It is inhumane, destructive, and ugly. But it is not automatically a crime. Nations must not target civilians. They must follow the rules of distinction, proportionality, and take all possible care to avoid civilian harm. Israel is doing that. I have seen it.

In Rafah this summer, Israel spent weeks preparing evacuations. It opened new safe areas and waited until civilians had moved before striking Hamas targets. That operation killed Hamas’s top commander, recovered hostages, and kept civilian deaths very low. It was a clear example of Israel’s extraordinary intent and actions to protect civilians while targeting only Hamas, a part of the story ignored by those who reduce war to headlines and numbers.

What is happening in Gaza is tragic. But it is not genocide. And it is not illegal.

Genocide requires clear, provable intent to destroy a people through sustained, deliberate actions. That burden of proof has not been met. Bartov and others have not even tried.

Likewise, the laws of war do not prohibit war itself. They require that military operations distinguish between combatants and noncombatants, that force be proportional to the objective, and that commanders take all feasible precautions to protect civilian life. I have watched the IDF do exactly that. I have seen restraint, humanitarian aid, and deliberate compliance with legal standards, often at tactical cost.

This is not a campaign of extermination. It is a war against Hamas, a terrorist army embedded in civilian areas by design.

The law matters. So does precision. And above all, truth matters. (X.com Jul 23)

A Majority of Israelis Support Jewish Settlement in Gaza

By Amit Segal

A majority of Israelis believe Israel should renew Jewish settlement in Gaza. That’s according to a survey in Israel Hayom, which asked Israelis for their thoughts on the 2005 Gaza Disengagement, and how the October 7 massacre has changed their opinion of the withdrawal.

But before I get into the results, I want to discuss the image of Jews in Orange shirts being removed from the communities of Gush Katif. It’s seared into the minds of every Israeli old enough to remember it, and likely even many who were born after it. In the lead up to Israel’s withdrawal from Gaza, the color orange became a symbol of the protest movement against it. The girls in orange, as you may guess, are Israelis who lived in a Jewish community in the Gaza Strip. I don’t need to tell you how they felt that moment—their faces say it all.

But what’s perhaps even more telling is the two women on either side of them. They’re soldiers. Jewish soldiers. And they’ve been tasked with forcibly removing Jews from their homes, knowing full well who will replace them. The face of the soldier to the right says it all. She’s crying too, because the Israel Defense Forces was founded to protect the citizens of the Jewish state, not to drag crying Jewish women out of their homes.

That was a trauma that many Israelis carried with them for years—even before the October 7 massacre. Add on top of that the fact that warnings—mainly from the Israeli right—that leaving Gaza

would lead to terror in Israeli cities fell on deaf ears, as well as the state's neglect of Israelis forced out of their homes in 2005, and you can perhaps begin to imagine why calling this a touchy topic for Israelis is such an understatement.

Then came October 7, 2023. It was worse than the worst nightmares of those who warned against the withdrawal. And so, for many Israelis—52 percent, to be exact—the natural response is that they need to re-establish Jewish settlements in parts of the strip. Of course, this is far from a consensus opinion: 48 percent oppose the idea.

The public is also split over what led to the massacre, with 56 percent saying that had Israel not left Gaza in 2005, the chances of October 7 happening would have been lower. 44 percent, meanwhile, said the disengagement was irrelevant, and that the massacre would have happened either way.

But what there is near consensus over is that the disengagement itself was a mistake. According to the same survey:

- 76 percent of Israelis believe leaving Gaza unilaterally without an agreement was a mistake.
- 70 percent say October 7 and the ensuing war strengthened their opposition to the disengagement.
- 64 percent believe a disengagement from Judea and Samaria cannot happen.

It may seem like a lifetime ago for observers in the West, but for many Israelis, the trauma of the disengagement—and the way it shapes their politics—is anything but history.

(It's Noon in Israel Jul 31)

Civilisation Fails the Test, Again By Melanie Phillips

The echoes of October 7 were unmistakable and horrifying. For several days last week, the Druze of Suweida in southern Syria were subjected to a barbaric onslaught by government troops controlled by the new Syrian president, Abu Mohammed al Jolani, as well as attacks by Bedouins and other jihadists. An estimated 1,000 Druze as well as Christians were slaughtered. Men were beheaded, women raped, children shot in front of their parents. An elderly Druze man was burned alive in his wheelchair.

