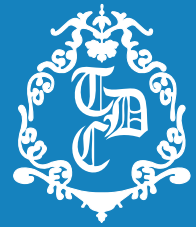


The Diplomatic Club

May 2016 | since 1998



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**ISRAEL'S 68TH
INDEPENDENCE
DAY**



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10 Carlibah St., Tel-Aviv
P.O. Box 20344, Tel Aviv 61200, Israel

708 Third Avenue, 4th Floor
New York, NY 10017, U.S.A.

Club Diplomatique de Geneva
P.O. Box 228, Geneva, Switzerland

Publisher	The Diplomatic Club Ltd.
Editor-in-Chief	Julia Verdel
Editor	Eveline Erfolg Gabriel M. Avner
Writers	Anthony J. Dennis Patricia e Hemricourt, Israel Ira Moskowitz, Israel Bernard Marks, Israel Christopher Barder, UK Ilan Berman, USA
Reporters	Eveline Erfolg Neill Sandler Gabriel M. Avner
Advertising	Tel: 972-3-56.220.61/2 info@diplomacy-club.com
Layout	Tsimkovsky Dmitry
Accounting	Gabriel Elnathan
Legal Support	Mati Simchowit Law Office
Cover	Photography and design Tsimkovsky Dmitry

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Tel: 972-3-562.20.61/2
Fax: 972-3-562.02.12
info@diplomacy-club.com
www.diplomacy-club.com



Dear friends,

This issue was composed in the atmosphere of the celebrations of the 68th yeas of Israeli Independancy.

The peoples of Israel are celebrating this event in deep believing in peace and prosperity in the very buzz world situation.

The idea of the Diplomatic Club was born from the success of Tennis Tournament on 1998 dedicated to 50th Jubilee Celebration of Israel. This date become a birthday of the Diplomatic Club and first issue of the Diplomatic Club magazine was published dedicated to this event.

So, what is the aim of the diplomatic media in this world?

Only provokes intelligent discussion from the heart of the Diplomatic Community and to the heart of the Diplomatic Community.

This why we back to our activity of diplomatic trips, organized every year since 1998 .

I'd like remind you – The Diplomatic Club Magazine does not take any political side: not left, not right.

We pretended for objectively given information. We are taking you to the places that no any one will take you in hope that you will receive objective information and right conclusions.

By your self.

So, I am happy to invite you to the Tel Nof Air Force Base. You will meet in person the pilots, officers and staff; you will see by your own eyes were it is and how "business" is going on.

Hope, you will join us. Don't miss the registration.

I also would like to draw up your attention to the competition of pictures made by diplomats. The best of them will be grunted by prizes and will exhibited in the one of the biggest Israeli museums : Beit Hatfutsot for two weeks.

We would like to know how world watching us, even through your lenses.

Looking forward to see you as participants in our activity.

Thanks a lot.

Julia Verdel and *The Diplomatic Club* team

Interview with His Excellency Ernest S. Lomotey, Ambassador of Ghana to Israel



His Excellency Ernest S. Lomotey and wife Mrs. Evelyn D. Lomotey

DC: Diplomatic relations between Ghana and Israel began in 1958 when the Israeli Premier David Ben Gurion sent a Piper Cub plane as a personal gift to Premier Kwame Nkrumah on the occasion of Ghana's first anniversary of independence. Nice beginning, isn't it?

H.E.: Yes, that was a great beginning of Ghana's diplomatic relations with Israel, which started on a personal level between our first two leaders.

DC: Following the peace accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in September 1993, Ghana reestablished diplomatic relations with Israel in August 1994. Diplomatic relations between the two countries had been broken in 1973 in support of member Arab states of the OAU who were at war with Israel. Is something change today?

H.E.: The decision to sever diplomatic relations with Israel was a collective decision by the Organization of African Unity which was binding on all member countries, including Ghana. Ghana re-established relations with Israel and reopened her Mission in Tel Aviv in 1996. Both countries are working assiduously to further strengthen diplomatic ties for our mutual benefit.

DC: What can the African Union do to foster the peace process?

H.E.: The African Union contributes towards the international community's efforts to find lasting peace between the two sides.

DC: Prime Minister Netanyahu said: "Israel is coming back to Africa; Africa is coming back to Israel. It's happening in a big way... It's happening because it's so clear that this is good for Africa and it's good for Israel." With these words, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu launched (29 February 2016) the new caucus for Israel-Africa relations at the Knesset (the Israeli Parliament). Ghanaian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration Hanna Tetteh visits Israel this year that marked the development of relations. Your comments, please.

H.E.: The establishment of a new caucus for Israel-Africa relations at the Knesset is a step in the right direction because it will further strengthen the flourishing relations between African countries and Israel. The recent visit to Israel by Ghana's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, Ms. Hanna Tetteh is a clear manifestation of efforts by the Government of Ghana to strengthen bilateral relations between our two countries.

DC: "Israel has two major brands in Ghana –Golda (Meir) and Jesus said former Ambassador to Ghana Sharon Bar-Li. What does it mean?"

H.E.: I believe what she meant by that statement was that, when it comes to Israel, Golda Meir and Jesus are the two figures that come most to the minds of Ghanaians. There are other personalities, but these two are foremost because of the great influence they have had on Ghanaians. Golda Meir is loved and



Cross section of invited guest

COCKTAIL RECEPTION BY H.E. ERNEST S. LOMOTEY

It was all fun and pleasure at the private cocktail reception hosted by H.E. Ernest S. Lomotey and his wife Mrs. Evelyn Dodoo Lomotey at His Excellency's official residence on 7th March, 2016 in commemoration of Ghana's 59th National Day Celebration.

In attendance were a number of Ghanaian professionals on various study programmes in Israel, members of the African Group of Ambassadors in Israel and representatives of leading Israeli Companies in Ghana. The guests were entertained with Ghanaian music and delicacies.

respected because of her strong personality. She was the Foreign Minister and later Prime Minister of Israel at a time when very few women were in leadership positions worldwide. Moreover, her support for the empowerment of women has endeared her to many Ghanaians who have had the opportunity to train at the Golda Meir Mount Carmel Training Center in Haifa. With respect to Jesus we can understand why he is loved and revered. Majority of the Ghanaian population is Christian, and they consider Jesus their leader and Saviour.

DC: Former Israel's Foreign Minister Avigdor "Yvette" Lieberman is in the West African nation of Ghana this week where he announced a new plan by Israel to invest \$100 million in the small country's economy. What happened with this today?

H.E.: Ghana/Israel economic ties were given a big boost when in 2014, the then Israeli Foreign Minister, Avigdor Lieberman led a large delegation, comprising high government officials and about fifty (50) Israeli business representatives to Ghana and some other African countries. The visit afforded the delegation a first-hand opportunity to identify investment and business opportunities in Ghana. Business contacts were established and these are being followed up.

DC: What sort of exchange or community outreach programs do the most good and have the greatest impact?

H.E.: One such key outreach program is the Early Childhood Education Programme under the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs' MASHAV framework with the collaboration of the Golda Meir Mount Carmel Training Center. Teachers and professionals from early childhood institutions in Ghana have benefitted from this program. It has also contributed to the laying of good and strong educational foundation for further socio-economic development in Ghana.

DC: What sort of misperceptions do you see between Israel and Ghanaians? And what work do you do to correct those?

H.E.: Ghanaians are generally welcoming and hospitable people. We are open minded, very religious and consider this place the holy land. As you are aware, Avram Grant is currently the coach of Ghana's national team, the Black Stars. This has further enhanced the positive perception Ghanaians have of Israel.

