

CLEARVISION WITH ULTRAVISION EXCIMER LASER SURGERY CAN CHANGE YOUR OUTLOOK ON LIFE



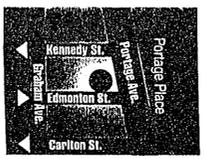
**FREEDOM FROM
GLASSES &
CONTACT LENSES**



Excimer Laser Surgery has successfully treated hundreds of thousands of patients around the world with common vision problems.

CHIEF EYE SURGEON
Dr. Daya K. Gupta, M.D., MS., F.R.C.S.(C), F.A.C.S., D.A.B.O.

Dr. Daya K. Gupta is the chief eye surgeon at the **Gupta Eye Centre**, as well as Medical Director of the **Ultravision Eye Laser Centre**. With 30 years of eye surgery experience, Dr. Gupta maintains a special interest in **cataract, glaucoma, retinal laser and Excimer Laser Surgery**, and has undergone extensive Excimer Laser Surgery training both in Canada and the U.S.A. For your visual needs, including eye exams, eye disease, eye surgery and private or hospital cataract surgery, call the Gupta Eye Centre at 943-6179.



- Suite 202, Boyd Medical Centre
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Over 92% of individuals who have undergone Excimer Laser Surgery have achieved 20/20 vision or very close to it without the use of glasses or contact lenses. We can correct your vision problems by laser surgery right here in Winnipeg. Call us today at Ultravision Eye Laser Centre for correction of:

Myopia: Nearsightedness **Hyperopia:** Farsightedness **Astigmatism**

WHAT IS EXCIMER LASER SURGERY?

- Excimer Laser Surgery is the most technologically advanced method of correcting many vision problems, quickly and painlessly.
- Our Excimer Laser (Technolas Keracor 116) is a computer controlled, state of the art 2nd generation laser which is precise, accurate and fast.
- With a very short wavelength of light in a process called Photorefractive Keratectomy (or PRK), the Excimer Laser simply reshapes the front surface of the eye.
- After PRK, almost all patients no longer require glasses or contact lenses, even for driving a vehicle.
- Performed on an outpatient basis, the procedure takes only a few minutes and a normal lifestyle is resumed within two to three days.

VIEW THE BENEFITS OF EXCIMER LASER REFRACTIVE SURGERY

- **PHYSIOLOGICAL:** most patients have normal or very near to normal vision after PRK surgery.
- **OCCUPATIONAL:** without a need for glasses or contact lenses, new career opportunities may be available in areas such as law enforcement, or as a firefighter or pilot.
- **RECREATIONAL:** Excimer Laser Surgery allows participation in sports such as swimming, skiing, hockey or football that may not be possible with glasses or contact lenses.
- **PSYCHOLOGICAL:** The emotional impairments caused by glasses or contact lenses are eliminated.
- **COSMETIC:** many patients feel more attractive without glasses.

WHO IS A GOOD CANDIDATE FOR EXCIMER LASER SURGERY?

- YOUR CAREER IS DEPENDENT UPON YOUR VISION;
 - YOUR VISION AFFECTS ACTIVITIES SUCH AS SWIMMING, TENNIS, SKIING, GOLF;
 - YOU WANT TO BE FREE FROM WEARING GLASSES OR CONTACT LENSES.
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- A FREE CONSULTATION & EVALUATION
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South African-born Jew developing writing career in Winnipeg ...page 10

THE JEWISH POST & NEWS



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Candle lighting time Friday is 5:42 p.m. Shabbat ends at 6:42 p.m.

