Our world: Pope Francis's unfriendly visit

By CAROLINE B. GLICK 05/27/2014 22:16

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Pope Francis at the West Bank separation barrier

Photo: REUTERS

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Foreign Minister Avigdor Liberman were right when they blamed the noxious anti-Israel incitement rampant in Europe for Saturday's murderous shooting attack at the Jewish Museum in Brussels and the assault and battery of two Jewish brothers outside their synagogue in a Paris suburb later that day.

Anti-Israel incitement is ubiquitous in Europe and is appearing in ever-widening circles of the Western world as a whole.

Until this week, the Catholic Church stayed out of the campaign to dehumanize Jews and malign the Jewish state.

Pope Benedict XVI was perceived as a friend of Israel, despite his childhood membership in the Hitler Youth. His opposition to Islam's rejection of reason, eloquently expressed at his speech at the University of Regensburg in 2006, positioned him as a religious champion of reason, individual responsibility and law – Judaism's primary contributions to humanity.

His predecessor Pope John Paul II was less willing to confront
Islamic violence. But his opposition to Communism made him respect Israel as freedom’s outpost in the Middle East. John Paul’s visit to Israel in 2000 was in some ways an historic gesture of friendship to the Jewish people of Israel.

Both Benedict and John Paul II were outspoken champions of the Second Vatican Council and maintained doctrinal allegiance to the Church’s rejection of anti-Judaism, including the charge of deicide, and its denunciation of replacement theology.

Alas, the Golden Age of Catholic-Jewish relations seems to have come to an end during Francis’s visit to the Promised Land this week.

In one of his blander pronouncements during the papal visit, Netanyahu mentioned on Monday that Jesus spoke Hebrew. There was nothing incorrect about Netanyahu’s statement. Jesus was after all, an Israeli Jew.

But Francis couldn’t take the truth. So he indelicately interrupted his host, interjecting, “Aramaic.”

Netanyahu was probably flustered. True, at the time, educated Jews spoke and wrote in Aramaic. And Jesus was educated. But the language of the people was Hebrew. And Jesus preached to the people, in Hebrew.

Netanyahu responded, “He spoke Aramaic, but he knew Hebrew.”

Reuters’ write-up of the incident tried to explain away the pope’s rudeness and historical revisionism, asserting, “Modern-day discourse about Jesus is complicated and often political.” The report went on to delicately mention, “Palestinians sometimes describe Jesus as a Palestinian. Israelis object to that.”

Israelis “object to that” because it is a lie.

The Palestinians – and their Islamic and Western supporters – de-Judaize Jesus and proclaim him Palestinian in order to libel the Jews and criminalize the Jewish state. It seems like it would be the job of the Bishop of Rome to set the record straight. But instead, Francis’s discourtesy indicated that at a minimum, he doesn’t think the fact of Jesus’s Judaism should be mentioned in polite company.

Francis’s behavior during his public meeting with Netanyahu could have been brushed off as much ado about nothing if it hadn’t occurred the day after his symbolic embrace of some of the worst anti-Jewish calumnies of our times, and his seeming adoption of replacement theology during his homily in Bethlehem.

Consider first Francis’s behavior at the security barrier.

Reasonable people disagree about the contribution the security fence makes to the security of Israelis. But no one can reasonably doubt that it was built to protect Israelis from Palestinian terrorist murderers. And Francis ought to know this. Francis’s decision to hold a photo-op at the security barrier was an act of extreme hostility against Israel and the Jewish people.

As the former Cardinal of Buenos Aires, Francis may have heard of the November 2002 massacre at Kibbutz Metzer. Metzer was founded by Argentine communists in the 1950s. Metzer is located 500 meters from the 1949 armistice lines which made it an obvious beneficiary of the security fence. But true to its radical roots, in 2002 members of the kibbutz waged a public campaign against the planned route of the security fence. They feared that it would, in the words of Metzer member Danny Dovrat, “ignite hostility and create problems” with the kibbutz’s Palestinian neighbors.