DC: Today ties are very deepening both bilateral security cooperation, especially the fight against Islamic terrorism, and civilian-economic cooperation. Please, provide us with a details.

H.E.: Ghana's bilateral cooperation with Israel has improved tremendously. The construction of an ultra-modern new University of Ghana Hospital modeled along the lines of the Sheba Medical Centre and undertaken by EDC, an Israeli Company and the training of medical professionals at the Sheba Medical Center, are few examples of the level of cooperation ongoing between the two countries. The rise of terrorism globally has also brought into sharp focus the need to strengthen security cooperation with the rest of the world. This was one of the key issues

GHANA'S NATIONAL DAY

6th March every year is celebrated by Ghanaians all over the world to mark the attainment of independence of their beloved country on 6th March, 1957.

This year, His Excellency Ernest S. Lomotey, Ambassador of Ghana to Israel, his wife Mrs. Evelyn Dodoo Lomotey and members of staff of the Ghana Embassy in Tel Aviv hosted a reception at the Afecka Events Hall in Tel Aviv on 8th March, 2015 to celebrate Ghana's 58th National Day Anniversary.

The Guest of Honor for the event was Israel's Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr. Yair Shamir. Other distinguished guests included representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel, members of the diplomatic corps and a cross section of Ghanaians living in Israel.

The rich and spectacular Ghanaian culture was on display with colorful Kente clothing, traditional songs and dances performed by Nokoba Cultural Troupe based in Israel.

discussed by Ghana's Foreign Minister, Hon. Hanna Tetteh and Prime Minister Benyamin Netanyahu when the former visited Israel in March, 2016.

DC.: Most of the residents of Ghana consider themselves religious – Christian and Muslim. Yet none of the rancor one hears about in Nigeria seems evident here. On Christmas, for example, lots of people attended church services, but stores were also open. You see women with a hijab next to women in short shorts. Shops are named, for example, Jesus Saves Electronics or Goodness and Mercy Hair Salon. No one seems to mind – or to judge. This is a good example of co-existing. What do you think?

H.E.: As you observed, peaceful co-existence and religious tolerance have been major hall marks of Ghana. One could find Christians, Muslims, and traditional worshipers all in one family. This has particularly helped in better understanding each other's religion and to cooperate and co-exist peacefully.

DC: Ghana has a large Israeli business



His Excellency Mr. & Mrs. Lomotey together with guests enjoying the cultural display by the Nokoba Troupe



H.E. Ernest Lomotey interacting with colleague ambassadors

community. In what kind of business Israeli are involved?

H.E.: Many Israeli companies have established strong presence in Ghana and are involved in areas such as construction and civil engineering, agriculture, sales and provisions of technical support for communications equipment and development of technological education systems.

DC: Tourism has been down over the last few years due to the Ebola scare in West Africa. Sadly, Ghana, which did not have any cases of Ebola, has suffered from the perception that all of West Africa is dangerous. What happened today?

H.E.: The outbreak of the Ebola virus affected Ghana's tourism industry even though there was no confirmed case of the virus in Ghana. We hosted the United Nation's emergency Ebola response headquarters in Accra to coordinate operations to combat the virus in the affected areas of West Africa. The United Nation's response headquarters completed its operations in June, 2015 when West Africa was declared free from



His Excellency Ernest S. Lomotey interacting with the Dean of the Diplomatic Corp and other members of the group

Ebola. Tourism and business has since picked up in Ghana and gradually picking up in the rest of West Africa.

DC: How do you and your family feel in Israel? Is it difficult to manage an embassy here? If Israeli Government is open to your needs?

H.E.: Israel has become a second home for me and my family. All the people I have met so far are warm and nice. The Foreign Ministry and other government agencies are very cooperative thereby making my work and stay enjoyable.

DC: Personal details of Ambassador, please.

H.E.: His Excellency Ernest S. Lomotey was commissioned Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ghana to the State of Israel in December, 2012. He arrived and took office in February, 2013 and presented his credentials to former President of the State of Israel, H. E. Shimon Peres in May, 2013. Prior to his appointment, he was the Consul General of Ghana in New York, USA. Ambassador Lomotey is a career diplomat with over 30 years of experience in international affairs and diplomacy. He has served in various management and diplomatic capacities, both at headquarters and Ghana Missions abroad. Ambassador Lomotey is married with three adult children.



His Excellency Ernest S. Lomotey, his wife Mrs. Evelyn D. Lomotey with the guest of honor, Mr. Yair Shamir



Israel to open an office at NATO HQ in Brussels

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) announced that Israel will be able to open an office at NATO headquarters in Brussels and to complete the process of accrediting its delegates. The announcement comes after diplomatic efforts by the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defense and the National Security Council. Israel wishes to thank its friends among NATO member states for their support and efforts in this matter.

Eurovision Pre-Party Hosted by the Embassy of Sweden in Tel Aviv



EUROVISION
SONG CONTEST

EUROVISION PRE-PARTY 2016
hosted by the Embassy of Sweden in Tel Aviv

Sweden will be hosting the 2016 Eurovision Song Contest May 10-14 in Stockholm.

To get into the Eurovision spirit and wish Israel's contestant Hovi Star good luck with his performance in Stockholm, the Ambassador of Sweden would like to invite you to a Eurovision

EUROPE DAY 2016

find out more #europeday



Israel's relationship with the European Union is indispensable

President Rivlin addressed the Europe Day reception in Herzliya hosted by Ambassador Lars Faaborg-Andersen, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the State of Israel. The reception was attended by diplomats and officials representing many of the European and world nations, as well as leading communal, business, and political leaders from Israel and abroad.

"Your celebration is also our celebration," the President said as he thanked Ambassador Faaborg-Andersen for his hospitality, "Israel and the European Union are bound together by many ties. We share strong economic ties, which benefit both sides and I am happy to say, and the list of agreements between us is too long for me to mention here. Let me simply say to you, our largest, and most important trade partner: Israel's relationship with the European Union is indispensable."

President Rivlin went on to say, "It is true that Israel and the European Union do not always see eye-to-eye on issues of policy, but our cooperation and our mutual progress must not be held hostage by the lack of progress between Israel and the Palestinians. This would be a victory for those who are not ready to accept, that the only way to solve the conflict is by building trust between people."



Austrian participation at the Europe Days in Beer Sheva and Haifa

Austria will be represented at the Europe Days in Beer Sheva and Haifa with its own information booth for students and interested visitors. As part of the events, international institutions and institutions of higher education from Austria and other EU member states will inform not only about study abroad programs and scholarships, but also about European culture, history, politics and economy.

EUROPE DAY 2016

find out more #europeday



EUROPE DAY BEER SHEVA
16 MAY 2015 / 10:00 - 14:00
(EUROPEAN MARKET PLACE)
BEN GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV
BEER SHEVA

EUROPE DAY HAIFA
19 MAY 2015 / 09:00 - 14:00
(EUROPEAN MARKET PLACE)
UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA
ABA KHOUSHY AVE. 199, MOUNT CARMEL, HAIFA



The Embassy of Romania to the State of Israel

and the Romanian Cultural Institute in Tel Aviv are proud to invite you to the events celebrating Europe Day, organized at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Ben Gurion University of the Negev and the Haifa University between May 9-19, 2016.