News analysis:

Religious, Arab voters wooed in national election campaigns

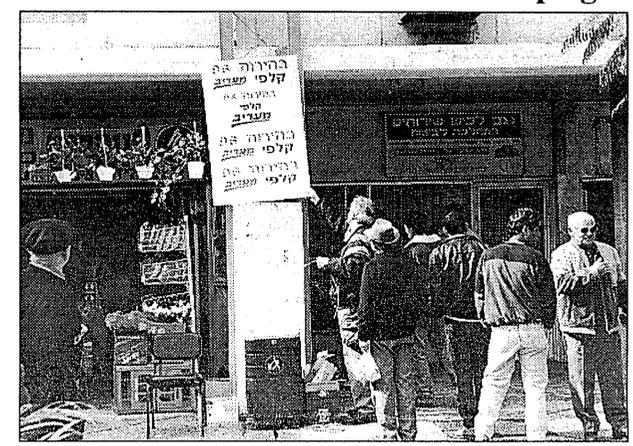
By GIL SEDAN
JERUSALEM (JTA) -

In the three months leading up to Israel's national elections, the Hebrew political lexicon will adopt some important new words. More and more politicians - and not necessarily those who put on tefillin every morning - will make use of terms such as "be'ezrat haShem" (with God's help) and "bli neder" (without making a formal vow) and sprinkle their speeches with biblical references as they make appeals for votes.

Among these politicians will be Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu, who will be seeking to attract Israel's religious voters as they go head-to-head in the country's first direct vote for the premiership.

The two candidates are investing a lot of effort - and money - in trying to woo the religious vote, which has the potential to elect some 16 to 18 Knesset members. They are also launching a similar effort to attract the Israeli Arab vote, which can fill 12 Knesset seats.

After meeting with Peres February 12, Netanyahu told reporters that May 28 seemed to be a date Labor and Likud could agree on for holding early elections. The Knesset was expected to pass by the end of last week legislation dissolving itself and setting the elec-



Election fever
People waiting to vote in the Negev town of Ofakim January 28 as part of a national mock election being held by a leading Israeli newspaper in towns and cities all over the country. Copyright: ISRANET.

With election fever in the air, as Israelis waited to hear if Prime Minister Peres was to call an early general election in May instead of the scheduled time in October, many newspapers organized mock polls to check the popularity of the various political parties. Most polls conducted so far show both the incumbent Prime minister Shimon Peres and the Labor Party ahead of Binyamin Netanyahu and his rightwing Likud Party. Although much can happen to change voters' preferences one way or the other before the actual voting day, a mock election held at Tel Aviv's Blich High School late last month showed both Peres and the Labor Party winning a decisive victory in May or October.

The reason that the Blich School election was significant was that they have accurately predicted the results of the three previous Knesset elections.

On hearing the result, Binyamin Netanyahu smiled and congratulated his rival Shimon Peres, but added that he and his party would win the real election.

Third Way becomes party to run in elections

JERUSALEM (JTA) - Nearly two years after its inception, the Third Way movement has declared itself a political party to run in the upcoming Knesset elections. Founded in June, 1994, by two renegade Labor Knesset members who oppose the government's negotiating strategy with Syria, the Third Way supports relinquishing land to the Palestinians in return for peace, but opposes an Israeli withdrawal from all the territories.

The decision to transform the Third Way into a political party was approved by the movement's central committee February 13 at Ramat Efal in central Israel. National elections are planned for late May or early June. The party, headed by Knesset member and war hero Avigdor Kahalani, opposes a full territorial withdrawal on the Golan. Kahalani and parliamentary colleague Emanuel Zismann resigned from the Labor party ahead of the movement's declaration.

In a letter to party secretary general Nissim Zvili, Kahalani and Zismann wrote that they

could no longer belong to Labor, which they believed had failed in its commitment to the electorate. They said that the Third Way would take up the principles they claimed the Labor party had abandoned - opposition to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and to a full Golan withdrawal.

"The Labor government is ready to give up all of the Golan," Zismann said. "The Third Way is interested in territorial compromise "in which Israel maintains control over most of the Golan."

The Third Way said it would hold coalition talks with whoever wins the premiership race, Prime Minister Shimon Peres or Likud Party head Benjamin Netanyahu.