From all those who over the past 21 months have posed as driven by conscience to support the “oppressed” Arabs of Gaza, there was now only silence. There was no condemnation from the likes of Amnesty or – until several days after the massacres – Human Rights Watch that constantly flay Israel over fabricated crimes against humanity. There was muted protest from church bodies, even though a Christian pastor and his entire family of 20 were slaughtered.

Instead, there was outrage over the accidental damage done by the IDF to a Catholic church in Gaza, when shrapnel from a strike on a nearby terrorist target hit part of the church and tragically killed three people.

The new Pope shamefully misrepresented this as an “attack by the Israeli army on the Catholic Parish of the Holy Family in Gaza City, which as you know killed three Christians and gravely wounded others”. Yet on the deliberate slaughter of his Syrian co-religionists he is, so far, silent.

On the BBC and other media the Syrian atrocities were barely reported, with the attacks falsely characterised as “sectarian” battles between Bedouin and Druze. Israel, the only country to come to the defence of the Druze by attacking Syrian military targets, was portrayed as bombing them for no particular reason other than yet more Israeli aggression. The Syrian pogrom wasn't allowed to interrupt the steady stream of anti-Israel libels about aid supplies to Gaza.

Almost every day, Hamas has claimed Israel is deliberately killing Gazans queuing for food. It is, in fact, mainly Hamas that's been killing hundreds of them to prevent them from receiving the aid that threatens to bring about the terrorist group's final defeat.

Where some Gazans have been killed by IDF fire, these were the few inadvertent casualties of warning shots fired to stop the Hamas-infiltrated Gazan crowds from attacking the Israeli troops guarding the

aid sites. But the Hamas claims have been reported uncritically by the BBC and its ilk as true.

Last week, the BBC's Today programme trumpeted an interview with a British surgeon, Nick Maynard, who has been working in al Shifa and other hospitals in Gaza.

Maynard claimed that IDF soldiers were not only deliberately shooting Gazan children queuing for food but were choosing to target different body parts depending on the day of the week “almost as if a game was being played”. On Saturday, four boys had been admitted who had been shot in the testicles. This, he said, was clear evidence of Israeli targeting.

This was the kind of macabre and ludicrous claim, presenting the Jews as simply demonic, that normally issues from the psychotic mouths of Hamas. How did Maynard know the injuries he was treating were caused by the IDF and not Hamas? He said he trusted the Gazans who had told him.

In January last year, Maynard told the Telegraph that he had never seen any evidence of Hamas activity in al Shifa hospital. Yet last year the IDF arrested more than 500 people at al Shifa who belonged to Hamas or other terror groups. One of these, the Islamic Jihad spokesman Tariq Salami Otha Abu Shlouf, told his interrogators that he had used the hospital compound and medical equipment for terrorist purposes.

On Monday, Today ran in its key 08.10am slot another item about Gaza which, having assembled yet more distortions about the IDF killing Gazans queuing for flour, declared that the only way to stop the suffering of the Gazans was to recognise a Palestine state. Thus the BBC is the puppet dancing at the end of the Hamas string.

The documentary October 8 refers to a meeting in 1993 in a Philadelphia hotel monitored by the FBI in which 25 senior Hamas operatives met to discuss how to strengthen “activism for Palestine” in America by infiltrating American media outlets, universities and research centres. To make Hamas palatable to Americans, they would frame it in terms of “apartheid and oppression” and address Americans “from a position of rights and justice”.

This strategy was adopted throughout the West. Instead of fighting such mind-bending indoctrination, the political class has embraced it.

On Monday, the British government, along with 27 other Western countries, published a preposterous denunciation of Israel for the “inhumane killing” of Gazans seeking aid and denying “essential humanitarian assistance to the civilian population”. This despite Israel facilitating the delivery of thousands of tonnes of aid and millions of meals to Gazans rather than allowing Hamas to steal it. And, of course, they threw in the contested claim of “settler violence”.