Romania will be present at the events with a national stand, where there can be found informative materials, study opportunities in Romania, as well as the program of the Romanian Language Lectorate. At the stand there will also be presented the events organized by the Romanian Cultural Institute in Tel Aviv, the Romanian language courses and there will be registered new members in the institute's newsletter data base.

Event program:

Eurofest - May 9th, between 10:00-16:30, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Organized annually by the European Forum at the Hebrew University, Eurofest brings together students and staff for a celebration of Europe in its unity in diversity, exposing as many people as possible to the Member States of the European Union, their culture, history, politics, economics and more.

Europe Day Fair- May 16th, between 10:00-14:00, Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beer Sheva

The annual Europe Day events organized by the Centre for the Study of European Politics and Society offer the opportunity to over 20,000 Ben Gurion University students to be introduced to European study programs as well as European culture. The main goals of the event are to provide students with current information about European studies in Israel as well as postgraduate studies and student exchange programs in Europe. As part of the center's program, the students are involved various activities including educational tours focused on European culture within Israel, internship programs, and meetings with European ambassadors and other key political figures.

European Market- May 19th, between 09:45-14:30, at the Haifa University

Europe Day will be celebrated through an event that will reunite representatives of the EU member states in an European fair where there will be presented the study and collaboration opportunities in every participating country. The program will also include an international academic conference entitled "The 100-Year Anniversary of Sykes-Picot Agreement: Centenary reflections and contemporary relevance".

8 early-stage Israeli startups chosen for EU grant

Eight early-stage Israeli startups recently were awarded grants in the European Commission's SME Instrument Program, which helps small- and medium-sized businesses advance development of products judged to be high-potential for Europe and beyond.

The percentage of grants won by Israeli companies was more than double that of companies from other countries – 19 percent of Israeli companies that submitted applications won grants, compared with 8.7% of all European companies that filed proposals.

Four of the grantees specialize in the environment and alternative energy. The others are developing products in communications, nanotech, biotech and transportation.

The Israeli winners of €50,000 grants are:

Access for Life of Netanya, which is developing JEM, a subcutaneous biocompatible implantable device for chronic-disease patients in need of repetitive vascular access;

BreedIT of Herzliya, which facilitates data collection and digitalization in field trials for plant breeding and seed commercialization;

DryGair Energies of Herzliya, which is developing an energy-efficient greenhouse dehumidifier for warm climates, free of fluorinated gases;

MMA Tech of Nahariya, which has developed an innovative polymer resistant to wear and erosion, biologically adapted for use in moving joints like thighs and knees. In clinical trials abroad, the company has conducted 55 hip-joint replacements using this technology;

PowerSines of Tel Aviv, whose universal energy controller utilizes patented voltage optimization, regulation and control technologies in order to deliver the variable voltage according to need, enabling electrical savings and carbon monoxide reduction for outdoor and indoor commercial applications;

Solight of Ashkelon, which is developing an innovative solar lighting system to replace artificial lighting in all types of indoor spaces;

TerraGenic of Ashkelon, which is developing a substitute hydrogen fuel that will enable phone batteries to hold five times as much power as current ones, be fully rechargeable in seconds and last five days between recharging;

ThermaSphera of Ashkelon, whose high-efficiency energy storage system captures energy generated from renewable sources, waste energy from industry, and solar radiation in a compressed fluid and heat-pump hybrid system.

The SME Instrument Program of the EU's Horizon 2020 is focused on independent companies with fewer than 250 workers and revenues under €50 million.

Avi Hasson, Chief Scientist at the Israeli Ministry of Economy and Industry and Chairman of the Israel Innovation Authority, said: "The SME Instrument Program opens a door to innovative companies that would not receive such funding if they turned to venture capital funds. This is because innovation in this program is not only in popular fields such as mobile or cybersecurity, but also in less prominent fields. Qualifying for SME Instrument grants is a hallmark for these Israeli companies."

China's Hainan Airlines Launches Direct Flights to Israel.



It's currently the only Chinese airline to fly directly between China and Israel, and is expected to cash in on the increasing commercial and cultural ties between the two countries.

Tourism Minister Yariv Levin welcomed the inaugural Hainan Airlines flight from Beijing at Ben Gurion airport: "We have made the decision to invest unprecedented amounts in marketing Israel as a tourism destination in China and to increase the budget tenfold to NIS 15 million in 2016. I am confident that within a short time opening this new route will prove to be an excellent business decision."

The airline flies three days a week, Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday.

The Tourism Ministry is working hard to adapt the tourism infrastructure to welcome the Asian tourist in general and the Chinese tourist in particular, including, among others, training Chinese-speaking tour guides, training hotel and restaurant chefs in preparing Chinese cuisine, and launching a Chinese-language website. Incoming tourism to Israel from China has grown 43% last year on 2014 and 86% on 2013, with significant potential for growth as a result of the increased seat capacity provided by the new direct route launched today.

In the photo, from left to right: Transportation Minister Yisrael Katz, CEO Hainan Airlines Xia Haoming, Tourism Minister Yariv Levin and Israeli Ambassador to China Matan Vilnai and members of the crew. Credit Chen Galili



The Issue of Employing Jordanian Workers at the Dead Sea Hotels.

Following the approval of 1,500 Jordanian workers to work in Eilat hotels - some of whom are already working in the Red Sea resort - Interior Minister Aryeh Deri and Tourism Minister Yariv Levin agreed to examine the possibility of employing Jordanian workers in Dead Sea hotels as well.

This, as a result of the difficulties the hotels face in recruiting Israeli workers and the ensuing shortage of manpower in the hotels.

Interior Minister Aryeh Deri: "We are continuing the pilot that we began in Eilat and we are now asking to extend the project to the Dead Sea hotels as well. This project has a dual benefit - both for tourism at the Dead Sea and



for the strengthening of bilateral relations with Jordan."

Tourism Minister Yariv Levin: "I am working intensively to reduce the cost of vacationing in Israel and to improve the standard of service in hotels. The Dead Sea hotels suffer from a shortage of manpower and this adversely affects their ability to provide good service to their guests. Therefore, we decided to try and expand the employment of Jordanian workers to the Dead Sea hotels. I am sure that this will help the manpower shortage and will improve the level of service."

In June 2014, the government

approved the decision to allow up to 1500 workers of Jordanian citizenship to work in the Eilat hotels in order to offer a stable and timely solution to the manpower shortage and in accordance with hotel occupancy. These workers, according to the decision, are day workers who return to Jordan at the end of the working day and are employed in cleaning, dishwashing and room service in the Eilat hotels only. This arrangement also contributes to the relationship between Israel and Jordan.

As a result of this decision, an advisory committee was established, headed by a representative of the Population and Immigration Authority and with the participation of representatives from the Prime Minister's Office, Tourism Ministry, Economy Ministry, Foreign Ministry and Finance Ministry. The committee made its recommendation to the Interior Minister regarding the scope and timing of the work permits. As per the recommendation, the quota remains through the end of 2019 or until such time when the unemployment rate in Eilat stands at 7.5% according to employment service statistics.





The Interior Minister was granted the authority to allow 500 workers in the first round and to instruct, with the agreement of the Minister of Economy and in coordination with the Ministers of Tourism and Finance, allocations of additional rounds, up to a total of 1500 workers.

There are about 12,000 hotel rooms in city Eilat. Eilat is also home for only 50,000 people. Thousands of workers are required to cover positions in cleaning, dishwashing and room service - in particular in the absence of an urban environment that would allow for the recruitment of such staff. Over the years, several short-term solutions have been used to solve this problem of providing workers for the hotel industry in the resort.