Thanks to that concern, on the night of November 10, 2002, a gunman from the “moderate” US- and EU-supported Fatah
terror organization faced no physical obstacle when he entered the kibbutz. Once there he killed two people on the street and then entered the home of Revital Ohayon and executed Revital and her two sons, Matan, 5, and Noam, 4 years old.

Fatah praised the attack on its website and pledged to conduct more assaults on “Zionist colonizers,” and promised to continue “targeting their children as well.”

Had he actually cared about the cause of peace and non-violence he claims to champion, Francis might have averted from stopping at the barrier, recognizing that doing so would deflate the memory of the Ohayons and of hundreds of other Israeli Jewish families who were destroyed by Palestinian bloodlust and anti-Semitic depravity.

Instead, Francis “spontaneously” got out of his popemobile, walked over to a section of the barrier, and reverentially touched it and kissed it as if it were the Wailing Wall.

The graffiti on the section of the barrier Francis stopped at reinforced his anti-Semitic position. One of the slogans called for the embrace of the BDS campaign.

Although the economic consequences of the campaign of economic warfare against Israel in the West have been negligible, BDS’s goal is not economic. The goal of the movement is to dehumanize Israelis and set apart for social ostracism anyone who refuses to embrace the anti-Jewish stereotypes that Jews have no right to self-determination and are morally inferior to every other religious, ethnic and national group in the world.

And that is nothing compared to the other slogan on the barrier. That one equated the Palestinians in Bethlehem to the Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto. In other words, it denied the Holocaust.

By standing there, kissing the barrier with its Holocaust denying slogan, Francis gave Vatican license to Holocaust denial.

And that was just the beginning.

Pope Francis met with Fatah chief Mahmoud Abbas at his presidential palace in Bethlehem. When Israel transferred control over Jesus’s birthplace to Abbas’s predecessor Yasser Arafat in 1996, Arafat seized the Greek Orthodox monastery next to the Church of the Nativity and turned it into his – and later Abbas’s – official residence.

Standing next to Abbas on seized church property, the pope called Abbas “a man of peace.”

Abbas returned the favor by calling for Israel to release all Palestinian terrorists from Israeli prisons. And the pope – who interrupted Netanyahu when he told an historic truth – said nothing.

At mass at the Church of the Nativity on Sunday, Pope Francis prayed with Latin Patriarch Fuodat Twal. In his sermon Twal accused Israelis of being the present-day version of Christ killers by referring to the Palestinians as walking “in the footsteps of the Divine Child,” and likening the Israelis to King Herod.

In his words, “We are not yet done with the present-day Herods, who fear peace more than war... and who are prepared to continue killing.”

Rather than condemn these remarks, Francis echoed them.

“You are we, as we stand before the Child Jesus? Who are we, standing as we before today’s children?” the pope asked.

“Are we like Mary and Joseph, who welcomed Jesus and cared for him with the love of a father and mother? Or are we like Herod, who wanted to eliminate him?” During his visit
Monday to Jerusalem, Francis embraced the Palestinian mufti of Jerusalem, Sheikh Muhammed Hussein. Departing from his scripted remarks which called for the pope to refer to the mufti and his associates as “dear friends,” Francis called them his “dear brothers.”

Hussein has been condemned by the US and the EU for his calls for the annihilation of Jews in the name of Islam.

In 2012, Hussein said it was the destiny of Muslims to kill Jews, who he claims are subhuman beasts and “the enemies of Allah.” He has also praised suicide bombers and said their souls “tell us to follow in their path.”

Francis didn't condemn him.

Francis stridently condemned the anti-Jewish attacks in Brussels and Paris. And during his ceremonial visits to Yad Vashem, the Wailing Wall and the terror victims memorial he said similarly appropriate things. But all of his statements ring hollow and false in light of his actions.