This is a seismic moment. Civilisation is being tested by a culture of death. Israel is meeting the challenge and will survive. Britain is going down, firing at Israel as it does so. (Jewish Chronicle Jul 27)

The "Palestine State" Extermination Gambit

By Melanie Phillips

Britain's prime minister, Sir Keir Starmer, is widely thought to be boring but decent, technocratic but moderate, a bulwark of centrism against the crazies.

This is wildly mistaken. He is monstrous.

He said today “The UK will recognise the state of Palestine by the United Nations General Assembly in September unless the Israeli government takes substantive steps to end the appalling situation in Gaza, agree to a ceasefire and commit to a long-term, sustainable peace, reviving the prospect of a Two State Solution. And this includes allowing the UN to restart the supply of aid, and making clear there will be no annexations in the West Bank.”

Like French president Emmanuel Macron who has also threatened to recognise “Palestine” at the UN in September, Starmer is thus rewarding Hamas for its barbaric and depraved pogrom in southern Israel on October 7 2023.

He is blaming Israel, not Hamas for the “appalling situation” in

Gaza. This even though Hamas is responsible for the war by slaughtering 1200 Israelis and others on October 7; taking more than 240 of them hostage and still refusing to release around 50 of them after 22 months incarceration; and stealing food and other aid with the intention of starving Gazans to get patsies like Starmer to say what he's just said.

Far worse, Starmer is now threatening the Israeli victims of Hamas. Like some mafioso who's draped his sawn-off shotgun in a keffiyeh, he says that unless Israel stops the war by September he'll recognise "Palestine". He imposes no conditions, however, on Hamas. Israel alone gets the treatment.

This is his threat that unless Israel surrenders and gives Hamas a victory, which will enable it once again to slaughter Jews and take them hostage, he will recognise "Palestine" — whose entire purpose as a fictional construct is as a strategy to exterminate Israel, slaughter Jews and steal their identity in their own ancestral homeland. He's telling Israel in effect: "Agree to die or we'll make sure you do".

He then has the gall to declare "our message to the terrorists of Hamas is unchanged and unequivocal. They must immediately release all the hostages, sign up to a ceasefire, disarm and accept that they will play no part in the government of Gaza."

But since he has said that if Israel doesn't stop the war he'll recognise a "state of Palestine," Hamas now has every incentive to refuse to cease its attacks until that happy development occurs. Starmer has strengthened Hamas and all but sealed the hostages' fate.

Is he really so deluded?

He went on:

And we are mounting a major effort to get humanitarian supplies back in. By air, and UK aid has been air dropped into Gaza today.

This reinforces the lie that Israel was withholding aid whereas Israel was allowing it in and the UN was refusing to distribute it unless this was handled by the UN and Hamas — which has been stealing it for itself intending the Gazans to starve. No mention of that by Starmer. Does he actually know what's been happening?

By demonising Israel in this way, Starmer is further fuelling the rampaging Jew-hatred which is consuming the country he leads.

Whether he is kow-towing to Britain's increasingly powerful Muslim bloc or to his own hard-left is irrelevant. Just as he campaigned for the hard-left Jeremy Corbyn to become prime minister at the last general election while ostensibly holding his nose, he really believes he is being principled and decent while plumbing the depths of moral bankruptcy.

This is not just hypocrisy. Not just moral blindness. He and his wretched Labour party are now a lethal threat to civilised values.

Today's accomplices to barbarism aren't dressed in jackboots or the shades and braid of a junta generalissimo. They wear the suit and earnest spectacles of a human rights lawyer. It is today's banality of evil, and it is frying the western brain. (Substack Jul 29)

President Macron is Playing with Fire by Recognising Palestine

By Brendan O'Neill

A French leader is appeasing fascists again. This time it's Emmanuel Macron and the beneficiary of his pusillanimity is Hamas. The president has announced that France will unilaterally recognise a State of Palestine in September. That will be on the cusp of the second anniversary of Hamas's 7 October pogrom when it sent a 6,000-strong army to rape and butcher the Jews of southern Israel. Is that the reward for Jew-murder now, Monsieur Macron — nationhood?