It should be noted that past endeavors launched by government ministries and the hotel industry to encourage Israelis to work in these positions were not successful. Among others, the Tourism Ministry together with the Finance Ministry and representatives from the hotel industry launched

campaigns that offered Israelis favorable conditions such as scholarships, annual bonuses, housing benefits, day care etc. However, these did not result in recruiting Israeli workers into the Eilat tourism industry.

Before 2006 several short-term solutions have been used to solve this problem of providing foreign workers for the hotel industry in the resort that was canceled in the same year.

Between 2007 and 2008 refugees from different countries were employed that brought a lot of problems and government decided to stop it.

"We are under severe pressure by the shortage of manpower in Eilat - especially in the summer season," said Eilat Hotel Association CEO Shabtai Shay. "I've done everything in my power to employ Israelis," Shay said. "We offer special benefits; we offer higher salaries...but we were unable to employ Israelis."

The association has tried many ways to fill the need for workers, he said, including temporarily employing migrants from Sudan. However, a change in national policy caused those workers to be held in detention camps. "We

are ready to employ every one who keeps Israeli "teudat zehut", has legal work permeation in Israel and wants to work. We do not understand the term of "Palestinian workers" mentioned in different media sources and we never dismiss any Israeli from their job".

From other side opinion is different. Imad Hussein from Tulkarm, told "It is not acceptable that the brotherly state of Jordan agrees to send its employees to Israel to replace us. Jordan should have supported us in our current crisis."

Ismail Rashid, from Ramallah in the West Bank, a contractor who recruits Palestinians for construction jobs in Israel, told, "It is strange that the PA did not contact Jordan to coordinate at the level of exporting Jordanian labor in Israel. It is also strange that the PA did not ask Jordan not to replace Palestinian workers with Jordanian ones. The PA is responsible for these workers who lost their source of income and have been added to the ranks of thousands of unemployed people."

Israeli authorities has a direct contacts with Jordanian governors in Accaba whose are involved in arrangements with Israel to send Jordanians to work in Israel, for a monthly salary of \$1,500, which is relatively low for Israel and very well for Jordan and Jordan economic. It's mean that 2.25 milion dollars will move to Jordan as salary of 1500 workers.

Seems, when money talks, politic becomes silent.

The Eurasian Media Forum in Astana on April





By **Shani Kamhine**

More than 400 delegates from more than 50 countries and approximately 30 authoritative speakers gathered in Astana for the 13th Eurasian Media Forum (EAMF) on April 21-23 to discuss the main issues on the international agenda. Understandably, the main topics of discussion revolved around three main issues – the global economy, the crisis in the Middle East and the changing geopolitical landscape.

Throughout the sessions that took place over three days, common themes developed on why our world is facing so many problems. These included a lack of trust and lack of understanding between states and political blocs. Hamid Karzai, the former President of Afghanistan, pointed out during the session on the Middle East that the only way to achieve peace is to foster trust between the global powers, among whom he named the United States, China, Russia, and India. Many of the experts agreed that it is political struggle that has caused many of the challenges facing the world today, including terrorism and extremism.

Despite the difficult period the world finds itself in, we must continue to believe that every problem should have a solution. While it was always going to be a difficult task to provide concrete answers to every challenge facing our planet, some constructive proposals were voiced during the forum. Just as with a common theme for why the world is facing

instability, common solutions were put forward by many of the speakers – closer cooperation between states, constructive dialogue between players in the international arena and tighter integration.

If dialogue and closer cooperation is indeed the answer to many of today's problems, then Kazakhstan has an important role to play. Situated between Asia and Europe, our nation can act as a bridge between East and West. The country has already been playing its part in facilitating resolutions to the Syrian crisis, the Ukrainian conflict and the issue of the Iranian nuclear programme. Kazakhstan has also been a prominent supporter of closer economic integration through the Eurasian Economic Union and China's New Silk Road initiative. As a nation that has good relations with all its neighbours, as well as with

the European Union and the United States, Kazakhstan can and should play a pivotal role in facilitating cooperation and dialogue between different states and political blocs.

Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev's ideas proposed in Manifesto "Peace. 21st Century" were welcomed by the international community and will serve as a positive example for other countries to achieve the nuclear safety. In his Manifesto "Peace. 21st Century", which he presented during the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington at the end of March 2016, called on the international community to come to Kazakhstan to discuss issues of peace states, states without wars and violence. He raised the possibility of the major powers sleep-walking towards global conflict. Our world, he warned, was "now on the edge of a new Cold War which could





have devastating consequences for all humankind.”

He warned that “international terrorism has gained a more sinister character.” It may, he



said, be a question of when, not if, they get their hands on the knowledge, technology and components for a nuclear device. It may not make comfortable reading, but, as President Nazarbayev said, ending the threat from nuclear weapons and reducing the lives lost from conflict must be the cause of the 21st century. The consequences of failing to act could see the planet turned into “a graveyard of radioactive materials.” As the President warned: “In the 21st century, humanity must take decisive steps towards demilitarisation. We won’t get another chance.”

“Today, humanity is entering an era of unprecedented trial. What the new world and our common future will be depends on each of us... Thanks to the common will, this century must become the era of the triumph of constructive dialogue. The open discussion of world problems at the EAMF for finding a balanced solution will be an invaluable contribution to the peace movement,” he added.

During challenging and uncertain periods, it is absolutely essential to come together and cooperate on resolving global issues. As Dariga Nazarbayeva, the Deputy Prime Minister of Kazakhstan, who is also the chair of the

EAMF Organising Committee, said during the closing ceremony of the EAMF: “No country is able to survive in isolation.” It is only through open and honest discussions that we can start moving towards finding common solutions.



ISRAEL'S 68TH INI



Celebration of the first Independence Day at Tel Aviv Municipality Plaza

The Egyptian planes bombing hit Tel Aviv center. 16.05.1948



Jews surveying some of the damage caused by the Ben Yehuda bombing The bombing was undertaken by Arab terrorists dressed up in British uniforms. 57 people died.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

24th February 1948, Jerusalem, Palestine, Horror-stricken locals grasp their children as they flee the terror of a massive explosion on Ben Yehuda Street, in the Jewish district of Jerusalem which killed 51 people, The bomb was initially blamed on British soldiers, but it was later announced that Arabs were responsible.



Parade in Tel Aviv after independence.



By Roi Bachmutsky

I recently overheard a poignant anecdote that took place on Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day). A young Jewish Israeli woman had just left her car in Jaffa when a siren sounded throughout the city, as it does every year, signifying the beginning of a nationwide moment of silence. A young Palestinian mother dressed in a niqab stopped along with her. The two stood in silence while the second woman's two young children continued playing nearby. Realizing that something was unusual, they turned to their mother and asked her what she was doing. "Be quiet," she replied under her breath, "And show respect for their nakba (catastrophe)."

Think of how the mother in the story must feel eight days later, on Yom Ha'atzmaut, which is commemorated in her community as Nakba Day. How will she bear the sights and sounds of countless masses who will not reciprocate her regard for their nakba and instead celebrate on the day her people suffered at the hands of ours? Will she struggle to explain to her children why their country

retracts funding from any activity "commemorating Israeli Independence Day or the day of the establishment of the state as a day of mourning"?

This story compels me to answer the question for myself: Will I celebrate or mourn Israeli Independence Day?