Israelis and Jews around the world need to be aware of what is happening. Francis is leading the Catholic Church in a distressingly anti-Jewish direction.

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Shmuel Lauer · ★ Top Commenter · Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law
Oh...you mean Jews who refuse to die quietly??
Reply · Like · 13 · May 28 at 1:20am

Antoine Marie Bourdon
Shmuel Lauer The Pope don't hate Jews, neither is he against the Jewish State. The author is simply affected by paranoia. There is no Truth in over-interpreting events and what people say.
Reply · Like · 9 · May 28 at 5:14pm

Charlotte Jones · ★ Top Commenter · University of Life
Antoine Marie Bourdon The POPE IS AN ANTI SEMITIC POS
Reply · Like · 11 · May 29 at 3:37am

Sue Reimers · Works at Racv noble park
Is anyone allowed to have compassion for the Palestinians and not be called a critic of Israel? Israel needs a reality check and accept criticism when it has maintained a 46 year occupation.
Reply · Like · 114 · May 28 at 1:54am

Walter Bachner · ★ Top Commenter · Editor and Political Columnist at The Inquisitr
there is one hell of a difference between having compassion for Arabs and promoting Jew hate. You need to learn the difference. Until then, be polite and STFU.
Reply · Like · 11 · May 28 at 2:19am

Amina Zairi · University of Oran
they are not critics of Israel, they are people who want the destruction of Israel
Reply · Like · 11 · May 28 at 2:42am

Jaunita Miller · ★ Top Commenter · Newport, Kentucky
Amina Zairi I’m not Catholic, but i saw or read of nothing the Pope did or said which indicated a desire for the destruction of Israel. Where do you people get this idea from?
Reply · Like · 16 · May 28 at 11:19am

View 2 more ·

David Zalkin · ★ Top Commenter · Bet Shemesh, Israel
You got the languages backwards - the educated Jews in the time of Jesus knew Hebrew - the language of the Mishna and the Tanach. The lingua franca, however, was Aramaic.
Reply · Like · 13 · May 28 at 2:30am

Larry Snider · ★ Top Commenter
It is clear Caroline that your own pro-annexation anti-peace philosophy infects your view of everything including this most humble and sensitive Pope.
Stephen Tannenbaum - Top
Commenter · Northview High School, Johannesburg
As always, you insist on promoting your own point of view without taking the time or trouble to refute anything Ms. Glick has said. Hardly surprising, when you consider that you are completely unable to respond to her truths.

Reply · Like · 52
May 28 at 2:51am

Natasha Gerson - Top
Commenter · Beheerder at Huisje “De Kleine Oele”
Stephen Tannenbaum Read some Yigael Yadin. He refutes Ms Glick 'truths'. Every serious scholar in the world agrees that Jesus, a first century Judean Jew, not an Israeli Jew, would have spoken Aramese. What’s Jesus to you anyway? The pope has studied him most of his life. He’s bound to know more than Stephen Tannenbaum, meddier from Johannesburg.

Reply · Like · 65
May 28 at 5:19am

Joseph Ciolino - Top Commenter · Works at A multitude of Educational Institutions
Rampant stupidity. For 100’s of years, if you said the word, "Palestinian," it was assumed you meant, "Jew."

Who cares if Jesus was "Israeli" (which has no meaning) or "Aramaic," or, just a "Jew," which, of course he was? I mean, does it matter? Jews and Christians and Muslims share a common heritage. Sons of Abraham. Period. Jesus said his message was "...for the Jew FIRST, but also for the Greek (everyone else)."

WTF?

But if Netanyahu the Nazi, wishes to call Jesus an, "Israeli," he’s going to have to come up with a map of the Roman Middle East that labels Bethlehem as being located in "Israel."

Reply · Like · 21
May 28 at 2:51am

Natasha Gerson - Top
Commenter · Beheerder at Huisje “De Kleine Oele”
Correction, that places Nazareth in ‘Israel’. Jesus was Judean. An Aramese speaking Judean.

