



THE Defender

"BUT THERE IS A FRIEND WHO STICKS CLOSER THAN A BROTHER." PROVERBS 18:24

TIME TO STAND IN PRAYER FOR ISRAEL

As you're reading this, Anita and I will be on our way to Israel, where we'll be leading a VIP Tour of Israel, March 31-April 9. It's an unforgettable experience and I hope you're able to join us on a future tour! **Mark your calendar for March 2020.** **We will soon release the next date to tour Israel. We hope you can join us.**

While we're visiting biblical sites and walking in the footsteps of Jesus, Israel will be at the height of its election season. The nation goes to the polls on April 9 and this heavily contested election could see Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu toppled from power.

Election Drama

As you know, the Prime Minister is facing bribery charges which could lead to a criminal conviction. As bad as that sounds, the truth is these charges are more about politics than crime. Netanyahu calls them a house of cards which will collapse. Harvard law professor emeritus Alan Dershowitz labels the accusations an effort to "criminalize . . . political differences."

And that's why I'm so grateful to all who signed and returned the "I'm Standing with Bibi!" notes of support. Thank you for joining me in telling the Prime Minister you're standing with and praying for him!

The "deep state" assault on Prime Minister Netanyahu comes even as Israelis wake up every morning to the disturbing reality they are surrounded by enemies fixated on their destruction. Just as a reminder . . .

- The PLO charter repeatedly calls for "armed struggle" to "liberate Palestine" and "purge the Zionist presence from Palestine."



- Hezbollah's 1985 manifesto proclaims, "our struggle will end only when this [Zionist] entity is obliterated."
- Iranian tyrant Ayatollah Ali Khamenei blasts the Jewish state as a "cancerous tumor" that has to be "removed and eradicated."

Reasons to Pray

You and I have reason plenty to pray for Israel. Not just her enemies across her borders, but the deep-state machinations inside the Jewish state should move us to call on the God of Israel to grant deliverance.

And as we do, you and I can be confident He will defend Israel—just as He did some 3,500 years ago on the first Passover and many times since. Thank you for your partnership, your prayers and the impact you're making on Israel's behalf!

Mat Staver
Chairman

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MUSLIM WOMEN IN CONGRESS LINKED TO MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD

Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib, the first two Muslim women in Congress, have been grabbing headlines since their arrival at the U.S. House of Representatives in January. But not in a good way.

Their anti-Semitic slurs—including the lies that Jews have a dual loyalty and that Jewish money explains American support for Israel—have provoked outrage and condemnation.

But what hasn't been well reported is the link both women have to Muslim Brotherhood-affiliated groups which hate Israel and the Jewish people.

Omar Addresses Anti-Semitic Group

Rep. Omar (D-MN) raised eyebrows in February when she spoke at a fundraiser for Islamic Relief USA, a charity linked to the Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas. And one with a “long history of promoting anti-Semitism,” according to a Middle East Forum report. In fact, an Egyptian newspaper listed IRUSA's chairman, Khaled Lamada, as a Muslim Brotherhood operative. Lamada has passed along social media posts charging that the U.S. is under the sway of a Zionist lobby seeking to demonize Muslims.

Both Israel and the United Arab Emirates have banned Islamic Relief Worldwide—the parent of IRUSA—because of its ties to terror. Israel barred IRW from the West Bank and Gaza in 2014, charging its chapters there were run by Hamas members. The U.S. has declared Hamas—which seeks Israel's demise—is a terrorist organization.

“The IRW is one of the sources of Hamas's funding,” former Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Yaalon said in 2014. “We do not intend to allow it to function and abet terrorist activity against Israel.”

Now a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Omar previous-



Rep. Ilhan Omar, left and Rep. Rashida Tlaib, the first two Muslim women in Congress, have connections to Muslim Brotherhood-affiliated groups which hate Israel and the Jewish people.

ly served on the advisory board of a Hamas-linked pro-Palestinian advocacy group, the Minnesota Council for American-Islamic Relations. She also agreed to speak at a CAIR-Los Angeles event.

Troubling Connections

These connections are troubling because the U.S. government listed CAIR in 2007 as an unindicted co-conspirator in a plot to send more than \$12 million to the terrorist group Hamas. Because of that, the FBI severed all ties with CAIR in 2008. It did so, the FBI wrote, until “we can resolve whether there **continues to be a connection** between CAIR or its executives and HAMAS.” The FBI has not restored its “liaison” partnership with CAIR. The United Arab Emirates has listed CAIR as a terrorist organization.

And CAIR is no friend to Israel or the Jewish people. CAIR's chief executive officer Nihad Awad charged in 1998 that Jews control U.S. foreign policy. Ilhan Omar expressed a similar view in February when she made the poisonous allegation that American support for Israel is bought and paid for by Jewish wealth. As she put it on

Twitter, “It's all about the Benjamins, Baby,” a reference to \$100 bills, which bear the image of Benjamin Franklin.

“Omar's worldview is CAIR's world,” charges investigative journalist Daniel Greenfield. “And CAIR's worldview is that of the Muslim Brotherhood.” Greenfield cited influential Brotherhood thinker Sayyid Quth, who “had claimed that the Jews use money to control the world.” Likewise, he notes, “Hamas, an arm of the Brotherhood, had claimed in its charter that, ‘with their money, they took control of the world media, news agencies, the press, publishing houses, broadcasting stations, and others. . . . for the purpose of sabotaging societies and achieving Zionist interests.’”