On the one hand, I am a Jew, so a significant part of me rejoices on the day that commemorates the realization of Jewish sovereignty for the first time in millennia. On the other hand, both the Jewish tradition and our own historical oppression demands that we refuse to rejoice at the downfall of others – even when some of us consider them enemies – so I cannot celebrate joyously on a day that marks the beginning of our people's ethnic cleansing of our neighbors, an injustice that remains largely unrecognized by the wider Jewish public to this day.

So what am I to do? The only answer I am left with is to acknowledge both parts of my Jewish-Israeli identity, to embody a sort of double consciousness endemic in Israeli society. There is a wise Yiddish saying: "One does not die from contradiction."

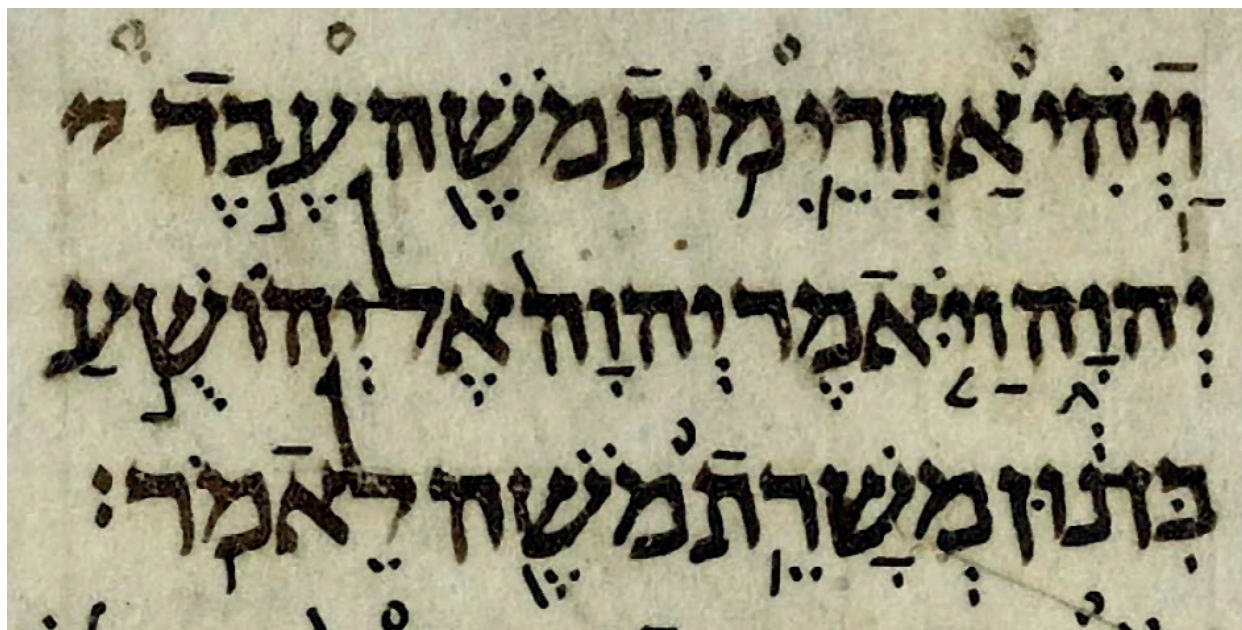
I propose we recognize Yom Ha'atzmaut this year by reciprocating the same courageous human decency the young Palestinian mother taught her children. Let us include the Nakba in our Jewish communal discussion. Whether you are attending an event at your local Jewish Federation or organizing a communal mangal (Israeli slang for barbeque) at your home, I implore you to have the courage to discuss both the light and dark sides of Israeli history.

As you eat the traditional hummus and falafel, speak of both brave military victories and of abominable military massacres. Speak of finally creating a refuge for the ever-forsaken Jewish people, while ethnically cleansing it of most of the 700,000 soon-to-be Palestinian refugees. Speak of the freedom Jews in Israel have today at the expense of the freedom of those living under our occupation. Speak free of comfortable consensus, because Yom Ha'atzmaut should fill you with an uncomfortable emulsion of pride and indignation.

Finally, as you do so, open two bottles of wine for those around you. Extending the Passover ritual of removing drops of wine from our cups – symbolizing God's tears for harming another of his peoples – drink one bottle and openly break the other. This is the contradiction Yom Ha'atzmaut demands of the Jewish people.

Roi Bachmutsky is a student at the University of California, Berkeley.

LEARN TO READ ANCIENT HEBREW IN 3 DAYS



It's doable

First of all, my dear readers, I want to share some great news with you today. In spite of how perplexing the Hebrew alphabet may look, it is not as complicated as it may seem. I was not born reading Hebrew and nor was anyone else I know. I had to learn it just the same as you will. You might say: “Wait... Wait... Wait... are you telling me that I am going to begin to learn the language of Moses, Joshua and David?!” Well, yes and no. Right now we are talking about the Hebrew alphabet only. It is true that throughout this book you will learn a lot about Hebrew, not by way of grammatical rules, but inductively, as we move through the fascinating stories in the Book of Genesis.

You may say: “But Dr. Eli, you have scholarly mind and that’s how you’ve been able to learn it – but should you expect the same from us!?” Well... that’s the thing - I may have a scholarly mind, but learning the Hebrew alphabet does not require such a mind, certainly not for learning how to sound out words! Of course it does require some work, but learning the Hebrew alphabet is what you would call a ‘mini-project’ - no more than that. In fact, the short program I offer in this introductory chapter of the book is designed enable you to read Hebrew if you dedicate just two hours a day for the next three days. Get started - keep going - and before you know it you will have it mastered.

IMPORTANT: If you make mistakes that means only one thing – you are doing what I am telling you to do! Mistakes are made to be corrected and help us to learn and grow. As they say here in Israel “The excellent is the enemy of the good”. Don’t expect perfection – that will come – but you have start somewhere. I am reminded of a great New York anecdote. A somewhat lost young man standing at a bus stop in Manhattan, holding a violin case in his right hand, asks a young Jewish lady waiting for her bus: “Excuse me madam, how can I get to Carnegie Hall?” To which, without hesitation she answered, with a somewhat a condescending look, “Practice, young man. Practice.”

Will this book be easy to read and follow? Yes! Will it be truly rewarding? Absolutely! Will it take some effort on your part? Of course! Has any achievement in your life come to you without some effort? I rather doubt it. Ok, enough of the pep-talk! Let’s move on.

In this brief chapter I will familiarize those of you who are not yet able to read and correctly pronounce Hebrew at all, with the letters and vowel sounds. (If you are able to read Hebrew with comparative ease, go ahead and skip this chapter and continue reading with chapter 2. This is where we really get into the meat of things).

The Alphabet

The Hebrew alphabet consists of 17 consonants and 5 vowels (א, ה, ו, י, ׁ), so altogether there are only twenty-two Hebrew letters. “There he goes”, you may say, Dr. Eli is already breaking his promise not to use grammatical vocabulary in this book. But actually, in all fairness to “yours truly”, I did not say that there will be no grammar at all. I said that whatever grammar there is will be learned inductively, explained simply, and therefore grasped easily. So, if I do use grammatical terms I will ensure that I explain them in such a way that anyone (and I mean anyone) can understand.

So what are the consonants? According to the standard definition, a consonant is a speech sound that is not a vowel. You may be tempted to answer this definition with the words of Jack Sparrow from *Pirates of the Caribbean* (one of my favorites): “That’s even more than less than unhelpful!” And maybe you are right. What they are trying to say is that the letters of the Hebrew alphabet that represent sounds like Z, B, T, G, H are consonants, while the letters that represent other sounds such as A, E, I, O, U are called vowels.