Reply · Like · 12
May 28 at 2:51am

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philly gal • 14 hours ago
What comes to mind after reading this thought provoking article is simple...actions speak louder than words and the pope’s actions were certainly telling. Kissing the hands of a holocaust survivor does not make him a good man...but kissing the barrier wall shows us his bad side. What is it with these people.?..they cannot rid themselves of their ingrained hatred.?..He knows Jesus preached to the people in hebrew...Jesus was a Jew and died a Jew...not a catholic and it never entered his head that his people would suffer for thousands of years because of what this church did...in his name.To call out Netanyahu like that and to keep silent when visiting with abbas and the muft makes me ill...He .is just all show and no substance..I would not trust him..I don’t care for him and since he adores abbas and embraces him so fondly let him suffer from him also.

fromisrael55 • 2 days ago
This visit of Pope Francis is great.

He did put flowers on Herzl grave - the man who envisioned Israel the Jewish State.

He paid respect to the monument of Israeli victims of terror.

He went great length toward us Jews.

Great to see Christians supporting Israel.

philly gal • fromisrael55
I guess he fooled you also.

anna • 2 days ago
Opinion, this guy is a patho. Anti Semitic troll...End
Poupic, this guy is a sicko. Antisemitic troll. End of the conversation for me.

fromisrael55 • 2 days ago

We can either go the Orthodox way - spit on Christians, make women second class, not go to the Army, fight the whole world, and losing again like we did 2000 years ago.

Or we can treat those Christians who support us decently, not insulting them, not kicking them out, and maybe - maybe with their support we can win against the sea of Muslims wanting to kill us all.

philly gal ➔ fromisrael55

It is the Christian right that supports Israel not this man....you have eyes can’t you see how he behaved?

annapromised • 2 days ago

go away, demagogue

fromisrael55 ➔ anna

Why demagogue? are you denying Orthodox do that?

I saw how they asked a Jewish woman to move in the train for they needed to pray - this is how they treat Jewish women!

anna ➔ fromisrael55

I was wrong - you are not a demagogue. You are a troll and pretender. You are not Jewish. I wasted my time. End of the conversation for me.

fromisrael55 ➔ anna

and you say all Christians are evil

... talking about trolls

obviously some of them are good and some of them are bad - just like we are
fromisrael55 ➔ anna  
- 2 days ago

I see, So according to you it’s forbidden to criticize things that Jews are doing.

ok. I got the point

---

Poupic  
- 2 days ago

What else is new? A Pope is saying things but on the other hand is fiercely anti Jews and particularly anti The Jewish state of Israel in it’s capital Yerushalaim. He prefers Arabs who massacre Christians, forcing them to flee all Arab lands. He prefers those anti-Christians Arabs to have Yerushalaim because Jews still alive and controlling the eternal capital of the Jewish nation is a living denial of “Replacement theology” of the Catholic church. Can anyone explain how this Ma Nishtana Rabbi is the friend of such a Pope? What kind of Rabbi is he? Did he buy his hasmachta on eBay?

---

fromisrael55 ➔ Poupic  
- 2 days ago

Why are you saying that?

He did put flowers on Herzl grave - the man who envisioned our Jewish State. This is more than many Israelis who oppose the notion of Jewish State, and is perhaps our main request. Many in Europe still are not accepting this.

He paid respects at the monument for Israelis victims of terror.

I think this visit of the Pope was pro-Israel as a Jewish State.

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Poupic ➔ fromisrael55  
- 2 days ago

Read the article! The Vatican has never been a friend of the Jewish nation. We exist over 3 millennia and the last 2 Millennia have been very painful to Jews thanks to the Vatican. Flowers, nice words here and there are very nice but they do not erase 2000 years Ghettos, pogroms, the inquisition, “Jews killed Jesus,” censorship of our books, culminating in the Shoa. This Pope making a special effort to touch “the wall” isn’t erase by putting a Christian prayer in The
putting a Christian prayer in the Western wall crack.