Tlaib Linked to CAIR

Like Omar, Rep. Rashida Tlaib is a friend of Hamas-linked CAIR. She headlined the CAIR-Los Angeles fundraiser last year and was scheduled to speak in March at Michigan CAIR's annual banquet. Both women spoke in January at a Capitol Hill CAIR-sponsored reception celebrating their election to the U.S. House.

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But CAIR is not just tied to terror group Hamas. CAIR wants to make Islam supreme in America. Co-founder, Omar Ahmad, declared in 1998, according to a reporter's paraphrase, that "Islam isn't in America to be equal to any other faith, but to become dominant. The Koran should be the highest authority in America, and Islam the only

accepted religion on Earth."

Learn more about the Muslim Brotherhood and its efforts to infiltrate America when you request *The Muslim Brotherhood: Allah's Agents of Conquest*. It's our warm thanks for your gracious gift of any amount this month.

COVENANT JOURNEY STUDENT SHOWCASES AMAZING ISRAEL AND CHANGES MINDS ON CAMPUS

Covenant Journey is a life-changing 10-day experience in Israel for Christian college-age students with leadership potential. The purpose of this unforgettable trip is to strengthen students' Christian faith, introduce them to the Holy Land, and inspire them to be goodwill ambassadors for Israel.

That's exactly what happened to Katelyn, a University of Northern Colorado sophomore who went to Israel with Covenant Journey and returned home eager to tell others about Israel.

She got the chance in January when her leadership professor assigned a 12-minute presentation on leadership. Katelyn, who is studying Teaching English as a Second Language, picked the topic, "Why Israel Should be Recognized as a World Leader."

Because her presentation required multiple sources, she reached out to Covenant Journey Vice President Cindy Matthews who helps lead Covenant Journey tours to Israel, along with Mat and Anita Staver.

Cindy pointed Katelyn to information on the Balfour Declaration, the Israel-Palestinian conflict, as well as Israel's leading status as a powerhouse of innovation in medicine, technology and more. She also supplied data on living standards enjoyed by Israeli Arabs and Christians in contrast to the rest of the Middle East.

Talk Wows Audience

Katelyn wound up with a presentation



Covenant Journey participants at an ancient synagogue in the ruins of Capernaum, on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee.

based on positive facts about Israel to give fellow students a picture of the Jewish nation's incredible impact on the world. And when she gave her talk, not just the students but her professor, too, were wowed.

That's an achievement by itself because most colleges across America are fertile territory for attacks on Israel—even anti-Semitism. Too often, the campus is a place where the Jewish state is falsely branded as a human rights violator and "apartheid regime."

But Katelyn surprised her listeners as she revealed tiny Israel's amazing role as a world leader in technology, medicine, and agriculture. A few made-in-Israel innovations, for example, include USB flash drives, incision-free surgery, and cherry tomatoes which stay fresh for three weeks.

This Covenant Journey alumna came loaded with facts to support the Jewish state's legal right to the Land. Katelyn

was also able to field questions about her Christian faith, sharing from the Old Testament why she stands with Israel.

Katelyn emphasized how important it is to tell the amazing truth about modern Israel. And she shared the profound impact Covenant Journey had on her life—both educationally and spiritually.

"Most of the students definitely changed their minds and perception about Israel," Katelyn said later. They also recognized the impact of "slanted media viewpoints against Israel."

Thank You

This is just one example of what you make possible when you support Christians in Defense of Israel. Thanks to you, our allied ministry, Covenant Journey, is introducing young leaders to the Jewish state—and these young leaders are making a pro-Israel impact back home!

YOUR VOICE IS BEING HEARD IN WASHINGTON ... AND JERUSALEM

Because of friends like you, Christians in Defense of Israel petitioned the White House and Congress to act on key pro-Israel policy initiatives. With your help, CIDI gathered and submitted the names of thousands of Americans who love Israel and want action on the following concerns:

- An Urgent Memorandum to Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer and Speaker Nancy Pelosi urging passage of S. 1, the “Strengthening America’s Security in the Middle East Act of 2019”—a measure providing \$38 billion in defense assistance to Israel.
- A Demand Letter to Speaker Pelosi and House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer urging a House vote on H. Res. 72, a measure “Rejecting anti-Israel and anti-Semitic hatred. . .”
- A plea to President Donald Trump, urging him to “recog-



CIDI friends signed much-needed notes of support in March to both President Donald Trump and Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

nize Israel’s just, lawful, and necessary sovereignty over the Golan Heights.

Support for Trump, Netanyahu

In addition, an outpouring of support from CIDI friends like you made it possible to send much-needed notes of support to both Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Donald Trump. The notes—signed by thousands—assured both leaders of our prayers and supports as they “fight deep state and politically motivated attempts” to unseat them.

Thank you for making your voice heard by signing citizen petitions in support of Israel!

Visit CIDIsrael.org to sign petitions and subscribe to our email at CIDIsrael.org/subscribe.



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