But as I said, we will make things simple and you will be able to go through it with relative ease (and please, do not tell me that you may be too old for this. I have seen many people over 70 years old who have learned how to read Hebrew). What is exciting is that no matter what age you are, you are about to learn how to read the very Hebrew words used by great Biblical heroes like Moses, Joshua, Isaac ... and the list goes on.

The first step in getting to know the Hebrew alphabet is to learn how to pronounce all 22 letters. One thing to keep in mind is that four letters have both regular and end-of-the-word forms (such as the letters kaf and nun). In other words, they change their form when they appear at the end of a word.

There are also four letters that change (they actually become different letters) based on whether or not they have a period symbol accompanying them. For example ב with the period inside it is the letter “bet”, while the absence of this symbol makes it the letter “vet” instead. However, we do not count bet and vet as two separate letters. After all we have an image to uphold! (You guessed it: “Hebrew is a simple language!”). Alright, alright, it is not quite as simple as I first described, but since you have come this far, you might as well go a little further and get a better understanding of how things work.

So let us, without any further chit-chat, look at this simple chart. First, we will concentrate on recognizing and being able to pronounce all 22 base letters of the alphabet.

<i>chet</i>	<i>zayn</i>	<i>Vav</i>	<i>hey</i>	<i>dalet</i>	<i>gimel</i>	<i>bet</i>	<i>alef</i>
ח	ז	ו	ה	ד	ג	ב	א
<u>BACH</u>	<u>ZEST</u>	<u>VOICE</u>	<u>HOPE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>GAME</u>	<u>BALL</u>	--
<i>ayin</i>	<i>samek</i>	<i>nun</i>	<i>mem</i>	<i>lamed</i>	<i>kaf</i>	<i>yod</i>	<i>Tet</i>
ע	ס	נ/ן	מ/ם	ל	כ/ך	י	ט
--	<u>STICK</u>	<u>NOSE</u>	<u>MAN</u>	<u>LEG</u>	<u>KING</u>	<u>YORK</u>	<u>TOY</u>
		<i>tav</i>	<i>shin</i>	<i>resh</i>	<i>kof</i>	<i>tzadeh</i>	<i>Pey</i>
		ת	ש	ר	ק	צ/ץ	פ/ף
		<u>TOY</u>	<u>SHOCK</u>	<u>RICE</u>	<u>CALL</u>	<u>JETS</u>	<u>PRICE</u>

First of all (and I trust that I am not insulting your intelligence here, if I am, please forgive me), Hebrew is read from right to left, like Arabic and Aramaic, among other languages. So let us now begin to walk this road together.

Practice makes perfect

DAY 1

Step 1 (takes about 15-20 min): Slowly read the top line (alef, bet, gimel, dalet, etc.). As you read alef, look at א, as you read bet, look at ב, gimel look at ג, etc. Go through all 22 letters, at a speed you are completely comfortable with, at least 10 times.

Step 2 (takes about 30-45 min): Grab a pen and a notebook and begin copying letter after letter, starting from right to left (and friends, I do realize that at this point it might feel as strange as it does for an American to drive a car in England - it feels like driving on the “wrong” side of the road. But let me assure you that this is simply a matter of getting used to it). Trying to stick as close as possible to what you see on the chart, and beginning with א (alef - the very first letter), write the entire alphabet to ת (tav – the very last letter), 10 times in a row. (Note that four letters have regular and end forms, while the others do not. You will soon get used to that, but for now just be aware of it to avoid confusion).

Step 3 (takes around 20-30 minutes): Read through the alphabet again three times, and when you are finished, write it out again, also three times, just to cement it in your mind.

DAY 2

Step 1 (takes around 30 minutes): Repeat Steps 1 and 2. This time, read and write the alphabet 5 times. You may not know this, but my mother tongue is Russian (just as it was for Ben Yehuda, who was responsible for resurrecting the Hebrew language in the early days of Zionism, and turning it from the language of old prayer books to the spoken language of the people of the State of Israel today). In the Russian language we have many great sayings (in fact Russian is full of them). One that is relevant here goes like this: “Povtorenie mat uchenia”, which means “Repetition is the mother of learning”. Another great saying “Terpenie I trud vsio peretrut”, means “Patience and hard work will turn any stone into dust”. We all know this to be true. This folk wisdom is exactly what the Jewish lady at the bus stop in Manhattan meant when she confidently said: “Practice, young man. Practice.”

Nikud

Now I would like to introduce you to one of the easiest helps in making sense of Hebrew. Ironically, this is the part that makes many unsuspecting people nervous. It is what we call the NIKUD system. The Hebrew word pronounced nikudah means a “dot” and you have probably noticed that Hebrew words and sentences seem to have lots of dots and dashes of various kinds and in various combinations. It is now time for us to move on from recognizing and sounding out the consonants, like (א, ב, ג, ד), to joining them with vowels, especially those that are not part of alphabet itself. This is an essential step, because you do want to read whole words, don't you?

Nikud symbols are essentially sounds that broadly represent a variety of Hebrew vowels. While it is not really important to memorize the names of each nikud symbol, it is crucial to memorize what sounds they represent. The great news is that there are only five of these sounds. (Of course memorizing their names will make you sound more knowledgeable and authoritative when you decide to teach a simple Hebrew class to your congregation - so yes, by all means memorize the names if you would like other Hebrew learners to take you more seriously.)



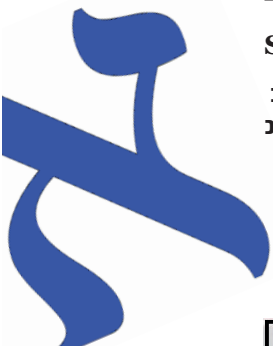
Step 2 (takes around 15 min): Copy the chart 10 times. Make sure that you are able to sound out each of the five vowel sounds, no matter how they are spelled, with the help of the Nikud system.

Step 3 (takes around 10 min): Read the following words, once you do, check your pronunciation against the answer key.

Hebrew	Pronunciation	Translation
אָבִי	Aba	Father
דָּוִד	David	David
שׁוֹדֵק	Kadosh	Holy
שׁוֹלֵם	Shalom	Shalom
תּוֹרָה	Torah	Torah
הַלְּלוּיָהּ	Halleluiah	Hallelujah
יֵשׁוּעַ	Yish	man

Step 4 (Takes around 10 minutes): Read this whole sentence from the Torah:

עָרִיָּה תֵּאָו, מִי־מִשָּׁה תָּא, מִי־הָלָא אָרַב, תִּישָׂאֲרַב
 הִי-וּלְלָהּ: הִי לְלֵהָת, הַמְשֻׁנָּה לֵן





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Dr. Eli Lizorkin-Eyzenberg is a Research Professor of Ancient Cultures and the Dean of the faculty of the Jewish Studies at the Teacher/Biblical Academy of Linguistics and History.

He has received both Jewish and Christian education both religious and secular. He holds M.Div. degree in Christian Theology from Reformed Theological Seminary (2000), and M.Phil. degree in Bible Interpretation (2008) and Ph.D. in Ancient Cultures from Stellenbosch University (2011). Additional studies include doctoral and post-doctoral studies at the University of Pennsylvania, Leiden University, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Blurry vision – How to proceed?

Eyes are an important part of our health. How can we keep them healthy? We interviewed Prof. Irit Barequet, specialist in Cataract, Refractive Surgery & Cornea and Dr. Zohar Habot-Wilner, specialist in Uveitis, Inflammatory Eye Disease & Retinal Diseases.