3 ▲ ▼ • Reply • Share

fromisrael55 ➔
Poupic • 2 days ago

The Church cancelled this accusation several years ago. It will take time to come down to the people, but I hope it will.

The wall? I am hoping there will be peace, and there won’t be any need for that wall. Him being against the wall is not a criticism of Israel as I see it. It is his observation that it is sad such a wall exist.

The wall is by far less important than his visit to Herzl grave - because there he recognize us as the Jewish state - and that’s more important than the wall.

Poupic ➔
fromisrael55 • 2 days ago

Oy! Go away!

anna ➔ Poupic • 2 days ago

Poupic, he is a pretender.

anna ➔ fromisrael55 • 2 days ago

why?

because we get Germans subs?

how does that going with your hating all of them?

how about people getting medical treatment abroad, in Europe. is this allowed?

why are you hating all people who are non-Jews?

Can’t you understand Israel cannot survive against everybody?

We have firms listed in the
We have firms listed in the Nasdaq - this should also be cancelled because they are Christians?

fromisrael55
Poupic · 2 days ago

I want to survive, You people who think Israel should insult Christians, Israel should spit on them, and chase them away. You think that all that matter is praying to God.

well you are wrong. we won so far not because of God, but because we fought.

And Bar-Kokhba lost, thinking God is with him.

There are many Christians trying to support us, and Orthodox Jews are spitting on them, and you people are telling them to go to hell!

anna
fromisrael55
Pascal? Do you mean Blaise Pascal?

If so, he was not Jewish as far as I know, even European

so how can you claim all of Europe is evil?

fromisrael55
anna

Idiot, none of us think that all that matter is praying to God. I am a Pascallan agnostic and I think that Poupic is similar. We do think that ethics matter and we can't call black "white."

We have people like you to do this.
Than if you don’t care about God, what’s your problem with Christians anyway?

The whole point is that they believe Jesus is the son of God, and that we convinced Romans to crucify him - the whole point is about religious beliefs.

News update:
In fact, first Christians were Jews!

I want to survive, You people who think Israel should insult Christians, Israel should spit on them, and chase them away. You think that all that matter is praying to God.

... and you are calling am an idiot!

Congratulations to all Catholics.

You have a great Pope, and he can make a difference.

There’s a lot of complains Christians and Jews have against each other. It’s time we open a new page following Pope Francis visit.

Christians for ages did blame Jews for an alleged crime their ancestors committed. It is immaterial whether it did happen or not. The fact is one cannot blame someone for something his ancestors did. A Jewish baby is as innocent as a Christian baby. A huge step was the Church...
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Christian baby. A huge step was the Church cancelling this “inherited guilt” in Nostra Aetate - but this is not enough. We see plays for children in Europe telling and retelling the story, with children shouting “kill him” out loud. This deicide

see more

Poupic fromisrael55
2 days ago
Oy! Another idiot! Self hating Jews by name only.
1 ^ | v · Reply · Share ›

fromisrael55 → Poupic
2 days ago
Idiot?

We have one and a half billion Muslims wanting to kill us all, and you are suggesting we fight also against two billion Christians who are looking to support us. Not to mention the fact they control the world’s economic, scientific and military centers.

Now that’s really smart!

Poupic fromisrael55
2 days ago
You sound like we should crawl on our bellies asking Christians to spare us and have some pity. We did that for 20 centuries. The result? We are maybe the oldest nation in the Western world and yet we are about the smallest. Just yesterday we lost fully one third of the remains of our nation in the Shoa. We have to say exactly what we see not what most Christians want to hear. So what I say is the truth, the whole truth and only the truth. If Christians are hurt by the truth, OK then they are hurting. Compare this 20 centuries of Inquisition, forced conversions, autodafe’s, Crusades, You name it! Christians did it to us. Now is the time to say enough already! Enough!
fromisrael55 ➔

pity? what pity?