Macron made his imperious statement in a post on X — where else? 'I have decided that France will recognise the State of Palestine', he said, with more than a hint of Napoleonic hubris. Other nations have recognised Palestine before — 147 in total, including Ireland, Spain and Norway in a noisy joint virtue-signal last May. But France is hands down the most significant Western player to recognise Palestine. Which means this is a gesture likely to have far-reaching consequences.

Anyone who doubts that Macron's statement brought joy to the Jew-killers of Hamas need only look at their response. The nutters are

thrilled. Macron's recognition of Palestine is a 'positive step in the right direction', they said. And all other nations should 'follow France's example'. So even though Macron's statement made a nod to the need to 'demilitarise' Hamas, still Hamas is delighted. It knows, even if Macron does not, that French recognition of Palestine less than two years after that barbarous pogrom adds up to an implicit acceptance that mass murder works; that killing Jews has benefits.

That's the strange thing about France's recognition — it is both meaningless and potentially lethal. It's meaningless because it is not going to magic up a state. It is an imperial delusion to think that just because the President of France says 'Let there be Palestine' a functioning Palestinian entity will emerge. Palestinian officialdom is in a state of alarming disorder. The West Bank is ruled by a bent regime led by Mahmoud Abbas, currently in the 20th year of his four-year term as president of Palestine. And we all know what has become of Gaza following its government's declaration of fascistic war against Israel.

Yet while Macron's action will do little to assist Palestinians — if they want a state, they will have to build one — it will certainly isolate the Jewish nation. And in its darkest hour, too. Think about the gravity of what Macron has done: as France's supposed ally of Israel fights a bloody war in a territory overrun by neo-fascists who dream of Israel's destruction, Macron is bestowing statehood on that territory; on the enemy land where the army of the Jewish State is engaged in a hot and deadly pursuit of the army of anti-Semites that carried out the worst act of mass violence against the Jews since the Holocaust.

That's what makes this an act of appeasement. That's what makes it echo things France did in the darker moments of the 20th century. It is a testament to the moral decay of the French Republic under Macron that in a time of existential war between Islamofascism and Israel, France has taken action that pleases the former and distresses the latter. You don't have to be a fan of Benjamin Netanyahu to see he has a point when he accuses Macron of grotesquely betraying the Jewish nation. Hamas still exists and continues to fight our soldiers, he says, and a Palestinian state in 'these conditions' would be little more than a 'launch pad to annihilate Israel'.

Macron has essentially sacrificed Israel at the altar of his own vanity. His concern is less with improving the lot of Palestinians than with improving his own moral cachet in 21st-century Europe. It seems to me that the aim of his cynical Palestine games is both to ingratiate himself with France's Muslim population — the largest in Europe — and also to set out his stall as a new kind of statesman in a new kind of EU. He is unilaterally signalling that he is the right kind of ruler for our post-7 October world in which Europe's influencers and intellectuals have turned en masse against the cause of Jewish nationhood. He is shaking off the pesky Jewish State to the end of boosting his own Jupiterian fortunes — shameful behaviour even by the historical standards of the Élysée Palace.

Macron should focus on getting France's own house in order rather than fantasising that he can fix the Middle East. France has a savage problem of Jew hatred. There have been some unspeakable acts of anti-Semitic violence in recent years, including the racist slaughter of Jewish children. Things got so bad that between 2000 and 2017, one in 10 French Jews emigrated to Israel. That's the largest amount of Jew-fleeing experienced by any European country in this century so far. And like other European nations, France experienced a historic spike in anti-Semitic crimes after 7 October 2023 — how many of its Jews have left since then?

So Jews do not feel safe in France, and Israelis now worry that France has emboldened their anti-Semitic enemies on their borders. Is that to be Macron's legacy — a failure to protect Jews at home and a cavalier attitude to the safety of Jews overseas? Overseeing a nation that many Jews have felt compelled to flee, and then endangering the nation they fled to? For shame. His self-aggrandising recognition of Palestine is a reminder that the road to hell is paved with signalled virtue. (Spiked Jul 25)
