

High Gaza Death Toll Figures Generate Controversy

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 31.10.2024

Prof. Kobi Michael: The misreporting of a hospital bombing incident shortly after the war broke out was a case in point.

Israel was accused, shortly after the war started, of bombing Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza City and killing 500 people. Analysis within a few days, including satellite photos analyzed by French intelligence, suggested the parking lot, not the hospital, was hit, that it was hit by a rocket misfired by Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and that only 30 people were killed.

But they keep counting 500. It appears in figures provided by the Ministry of Health.

Published in The Epoch Times, October 31, 2024.



Israel launched three waves of airstrikes into Iran

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 31.10.2024

Israel launched three waves of airstrikes into Iran overnight in response to a series of attacks from Tehran over the past year. Prof. Kobi Michael tells The Sun how Israel's next strike against Iran will "paralyse" the country.

October 26, 2024.

<https://youtu.be/7jGJeQe8QfM>

Iran have been attacking Israel for a very long time

written by Ruth Wasserman Lande | 31.10.2024

Ruth Wasserman Lande: So, allow me to point out that there is a difference in how the attack is perceived by people who may not be very familiar with its objectives, the extent of the damage inflicted, and other relevant factors. To some, it may appear limited compared to their expectations. However, in my humble opinion, the attack has indeed met its objectives, especially given the constraints associated with the upcoming U.S. elections.

First, allow me to say that the Iranians, or rather the Islamic Republic of Iran, have been attacking Israel for a very long time. Even before October 7th, rockets were raining down on civilians in southern Israel, and everyone seemed to accept this as a normal state of affairs that Israeli civilians should simply endure. However, October 7th has been a turning point.

I foresee that, at least for the time being, there will likely be calm until the American elections. However, I don't believe this marks the end of the tit-for-tat exchanges, as you called them, between Israel and the Islamic Republic of Iran. One reason for this is Iran's obsessive aggression against Israel.

Published in BBC - The Newshour, 26 October 2024.

<https://youtu.be/D5wb-llpVU4>

Israel strikes Beirut in hunt for Hezbollah

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 31.10.2024

Prof. Kobi Michael: Hezbollah and Hamas operate with a similar strategy based on the principle of embedding themselves deeply within civilian society, exploiting civilian facilities for terror purposes, and ultimately using civilians as human shields. This is in direct contrast to the IDF's efforts to avoid harming the civilian population and its calls for everyone to evacuate the combat zones to ensure their safety. The IDF is focusing on two main objectives: first, to clear southern Lebanon, up to the Litani River, of all the terrorist nests that Hezbollah has prepared and planned for operations against northern Israel; and second, to address Hezbollah's strategic arsenal, particularly its short- and long-range missiles.

The interview took place on the Sun on October 24, 2024.

Senior US officials have daily job of auditing Israeli aid to Gaza

written by Arsen Ostrovsky | 31.10.2024

Arsen Ostrovsky on U.S. Secretary Blinken's recent visit to the region and criticism of the humanitarian aid going into Gaza, saying: If Washington really wants to help the situation in Gaza, it should "force Qatar and Turkey to pressure Hamas into accepting the U.S.-brokered deal and release of the hostages," rather than "putting more pressure on Israel, who are already doing everything we can, while being forced to fight a seven-front war against Iran.

Published in JNS, October 23, 2024.



How will the Jewish people celebrate Simchat Torah this year?

written by David M. Weinberg | 31.10.2024

David M. Weinberg: This year, merriment will surely take a step back, with the traditional hakafot - circles of dancing - modulated by the addition of poems and prayers that focus on repair, redemption, resilience, and heroism.

That said, the elevation of Torah learning on Simchat Torah, along with the traditional prayers for prosperity on the simultaneous holiday of Shmini Atzeret, are serious religious milestones that cannot be eviscerated by Hamas. The Hamas invasion and massacre should be formally commemorated with all appropriate solemnity and solidarity on other days.

Published in The Jerusalem Post, October 20, 2024.



Israel's successes against Hezbollah opened the door to a

diplomatic agreement

written by Ruth Wasserman Lande | 31.10.2024

Israel's military success against the Hezbollah terrorist army has opened the door for a diplomatic end to the war in Lebanon. In this Daily Briefing, Citizen Spokeswoman Ruth Wasserman Lande explains what Israel is demanding.

October 22, 2024.

What next for Hamas after killing of 'ultimate leader' Yahya Sinwar?

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 31.10.2024

Prof. Kobi Michael: In the end, Sinwar was the ultimate leader of Hamas, not only in the Gaza Strip, but he was also elected to replace Haniyeh as the head of the political wing, which means the leader of the entire organisation. So, the organisation, once again lost its head. But what is more crucial than that, it lost its most crucial centre of gravity in the Gaza Strip.

Published in The National, October 18, 2024.



As Iran's proxy strategy weakens, focus shifts to nuclear program

written by Brig. Gen. (res.) Yossi Kuperwasser | 31.10.2024

Brig. Gen. (res.) Yossi Kuperwasser: Hezbollah has been significantly weakened and this undermines Iran's deterrence and could prompt the regime to explore the nuclear option as a form of ultimate deterrence.

In light of Israeli successes, and in light of the fact that Trump could win the U.S. elections [scheduled for less than a month from now], this could strengthen those [in Iran] who support a breakout now. At the same time, they also have considerations that pull them in the opposite direction. Even if they discussed this, there is no expression that, at this time, they took a certain decision to move forward.

It's a very high risk, especially in the current environment.

Published in JNS, October 16, 2024.



U.S. Pressure: A Lifeline for Hamas at Israel's Expense

written by Ruth Wasserman Lande | 31.10.2024

Ruth Wasserman Lande: The American elections are extremely challenging and sensitive. Does Israel need the United States by its side? Yes, it does. Is the United States currently sending a problematic message to Israel, preventing it from fully succeeding? Yes, it is. One of the main examples, aside from Iran, is in the Gaza Strip. If the United States had allowed Israel to act decisively and much

earlier, it would have been the only leverage, aside from military force, that could push Hamas to release the hostages. Instead, American pressure is essentially providing Hamas with a lifeline, allowing them to steal humanitarian aid, sustain themselves, and continue engaging in terrorism, rather than creating sustainable sources of income for the people.

The interview took place on the I24 channel in English on October 16, 2024.