He came and essentially declared us as the Jewish State.

That's more than the UN, more than most countries all over the world.

It was not yesterday - those Europeans born after 1945 are not guilty of anything.

Poupic ➔

fromisrael55

2 days ago

You are right. I used the wrong word answering you. According to you we should please all Christians out of FEAR because of their great numbers. We know fear unfortunately more than most nations. The cross coming around was not with love but to kill u, burn our homes, force conversions... When they suspected that the conversion was not sincere they burned us at the stake alive. Fear? We had more than enough. If they can't take the truth tough! Get

My main point is the moral one - Europeans today are not guilty of the past, many Christians are nice people, and many support Israel. I want to reciprocate, and I do not accept that people are guilty for their parents crimes.

Turning these supporters into enemies is wrong imo.

It is also not a good way to make us strong, but if you...
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• make us strong, but if you translate any attempt in reaching out to people who are supporting us as fear - well, I respectfully disagree.

anna → fromisrael55
2 days ago
Idiot, and who is helping them?
Yes, some Christians and some so called Jews like you.

fromisrael55 → anna
2 days ago
Who gives us F-15? Ans: Christians
Who gives us German subs? Ans: Christians
we cannot fight against the whole world
Much of our success is precisely due to Evangelical Christians in the US supporting us, and you guys are trying to kick them out

anna → fromisrael55
2 days ago
Idiot, we are analyzing reality as it happens. You want to call black "white" - do it. I can’t.

fromisrael55 → anna
2 days ago
I wont turn to insults.
The reality is many Christians are looking to support us, and we need this support. Much of our recent military and economic success is due to this support.
There is absolutely no reason in trying to make those Christians who are supporting us enemies.
You people brought Bar-
Kokhba and 2000 years of misery to us.

see more

anna ➔ fromisrael55

So, children of the Nazi who were raised by the Nazis are ... neo-Nazi are ... innocent, but "we people" are responsible for the Holocaust. Makes sense. Who are "we people?" And the reason I shouldn't call you a Holocaust denier is?

fromisrael55 ➔ anna

What about those that are not neo-Nazis, and they are the vast majority why are you trying your best to make them our enemies?

anna ➔

Sadly, Caroline is absolutely correct. I was too irritated by the visit to comment here. Now, I am ready to comment. Several things (I don't know if other people made similar observations).

Yes, this Pope seems to be more German revisionist than the previous one. Among other things he blames "some alien idolaters" for the Holocaust. Too things - the Germans blame of course some aliens who descended on German soil for the Holocaust and the Church blames ... idolaters for the Holocaust. The German raised on German soil by the Church had nothing to do with it. Sure. Secondly, I don't know if anyone noticed but the Pope did exactly what the German revisionist "relative" Holocaust deniers do - *yes, there was something bad, but look everyone is bad and LOOK what the Jews do.*

Sorry, guys, but this prayer at the barrier moved the Pope into the Holocaust deniers camp. I thought that religious people are supposed to resist to what they find evil or just inappropriate. From where I stand it doesn't matter whether he did it willingly or just followed the pressure. An evil act is a evil act.
fromisrael55 · 2 days ago
I disagree. Pope Francis is a great man, and his visit was a visit for peace, completely pro-Israel. One can only admire the length he went toward us Jews and Israel in this visit.

Pope Francis is not member of the Likud party, and his religion has no formal accusations against Islam. On the other hand, the NT contains several accusations against Jews. This is the perspective.

Nevertheless, he went and put flowers on Herzl grave, the man who envisioned our Jewish State - by this Pope Francis effectively recognized Israel as a Jewish State. This is an enormous change in Christianity.