"We see ourselves as an insurance policy," Golan activist Yehuda Harel, and one of the founders of the Third Way, told Israel Television. "We would prevent the Labor party from withdrawing from all of the Golan, and make sure the Likud continues peace negotiations with Syria."

that with the direct election of the prime minister, the elected candidate will find it much easier to form a coalition than in the past, when success often depended on the support of individual Knesset members.

FOCUS ON PERSONALITIES

As a result, the campaign will focus more than ever before on the personalities of the two candidates for the premiership. Whether they are appealing for the religious vote or seeking the support of Israeli Arabs, Peres and Netanyahu will have to adjust their vocabulary for the constituencies whose support they seek.

In this vein, Netanyahu has reportedly refrained during the past year from entering any nonkosher restaurant, something believed to be a novelty in his gastronomic habits.

(Cont. on page 20. See "Religious, Arab voters".)

Stand on Remembrance Day ceremonies criticized at public school board meeting

Non-Jews lash out at Winnipeg Jewish Community Council

By MATT BELLAN

A spokesperson for the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council and the Manitoba Islamic Association last month asked Winnipeg public schools to use "a symbol or symbols" on Remembrance Day reflecting students' diverse backgrounds.

Last week, three non-Jewish Winnipeggers made statements to the Winnipeg School Division #1's board of trustees on that subject. They sharply criticized the WJCC and the Islamic Association for their request, which followed a letter of complaint to the board last fall from a Jewish teacher at a Winnipeg public school.

One speaker at the February 13 meeting of the board of trustees also criticized Patti Cohen, the teacher in question, and any others who think like her. In her letter to the board last fall, Cohen complained about what she alleged was use of the cross in Remembrance Day ceremonies at "many" Winnipeg public schools. Cohen called for a variety of religious symbols or a common secular one at Winnipeg public school Remembrance Day ceremonies.

At the board's meeting January 16, Trustee Luba Fedorkiw said the division doesn't have a written policy on Remembrance Day, but claimed ceremonies that day in Winnipeg public schools reflect the ethnic and racial makeup of the student population.

At the board's February 13 meeting, Sheldon Maerz said he found it "outrageous" that the board should have to consider changing Remembrance Day practices in its schools because of a "single letter of dissent", referring to Cohen's letter.

Maerz, who described himself as son of a Second World War veteran and a member of Canada's Armed Forces, said he was also "outraged" by Michael Werier's statement to the public school board January 16 on behalf of the WJCC and Islamic Association. Werier, the WJCC's vice president for community relations, urged the board to adopt a uniform policy, requiring Winnipeg public schools to use "a symbol or symbols" on Remembrance Day, reflecting students' "diverse cultural backgrounds", but he would leave it to the school board to decide what should be used.

"Remembrance Day is not a day for multiculturalism," Maerz insisted at the board's February 13 meeting. "It is a day for 'solemn reflection' on Canada's sacrifices in two world wars, to pay homage to Canada's 114,000 war dead."

He referred to media reports that "Ms. Cohen" feels "offended" by display of the cross in Winnipeg public schools on Remembrance Day, and accused her and any others who feel that way of "intolerance".

In World War II, Maerz said, Canada was an "overwhelmingly gentile" nation. "Should it have been more of a Jewish or Muslim nation, the cross would not have come to be displayed over the graves of many of our fallen." (See related story at bottom right of page 3, headlined "10% of Jews, non-Jews served in WWII", with statistics on Canadian Jewish and non-Jewish war dead.)

"The use of the cross doesn't reflect the triumph of Christianity over any other religion," Maerz argued. It reflects the sacrifices of 114,000 Canadians.

Harold Bastable, a Second World War veteran and Royal Canadian Legion member, wore a chest full of war ribbons and medals, as he made his statement. He said the Romans used the cross as an instrument of punishment in pre-Christian times. "The cross symbolizes universal sacrifice," Bastable claimed. "It does not represent any single religion."

A onetime prisoner of war in Buchenwald, he considers himself a Holocaust survivor. "Anti-Semitism is something (Cont. on page 3. See "Speakers lash out at WJCC".)

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