

THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF CANADA PRESENTS:

NEGEV gala 2006

Honouring
PREMIER GARY DOER




FEATURING THE WORLD PREMIERE OF

The Voices of Israel

Five of Israel's most talented and popular female vocalists appear for the first time together on-stage with *The Voices of Israel*. These award-winning performers will light up the Centennial Concert Hall with Jewish and international classics along with songs from your favourite musicals. Don't miss this unforgettable event!

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2006 • 8:00 PM
CENTENNIAL CONCERT HALL • WINNIPEG, MANITOBA
 LIMITED SEATING • FOR TICKETS OR INFORMATION CALL:
(204) 947-0207



Join us for a very special evening of song and friendship.



FILLMORE RILEY



ELTZVAL WINNIPEG

The Fairmont WINNIPEG

Global WINNIPEG

VICKAR CHEVROLET

SHAW 247/365 SERVICE

MYRA & ARNOLD FRIEMAN • MICHEL & DANITA AZIZA • LINDY & NATHAN JACOBSON

THE JEWISH POST & NEWS

Vol. 19 No. 43 WINNIPEG, WEDNESDAY, June 7, 2006 11 Days in Sivan, 5766

Candle lighting time Friday is 9:17 p.m. Shabbat ends at 10:27 p.m.

Olmert begins state visits to enlist support for pullout

By DAN BARON

JERUSALEM (JTA) - With Israel's coalition government already shaky, Prime Minister Ehud Olmert has been busy enlisting foreign support for his West Bank withdrawal plan. Fresh from last month's White House visit, Olmert set off Sunday for talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. He was also due to meet with the leaders of Jordan, Britain, Germany and France, culminating in a summit with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas at the end of the month.

Olmert denies that he is straying from his original vision of leaving parts of the territory and annexing others if there are no peace negotiations with the Palestinian Authority under Hamas. Any significant progress with the more moderate Abbas, he says, would still be contingent on Hamas being curbed. "We are not shunning him," Olmert told Cabinet ministers, referring to Abbas. "We would be pleased if he had the ability to exercise his power over the authority."

As it happens, Hamas is facing a domestic crisis. Starved of foreign aid since the radical Islamist group came to power, many Palestinians are withdrawing their support for it. But some observers believe such a collapse would be more likely to deepen the chaos on the Palestinian street than boost Abbas. That would mean more instability in the Middle East, which explains Olmert's efforts to enlist Egyptian, Jordanian and European endorsement.

Being well-received in foreign capitals could also help Olmert offset the deepening rifts in his own administration. His centrist Kadima Party, created by former Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, is untested and commands only a slim lead in terms of parliamentary seats. Kadima's biggest partner in government, the Labor Party, is increasingly a loose cannon as its chief, Defense Minister Amir Peretz, struggles to ward off challenges to his authority from ex-military party colleagues.

On Sunday, Kadima's Internal Security Minister Avi Dichter complained in the Cabinet about Peretz's handling of Palestinian rocket fire from the Gaza Strip. Olmert backed Peretz. But few forget that, just last week, the prime minister unceremoniously cut defense funding without a consultation with the Labor chief, prompting the party to abstain from a crucial Cabinet vote on the 2006 national budget.

A senior Labor official, speaking to JTA on condition of anonymity, predicted that with the party scheduled to hold internal elections in a year, the Olmert government's days are numbered. (Cont. on page 22. See "Olmert seeking support for pullout".)



EHUD OLMERT, Israeli prime minister: He plans to hold a summit meeting with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas at the end of the month.

Daughter of Fedayeen founder urges Westerners to criticize Muslim terrorism

By MATT BELLAN

Nonie Darwish's father is credited with founding the Fedayeen - Palestinian terrorists who launched raids that killed 400 Israelis from 1951 to 1956.

But Darwish, herself, harbors no hatred of Israel, despite the fact that the Israel Defence Forces killed her dad in 1956, when she was only a child.

She told a sellout crowd of 280 why at the Imax Theatre May 29, after the screening there of "Obsession: Radical Islam's War Against the West" - a documentary in which she appears.

"It was very gradual," Darwish said of her change of heart about the Jewish state.

Cairo-born, she moved with her family to the Gaza Strip when her father, Lt. General Mustafa Hafez, became commander of Egyptian Army Intelligence in Gaza, then occupied by Egypt. He founded the Fedayeen under Egyptian dictator Gamal Abdel Nasser's orders.

"When my father died, they congratulated us, told us he was a shaheed, a martyr. I was only 8. I didn't my father to be a shaheed. I wanted him back."

Later, hearing preaching against "the enemies of God" in a mosque, she felt "ashamed". And when she moved to the U.S. in 1978, after attending a Catholic high school and the American University in Cairo, she found herself "attracted to Jewish people."

Aish Winnipeg, the Asper Foundation and Winnipeg Zionist Initiative presented "Obsession", along with Darwish's followup talk, at the Imax Theatre May 29 and 30.

The 2005 documentary is about the threat of radical Islam to Western civilization. It draws on footage from Arab television and commentary by Muslim and Jewish academics and other experts on Muslim terrorism, several of whom have spoken in Winnipeg in the past few years.

It shows Hassan Nasrallah, head of the Lebanese terrorist organization and political party, Hezbollah, and Muslim clerics in the Middle East and England firing up crowds, preaching global Jihad, and demonizing Jews and Israel and the West.



NONIE DARWISH tells the crowd at the Imax Theatre after the screening of "Obsession": Moderate Muslims should be "on the front line in the war against terror."

"When you see and hear this day after day, it becomes how you see the world," commentator Daniel Pipes says. "Nothing can be done wrong by Arabs. It's always the West."

Several commentators in the documentary emphasize that most Muslims are "moderate". But Darwish argues in "Obsession" that Westerners are "strangling ourselves with our political correctness" - avoiding criticism of radical Muslims here and in the Middle East.

"We've been infiltrated by people who want to replace our constitution with the Koran," she says of the U.S., referring mainly to 9/11.

One scene in "Obsession" shows a British Muslim preacher secretly filmed in a Muslim mosque, openly calling for the killing of non-Muslim Westerners.

Such clergymen and other Muslim hatemongers prey on Muslims' fear of the West - arguing that Westerners are out to destroy them, Darwish comments in "Obsession".

"They say America wants to get us," Darwish says in the documentary, referring to radical clergymen. "We must defend ourselves through jihad."

Darwish told the May 29 audience moderate Muslims should start speaking out against Muslim (Cont. on page 2. See "Obsession".)

Inside



Community news:

Parents dance with kids at Family Sock Hop ...page 2



Community news:

Jewish Winnipegger Judy Lavitt visits Shanghai, her childhood home ...page 3



A New Life:

Argentine immigrant Jorge Krapirca loves music and singing ...page 6

Index

Community news ... pages 1-3, 7-8, 10
 Editorial ... page 4
 Comment ... pages 4-5
 Recipes ... page 9
 Sports news ... page 11
 Arts & entertainment ... pages 12-13
 Canadian Jewish news ... page 14
 U.S. Jewish news ... pages 15-17
 World Jewish news ... pages 18-19
 Spanish column ... page 19
 Israeli news ... pages 20-21, 23
 Canada Post Publication Agreement #40047412
 Publication Mail Registration #08971

LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY JUN - 8 2006

60 XCF (K) 13/2 * 1903
 LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY ROOM 100 200 VAUGHAN ST. WINNIPEG, MB R3C 1T5