He also went and paid respect to Israelis victims of Palestinian terror.

see more

anna → fromisrael55 · 2 days ago
“We should end the circus of blaming Christianity for events centuries ago, and forcing them to be on the moral defense” Bozo, how dare you? You are talking to people who lost their entire families. Lost families are lost families. I even don’t mention lost heritage and personal displacement. And .. I even don’t mention the Holocaust survivors who are among us.

Moron, unlike you I am actually familiar with Christianity and I can assure you that teaching has changed very little. Moreover, the Christian heritage of hate is at the heart of civilization. Continue babbling about personal responsibility of whom exactly - the victims?

fromisrael55 → anna · 2 days ago
I have a family album full of photos of my family members sent to Auschwitz. So? Are Europeans born today guilty of that?

anna → fromisrael55 · 2 days ago
Europeans born yesterday have enough of their own guilt (check who is behind the Holocaust denial and
The ones who are born today, are still innocent. I spent some time thinking and came to a conclusion that I do have some rights and I demand from children and grandchildren of perpetrators knowledge of the past and denouncement of the horror. Any attempt at whitewashing, justification, rationalization, let alone the

see more

fromisrael55 ➔ anna
• 2 days ago
Well this is a standard fact of history today, and they do say this is a crime.

Are we to be blamed for what Joshua did here to the Canaanites?

The Holocaust is part of history, a very sad history, but there’s no need to crucify them for something they didn’t do. The vast majority in Europe knows it was done, and know this was a huge crime.

Don’t you see where constantly blaming others? We should stop, and look for the future.

fromisrael55 ➔ anna
• 2 days ago
OK, enough of it. Go to h-ll Yes, I’ll start blaming the elderly, babies, the sick, etc. for their being buried alive.

anna ➔ fromisrael55
• 2 days ago
ok. let’s remake Bar-Kohkba genial feat

fight against the world’s super-powers all combined

and wait for maybe 2000
more years, with persecutions - and I doubt this land will remain for us after that.

To think of the sufferings these Meskhiim imposed on our people!

God didn’t save Bar-Kokhba and he didn’t save my family in Auschwitz

We have to survive, and we already have one and half billion Muslims wanting to kill us all

Your looking to start a fight with the christian will only bring Bar-kokhba redux.

anna ➔ fromisrael55
2 days ago
Idiot, wasn’t Bar Kohkhba preceded by some ... *Jews.* Read something about Hanukkah.

Bar-Kokhba was precisely this attitude, that huge military imbalances won’t matter - we can win against the whole world.

and we lost

Poupic ➔ fromisrael55
2 days ago
No but the seem to prepare another one today.

Do you really think we can wage war against Christians and Muslims together?

and why? many Christians are supporting us, why spit in their face?
Dr Susan Reibel Moore, Sydney

Extreme language is a dead give-away. That is the language used here about Pope Francis’s efforts to improve relations between Israelis and Palestinians. It is deeply offensive.

Both sides of my family of origin are Jewish. Many relatives of ours escaped from the Holocaust, thanks largely to the efforts of family and extended family in my native land (the US). Although I’ve lived in Australia for almost a half-century, following my marriage to an Aussie, I continue to follow global events with intense interest. In ’72 my husband and I, on Study Leave, visited both relatives and colleagues at the Hebrew U in Jerusalem. At 75, I’m still publishing internationally on world literature for children and adults, civic life, educational issues, and religious thought. I believe very strongly in Ecumenism. In my personal life not a single Catholic, and not one religious Christian, Sikh, Hindu, Muslim, or Buddhist is anti-Semitic.

Suddyday • 3 days ago

I have had my comments continually flagged on this blog when I basically agreed with Caroline Glick. Why would that be? I used no bad language, was not contentious, and broke no rules of moderation. Others who have posted here have done those things and were never bothered. There is a real problem when there is no freedom of speech or the right to hold an opinion that is deemed “not politically correct.” I am sure Israel would want better relations with the pope, but does that mean the ideology police are catered to. I am disgusted at the hypocrisy.