Prof. Barequet and Dr. Habot-Wilner: It is very important to have a periodic comprehensive eye exam even when you think you have a good eyesight. Many disorders may be undetected in the early stages but can be detected during the eye examination. Common eye diseases such as degenerative corneal diseases, glaucoma, diabetic eye disease and age-related macular degeneration often have no warning signs. In addition, it is very important to protect the eyes with sunglasses, control the body weight and maintain a healthy diet (i.e. vegetables and fruits rich with antioxidants).

What may be the causes for blurry vision in the adult age?

Prof. Barequet and Dr. Habot-Wilner: Blurry vision can be related to the need for corrective glasses but can be also caused by eye diseases.

Prof. Barequet: Cataract is a painless cloudy lens in the eye that advances slowly as we age and causes progressive vision deterioration: blurry vision, faded colors and the need for frequent change in the prescription of the glasses. The curative treatment is surgery in which the lens is removed and replaced with an artificial one. The operation is performed through minute incisions that don't even need stitches. An ultrasound probe emulsifies the lens and the particles are safely removed. Femtosecond lasers have recently introduced to facilitate the early stages of the operation. The artificial lenses are folded and implanted to their place

though the same incisions. Modern advanced lenses can lessen the need for glasses and are planned according to the eye condition and the patients' need. After the surgery, the patients return rapidly to normal life activities.

Dr. Habot-Wilner: Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) is an eye disease that usually begins after age 55. It may progressively damage the macula - the center of the retina which is crucial for good vision. There are two types of AMD: non-neovascular - "dry" and neovascular "wet". In dry AMD, which is the common disease, the light-sensitive cells in the macula slowly break down causing central vision to diminish over time. "Wet" AMD is characterized by abnormal blood vessels behind the retina which start to grow, leaking blood and fluid, causing loss of central vision, which may occur quickly. Dry AMD progression can be slowed by intake of specific vitamin formulations.

Wet AMD can be treated by intraocular injections of various anti-angiogenic agents. The injection is a fast procedure and can be repeated periodically without interfering normal life activity. Continuous follow-up is crucial for early detection of the disease and timed intervention.

What should be suspected in young adults experiencing vision loss with frequent change in glasses prescription?

Prof. Irit Barequet: In young adults whenever the glasses don't fully improve vision or there is an increase of the cylinder part in the glasses one should immediately rule out development of keratoconus. Keratoconus is caused by a weakness in the structure of the cornea, causing a conical-shaped abnormal bulge to the front of the eye and may cause significant difficulty to focus even with the help

of glasses or contact lenses. It is extremely important to early detect the development of keratoconus and to prevent further damage. The crosslinking procedure is aimed at strengthening the corneal tissue and halting additional progression and preserving good vision.

What should be done in a case of an eye pain with redness and change in vision?

Dr. Habot-Wilner: Such a case might be a manifestation of uveitis. Uveitis is an inflammation of the inner parts of the eye. The disease may be confined to the eye or related to a general systemic disease (rheumatologic and various autoimmune diseases). The inflammatory condition may be infectious or non-infectious. It is extremely important to early detect and properly diagnose the disease in order to offer the appropriate treatment and prevent irreversible vision deterioration.



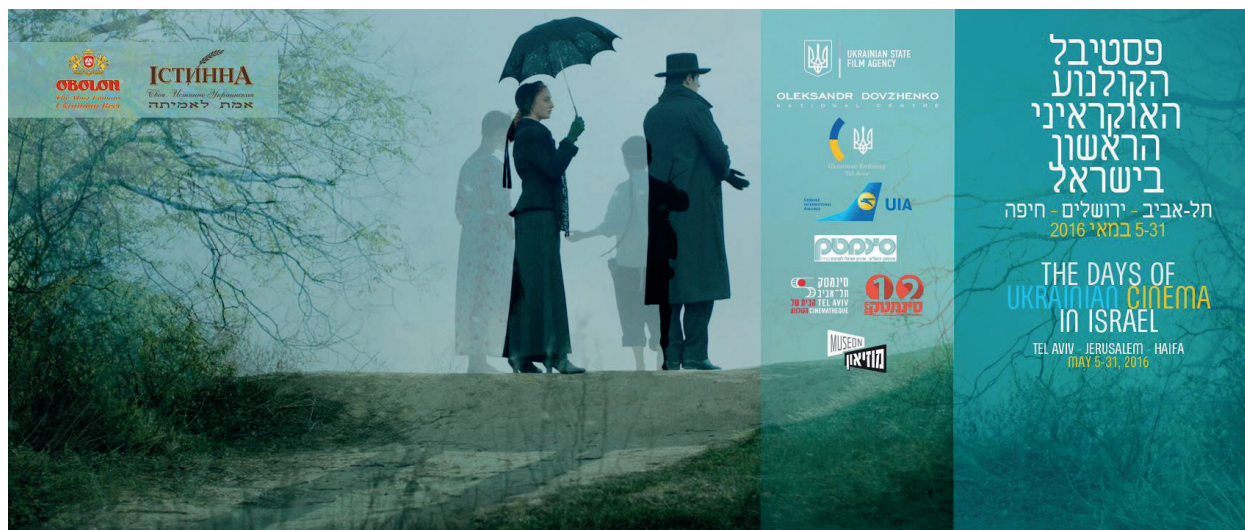
The Eye Clinic

5a Habarzel St., Ramat Hahayal,
Tel Aviv

Prof. Irit Barequet
*Cataract, Refractive
Surgery & Cornea Specialist*
Tel. +972-73-70709003
Fax. +972-73-70709005
E-mail: profbarequet@gmail.com

Dr. Zohar Habot-Wilner
*Uveitis, Inflammatory Eye
Disease & Retinal Diseases
Specialist*
Tel. +972-73-70709004
Fax. +972-73-70709005
E-mail: zoharwilner@gmail.com

Days of Ukrainian Cinema in Israel Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Haifa / May 5-31, 2016



The Days of Ukrainian Cinema in Israel will be held in Cinematheques of three cities - Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem from May 5 2016 until the end of month. First time in Israel the program showcases the retrospective of Oleksandr Dovzhenko, his famous Ukrainian trilogy, as well as presents the latest film hits and new productions by various directors, such as Oles Sanin, Serhiy Mokrytsky, Eva Neymann, Dmytro Moyseyev, Oleksandr Balahura, and Valentyn Vasyanovych.

At the festival's opening, on May 5th, the worldwide recognized masterpiece, EARTH by Oleksandr Dovzhenko will be shown, following later in the program by ARSENAL and ZVENYHORA. Specially for the festival the restored versions of the Ukrainian trilogy with new soundtracks are provided by the Oleksandr Dovzhenko National Centre.

The festival is organized by the Ukrainian National Film Centre, the Embassy of Ukraine in Israel, Tel Aviv Cinematheque, Jerusalem Cinematheque, Haifa Cinematheque, Cinema Project Museon (Israel) with support of the Oleksandr Dovzhenko National Centre (Ukraine). The official carrier of the festival is Ukrainian International Airlines.

Enrico Macias in Tel Aviv, Israel | May 17, 2016

French singer and musician Enrico Macias is coming to Tel Aviv, Israel for a performance in May 2016. He has been traveling and performing internationally for 50 years. Enrico Macias sings in more than 10 languages. His popular songs include "J'ai quitté mon pays", "L'Oriental", "Paris, tu m'as pris dans tes bras" and "La femme de mon ami". Enrico Macias will perform at the Palace of Culture in Tel Aviv.



Real Estate in Tel Aviv, Israel | May 25, 2016

One of the most talk-about indie bands of our days are coming to one show in Tel Aviv on May 25th. The American indie-rock band Real Estate have made their debut in 2009, with their album "Real Estate". Their unique music style is a mix amongst Power-pop, psychedelic, melodic indie rock and Lo-Fi. Their last album "Atlas", published in 2014, was considered one of the biggest albums of the year. They will perform at Barby Club, Tel Aviv, on May 25.



Buddy Guy to perform in Caesarea, Israel | July 13, 2016

One of the greatest living guitarists, Buddy Guy, will perform in Caesarea, Israel, this summer. Buddy Guy is one of the most influential blues guitarists and singers, whose music has inspired generations of musicians from Jimi Hendrix and Eric Clapton to Jeff Beck and John Mayer. Born in Louisiana 79 years ago, he was ranked 30th amongst the 100 greatest guitarists of all times by the magazine "Rolling Stone". He will perform in Israel, at the Caesarea Amphitheatre.



Sunbeat Music Festival | June 23-25, 2016

The Sunbeat Music Festival is Israel's leading summer music, global beats event. Taking place over one weekend in June in a beautiful green parkland setting in the green mountains of the Northern Galilee region of Israel, Sunbeat draws some of Israel's biggest home-grown musicians, as well as a diverse array of international musicians. In 2016 the line-up includes Pat Thomas & Kwashibu Area Band (gahanna), Baba Zula (Turquia), La Dame Blanche (Cuba) feat. Echo, Yemen Blues-Ravid Kahalani, Shai Tsabari-Şy Zbry, Boom Pam, Lucille Crew, Battering Trio, Gili Yalo, Onogana, Groove Ambassadors Şgryry Hgrwb, Liraz... to name a few. Sunbeat attracts passionate, groovy, and upbeat music lovers from Israel and beyond, and is set to be something to remember. Sunbeat 2016 features a Travelers Stage in which we'll invite readers, friends, and travelers from around the world to jam with locals and create something truly special. Sunbeat 2016 takes place on June 23-25, 2016.



Opera Festival in Jerusalem | June 22-25, 2016

A special opera festival will take place in Jerusalem in June 2016, with performances in the Sultan's Pool, at the foot of the walls of the historic Old City. Following in the footsteps of the iconic Masada Opera Festival, which takes place earlier in June, the opera festival in Jerusalem will present the opera, 'Il Rigoletto' by Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi, with performances on June 24 and 25, 2016. There will be further operatic events on June 22, and 23.

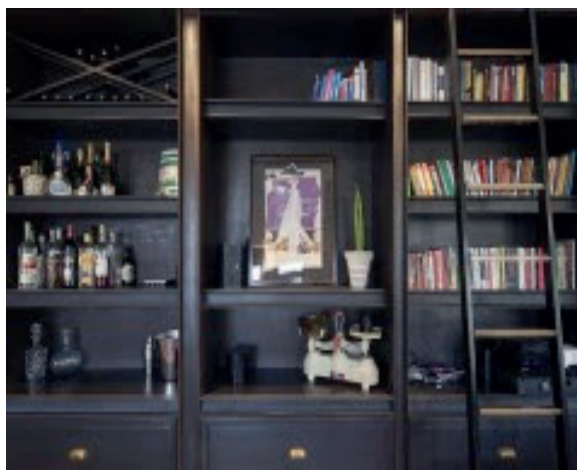


Jerusalem Festival of Light | May 25-June 2, 2016

The Jerusalem Festival of Light has become an annual event in which the Old City of Jerusalem is brought to light. Dramatic light-ups of the ancient architecture of the Old City as well as the installation of light statues, performances, and pieces of museum artwork conceived by some of the leading light artists from Israel and the world will be complemented by onstage and street performances. The 2016 Jerusalem Festival of Light will take place between May 25 – June 2 and will bring light artists from around the world to the city. Together, they will create one of the world's largest light festivals set to attract 250,000 visitors. Installations will sit across the Old City, illuminating the walls of the Old City, and the buildings and sites that sit within, in unique and beautiful ways, as well as installations in public spaces.

Open House Tel Aviv | May 26-28, 2016

Open House Tel Aviv is an annual event in which, along with 50 other cities worldwide, Tel Aviv opens some of its most architecturally and historically notable private buildings to the public for one weekend only, as part of the international Open House project. Open House Tel Aviv will include 140 usually private spaces who will open up to the public on the weekend of May 26-28, 2016. These include a range of buildings – from some of the city’s most famous and iconic, to private homes and studios, as well as many tours behind the scenes of some of Tel Aviv’s biggest public spaces. Many of the buildings are open on a first come first served basis, between specific hours over the weekend, however some require prior reservation, which opens at 7am Israel time on the Friday before the event and is expected to fill up within 15 minutes!



EAT Festival, Tel Aviv, Israel | May 24-26, 2016

The EAT Food Festival takes place in Tel Aviv in May 2016, featuring three nights of great cuisine at the Charles Clore Gardens, in Tel Aviv facing the sea. Participating in the festival are some of the best restaurants in Tel Aviv (including Manta Ray, Dixie, Blue Rooster, Lumina, and more) and some of the finest and most famous chefs in Israel (Haim Cohen, Meir Adoni, Saul mantle, Ronen Skinzis, Diamond Levy...). You can expect tastings and delicious street food to try and take away. Entrance is free, and the EAT Festival will take place between May 24-26, 2016.



Thriller Live in Tel Aviv, Israel | May 19-24, 2016

The musical Thriller Live is a tribute to the story and career of the King of Pop, Micheal Jackson, from his beginning with the Jackson Five to his solo years. Thriller Live has been performed worldwide and has sold over 1 million tickets! The show is conceived and produced by Adrian Grant, close friend of the Jackson family. On stage you will see the particular dance technique and choreographies that made Micheal Jackson so famous, together with the performance of his best hits: “I Want You Back”, “Can You Feel It”, “Off The Wall”, “Smooth Criminal”, “Beat It”, “Billie Jean”, “Dirty Diana”, “They Do Not Care About Us” and many more. Thriller Live will perform on May 19-24 at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv.



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The Diplomatic Club

MEDICAL SERVICES FOR DIPLOMATS

The Diplomatic Club provides a variety of medical services for the diplomatic community.

FOR NEWLY ARRIVED DIPLOMATS AND THEIR FAMILIES:

- Unique national healthcare program
- Diplomatic medical coordination center
- Arrangement of appointments with the best local doctors , hospitals and medical centers
- Telephone consultation with the best local doctors in several languages
- Check Ups
- Free dental treatments of children up to the age of 12 years.
- Discount for treatments for adults and much more.

FOR HOLDERS OF INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE PLANS:

- Arrangement of appointments with the best local doctors, hospitals and medical centers
- List of internationally recognized specialists
- Second opinion

This service was established for the diplomatic community in 1998. It is not medical insurance or an insurance company. It is medical services for diplomatic community, arranged by the government.

To receive additional details and arrange a meeting, call: 972-3-5622061 or send an e-mail: info@diplomacy-club.com

10 Carlibah St., Tel Aviv
Israel P.O.Box20344,TelAviv,61202

708 Third Avenue, 24th Floor
New York, NY 10017 USA

Club Diplomatique de Geneva
P.O.B :228 Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: 972-3- 5622061/2 Fax:972-3-5620212, E-mail: info@diplomacy-club.com, www.diplomacy-club.com